INTRO.

1

2

3

4

5

Lowell Thomas Broadcast for Literary Digest Monday, March 9, 1931.

Page

## GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

How did you like the storm yesterday? 6 Up my way it sure was a hum-dinger. 7 Sleet and ice came whipping across the 8 hills. Enormous branches were snapped 9 off the trees. I saw one old pine, two 10 feet in diameter, go crashing before 11 the wrath of the gale. Yes, it was a 12 wild day with the well-known March lion 13 raging in a way that made the old-timers 14 tell about the storms of forty years 15 ago. 16

According to all accounts, New England had the worst of it. The wind zipped along at sixty miles an hour and with it came snow and rain and sleet.

Along the coast there was thunder and lightning, and a huge tide swept in from the sea. The surf pounded against the shore like thunder.

INTRO. - 2

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

24

25

At Newburyport & wreckage of a Gloucester fishing trawler drifted ash ore in the storm, and that was sinister evidence of a tragedy at sea.

Page 2

At Niantic, Connecticut, a big grey seal rode into the river on an ice floe. Old Mr. seal was just adrift in the storm and when the ice floe, on which he was taking it easy, drifted near the shore, he stayed there while people gathered to look at him. When the crowd got too big that old grey seal flopped off into the water and disappeared. they ho

Out in the Middlewest blizzard, in Illinois, snow drifts piled up and choked the roads.  $\mathcal{R}$  in Chicago thousands of unemployed have been put to work shoveling snow.

A fishing tug was sighted in the tempest on the Lake, It seemed to be waging a hopeless battle against the sea and was given up for lost with its 23 crew of four men. But today it put into port, it's decks coated with heavy

# INTRO. - 3

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

Page 2

layers of ice and the four men aboard utterly exhausted after their battle with the storm.

The area of bad weather **xpm** spread clear across the Atlantic and over to Europe. A furious blizzard has been raging over the English Channel, and all today a heavy snow the has continued in London. The France the continued in London. The France the cold and stormy. The Seine is threatening to overflow its banks and flood Paris. In Germany, in Austria and in the Balkans winter is right back on the jobin an angry mood.

Well, it was a wet and windy 15 week-end all right, but one good thing 16 is that it will give us a lot of water 17 that we need. It will help to soak a 18 few dried dead fields and fill a few 19 half empty reservoirs. The experts say 20 that the amount of rain wasn't nearly 21 enough to make up for the long drought 22 It will and dryness in the Middlewest. take more than one drink of water to 23 satisfy the thirsty earth. But anyway, 24 if we get only half enough it is better 25 than getting nothing at all.

HOOVER

2-1-31\_51

President Hoover is back in Washington. With Mrs. Hoover he spent the week-end at the bedside of his son Herbert Hoover, Jr., who has been ill. The President's son is fighting to regain his health in the mountains of North Carolina, mear Ashville.

Page 4

According to the Associated Press, the President is back at his daily routine---except that he passed up the usual game of medicine ball this morming.

#### NEWS ITEM

I suppose there should have been something in the news tonight about Mt. Everest. If there were, that would surely be my news item of the day.

I asked a tall, quiet Englishman today, to pick out the most interesting bit in the news. He is Captain John Baptist Noel, known to fame in connection with the world's highest mountain. He is related to a whole string of the noblest families of England, but his life has been that of an adventurer and explorer.

He was the first man ever to fight his way near the base of Mt. Everest, and it was his explorations that really brought about the three expeditions that have tried to rin their way to the stormy and icy summit of the World's highest mountain. Captain Noel was a member of the second and third Everest expeditions. He was the official photographer. He took some amazing pictures of that last tragic attempt, the one when Mallory and Irvine vanished in the mist near the summit and never returned.

NEWS\_LIEM\_\_\_2\_

Page\_6

And so if there had been an item about Mt. Everest today in the day's news I am sure the Captain would have selected it.

As it was he went through the 5 news dispatches and came upon one which 6 caught his imagination. It is as United 7 Press dispatch which states that the 8 famous Rattle-Snake Dance of the Hopi 9 10 Indians will not be held again. This wierd dance was held in a wild, solitud 11 the Arizona desert. The Hopis 12 gathered hundreds of rattle-snakes and 13 14 danced with them, twining the reptiles 15 about them. Yet they were never bitten.

<sup>16</sup> But now that wild rattle-snake
<sup>17</sup> dance won't be held again because
<sup>18</sup> Chief Harry Shu-Pel, High Priest of the
<sup>19</sup> Hopis has died. He held the secret of
<sup>20</sup> the rattle-snake dance and the secret
<sup>21</sup> has died with him.

It was the tradition of the Hopis
 that certain mysterious knowledge was
 necessary for the rattle-snake dance and
 that knowledge was the possession only

### NEWS\_ITEM -- 3

of the High Priest, who passed it on 1 to his blood-brother. TFor generations 2 the secret was transferred from one 3 High Priest to another and Chief Harry 4 Shu-Pel was the last of these. He had 5 no blood-brother -- no one to whom he could 6 give the mysterious word. The dance was . 7 held once a year, but this year there 8 will be no rattle-snake dance out there 9 in the wilds of the Arizona desert. 10

Page\_\_\_7

and thus another milestone is passed in the history of a vanishing race - the Redman.

Informe us that ter serv in wroda

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

RIOI

Page 8

Let's begin this item with a 1 few exclamations. - OUCH! STOP YOUR 2 SHOVING! CRASH, BANG - GET OFF MY 3 BUNIONS, YOU LUMMOX! HELP!! POLICE!!! 4 What's all the shouting about? 5 Well, five thousand women staged a riot 6 7 in Brooklyn. And when 5,000 women start anything they generally do it up brown. 8 The reason for the riot? 9 A bargain sale, of course. A store 10 advertised a sale of dresses, red 11 chiffons, black velvets, pink satins, 12 and so on -- at a dollar a piece! No 13 wonder there was a riot. The women came 14 flocking to buy those dollar dresses. 15 They tied up the traffic and the auto-16 mobiles couldn't get by. They smashed 17 plate glass windows and trampled upon 18 19 each other.

The New York Evening Post informs us that ten were injured. Ambulances came clanging. It took the police three hours to make the ladies stop shoving. The store was wrecked. All because of the simple announcement: "Dresses for a dollar."

2-1-31-5M

#### GERMANY

Well, the word DIS-ARMAMENT should have a peaceful sound. It should be a word that turneth away wrath. When we utter the word dis-armament it should be a cooing sound, like the Dove of Peace cooing a message of peace and good-will. And so it is rather distressing to hear the word spoken with a harsh and un-musical tone -- as in the following:

"Dis-armament --- Donne Vetter --- The French have promised to dis-arm, but they have more regiments and big guns than ever. If they have a big army Germany should be allowed to have a big army, too. Nicht Wahr?"

The German Minister of Defense was talking in the Reichstag. He said that if France doesn't cut down her military forces, Germany is going to build a big army of her own.

The New York Evening Post points out that for the first time a responsible Minister of the German Government has used an agressive tone and that apparently the days of German submission and meckness are over.

Well, as I said before, it is sad to hear the peaceful word DIS-AFMAMENT uttered in such a rough and war-like way. NAVAL\_IREATY

Page 12

And talking about naval 1 treaties -- (which we have done 2 frequently of late) -- the latest naval 3 treaty to be signed is between Turkey 4 and Russia.

One interesting angle to the thing is that neither nation has a battle fleet big enough to scare anybody. But all the same. Turkey and Russia have agreed to limit their naval armaments and according to the Associated Press a treaty signed by Turkish and Russian delegates was published today.

Both agree not to put any more warships into service in the Black Sea. Or practically that. Because if either country should decide to increase its Black Sea fleet, it must give the other six months advance warning.

This arrangement, by the way, 20 is similar to a naval treaty that Turkey 21 made with Greece sometime ago. 22

So it looks as though there won't be any naval race on the Black Sea and all will be serene from the Golden Horn to Trebizond.

2-1-31-5M

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

23

24

25

### RUSSIA

5

2-1-31-5M

Now comes a pleasant word -JAIL, J-A-I-L, JAIL. At least it's pleasant for those fourteen men on trial over in Moscow. They are accused of counter - revolution, of plotting against the Soviet Government.

Page\_13

7 The Bolsheviks are usually 8 inclined to be free and easy with death 9 sentences, and so the fourteen prisoners 10 are glad enough to get sentences of 11 nothing more than a number of years in 12 J-A-I-L, jail.

The Associated Press states that they have been sentenced to prison terms, none of them more than ten years.

Having got that trial off their 17 minds, the Bolsheviks are sending a 18 loaded ship to the United States. 19 with lumber. The will sail from 20 Leningrad on Friday and is bound for 21 New York. The United States government 22 has declared an embargo on lumber from 23 Communist Russia on the grounds that it 24 25 is produced by forced labor.

RUSSIA - 2

21-31-5M

According to the Associated Press 1 the lumber ship is sailing for the 2 purpose of testing the American law. 3 Meanwhile at the All-Union-4 Congress of Soviets in Moscow loud 5 warnings were issued. The Communist 6 the Eart leaders announced the nations t were putting into force trade restrictions against Russia,) and said 9 that Soviet Russia would 🕈 find ways to 10 retaliate. 11

The statement was made in Moscow) The statement was made (that only 60,000 prisoners were being forced to work in the lumber district in Northern Russia, while one million free laborers were on the job in those parts.

That Congress of Soviets is 18 taking up a plan to maxiki mobilize 19 women all over Russia for industrial 20 purposes. The idea is to take one 21 million six hundred thousand wives 22 and daughters who are now engaged with 23 their domestic duties, and put them 24 25 into the factories.

Page\_14

RUSSIA - 3

Page\_15

According to the United Press another part of the program is to intensify anti-religious education. New kindergartens and grammar schools are to be organized for the purpose of teaching atheism to the children of Russia.xxxxxxkxxgxxbax

EARIHQUAKE

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

felt.

All day yesterday the earth shook and trembled in Macedonia. The earthquakes I mentioned the other evening as having occurred in the southern part of the Balkan Peninsula have been continuing. The worst of the tremblers was felt in Macedonia, the land of Alexander the Great, of centuries of warfare and of eternal feuds and fighting.

Thirty distinct shocks were

Page 16

13 In summing up the damage reported thus far the United Press states 14 that many towns and villages were wrecked. 15 Just how many the dispatch doesn't say; at 16 any rate 150 people have lost their lives. 17 In some places the shaking of 18 the earth caused volcanic springs to spout 19 from the ground. In others, according to 20 the International News Service, yawning 21 cavities appeared - giant cracks in the 22 earth that sucked up small rivers. Whole 23 hills got loose from their moorings and 24 moved from their base. Telephone and 25 telegraph communications have broken down completely in some localities.

2-1-31-5M

Around the world from the troubled Balkans there was an earth-quake in Japan. Immense damage is reported on Hokkido Island. Japan was the scene of another mis-hap. It wasn't important, but it was unusual and odd.

Near Tokio thousands of people were watching a series of air maneuvers. The planes were streaking through the sky and staging miniature battles in the air.

One formation of planes gave an exhibition of how to lay down a smoke screen. The speeding machines sprayed chemicals into the air - chemicals that generated clouds of smoke. But some of the chemicals came streaming down in liquid form - right among the spectators on the ground. Drops fell on up-turned faces, hands and clothes. Drops of burning, searing acid and hundreds of people ar were burned, not badly, but just enough to startle and frighten them. No, it wouldn't be much fun to have fiery vitriol drizzling down on you from the sky. Even old Chief Rain-in-the-Face wouldn't have liked that. PERU

2

Page\_18

Yes, folks, they've got a 1 new President in Peru. They've been 2 having new Presidents down there, one 3 after another. This newest chief 4 executive is Lieutenant Colonel Ocampto. 5 According to the Associated Press the 6 political factions at Lima have come to 7 an agreement with the Republics in 8 Southern Peru and have decided upon 9 Colonel Ocampto as a compromise 10 candidate for the job of provisional 11 President. Peace has been declared and 12 it is announced that general elections 13 will be held at once for the purpose 14 of establishing an orderly 15 Constitutional Government in Peru. 16 'es, Peru has another 17 18 19

the rented for the pust tes years to the

Mcklac place in Lyps Streat, Klich she

20

21

22

23

24

DIGESI

I'm one of those people who take 1 particular pleasure in the slip ups that 21 3 the printer makes once in a while. I was a printer's devil once myself on a small 5 town paper and did a bit of type setting too. And some of the slips I made were 6 7 classics. I wish I could remember them. Anyway, the Literary Digest has a 8 9 weekly column called SLIPS THAT PASS IN THE NIGHT, slips that the printers make. 10 This week the Digest gives us one 11 that is certainly the most cockeyed 12 example of muddled type that I've seen in 13 a long time. This bawled up masterpiece 14 15 reads as follows:

Page 19

Mrs. E----- is moving her 16 17 furniture from the Austin Clark property, 18 known as the Pond Place, which she has rented for the past few years to the Pond 19 Place, which she has rented for the past 20 few years to the Perkins place, which she 21 has rented for the past few years to the 22 Perkins place in Lyme Street, Kilch she 23 purchased last spring. 24

The lot of

25

T)

I have a letter here from Clifton Bertholf, of Morristown, New Jersey, who suggests that in addition to saying SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW, I should also say ABYSSINIA.

I thought that was funny. Why Abyssinia? Why not, just as well, Afghanistan, Timbuk-Too, Somali Land, or Azerbijan? But Clifton explains at the bottom of the note that ABYSSINIA is just another way of saying "I'LL-BE-SEEIN-YA".

Well, I wonder how many more ideas like that there are in the world. However, I suppose I might as well follow the suggestion and say

. The made free fine scross the

Sontinent-end that the turky work hulfled

ABYSSINIA AND SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.