

LOWELL THOMAS BROADCAST FOR THE LITERARY DIGEST

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1931

VATICAN

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

A report comes from Rome this evening that the dispute between the Vatican and the Italian government, the one we have been hearing so much about has been settled. The Rome correspondent of the International News Service cables that he has word to this effect from a high official source at the Vatican.

It is added that the agreement will be formally made public within the next few days. Only this much is definitely stated -- that the quarrel has ended to the entire satisfaction of the Vatican.

A later report from Rome tells us that the Italian government confirms the rumor of an agreement with the Vatican. The Italian authorities state that an understanding has been reached between the Pope and Mussolini and that the terms will be made public shortly.

1 ^Q
2 ~~The~~ big economy drive is getting
3 under way over in London. The British
4 government is in ^{a jam. It needs} ~~straits~~ for money. It's
5 the old case of living beyond your
6 income, spending more money than you
7 receive. The British Exchequer is facing
8 a huge deficit, and the heads of the
9 parties in Parliament are all agreed that
10 expenses will have to be cut down.

11 Prime Minister Ramsey MacDonald
12 is holding a meeting of what they call
13 the Economy Committee today. Proposals
14 are being drafted for a slashing of
15 expenses. The International News Service
16 declares that the Government economy
17 proposals will be discussed in a full
18 meeting of the British cabinet tomorrow.

19 The situation in London is something
20 of a political paradox. The heads of the
21 Labor government realize that John Bull
22 will have to stop ^{squandering so many pounds} ~~spending so much~~
23 ^{sterling} ~~money~~. They have confabulated with the
24 heads of the rival parties, the
25 Conservatives and the Liberals, and this
 was the reply they received:--

1 "Righto, Ramsey old chap, you've
2 jolly well got the right idea."

3 The Liberal and Conservative
4 parties have promptly O.K.'d the economy
5 plans of the Labor leaders. But just the
6 same, the Labor cabinet faces some stiff
7 opposition. It's in the ranks of their
8 own party. There are a number of Labor
9 M.P.'s who don't agree with that economy
10 drive. ~~one bit~~. The reason is that if
11 there's to be a slashing of expenditures
12 in England, why among the first to get it
13 in the neck will be what they call
14 Socialistic Expenditures. This includes
15 the huge amount of money which England
16 is spending on the dole and on other
17 schemes of socialistic improvement.
18 These are eating up money at a terrific
19 rate, and they're a fine place to lay
20 the ax in any economy drive.

21 Naturally there are a number of
22 important figures in the Labor party
23 who don't want these socialistic
24 expenditures cut down, and the big test
25 of the MacDonald economy policy is

1 scheduled to come on Thursday when there
2 will be a meeting of the Trades Union
3 Council of the Labor party.

4 And so during the next couple of
5 days we are likely to hear of important
6 news from England on the subject of the
7 financial crisis. One thing is certain,
8 however, ~~and it's that England~~ ^{John Bull} has got
9 ~~to do something~~ ^{his} to balance ~~her~~ ^{her} budget.

10
11 England lost one of her
12 foremost flyers today, one of the
13 men scheduled to represent her over
14 here in the Schneider Cup race
15 next month. Fl. Lt. Brinton was
16 testing his high speed plane at
17 Calshot where it flipped over and
18 trapped him in the cockpit. Italy
19 has already lost 4 of her star
20 flyers scheduled for the Schneider
21 Cup Race and France has suffered
22 several casualties in her ~~speed~~
23 preliminary speed tests.
24
25

SPAIN

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

A new idea comes along in the proposed Constitution for the Spanish Republic. A constitution has been drafted and was brought before the Spanish Parliament today. It is now being debated.

One clause in the new Constitution is an Anti-War proviso. It declares that Spain renounces war as an instrument of national politics. This information comes in an Associated Press dispatch. And I guess the only thing we can say is that when a nation puts a declaration against war in its constitution, that's something ^{brand} new in this warlike old world of ours.

1 ~~Something~~ ~~A good deal~~ of a political sensation
2 ~~occurred today.~~ ~~was made~~ by the act of Governor
3 Roosevelt of New York, who ~~has~~ made
4 public a bit of correspondence that he
5 has had with the Government at Washington.
6 *The New York papers are full of it today.*
7 It all seems to boil down to something
8 like this:-

8 There are a number of matters to
9 be negotiated between United States and
10 Canada in connection with water power.
11 When President Hoover was Secretary of
12 Commerce he took up the matter and came
13 to the conclusion that the water power
14 question should be negotiated by a
15 commission of American and Canadian
16 experts. He recognized the right of
17 New York State to be represented in these
18 discussions.

19 Recently Governor Roosevelt has
20 been informed by the Chairman of the New
21 York Power authority that the President
22 had begun negotiations with Canada and
23 the State of New York was being ignored.
24 So Governor Roosevelt wrote to the
25 President and asked whether any ~~xx~~

1 negotiations with Canada had begun. He
2 didn't receive any reply directly from
3 the President. Instead he got a note
4 from Acting Secretary of State Castle
5 who is an old friend of his. Secretary
6 Castle began his letter "Dear Frank"
7 and in a purely personal way stated

8 that no negotiations were ^{under way.} ~~begun~~
9 ~~This doesn't seem~~ ^{Gov. Roosevelt apparently doesn't consider this} a satisfactory

10 reply from the President. ~~to Governor~~
11 ~~Roosevelt.~~ He thinks that Mr. Hoover
12 should have stated on his own account
13 that there were no negotiations under
14 way between United States and Canada.

15 And so the Governor of New York
16 has now put the matter before the public
17 by giving out for publication the
18 correspondence that he directed to ~~Rxxxxix~~
19 President Hoover.

20 The International News Service
21 makes the comment that the power issue
22 may be an important one in the next
23 Presidential campaign and that Governor
24 Roosevelt of New York has a good chance
25 ~~xx~~ of becoming the Democratic nominee.
And so the controversy looks like an
important political move.

POPULATION

1 The old subject of the number of
2 women as compared with the number of men
3 received some new illumination today
4 in a set of figures given out by the *Washington*
5 Census Bureau.

6 The proportion of ~~women~~ in the
7 United States is increasing. The
8 Associated Press reminds us that there
9 have always been more men than ~~women~~
10 in this country. Of course that is
11 natural because the immigration to our
12 shores constituted a greater proportion
13 of men than women. These new census
14 figures show that there ~~are~~ still ^{are} more
15 men in the country than women. ^{But the prepon-} ~~For~~

derance is decreasing.
16 ~~a white~~ In 1920 there were 104 men and
17 boys for every 100 ^{women} ~~men~~ and girls. The
18 figure for men and boys is now only
19 102.5.

20 With the negro population, on the
21 other hand, there are more women than
22 men. For every 100 negro women there
23 are 97 negro men.

24 Among the whites the ladies are
25 most numerous in the South. ~~Men~~ Women

1 out-number the men in most of the
2 Southern states. This is also true in
3 some parts of the Northeast.

4 It's ~~is~~ in the Western states that
5 the men make the strongest showing.
6 In Nevada there are 140.3 men to every
7 100 women. In Wyoming the ratio is
8 123.8 to 100. In Montana it is 120 to
9 100.

10 These figures indicate an impressive
11 masculine preponderance ^{in the west, out where men are men.} But they are
12 hopelessly unimpressive when we bring
13 forward the figures for the old days.
14 Back in 1880 Montana had more than 256
15 men for every 100 women and that, as the
16 Associated Press reminds us tells a
17 good deal of the story of those pioneer
18 times when the cowboys sang melancholy
19 songs on the great dusty plains. *No wonder*
20 *their songs were melancholy. There weren't*
21 *enough girls to go round.*
22
23
24
25

1 out-number the men in most of the
2 Southern states. This is also true in
3 some parts of the Northeast.

4 It's ~~is~~ in the Western states that
5 the men make the strongest showing.
6 In Nevada there are 140.3 men to every
7 100 women. In Wyoming the ratio is
8 123.8 to 100. In Montana it is 120 to
9 100.

10 These figures indicate an impressive
11 masculine preponderance ^{in the west, out where men are men.} But they are
12 hopelessly unimpressive when we bring
13 forward the figures for the old days.
14 Back in 1880 Montana had more than 256
15 men for every 100 women and that, as the
16 Associated Press reminds us tells a
17 good deal of the story of those pioneer
18 times when the cowboys sang melancholy
19 songs on the great dusty plains. No wonder
20 their songs were melancholy. There weren't
21 enough girls to go round.

7

1 Word of an exciting fishing trip
2 comes along this evening. Jay Holmes,
3 a member of New York ^{high} society, took a
4 party of friends out in a motor launch
5 off the coast of Maine. They didn't
6 come back on time. In fact, they were
7 missing all last night and part of today.
8 ~~Fisherman Holmes had been cruising~~
9 ~~around in his handsome big yacht The Ajax~~
10 ~~and when the ^{big chief} ~~master~~ didn't show up, the~~
11 ~~Ajax went out looking for him.~~

12 Well, today the party of fishermen
13 reappeared after an ^{eleven} ~~11~~-hour absence, and
14 they told a story of a particularly
15 exciting bit of fishing. They were
16 after horse mackerel, a big and powerful
17 fish common along the North Atlantic
18 coast. You don't catch a horse mackerel
19 with a hook and line. You harpoon him.

20 Well, Fisherman Holmes and his
21 party of society friends did harpoon
22 a horse mackerel, and a big one. That
23 fish is described as being a 700-pounder.
24 The harpoon landed fair and square, and
25 that's when the fun began.

1 The horse mackeral just started
2 traveling. He traveled this way and
3 that, taking the boat right along with
4 him. This went on for eleven hours.
5 Finally, as the International News Service
6 ends the story, the harpoon ~~was~~ worked
7 loose. It ^{finally} ~~was~~ dragged right out of the
8 fish's back, and old Mr. Horse Mackerel
9 went on his way. Fisherman Holmes and
10 his society friends went on their way.
11 That is, they went home and put an end
12 to the fears that their absence had
13 caused.

DIGEST

Well, I know one thing I'll be doing this weekend. I'll be boiling a brick in a pot of water. Recently I had a fireplace built of bricks, and that's the reason for those peculiar antics I'm going to indulge in over the week-end.

The Literary Digest has been running a series of articles, one every other week, which tell us a lot of useful facts about buildings, about the way our houses are put up. This week's issue goes into the subject of building with stone and tells us a whole series of interesting facts. For example, there's information about limestone lumber, about granite veneer, the colors of sandstone, and the delicate textures of marble.

As an enthusiastic house-holder, that article gave me a bit of useful knowledge; and from it I turned to a book with a beguiling title. It's called "The House Owner's Book." It's printed by the publishers of the Literary Digest, Yes, and it's on sale at bookstores all over this country.

The first chapter discusses that very important matter of how to become a house owner. Oh yes, one of the sub-headings is entitled -- "Problems of Financing the Home." Well, I'm

wrestling with that problem every day, and I immediately sat down and read the chapter.

But I was still stuck on the subject of building, and right there the second chapter took up the topic of building materials.

One sub-heading read, "How to Test the Quality of a Brick." And the text went on to tell that the first essential of a good brick is that it should be well burned. Let me read a line or two out of "The House Owner's Book" --

"The simplest method of testing a brick is to strike it with a hammer. If it gives a clear ringing sound, it's well burned."

Another test, a little more complicated but still simple enough, is to find out how much water a brick will absorb. The first thing to do is to dry the brick in an oven. Then you weigh it carefully. Then you proceed to boil it. You keep it in boiling water for about five hours. Then you take the brick out and weigh it again. The wet brick will weigh more than the dry brick weighed. The difference in weight tells you whether it's a good brick or not. For the soft type of brick

the difference should not be more than one-sixth. In other words, if that brick absorbs more than one-sixth of its weight of water, why it's a punk brick.

So that's the reason why I'm going to be boiling bricks up at the farm over the week-end.

But wait a minute, if I don't get off this subject of bricks, someone is liable to throw one at me. The only excuse I can make is that I am one of those enthusiastic house owners to whom "The House Owner's Book," published by Funk & Wagnalls, is directed.

----- o -----

And from bricks let's turn to the subject of bouquets. At Constantinople, or Istanbul, as the Turks now call it, they are handing a few bouquets, composed no doubt of the famous roses of Shiraz, to Anneeta Grew, the 22 yr. old daughter of the Ambassador to Turkey. She did a bit of swimming did Anita Grew. Today she swam the length of the historic Bosphorous all the way from the Black Sea to the Sea of Marmora. The Associated Press says it took her five hours to make the 19 miles along the legended

straight that separates Europe and Asia. They say this is the first time the feat has ever been accomplished. Of course it would never occur to a Turk to do all that swimming. To old Abdul water is something with which to perform the sacred ablutions and to put in his hubby bubbly pipe.

Chicago police have declared him the scooter champion of the world. It was a hard traveling on a scooter.

In Chicago today Police Sergeant Michael Sheehan was making his rounds when he noticed a very tired-looking boy pushing his way wearily through the mass traffic on a scooter. He was something hopeless and all piled out about the fact that attracted the sergeant's attention.

"How do you do, where ya' goin'?" shouted Sergeant Sheehan.

"I guess I'm goin' home," said the boy, "but I ain't sure." The boy gave the policeman his address. The United States is the country for the fact that the boy

1 We seem to have a new champion this
2 evening, although I don't believe he is
3 recognized by any of the sporting
4 commissions or that his name will go
5 down on the record-books. His name, by
6 the way, is Nicholas Ispas. He's 9 years
7 old and the Chicago police have declared
8 him the scooter champion of the world.
9 Yes, Nick did some hard traveling on a
10 scooter.

11 In Chicago today Police Sergeant
12 Michael Sheehan was making his rounds
13 when he noticed a very tired-looking
14 small boy pushing his way wearily
15 through the ~~heavy~~ traffic on a scooter.
16 There was something hopeless and all
17 played out about the lad that attracted
18 the cop's attention.

19 "Hey bud, where ya' goin?" shouted
20 Sergeant Sheehan.

21 "I guess I'm goin' home," sighed
22 the boy, "but I ain't very sure."

23 The boy gave the policeman his
24 address. The United Press is the
25 authority for the fact that the boy's

1 home was at Indiana Harbor, on the out-
2 skirts of Chicago, 20 miles away. The
3 lad had been traveling for 10 hours.
4 Nick Ispas' mother sent him out on an
5 errand. And Nick, with all the dignity
6 of 9 years, always travels on his scooter.
7 He scooted around to the store, and then
8 as he scooted back he turned the wrong
9 corner and got all tangled up. Well,
10 Nick is a sturdy lad, self-reliant and
11 independent. He didn't want to ask
12 anybody the way. He just kept scooting
13 on and on through strange streets,
14 hoping at last to find his house. He
15 thought he was on his way home, but he
16 was going in the wrong direction. And for
17 10 hours he just scooted and scooted
18 and traveled 20 miles. Well, I guess two
19 miles an hour on a scooter isn't so bad.

20 Anyway, when the sympathetic cop
21 took the weary lad around to the station-
22 house and the other policemen heard the
23 story, the verdict was unanimous -- that
24 Nick Ispas was the scooter champion of
25 the world. After he had had a chance to

1 rest up a bit, the scooter champ was
2 delivered home to his mother.

3 And now the time has come for me
4 to scoot^{too}, so -- .

5 SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25