

Good Evening, Everybody:-

1 Far in the Arctic wilds, on the
2 shore of the Polar sea, an airplane is
3 getting ready to carry out a bombing
4 attack. It will drop high-explosive
5 missiles that will ~~explode~~^{burst} with loud
6 reverberations along the Arctic shore. *And,*
7 That's the way the Northwest Mounted
8 Police are ~~trying~~^{out} to get their man.

9 Albert Johnson is a trapper of
10 Aklavik who has gone mad. He killed one
11 trooper of the Mounties, and now has
12 taken refuge in ~~the wilds, where he has~~
13 ~~made himself~~ a stronghold. There he is
14 keeping at bay the troopers who have been
15 pursuing him.

16 The United Press tells an odd
17 detail about that mad trapper of Aklavik.
18 It quotes Orlando C. Brown, a Chicago
19 advertising man, who knew the mad trapper
20 in the North last year. Johnson was
21 famous far and wide in the Arctic
22 northland as a humorist. He was a gay
23 jokester, whose quips and whimsies
24 caused him to be nicknamed "Al Jolson."

25 Well, that Al Jolson of the North

1 is now a desperate, hunted madman. And
2 an airplane is getting ready to drop
3 bombs on him in his wild retreat.
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1 A formal reply was made by Japan
2 today to the peace proposals suggested
3 by the United States, Great Britain,
4 France and Italy.

5 ~~The United Press quotes the~~
6 ^{The} statement ^was made public by the
7 Japanese Consulate in New York.

8 The statement declares that the
9 Japanese will stop fighting if they are
10 assured that the Chinese will immediately
11 and completely stop their menacing and
12 disturbing activities. ~~If the Chinese,~~
13 ~~on the contrary, will not stop fighting,~~
14 ~~the Japanese government must reserve full~~
15 ~~freedom of action for all its military~~
16 ~~forces.~~

17 The declaration goes on with the
18 statement that because of the fact that
19 the Chinese have shown themselves to be
20 unreliable in the past, ~~the~~ Japan finds
21 it impossible to stop mobilizing ~~her~~
22 ~~military forces.~~

23 As to the proposal to establish
24 neutral zones ~~between the forces of the~~
25 ~~Chinese and the Japanese,~~ the Mikado's

1 government declares that it is willing
2 to ~~start negotiations to establish such~~
3 ~~neutral zones.~~

4 We heard last night that Japan
5 will not agree to include the Manchurian
6 question in negotiations concerning
7 Shanghai. This is repeated tonight.
8 The Japanese government declares it
9 regards the Manchurian problem as
10 entirely separate from the Shanghai
11 affair, and furthermore, ~~the Japanese~~
12 ~~government declares, as a settled policy,~~
13 ~~that it~~ will not accept the assistance
14 of neutral ~~negotiators~~ negotiators in ^{settling that} ~~the~~
15 ~~questions of settlement concerning~~
16 Manchuria *tangle.*

1 Well, the big snow storm has
2 shifted a little. I mean the nationwide
3 snowstorm of ballots in the Literary
4 Digest's colossal Prohibition Poll of
5 twenty-million straw votes. That
6 blizzard of ballots moved today to
7 a storm-center south of the Great Lakes.
8 The populous States of Ohio, Indiana
9 and Illinois are being snowed under with
10 a million and a half ballots that went
11 pouring into the mails, ~~today~~, along with
12 ^{another} a flurry for Maryland and Virginia.

13 In an editorial on the Poll
14 yesterday, the Philadelphia Record
15 reminded its readers of other Literary
16 Digest ~~xxxx~~ straw votes, and remarked:-
17 "We welcome them, whatever the outcome."

18 ~~xxxx~~ The editorial recalls the
19 disputes following the Digest's last
20 Prohibition Poll, and the scoldings
21 of extremists on both sides, who, in the
22 words of this Philadelphia paper, "charged
23 collusion, conspiracy, unfairness and
24 incompleteness," And "the same storms,"
25 the editorial continues, "will probably

1 have to be lived through again."

2 Well, I don't know about that,
3 There may be some storms and scoldings---
4 the Digest always expects that--but there
5 can't be the same dispute over the meaning
6 of the Poll's results, as in 1930,
7 because this time there are only two
8 questions. Everything is boiled down
9 to a straight issue of FOR or AGAINST
10 the Eighteenth Amendment.

11 And now we come to a ~~very~~ curious
12 error ~~that is~~ made by many people when
13 they speak of a National Referendum.
14 ~~For instance,~~ This same Philadelphia
15 editorial that I've been quoting goes
16 on to say:

17 "Yet whatever the result of the
18 present Poll of twenty million votes,
19 there IS one way of ending such ~~fruitless~~
20 arguments for good. It is possible ~~x~~
21 to have a COMPLETE poll, embracing ALL
22 voters, ~~xxx~~ an OFFICIAL poll, publicly
23 supervised. The method is known as the
24 Referendum," ^{continues} ~~says~~ the Philadelphia
25 editor. ^{then} And he adds:

1 "The Literary Digest straw votes
2 show the need for a final and conclusive
3 Referendum."

4 Now, I imagined from this--and
5 I think many ~~Americans~~ imagine the same
6 thing--that it ~~was~~^{is} actually possible for
7 this country to have a great national
8 Referendum on any perplexing question.
9 But I happened to mention it to some of
10 my editorial ~~xxxx~~ friends at the Literary
11 Digest office, and there I learned to my
12 astonishment that no such thing is
13 constitutionally possible. There CAN be
14 STATE referendums, ~~xxx~~^{yes}--but the United
15 States Constitution makes no provision
16 whatever for a NATIONAL one. ~~Well, we~~
17 ~~live and learn!~~

18 It seems that the nearest thing
19 to a National Referendum that has ever
20 been invented is this institution which
21 we know as the Literary Digest poll! So
22 mark and mail your ballots in order not to
23 miss this opportunity of voting in the
24 greatest referendum ever held in this or
25 any ^{other} country.

1 There have been rumors that
2 Japan is being supported by France. ~~in~~
3 ~~the Chinese disturbance.~~

4 And that brings us to a lively
5 scene in the French Chamber of Deputies
6 today. Communist members accused the
7 French government of having made a
8 secret agreement with Japan. One
9 socialist speaker denounced Premier
10 Laval as dodging the issue. He declared
11 that ^{the} Premier will answer neither yes
12 nor no to ^that question of a secret
13 treaty. ~~between France and Japan.~~

14 Another radical deputy asked
15 outright whether France and Japan are
16 linked by an agreement that has not been
17 made public.

18 ~~"We have not yet heard a word~~
19 ~~of protest", he shouted, ^{He demanded to know} ~~declaring that~~
20 ~~no official denial had come from the~~ why the
French Premier ^{is} keeping mum.~~

1 The battle at Shanghai raged ^{on today - if anything} more
2 violently than ever. ~~today~~. The Japanese
3 brought up ^{still} heavier guns ~~than they have~~
4 ~~been using~~ and pounded away at the
5 Chinese defenders ^{who are clinging to} ~~and~~ the ruins of the
6 city. The guns crashed out, huge shells
7 exploded, and the city shook with a
8 roar of terrific detonations.

9 Military observers in the Foreign
10 Settlement believe ^{that} today marked the
11 beginning of a decisive attempt on the
12 part of the Japanese to drive the Chinese
13 from the parts of the devastated city
14 that they still hold. New fires blazed
15 among the shattered houses. Japanese
16 marines advanced with short, sharp
17 dashes. And the rattle of machine-guns
18 was incessant.

19 The New York Sun tells how strong
20 reenforcements of Japanese marines were
21 hurried to the firing line to block a
22 furious offensive. ^{TP} The Chinese report
23 that they have trapped two battalions of
24 Japanese marines, and the Mikado's
25 fighting men are ~~reported~~ ^{said} to be making

1 desperate efforts to rescue their
2 comrades.

3 One dramatic report was that the
4 Japanese Admiral who began the Shanghai
5 battle had committed suicide. He was
6 relieved from his command, and another
7 Admiral was put in his place -- because
8 the attack on the city was not ~~has~~
9 swiftly successful as had been expected.

10 But Tokio today denies that the
11 deposed Admiral had committed suicide.
12 The Japanese authorities declare it is
13 just another false rumor.

1 The Far Eastern trouble inspires
2 one member of the Tall Story Club to
3 send along an oriental tale, which is
4 no whopper at all, but quite true.

5 Daniel Ross, of Trenton, New
6 Jersey, relates how in Manchuria a family
7 of Koreans were robbed and plundered
8 so badly that they fell into despair.
9 They decided to end it all and bought
10 some poison. This they put in their
11 food, and sat down for a final meal.

12 They were just about to start in
13 on the poison banquet, when a robber
14 entered the house and held them up.
15 He saw the tempting food on the table,
16 and threatening them with death if they
17 made an outcry, he sat down and proceeded
18 to make a hearty meal. He was scarcely
19 through eating when he fell over, dead.

20 When the police came, they
21 identified the robber as a celebrated
22 bandit that they'd been seeking for a
23 long time. The Korean family received
24 a reward. The authorities guaranteed to
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Over in London they are expressing a lot of satisfaction. British officials are saying: "We are glad that Mr. Mellon is coming."

This is a British reaction to the news that Andrew Mellon has retired from his post as Secretary of the Treasury in Washington, and has been appointed American ambassador to Great Britain.

In Washington it ~~is~~ is pointed out that Ogden L. Mills, who succeeds Mr. Mellon, has been exceedingly active in the Treasury Department for sometime past, and as Assistant Secretary, says the New York World Telegram, he has been doing the bulk of the work.

It was emphasized that the new Secretary of the Treasury is by no means new to the job.

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1 In Washington today the capitol
2 and the White House were heavily guarded
3 by police. That was because Communist
4 demonstrations were expected.

5 There wasn't any demonstration,
6 however. All that happened was that
7 seven representatives of what is called
8 the Unemployed Council, visited the
9 District of Columbia building, and
10 presented a petition asking help for the
11 unemployed in Washington.

12 In New York today the Communists
13 staged a parade through cold and rainy
14 streets.

15 The New York Evening Post
16 describes the affair as consisting of a
17 lot of cheering and waving of banners,
18 but everything seems to have been
19 peaceful.
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1 Today is an anniversary. It is
2 the 23rd birthday of the first
3 "feature" motion picture.

4 The first feature picture ever
5 produced was made in a Chinese laundry
6 building, the place where Ah Hung or
7 Ching Ling used to iron shirts and
8 collars. The Chinese laundry was turned
9 into a crude studio, and there, 23 years
10 ago, was produced "Across the Divide,"
11 the first studio feature picture.

12 And talking about anniversaries,
13 I have a telegram here that got mixed
14 up in my mail and is a couple of days
15 late. It's from the Reverend Augustine
16 Jones of Springfield, Vermont, who
17 reminds me that Tuesday, February 2nd,
18 was the 100th birthday of that ever-
19 popular national anthem, "My Country 'Tis
20 of Thee." It was written in 1832 by
21 Samuel Smith, a 23-year-old student at
22 Andover Theological Seminary, who sat
23 down and within half an hour dashed off
24 the lines of "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

25 The tune, of course, is the same

1 as the British anthem, "God Save the
2 King." It is a German tune too, and
3 was originally a German folk song.

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1 There was dazzling speed on skates
2 at Lake Placid today, as the winter
3 Olympic games got under way.

4 Uncle Sam ~~was~~ came in first in
5 one flashing event. It was in the
6 500 meter race on skates, and the right
7 way to summarize the story is - Home
8 Boy Makes Good.

9 It was a real home boy, Jack
10 Shea, whose home is at Lake Placid. He's
11 a Dartmouth sophomore. The New York
12 Evening Post tells how he dethroned
13 Bernt Evensen, the speedy 500 meter
14 champion from Norway. He skated past
15 the finish line six yards ahead of the
16 Norwegian champion, and won the speed
17 crown for himself.

18 The Norwegian, however, came in
19 for his share of glory by winning ~~a~~ the
20 second heat of the 5,000 meter race.

21 He dashed along on his skates and beat
22 out Herbert Taylor of the ~~United States~~ ^{U.S.A.}
23 by a mighty narrow margin. ^{But just the same}

~~Uncle Sam~~ ^{copped that 5,000 meter event after all,}
Canada staged a magnificent ^{because}
finish in her hockey match with the ^{Irving Jaffe}
^{won the 1st}
^{and 3rd heats.}

at Lake Placid.

1 United States, The Canadians were
2 beaten almost to the end of the game,
3 but with only two minutes left to play,
4 they tied, ~~it up~~, and then went on to
5 win by a score of two to one.

6 Well, the winter Olympics got
7 off to a great start, and there was
8 dizzy, flashing action all day long high
9 up in the snowy Adirondacks at Lake
10 Placid.

1 Here's an item about odd names. They're on the
2
3 Public School roles at Tulsa, Oklahoma.

4 There is a negro girl whose last name is Black.
5
6 Her first name is Jett. So that makes her quite appropriately
7
8 Jett Black.

9 One girl has a really chilly name. She is called
10
11 Ruby Mae Freeze. Maybe she will, but hardly in Oklahoma.

12 Then another odd name of the same sort is Mannie
13
14 Mae Gamble.

15 Then there are a couple of twins who have odd first
16
17 names. One is called Flipper, and the other one Flapper. And
18
19 that sounds like a flip lot of flapdoodle to me.

20 All of which leads me to observe that my name will
21
22 be Fritz unless I flip flap out of here, so,

23
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25 SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.