

# AIRPLANE ACCIDENT

Lowell Thomas broadcast  
for the Literary Digest  
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Good Evening, Everybody:

1           They say a bird hit the propellor  
2 -- I mean that seems to be the official  
3 explanation of the accident, <sup>today to a</sup> ~~to that~~ big  
4 cross-channel airplane.

5           That huge bus is called the  
6 Hannibal, and she's one of England's  
7 crack passenger planes. She had 18  
8 passengers aboard and had just crossed  
9 from France. She was over England when  
10 she suddenly started to dive and had to  
11 make a forced landing. The Associated  
12 Press describes the narrow escape. The  
13 plane just barely cleared the roof of a  
14 farmhouse and hit a telegraph pole on  
15 the other side. And yet so skillful  
16 was the pilot that nothing happened  
17 except a clean forced landing. Nobody  
18 was hurt in the collision with the  
19 telegraph pole, and the plane wasn't  
20 even damaged.

21           The reason the plane had to come  
22 down was a case of propellers. She was  
23 buzzing merrily along through the air  
24 when suddenly one propellor was  
25 shattered. The flying pieces hit the

1 other propellers and they were damaged.  
2 No wonder that big plane had to <sup>descend in a</sup> ~~some~~  
3 <sup>hurry.</sup> ~~SOON~~ She was left practically without  
4 any of those blades that were pulling  
5 her through the air.

6 The International News Service  
7 declares that an investigation indicates  
8 that the shattering of that first  
9 propeller must have been caused by a  
10 big bird. Some flying creature of  
11 considerable size -- perhaps a sea gull  
12 -- must have flown into the whirring blade,  
13 snapped it, and caused pieces to fly  
14 right and left.

15 And so I suppose the only comment  
16 to make is <sup>to cut losses with a few lusty</sup> ~~"dog-gone that bird" and~~  
17 <sup>cheers</sup> ~~hurrah~~ for the pilot" whose skillful  
18 work brought that plane and the ~~ou~~ 18  
19 passengers safely to earth.

1           And next we have a picture of a  
2 black raging storm off a rocky coast.  
3 A steamer, a passenger liner, is  
4 wallowing her way along, pushed by the  
5 wind, beaten by the heavy sea. The  
6 dangerous rocks are ahead. There's  
7 desperate peril that the ship may be  
8 flung upon the reef. She has 87  
9 passengers aboard.

10           Well, tonight those 87 passengers  
11 and also the crew of the vessel have  
12 been rescued -- because that storm-driven  
13 ship did go on the rocks.

14           She's the American passenger liner  
15 Western World. She was steaming along  
16 the coast of Brazil. A storm, almost a  
17 hurricane, was raging. The rocks ahead  
18 were the craggy shoals of Ponta do Boi,  
19 near the port of Santos. That's a bad  
20 place -- those rocks of Ponta do Boi  
21 are known among men of the sea as death  
22 to ships.

23           The Western World struck with a  
24 shivering impact. Big holes were torn  
25 in her bow at the water line. And the 87

1 passengers aboard, and the crew also,  
2 knew that they were face to face with  
3 the heavy perils of the sea.

4         Meanwhile, the ship's radio was  
5 hurling distress calls out into the  
6 ether, and those constantly repeated  
7 calls for help were caught in the radio  
8 shack of a German steamship. She is  
9 the General Ozorio, and she was beating  
10 her way through the storm not far from  
11 the ~~distressed~~ distressed American vessel.  
12 From the account given by the International  
13 News Service, that German ship did some  
14 prompt and effective rescue work. She  
15 steered for that steamer, the Western  
16 World, and pretty soon the two vessels  
17 were near each other, with the wind  
18 still howling, the tropical rain  
19 flooding down, and the waves lashing  
20 themselves into fury. And now some  
21 clever maneuvering was necessary. Well,  
22 the maneuvering was clever. Passengers  
23 and crew were transferred from the  
24 American to the German ship. And tonight  
25 those folks who were rescued are steaming  
for Rio de Janerio aboard that German  
ship, the General Ozorio.

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There are two colorful bits of aviation news this evening. First come the Lindberghs. They landed today within the shadows of the Arctic ice pack at Point Barrow, the northernmost tip of Alaska and they certainly got an enthusiastic welcome from a handful of white folks and several hundred Eskimos. The crowd was waiting, watching the sky and then in the East a speck was seen, <sup>a speck</sup> ~~in the sky~~ that grew bigger. It was a low-wing monoplane. A cheer rose from the white ~~folks~~ and the Eskimos. ~~on the ground.~~ The next thing you know the Lindberghs had landed and were making themselves at home at the northernmost point of <sup>Uncle Sam's Arctic domain.</sup> ~~American territory.~~

Slim and Anne had been flying through weather that was none too favorable. The Lone Eagle piloted his way through ~~xxxxxxx~~ low-lying fog banks.

The Associated Press describes how through the 500 mile flight along the shores of the Arctic Ocean darkness

1 came on., <sup>they</sup> But only <sup>had</sup> a few hours of  
2 darkness, <sup>up there in</sup> ~~because that is~~ the land  
3 of the Midnight Sun, ~~and~~ at this time of  
4 the year night is brief and passes  
5 swiftly.

6 Then they had heavy fog for  
7 an hour but the Lone Eagle, <sup>who is not alone this time,</sup> pushed on and  
8 on and now half of their 7000 mile  
9 sky jaunt to the Orient has been  
10 completed.

11 Our second aviation item  
12 concerns <sup>Parker</sup> ~~Shorty~~ Cramer who has arrived  
13 at the Faroe Islands from Iceland.  
14 He is doing the job of charting for ~~that~~  
15 projected transatlantic air mail route.  
16 <sup>Shorty</sup> ~~He~~ took off from Iceland  
17 heading for those northern islands  
18 westward of the British Isles and in  
19 the middle of that jaunt he performed  
20 a remarkable exploit. He was forced  
21 down at sea; something went wrong and  
22 he had to land on the water. You  
23 know what that usually means when a  
24 plane comes down on the stormy Atlantic  
25 of those northern regions---well,

1 several planes have come down in those  
2 parts and they have never been seen ~~xx~~  
3 again.

4 ~~xxxxxx~~

5 Shorty Crame<sup>r</sup> rested on the  
6 surface of the ocean for a brief space,  
7 made his repairs and took off again.  
8 He landed in the Faroe Islands ~~xxxx~~  
9 quite safely and as the Associated  
10 Press <sup>relates</sup> ~~informs us~~ he has started out  
11 once more. He is heading now for  
12 Norway, which will complete his trip  
13 from island to island <sup>a</sup> ~~crossing~~ the  
14 Northern Atlantic.

1 At Winthrop, Massachusetts, a man  
2 has found a bottle on the beach, a bottle  
3 washed in by the tide. He picked it up  
4 and inside found a message. Here's the  
5 way that message reads:

6 NO FOOD FOR EIGHT DAYS, AND NO  
7 WATER. PLEASE HURRY. NOT MUCH CHANCE  
8 TO LIVE.

9 And that grim message is signed with  
10 the name McCray -- M-c-C-r-a-y. A  
11 chemist has examined that note and  
12 believes it had been in the bottle for  
13 two or three years. A sea captain who  
14 knows the ways of the winds and currents  
15 is of the opinion that the bottle has  
16 drifted from the Great Circle -- that  
17 is, the <sup>skyway</sup> span across the Northern Atlantic.

18 Well, it's just two years ago that  
19 Lady Elsie Mackay and Captain Walter  
20 Kinchcliffe took off from England for a  
21 flight to America. They intended to  
22 follow the Great Circle, from East to  
23 West. Their plane disappeared flying  
24 toward the setting sun. And neither  
25 plane nor aviators were ever seen again.



They must have come down, like Shorty Cramer, on that northern sea. But their luck wasn't so good.

This may account for the message that has been found in the bottle, although that message seems to be signed McCray, while the lady flyer's name was Lady Elsie Mackey --  
M-a-c-k-e-y.

By the way, that Legs Diamond case came to an end this afternoon. The International News Service sends word that the gangster was found guilty on both counts - conspiracy to violate the national ~~xx~~ prohibition law, and operating an apple-jack still. His chief henchman Quattricchi was found guilty of the first charge. Sentence will be pronounced next Wednesday. Diamond faces a maximum penalty of 4 years in prison and \$11,000 in fines.

AKRON

This afternoon at Akron, Ohio, the first lady of the land pulled a red white and blue cord. Yes, Mrs. Hoover gave that cord a smart tug and immediately things happened. A hatch popped open and a flock of pigeons flew out, 48 white pigeons, one for every state in the Union.

That was the official dedication of the biggest dirigible in the world, the ZRS4. This giant of the sky is the latest ~~xf~~ addition to the air force of the United States Navy.

The International News Service names a quantity of important persons as among those present. Also a crowd of about hundred thousand people.

This new big American dirigible, states the United Press, is twice the size of the Graf Zeppelin, and considerably more than twice the size of the Los Angeles. The ZRS4 has a cubic content of 6,500,000 cubic feet. The capacity of the Graf Zeppelin is 3,700,000 cubic feet. The ZRS4 is 785 feet long and that's as big as some of the giant ocean liners.

Well, Mrs. Hoover was her usual

1 graceful self as a sponsor. She pulled  
2 the red white and blue cord with a  
3 vigorous zip, out flew the 48 pigeons  
4 and the ZRS4 was officially inducted  
5 into the United States Navy, *the world's*  
6 *largest lighter than air craft.*

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1 Work was stopped today on the  
2 huge Boulder Dam project out amid the  
3 blazing sands of the West. The  
4 builders ordered an immediate stopping  
5 of the work for an indefinite period.

6 The <sup>United Press</sup> ~~International News Service~~  
7 names two reasons for this. Firstly,  
8 there was a strike. One hundred and  
9 twenty-five men walked out, demanding  
10 higher pay, <sup>and more ice water.</sup> ~~And then there was the~~

11 ~~heat.~~ <sup>The</sup> ~~That~~ <sup>was</sup> alone ~~is~~ enough to cause  
12 construction operations out there on  
13 the borders of Nevada and Arizona  
14 to cease. They say they've been having  
15 a bit of <sup>slightly warm</sup> ~~hot~~ weather. They say that  
16 the temperature <sup>went</sup> ~~has got~~ up to 140, 140.  
17 Yes sir, when it gets that hot it's  
18 time to suspend construction operations,  
19 or almost any kind of operations, and  
20 reach for a long cool drink -- of ---  
21 ~~lemonade~~ lemonade.

1           And now let's have a guessing  
2 contest. There's something they call a  
3 brand new art. They say it's the 7th  
4 art. Where do they say it? Why, in  
5 this week's issue of the Literary Digest.

6           The Digest quotes an article ~~in~~ *from*  
7 the French theatrical daily Comedia in  
8 which the cry is raised "it's up to you  
9 to prove that the 7th art is the most  
10 glorious and ~~his~~ to become the crown  
11 of them all."

12           Well, what art is it that gets all  
13 this high hymn of praise? ~~Well,~~ <sup>Why,</sup> it's  
14 the animated cartoon in the motion picture.  
15 The Literary Digest shows us that a  
16 vogue of the animated cartoon is  
17 sweeping over Europe. The Digest editors  
18 go to a number of European newspapers  
19 which resound with a chorus of grand  
20 ballyhoo. Some theaters abroad are  
21 devoting themselves almost entirely to  
22 the production of those funny pictures  
23 in the movies. Well, this week's Literary  
24 Digest prints a most informative article  
25 which tells us why the critics across the  
water are talking so much about the 7th  
art.

1 This evening a few million Germans  
2 are busy talking politics. The Germans  
3 have been talking politics a lot of late  
4 but tonight is an especially good time  
5 for heated arguments, *of ja und nein.*

6 An exceedingly important election  
7 will be held in Germany tomorrow. The  
8 voters of Prussia will go to the polls.  
9 ~~to vote.~~ They will decide whether the  
10 present diet, the Parliament of Prussia,  
11 shall be dissolved, or whether it shall  
12 be kept going as it is.

13 The United Press interprets the  
14 election as a straight-away fight to  
15 decide whether the moderate party <sup>is</sup> shall  
16 continue in power or whether the Fiery  
17 Fascists will leap into the saddle. The  
18 moderate parties want the present Prussian  
19 diet to continue as it is. Handsome  
20 Adolf Hitler's Fascists want a new deal *of*  
21 ~~election.~~ *of the cards.* The idea is that between the  
22 Hitler boys and the Communists, the  
23 moderate parties will probably lose out  
24 and the Fascist<sup>s</sup> expect <sup>to</sup> ~~that they will~~  
25 climb gracefully into the driver's seat.

1           Meanwhile Chancellor Bruening of  
2 Germany has had a cordial reception in  
3 Rome. He and Mussolini exchanged many  
4 polite speeches. The German Chancellor  
5 has invited Mussolini to come to Germany  
6 for a conference and the Duce has  
7 accepted. They say some nice quiet  
8 place in Germany will be picked out--  
9 some well-guarded place where the  
10 Black Shirt Dictator of Italy can talk  
11 things over in <sup>peace</sup>~~quiet~~ and safety.

12           Somebody, so the Associated Press  
13 relates, suggested to Mussolini that he  
14 ought to visit America and attend a  
15 conference at Washington, but the Duce  
16 replied that he hadn't time to make such  
17 a long trip. In a way it's too bad  
18 because the Dictator of the Black Shirts  
19 would certainly make a <sup>picturesque</sup>~~fine~~ show in  
20 Washington.

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1 The Government of Hungary today  
2 issued a few strict regulations for the  
3 purpose of easing up the ~~stringent~~ tightened  
4 financial situation <sup>existing over there.</sup> ~~of the country.~~ The  
5 new decree forbids anybody to send any  
6 money out of Hungary without ~~the~~ permission  
7 <sup>from</sup> the National Bank, <sup>the government bank.</sup> Neither gold nor  
8 bank notes nor bonds nor stocks will be ~~xxx~~  
9 allowed to be taken out of the country.

10 Hungarian firms will not be allowed  
11 to pay any money to outside houses  
12 except interest on debts. They can pay  
13 the interest and that's all.

14 The United Press states that anybody  
15 who violates the regulation will get two  
16 months in jail.

17 Hungary needs money and has decided to  
18 keep all the money she has inside of her  
19 own borders.  
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1 Well, the great Charivari  
2 is over. The noise-makers have stopped  
3 bothering the young couple at Ashland,  
4 Wisconsin. Every night for weeks they  
5 have been banging on tin pans and playing  
6 on horns outside the home of the ~~newly~~  
7 newly-wed couple, just making a charivari,  
8 in other words an infernal concert.

9 The Associated Press reminds  
10 us that the noise-makers demanded the  
11 usual hospitality, <sup>of \$15 worth,</sup> which the bride's father  
12 refused to pass out. The young couple  
13 appealed to the authorities. They  
14 even went so far as to bring the matter  
15 up before the majesty of the Governor,  
16 Phillip LaFollette of Wisconsin. But  
17 nothing could be done, that is without  
18 a compromise. <sup>if now</sup> The Sheriff of the  
19 County has worked out an agreement.  
20 No, the bride's father didn't provide  
21 the <sup>of \$15 worth of</sup> entertainment which the noise-makers  
22 demanded. He stuck it out to the end, but  
23 it was the bride's sleep that was being  
24 disturbed, also the bridegroom's sleep.  
25 So it was the bride who made the

1 compromise. She dished out sandwiches  
2 and coffee to the boys who were making  
3 the chiraviri and that satisfied them.  
4 In fact they showed conclusively that  
5 it wasn't the sandwiches and coffee  
6 that was on their minds. It was ~~the~~ a  
7 matter of principle. After they had ~~the~~  
8 ~~the~~ eaten the sandwiches and drunk the  
9 coffee, they collected \$30. among  
10 themselves and donated it to the young  
11 couple, just to show that were no hard  
12 feelings.

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1 ~~Well,~~ This evening Uncle Sam is  
2 proudly showing a cup around to his  
3 friends, a handsome silver mug. It's  
4 the Wightman cup, which symbolizes the  
5 women's tennis <sup>supremacy.</sup> ~~championship of the world.~~

6 A team of sprightly American girls  
7 was out yesterday and today on the tennis  
8 courts at Forest Hills to bring the cup  
9 home to their old Uncle. Well, those  
10 girls did pretty well. They had to win  
11 4 matches out of 7 from the English  
12 girls. They won three straight yesterday  
13 and were required to win only one more  
14 today. Well, the play this afternoon  
15 began between Helen Jacobs and Phyllis  
16 Mudford, of England. Helen beat Phyllis.  
17 And it was all over but the shouting.  
18 Yes, the shouting and the other games --  
19 because the girls went right on playing  
20 -- for exercise, I suppose.

21 The next match too was a victory for  
22 one of Uncle Sam's fair nieces. Of  
23 course it was, because Uncle had his  
24 favorite niece, Helen Wills Moody, out  
25 there battling for the cause of the Red,

White and Blue. Helen won her match in her usual decisive fashion.

And so this evening Uncle Sam is proudly displaying his cup, while his charming bevy of nieces are crowded around him beaming with bright eyes and smiling lips on the whiskers of their old Uncle.

And now the English girls are saying "Solong Uncle", just as I am saying,

SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.