

LOWELL THOMAS BROADCAST FOR THE LITERARY DIGEST

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HOOVER

The big news today ~~of course~~ is President Hoover's message to Congress.

According to the Associated Press, the President ^{He} laid special stress on unemployment, but as everyone expected.

He said that the government ought to undertake big building projects to provide jobs for men out of work and he asks for an emergency appropriation of one hundred fifty million dollars for the purpose.

The President also said that the government was facing a deficit this year of one hundred eighty million dollars; and he told Congress that rigid economy would be needed to prevent an increase in taxes -- that is, rigid economy in everything except such projects as would ease the unemployment situation.

The President discussed the economic situation of the country and declared there was no cause for pessimism. I'm sure we are all glad to hear that.

In the Senate they had the first battle of the season.

It didn't amount to much as senatorial skirmishes go.

Senator Nye, head of the committee that investigates campaign expenditures, thinks that former secretary of labor Davis spent too much money in getting himself elected as senator from Pennsylvania. He thinks that Mr. Davis should not be allowed to take his seat in the Senate -- at least, he wanted the matter threshed out - more thoroughly.

But the Senate took a vote on the subject and decided that Senator Davis should be admitted. So Senator Nye was sat upon. The vote was 58 to 27, which means that the former Secretary of Labor is now a full-fledged senator.

From Washington let's fly down to the West Indies.

AVIATION

Mrs. Keith Miller is reported to be flying north late today on her way up from the Bahamas. There seems to be a thrilling story in the return to life of the Australian woman flyer. Because, in the eyes of the world she actually seems to be returning from that region whence no traveller ever returns. She was missing for five days after having taken off from Havana on a flight to Miami. The weather was bad and it looked as though she was just another one of the many aviators lost at sea.

Well, according to the United Press, the trouble was that her compass didn't work right. She got off her course and had to land on the little island of Andros. She was safe and sound there, but Andros is one of those Bahama Islands which is almost as isolated as some of the atolls of the South Seas, thousands of miles from no where. I know just what those islands are, because I was down that way summer before last with Count Luckner, the Sea Devil, in his big four-masted schooner. I've already told you the story of how Burt Masse, of Chicago, who was the host on that voyage, took us to San Salvador, where Columbus landed. There was just one white man on that island

and San Salvador is just about as isolated as Andros. Anyway, Mrs. Keith Miller was just as good as out of the world down there, until she got a fishing boat to sail her over to Nassau.

Meanwhile, here's another woman who has made a new record for trans-continental flight. She is Miss Ruth Nichols, a society girl. According to the United Press, she landed at Burbank, California, after a record solo hop across the continent. The record she broke, by the way, was established by none other than this same Mrs. Keith Miller, who has just come back to the world from nowhere.

Well, all these aviation records and trick flights are interesting, but here's something a lot more solid in the way of putting aviation on a real commercial basis.

It's that projected trans-Atlantic air mail line which is intended to shoot the mails across the Atlantic in big high-powered planes, with the same regularity that the railroads haul the mails across the continent. There is real glamour and romance in this - and the current Literary Digest contains a fascinating story on the problem of flying the mails across the

It has been announced that the Trans-Atlantic service will begin within a year. The Digest tells how this is possible.

Two big concerns are combining to fly the mails between Europe and America; one British and one American. They are the Imperial Airways of Britain, and the Pan-American Airways of this country.

According to the Literary Digest, the planes will be flown by American aviators from our shores to Bermuda where British pilots will take the mails for the big jump to Europe.

PIGEON

Airplanes may be the latest thing but here's a pigeon that licked an airplane.

At Long Island City, on the outskirts of New York, Michael Cushing was kidnapped and the kidnapers had a clever scheme of getting the money without any police interference. They informed Cushing's brother to go to a certain place and he'd find two homing pigeons in a cage. He was told to tie a five hundred dollar bill to the leg of each pigeon and then release the birds. Well, the police got into the little game. They got hold of the pigeons and released one of them. The cops were going to follow that pigeon and they had an airplane to do it. They turned the pigeon loose says the International News Service, started after it by airplane. The pigeon climbed and the plane followed. The pigeon headed for home; the plane right after it. Then that pigeon got into a flock of other pigeons and all that the airplane could do was turn around x and go home. So the police didn't get the kidnapers after all.

RICCI

There is another story in the days dispatches that may have a kidnaping angle or again it may not.

In New York two rather famous small boys are back home with their parents today. And they are two of the most extraordinary youngsters in the world. Both are musical prodigies and one of them has been one of the sensations of the past year.

He is Rugiero Ricci, a ten year old violin prodigy. Music critics go into ecstasy when they tell how marvelously he plays the most difficult works of the greatest masters.

Also a big legal battle has been going on around this small boy and his younger brother.

Their parents put them in the care of a lady to develop their talent. That was some time ago and now the parents want them back.

There have been a lot of lawyers on the job and plenty of court proceedings. And x the future of the two boys was all tangled up.

But the Associated Press tells us that last night Rugiero and ~~x~~ his brother slept at home; and today they are x running

and shouting and playing with their other brothers and sisters;
because the Ricci family is a big one.

The lady who has been their guardian claims they were
kidnapped by their parents. The parents say that the boys
merely ran away from their guardian and came home.

Now for a couple of foreign dispatches.

GERMANY

The first is a story about some German politicians who are in a huff. They are disgruntled. It's the Foreign Committee of the German Reichstag. They have ^{just} just come out with a demand that Germany withdraw from the Disarmament Conference at Geneva. The Reichstag Foreign Committee is hot under the collar because Germany's latest proposal at the Geneva Disarmament Conference was turned down. That German proposal by the way, was a little bit drastic. They ^{proposed} proposed that all nations cut their armies down to the size of the German army. And the German army, ~~as you know~~, has been kept mighty small by the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles.

Just to make a good day's work of it, the Reichstag Foreign Committee also recommended that Germany break trade relations with Poland, as a protest against the recent Polish elections. The Associated Press cables that there has been a good deal of excitement in Germany about those Polish elections. Why are the Germans so interested in Poland? Well, they say the Poles didn't give the German minority in upper Silesia a **fair** fair chance. They say the Poles used all kinds of tricks and violence to keep the Germans who live in Poland from electing their candidates.

JUGO - SLAVS

A dispatch from Rome to the Chicago Daily News states that six Italian customs police were ambushed near the Jugo-Slav border. Concealed riflemen opened fire on them and one was killed. The crime was attributed to the Jugo-Slavs. The relations between Italy and Jugo-Slavia are not particularly good and this incident won't help them.

Now, let's jump over to the battle-front on the Pacific Coast.

SPORTS

An International News Service dispatch says that out in California the odds are shifting on the big football game. Notre Dame was the favorite to beat Southern California. But now the big Trojan team is considered an even bet to beat Rockne's fighting Irishmen. Plenty of sound football minds are expecting Notre Dame to get a sound thrashing.

That may seem a little strange after Rockne's men have won every game for the past two seasons and after coming through in those last two tough battles with Northwestern and the Army. But it's exactly those last two games that are causing football men to switch to Southern California. They say that Northwestern and the Army took a lot out of Notre Dame, and that the South Bend warriors had to play so hard that they can't possibly be the same team now.

Knute Rockne gloomily declares that his team will be beaten, but he's said that before.

LIVE STOCK SHOW

Perhaps you've heard they are holding the big live stock show here in Chicago and it's quite a spectacle. In the big ring, magnificent horses and the aristocratic cattle are led before the judges. One odd thing is the ~~xxx~~ names of some of the high nobility of the animal kingdom. They are pompous and high sounding, but some are snappy and up-to-date. Five Lindys are present, maybe to show that calves and yearlings and steers are becoming air-minded. There's an Amos and Andy and one calf is realistically named Sirloin. Among the cows the United Press points out that there's only one named after a movie actress, and she is Clara Bow. Technically, however, that prize bossie is not listed as a cow. She is a short horned junior calf.

Well, I've a farm of sorts up in New York State and I have several cows, but they haven't any fancy names at all. In fact, they're not fancy cows.

Meanwhile, in Milwaukee the annual convention of Wisconsin Cheese makers goes into session tomorrow and the United Press tells us that those cheese makers are doing things in a big way. The auditorium where they will meet is decorated with hundreds of

cheeses. There's the big cheese and the little cheese. I don't know if there is a weak cheese present but there certainly are some strong ones.

DOGS

A few nights ago I told you about a fish-catching dog and here's a letter from Mary Jane Warren of New York City, who writes us of a fish-catching Scotch collie named Rob Roy. He caused something of a mystery.

Down in Delaware along a creek, fish were constantly found high and dry on the bank, and nobody knew how they got there. Then, one day, Miss Warren's father ~~xx~~ saw Rob Roy dash into the water, catch a fish, carry it up on the bank,

After that whenever fish were wanted for dinner, they simply took the collie down to the creek. According to Miss Warren, Rob Roy was one of the greatest fish-catching dogs on record.

A letter has also come in from a boy at Westport, Conn. His name is Roger Oakley and he tells about his dog, which ~~x~~ is named Chief. Well, there isn't much remarkable about Chief -- maybe that's what I like about him. Roger says that his dog is just a yellow mutt, but Roger prefers him to any thoroughbred in the world.

I can sympathize with that - I've a weakness myself for just common dogs, mongrels, just plain mutts.

Well, a dog calls to mind the subject of whistling - but here's a man and a famous one in his ~~xxx~~ way - who certainly won't be out whistling to his dog.

WHISTLING

At Beloit, Wisconsin, there's a country jail and the prisoners in that jail are going to have a musical Christmas, because Booker Dockett will be there. Now Booker is a colored man and he is the whistling champion of the United States. He can whistle better than anyone else says the United Press. He can whistle songs and operatic arias and when he whistles jazzy and blue, it just makes everyone start shuffling. However, Booker is not going to jail for whistling. He is accused of the mere small matter of taking something that didn't belong to him, and the judge said he thought the boys up there in the country jail would enjoy a little of Booker's champion ship brand of whistling on Christmas. So he gave Booker sixty days, which will keep him in the hoosegow over the holidays.

CLOSE

In New York recently two English actors got a big laugh -- No, they weren't comedians, they weren't trying to be funny. One was in a serious tragic play; the other was in a problem play, just as serious. But they were laughed at - because they were so bloomin' Hinglish.

In other words, it is reported that the American audiences are beginning to get a bit fed up with English actors who bring just a little rawther too much deah old Piccadilly on to the American stage.

All of this is discussed in an amusing article in this week's Literary Digest.

The Digest says that the famous American dramatic critic, George Jean Nathan, took some forcible digs at English actors, and he did it in a London paper, the London Daily Express.

Some of these English actors says Nathan are so terribly Hinglish that they say:- Deah for dear, rawther for rather, hyah for here, and so on don't you know.

Well, that Piccadilly lingo is sometimes wonderful to listen to. I remember I was at Southsea, an English seaside resort once, and I wanted to go to the post office.

In England they call a post office, the G. P. O., which stands for a general post office.

Anyway, I asked a very swagger-looking Englishman the way to the post office. He raised his eyebrows at my American accent.

"Oh, deah, he said "You mean the G.P.O. Well, he pointed and said "you go ovah thyah, and then you go thyah, and then you go thyah, and then you are thyah."

But, you never can tell -- that invasion of English actors may have us Americans talking like that, and the day may come when you or Bill Smith, who runs the grocery store in Kokomo will say "I say, old chap, thyahs your tin of tomahtoes."

If that's going to happen I guess I might as well get into the swing and see if I can't cultivate an English accent myself. In fact, I think I'll do it right now.--

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Oh, I say, chappies, we've had a lot of jolly old
news and it's time to toddle along, so cheerio -- in other
words,

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW NIGHT.