

Saturday, December 6, 1930.

We have the

~~Here is the~~ official explanation <sup>far</sup>~~off~~

that ~~the~~ mysterious death<sup>-dealing</sup> ~~in~~ the fog over in Belgium. It seems that the Valley of the Meuse River was filled with a fog so dense that it literally turned day into night and human beings and animals fell and died in it. They thought it must be poison gas -- that it had seeped in from somewhere.

Naturally there was a feeling of brooding, mystery and terror. ~~And~~ as the Chicago Times <sup>puts it,</sup> ~~says,~~ all the world has been guessing. Prominent scientists have had their say. Some held it must be poison gas. Others said it was merely a fog that killed. But now the Belgium Ministry of Health announces that all the victims had been suffering from lung or heart trouble and these were just aggravated by the wet heavy mist. And so it was the fog after all and not poison gas. It was so incredibly sudden and thick that people who were inclined to have heart and lung maladies simply got worse and died.

The United Press reports that the

1 number of people who died was 60, and  
2 it is reported that the <sup>mysterious fog</sup> ~~death-dealing~~  
3 ~~mystery~~ is now spreading into France.  
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WASHINGTON

In Washington the fight is on concerning the amount of money that should be given to help the farmers. President Hoover wants \$25,000,000.

But when the President's recommendation went to the Senate Agricultural Committee the boys x there wanted to raise the "ante" to 60,000,000.

It's really a three-cornered battle, because the Agricultural Committee of the House of Representatives is against the 60,000,000 idea of the Senate's; and on the other hand, it also cannot see the President's \$25,000,000 scheme.

The Congressmen insist upon being original. They suggest \$30,000,000.

Meanwhile, the farmers are sitting, just sitting -- and probably thinking, too!

1            Perhaps you've heard about the de-  
2 bate that is raging in the Episcopal  
3 church. Well, there is an article about  
4 it in this week's Literary Digest. The  
5 article ~~sums~~<sup>puts</sup> it ~~up~~ something like this:-

6            "IS THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH CATHOLIC  
7 OR PROTESTANT OR BOTH?" And then the Di-  
8 gest goes on to sum up the various argu-  
9 ments in a way that will strike home to  
10 millions of us who are interested in reli-  
11 gion.

12           It also answers ~~that~~ question about  
13 apostolic succession, which I mentioned  
14 last night. Apostolic succession is a  
15 doctrine ~~to the effect~~ that the Christian  
16 ministry comes down through the ages in an  
17 unbroken succession. It is passed on from  
18 one generation to another by bishops who  
19 are ordained ministers. Well, there's a  
20 lot of controversy on the subject, and  
21 this week's Literary Digest tells us all  
22 about it. *Just turn to your copy and have*  
23 *a look.*

## FOOTBALL

Out here in Chicago there's a college where the students are doing a bit of organizing. I mentioned the name of it last night. It's Loyola University. As I explained, the President of Loyola has announced that there will be no more inter-collegiate football at that institution.

But, the Chicago Daily News tells us that the students don't like this decree. They have organized committees to plead with the faculty.

But while football is under fire among the boys, it seems to be making plenty of headway with the girls. According to the International News Service, two sorority teams played a wild and wooly game at Portland, Maine. Along about this season of the year it's a bit chilly in Maine. But the girls didn't mind. A girl on one team staged a 42 yard off-tackle run, followed by a fine plunge ~~xx~~ for a touchdown.

The story adds that when the girls tossed forward passes they had to use both hands; also one of them wore her hat throughout the game; and one girl left right in the middle of the game to keep an appointment with her hairdresser.

Yes, but in spite of all this, the referee is said to have penalized both teams for rough play.

Navy - 26

Penn. - 0

Tenn - 13

Fla - 6

Georgia- 13

Ga. Tech. 0

Colgate 7

N.Y. Univ. 6

Carnegie Tech 26

Wash. and Jeff. 0

Notre Dame 27

Univ. of Calif. 0

1 Charles Levine, the man who flew to  
2 Germany with Clarence Chamberlain, seems  
3 to be out of that tight corner. ~~he got into~~  
4 ~~over in Austria.~~

5 The Associated Press cables that he  
6 has been released by the Vienna police,  
7 and that the counterfeiting charge has  
8 been dropped. Levine's explanation was  
9 that he just wanted to make up some sou-  
10 venirs for his friends. The Vienna police  
11 dropped the charge for lack of proof.

12 The International News Service cables  
13 that Levine, overjoyed, left for Paris  
14 by plane and at the same time announced  
15 his intention of making a solo flight  
16 around the world in a plane that will  
17 make 3,000 mile hops and <sup>that</sup> will be equipped  
18 with a mechanical pilot ~~which~~ will enable  
19 Levine to sleep as he flies.

20 He said he had intended to keep the  
21 flight a secret but ~~that~~ his arrest had  
22 forced him to reveal his plan. He de-  
23 clares, ~~adds the International News Ser-~~  
24 ~~vice,~~ that he wanted the coins that  
25 caused all the trouble in Austria, as

1 MEDALS TO GIVE AWAY ON HIS WORLD FLIGHT.  
2 They were to have his likeness on one  
3 side and a sketch of the globe on the  
4 other.

5 "If I told what I thought of the  
6 Vienna police", added Levine, "I'd be  
7 arrested again".

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1           There has been a motion picture  
2 riot over in Berlin. Yes, the film was  
3 from Hollywood. "ALL QUIET ON THE WEST-  
4 ERN FRONT" was the name of it. When it  
5 came on there were shouts of derision,  
6 screaming and general rioting and then  
7 to add a finishing touch to the pande-  
8 monium, hundreds of white mice were turned  
9 loose in the theatre. You can imagine  
10 the excitement that would cause. The  
11 boys didn't forget their stench-bombs  
12 either. What a party it turned out to  
13 be!

14           The film riot was ~~was~~ said to be  
15 under the leadership of a member of the  
16 Reichstag, a right hand man to Adolph  
17 Hitler. Fist fights were started and the  
18 police, hopelessly outnumbered, were pow-  
19 erless to interfere. According to the  
20 International News Service, fifty people  
21 were injured in the melee.

22           As today's Reichstag sessions con-  
23 vened it was predicted that the govern-  
24 ment's program suggesting ways and means  
25 of getting out of present difficulties,

would score an easy victory over the combined radical opposition, in spite of the motion picture riot. This protest, by the way, seemed to be aimed at the American picturization of German war life.

Yes, and here's another interesting little International News Service dispatch from Berlin. Fifty students were arrested while conducting a secret dueling meet. You know -- dueling is outlawed in Germany -- but they seem to be doing a lot of bootleg fighting just the same.

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In China an American missionary has just been released by a bandit gang. She is Mrs. H. D. Hayward of Seattle. Mrs. Hayward and an English nurse, named Miss Gomersall, were traveling with a Mongol escort. Bandits attacked them. The Mongol escort fought back. But the two white women were captured. And now, according to the International News Service, they have reappeared safely at Peiping after a 40 days' journey from a remote corner of interior China.

NEWS ITEM

I've had a great time this week looking up some of my old Chicago newspaper associates. I dropped in to see my old boss Dick Finnegan.

I asked him to lend me a hand and pick the most interesting item of the day for me. The story he picked is about the going on of a bunch of good fellows who call themselves the Guild of Gormer Pipe-Organ Pumpers.

1 The Guild of Former Pipe-Organ Pumpers  
2 is an organization of chaps who in their  
3 youth pumped pipe organs, and the Grand  
4 Diapason of the order is one Chet Shafer  
5 of Three Rivers, Michigan. Chet knows  
6 there's a lot wrong with the world and  
7 he wants to make everything right. His  
8 present blast, which is reported in the  
9 Chicago Daily News, is right to the point.  
10 Chet wants to establish a definite effer-  
11 vescence point for vanilla sodas.

12 Julius Rosenwald of Chicago is a  
13 member of the guild of ex-pipe organ  
14 pumpers and he comes to the front with a  
15 red hot proposal for better things. Mr.  
16 Rosenwald wants to retire all the out-  
17 standing no-par, nonparticipating, nonre-  
18 funding, 7 per cent, prior lien, four-ply,  
19 non-curling drivers' licenses.

20 Grand Diapason Shafer also announces  
21 that the pumpers have a new official. He  
22 is Victor Andre Matheson, a Chicago archi-  
23 tect, and he has been named official trans-  
24 poser of the guild. This is caused by an  
25 exploit that Mr. Matheson accomplished in

1 his childhood. He was a pumper in a  
2 church at Evanston. At the age of 13  
3 he was fired and told to pump no more.  
4 So the ousted Matheson took revenge. He  
5 sneaked into the interior of the organ  
6 and transposed eight pipes, and that  
7 wrecked one full church service.

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1           The other night I told you a dog  
2 story and since then dog stories have been  
3 pouring in from everywhere. In fact I've  
4 ~~got~~ enough for a book of dog stories.  
5 Here's one that two folks have sent along.  
6 Ralph Pellman of Mt. Airy, Maryland, sent  
7 it. And so did Charles Roderick of Mid-  
8 dletown, Maryland.

9           The story was printed in both the  
10 Mt. Airy Reporter and the Valley Register  
11 of Middletown. Here it is:-

12           Harry Holter went hunting down  
13 Maryland way with a farmer friend.

14           When they were out in the fields and  
15 wanted to light up their pipes, they found  
16 they didn't have a match. So Harry sent  
17 his dog, Jeff, back to the house to fetch  
18 a match. His farmer friend laughed and  
19 said: "Say, Harry, don't try to kid me.  
20 That dog doesn't know what you're talking  
21 about." But he was wrong. He didn't know  
22 Jeff.

23           The dog dashed off. But he didn't  
24 come back. They went looking for him.  
25 What had happened? Well, that's the story.

1           Jeff had gone to the house all right.  
2 But he couldn't find a match. A log fire  
3 was burning on the hearth. So the wise  
4 old dog picked up a burning brand to take  
5 to his master. He started out with the  
6 burning brand in his mouth, and as he  
7 hurried along, the brand set fire to a bush.  
8 And the bush set fire to the forest. When  
9 Harry and the farmer found Jeff, what was  
10 the dog doing? Why, fighting the forest  
11 fire, of course.

12           That's the story, believe it or not.  
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Last night just as I was going on the air that big news story about the poison fog came over the wire. So I hurriedly had to drop out something in order to get it in. The piece I left out was a comic item that the United Press had sent from Arizona. It's in nearly every newspaper today. Maybe you missed it. It was pipin.

A telegram was received by Sarah Bradley, Clerk of the Supreme Court of Yuma County, Arizona. It was signed Mr. Wead of Jacumba, California, and it read:

"Wire immediately, collect, name of woman I married in Yuma November second".

The clerk informed Mr. Wead that he had married Leila Ornorado, also of Jacumba. So the bewildered Mr. Wead now knows the name of the lady on whom he bestowed the name of Mrs. Wead.

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The Chicago police had a bomb scare this morning. I don't know if you'd call that news, because Chicago is in what some folks call the "pineapple belt". Anyway, according to the Chicago Tribune, two bombs were reported and the cops went right around to the scene of the supposed explosion. There were no explosions, however, just a night watchman, who was having an argument with two men. Why no, he said, he didn't telephone anything about two BOMBS. He merely said that there was a bit of trouble caused by two BUMS. The cops went back to the station, declaring the "BOMB" scare nothing but a "BUM" steer.

1           The great Banana mystery is just  
2 about cleared up. I told you the other  
3 night that bananas do not grow on trees  
4 but on plants and are like cabbages and  
5 beets. Well, along comes Edward C.  
6 Barker of New Orleans. Mr. Barker is a  
7 famous bananologist. He grows bananas.  
8 He eats bananas. He has even slipped on  
9 banana peels. And Mr. Barker confirms  
10 the story that I quoted from the Literary  
11 Digest to the effect that bananas do not  
12 grow on trees and adds some information  
13 of world shaking importance.

14           He says a bunch of bananas is called  
15 a "stem". A wrap, or sort of sheaf or  
16 fan-shaped cluster of bananas on the  
17 bunch is called a "hand". Each individual  
18 banana is called a "finger". And the  
19 banana tree - I mean plant - is grown from  
20 a bulb which is called a "bit".

21           Those are the correct and technical  
22 terms. And the next time you buy a  
23 bunch of bananas - if you ever do - you  
24 might just say to your grocer: "Deal me  
25 a hand of bananas". And when you stop at

1 Tony's fruitstand to buy a banana, you  
2 might tell him: "Tony, give me a finger  
3 or two fingers or three fingers. I don't  
4 know what Tony will say. He may give me  
5 the bananas - and then again he may have  
6 a different understanding of the meaning  
7 of three fingers.

8 Well, that hot flash about stems  
9 and wraps and fingers and bits just about  
10 rounds up this week's news. I am going  
11 to Milwaukee tomorrow, and Milwaukee, as  
12 you know, is a town famous, not for its  
13 bananas, but for its zoo. In fact, it's  
14 my favorite zoo <sup>^</sup> and I probably will feed  
15 a few bananas to the monkeys at the zoo  
16 while I'm there. I'll be on my way now.  
17 So, so long until Monday. Watch your  
18 step and look out for that banana peel.

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