AERONAUTICS

Lowell Thomas broadcast for The Literary Digest, Friday, July 24th, 1931.

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Good Evening, Everybody:-

A flying laboratory started out 1 today. I mean the big German dirigible, 2 the Graf Zeppelin. She's off for a 3 voyage of scientific observation in the 4 Arction. Aboard, are sixteen scientists, 5 and the roomy gondolas of the giant 6 airship are crammed with scientific 7 apparatus. And that, as the International 8 News Service advises us, is why they 9 call her the flying laboratory. Today 10 Berlin The Graf Zeppelin will venture 11 far and wide through the skies above the 12 northern icepack. Her skipper, Dr. 13 Eckener. declares that the flight is 14 purely a scientific expedition. Most 15 of the money has been put up by 16 scientific societies throughout the 17 world. The rest has been put up by 18 stamp collectors. How come? Stamp 19 collectors? Well, the Graf Zeppelin 20 is taking a bunch of mail along. She 21 expects to make contact with the a 22 Russian icebreaker now voyaging in the 23 Far North, and the mail is to be transferred 24 to the Russian vessel which will bring 25

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1 it back to civilization. Then, as 2 the Associated Press explains, the 3 stamps will be valuable.

And now let's take up the **KEXX** case of a sky journey that did <u>not</u> start today.

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Russell Boardman and John
Polando took off for what they intended
to be an airplane jaunt from New York
to Constantinople. They didn't get
far. In a few minutes they were back
at the field landing. The New York
Evening Post describes the fliers as pale
#hite and shaken - and no wonder.

They had a tremendous load 15 16 of gas aboard. It was so heavy that although they did succeed in staggering 17 into the air, they couldn't gain any 18 19 height. They were just wobbling about above the Long Island house tops. There 20 was just one thing to do and they did 21 it. They dumped the gas. They opened 22 the valves and gasoline the down on the 23 24 summer cottages. Relieved of her excess load, the plane jumped five hundred 25

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1 feet into the air.

The fliers are 0. K. now, but they couldn't think of starting for Constantinople with most of their gas emptied out on treetops and shingled roofs, and so they landed.

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But that wasn't the only New 7 8 York to Constantinople flight that met 9 with a mishap, Clyde Pangborn and Hugh 10 Herndon, Jr., who intend to make the 11 Sultan's old capitol their first stopping ¹² on a flight around the globe, had a closely similar experience. No, they 13 14 didn't take off for Constantinople. ¹⁵ They expect to do that tomorrow. They were just going up for a test flight 16 to see how their heavily loaded plane 17 would act. They got off the runway 18 and then couldn't gain any altitude. 19 20 They nearly crashed.

Yes, they had too much gas aboard and they did just what the other two chaps had done. They valved it out and then were able to climb. They climbed just far enough to return to the AERONAUTICS - 4

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1 field.

Pangborn and Herndon have been having a thrilling time, of it, Just recently they tried attempt to take off for their round the world flight, ran into a wild and perilous misadventure and had to put off their faunt, artismeter. Well, these are exciting days in the world of aviation.

APACHE

A strange story comes from the Apache country out in the Rockies. The authorities believe that a Columbia co-ed has been killed by Indian squaws. The girl was out there living in a cabin among the Indians. She was studying Indian customs. They say the squaws grew jealous of her. And now it's suspected that they took a deadly revenge.

On the other hand, as the International News Service advises us, it was thought today that there was a possibility that the Columbia co-ed might have gotten lost in one of the many caves that honeycomb the mountains in those parts.

But a later dispatch from the Southwest informs us that her body **xx** has now been found in a canyon hear White River, Arizona, on the White River Apache Reservation. There are indications of violence. The twenty-two year old girl, Henrietta Schmerler, was a graduate of New York University. She had both her bachelors and doctors degrees. She had won a fellowship at Columbia University and had set out to learn the seekers of the Apache Indians. JOLIET

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They, had a bit of exitement in the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet. You can imagine that there would be to good deal of a stir when a powerful bomb be discovered in a prison. and that's what happened.

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Guards at Joliet discovered a bomb charged with gasoline. It was crudely made, but capable of producing a heavy explosion.

At the same time the guards found discovered several homemade knives. The United Press reports that a thorough search of the prison followed with the guards going from cell to cell due turning everything upside down for dangerous weapons.

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OKLAHOMA

Well, I only hope there won't be 1 a war. After mamming witnessing the 2 conquests of Cyrus, the exploits of 3 Alexander, the Wars of the Romans, the 4 campaigns of Napoleon, and the tremendous 5 inferno of the World War -- well, this 6 old globe of ours doesn't want to see 7 Texas and Oklahoma starting military 8 operations against each other. But 9 just the same, the situation is 10 critical. # Today martial law was 11 declared along the Red River. And 30 12 of the boys of the Oklahoma National 13 Guard have taken up a strong position 14 at the bridge near Durant, Oklahoma 15 ready to do or die for their beloved 16 state Oklahoma, and their beloved 17 18 Governor "Alfalfa Bill" Murray.

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I don't know whether Texas is mobilizing its military forces, but it 20 certainly is going to be one tough battle if these two great states of the Southwest come to grips in desperate warfare.

Trouble has been brewing for some time. The cause of the dispute is to be

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discovered in the bridges across the Red
River, which is the boundary between
Oklahoma and Texas. There's a disagreement
about toll bridges and free bridges.
Oklahoma and Texas have been wrangling
about the matter.

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Meanwhile, traffic has been 7 suspended, and automobile drivers have 8 been put to much inconvenience. They 9 have been faced with the prospect of 10 driving all the way around the disputed 11 area. And that's a long distance. Or 12 on the other hand, they can swim the Red 13 River. 14

The United Press reminds us that the Governor of Texas went to work and got a federal injunction to enforce his ideas in the controversy.

And now Governor Alfalfa Bill
 Murray of Oklahoma has countered with
 heroic war-like measures. Alfalfa Bill
 is a friend of the common people. He
 will defend the rights of the people with
 his life, and also with the lives of the
 Oklahoma National Guard. He has already

OKLAHOMA - 3

gained fame for a number of spectacular
things he has done for the common people.
He's an orator of the old spell-binding
school and has long stringy mustaches
that remind us vividly of the old Wild
West and might have graced the noble
features of Alkali lke or Panhandle Pete.a

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⁸ Well anyway, Alfalfa Bill seems ⁹ determined to settle that quarrel about ¹⁰ the bridges by force of arms. And if ¹¹ the Texans decide to indulge in a little ¹² force of arms too -- well, that's going ¹³ to be an awful war between Oklahoma and ¹⁴ Texas. But we all hope it will blow over ¹⁵ Relate Dills war may

have a touch of comedy, but

here's a warlike item that's

dead serious.

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CHILE

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There's plenty of trouble in the South American Republic of Chile. Santiago is one of the principal cities of the country and it has been having a wild time.

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Night before last I told how 6 7 an uprising had broken out in Santiago. 8 Tonight's reports are that serious Prioting has been going on. The 10 revolutionists staged belligerent 11 demonstrations. They looted shops in ¹² which fire arms were sold, and carried ¹³ away quantities of pistols and rifles. 14 Street cars were wrecked. In the ¹⁵ principal streets there was constant ¹⁶ fighting between the police and the ¹⁷ rioters. XM A force of anti-government ¹⁸ students went on a rampage in the ¹⁹ University of Chile. They seized the ²⁰ buildings and barricaded themselves. ²¹ They dared the soldiers to open fire. 22 The Associated Press gives out ²³ the report that the authorities tried 24 to deal peaceably with the students

and presumably are still trying. at Last

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reports the students were still holding the fort and were in full control of the University buildings but tonight the soldiers opened fire on the belligerent students and fired about 1000 shots.

The International News Service gives a late account of further rioting and fighting in Santiago, and adds that there have been minor disturbances in other Chilean cities. GERMANY

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Now comes word that the conference in London which ended yesterday has not only given Germany a bit of help, but also has had important political consequences.

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The London correspondent of the 6 New York Evening Post, cables that As 7 a result of the conference France feels 8 isolated. England and the United States 9 stood together and that left France 10 all by herself. As a result they say 11 that France will look elsewhere for her 12 international tie-ups. No longer 13 enjoying the support of Great Britain 14 she may turn to Germany and try to 15 establish close understanding with her 16 17 former enemy.

at any rate it will be interesting to see what develops.

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DIGEST_COVER

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I'll bet a lot of you folks have been admiring the current cover of the Literary Digest. It's a peach. It reproduces a painting by B. West Clinedinst, a bit modern with magnificent splashes of color -- greens and yellows. Two girls are sitting at a table out-of doors amid a very riot of the splendors of summer.

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Well, Mr. Clinedinst, the artist. 10 lives amid scenes that are very much 11 like the gorgeous picture on the cover 12 of the Literary Digest. His home is on Quaker 13 Hill]4 near Pawling, New York, among the rolling hills of Duchess County, one of the most beautiful localities in the world. IF Mr. Clinedinstie Hets, a veteran of the painters' 15 16 17 art. and his earliest memories go way back to the Civil War. The Digest tells 18 us how the artist as a child lived in 19 Virginia, not far from Winchester. And 20 regiments and squadrons kept passing hear 21 his house as the armies of the North and 22 the South surged back and forth. 23

²⁴ Mr. Clinedinst recalls that some-²⁵ thing terrible happened one day. The

DIGEST COVER - 2

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folks of the countryside were in tears
and called out in despair. He didn't
know what the **demonstrate** terrible something
was that had caused all that grief. But
he has since figured **dem** out that it was
the announcement of the death of
Stonewall Jackson.

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Then one day in 1864 the Yanks under General Sigel passed through the town. They were beaten in the Battle of Newmarket and then passed through the town again on their way back month.

And there was the incident of a 13 balky mule. The old negro woman who was 14 in charge of the boy succeeded in taming 15 the critter. Then a Yankee sergeant 16 of Cavalry rode up, and he was a bit rude 17 to the old mammy. And the small boy, 18 highly indignant, came to her defense and 19 threw stones at the hardened Yank. But 20 the cavalryman just laughed. He rode 21 over and reaching down patted the boy 22 on the head, and then rode away. 23

24 Well there is rare charm in that 25 painting by Mr. Clinedinet of Pawling, M.Y., on the cover of this week's Literary Digest.

ROBIN

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In Nebraska City, Nebraska, there's a man who has a few choice and fancy 2 bumps on the top of his bald head. 3

The United Press in discussing 4 the matter, declares that King Yates is 5 a kind hearted fellow. He loved to do 6 good deeds and he tried to do a 7 charitable act, today. That's why he 8 has those bumps on his head. 9

King was walking along when he 10 saw a baby bird that had fallen out of 11 12 its nest in the tree above. It was 13 a tiny fledgling robin, so helpless and pathetic King's heart was touched. He 14 picked up the baby robin and climbed 15 the tree, so that he could put the little 16 17 fledgling back in its maternal nest. About the time King got up to the nest 18 he felt something hit him on the head. 19 It was Mother Robin. She didn't 20 understand. Her baby robin was peeping 21 with distress, and King's shiny bald 22 head was a beautiful target. XNXX 23 24 25

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maxk peck, as hard as that robin could go, and all King could do was hang on to the tree and hope the robin wouldn't drill a hole in his skull. Eventually he climbed back down to the ground, but by that time a noble crop of bumps was beginning to swell on the top of his head, King says he's going to keep on doing good deeds, but not for b robins.

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WASHINGION

The Tall Story Club is all het 1 up these days. And what do you think 2 has got the truthful brothers so 3 excited? Why, it's the great George 4 Washington Bi-centennial celebration. 5 In 1932 we will celebrate the 200th 6 anniversary of the birth of the Father 7 of Our Country. And a big pageant will 8 be held in the District of Columbia. 9 Various scenes of George Washington's 10 life will be enacted, and somebody will 11 have to play the part of George Washington 12 himself. In fact, they're looking for a 13 candidate now. A call has gone out for a 14 man who looks like George Washington and 15 who acts like George Washington. 16

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Well, the Tall Story Club, in its 17 18 devotion to the GReat American Whopper, takes a peculiar interest in the Father 19 of Our Country. In fact, the veracious 20 members constantly repeat the famous 21 saying, "Father, I cannot tell a lie." 22 And nowadays they 're looking at each other 23 inquiringly, wondering which one is the 24 right man to play the part of George 25 Washington.

WASHINGION - 2

The United Press gives us a list 1 of qualifications which the successful 2 candidate will have to have. It may be 3 a good idea for you menfolks to take a 4 look in the mirror to see if you have a 5 big noble nose, and a firm manly chin, 6 and an expression of serious and solemn 7 dignity. Because the man who's to play 8 the part of George Washington that 9 pageant next year will have to look like 10 George. Hashington. 11

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We also are reminded that George 12 Washington was a surveyor. And so if 13 you are the lucky winner of the 14 competition you'll have to know 15 surveying. In addition, George Washing-16 ton was a farmer. You'll also have to 17 be able to operate a plow and pitch hay, 18 to say nothing of milking the cows and 19 prophesying the weather. And then 20 George Washington was a General. Yes, 21 you'll have to be able to lead Armies and 22 look fierce on a parade ground. And 23 don't let's forget the old story that 24 George Washington threw a silver dollar 25

WASHINGTON - 3

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across the Potomac River. Yes fellows, you'd better make a trip down to the Potomac and start throwing silver dollars as hard as you can. I only hope you have enough of them to get a sufficient amount of practice.

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The most necessary quality of 7 all, however, is discovered in the well-8 known fact that George Washington could 9 not tell a lie. But that shouldn't be 10 so hard. There are thousands of men 11 in this country who swear they always tell 12 the truth. Yes, and they're all members 13 of the Tall Story Club. 14

But excuse me, folks, if I cut this short. I see a mirror over there on the other side of the studio. And I think I III make a dash over to it and see if I look like George Washington.

Meanwhile, SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.