## LINDBERGH

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Lowell Thomas Broadcast for the Literary Digest, Wednesday Page March 9,1932.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

There seems to be a wilder crop of rumors than ever tonight in the Lindbergh case. Two sensational rumors have been going arounds.

The first one is really fantastic. It relates that the Lindbergh baby has been returned, that the child has been in its parents' possession for two days, and that the Lindbergh's hadeke been keeping the matter secret because they made the promise to the kidnappers not to let the news of the child's return become published for several days.

At Boston today Mayor Curley is said
declared that he had been reliably
informed that the Lindbergh baby had
been handed back to his parents on
Sunday night, and that the reason for
keeping the matter secret was to give
the kidnappers a better chance to make
their getaway. The United Press reports that the Mayor's
their derives that he said any such thing.
This is rumor No. I, and it
has been positively denied. In

authoritive quarters it is asserted

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with the utmost emphasis that the child has not been returned.

The New York Evening Post tells of a second rumor which is said too come from a person in touch with the Lindberghs. This report relates that Colonel Lindbergh has known for several days where the baby is hidden, and that on Sunday night he opened negotiations with the kidnappers. This rumor adds that the baby is being held aboard a boat.

This story is officially denied by Miss Elizabeth Morrow, Mrs.Lindbergh's sister. She declares positively that the family does not know where the baby is hidden.

The New York Evening Post points out that both rumors concern supposed important events alleged to have occurred on Sunday night.

From the Lindbergh home comes the simple statement that the family has settled down to wait.

The New York Sun tells how

a section twenty miles square around the Lindbergh home is being searched for the kidnapped child. Automobile loads of New Jersey state troopers were hurried into the hill country today, and they've been combing every nook and corner.

This activity follows hot on the heels of a clew that has been revealed the stepladder. which the used in stealing the baby. The wood of which the stepladder was made has been found to be waste pieces of North Carolina pine used in building a cottage at the State Home for Epileptics at Skillman, New Jersey. This cottage was built a year ago. Maxxwbik Men living in the neighborhood of the Lindbergh home worked on the job, and they are known to have carried away a good deal of the waste lumber when the job was over.

Another angle points to the possible fact that professional kidnappers, and not amateurs, may be

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responsible for the crime. The New York
World—Telegram declares xx that the
police are hunting three xxdmxxx
gangsters who are known to be connected
with the kidnapping racket.

And so it's the familiar story, the same story that we've been hearing day after day for more than a week - one rumor after another, one clew after another - with the baby still missing.

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Along with this bluster 1, mg, wintry weather we've been having come tales of ships in distress at sea. Tonight half a dozen vessels, including the American liner the PRESIDENT HARDING, are hurrying to the rescue of two disabled freighters. One is a coal steamer that has been disabled since Sunday night. The other is a German freight steamer, bound from Germany to Baltimore. She has flashed a radio distress call, telling that she snapped her rudder-shaft while battling with the gale. The ship cannot be steered, and the seas are mountain-high. The New York World-Telegram tells

The New York World-Telegram tells us that help is on the way, and let's hope that the result will be just two couple more stories of heroic rescues at sea.

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There was a terrific explosion at Camden, New Jersey, today. A huge gas tank blew up. Eight people are known to be dead. More than a dozen are missing, and four injured persons have been rushed to the hospital.

The gas tank was one of those usual giant drum-like affairs. The New York Sun declares that the cause of the accident has not been determined. There was just one sudden and terrific explosion as millions of cubic feet of gas blew up. Then there was a raging fire as more and more of the inflammable stuff blazed skyward. The flames didn't spread. There was no other damage except for the tank that exploded.

The new tax bill was reported by the Ways and Means Committee to the House of Representatives today. It includes that sales tax, which has been causing so much discussion. The sales tax calls for manufacturers to pay a tax on a long list of goods.

The Finance Editor of the Literary Digest explained to me today that this is a brand new departure in American government. Other countries have a sales tax, including most of the European nations. \*\*Canada has one too. At first the sales tax provoked violent opposition among the Canadians, but since it has been in effect opinion seems to have changed, and now the Canadians seem rather to approve of that method of raising revenue.

However, there's a good deal of an uproar in Congress. and The United Press in the New York World-Telegram quotes

Speaker John No. Garner today as declaring that the Democrats have prepared a substitute for the sales tax, in case the opposition becomes too difficult to surmount.

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Well, the first battle in the primary campaign has been fought, and politicians have been trying to figure just how much it means.

(Governor Roosevelt swept
New Hampshire in yesterday's electron.
He was opposed by ex-governor Smith,
but won by a two to one vote. The
Democratic standard-bearer of 1928
carried only three cities.

Governor Roosevelt's sweeping victory makes it certain that New Hampshire's eight votes will support him at the Democratic National Convention.)

The United Press returns show that Smith was strongest in the cities, while & XXXXXXXX Roosevelt swept the rural section.

Free. Hoover at the same time swept the Republican primaries without opposition.

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In New York former Sheriff
Thomas M. Farley was xxxx cleared
today of the charges made against him.
Judge John F. Freschi, before whom the
former sheriff was on trial, ordered
the former Sheriff to be acquitted,

Farley was on trial because of charges made by Samuel Seabury of the Hofstadter Committee. It had been shown that as sheriff, the defendant had kept for his own use the interest on public money which he had deposited. His xx defense was that this had always been done by the sheriffs in New York, and that the law does not say anything about who is entitled to the interest on the money which the sheriff places on deposit.

The New York-World Telegram quotes Judge Freschi as declaring today that the prosecution had not proved any guilty intention on the part of the former sheriff, and the failed to prove that Farley was conscious of wrong doing.

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A new idea for helping the needy unemployed is under way in New York. It is called Share a Meal, and is sponsored by the EMERGENCY Emergency Unemployed Relief Committee.

That's the way you share a meal, and they say that the amount of canned goods donated is doing a whole lot to help people who are without jobs and in need.

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Tomorrow we are going to have the fourth set of state-by-state returns in that Prohibition Poll, which is causing political leaders to do a lot of figuring. This next set of returns will bring the Poll to its middle period. The issue isn't settled, not by a long shot, but the returns are shaping themselves into mighty impressive-looking figures. The figures and the analysis will be printed in the Literary Digest tomorrow. and I 'I! just tip you off to one interesting slant. Are the prohibitionists discouraged by the teturns thus far? Not at all. The figures do show a majority against prohibition, but advocates of the dry cause use a bit of interesting logic to explain why the cause of prohibition, is mighty strong. those definite and precise figures no twithstanding.

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Well, the Literary Digest tomor row will tell us all about that.

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Meanwhile, let's get along to a few more cities.

There is one on the list here that has a real kick -- I mean a mighty dry kick. What community in the country is it that votes so enthusiastically and overwhelmingly in favor of prohibition? I give you three guesses. Well, we'll strike the answer pretty soon. It's about two-thirds of the way down on this list.

The list starts out with a city that seems to be pretty evenly divided on the subject of prohibition. Fort Smith, Arkansas, out of a total of 854 votes, gives 365 for xxxx continuance and 489 against.

It's another story at Stamford, Connecticut. Out of 2,585 votes, 304 are dry and 2,281 are wet.

And, strangely enough, almost as heavy a majority is given by Tampa, Florida: -- total 3,253: 565 for prohibition -- 2,688 against.

Augusta, Georgia, splits its total of 807 votes this way: 186 dry, 621 wet.

Now comes the city of steel, blast furnaces, and huge plants. These big

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industrial towns do seem to be exceedingly moist.

For Gary, Indiana, the total is 1,409, with 176 votes for, and 1233 against the 18th Amendment.

Springfield, Massachusetts, comes forward with a total of 9,342 -- 1733 dry -- 7,609 wet.

majority. It's the heaviest majority for prohibition that we have had thus far. This particular town cast 160 votes altogether. 133 give a rousing cheer for prohibition. Only 27 are against the 18th Amendment. That's a topheavy dry majority of nearly five to one.

forgot to tell you the name of the town, and that's the most interesting part of it all. It's Zion, Illinois, that same Zion City founded by Alexander Dowie and run for so long by Voliva. It is renowned as perhaps the strictest community in this country.

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And the Zion vote in the Literary Digest Prohibition Poll certainly does reflect the Puritan enthustasm of that community.

Jersey City is a different kind of town, and it's vote certainly is different -- total 9, 190-- 598 dry -- 8,592 wet.

And then here's Hagerstown,
Maryland which, out of a total of 1,762
votes, give 475 for prohibition and
casts 1,287 against.

But don't think that the strict and proper citizens of Zion City are the only ones who show up with a dry majority tonight.

Oskaloosa, lowa, casts its vote in favor of probibition. Out of 423 votes, 229 give a loud cheer for the 18th Amendment, while, 194 take the other side. of the question.

Well, that seems to end-my list
of cities tonight. And the next thing
is to wait until tomorrow for the stateby-state returns, which tell how the
country is going.

The Irish Free State has a new President tonight. Yes, he is Eamon de Valera. The parliament at Dublin elected him by a decisive majority.

The United Press relates that Former President Cosgrave refused to be a candidate, knowing that his party was in a minority.

who Well, the elevation of Eamon de Valera marks the climax of a spectacular career. The tall gaunt drichman who is half Spanish, has long been one of England's most fiery antagonists. and figured prominently in the revolution which led to the formation of the Irish Free State.

been agitating for the complete since then he has independence of Ireland. and now stands committed to the abolition of the oath of loyalty to King George, the Fifth.

across Europe to the Near East.

ARARAI

The elephant and the bangaroo.

The news tonight - Mount Ararat hewooga the time it anything to do with matters biblical. It doesn't concern this time.

Noah or the Ark. Mount Ararat figures

as the subject of a bit of diplomatic

The New York Sun reminds us that Mount Ararat is on the border of Turkey and Persia. The ancient summit on which Noah tanded with his Ark is on the Turkish side of the boundary. But its companion peak, known as Little Ararat, is on the Persiand side -

Little Ararat, is on the Persiand side - or at least it was until now.

Turkey and Persia have arranged to swap pieces of territory, and they say it's a mighty rare thing for nations to come to an agreement on the basis of - you give me this bit of land, and I'll give you that. Turkey gives up a section of territory at another place along the boundary line, and receives in return the mountain known as Little Ararat.

11-23-31 - 5M

But don't think that in this transaction the Turks are particularly interested in Noah and his Ark. The reason they want Little Ararat is something else again.

The Turkish authorities are always having trouble with the Kurdish bandits, and these wild fellows commonly take refuge in the rocky wilds of Little Ararat.

The Persians haven't been able to do much in hunting them down, and so the Turks decided it would be a good thing if they got hold of the bandits' nest for themselves. They think they'll be able to clear out the bands of Kurdish raiders.

Well, to Abdul the Turk, Mount

Ararat means Kurdish bandits, but to us

it still means Noah and the Ark. Yes,

the animals they came in two by two,

the elephants and the kangaroo.

They came

as for me I'm going out -- and

And, so long until to morrow.