Lowell Thomas Broadcast for Literary Digest Wednesday, November 25, 1931.

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Good Evening, Everybody:

The Round Table Conference at London seems to be in a bad way.

Mahatma Gandhi today rejected the terms that the British government have offered to India. The British Government is willing to grant AUTONOMY, and a considerable measure of independence. But England wants to keep control of the Indian army and Indian finances.

And to this, reports the International News Service, Gandhi and other delegates from India say, NO.)

There have been obstreperous doings in the House of Lords, with a demand that if Gandhi tries to start any more sedition in India, why he should be deported to the Andaman Islands. There were other demands that England make no treaty with representatives of terrorists from India.

And some seem to think that this means the death of the Round Table Conference. It amy rate it seems to be in danger of going on the rocks.

The League of Nations tonight is said to be considering an important communication from the United States, presented by Ambassador Charles G.

Dawes. There is no word of what is in the message from Uncle Sam, but it is hinted that it may have an important part in settling the Manchurian quarrel. It may indeed be the turning point toward peace.

The United Press, however, reports that both China and Japan are standing firm. The League of Nations is talking over the matter of appointing members to a commission to arbitrate in the controversy. China is still demanding that the Japas shall get their soldiers out of Manchuria before the neutral commission goes to work.

From the battle-front over there in the Far East, the Associated Press cables a curious report. It is to the effect that the Japanese want to appoint General Mah Chan-Shan governor of Manchuria. Well, they've been battling

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with the army of General Mah for weeks now, but they say that the Minim Mikado's authorities have opened negotiations with the General, and hope to get him to play the Governor of Manchuria for them. If that little deal went through it would certainly be a curious right-about-face.

Japanese troops have occupied the town of Hain-Min. This is interpreted as a move to capture the important city of Chin-Chow.

Charles Hunter, the International News Service correspondent, cables that he arrived in Hain-Min today and was received with a fusillade of blank cartridges. A Japanese armored car blazed away at him, but the guns were loaded with blanks. Japanese officers apologized, and explained that they were using tactics of firing with blanks for the purpose of intimidating Chinese bandits.

Dino Grandi, the Italian foreign minister, announced today that Italy is not seeking to float a loan in the United States. Grandi has been confabulating with prominent American financiers, and the rumor was that he was trying to negotiate a loan.

But he says it's nothing of the sort. The United Press quotes him as declaring that Italy does not need a loan. He explains that just a little while ago Mussolini floated an internal loan of 3 billion lire. The Italian public responded so enthusiastically, that 7 billion lire were handed over to the government.

But Mussolini gave back to the people the excess cash, for which there was no need.

Last night I mentioned a few questions that are answered in the new Literary Digest, which came out today. One of those questions asked is -- WHAT HAVE BEEN THE RESULTS OF DINO GRANDI'S NEGOTIATIONS WITH PRESIDENT HOOVER?

A good many of us have been puzzled by the purpose of the visit of the Italian foreign minister to the United States. There seems to be no questions and dispute between Uncle Sam and Mussolini's government. In fact, it's been understood that the United States and Italy have the same general outlook, so far as international problems are concerned.

The new Literary Digest takes up the subject of Grandi's visit, and gives us various bits of insight.

We are told that the eyes of both President Hoover and Foreign Minister Grandi were directed principally at one big goal -- the World Disarmament Conference, which is to be held in

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February. Both Uncle Sam and Mussolini seems to be determined that the big attempt to reduce armament throughout the world shall not result in failure.

The Literary Digest quotes Percy Winner, a correspondent of the New York Evening Post, as declaring that Mussolini's dominating belief right now is that of all the problems before the world, economic recovery is of the greatest importance. And the Duce is further convinced that disarmament will do a great deal to bring the present financial and industrial difficulties of the world to a solution.

Italy has a long-standing controversy with France about how big a Navy the two countries, respectively, should have. Mussolini wants to settle that argument. He'd like to have his own way, but above all things, he wants a settlement -- and he is willing to compromise. Anything to lick the depression seems to be the Duce's idea. As for President Hoover, the

Literary Digest quotes this same political expert in the Evening Post as declaring that disarmament is Mr. Hoover's pet hobby. He is said to hold disarmament just as dear as President Wilson held the League of Nations.

According to this summary which the Literary Digest passes along to us, President Hoover and Mussolini's right-hand man were talking about something on which they were both enthusiastically in agreement. And they are said to have struck something of a bargain. The two statesmen might have talked together semething like this:-

"Signor Grandi," remarks President
Hoover, "we would like to have your
government support the American idea in
the approaching disarmament conference.
We should like to have you stand
shoulder to shoulder with us in putting
through a real effort to cut down the
heavy amount of guns, armies, and
warships which the nations are now
carrying."

"Very well, Mr. President,"
responds Grandi, with his customary
genial smile, "we will do this on
condition that you help us out a bit at
the conference. We want to settle our
naval dispute with France, and we should
like to have Uncle Sam use his powerful
influence to bring about a settlement
of that perplexing question about the
size of the French and Italian navies."

That to be the gist of the understanding which Hoover and Grandi arranged between them.

And it is further intimated that Uncle Sam might find it convenient to have some of his proposals presented by the Italians.

Anyway, these ideas are given to us by the Literary Digest as inferences drawn by acute minds among the important newspaper correspondents at Washington.

Well, it's a mathematical certainty now -- I mean the Democrats are sure to have a majority in the House of Representatives of the new Congress that meets on December 7th.

This is the result of that election in Texas yesterday, in which a Congressman was chosen. A Democrat won. He scored an easy victory.

The International News Service gives the present line-up of the new Congress as follows:- Democrats, 218; Republicans, 214, and one Farmer-Labor member. Two seats are vacant, but even though the Republicans should win both of them, why the Democrats would still have a majority. The two vacant seats are in New Jersey and New Hampshire, and the Democrats, have hopes of carrying both.

in the Lower House a mathematical certainty -- unless, of course, death or illness takes a hand in the short time between now and December 7th.

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In Pittsburgh today a number of people are giving thanks in advance. They are employes of one of the largest tin-plate companies in the country.

In an appropriate announcement for the day before Thanksgiving, the company has issued notice that hereafter everybody in its 44 plants is going to work full time.

The employes have been working on an average of 3 days a week, and half the mills have been idle.

The Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph today prints the cheering news that so far as this company is concerned, things are pretty well back to normal, and that during December at least everything is going to run full blast.

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Trade reports from xxx abroad show that the British cotton weaving 3 industry is climbing with rapid strides. This is of interest to Americans because 5 the British textile industry buys a 6 considerable share of the cotton crop of other South.

The spurt of activity in British mills is ascribed to the Chinese boycott against Japanese goods. The Chinese won't touch cotton goods from Japan, and are buying the British product instead. In Germany, reports the Associated Press, the cotton industry is making good progress too.

But the textile industry is said to be hit by the British revival. The abandonment of the gold standard in England has brought down the value of the British pound, and that in turn has made British goods cheaper for other nations to buy. As the result, the French textile industry is having trouble in keeping pace..

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Over in England the doors were shut down today -- I mean the tariff doors. Fifty per cent duties were clamped onto foreign imports coming into Great Britain.

This is an emergency measure which will remain in effect until the regular tariff has been worked out.

Ever since the Conservatives won their great victory in the recent British election and tariff became a certainty, why a flood of foreign goods has been flowing into England. Importers have been hurrying to take advantage of the remaining period of free trade.

And so Parliament did something to stop the flood. It gave the British Board of Trade the right to slap on tariffs up to 100 per cent. The Board of Trade decided on 50 per cent duties, and put them into effect today. At the last moment there was a final rush of imports.

The International News Service

airplanes at the Croyden landing field.
They were machines from France and
Germany, all carrying cargoes of
merchandise, and landing them before the
new regulation could go into effect.

describes the arrival of scores of

The imports from the British dominion are exempt from the duties. Except under certain conditions, they won't have to pay any tariff.

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99-31-5M

A couple of weeks ago I missed a story, and I've been hearing about it ever since. Members of the Tall Story Club have been sending me stacks of clippings saying: How's this for a tall one - even if it is true? One letter comes from the Western Manager of the Literary Digest who takes a neat dig at me.

Well, that yarn tells how in a Baltimore fish store a big shad jumped off the counter and bit a woman in the ankle, and she was taken to a hospital for treatment. Tall but true.

Now, this evening I'm not going to have any slip-up.

I'm not going to miss this one.

The Associated Press relates that in the Adirondack

Mountains of New York, an Albany policeman named Frank Hart,

was fishing in a lake. He reached down with his net to bring

in a small fish when there was a sudden swirling flash and

something grabbed his hand with a powerful grip.

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Patrolman Hart yanked up his arm and clinging to his hand was a great northern pike. The fish kept

its grip until it was in the boat. It was nearly thirty-one inches long and weighed eleven and a quarter pounds. and its powerful jaws left quite a few marks on the policeman's hand. also tall but true.

Well, now, ho-ho, hey-hey, hee-hee - meaning laughter.

At any rate, that's the way the college girls at Vassar are
said to laugh.

An investigation of the subject of mirth at Vassar, has been made by a psychologist of Columbia University. His name is Dr. Polyxnie Kambouropoulou. The psychologist analyzed various kinds of laughter. Sometimes the girls laugh with a loud ho-ho. That's a scoff of self-exaltation. When they, the girls, laugh hey-hey it signifies contempt at a worsted wretch who is not at their mercy. At least so says Dr. Kambouropoulou. When the girls laugh hee-hee, it is a hiss and sneer of trickishly gained victory. Another kind of laughter investigated was hoo-hoo. That marks disgust, while ha-ha is characteristic of the gallant victor who enjoys a pure-hearted laugh.

Those are remarkable discoveries, but Dr. Kambouropoulou was not content. He also investigated the question of what

the girls laugh at. *

It appears that one hundred Vassar students kept humor diaries. That is, they marked down the laughs they've had each day.

It is discovered that the girls
laugh at most anything, or even nothing
at all. They'll titler without provocation—at
vassar, in Poughbeepsie.
One of them marked in her diary

that during a hockey game she laughed at the way people fell down because of the slippery field. I wonder whether that was the ho-ho laugh, or the hey-hey or hee-hee laugh.

Another girlx, says the New
York Evening Post, described a laugh
in her diary, although you might have
expected her to shed a few tears. She
and another girl were out to beg an
automobile ride. The only trouble was
that they stopped a taxi, got the ride,
and then had to pay the fare. That
made them laugh. I suppose it was the
hoo-hoo laugh, which marks disgust.

Another entry in a humor

diary tells of the big laugh that one girl got when she was reading a 3 newspaper article which related that girls taken to the Yale-Harvard game cost their escorts \$1,000,000. She 6 might have laughed hee-hee, that being 7 the hiss and sneer of trickishly gained 8 victory. Or again, she might have giggled hey-hey, meaning contempt at 10 a worsted wretch now at mercy.

In any case, the studies made by Dr. Kambouropoulou seem to have been an exceedingly hilarious investigation.

And I suppose about the only comment I can make is ho-ho, hey-hey, 15 hee-hee, and so long until tomorrow.

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