

1 There are two items in the news
2 this evening that have a dramatic
3 ^c ~~connection~~ connection with each other.

4 One is that Thomas Alva Edison was
5 buried today. While a whole nation
6 paid silent tribute, the great inventor
7 as the United Press ~~reports~~ reports,
8 was laid to rest at the Rosedale
9 Cemetery, in Orange, New Jersey.

10 Mrs. Hoover attended the funeral
11 as a representative of her husband,
12 the President of the United States.

13 Tonight ~~at 10 PM~~ millions of
14 electric lights throughout the ~~country~~
15 ^{were} ~~will be~~ extinguished for one minute.
16 And darkness ~~will~~ prevail ^{ed} as a token
17 of mourning for the wizard of science
18 who invented the electric light.

19 And this by the way, Edison's
20 burial day, is the 52nd Anniversary of
21 the Invention of the Incandescent lamp,
22 which many consider Edison's greatest
23 contribution to human welfare.

24 And now let's get on to that second
25 piece of news. The fact came out today

1 that just as Thomas Alva Edison sank
2 into a coma before his death a
3 discovery which may turn out to be his
4 greatest, was completed in his
5 laboratory. Edison had been working for
6 years on the problem of synthetic rubber.
7 His idea was to produce rubber from
8 materials provided by other plants
9 than the rubber plant.

10 He had sought all over the world
11 for a suitable type of vegetable
12 substance. And then he found it in the
13 form of a common golden rod. It was
14 known that the great inventor at the
15 close of his life was working on the
16 job of perfecting a practical process
17 of obtaining synthetic rubber from the
18 golden rod.

19 He had almost completed it when his
20 final illness overtook him and while he
21 lay in his sickbed his assistants who
22 had worked with him for years were ~~xxxx~~
23 sticking right to the job with their
24 laboratory experiments.

25 Today the International News Service

1 sent out the information that just as
2 Edison was sinking into his last coma
3 why, just then his assistants in his
4 laboratory carried out the final
5 successful experiments which brought the
6 labor of making synthetic rubber to a
7 triumphant close. Yes, this may turn out
8 to have been Edison's greatest discovery.

9 He carried the work almost to
10 completion and then it was completed
11 while he lay dying.

12 Today two men were asked ~~what~~
13 about that synthetic rubber of Edison's.
14 They are Henry Ford, and Harvey Firestone,
15 the rubber magnate. They said yes they
16 believed that as a result of Edison's
17 labors synthetic rubber was in hand.
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1 And now comes a story that I
2 thoroughly enjoy. It just hits me in
3 the right place.

4 - At Caldwell, Georgia, they had
5 a livestock show. ~~Yes, sir, and~~ plenty
6 of blue blooded cattle were entered to
7 compete for the blue ribbon. The
8 highest aristocracy in the world of
9 cows was there. They just wouldn't
10 look at an ordinary farm cow. Their
11 masters and mistresses would raise their
12 eyebrows at the mention of ~~the~~ mere
13 plebeian kinds of cattle, *common barn cows.*

14 Well, near the place of this
15 high falutin livestock show is Albert
16 Warren's barn. Al's cows are just ^{the} plain
17 ordinary ^{variety} ~~cows~~. He wouldn't dream of
18 entering them ~~into~~ any livestock show.
19 The place for those cows was the barn.
20 And that's where they were, in the ^{old} barn.

21 But, as the Associated
22 Press relates, one of Al's cows got
23 loose. It wandered over to the fancy
24 livestock show, ~~and~~ That cow didn't
25 know any better. She thought that the

1 blue blooded cattle were just some more
2 cows like herself. And so she wandered
3 in among them.

4 Nobody noticed anything in
5 particular until the judging was over,
6 and the prize had been awarded. Then
7 it was discovered that the aristocratic
8 blue ribbon had been awarded to Al
9 Warren's cow, that ordinary, commonplace
10 bovine that had wandered into the
11 elegant precincts of the livestock show.

12 *And that's a story of a cinderella*
13 *cow.*

1 Those Eugenie hats are said to
2 be making life hard for the birds in
3 the Forest Park Zoo at St. Louis,
4 Missouri. ~~No~~ It isn't that anybody
5 is trying to make the parrots, ~~the~~
6 ostriches, or ~~the~~ eagles wear any of
7 that stylish headgear.

8 The trouble, says an Associated
9 Press dispatch in ^{tonight's} ~~the~~ New York World
10 Telegram, is that the women who visit
11 the Zoo take a look at the plumage of
12 all those birds and become green with
13 envy. They can't help thinking how
14 well some of those gaudy feathers would
15 look on their Eugenie hats.

16 As ~~the~~ ^a result, the attendants
17 at the Zoo have been bothered to death
18 by women who try to bribe them to sneak
19 in and swipe a few feathers from a bird.
20 The ostrich plumes have been such a
21 temptation that in several cases women
22 have got into the ostrich pens and tried
23 to steal a plume from Brother Ostrich's
24 tail. They say the ostrich doesn't enjoy
25 that kind of treatment. He believes
his tail is his own.

BOOTS

And from new hats let's proceed to the subject of old shoes, or rather of old boots.

At Pleasant Hill, Missouri, is what must certainly be the oldest pair of constantly worn boots in the world.

The Associated Press reports that Jacob Miller, ninety-three years old, whose boots have been in the news recently, died and left a pair made for him seventy-three years ago. They're an old-fashioned kind of foot-gear. The high tops are trimmed with red. They are that fancy type of foot-gear that was used for Sunday wear in the old pioneering days. They have long been famous and have been photographed time and again.

Jacob Miller paid five dollars to have those boots made back in 1858, several years before the outbreak of the Civil War. For seventy-three years he wore them at least once a week, and he had them on every day for the past four years.

Yes, sir, those old time boot makers certainly stuck to their last.

1 (Reports come from Tokio of a
2 heavy battle in Manchuria. The
3 Japanese garrisons near the town of
4 Tiehling, about fifty miles north of
5 Mukden, have engaged in a desperate
6 fight with two thousand Chinese soldiers.

7 The United Press adds that the
8 Japanese officials in Manchuria are
9 rushing reinforcements to the scene of
10 the battle.)
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1 We've been hearing ~~an awful~~ *plenty*
2 ~~lot~~ about that trouble ~~xxx~~ between China,
3 Japan and Manchuria. But here comes a
4 brand new slant.

5 There's been a good deal of
6 comment, mostly satirical, about the
7 fact that the Japanese government and the
8 diplomatic functionaries have been
9 loudly protesting their desire for
10 peace, but at the same time the Japanese
11 army has occupied a large part of
12 Manchuria and has been actually making
13 war. It seems a bit of a contradiction.
14 Some people say it's hypocrisy. Others
15 think it's just the natural way of
16 diplomacy ~~and~~ *and* statecraft to befuddle the
17 facts and make a peaceful pretense.

18 But the new Literary Digest
19 gives us what seems to be a highly
20 illuminating inside glimpse. This is
21 a viewpoint put forward by German
22 observers who are on the inside with
23 things in the Far East.

24 From this angle we are told
25 that there is no hypocrisy or deception

1 in the protestations of the Japanese
2 government that ~~it is all for peace,~~
3 ~~and~~ ^{it} doesn't want war, ~~or anything like~~
4 ~~it.~~

5 The idea is that the authorities
6 ~~of the administration~~ at Tokio may
7 indeed have peaceful plans, but as for
8 the Japanese army - well that may be
9 something else again.

10 Here's the way the Literary
11 Digest quotes a prominent German
12 newspaper, the Vossische Zeitung.

13 "Those who know the Far East", *declares*
14 ~~we are told,~~ ^{the German expert} "know that the Tokyo
15 Government is not deceiving us.

16 "While ~~the~~ Japanese guns are *being*
17 fired, the Japanese Government is trying
18 hard to bring about peace.

19 "But the Japanese Government
20 has no authority or power over the
21 Japanese military forces. Those who
22 know eastern Asia know this, ~~too~~ -- alas!

23 "It is easy to explain the
24 independence of Japan's armed forces in
25 the face of the Japanese Government.

1 But it is necessary to go back as far
2 as the period when Japan was a bit of
3 Asia, remote, self-contained, ruled not
4 by her sovereign--leading a shadowy
5 existence--but by a 'shogun.' For
6 generations the military caste has ruled.

7 "When Japan modernized herself,
8 when she exchanged absolutism for modern
9 ways, gave up the bow and arrow for the
10 machine-gun, the kimono for the uniform,
11 one thing remained as of old. That was
12 the independent position of the military
13 within the State.

14 "The War Minister and the Navy
15 Minister in the Cabinet at Tokyo are not
16 in control of Army or Fleet. They are
17 only the agents of Army and Fleet in
18 the Ministry. The real Army chief is
19 the General Staff. The real ruler of
20 the Fleet is the Admiralty Staff. These
21 are not even formally responsible to
22 Parliament. They are directly under the
23 sway of the Japanese Emperor."

24 Well, That seems to be an incisive
25 analysis of a peculiar situation, and it
may explain a good deal about that
~~peculiar~~ problem in the Far East.

1 "The workmen went on a strike,
2 demanding longer hours." That sounds
3 like a bull, doesn't it. It ~~isn't~~ sounds
4 like a tall story -- but it isn't
5 anything of the sort.

6 It happened over in France.
7 The New York Sun reminds us that in
8 Europe strikes often take place for odd
9 reasons. They may be purely political,
10 and have nothing to do with working
11 conditions or rate of pay. This
12 particular strike, however, concerned
13 working hours, and nothing else. The
14 men ^{actually} demanded longer hours.

15 Near the old city of La Rochelle
16 a hospital is being built. They've been
17 having quite a bit of rain, and that held
18 up the work so much that the directors
19 of the hospital, the contractors, and the
20 workmen got together, and they all
21 amicably agreed that the only way to get
22 the hospital ready was for the stone-
23 masons to work longer hours. They had a
24 9-hour day, and they decided to have a
25 10-hour day.

1 Well, this was all nice and
2 peaceably settled when along came a
3 government inspector who reminded the
4 boys that the Labor Laws forbade anybody
5 to work more than 9 hours a day. The
6 stone-masons said, "Is that so!" ~~They~~
7 ~~were~~ ^{We are} going to work 10 hours or nothing. *As*
8 *for you, alley-oop."* The authorities still insisted
9 that the law must be kept, and as a result
10 the masons declared a strike. The strike
11 is still on. Because they ~~were~~ ^{are} not
12 allowed to work 10 hours a day, they're
13 not working at all. *Yes, it's still a*
14 *topsy turvy world.*

1 I guess we've all heard a
2 number of stories about ~~the~~ nervy crooks,
3 burglars unashamed and unblushing.

4 But here's a story that carries
5 thievery to the highest point, or maybe,
6 I should say, deepest pit, of impudence.

7 The Associated Press tells ~~that~~ ^{how}
8 it happened over in Portugal, in the
9 ancient city of Lisbon, ^{on the banks of the River Tagus.} A wealthy
10 citizen was out of town for some time.

11 While he was gone a gang of robbers
12 invaded his house, and they proceeded
13 to auction off everything in the place.
14 They announced the auction with a
15 blaring of trumpets. They advertised it
16 in the newspapers. They explained
17 that they had bought the house and
18 furnishings from the absent owner. And
19 then, just like regular auctioneers,
20 they proceeded to sell the furnishings
21 of the house, silverware, antique
22 furnishings, objects of art - everything.
23 Going, going, gone.

24 Yes, they kept on auctioning
25 until everything was gone. And they

1 were gone by the time the owner got
2 back. They got away with the proceeds
3 and nobody knows who they were or where
4 they came from. Well, the unprincipled
5 reprobates.

1 Well, that lost earthquake has
2 been found. On October 4th the
3 seismographs of the world recorded a
4 heavy earth tremor.

5 There was no doubt. The instruments
6 showed plainly that the earth's crust
7 had been violently shaken, somewhere
8 or other on this globe. But no news of
9 an earthquake came along. The place
10 where this catastrophe had occurred
11 could not be discovered and so that
12 tremor was called the "Lost Earthquake".

13 Well, today the International News
14 Service has a cable, that the lost
15 earthquake has been located. And it was
16 a major disaster. It took place on the
17 island of Cristoval, in the Solomon
18 Archipalego, one of the most isolated
19 of Island groups on the vast expanse
20 of the Pacific.

21 The ^{quake}~~earth~~ shook the island
22 violently and a tidal wave followed and
23 engulfed the land. The inhabitants of
24 the island are the primitive black people
25 of ~~the~~ Melanesia. Fifty of these lost

1 ~~lost~~ their lives when their island ^{swayed} ~~shook~~
2 and the sea came rushing in.

3 The news has been long delayed
4 because the island is so far away from
5 ~~xxxxxxx~~ civilized parts and
6 immediately the catastrophe occurred
7 all communication was disrupted.

1 *And, also,* Telegraphic communications have
 2 been cut off just outside of the town
 3 of Mombasa, in ~~Central~~ ^{East} Africa. And
 4 that's a serious matter in those parts.

5 No, there hasn't been any
 6 war or disturbance of any kind. It's
 7 just the ~~case~~ ^{result} of a new fashion - a new
 8 fashion among the Black Tribesmen of
 9 Kenya and Tanganyika.

10 The natives in those parts
 11 don't wear much clothes, but they are
 12 proud of what they do wear, ^{and it's all on their backs with} ~~They like~~
 13 ^{nothing in front. But they like} ornaments, glittering baubles, and
 14 tinkly decorations.

15 Well, that was all right
 16 until Dame Fashion issued the decree
 17 out there in the depths of Africa, that
 18 bits of telegraph wire were what the
 19 well dressed tribesmen should wear.
 20 Yes, short lengths of telegraph wire
 21 worn as bracelets and necklaces and
 22 so on, have become all the vogue.

23 The Associated Press
 24 explains that the natives used up all
 25 the available supplies of telegraph

1 wire, and then went after some more.
2 They tore down the wire from the telegraph
3 poles and cut it up into ornaments. They
4 ripped down the telegraph line for quite
5 a stretch. As ^a ~~the~~ result, the ^{important} ~~capital~~
6 city of Mombasa was cut off from the
7 coast for twenty-four hours, until
8 repairs could be made.

9 That new native fashion seems
10 to be quite a problem, and I suppose
11 it will continue to be until telegraph
12 wire decoration passes out of style and
13 becomes old fashioned. *Until then wire*
14 *communications are always liable*
15 *to be disrupted. And by the way*
16 *here's the great Masai Chief, Neel*
17 *Enslin, all ready to disrupt my*
18 *wireless communications unless I*
19 *say so long until tomorrow.*
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