

1 GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:-

2 How's the weather out your way?
3 I'll bet it's mighty funny ~~weather~~ for
4 Christmas week. The news dispatches
5 bring tidings of all sorts of climatic
6 ~~in~~ curiosities from all parts of the
7 country. The Associated Press calls it
8 "a case of topsy-turvy meteorology."

9 Chicago is having a pre-Christmas
10 heat wave.

11 Near Kendallville, Indiana, the bees
12 are buzzing around with real summertime
13 enthusiasm. The busy insects seem to
14 think it's honey-collecting time among
15 the flowers.

16 At Cuba, Illinois, Santa Claus is
17 going to have strawberries and cream with
18 his Christmas dinner. Lon Henderson has
19 been out strawberry picking, and has
20 collected a few ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~
21 buckets-full^s.

22 In Geuga County, Ohio, Lynn Hosford,
23 a farmer, tapped 800 maple trees, and
24 got 20 gallons of syrup, and that doesn't
25 sound like winter either.

1 Roses are blooming in Louisville.

2 In Denver the tennis courts are doing
3 a rushing business.

4 Upper New York state reports heavy
5 thunder showers. Loud peals, ~~of thunder~~
6 and vivid flashes of lightning startled
7 the farmers today.

8 All this is distinctly in the nature
9 of summer. But just by way of
10 contrast, there are blizzards and ^{deep} snow
11 ~~falls~~ in the Rockies.

12 And right here you can add a new
13 danger to the ordinary list of traffic
14 hazards. The Associated Press wires that
15 at McCall, Idaho, ^{no, not Alaska or Labrador, in Idaho,} Mrs. C. S. Jones was
16 run over by a dog-team. There seems to
17 be plenty of snow out that way.

18 The dog-team drawing the sled, was
19 coming down the street. Mrs. Jones tried
20 to cross in front of it, and the dogs ran
21 over her. She wasn't badly hurt. Just
22 ~~suppose she was more~~ astonished. ~~than~~ ■
23 ~~anything else.~~

Christmas is a day that is always celebrated with due ceremony aboard the ships of the United States Navy -- that is, nearly always. The Navy Department received a wireless today that there will be one ship in the navy that will not celebrate Christmas at all -- it won't have any Christmas. It won't have any December 25th.

The International News Service explains that the ~~oil-tanker~~ "Ramapa" is on her way from San Pedro, California, to Manila.

Her commander wirelessly today that the Ramapa would cross the 180th meridian at about midnight on December 24th. Well, any ship that crosses the 180th meridian from East to West loses a day. The Ramapa will lose December 25th. It will approach the meridian on December 24th, and when it gets across, the day will be December 26th. And I suppose there are going to be a bunch of indignant gobs on that boat, highly annoyed by the fact that they're being cheated out of Christmas and passed up by Santa Claus.

1 In Chicago today there is a young
2 chap with a dark skin who is the proud
3 possessor of a diploma. He ~~was~~^{is} one of
4 257 University of Chicago students who
5 have received their degrees at the mid-
6 year graduation.

7 The name of this young fellow is
8 Kamazu Banda, and he has been studying
9 at the University of Chicago in
10 preparation to returning to Africa ~~and to~~
11 becoming ~~the~~^{king} ruler of a ~~tribe~~^{tribe} in
12 Nyassaland.

13 The Associated Press tells the story
14 of how Kamazu Banda, when he was 9 years
15 old, ran away from his native tribe. He
16 was of a race of local chieftains. One
17 day he might be called to rule over his
18 people. But the boy wanted to see the
19 world. He worked his way to South
20 Africa, and then labored in a diamond
21 mine. He heard of the great republic of
22 the West, and saved enough money to come
23 to the United States. He has worked his
24 way through the University of Chicago
25 by compiling for the Anthropology

1 Department a complete dictionary and
2 grammar of his native tongue, which is
3 only slightly known to scholars.

4 He is now preparing to return to East
5 Africa. He is next in the line of
6 succession to the chieftainship of his
7 tribe.

8 And so it may be that in a brief
9 while a tribe of East African blackmen
10 who live the primitive life of the
11 ~~jungle~~ jungles, may be governed by a chief
12 who took his course and ~~worked at~~ studied
13 anthropology at the University of
14 Chicago. And I wonder whether he'll
15 hold any class reunions out there?
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1 A strange accident happened in a
2 New York subway today. All the New York
3 papers are telling how a work-train went
4 whizzing through the Newkirk Avenue
5 station in Brooklyn. There were two
6 flatcars loaded with piles of railroad
7 ties.

8 As the work-train rushed through the
9 station, the supports holding up the ties
10 on one car got loose. Huge pieces of
11 timber fell and ~~■ ■ ■ ■~~ were hurled by the
12 rushing train along the platform. The
13 station was crowded with Christmas
14 shoppers, and the great logs were flung
15 among them. The force ~~■ ■~~ was so great
16 that several of the ties that hit steel
17 pillars were snapped in two like match
18 sticks. The amazing thing is that it
19 wasn't a major disaster. Many of the
20 people on the platform were hurt. Twelve,
21 says the International News Service,
22 were seriously ^{injured} ~~hurt~~, and were taken to
23 the hospital. ~~But~~ the astounding thing
24 was that the whole crowd wasn't moved
25 down by those hurtling, bounding
rail road ties.

LITERARY DIGEST

And now let's sing a song of farewell. It's a case of parting with an old friend, a friend that was a bit of a nuisance once in a while, a friend that was present too much of the time.

I think it's with a bit of relief that we can say farewell and wave a not too regretful goodbye to old boy Moratorium. He certainly was with us nearly all the time during the last few months. For me he was a daily problem. I had to read reams of complicated facts. It was enough to give a fellow a headache.

And so I think it's only appropriate this evening to give old boy Moratorium a parting salute and hope he is finally on his way and won't be raising any more arguments. Since the United States Senate last night patted him on the back and gave him an official O.K. all that remained was for President Hoover to add his signature. And that's what the President did this afternoon.

One of the farewell ceremonies I performed today was to read a final discussion of the case of old boy

1 Moratorium.

2 I got my advance copies of the new Literary
3 Digest, ~~came up~~, and as usual the
4 Literary Digest editors are right up
5 to the minute.

6 Last night the senate ratified
7 the Moratorium, and today I read a final
8 summing up in the new Literary Digest.

9 We've heard a good deal about
10 how Congress has responded for and
11 against the Moratorium idea, but it's
12 even more important to know how the
13 country at large feels. ~~about it~~

14 The Literary Digest gives us that,
15 ~~and it makes~~ ⁱⁿ an interesting cross
16 section of the public mind. ~~on one of the~~
17 ~~big questions of today~~

18 Well, let's imagine we see a
19 quizzical looking geezer who looks as
20 though he's been through a scrap. That's
21 old boy Moratorium. Let's all step up
22 and shake hands with him in parting.

23 "Folks", he remarks, "I guess
24 I've been hanging around long enough.
25 I'm afraid I provoked a bit of

1 excitement. But I'm on my way now."

2 As we shake hands with him we say:

3 "Yes, we understand all that, *and do you*
4 ~~we hope you have a good time.~~ And you
5 see that tough looking individual over
6 there with the hard face and the bumps
7 on his head? *well,* He's your old partner
8 the Manchurian question. It looks as
9 though he's still going to be with us
10 for a while, but we hope that we'll *also* be
11 saying goodbye to him pretty soon."

12 And so old boy Moratorium is on
13 his way, but that hard citizen, the
14 ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Manchurian problem, is
15 still in our midst. There's no doubt
16 of that.

~~No, there is no doubt at all.~~ In fact,

In fact, The Japanese fleet swung into action today and is taking part in conjunction with the land forces of the Mikado.

The United Press cables that all along the line the troops of Nipon are advancing in what they call a drive against bandits. Two Chinese fortresses are reported ~~xxxxxx~~ captured. The beaten Chinese troops are in retreat. The ~~scene~~ of operations is near the coast, and a cruiser, two flotillas of destroyers, and an aircraft carrier have been ordered to sail for the port of Ching Wang Tao to cut off the retreat of the fleeing Chinese.

The Associated Press reports what sounds like a vivid bit of fighting. Two armored trains got into a scrap. One was Chinese and one was Japanese. The trains approached each other on the track and opened fire. And that does make a dramatic sort of duel.

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1 We've been hearing stories about
2 possible comebacks of General Chiang
3 Kai Shek, former head of the Nationalist
4 government of China. Since he was forced
5 out of the presidential chair, some
6 have said he is consigned to obscurity,
7 while others declare he is still the
8 man of the hour.

9 The International News Service
10 cables that today at a meeting of the
11 heads of the Nationalist party at
12 Nanking a resolution was passed asking
13 Chiang Kai Shek to become the Prime
14 Minister of China. ~~That is, they've~~
15 ~~asked Chiang to snap out of it.~~ But
16 he has refused. He says no, he will
17 not become the Prime Minister.

18 And that leaves affairs in
19 China just about as confused as ever.
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1 That winter travel number of the
2 Literary Digest which we had last week
3 wouldn't do much good for the folks over
4 in Austria apparently. They're not
5 going to do so much traveling. They're
6 going to stay in their own country.

7 The Austrian government has passed a
8 decree which virtually amounts to a
9 prohibition of travel. The authorities
10 at Vienna are wrestling with a financial
11 crisis, and they have forbidden the
12 exportation of money. They're not
13 allowing Austrian money to leave the
14 country.

15 The Associated Press gives one
16 feature of the new regulation as follows:
17 No traveler leaving Austria on an
18 ordinary railroad ticket may take with
19 him more than \$1.40. He is allowed to
20 take a little more if he is making an
21 extended journey, but still not enough to
22 do much good.

23 Well, you ^{can't go far on a} ~~can't do much with~~ \$1.40 ⁱⁿ ~~for~~
24 ~~day and age,~~ ~~travel money,~~ so for the present the
25 Austrians are staying at home.

1 The prediction tonight is
2 that various other countries of
3 Central Europe and the Balkans are
4 going to follow the example of Hungary,
5 and declare a moratorium on foreign
6 debts. This view is printed in today's
7 New York Evening Post.

8 The Hungarian government, *states the U.P.*
9 *U.P.* announced that it will pay its foreign
10 debts, but that it won't allow the
11 money ~~it pays out~~ to leave Hungary.
12 That is, the cash will be placed to
13 the credit of foreign concerns, but
14 it will have to remain in Hungarian
15 banks.

1 A blast against Democracy was
2 trumpeted today by ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Handsome
3 Adolf Hitler, ~~the leader~~ of Germany's
4 Fascist ~~party~~ fame.

3 5 Hitler says it isn't Democracy
6 at all. It's mob-ocracy.

7 The United Press quotes
8 Handsome Adolf as declaring that his
9 program is to put an end to ^{mobocracy} Democracy
10 in Germany and establish a dictatorship.

11 And whom does he suggest
12 for dictator? Well now that is a
13 mystery.
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1 In the city of Tarrytown, New York,
2 a sad, sad accident occurred six years
3 ago.

4 Moe Levy, who runs a store, came
5 to the police with tears in his eyes.
6 "Help, robbers," he shouted. "Somebody
7 took my six hundred dollars." And he
8 repeated in accents of profound grief
9 that he'd been robbed of six hundred
10 dollars. And he begged the police to
11 get it back for him.

12 The Tarrytown police are
13 trustworthy officers of the law, and
14 they did their best. They tried to find
15 who stole ~~xxxxx~~ Moe Levy's six hundred
16 dollars. But the Sherlock Holmes^{es} of
17 Tarrytown could make no progress
18 whatever. They couldn't find a hint
19 of a clue. And I suppose that Moe
20 grumbled and complained: "What good
21 are these cops when they can't get my
22 six hundred dollars back for me, "woe! woe!"
23 *said Moe.* But today Moe is full of
24 apologies to the police. And here's
25 why. The New York World Telegram tells

1 how he was cleaning an upper shelf
2 in his store when he came across an
3 old shoe box. He ~~moved~~^{blew} the dust off
4 the top, opened it, and there was his
5 six hundred dollars.

6 Yes, he remembers now. It had
7 entirely slipped his mind. Six years
8 ago, afraid of burglars, he had hidden
9 his six hundred smackers in that shoe
10 box, and then he thought the money had
11 been stolen. *So that ends Moe's woe.*

1 In this great country of ours
2 there's a race of people called
3 "Commuters." A commuter, we all know,
4 is ^{of} a peculiar specie^s. Like Bret~~on~~ Hart's
5 Heathen Chinese~~en~~, he has tricks that
6 are dark and ways that are vain.

7 Well, any of you folks that
8 belong to the race of commuters will
9 thrill to this bit of news, which is
10 given us by the New York World Telegram.

11 At Philipse Manor, New York,
12 William R. Laudy is a commuter who
13 every day takes the 8:14 to Tarrytown.
14 Today Mr. Laudy drove to the train
15 in his car. Like a true commuter he
16 was there just on the tick. However,
17 as he drove up to the station his car
18 caught fire and started to blaze, and
19 just at that moment the 8:14 pulled
20 in.

21 Now, there was a man caught
22 in a dilemma. He was like the familiar
23 donkey in the middle between a pail of
24 water and a bail of hay. What did
25 the commuter do?

1 Well, all you commuters can
2 answer that one. He made a sprint
3 and caught the train. Then he put his
4 head out of the window, pointed to his
5 burning car, and hollered to the people
6 on the platform to put out the fire.

7 He was just a commuter who
8 caught the 8:14.

9 And I'm just a commuter,
10 catching the 7 o'clock elevator
11 going down — so — s-l-u-t-o-m.
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