

1 Good Evening, Everybody!

2
3 Here goes my voice spinning
4 through the air much like I've been
5 spinning bodily through the air this
6 afternoon. I landed from a sky voyage
7 a little while ago. In fact I can still
8 hear the roar of the motor in my ears.
9 Because we came like the wind. It took
10 me just 2 hours and 40 minutes to dart
11 across the map from Buffalo to New York.

12 I had to stay in Chicago until
13 late Sunday evening. Which meant that
14 I must take a plane in order to get to
15 New York to be in time to tell you the
16 news tonight.

17 While one of my assistants
18 stayed over night in Chicago and then
19 boarded one of the big planes of the
20 National Air Transport today---I went
21 by train to Buffalo and came on through
22 in a high speed plane. My old friend,
23 Casey Jones, flew up to Buffalo for me.
24 Casey, as you probably know, is one of
25 the best known fliers in this or any
other country. He also is vice-president
of the Curtiss Wright Flying

1 Service.

2 Along with us was Norman Potter,
3 recently a high school boy of Glenridge,
4 New Jersey, and now an aviator in his
5 own right. He was assistant pilot to
6 Casey.

7 Well, Casey Jones is one of those
8 rollicking men of the air who are becoming
9 as much a type as the old-time rollicking
10 man of the sea. He's full of jolly
11 stories larded in with tales of
12 thrilling adventure. But Casey was
13 talking about something plain and
14 matter-of-fact as we flew along, I
15 sitting right behind him. Shouting
16 over the roar of the motor, he pointed
17 out how much gas we would use on the
18 flight from Buffalo to New York in our
19 240 horse-power Wright, going along at
20 140 miles per hour. It takes a good
21 deal of gas to fly a big ship like that.

22 But it was different, added Casey,
23 with that little flivver plane in which
24 he's been flying around the country.
25 That's the plane about which ^{so much} ~~a good deal~~

has been written in the newspapers of late. It flies on what seems a minimum of fuel. Casey flew that Junior plane from St. Louis to New York via Pittsburgh, a 1050 mile trip, in 15 hours; and the gas and oil he used was just \$7.20 worth. And that's travelling cheap. In fact a lot cheaper than walking.

Well, it was a glorious sky trip from Buffalo to New York today. We began with a tremendous view of one of the greatest phenomena of nature, and ended with an equally striking view of one of the greatest phenomena that man has created. When we took off from Buffalo we decided to loaf for a few minutes so we circled above Niagara Falls, and saw the breaking of the ice - a truly tremendous spectacle from the air.

And at New York, before we landed, we circled over the city right over the great tower of the Empire State Building. And that was something to see.

Well, that's merely personal, but here's an aviation bit that's really important.

1 Today a bit of history was made.
2 Something new was started. For the
3 first time advertisements were placed
4 in passenger airplanes. I learned about
5 this when I arrived back in New York
6 with Casey Jones. I heard about it at
7 the flying field and in more detail when
8 I reached my desk. Here is what hap-
9 pened:-

10 Planes took off and in the cabin of
11 each was a placard, an advertising card,
12 just as advertising cards are seen above
13 the windows of street cars, subway,
14 elevated, and railroad cars.

15 Those advertisements in the cabins
16 of airplanes tell sky passengers about
17 -- the sounding board of American opinion.
18 And that sounding board is the Literary
19 Digest. In other words, the Digest made
20 that bit of history today and started the
21 movement of advertising in airplanes.

22 The advertising cards appeared in
23 the planes of one of the big air lines,
24 the Luddington Lines, the head of which
25 is the well known transatlantic flier,

1 Amelia Earhart. This air line conducts
2 a flying service between New York,
3 Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington,
4 ~~and the planes take off every hour, on~~
5 ~~the hour.~~

6 So the Literary Digest is doing a
7 bit of pioneering, and pointing to the
8 day when every sky commuter will sit and
9 gaze at the advertisements on the walls
10 of an airplane, just as we gaze at the
11 car cards on our way to work by subway,
12 "L", or street car.

13 I kept thinking about that all
14 afternoon as I came bowling across the
15 snow-covered hills with Casey. We were
16 up around 4000 feet most of the time
17 and I concluded that if my "Iron Kelly"
18 zipped off into space I'd just wave it
19 a fond goodbye.

20 But that isn't what J. V. Neff
21 said. He was flying out near Chicago
22 when he lost his hat. It landed in a
23 back yard.

24 Neff said it was a good hat, and
25 he just swooped down right after it. He
landed in the back yard, jumped out and
got his hat, and then calmly soared up
into the sky again.

1 These matters of aviation bring
2 us to an aeronautical problem I saw
3 referred to in a paper today:

4 When I woke up this morning we
5 were just pulling into Cleveland and
6 I hopped off and picked up a flock of
7 United Press dispatches that were
8 brought down to me. In one of these
9 I read the following question:-

10 IF YOU WERE IN AN AIRPLANE AND
11 YOUR HAT BLEW OFF AND WENT SAILING DOWN
12 THROUGH SPACE, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

13 I kept thinking about that all
14 afternoon as I came bowling across the
15 snow-covered hills with Casey. We were
16 up around 4000 feet most of the time
17 and I concluded that if my "iron kelly"
18 zipped off into space I'd just wave it
19 a fond goodbye.

20 But that isn't what J. V. Neill
21 said. He was flying out near Chicago
22 when he lost his hat. ^{According to the U.P.} It landed in a
23 back yard.

24 Neill said it was a good hat, and
25 he just swooped down right after it. He
landed in the back yard, jumped out and
got his hat, and then calmly soared up
into the sky again.

1 Tonight's the big night ~~in the~~
 2 ~~city~~ down in Porto Rico. President
 3 Hoover landed on the Island today and
 4 is being received with all kinds of
 5 ceremonies. When the big battleship,
 6 ~~the~~ ARIZONA, put in the harbor, Governor
 7 Roosevelt, young ~~XXX~~ Teddy, went aboard
 8 and greeted the president. The
 9 presidential party ^{then proceeded} ~~went~~ ashore and
 10 was ^{wildly} cheered by ^{an} enthusiastic crowd.
 11 School children serenaded ^{President Hoover} ~~him~~ with
 12 songs, and the streets were decorated
 13 with pennants.

14 However, according to the
 15 Associated Press, some few Porto Ricans
 16 were not so happy, and they expressed
 17 their disgruntled feelings by hissing.
 18 ~~President Hoover.~~ However, there were a
 19 ^{hundred times} ~~many~~ more cheers than hisses, and the
 20 shouts of bravo carried the day.

21 Yesterday the President talked
 22 by radio with his family at Asheville,
 23 North Carolina. Down in tropical
 24 Porto Rico the President must have had
 25 a bit of a thrill when he heard his

1 little granddaughter, Peggy Ann,
 2 pipe in her childish voice across
 3 fourteen hundred miles of space, and
 4 say:

5 GRANDDADDY, ~~XXXXX~~ IT'S SNOWING
 6 HERE.

7 ~~Rxx~~ Another personal detail
 8 of the presidential voyage is that
 9 the chief executive did not take a
 10 top hat along with him. He likes
 11 informality and does not intend to
 12 impede this present voyage with a
 13 lot of stiff ceremony. And so, as
 14 the United Press informs us, the
 15 West Indians won't have ^{the fun of seeing} ~~a chance to~~
 16 ~~see~~ the President of the United States
 17 in a plug hat, a noble topper.

18 President Hoover will remain in
 19 Porto Rico until tomorrow, and then
 20 will set sail for the Virgin Islands.

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1 Here is a paragraph, brief and
 2 clear, out of the statement issued by
 3 the Federal Farm Board. That statement
 4 announced that the government was
 5 going to get out of the wheat business.

6 The Farm Board has been
 7 pegging up the price of wheat by buying
 8 grain at from twenty to thirty-five
 9 per cent above normal world prices.
 10 But that's going to stop now.

11 The explanation is given
 12 in that paragraph, which, according to
 13 the United Press, reads as follows:

14 THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT FOLLOW
 15 ~~XXX~~ A REGULAR POLICY OF BUYING AT
 16 PRICES ABOVE THE ~~XXXXXXXX~~ MARKET, PAY
 17 HEAVY STORAGE CHARGES AND SELL BELOW
 18 COST. FARMERS KNOW THIS, AND ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
 19 WOULD NOT ASK IT TO BE DONE. IT WOULD
 20 NOT IN THE LONG RUN BE TO THE FARMER'S
 21 OWN INTERESTS. *That's the paragraph*

22 *and* That's what the Farm Board
 23 thinks, and it only remains to see
 24 what the farmers will think.
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PICKETT

Another one of the few remaining survivors of the Civil War has gone. The child bride of the Confederacy has died. She was Mrs. LaSalle Corbett Pickett, widow of the famous General Pickett who led the magnificent and forlorn charge at Gettysburg - Pickett's Charge.

The child bride of the Confederacy was a mere girl when she married the fiery cavalier of Lee's army, General Pickett. He survived the desperate charge which he led against the Union line. He died in 1875, and after that, according to the International News Service, the former child bride devoted herself to immortalizing in speeches and in writing the charge of Pickett's division at Gettysburg.

1 The incident I'm going to tell
2 about next came as the climax of a
3 stretch of hard luck. *All morning and evening*
4 *papers today have stories about the happening.*
5 A reception committee at the
6 Brooklyn Navy Yard was waiting for the
7 arrival of Sir Hubert Wilkins and the
8 Nautilus, the submarine in which Captain
9 Wilkins intends to navigate under the
10 ice to the North Pole. The reception
11 committee was headed by the grandson of
12 Jules Verne, author of the famous tale
13 "Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea",
14 in which the exploits of the imaginary
15 submarine, the original Nautilus, were
16 described.

16 But Sir Hubert, in his modern
17 Nautilus, didn't get to the reception.
18 A tragical mishap had occurred. William
19 Grimmer, the quartermaster of the North
20 Pole going submarine, was on deck, when a
21 lurch of the undersea craft threw him
22 overboard. He was in heavy nautical
23 clothing, which prevented him from
24 swimming. He sank before he could be
25 rescued.

1 The New York World-Telegram reminds
2 us that the bad luck of the Nautilus
3 began on March 15th, when the undersea
4 craft left the shipyards at Camden. A
5 heavy snow storm forced her to put in at
6 the navy yard at Philadelphia, and that
7 caused a delay. After she'd got under
8 way she was refueling at Marcus Hook and
9 an anchor chain parted. It was recovered
10 after hours of grappling.

11 And now the Nautilus has lost her
12 quartermaster as the tragical climax of
13 a hard luck series.

14 *Sir Hubert Wilkins, however,*
15 *has met hard luck before. He has*
16 *fought it ever since childhood — and*
17 *he has never let it beat him.*

BANKS

Here's a bit of good news. It comes in a report issued by the Federal Reserve Board, for February.

This report tells of the number of banks that have re-opened,-- in other words banks that are back on their feet after having had a touch of hard times.

~~According to the Associated Press~~ ^{It} shows that the number of bank re-openings is increasing while the number of bank failures is going down and that's one good prosperity note.

of the United States have all that money lying around, and they don't know what to do with it.

An interesting story telling all about it appears in this week's Literary Digest, the March 21st number.

There's one kind of news that I often find difficult to understand. In fact, it sometimes gives me a headache. I mean financial news, reports about money conditions. I suppose I haven't been familiar enough with large amounts of currency to have my mind enlightened on financial matters.

I have just encountered about an idle billion, that is a billion dollars that aren't doing anything. Bertram Moody a banker of Amherst, Massachusetts, informs us that the corporations of the United States have all that money lying around, and they don't know what to do with it.

An interesting story telling all about it appears in this week's Literary Digest, the March 21st number.

1 A few loud voices were raised
2 over in Germany today. They say they
3 won't listen to any protest. That is,
4 if the other fellows do any protesting
5 it will all be in vain.

6 It's about that economic union of
7 Germany and Austria which has been
8 under discussion for the past few
9 years, and which seems about to become
10 a reality now.

11 Germany and Austria have announced
12 that they will enter a customs union,
13 that is, they will favor each other in
14 the way of tariffs. They won't impose
15 the same high duties on each other's
16 goods that they impose upon merchandise
17 of other nations.

18 According to the International News
19 Service a high German official declared
20 today that any protests which Germany
21 received would be ignored. They would
22 simply be returned without answer. If,
23 after that, the former enemies of Germany
24 continue to complain, why the Germans
25 will then insist that the matter shall
be taken before an international tribunal
and be decided on an impartial basis.

1 Over in Spain, ~~for~~^{for} the next few
2 weeks the people are going to be plenty
3 interested in newspapers and magazines.

4 Prime Minister Aznar of Spain has
5 issued a decree which is short and to
6 the point. It announces complete freedom
7 of the press. For seven years Spain
8 has had a censorship of all printed
9 matter--and now that's off.

10 According to the International
11 News Service, people are expecting a
12 flood of violent, satirical, stinging
13 literature directed against the
14 government and the king. They're wondering
15 how the government and the king will
16 like that.

17 Not only has freedom of the press
18 been decreed, but complete constitutional
19 government also. There will be an
20 election to decide whether Spain is to
21 become a republic or remain a monarchy.

22 And that election is sure to be ^{red} hot and
23 ~~heavy, also~~ wild and wooly. — *rather even*

24 *than the spectacular municipal election they*
25 *are going to have out in Chicago 2 weeks*
from now when Cermak will try to unhorse
Big Bill Thompson.

END

On the train last night I ran across the well-known hard liner -- no, not headliner, hard liner -- Ogden Nash, the author of a book called "Hard Lines", which consists of hard-boiled poems. In fact Ogden Nash used to be my literary advisor before he turned poet.

He's discovered a new way to murder the king's English. He just takes our native tongue and punches it in the eye, uppercuts it in the solar plexus and finally wrecks it completely. The crime is usually accomplished in the way he makes rhymes, or rather the way he tortures words in fitting them together as cock-eyed rhymes.

Well, in the smoking car Ogden scribbled a couple of lines on a sheet of paper and handed them to me. Here's the way they read:

Is Lowell Thomas
The cat's pajamas?

No, Ogden, no--not at all. I'm just a hard-working fellow who's a bit dizzier than usual tonight as a result of jumping across three states in less than three hours. And as for pajamas, I'm not thinking of the cat's pajamas but of my own.

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Lowell Thomas Broadcast
For Military Digest
Tuesday, March 24, 1941.

I'm going to crawl into them as soon as I can, and tear off a few yards of heavy sleep to make up for a few miles of it lost last week in Chicago where folks never seem to sleep.

So goodnight - and, SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

but pounds. Not pounds sterling but pounds of sauerkraut. And that's a lot of sauerkraut in any language. In fact, it's a mountain of sauerkraut.

According to the United Press, that was the amount produced last year, not by the whole United States, but by just one state. What state?

Yes, you've guessed it.

Wisconsin did it.

The Wisconsin sauerkraut crop for last year showed an increase of 37%. It amounted to 68,400 tons, or 136,800,000 pounds - ALL SAUERKRAUT. And we even contemplate that amount of sauerkraut makes me weak in the knees.