

Professor Walter

PRESIDENT

Lowell Thomas broadcast
for the Literary Digest
Friday, March 25, 1932.

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Good Evening, Everybody:

President Hoover this afternoon called upon the country to face the tax situation squarely. In his regular Friday press conference the president asked the nation to follow a course of sacrifice and unity - and balance the budget.

"It is the very cornerstone of recovery", he adds.

President Hoover specified that the deficit that the government is facing could be eliminated in only two ways: Firstly, by putting through economies that will decrease expenditures. And secondly, by increasing taxes.

The president, who was disappointed by the defeat of the sales tax yesterday, gives a whole series of reasons why the budget must be balanced.

IAX

1 Well, after the beating the
 2 Sales Tax took yesterday ~~It looks as if~~
 3 Congress ~~were all set to~~ give the beer
 4 tax a licking today.

5 (Wet forces in the House of
 6 Representatives ~~are~~ forced ~~ed~~ a vote on
 7 the proposal to put a tax on beer in
 8 order to raise the money that the sales
 9 tax was ^{intended} ~~designed~~ to bring into ~~the~~
 10 ~~government.~~

11 The New York Evening Post
 12 tells how the objections of the
 13 extreme drys were overruled, and it
 14 was decided there should be a vote.
 15 The proposal ^{was} ~~would be~~ to legalize
 16 2.75% beer and put a heavy tax on it. It went
 17 ~~However, indications are that the~~
 18 ~~proposal will be~~ ^{to a vote and was} beaten. So there'll be
 19 no tax on beer.)

1 This Easter week will witness
2 impressive scenes in Ireland. All over
3 the Emerald Isle there will be
4 exercises in commemoration of the
5 Easter ~~xxxxxxx~~ rebellion of 1916.

6 The demonstration this year
7 will be of special importance because of
8 the rise ~~xx~~ to the presidency of Eamon
9 de Valera, the fighting Republican
10 leader, and also because of President
11 de Valera's recent action in denouncing
12 the oath of allegiance to the King,
13 and the land annuities that Ireland
14 has been paying to Great Britain.

15 A United Press dispatch in
16 the New York World Telegram relates that
17 in Ulster, the land of the orange men,
18 the authorities are on the look-out for
19 possible disturbances.

20 But anyway, in all the rest of
21 the Emerald Isle the anniversary of
22 Easter week will be celebrated with a
23 fiery earnestness.

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JAPAN

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The Japanese cabinet has been re-organized. The Mikado today put his O.K. on a new line-up of ministers.

The United Press in the New York World-Telegram declares that there has been a threat of a crisis in Tokio. People were afraid that a Fascist movement might develop, and that there might be a military dictatorship.

DWARF

Manly Hancock Dr. von Kuhlmann,

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~~as have told us something illuminating. And now in
town I am going to give you some news from Germany.~~
~~over in Germany~~

1 ~~over in Germany~~ a new town had
2 just been ~~xxxxxx~~ officially recognized
3 by the Berlin Post Office Department.
4 No, it's not a big town. It's a small
5 town. It has a population of fifty
6 inhabitants. But it's even smaller
7 than that.

8 The town is called Dwarf City
9 because its inhabitants consist
10 exclusively of dwarfs. They are
11 midgets, those little Tom Thumbs that
12 perform in theatres. They've
13 established a colony of their own
14 on the outskirts of Berlin.

15 The New York Sun describes
16 how everything is appropriately ~~a~~ on
17 a pygmy scale. The houses are tiny,
18 just the right size for little folk.
19 The furniture and utensils are on a
20 midget scale, ~~everything~~ ~~the miniature utensils~~
21 ~~are more~~ convenient for miniature people.
22 And ~~then~~ the midgets insist on having
23 everything small so as to keep normal
24 size people out. ~~Those~~ ~~giants~~ ~~that are~~
25 of the enormous stature of ~~between~~ five and
~~to~~ six feet or more, are not wanted.

There will be no Gullivers in that German
town of Liliputians.

1 There seems to be a conflict of
2 statements in the latest news of the
3 Lindbergh case. (The head of the New
4 Jersey State Police declares that there
5 is nothing in the story that three
6 prominent citizens of Norfolk, Virginia,
7 including a retired United States
8 Admiral, are in communication with the
9 kidnapers and ~~are~~ negotiating for the
10 return of the baby.)

11 On the other hand, the New York
12 Evening Post quotes the Reverend H.
13 Dobson-Peacock, one of the three
14 citizens of Norfolk, as declaring
15 positively and categorically that not
16 only is the report true but that the
17 negotiations have taken definite form.
18 He refused to give any more details.

19 The other two Norfolk citizens,
20 Rear Admiral Guy ~~N.~~ Burrage and John
21 Hughes Curtis, a Norfolk ship-builder,
22 refuse to give any information whatever.
23 They explain that their activities in
24 behalf of Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh
25 are entirely confidential.

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LINDBERGH - 2

1 One rumor is that the baby is
2 aboard a boat in Chesapeake Bay, no
3 more than 20 miles from Norfolk. In
4 line with this theory comes news that
5 the Police Commissioner of Baltimore
6 has ordered that all strange craft
7 moving in and out of Baltimore harbor
8 be watched for signs of the kidnapers.

9 The story is that Mr. Curtis,
10 the ship-builder of Norfolk, was
11 approached early this week by a former
12 rum-runner, who asked him to form a
13 sort of committee with two other Norfolk
14 citizens and open negotiations with
15 Colonel Lindbergh for the return of the
16 baby. The two citizens whom Mr. Curtis
17 enlisted were the Reverend Dobson-
18 Peacock and Admiral Burrage. They got
19 in touch with the Lindberghs, and
20 negotiations have been going on ever
21 since. There have been rumors all along
22 that the kidnapped baby might have been
23 stolen by rum-runners and might be
24 aboard a boat off the coast.



Professor Walter
PROHIBITION POLL

Page ~~2~~ 11

~~LADIES AND GENTLEMEN~~

Stet

1 I suppose you folks have been
2 seeing a good deal of the newspaper
3 comment on the subject of the Literary
4 Digest - Twenty Million Ballot Prohibition
5 Poll. A country-wide survey of editorial
6 comment indicates that both the newspapers
7 that are for Prohibition and those that
8 are against it are agreed that the Poll
9 is a mighty important thing.

10 The New York Sun declares that
11 the leaders of both the Wets and the
12 Drys are watching such expressions of
13 public opinion as the Digest Poll, in
14 order to determine where and to what
15 extent the Wets may expect to register
16 gains.

17 The papers that are supporting the
18 Dry cause take the viewpoint that the
19 Digest Poll is revealing a temporary drift
20 of public opinion. This is clearly
21 expressed by the Burlington, Vermont,
22 Free Press, which is a staunch advocate
23 of the Eighteenth Amendment. "The Digest
24 vote," declares the Free Press, "is a protest
25 vote against things as they are."

PROHIBITION POLL - #2

Stet

1 No matter what these interpretations
 2 ~~may be~~ they agree on one thing--they
 3 emphasize the significance and vital
 4 meanings of these lists of figures the
 5 giant Poll is grinding out.

6 Well, ^{returns in the 1st. Dry. poll give us} tonight's ~~we have~~ a second
 7 report on Birmingham, Alabama, where the
 8 vote now stands 2,075 for Continuance,
 9 4168 for Repeal.

10 Pittsburgh comes through with a
 11 second set of returns--6,904 in favor
 12 of Prohibition--37,800 against.

13 Now here's a close vote. We have
 14 had occasion to notice that the vote for
 15 the State of Arkansas as a whole is mighty
 16 close. It is slightly dampish at present.

17 At Van Buren, Arkansas, the vote is
 18 slightly the other way. It is almost a
 19 tie, but the Drys have one vote the ^{better} ~~best~~
 20 of it---104 votes in favor of the
 21 Amendment--103 against.

22 Sacramento, California, for
 23 continuance 504--for repeal 3,348.

24 Meriden, Connecticut, ~~xxx~~ 210
 25 say Prohibition is okay and 1,317 say it
 isn't.

1 At Pensacola, Florida, 217
2 are in favor of Prohibition and 972 are
3 against.

4 Bloomington, Illinois, 587 Drys,
5 and 1,447 Wets.

6 Lawrence, Mass. comes through
7 with a strong majority of votes for
8 Repeal --- 2,461 for repeal and 373 *for*
9 continuance.

10 Passaic, New Jersey, also
11 stands up strongly for repeal, 2,253
12 against ---206 *for* continuance.

13 Niagara Falls, New York, --
14 288 voters are in favor of the Amendment,
15 and 1,979 against.

16 *Well, the returns are still*
17 *pouring through the Digest Offices ---*
18 *~~We now return to our program.~~*
19 *a veritable Niagara Falls of votes.*

1 The report is that a plea of
2 the unwritten law will be made in behalf
3 of the defendants out in Honolulu,
4 the four defendants who are called -
5 honor slayers. These are Mrs. ~~Granville~~
6 ~~Rowland~~ Fortescue, *the* society matron,
7 Lieutenant ~~Thomas H.~~ Massie, her son-
8 in-law, and ~~A. J.~~ Lord and ~~A. O.~~ Jones, *the*
9 two enlisted men of the navy. They
10 are being tried for the killing of an
11 Hawaiian accused of having attacked
12 Lieutenant Massie's wife, ~~who is also~~
13 Mrs. Fortescue's daughter.

14 The United Press in the New
15 York World Telegram declares that it
16 has information that Clarence Darrow,
17 the renowned veteran of the law, has
18 decided against making an insanity
19 plea for the defendants. They say that
20 Darrow will appeal to the court and
21 jury on the basis that the killing was
22 justified according to the unwritten
23 law.
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FALSE TEETH

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1 In Chicago today a peculiar
2 family row was settled before a Justice
3 of the Peace. A wife didn't want her
4 husband to go out driving, so she hid
5 the key to his car and wouldn't tell
6 him where it was. He retaliated by
7 hiding her false teeth, and wouldn't
8 tell her where they were. That, reports
9 the United Press in the New York Sun,
10 brought on a magnificent domestic
11 argument, which grew all the more
12 complicated when the wife's brother
13 butted in.

14 The Justice of the Peace settled
15 the question with the wisdom of Solomon.
16 He made the wife give back the
17 automobile key to the husband, and he
18 made the husband tell the wife where he
19 had hidden the false teeth.

20 Whereupon, the husband said,
21 "Now I guess I'll go out for a drive" --
22 and the wife said, "Now I can eat
23 supper." -- ~~and I'll say~~ --

24 ~~SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.~~

25

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MISSING

1 In the mail that comes
2 streaming into my office at the Literary
3 Digest every day, there's one type of
4 letter that always has a heartache in
5 it. People write telling of someone
6 who is missing, son ~~and~~ daughter,
7 brother ~~and~~ sister, husband or wife,
8 father ~~and~~ mother. And they ask me
9 to make an appeal over the air to the
10 vanished one to return.

11 This, of course, is impossible.
12 The number of people who disappear is
13 so great that there wouldn't be time
14 to ~~xxx~~ comply with all the requests
15 that come ^{flooding} in.

16 Just today I received a letter
17 that shows how sad these appeals can be.
18 It comes from Bexley, Ohio. The writer
19 tells how a mother is ill and failing
20 because two weeks ago her fourteen
21 year old boy left home and hasn't come
22 back. He wrote a note which gives the
23 hint that he started out with some
24 boyish notion of traveling all over the
25 world. The lad was always interested

1 in ships and voyages and strange places
2 and adventurous wanderings. He often
3 talked of roving over this globe of
4 ours.

5 Well, these are dreams that come
6 natural to a boy, but it's a pitiful
7 thing when he gets so steamed up ~~that~~
8 he runs away from home. Pitiful for
9 himself, and still more for his parents.

10 In any case this boy of
11 Bexley, Ohio, has disappeared. His
12 mother is heartbroken. She is
13 dangerously ill. The letter tells me
14 that the lad was tremendously interested
15 in radio. He had a pocket set with
16 which he listened in. He took that
17 pocket set with him when he left home.
18 They say that every night he listened
19 to the Literary Digest news broadcast.
20 That is why the appeal came to me.

21 The grieving mother believes
22 that if I told her she was ill, why
23 the boy might ~~very~~ ^{very} likely hear it and
24 come home.

25 And there are scores of other

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1 cases like this. Wouldn't it be a glad and happy thing if these
2
3 missing ones were to return home to their families.

4 Today is Good Friday, and this seems an appropriate time
5 to speak of the missing ones. Easter is at hand, and as I start
6 for home I can't help thinking -- wouldn't it be splendid if all
7 those missing ones were to go home for Easter.
8

9 And now, SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.