Lowell Thomas Broadcast for Literary Digest Monday, October 19,

K

2

3

5

1

Good Evening, Everybody:

There sure were grand doings in at Yorktown, Virginia, today. The four days' celebration of the final winning 8 of American independence reached its g culmination this afternoon. It was a 10 gala scene. President Hoover, General 11 Pershing and Marshal Petain of France were there. /Many w hundreds of other 13 celebrities. The total number of 14 spectators was about forty thousand.

Well, the pageant that was staged 15 16 enacted illustrated the last act of the 17 great military struggle at Yorktown. 18 On the open field xxx/American and x the 19 French army were drawn up. Soldiers 20 of Uncle Sam's present day military 21 forces played the part of those Americans of 150 years ago who won the independence this land of own.

They also played the part of 25 those brave allies who aided the colonists

24

6-16-31 - 5M

9

11

18

19

20

22

to gain their freedom.

Yes, those were gay uniforms of 3 the 18th century. The Americans were drawn up on the left, the French on the 5 right. A stalwart chap on a horse 6 played the part of Washington, and 7 another represented Rochambeau, the commander of the French.

Then a party of British red coats came riding. At their head was a horseman who played the part of General O'Hara. He informed the American and 13 the French commanders that he 14 represented Lord Cornwallis who was 15 ill. And he presented his sword 18 in token of surrender. The sword was 17 courteously returned to him.

And thus with a colorful display and with historic accuracy, one of the central episodes of American history was re-enacted.

The International News Service adds that the pageant concluded with a representation of the banquet which took place several days after

the surrender. Washington and Rochambeau entertained Lord Cornwallis with much courtesy.

Today the scene was reproduced on a raised platform.

It showed how 150 years ago the victors paid their respects to the vanquished and with the ceremonious formalities of that period.

of the day. No doubt many of you heard it over the air. His speech, as quoted by the Associated Press, points out how the founders of this country withstood the trials and stress of their time. Declared the President, "their example should teach us to withstand the dislocations that have followed the World War."

In another address, brief and informal, the President referred to the historic importance of that country around Yorktown. He said that within two or three score of miles of the place where he was talking, five presidents of the United States were born, and a hundred miles away was the birthplace of another.

Well, it was a big day, all right. The sesquicentennial celebration of Yorktown went along to a rousing conclusion.

S

The idea of playing college football for the benefit of the unemployed is pretty generally accepted now. But here's a new one. It is a plan to hold college dances to help the jobless.

The inter-fraternity council at Yale gave out a list of fraternity social functions during the football season. The Associated Press says there will be fewer dances than usual.

The fraternities are planning to hold their together, and the profits of some of these are to go to the relief of the unemployed. These joint dances will be held before the Dartmouth game, and before the Princeton game. One fraternity is going to hold a dance before the Army game.

and The boys expect to collect quite a little money for the benefit of the jobless. They are going to dance in a good cause.

There seems to be a little discord, no not in the band, but about the band. That is, the ideas which some people have do not harmonize with the ideas that some other people have. And right in the middle of the argument is the Navy Band, 63 strong, with bright, gold-braided uniforms and shining horns, trumpets, clarinets and piccolos.

The Navy Band is in dire danger. Its tuneful strains may no longer be heard in the land. And all because of President Hoover's economy program. The president wants the expenses of the Navy cut down, and one way suggested is to abolish the Navy Band.

But the Band won't be abolished without a fight. The Associated Press quotes Congressman Britten, Chairman of the House Naval Affairs. Committee in the last Congress, &s declaring that plenty of support will be found among the lawmakers of the land, plenty of legislators who with lungs as loud as

a Navy Band trombone will come to the rescue of the musicians of the American fleet. It is explained that the Band helps to keep up the morale in the Navy. It makes the sailors feel like brave and hearty Jack Tars.

It is pointed out that music in the Navy goes back to the earliest tradition of the fighting ships of the thirteen colonies. In those days boisterous melodies of the sea were sung by the sailors. Then trumpet and drum and the shrilling of the fife were added. A Navy musician was aboard the ship that took Lafayette back to France after his last visit to America. In 1838 when the Republic was in its full lusty vigor a Navy Band was on Uncle Sam's payroll. It consisted of one band-master, four first-class musicians, and one second-class musician.

The present Navy Band, however, dates back to World War days. In the blaze of war time enthusiasm the Navy busic malains corps was expanded to its present size and melodious expertness; and Congress

thought it was so good that a special Congressional act was put through to guarantee the support of the sea-going musicians.

For that reason it is believed that if the Navy Band is now to be abolished in the interests of economy it will take an act of Congress to do it.

Japan today withdrew her objection to the United States taking part in the proceedings of the League of Nations.) The word comes from Washington on the authority of the International News Service.

The Japanese ambassador told

Secretary Stimson this afternoon that
the Mikado's government didn't have any
objection to the United States taking
part in the League discussions concerning
the trouble between China and Japan,
insofar as the Kellogg peace treaties
were involved. The Ambassador explained
to the Secretary that Japan's opposition
in the first place chiefly concerned the
keay in which the League of Nations
invited the American representative to
attend the sessions of the League Council.

That conversation this afternoon in Washington bors out the further Japanese statement that the Mikado's troops were already being withdrawn from Manchuria. Not many Japanese soldiers have been taken out but it's a start anyway.

20

23

The latest word on Scarface

Al Capone is that he is getting ready
for a vacation trip to Florida. But
meanwhile the Judge will pass sentence
on him tomorrow. His Honor will mention
the length of the jail sentence
also the size of the fine.

But the United Press comments/
that it may be a year before the king
of gangdom sees the inside of a jair.
He's out on bail now and he's going to
appeal to the higher courts, and legal
proceedings like that take time, that is, when
you have movey to fight.

We're so used to hear about new developments aviation and record-breaking motor cars and speed boats, that we're in danger of forgetting our old friend -- no, not the horse -- I mean our old friend the locomotive. But it appears that in size and power and speed, the big fellow that pulls the railroad train along is progressing right along with the rest of the world.

The current Literary Digest tells us that in the last five years a whole flock of super-locomotives have herican been built and put into service on the railroads. To be exact, 303 of these leviathans of the rails have been put to the job of roaring along with their string of cars.

This new type of super-locomotive is 125 feet long and weighs one million, 118 thousand pounds.

The Literary Digest, quoting a bulletin issued by the Northern Pacific Railroad, gives us the added detail that each of these super-locomotives is capable

of hauling 4,000 tons, or 8 million pounds on a one-per-cent grade. Also, they're faster than the older type of and they use less coal.

Mell, I'm one of those countless men who spent a good deal of their boyhood in a small town, standing down at the railroad tracks, and watching the snorting, rattling, pounding trains go by. And I've never lost my boyish wonder for that ponderous machinery that simply breathes power --

) T

2

3

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Somehow I can't fee! that any great pang of sadness or tragic grief has been evoked by the death of Thomas Alva Edison. (There seems to be something inevitable and tranquil about the passing of the world's greatest inventor. Edison himself felt that way. He told his family gathered at his bedside that his work was done. He had done he had been called upon to do. He couldn't accomplish anything more. And so he was well content to go.

Yes, the almost legendary Edison died in a great fullness of years and renown. He had seen the work of his hands transform the world. It was as though the man that was Edison had been transferred to the common life of humanity, and thus was given an independent and timeless existence.

And so I suppose we can't help from feeling a profound truth and fitness in those death-bed words that Edison spoke -- he had done his work and was well content to go.

Perhaps that is why in the expressions that have come from every quarter of the globe, one seems to perceive less grief for his death than joy for his life. It is as though the world saying what a great thing it is that Edison lived.

The United Press reports that the funeral of the great inventor will be of the utmost simplicity, and will be held on Wednesday. He will be taken for his final rest to the town of Milan, in thio, where he was born-

A race was run today, and the Canadians beat the Americans. It's the annual championship race of the North Atlantic fishing fleets. Two stout fishing boats sailed away before a brisk wind. The Blue-Nose represented Canada. The Gertrude L. Thebaud represented the United States.

They started out running almost directly before a northerly breeze. And, as the Associated Press reports, the Blue-Nose led all the way. She won an easy victory.

7 8

Now, children, do you know where Christopher Columbus was born? teacher, Columbus was born in Genoa.

nearly every school child

during the last few centuries has known the birth-place of Columbus. But just the same, some people have been bothered by suppositions that the discoverer of and America came from somewhere else. They've been willing to have Columbus born in almost any place, except the one where he said he was born -- that is.

Genoa. But now comes some more strong evidence about the birth-place of the great discoverer.

Finding of several extraordinary and priceless documents. One is the original royal diploma which Ferdinand and Isabella gave to Columbus, appointing him "Admiral of the Indies."

Students of American history
will recall that Columbus drove a good
bargain with the King and Queen of Spain

before he set out to discover America.

Their Majesties agreed that he was to be the ruler of new lands that he might bring to the Spanish Crown, and they granted him the sonorous title of "Admiral of the Indies."

And now that tremendous historical document has been unearthed from the dusty archives of a museum in Seville. Its bearing on the birth-place of Columbus is this -- that it distinctly states that the great navigator was not a native of Spain.

The second document was issued by Ferdinand and Isabella to Columbus after his return from his first voyage to America. In it the King and Queen of Spain further reward the discovered by bestowing upon him the right to have a Coat of Arms, which officially made him a member of the aristocratic class. This old document, together with another that has been found at the Vatican, gives us a complete account of the Coat of Arms which Columbus adopted. And in that

Coat of Arms the fact is shown that Columbus was a native of the Republic of Genoa.

And all this seems to be just some more confirmation of a fact which doesn't seem to need any added confirmation.

Well, I'm sorry to have to say this. It's not going to make life any easier for you men. But just the same it's part of the news, and I don't know that it would be right to suppress it.

Anyway, another one of those good old and very comfortable ideas has been knocked in the head, kicked in the slats, and thrown out the window.

You know how it is -- you flip your cigar ashes on the carpet at home, and your wife smiles sweetly and says, "Well, cigar ashes are good for the carpet."

Or maybe your wife doesn't say that -- maybe she gives you a bawling out. But manaman you just go ahead and inform her that cigar ashes are good for the carpet. And she can't make any reply because she herself believes it's a fact.

But here comes a scientific kill-joy of Cornell University, Department of Entomology. He has made a scientific investigation concerning that old belief

3

8

9

10

11

that the ashes of tobacco are good for carpets because they keep out the moths.

And, says the International News Service, the results are disillusioning. Sining Science proves that management neither cigar, nor cigarette, nor pipe ashes have any effect on the carpet or any bad effect on the moths.

It isn't ashes that is good -it's unburned tobacco. If you were to sprinkle some powdered tobacco over the carpet, why that would help to keep out the moths.

tes. it's another good gag gone wrong! (although, of course, you fellows can sprinkle your cigar or cigarette or pipe tobacco over the rug as much as you like -- if that's any consolation.

and this is the end of my assortment of news - if that's any consolation. and

Solong until tomorrow.