LINDBERGH

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LowellThomas Broadcast for the Literary Digest Wednesday, May 18, 1932

Page.

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Good Evening, Everybody :-

The Lindbergh case continues to hold the center of the stage. The New York World-Telegram tells us that:-

"Beset by frauds and hoaxes, investigators of three States and the Federal Government sought today to pick apart a haystack of fantasy." They are in search of "a needle of evidence" which might point to the murderers of the Lindbergh baby.

A narcotic addict from Brooklyn confessed yesterday that he was a member of the kidnapping gang. Today under the pressure of questioning, he admitted that his confession was phoney.

And now it comes to light that John Hughes Curtis, the faker of Norfolk, Virginia, had demanded LINDBERGH - 2

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\$25,000. as a down payment from Col. Lindbergh.

Curtis meanwhile is being carefully guarded to keep him from committing suicide. Pat Therney in The New York Evening Post, tells us that he is under arrest at Hopewell, New Jersey, charged with giving improper information in the investigation of a high misdemeanor. The penalty for this offence is three years' imprisonment.

Page 2

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In Norfolk, the chief of police 12 declares that he is convinced that something 13 important is being withheld. The 14 authorities are trying to find out 15 where Curtis was on the night of the 16 kidnapping. His whereabouts at that 17 time have not yet been satisfactorily 18 19 explained.

The Norfolk Anglican clergyman 7 Morfolk who was associated with him in the so-called negotiations for the ransom of the baby, has declined an invitation to come to New Jersey and answer questions. LINDBERGH - 3

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At the same time Harry Brundige who covered the Lindbergh story for the St. Louis Star, has an interesting sidelight on the case. This is what he reports for the Unit ed Press:

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"One month after the Lindbergh 6 baby had been kidnapped from his home," 7 says Brundige, "I had a lengthy conference with Curtis in a Norfolk Hotel. He had convinced a former resident of St. Louis that he was in actual contact with the kidnappers. This man had urged the Star to send me to Norfolk to work with Curtis. Curtis told me he had an appointment with one of the kidnappers for the following day. He said he had given his word that he would not talk to police or give them any information. But he had not promised that he wouldn't tell a 20 newspaper man. I asked him how was the contact established. 'Through a 22 man I built a boat for ', he replied. 23 'A bootlegger?' I asked. 'Yes, a 24 bootlegger', he answered. I followed 25 Curtis on the following day in a

3-1-32 5M

LINDBERGH - 4

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chartered gasoline cruiser, and later On that day I found him, instead of making contacts with kidnappers, amusing himself at deep sea fishing." And that's the way this most

Page 4

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pitifully tragical episode in American history has come to a farce of fakery and tragical nonsense.

And there's an illuminating survey of this phase of the Lindbergh story, in the latest issue of the Literary Digest, which will be out tomorrow.

The Digest also quotes the New York Herald Tribune as commenting on the number of people who became private detectives. They included sensation seekers, well-meaning busybodies who bothered the Lindberghs and the police with fantastic clues, intrusive citizens who pried into the affairs of their neighbors.

3-1-32 5M

BEER

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(Senator Tydings' long awaited beer amendment was defeated in the United States Senate today.

Page_5

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This amendment was offered as a 4 part of the billion-dollar tax bill. The 5 Maryland Senator proposed to legalize 6 beer for the purpose of raising taxes. 7 He suggested that the beer should be no 8 stronger than 2.75 per cent. It was 9 voted down to the tune of 60 to 24.) 10

But there will be another beer tax test next Monday in the House.

Senator Norris of Nebraska, 13 hitherto a confirmed dry, had promised 14 15 that he would vote for the Tydings amendment if the Democrats would vote for 16 a return of high war-time taxes on large 18 incomes.

"I may have to vote for beer one of 19 these days, " Senator Norris admitted, 20 "but I won't now. If the Democrats won't 21 tax wealth, I won't tax beer." 22

And so saying he voted nay and took 23 other progressive votes with him, 24 25 deciding votes.

PAYROLL

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Wonders will never cease. The 1 leaders of our House of Representatives 2 are trying to put an end to the good old family payroll racket.

Page_6

A United Press dispatch in the 5 Cincinnati Post conveys the information 6 that senators and Congressmen have been 7 receiving hundreds of letters protesting 8 about this. Wives, children, in-laws, 9 and other relatives, some of whom never 10 go near Washington, are on this House 11 payroll, and it seems that this payroll 12 is secret. Not even Congressmen are 13 allowed to see it. 14

A resolution is going to be 15 offered in the House tomorrow to throw 16 this secret payroll open to public 17 inspection. 18

Another representative is going to 19 introduce a bill forbidding the 20 employment of relatives by congressmen. 21 It's been charged that Senator Thomas 22 of Idaho, Senator Borah's colleague, 23 carried his daughter and his sister 24 as clerk's at the wage of \$2200. a year. 25

ACTION OF TAXABLE	
	Page_7
1	Not bad pay when it's considered that
2	the gentleman's sister is said to be an
3	assistant cashier in his bank/in Idaho,~
4	"His daughter never performed.
5	any service whatever for this pin.
6	money, and his sister's never even been
7	in Washington , declared one of the
8	Senator's opponents. It is added,
9	however, that these ladies are not
10	on the payroll now.
11	All of which also adds to the
12	gaiety of nations.
13	belogistic belogistic toe build, some at bares perimper the
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3-1-32 5M

OLYMPICS

Page

1	Reports from Los Angeles today, tell us that the build-
	ings and grounds of Olympic Village are about complete, all set
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4	for the Olympic Games.
5	The National Olympic committees of fifty countries have
6	sent word their teams will be there. That will mean about two
7	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
8	thousand athletes!
9	How about Uncle Sam, Mr, Kirby, is he all set?
10	0
11	be nonned from the set of the terms of the
12	MR. GUSTAVUS KIRBY:-
13	Well, in the U.S.A. today we have, perhaps, the
14	greatest group of athletes in history. Most countries subsidize
15	their Olympic teams. We do not. We depend on private enthusiasm
16	their orympic teams. We do not. We depend on private enthasiasm
17	and private funds. We think that is infinitely better. And if
18	Uncle Sam is to have a chance against the athletes of the fifty
19	
20	nations who are coming to our shores for the games of the Tenth
21	Olympiade, he 'll have to get busy, and now. So far we have
22	funds for only about thirty-five athletes to represent us. We
23	
24	should have three hundred and fifty representatives. This is the
25	most spectacular and important athletic event in the world; and, of
2-1-31-5M	course it takes place this summer, in Los Angeles, from July 31st to August 16th.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Page____8

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It looks as though the end of the athletic scholarship in the schools and colleges was in sight.

The Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools passed a resolution today that these scholarships should be abandoned. All institutions of higher education which give free im tuition or money to football or other athletic stars, will be banned from the white list.

12The Middle States Association13includes the middle Atlantic states;14Maryland, and the District of Columbia.15it was founded nearly half a century16ago for the purpose of bringing colleges17and secondary schools into closer18relation.

They have defined athletic scholarships as either payments of **x**kk money, or the equivalent, granted to students in a college or a university, because of athletic promise or athletic achievement.

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SHEE

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Who do you suppose is the favorite international character of the Senior Class of Yale's Sheffield Scientific School? Well, I'll give you three guesses. It's Mahatma Gandhi.

Page 9

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The Seniors of Shef have been having an election. The Mahatma got 17 votes, Ramsay MacDonald 14, and Mussolini, N-Duce, received 10.

The Shef taste in fiction is equally interesting. The Seniors were split between Falstaff, Tom Jones and Tarzan of the Apes. All of them got 8 votes apiece.

Their favorite movie star is Joan
 Crawford, who is more popular than
 either Greta Garbo, Marlene Dietrich, or
 Norma Shearer.

Most_of_the_Seniors_by_the_way_are Republicans;but--and_this_will_interest newspaper_editors--they_prefer_independent Republicans;but--and_this_will_interest

The gentloman who was voted the to have <u>undergraduate</u> who had done the most for Yale, and was also the most popular and

SHEE - #2

Page_10

most to be admired was a young Mr. Rotan, a Ter former intercollegiate heavy-weight lad champion wrestler and foot ball guard. Mr. Albie Booth, who has received much mor e publicity throughout the country at large, was second fiddle to Mr. Rotan.

CHILDREN

I don't know whether this is an
animal story or a child's story, but
it comes from the Smithsonian Institute
in Washington, so it should be taken
seriously, and solemnly
Boc tor Aleg -- 1 don't know how to

Page_//

IT

Doc tor Ales--I don't know how to
pronounce the gentleman's name, but you
have/seen it in the papers--I'll spell
it and you can pronounce it the way you
like--Wkdxicka H-r-d-I-i-c-k-a--reports
that he has found many children who
behave like animals.

The Doctor's induction, from his
observation⁵, is that the youngsters
actual ly want to be the animals they are
imitating. He found some who acted like
dogs and apparently wanted to be dogs.
Others neighed like a horse. Still others
held their bottles with their toes.

But cheer up, parents, Doctor H-r-d and the rest of it, assures you that you needn't worry. Your offspring, if they bark or neigh, will not turn into either dogs or horses. He quotes an instance of one small boy whose favorite

CHILDREN - #2

pastime was to wallow in a mudd mudpuddle with a pig. They grunted at each other and rooted together. It seems the youngster had no other playmates and his parents were too busy. But the one-time pig-boy is now an honor student in an Eastern college, if that means anything. At any rate his abright. He's now rooting in college.

Page_ 12

JAPAN

leaders of the Japanese 1 Army are making a determined effort to 2 This comes control the Cabinet. as an aftermath 3 to the assassination of Premier Inukai. 4 According to a U.P. dispatch to the Newark 5 Hor id= Telegram from Tokjo the formation 6 of a supper-party government appeared 7 likely today. It will resemble a Fascist 8 regime, dominated by the army. 9 The military chiefs claim that their 10 aim is to purify politics. It is 11 TT expected that the home minister will 12 succeed the assassinated Premier at 13 the head of the Cabinet. Now The home 14 minister as well as the minister of war 15 are both members of a Fascist or ganization 16

Page 13

In Japan which is one of the oldest reactionary groups in the empire.

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In Berlin meanwhile they are seriously contemplating the danger of a war between Russia and Japan. H. R. Knickerbocker cables the New York Evening Post tha**t** 800,000 men have been called out by the Soviet Government for maneuvers East of the Ural Mountains.

Page_ 14

It seems that the news came through
in a curious way. The Foreign
Correspondents at Moscow apparently were
prevented by the censor from telegraphing m
it. But it was delivered over the
Russian official broadcasting station
in the Russian language.

The message was picked up, however, in Berlin by an amateur operator who speaks Russian and who has a particularly sensitive listening apparatus.

Knickerbocker points out that this Message is entirely out of order since usually only one class of 200,000 men attends the maneuvers. But The Russian War Office has called out four classes for this occasion, including one which had hitherto been exempt from military

	ADD JAPAN 2 Page 15.
	rage
1	service because of occupation in important industries.
2	This is the first time since the Russo-Polish War that
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4	as many as four classes have been called to their colors at one
5	time by the Soviets.
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very different tenor. Page 16 We should all join in a fight on atheism, Communism, corruption, greed and exaggerated nationalism. Such is the gist of the encyclical issued today by Pope Pius XI from Vatican. City

On these evils the Pope blamed the troubles that are afflicting the world today.

"We should put aside all base egotism. The nations of the world should unite all their forces in a single front." He appealed to Protestants as well as to Catholics.

He mentioned emphatically the accumulation of the wealth of nations in the hands of a small group of individuals, the unequal distribution of wealth.

"A small group who hold the wor Id's wealth manipulate the markets of the world at their own caprice, to the immense harm of the masses," the Pope added, "Profiting by this economic distress and moral disorder the enemies of all social orders, be they called

POPE

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Communists or any other name, boldly set about breaking through every restraint. This is the most dreadful evil of our time, he said.

Page 17

"There is no excess that will not seem justified by exaggerated nationalism. Love of country is abused, leading people to hatred and driving all to destruction."

The Pope set aside the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 3rd for the beginning of a week of prayer. He urged the faithful during that week. to abstain from entertainments and amusements however lawful. He asked those in easier circumstances to make special sacrifices for the benefit of the poor.

GRAVES

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newspapers today are commenting on that discovery of the Joldest town so They've dug up the oldest town so far uncovered --, 5600 years old. Incidentally, it was uncovered by American archeologists. A joint expedition of the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania and of the American Schools of Oriental Research were the discoverers.

Page 18

It is situated in northern Mesopotamia. They found it after digging for two years in that region. Hitherto the oldest excavations were the royal tombs at Ur of the Chaldeas, which you may recall from your Bible reading. This new town is 500 Han abraham's home town. years older, But it was apparently. Laid out on a very carefully planned scheme.

LLOYD GEORGE

Some body got the goat of the Right 1 2 Honorable David Lloyd George. It seems that they've been kidding the former 3 4 British Prime Minister and comparing him to the chorus girl for whom it was no 5 use to buy a book because she already 6 ones Well, it wasn't quite as bad had, one 7 ⁸ as that, but some eminent statesman 9 whats whose name isn't mentioned is 10 quoted as having declared that Mr. Llovd 11 George doesn't read any books except 12 thrillers. Mr. Lloyd George is guite 13 indignant and is going to challenge 14 the eminent statesman to a test of ¹⁵ knowledge of literature. So runs a story ¹⁶ by Morris Gilbert in the New York Evening 17 Post.

Page 2 19

¹⁸ "There are only two kinds of books
¹⁹ that I don't read and which I never
²⁰ shall read, "Mr. Lloyd George declares.
²¹ "One kind is the printed reports of my
²² own speeches. I don't even read them
²³ in the newspapers. And the other kind
²⁴ is a biography of my own life."

HAI

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How is your old straw hat? According to a dispatch from London in the New York Sun, we, over here, blow ourselves much more in this. respect than Europeans do. It's estimated that men of the United States and Canada possess three hats for

Page 20

everyone owned by Londoners - not even 8 Excluding the sxxxx good old topper. 9 which dagaak business men. even clerks. 10 are supposed to wear to their of fices every day in dear old London. 12

Incidentally England is 13 discarding the straw hat. Ever since 14 the war the lid of straw has been along Piccadilly and Pale mall. pretty much boycotted, Apparently the 15 16 people most extravagant in their 17 headgear are Mexicans who think nothing 18 of paying \$60, for a lid. The average 19 Londoner never thinks to pay more than 20 a dollar and a quarter, or a dollar 21 and a half, six bob is this top. for my last year's straw hat --- and 22 23 24 25 l- u- t - m=