

WALKER

Lowell Thomas Broadcast for the
Literary Digest, Wednesday, Page _____
May 25, 1932.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

~~was~~ I remarked last night that we were
1 ~~didn't~~ I tell you we were going to
going to
2 have the battle of the century in the
3 County Court House in New York today.
4 ~~My word,~~ ^{Yes, and well} the fur ^{sure} ~~just~~ flew when walloping
5 Jimmy Walker met socking Sam Seabury in
6 today's session of the Hofstadter
7 Committee.

8 It was ^{some} a ~~great~~ show. Though the
9 Mayor was a witness, and Judge Seabury's
10 capacity was that of a decided ^{ly} hostile
11 questioner, Jimmy just talked back to
12 Sam and ^a ~~gave as good as he got, with a~~
13 little ~~bit~~ more besides.)

14 Seven hundred people were crowded
15 into a court-room that was built for 300,
16 ~~300~~. To the astonishment of everybody,
17 His Honor the Mayor arrived on time,
18 which hasn't been known to happen for
19 four years. The crowd cheered him for
20 two minutes. Outside the courthouse was
21 an immense throng which needed an extra
22 force of police to keep ~~in~~ order. Men
23 shouted and whistled. Women screamed
24 hysterical greetings. "Hello, Jimmy" and
25 "Hurrah for Jimmy," you could hear on

1 every side.

2 The sensation of the afternoon came
3 when Mayor Walker angrily accused Judge
4 Seabury of being "a tool of the traction
5 interests." He also accused Mr. Seabury
6 of trying to confuse him on dates. In
7 the course of one answer he happened to
8 talk about "the traction people spreading
9 their propaganda ~~throughout~~ throughout the
10 city --"

11 At this point Mr. Seabury
12 interrupted, protesting that the
13 statement was irrelevant.

14 "At that time you were acting for
15 the traction interests," said the Mayor.

16 "That's not true," retorted Mr.
17 Seabury.

18 "And you haven't heard the last of
19 it yet," the Mayor threatened. "There
20 are a couple of law suits that will
21 familiarize you with it."

22 "All right," replied Judge Seabury,
23 "we will come to attacks on me later."

24 At another point the Mayor frankly
25 told Judge Seabury -- "I don't believe

1 what you say."

2 "I'm not interested in your
3 opinions," replied Mr. Seabury.

4 To which the Mayor cried: "I know
5 you don't care what I think, but that
6 goes double."

7 At this a round of applause burst
8 from the audience.

9 All the reporters seem to agree that
10 while the Mayor replied quite freely
11 he used plenty words and frequently went
12 off at a tangent. There were moments
13 when his face grew red with anger, and
14 his voice rose almost to a shout.

15 "You're making speeches," Mr.
16 Seabury warned him at one point.

17 "Yes, and they're good ones,"
18 snapped the Mayor.

19 ~~"They're not pertinent to what I'm~~
20 ~~asking you," retorted Mr. Seabury.~~

21 ~~"They're pertinent to the good name~~
22 ~~and credit of the city of New York, and~~
23 ~~that's what you're trying to destroy,"~~
24 ~~cried Mayor Walker, as we learn from the~~
25 ~~story in the New York Evening Post.~~

1 ~~The Mayor contradicted the sworn~~
2 ~~testimony of several previous witnesses.~~

3 The melodrama of the scene was
4 heightened considerably by the Democratic
5 members of the Committee. Every few
6 minutes, reports the New York Sun, they
7 sprang to their feet to wave their
8 indignant wishbones in front of the
9 delighted crowd. At intervals and at the
10 top of their lungs they shouted ~~praise~~
11 praise of the Mayor, and denunciation of
12 Mr. Seabury. There were times when the
13 yelling and shouting of six or seven
14 people at once, including the Mayor,
15 made the whacking of the Chairman's
16 gavel sound like the pecking of a distant
17 woodpecker, *reports Ed Hill in the N.Y. Sun.*

18 After one reply of Jimmy's had
19 aroused the crowd to applause and
20 laughter, despite the hammering of the
21 gavel, Mr. Seabury said -- "You've an
22 appreciative audience, Mr. Mayor."

23 To this Senator McNāboe chimed in
24 with his treble voice -- "You have had
25 your appreciative audience for 6 months,"
meaning Seabury had.

1 And the Mayor replied -- "I don't
2 have to come here for an appreciative
3 audience."

4 He protested as freely as he
5 perspired, says the New York Evening
6 Post.

7 When the morning session was over
8 Dudley Field Malone, ^{the well known lawyer, who was a spectator,} was heard to remark:
9 "Well, the first two rounds were Jimmy's."

10 (They started the bout with a smile
11 on the face of both combatants, but before
12 they got through Jimmy was shaking his
13 ^{list}~~glasses~~ angrily at his cross-
14 examiner.)

1 John Hughes Curtis, the faking
2 boat builder of Norfolk, Virginia,
3 will be prosecuted for the cruel hoax
4 he played on Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh.
5 This was decided today by the authorities
6 of New Jersey. The Prosecutor of
7 Hunt^{er}don County will present a ~~misde~~
8 misdemeanor charge to the grand jury
9 tomorrow.

10 As a matter of fact there are two
11 grand juries working on the case, one
12 in New Jersey and the other in New York.
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(The march of the bonus army on Washington D. C. becomes more promising of excitement every day. It looks as though before it's over it will rival the historic ~~xxxxxxx~~ march of Coxeys Army.) 400 of the veterans who are going to demand a cash bonus from Washington ^{D.C.} got as far as Washington, Indiana ^{today.} They came in seven trucks and 15 motor cars provided by merchants of East St. Louis, Illinois.

Municipal authorities along the way are doing their best to help the boys ~~xxxx~~ on and provide such transportation as will save their aching dogs.

The B & O Railroad doesn't care how many bunions the veterans get. Officials of the line said they had concentrated 50 ^{bouncers} ~~guards~~ in that neighborhood to prevent the bonus army from boarding any train. "We'll ride the B & O and make ~~them~~ like it," shouted the veter^s~~ans~~.

Strict military discipline prevails

1 in this army. There are four companies,
2 each with its ~~xxxxx~~ commanding officer.
3 Each man is dressed in remnants of army
4 uniforms, pieced out ^{with} shabby civilian
5 clothing. Also each of them wears
6 a blue service stripe with his
7 identification tag and unit number.

8 They have all been required to show
9 their honorable discharge papers before
10 joining the band. All contributions are
11 pooled in a common fund. There is as
12 much as \$60. in the treasury today. They
13 made one curious rule which is iron-clad.
14 Any man caught taking a drink during
15 the journey is liable to instant
16 dismissal. Nobody has yet been fired
17 out of the army for this reason but two
18 were hoofed out yesterday when they were
19 caught begging.

1 Now I've something to encourage
2 the jobless and many who are dependent
3 on them. The Democratic program for
4 relieving the unemployed made its
5 appearance ^{in Congress} ~~xxxxxx~~ today in concrete
6 shape. It took the form of an ^{bill} ~~xxxxxx~~
7 presented by Senator Wagner of New York.
8 It involves the expenditure of two
9 billion three hundred million dollars.
10 It provides that Uncle Sam shall loan
11 money to individual states. It provides
12 also that the Reconstruction Finance
13 Corporation shall be able to borrow a
14 great deal more money than ^{it can} at present.
15 It plans also a public works program
16 of half a billion dollars.

17 The ~~xxxxxx~~ counterpart of this
18 bill in the House of Representatives
19 will be a two billion one hundred
20 million dollar measure presented by
21 the Speaker himself. This will make
22 its appearance tomorrow.

1 The so-called Progressives in the
2 Senate have by no means given up the
3 fight to soak the rich with heavy income
4 taxes. The battle of the tax bill was
5 resumed in Congress today, and one
6 feature of the proceedings was a defeat
7 of the coalition. This defeat came
8 when the Senate refused to increase the
9 levy on trucks.

10 Senator Couzens of Detroit, who
11 is supposed to own about 30 million
12 himself, is the foremost of the Senators
13 who are crying: SOAK THE RICH. But
14 those who don't like Senator Couzens
15 are intimating broadly that all his
16 money is invested in tax-exempt
17 securities.

18 The ladies will be interested in
19 the fact that the Senate Finance
20 Committee has voted a sales tax on their
21 lip-sticks and all such now necessary
22 things.

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1 Encouraging bits of news continue
2 to come from many different parts of the
3 country about business.

4 For instance, from Des Moines,
5 Iowa, comes the report that the local
6 assembly plant of a motor car company
7 will recall 500 men to work on May 31st
8 and that more will be added to the
9 pay roll later.

10 In Chicago a printing company
11 added 300 workers to the payroll, and
12 announced that between 800 and a
13 thousand more will be given employment
14 by July 1st.

15 ~~Another motor car company in~~
16 ~~Indianapolis which has been working on a~~
17 ~~five day basis finds it now has enough~~
18 ~~orders on hand to employ men six days~~
19 ~~a week.~~

20 ~~From San Francisco comes the~~
21 ~~news that xx many millions more gallons~~
22 ~~of taxable gasoline xx were sold in~~
23 ~~California during April than March.~~

24 ~~In Detroit the April sales~~
25 ~~of one brand of commercial trucks in~~

1 Speech may be silver and then
2 again it may not. But we are certainly
3 hearing lots of silver speeches in
4 Congress today. So runs a novel and
5 interesting article in the new issue
6 of the Literary Digest which will be
7 out tomorrow.

8 During this month a Resolution
9 was introduced in each House of Congress
10 authorizing the President to accept
11 payment of our war debts in silver at
12 the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ ounces to the dollar.

13 And maybe next month there will
14 be echoes in the Chicago Convention
15 of that other famous Chicago Convention
16 that sat spellbound by the crown of
17 thorns and cross of gold speech of
18 William Jennings Bryan. The Digest
19 recalls the day thirty-six years ago
20 when, as the article reads, "a young
21 man in a black cutaway coat with a mop
22 of hair hanging over his collar stood
23 in a stuffy little two-dollar room in
24 a farmers' hotel shaking hands with a
25 throng of free-silver enthusiasts. ~~The~~

1 The Digest quotes the Denver
2 Post as making a strong argument in
3 favor of both the silver conference
4 and the silver debt plan. The Post
5 insists that "anybody can see the
6 world's supply of gold is totally
7 insufficient to transact the world's
8 business. The logical supplement for
9 gold as a money base is silver."
10 Loud cheers from all the silver states.

11
12 being considered the base route
13 for establishing meteorological
14 experimental stations.

15 The Committee also has an
16 idea for an airmail route over the
17 Pacific Ocean. This will go from
18 Chicago to Nome, from Nome to the
19 Bering Straits, thence to Eastern
20 Siberia, and Japan. This was the route
21 taken by Col. and Mrs. Charles A.
22 Lindbergh when they flew to Japan last
23 year. A similar system of weather radio
24 stations would be necessary before this
25 air-mail service could be made practical.

1 Regular mail service from Europe
2 to the United States by way of Iceland
3 through the air. How does that strike
4 you? This was a recommendation made
5 today by the Trans-oceanic Committee
6 of the World Congress of Ocean Fliers.
7 *This* Congress is meeting in Rome, Italy.

8 The committee suggested that
9 this should start with an experimental
10 service from England. The route would
11 be to Iceland and thence ^{to Greenland and on} to Labrador,
12 this being considered the base route
13 for establishing meteorological
14 experimental stations.

15 The Committee also has an
16 idea for an airmail route over the
17 Pacific Ocean. This will go from
18 Chicago to Nome, ^{Alaska,} from Nome ~~to the~~ ^{across}
19 ^h Bering Straits, thence to Eastern
20 Siberia and Japan. This was ^{approximately} the route
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It is interesting to report
 that on the committee ^{over there in Rome} is Sir Arthur Whitten
 Brown, ^{Who is he? Well, he is one of the two men} who made the first trans-atlantic
 flight in the world's history, although
 we hear very little of him nowadays. ^{Alcock}
^{and Brown were the two.}
 A colleague of his on the committee
 is my old friend, Sir Hubert Wilkins.

1 They had a grand scrap in the
2 Prussian Diet today. ^{There was disorder yesterday - but today it was a pitched battle.} Inkwells were
3 sailing across the room, desks were
4 used as brickbats, chairs and lamps
5 went ^t hurtling through the air like
6 Irish confetti, and many deputies were
7 injured. In short, no Donnybrook fair
8 ever put on a better show.

9 The scrap was between 163
10 Hitlerites and 57 Communists. A United
11 Press dispatch to the World Telegram
12 brings the news that the Hitlerites
13 majority won the day. ^{No wonder - it was 3 to 1.} They drove the
14 Communists out of the chamber altogether,
15 bleeding, torn, and disheveled. It is
16 rumored that the barber shops in the
17 neighborhood of the chamber are putting
18 on extra men to treat black eyes that
19 are becoming a regular feature of these
20 sessions of the Prussian parliament.

21 The disorder was precipitated
22 by a Communist deputy named Wilhelm
23 Pieck. Wilhelm~~x~~ - I hope he'll let me
24 call him Bill - hurt the feelings of the
25 adherents of the Handsome Adolf when

1 he shouted:

2 "There are many murderers sitting
3 among you."

4 Well, strange to say the Handsome
5 Adolf's boys didn't like it. They
6 roared. They jumped to their feet and
7 rushed for the rostrum, trying to get
8 at Bill and tear him in ~~x~~ little
9 pieces. Thereupon, of course, the
10 Communists butted right in and threw
11 inkwell for inkwell, and desk for desk.
12 They must be strong lads, those Prussian
13 deputies. I've seen several strong
14 men, but I've seen very few who could
15 throw a desk across the room.

16 According to H. R. Knickerbocker
17 in the New York Evening Post, it was a
18 battle of dimensions unparalleled in
19 parliamentary history. One chair caught
20 a Social-Democrat deputy full on the
21 chin and knocked him cold. Several
22 other deputies were carried out
23 unconscious. Raging Hitler men who
24 had been described by their chief as
25 rough fighters earned their titles today.

1 When they got through Parliament Hall
2 looked as if a tornado had struck it.
3 Outside the corridors were Communists
4 with black eyes, ^{and} bloody noses, ~~cheeks~~
5 ~~and faces~~. Deputies from the other
6 parties kept out of the fight and looked
7 on with mingled feelings of joy and
8 dismay. Mostly, I guess, joy, though
9 everybody protested that the scene was
10 disgraceful.

11 After the Hitlerites had thrown
12 the Communists out of the room, they
13 marched gaily back to their seats
14 singing ^{their battle song} the March of the Brown Shirts.

15 Incidentally, they also elected
16 their man Speaker of the House on the
17 first ballot. The Hitlerites had 262
18 votes, the Socialists 92, and the
19 Communist candidate only 55. The
20 Communist made a speech telling the
21 Diet that a world war was imminent.
22 The Japanese occupation of Manchuria,
23 he believed, was the first phase of an
24 international imperialist attack on the
25 Soviet Union. After the election of

1 the Hitlerite Speaker his party, arose
2 and cheered him. But the rivals on the
3 left howled him down.

4 The new **S**peaker of the Prussian
5 Diet is a veteran of the World War.
6 His distinction is that he's the only
7 German deputy who's never had to be
8 called to order. He's a man of peace,
9 a pacific Fascist. But look at the
10 job he's got now. He must think he's
11 in another war. Many a day he'll wish
12 he could say — s — l — u — t — m.