

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 1931

TENNESSEE

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

Well, let's start with an item from the South. The Governor of Tennessee seems to have a clean bill of health this evening. They were threatening to impeach him in the Tennessee Legislature, and there were eight articles of complaint against him. The Associated Press reminds us that last Friday the Legislature dismissed one of those articles. And today the other seven were thrown out the window.

And that apparently is a big victory for Governor Henry H. Horton, of Tennessee, although the report is that some of the folks down there are still hot under the collar and say the fight isn't over.

HOOVER

It seems odd to think of a President of the United States as a squatter, doesn't it?

I suppose most of us have some sort of a mental picture of the old time squatter. In the West there used to be all sorts of people all the way from hardy pioneers to ne'er-do-well drifters who would just move on to a piece of land and settle there without bothering to ask anybody about it.

Well, it comes out that a President of the United States is a squatter.

No, this doesn't apply to any president of years ago, like Andrew Jackson or Benjamin Harrison. It means President Hoover, who is said to be a squatter, right now. As the International News Service reminds us, he is taking a vacation at the elaborate presidential camp deep in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia.

And it's claimed that the land on which President Hoover's Rappidan Camp is situated, really belongs to a lumber company. In fact the heads of the lumber company testify that

the camp was built without any permission. A battalion of Marines just walked in and took possession.

The Associated Press reminds us that the government wants to establish a national park in the Blue Ridge section. The land on which the President's camp stands is included in the plan and the heads of the lumber company now are claiming their price. They declare in effect that President Hoover is nothing more than a squatter, although there doesn't seem to be any danger of anyone calling the sheriff and having him evicted. Hardly!

BOOKS

Now comes a story that I'd call a mean trick. It's a swindle game. The Boston police have just uncovered it.

They've arrested a man who admits that he has been systematically stealing books out of libraries -- not ordinary books but rare editions, valuable books. Most good libraries have a number of volumes that are worth a bit of money.

The International News Service describes how the crook worked. He'd go to a library and get a card and take out valuable books, first editions, and such. Then he'd disappear, rebind the books, and sell them to collectors.

34 New England libraries have complained of books stolen in this way. \$50,000 worth of valuable volumes have disappeared. A ring of crooks was operating.

When the police got their man in Boston they found \$7,000 worth of expensive books in his possession -- also a list of bookstores and book collectors all over the world.

Well, cheating the libraries like that certainly does seem like a mean sort of thievery. But you can bet that the libraries are going to be on the lookout hereafter.

1 We Americans are accustomed
2 to sneer at the way ^{some} mighty hunters in
3 other parts of the world shoot game. ^{I mean when}
4 ^{the game} is quite tame and placed in some
5 convenient spot. There is grouse
6 shooting in England in which the hunters
7 occupy comfortable shooting boxes and
8 game drivers drive ^{birds} a ~~game~~ to within
9 convenient distance.

10 Then there is tiger shooting in
11 India in which the noble hunter has a
12 tiger practically brought up to him. It
13 has even been said that some of the great
14 Maharajahs will dope a caged tiger and
15 then have him turned loose in such fashion
16 that some ^{noble} earl or duke can get a good
17 shot.

18 Well, at Los Angeles a similar
19 idea has been put to work, and it may
20 become quite ^{the} a fashion. They do it with
21 fish. In the center of the city a pool
22 has been established, and that pool is
23 stocked with trout brought down from the
24 mountains. The mighty fisherman ~~goes in~~
25 ~~and~~ drops a baited hook into the pool and

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 24 mountains. The mighty fisherman ~~goes in~~
 25 ~~and~~ drops a baited hook into the pool and

1 catches a fish.

2 The New York Evening Post tells
3 us that he doesn't pay unless he catches
4 something. They have special attendants
5 who even save the fisherman the trouble
6 of ~~xxx~~ baiting his hook.

7 The lady ~~fishermen~~^{anglers} especially ~~xx~~
8 like to have the wriggling worm put on
9 the hook for them and then the
10 attendants take the fish off the hook.

11 Business men stop in on their
12 ~~way home~~ from the office and catch
13 enough for supper. Of course, it looks
14 fine to amble on home with a splendid
15 string of fish dangling from your hand,
16 and I suppose those fishermen tell tall
17 stories about their fishing expeditions
18 to the pool in the middle of Los Angeles.

19 Well, I guess the doped tiger
20 out in India is in about the same class
21 with the artificial fishing here in the
22 U.S.A.

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1 No sir, as a father I don't see
2 this ^{next} one at all.

3 It's an amplifier for baby, a
4 megaphone, a loud speaker to make a
5 yapping baby yapp still louder. In fact,
6 it magnifies a kid's howl a hundredfold.

7 Why should anybody want to
8 do that, ask you? Well, the Associated
9 Press tells us why.

10 In Chicago they have a baby
11 alarm system. In one case a mother has
12 her apartment linked up with a neighbor's
13 apartment, so that when baby cries, the
14 sound is magnified and transmitted to
15 a neighbor, who then hurries over to see
16 what's wrong with the ~~brat~~ little dumpling.

17 In another case a father has
18 a telephone hooked up in such a way that
19 no matter where he is he can call his
20 house and listen to see whether baby
21 is crying. The infant's howls are
22 magnified to such an extent that they come
23 blasting right through the telephone. The
24 idea is, of course, that parents can
25 go away from home leaving the child

1 asleep and/^{can}play bridge or attend a
2 party and be reassured that the baby
3 is all right.

4 But just the same, the idea of
5 amplifying, magnifying and making
6 louder the infernal uproar which the
7 little angel can make - well that~~x~~
8 doesn't have the right kind of sound
9 at all.

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1 In every city in the world there
2 are places where soldiers get together,
3 see their old friends and swap yarns.
4 I had lunch at such a place today, -not
5 anything formal. Just a place to eat, ^{the}

6 ^{Army & Navy Club.}
7 In came Colonel MacNab who was
8 with Ambassador Morrow in Mexico.

9 ~~I met an~~ ^{Also an} English Captain who fought the
10 Turks in Mesopotamia, in the days when
11 the British were advancing on Bagdad.

12 General "Wild Jim" Parker, getting
13 along in years now, grey-haired, but
14 still a giant and straight as a ramrod--
15 joined us for a few minutes.

16 I was talking over war days with
17 three men who have given their lives
18 to Uncle Sam's regular army service:-
19 General Robert Lee Bullard, ~~and~~ Colonel
20 Hobbs, of the Yankee Division, and
21 Colonel Pearson, of the First Division.

22 General Bullard, as you will recall,
23 was one of our two army commanders in
24 France. ~~The other was~~ ^{He and} General ^{Hunter} Liggett.

25 They all told some great tales. But
one that comes to me at this minute

1 concerns a certain shiftless private
2 ~~soldier~~ who spent considerable time
3 in the guardhouse. His name was Michael
4 J. Perkins and he hailed from Boston.
5 Mike wasn't much good on dress parade.
6 But when it came to fighting he was
7 all there.

8 With a platoon he was advancing in
9 the Argonne. His outfit was held ^{up} by a whole
10 ^{nest of} German ~~concrete~~ machine gun ^{s in a concrete} stronghold.
11 The Americans were being mowed down ^{on all sides.}
12 Well Mike crawled around through the
13 grass, jumped right down into the midst
14 of the Germans and took them completely
15 by surprise. He captured twenty and
16 marched them back and silenced seven
17 machine guns.

18 The news of this spread around and
19 he was recommended for the Congressional
20 Medal of Honor. But a few days later
21 when they tried to find him, to tell him
22 of this, he was missing. He had been
23 killed a few hours before in another
24 action.

25 Colonel Pearson also told us of the

1 heroism of a man who was certainly not
2 a regular soldier. He was just a clerk,
3 way back at headquarters, but one day
4 he turned up in the front line. An
5 officer asked him if he had been sent
6 up under orders and he replied:-
7 "UH-UH--NOT EXACTLY".

8 Yes, he was AWOL. But he said he
9 wanted to fight so they let him stay.
10 After the battle was over and that
11 division was relieved he was missing.
12 It was found that he had gone AWOL again
13 and had joined ^{another} ~~the~~ division, ^{at the front.} ~~that had been~~
14 ~~sent up to the line to relieve the one~~
15 ~~that was going back to rest.~~ At the end
16 of the war when his record was checked
17 over it was found that he had shifted to
18 four different divisions in all, just so
19 he could stay continuously in the front
20 line. And technically he was only a field
21 clerk.

22 All these regular soldiers were loud
23 in their praise of the valor of ^{many of those} ~~the~~ men
24 who ~~went to France, many of whom had~~
25 never had a rifle in their hands.

1 On the China Coast a British
2 submarine has gone down. The undersea
3 craft Poseidon collided with a
4 merchant vessel off the Shantung
5 Peninsula. Five officers and 26
6 men were saved. 18 men are missing.

7 The Associated Press reminds us
8 that this is the second accident to
9 a submarine within a month. Ships
10 of the Soviet are still dragging the
11 floor of the Gulf of Finland, trying
12 to find a Russian submarine which
13 lies on the bottom.

1 There is joy this evening among
2 thousands of peasants on the broad
3 farmlands of Rumania. And they are
4 singing the praises of King Carol.

5 That merry monarch, after
6 breaking into the news with all sorts of
7 high jinks, now seems to have done
8 something which ought to make him
9 popular among the peasant classes of his
10 country. At the same time, the money
11 lenders of Rumania are probably gnashing
12 their teeth, because King Carol,
13 by dictatorial decree, has freed the
14 Rumanian peasants from a lot of bad
15 contracts which they have made with
16 the money lenders.

17 The New York Evening Post
18 explains that the ~~XXXXXXX~~ farmers in
19 Rumania got into difficulties when big
20 landed estates were broken up right after
21 the world war. Huge plantations
22 belonging to the nobles were divided
23 up among the peasants. The farmers got
24 the land and also a peck of trouble.

25 Under the old system a noble

1 owning a great estate, took care of the
2 peasants living on his lands. He took
3 care of them in good times and also in
4 bad times. ^{7P} But when the peasants became
5 independent owners of their own farms
6 and bad times came along, they didn't
7 know what to do. They had to borrow
8 money. And the money lenders tied them
9 up with mortgages on their crops,
10 contracts which took from the peasant
11 the better part of what he produced.

12 ^{7P} But now King Carol with one sudden stroke
13 has freed the peasants from the heaviest
14 clauses of those contracts. All they'll
15 have to do will be to repay the money
16 they borrowed with ten per cent interest.

4
17 The money lenders consider that
18 interest rate of 10% as not so much,
19 which gives us an idea of the kind of
20 terms they were accustomed to make with
21 the farmers *over in that corner of the Earth.*
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1 New troubles have broken out
2 in Spain. There have been strikes and
3 riots at the town of Bilbao. A mob of
4 strikers fought with police. They ^{re was} ~~were~~
5 shooting all over the place, and one
6 man, said to be a communist, was killed.

7 The International News Service
8 reports that (seventy-five people were
9 arrested at a mine near Aviedo. A
10 lively fight was staged between striking
11 miners and the civil guards.) At the
12 town of Solana a prominent monarchist
13 politician was assassinated. He was
14 a mayor of the town, but had lost
15 out in the recent elections. A
16 Republican was elected, but the
17 monarchist mayor refused to turn over
18 the city hall to him. A mob waited
19 until the advocate of King Alfonso was
20 on his way home and then attacked him.

21 ~~***~~ Spain has been quiet
22 for the past few weeks, but now trouble
23 seems to be springing up again.
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DIGEST

I've just received a few letters about this topic of vacations. This week's Travel and Vacation number of the Literary Digest seems to be drawing wide attention. And, anyway, vacation time is at hand.

Now one of these letters complains mournfully about the few things I had to say the other night on the subject of the delightful places to visit.

"Oh, Lowell Thomas," the writer exclaims, "how could you omit Cape Cod from your list of playgrounds! And we thought we were so important!"

The note is signed, "A chastened Cape Codder."

And S. M. Shinn, a Pennsylvanian, rebukes me for omitting Delaware Water Gap.

Well, it was unintentional on my part because I'm strong for both Cape Cod and Delaware Water Gap, have been to both several times and think they're grand.

But here's a letter that strikes a deeper note. It's from a lady in Indiana who refers to the Travel and

1 Vacation section of the current Literary
2 Digest. She points out that there are
3 many ~~men and~~ women in American today
4 who have never enjoyed one hour of
5 vacation. She mentions girls who began
6 to work early in life, married, and have
7 raised a family--without ever a let-up/

8 "Still," writes the lady from
9 Indiana, "these same simple souls (I'm
10 one of them) are absolutely content
11 until somebody ^{like you} comes along and tells
12 about beautiful vacations and upsets
13 their universe."

14 "I began work before I was eleven,"
15 she goes on, "and theⁿ married, and have
16 an ideal family--three wonderful sons
17 of 18, 15 and 3, and one lovely little
18 lady, age 9."

19 "Please, Lowell Thomas," she asks,
20 don't talk ~~■~~ unrest--that's what
21 vacations amount to."

22 ~~Well, I think I ought to talk about it~~
23 ~~one sit back and think.~~ ^{well,} All I can say
24 about the lady from Indiana is that
25 she deserves one fine outing. And there

1 are thousands of splendid mothers like
2 her all over the country.

3 And, what's more, I'll bet she does
4 get a glorious vacation before long.

5 Because pretty soon ^{one of} those sons of hers

6 ~~are going to~~ be big enough to say--

7 COME ON, MOM. I'VE SAVED UP A LITTLE
8 MONEY, AND I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU OFF ON

9 A TRIP. WHERE WILL IT BE?

10 And then Mom will ^{sure enough} have that feeling
11 of unrest which she talks about in her

12 letter. And ^{then} she'll begin trying to
13 figure out places to go.

END

Something is always coming up to take the joy out of life and make a man feel uneasy, just a trifle worried. Take this next story, which tells us about a man who appeared at Logan Field, the Baltimore airport, today, and cried out in an excited voice:

"Where's your plane for Pittsburgh. I've got to get there fast. I've just received a telegram that my wife is going to play contract bridge this evening at ten cents a point. And you ought to see the kind of game she plays! I've got to get there quick or I'll be bankrupt!"

And, as the United Press informs us, the aviation officials put him instantly into a plane. And away he sailed through the sky bound for Pittsburgh, to put a stop to that bridge game with his wife playing contract at ten cents a point.

Yes, sir, that does make a man feel just a shade uneasy. In fact, I'm a trifle worried as I start home now. Just suppose when I got there I found my wife playing contract at ten cents a point!

No, I don't suppose that could happen--at least, I hope not. But, just the same, I can't suppress a slight qualm of

END - 2

uneasiness as I say --

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.