

AIRPLANE

Lowell Thomas' Broadcast
for The Literary Digest.
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Good Evening, Everybody!

1 I don't imagine you will accuse
2 me of exaggerating when I say that
3 here comes ^{just about} the most ~~xxxxxx~~ extraordinary
4 rescue in the history of aviation.

5 At Rantoul, Illinois, the army
6 aircraft were holding parachute
7 maneuvers. The flying machines were
8 flying and the parachute jumpers were
9 jumping.

10 The International News Service
11 tells us that ~~all~~ went well until
12 Private Harold L. Osborn, a parachute
13 jumper of the Air Corps, stepped out
14 of a plane, intending to drop down
15 through space. No, he didn't drop at
16 all. Something went wrong. ^{Perhaps he pulled the} ~~and the~~
17 ^{rip cord too soon. Anyhow the} ropes of his parachute got tangled
18 in the tail of the plane, and Private
19 Osborn hung there. He couldn't get free.

20 The pilot in the plane was
21 afraid to land because if he ^{did} ~~had~~, the
22 impact of hitting the earth would have
23 probably killed the man dangling on the
24 ropes.

25 And so they flew around for

1 forty-five minutes, while other planes
2 came up to the rescue. It was one of the
3 most difficult stunts ever performed,
4 but they did it. The men in the plane
5 from which Osborne was dangling, threw
6 a rope to him and he took a firm hold
7 of it.

8 One rescue plane came up from
9 behind. The rescuers edged the nose
10 of their machine alongside ~~of~~ the tail
11 of the plane in front of them. They
12 came so close that one of the men in
13 the cockpit was able to reach out and
14 cut Osborne's parachute ropes. When
15 the last strand was severed Osborne
16 dropped a little but hung on to the
17 rope which he had in his hands. Then
18 they hauled him up and pulled him back
19 into the plane from which he had jumped.

20 Whew, it almost makes my
21 hair stand on end to tell about it,
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1 The big German flying boat, the
2 DO-X, is in Brazil tonight. The
3 Associated Press reports that the DO-X
4 landed at the island of San Fernando de
5 Noronha last night. This island is
6 right off the South American coast and
7 has played a part in nearly every South
8 Atlantic flight.

9 The DO-X came through in great
10 style yesterday, with everyone of her 12
11 American Curtis-Conqueror motors
12 humming a song of victory. Today the
13 world's largest heavier-than-air craft
14 took off for the mainland. She landed
15 at Natal in Brazil where tonight the
16 big flying boat is ~~about~~ lying in the
17 harbor. Later her crew hope to fly her
18 North for a visit to this continent.
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1 In Chicago an important indictment
2 was returned today. Scarface Al Capone
3 was indicted for ~~xxxx~~ federal income tax
4 frauds. Under the charge he may possibly
5 receive a maximum ^{an \$80,000 fine and} penalty of [^]thirty-two
6 years in prison, ~~and an \$80,000. fine.~~

7 Scarface Al is at present under
8 a sentence of six months in jail for
9 contempt of court. He's out on bail and
10 is taking an appeal to the higher courts.

11 This new indictment for income
12 tax frauds revealed some startling things.
13 The Federal authorities claim that they
14 can prove that Capone defrauded the
15 government of \$215,000. in taxes. This
16 is tax ^{that} ~~which~~ he should have paid on
17 \$1,038,000. which he received during
18 the four years from 1925 to 1929. But
19 this is only income that they have been
20 able to pin on him after a most elaborate
21 investigation all over the country.

22 The Federal authorities, as
23 reported by the International News Service,
24 claim that Capone's income has been from
25 five to fifteen million dollars a year,

1 for the past half dozen years or more.
2 And that certainly is one ~~XXXX~~
3 grand income.

4 An account given by the United
5 Press, reports Federal authorities as
6 saying that in spite of all the ~~xxxxxx~~
7 fabulous sums of money Capone has
8 handled and of all the documents that
9 have been found, not one check was to be
10 located which the Big Shot himself
11 had signed. He's just too cagey for
12 words.

13 And Capone has just
14 surrendered to the Federal
15 authorities. They hunted for him
16 high and low. But he just walked
17 in and gave himself up. He was
18 released on \$50,000 bail. Capone
19 was smiling and apparently
20 not disturbed over what was
21 happening.
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1 This evening's sad story is a
2 case of somebody getting slapped by
3 somebody else who ought to be a friend
4 of his.

5 Doctor John Haynes Holmes, the
6 New York clergyman who is also a
7 socialist, says he is going to appeal
8 to the Soviets. ^{He thinks} They certainly ought
9 to let him into Russia. Doctor Holmes
10 declares that even his opponents have
11 not accused him of being unfriendly
12 toward the Bolsheviks.

13 The pastor of ~~the~~ New York's
14 Community Church asked ~~the Soviet~~
15 ~~authorities~~ for permission to visit
16 Russia. But they ^{Soviets} said "NO", they wouldn't
17 let him in. The reason was that he is
18 a clergyman. Religion isn't very
19 popular among the communists, and they
20 don't enjoy the society of religious
21 leaders.

22 Well, it does seem like a case of
23 a man getting a slap from an unexpected
24 quarter. Doctor Holmes explains that
25 he has been denounced for being fair to

the Communists, and it seems he's rather surprised to find that they're not ready to give him a hearty welcome.

The New York Evening Post states that Doctor Holmes wants to join Sherwood Eddy, the world famous International Y.M.C.A. worker. Doctor Eddy who recently announced that he had become a socialist, is now at the head of a party of Americans who are touring Russia.

RUBBER

I suppose a lot of you folks have been tuning up the old bus these days. Perhaps that Travel Section in the current issue of the Literary Digest has made some people start thinking about the open air, and the green trees -- also about spark plugs, that funny knock in the engine, and how much mileage is left in those tires bought last Summer.

And, by the way, I have a prosperity item here right along those lines. The other day I told you about a boost in the amount of automobile insurance business, and I pointed out that this was an indication that pointed toward good times for the automobile industry,

And here's another strong indication. An announcement given out by Harvey Firestone shows that the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company made nearly twice as much money during the past six months as it did during the entire previous year.

The profit for the past six months was \$2,908,553.20 -- just to be exact. During the year previous to this six months period the earnings were a little over a million and a half.

That Firestone report certainly makes it look as if business were on the upgrade. In fact it sort of looks as though the return to normal flourishing conditions is coming so rapidly that it may be here before we know it.

Well, it does no harm to hope so.

1 Some more economy is in the news
2 this evening. And this time it's the
3 Navy that's going to cut down expenses.

4 Chalk down a new seven million
5 dollar saving for President Hoover's
6 economy drive.

7 The President will discuss a cut
8 in naval expenses with Secretary of the
9 Navy Adams tomorrow. And the Secretary
10 is going to tell the President that
11 seven million is the figure by which
12 the cost of the Navy can be reduced.

13 The Associated Press outlines
14 various ways of economy, such as the
15 abolition of useless shore stations, and
16 a concentration of naval activities, so
17 that a few stations will do the work
18 of many.

19 And so one after another the
20 departments of government fall in
21 line with the policy of economy which
22 President Hoover has initiated.

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1 This evening a strange low-lying
2 craft is plying through the waters of
3 the North Atlantic. It is Sir Hubert
4 Wilkins' submarine, the Nautilus--that
5 adventurous under-sea craft which was
6 originally designed for war, but which
7 now has been made over for scientific
8 purposes and a trip under the ice to the
9 North Pole.

10 Without any hullabaloo or hurrah,
11 the Nautilus put to sea and is now on
12 her way across the Atlantic, bound first
13 for England and then for the Arctic land
14 of Spitzbergen. Wilkins just pushed off *
15 in the middle of night--without benefit of
16 bands or publicity or speeches. And that
17 is characteristic of Wilkins who is as
18 genuinely modest as any man I've ever
19 known. From her base at Spitzbergen, the
20 Nautilus will head north and plunge under
21 the polar ice.

22 Meanwhile, the United Press informs
23 us that Donald Macmillan, the well-known
24 Arctic explorer, declares that in his
25 opinion the submarine journey will be
exceedingly dangerous.

 The Associated Press cables from
Norway that the Norwegian Professor, Dr.
Sverdrup, who will be a member of the

1 expedition, thinks that perhaps the
2 whole adventure ought to be postponed
3 until next summer. He says it will
4 be necessary to give the under-sea
5 craft a thorough test in the Arctic
6 before the trip to the Pole can be made,
7 and that there may not be enough time
8 left this summer for the under-sea
9 voyage to the top of the world.

10 At 9:00 o'clock tonight she
11 radioed that she was 250 miles
12 out, the seas were calm and
13 all was well.
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1 In the studio here this evening
2 are four visitors, two gentlemen and
3 their wives. And perhaps it makes this
4 next story all the more dramatic.

5 It's the story of a boy, a marvelous
6 boy. And his father and mother are
7 sitting right here next to the
8 microphone.

9 In this week's issue of the Literary
10 Digest is told the story of Larry.

11 ⁶ Larry was a model boy in grammar school,
12 in high school, and in college. He was
13 an athlete who could run, jump, play
14 ball and fence with the best of them.
15 He could sing, and he made a mark at
16 debating. He was quite a writer too.
17 As a student, he ~~made~~ made Phi Beta
18 Kappa marks. ^{Then} the hand of inscrutable
19 misfortune intervened. Larry went to
20 Arizona for a cowboy outing. One day
21 he set out riding a broncho toward the
22 sunset. He never returned alive. A
23 frightened horse--an accident--that was
24 all.

25 And now a book has come out. It

1 is called--"Larry: Thoughts of Youth".
2 And it's published by the Y.M.C.A.—
3 Because Larry left behind ~~him~~ a diary,
4 some letters, ^{and} some poems that he had
5 written. They were never meant for the
6 printed page. They were just unstudied,
7 unpremeditated outpourings of a young
8 man's mind.

9 They are, as the Literary Digest
10 calls them, ~~the~~ "an involuntary legacy
11 to all youth who may doubt that the good
12 life is best". For Larry knew that the
13 good life was the best, and he told why.

14 Here's a thought that he confided
15 to his diary:

16 "The days are divine. Honestly,
17 no matter what beliefs I might have in
18 regard to religion, a day like this proves
19 to me that there is a God.

20 "The grass is a vivid green, shrubs
21 are just bursting with yellow and red
22 buds, trees have a downy yellow-green
23 foliage.

24 "Gosh, beautiful? Heavenly! And
25 some fellows walk to class looking down

1 at their shoes and never a smile on
2 their faces. Why, the poor prunes,
3 they're missing the most gorgeous
4 picture ever painted."

5 And Larry had a Girl. He called
6 her an ideal girl, and in a letter
7 explained to her what he meant:

8 "You still don't see what I mean,"
9 he wrote, "about a boy having a girl for
10 an ideal. I don't mean that the girl
11 must be ideal--'they ain't no sich animal,
12 I guess'. The girl is his standard--his
13 ideal. He thinks 'What would she think
14 of me if I did this?' or 'What would she
15 want me to do now?'"

16 And Larry had another "best girl".
17 She was his mother.

18 Mrs. Foster, as I ^{mentioned before,} ~~said~~ is sitting
19 right here in the studio. And I guess
20 she would tell me that all any man would
21 have to do is to remember his mother,
22 in order to understand what Larry meant
23 when he wrote ^{the following} to Mom:

24 "But you know all the things you
25 should and shouldn't about me ^{he wrote to his mother, and} without my

1 saying a darn thing; I've started to tell
2 you loads of confessions--and then seen
3 in your eyes that you knew I 'em ~~was~~
4 all the time."

5 In another letter Larry wrote:

6 "Loads of happiness and success to
7 the very finest Dad that a fellow could
8 have. ~~But~~ No matter how many things
9 people say of me, good or bad, the thing
10 that makes me swell most with pride is
11 to be called

12 "'Tom Foster's Son!'"

13 The other two visitors in the
14 studio here are Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Alley.
15 Mr. Alley is connected with the Board
16 of Publishing of the Y.M.C.A. He tells
17 me that the "Y" felt that the "Thoughts
18 of Youth" which Larry ^{behind had} left ~~behind simply~~
19 ~~ought~~ to be published, ^{so that} ~~because~~ all
20 parents and all youth may profit by the
21 story of Larry.

1 A peace move was made today over
2 in Italy, ^{I mean} in that controversy between
3 the Pope and Mussolini.

4 The Duce made a gesture of
5 conciliation. He offered to permit
6 some of the Catholic clubs to re-open
7 -- but only the clubs for women and
8 girls. The Catholic men's clubs, so
9 the Associated Press reports, ~~would~~ will
10 have to remain closed. The answer of
11 Pope Pius the 11th to this was a flat
12 refusal. The ■ Pope declared that
13 all of the Catholic clubs, for men as
14 well as for women, must be restored to
15 good standing. It is a case of all or
16 nothing with the Vatican.

1 Secretary of War, Stimson,
2 announced today that the marines are out
3 of Nicaragua - that is, as many marines
4 have left the Central American Republic
5 as are going to leave. Only a
6 skeleton force of 800 Devil Dogs ~~are~~ is
7 left.

8 The Associated Press in
9 telling of the government plans, ~~says~~ mentions
10 that this ^skeleton force of less than
11 800 will remain in Nicaragua until after
12 the elections next year in which the
13 Nicaraguan voters will go to the polls
14 ~~xxxxxxxx~~ and decide ^{just} what they want in
15 the way of ^a government.
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BLATHER

We now come to a forbidden word. It is one of those fighting words. The word is "blather." It is a forbidden fighting word in the British House of Commons.

The Associated Press relates how a member of Parliament was ordered to leave the House because he said -- "blather."

A debate was on in the House of Commons. Sir Dennis Herbert, a Conservative member, was making a speech. He said something that wasn't to the taste of Elijah Sandham, a Labor member. And Elijah spoke up and said right out loud -- Blather!

The speaker instantly interrupted. He declared that Blather was a forbidden fighting word in the House of Commons, and ordered the Honorable Elijah M. P. to leave at once. And so Elijah M. P. was given the gate, and he'll think twice the next time he feels inclined to say -- blather.

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Perhaps you have heard the news about the British Open Golf Championship. For the tenth time in eleven years it was won by an American, Tommy Armour, Detroit professional. Jurado of Argentina was second and Saragen of N. Y. and Allis an Englishman tied for third.

I'm afraid it would be inappropriate to sing ROAST BEEF OF OLD ENGLAND at this point, because apparently John Bull isn't going in so much for roast beef any more.

The New York Sun informs us that the portly fellow with the red face is going in for a fruit diet. And if he keeps that up, old John Bull isn't going to be quite so fat or ^{so} red in the face -- he'll acquire a rather pale and poetic look.

I At any rate, Englishmen are giving up the big bacon-and-egg breakfasts of their forefathers and are taking to the American fruit breakfasts. Apples are the Englishman's favorite fruit -- next come oranges and then bannanas.

Well, that's a healthy diet, and although roast beef may be considered more characteristic of the English, why old John's health is probably going to improve with a new fruit diet.

~~Well, I'm going home to dinner now, and I'll enjoy an apple, an orange~~

1 Now comes a sporting event
2 which must have been a barrel of fun
3 for a lot of boys. It was a balloon
4 race, a competition of toy balloons. It
5 was held at Cooperstown, New York. One
6 hundred lads of school age gathered to
7 compete for the Stephens trophy. The idea
8 was to see which balloon would sail the
9 farthest. On each is written the name of
10 a boy. The balloons were released and
11 are now drifting toward the stratosphere,
12 or maybe toward Europe. At any rate the
13 lad whose balloon drifts the farthest
14 will win the trophy.

15 Which brings me to the hour when
16 I too can send up toy balloons or ^{amuse myself} ~~so~~ most
17 ~~anything that~~ ^{way I please.} ~~will permit someone else to~~
18 ~~take my place on the air.~~ So, Solong
19 until tomorrow.
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