

Good Evening, Everybody!

1 I suppose I ought to begin this
2 evening with some remark about how today
3 199 years ago a child was born who was
4 destined to free these United States
5 from the shackles of tyranny. In other
6 words, on Washington's birthday it would
7 be highly appropriate to enunciate
8 some sentiment ⁱⁿ ~~and~~ praise of the Father
9 of his Country. However, anything that
10 I might say would pale into insignificance
11 beside the tribute paid to George
12 Washington by Tony Zalazzo.

13 Now, Tony comes from sunny Italy,
14 and he appeared before Federal Judge
15 Moskowitz in Brooklyn for the purpose
16 of taking out his citizenship papers.
17 It should have happened on Washington's
18 birthday, but as the next best thing it
19 happened on the eve of Washington's
20 birthday. Tony was up there before the
21 Judge to answer those usual questions
22 to see whether an alien knows enough to
23 be worthy of the honor of citizenship.

24 "Who," asked the Judge, "is the
25 President of the United States?"

1 "George Washington," answered
2 Tony, with a beam of illumination.

3 The Judge blinked a little bit
4 and asked:

5 "Who is the Governor of New York
6 State?"

7 "George Washington," beamed Tony.
8 By now the Judge was frowning
9 severely but Tony was still smiling
10 ~~benignly~~ benignly.

11 "Sure, George da Wash, he wanna
12 beega man."

13 But Tony looked sad when, according
14 to the International News Service, the
15 Judge said he'd give him until next
16 August to study up for another examination.

17 Well, I think just in honor of
18 George Washington's birthday, Tony
19 should have been ^{granted a first class citizenship with palace} ~~made a citizen~~ Anyway,
20 he paid a tribute to the Father of our
21 Country which I cannot hope to excel.
22 So I'm passing it on to you in honor of
23 Washington's birthday.

24 I've a few news dispatches from
25 various parts of the world to pass along

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to you also, although some of them
aren't so diverting as the citizenship
test of Tony Zalazzo.

1 They had a Communist riot
2 ~~out~~ in Philadelphia today. A strike
3 of needle workers is on, ^{and today} Four hundred
4 Communists took a hand in the strike
5 and staged a demonstration. The police
6 came along and there was the usual
7 street battle. It was so savage that
8 the reserves had to be called before
9 the disturbance could be put down.

1 On with the dance! So let's pass
2 along to this next item. And it's
3 literally, strangely, weirdly a case of
4 on with the dance.

5 Picture a dance hall ^{with} ~~and~~ scores
6 of couples ^{flat footing it} ~~are pushing~~ around the floor
7 to the ^{thumpety thump} ~~raucous strains~~ of a jazz band.
8 On with the dance! while there's murder
9 ■ in the air.

10 The ■ trouble began when some of
11 the tough rowdies didn't like the way
12 the judges were deciding about who
13 should win the prize. They were dancing
14 in competition to win a big silver cup.
15 A fight started and in a moment
16 pandemonium raged. A few shots rang
17 out. One man was killed. The police
18 came tearing in. Some more skirmishing
19 and the ^{cops} shot a man ~~and~~ wound ^{ing} ~~ed~~ him
20 badly.

21 Some of the dancers went ^{through} ~~out of~~
22 the windows, but the police held the
23 rest of them in the dance hall. Then they
24 ~~cops~~ questioned them ^{and} No one was allowed
25 to leave. The ^{revelers} ~~others~~ were impatient
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at having to wait. So on with the dance! said the cops. And the jazz band started blaring and thumping again. Detectives would call a couple off the floor and put them through a third degree and then the couple would swing again into the measures of a shuffling one-step.

The New York Evening Post informs us that it was on with the dance until morning, by order of the police. Then at dawn the merrymakers were ordered home, just as merry as ever - though maybe a little tired.

1 A new idea seems to be spreading
2 over the country and that idea is to
3 form groups of citizens to fight
4 against the ~~gang~~ gangsters and
5 racketeers.

6 In a way it is not exactly new.
7 It harks back to the old days of the
8 vigilantes, those bands of citizens who
9 put down the desperados of the West.

10 Chicago, of course, has its Secret Six.
11 This is a committee of the Chicago
12 Association of Commerce, and it operates
13 under cover against the gangs. Chicago
14 also has two other volunteer crime-
15 fighting organizations - the Chicago
16 Crime Committee and the Employers
17 Association.

18 According to the Associated
19 Press Kansas City has a Secret Five.
20 It was formed recently, right after
21 Michael ~~Katz~~ Katz, the wealthy head of
22 a chain of drug stores, was kidnapped
23 and held for a ransom.

24 Other ~~cities~~ cities too are
25 forming volunteer groups to fight

against the racket, and the racketeer, and in Michigan there is a bill before the legislature which will put teeth into the vagrancy laws. As you perhaps know, they've been going after the gangsters in the Middle West by bringing them up on charges of vagrancy.

Well, the vigilantes cleaned up the old West and what we need nowadays are men with the nerve and spirit of those old time vigilantes to clean things up in our big modern cities.

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Washington's birthday was not
holiday in Congress. The Senate passed
the Muscle Shoals bill and sent it on
to the President. The International
News Service informs us ~~xxxxxx it is~~
~~believed~~ that the President ^{in all probability} will veto
the bill.

1 I've a dispatch here which states
2 that a lot of people want to go to
3 paradise, and, specifically, they want
4 to go to a paradise down in the Galopagos
5 Islands.

6 A year or so ago the world was
7 suddenly informed of a German physician
8 and a lady patient who had fled from
9 civilization and betaken themselves to
10 a deserted ^{Pacific} island ~~land~~ in the Galopagos group,
11 and were living there like a second
12 Adam and Eve in paradise.

13 And now, the New York Sun informs
14 us ^{that} the German doctor, whose name is
15 Ritter, has been pestered by scores of
16 letters from people in Germany who are
17 eager to get away from ~~civilized life and want to~~
18 civilized life and ^{who} want to ^{join him} ~~live~~ down
19 in that Galopagos paradise. Most of
20 them are women and many of them want to
21 bring escorts along, presumably to make
22 a fourth hand at bridge--as the
23 correspondent of the Sun phrases it.
24 One lady informed the doctor that she
25 was ^{all set to start} ~~already to head~~ for his paradise in

1 the Galopagos but she'd ~~had~~ have to bring
2 her electric iron along. She couldn't
3 possibly get along without that
4 electric iron. Also, she'd have to
5 take an electrician along to keep the
6 electric iron in order.

7 Well, the doctor has replied to
8 them with discouraging words. He says
9 that life in his Galopagos paradise
10 is really pretty hard, and most ~~men~~
11 people wouldn't be able to stand it.
12 ~~Well,~~ ^{Now} that story appeals to me
13 particularly, and I'm going to select it
14 as my News Item of the Day. Because
15 that ~~do~~ctor in the Galopagos paradise
16 was discovered by a friend of mine,
17 Gene McDonald, of Chicago. Gene steered
18 ~~down~~ that way in his big yacht; and ^{he} was
19 doing a bit of scientific investigation
20 when he found ~~that~~ doctor, and ~~sent the~~
21 ~~news to the outside world.~~

22 Gene told me that when he got
23 there the doctor had worn out ~~all of~~
24 his clothes and was all raggedy and
25 tattered. Gene is a charitable ~~man~~

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1 soul, but the only spare suit of clothes
2 he had was a ~~mexican~~ uniform of a
3 Lieutenant-Commander in the United
4 States Navy. ~~Gene~~^{He} was a Lieutenant-
5 Commander during the World War, and he
6 had his magnificent, gorgeous, and
7 resplendent full dress uniform along.
8 Well, he gave it to the doctor. And
9 the next thing you know the Adam in
10 that Galopages paradise appeared, in
11 all the stately finery of a Lieutenant-
12 Commander of the United States Navy on
13 dress parade. I suppose he's still
14 wearing that glittering uniform, although
15 it must ~~be a trifle tattered and worn~~^{have a Robinson Crusoe hang to it}
16 ~~out~~ by now.

17 Meanwhile, ~~Here's~~^{Here's} another dispatch
18 which tells of a white man who reigns
19 like a king over a great section of
20 territory ^{at the top of the world} in the far north. He's the
21 famous explorer, Knude R^Samussen, whose
22 discoveries on the island of Greenland
23 have done so much to make that great
24 frozen land known to the world.

25 Twenty years ago he was the first

white man to visit a vast section on the western coast of Greenland. It was the furthestest north inhabited part. And now Rasmussen is living there, the only white man among the Eskimos. Yes, and he's regarded as a king. He has taught the Eskimo inhabitants of his northern kingdom to talk the Danish language, and has converted them to Christianity.

Well, he may think that he has a paradise up there among the snows, but - however eager sentimental ladies may be to play the part of Eve in the tropical Galapagos paradise they are not showing the slightest bit of enthusiasm for Rasmussen's Eskimo paradise in Greenland.

1 In the past four months the press
2 cables of the globe have brought us
3 accounts of a dozen or more earthquakes.

4 ~~What has been responsible for all these~~
5 ~~terrifying cataclysms of nature?~~

6 I've just read an interesting
7 article entitled - MOTHER EARTH'S LATEST
8 TANTRUM. And it tells a few startling
9 facts about that recent series of giant
10 earthquakes that did so much damage out
11 in New Zealand.

12 Apparently what happened ^{was} ~~is~~ that
13 a mountain moved right into the ocean,
14 but left two brother mountains still
15 standing there. Mother Earth in that
16 wild tantrum of hers threw a cliff three
17 hundred feet high into the sea, and at
18 the same time lifted up the bottom of
19 the harbor at Napier, New Zealand.

20 I found this information in the
21 current Literary Digest, which quotes
22 wise words about earthquakes from the New
23 York Herald Tribune.

24 The article goes on to say: "WE
25 TALK OF HARNESSING WATER POWER, SOLAR

1 ENERGY, THE TIDES. BUT HERE ARE VASTER
2 FORCES WHICH WE CANNOT HARNESS, CANNOT
3 UNDERSTAND, CANNOT EVEN PREDICT."

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1 Tonight a thrilling voice is
2 still and silent. Nellie Melba is dead,
3 Dame Nellie Melba whose brilliant voice
4 captivated the world for two generations.

5 She was called the Australian
6 nightingale and began her musical career
7 at a church concert when she was six
8 years old. She studied in Paris and
9 made her operatic debut in Belgium.
10 That was in 1887, and during the years
11 that followed she was a reigning
12 sensation.

13 ~~Months ago in Egypt, according~~

14 Months ago in Egypt, according
15 to the International News Service, she
16 contracted a malady which the doctors
17 couldn't fathom, and today out in her
18 native Australia she left this world
19 to sing, let us hope, in some world
20 above the clouds.

1 From India this evening come
2 tidings of trouble - also peaceful
3 tidings. The trouble ^{concerns a} ~~consists of a~~
4 riot ~~which was~~ staged in Bombay when
5 an anti-British mob burst into the
6 Corporation Hall.

7 The city fathers were meeting
8 to give a vote of farewell to the
9 retiring Viceroy, Lord Irwin, and
10 also a vote of welcome to Lord Irwin's
11 successor, the new Viceroy, Lord
12 Willingdon. The mob wanted to stop
13 these friendly proceedings and swarmed
14 in shouting and threatening. The
15 police arrived and there was an ugly
16 fight before the rioters were chased
17 away. *So much for the trouble.*

18 The hopeful tidings concern
19 a telegram which Mahatma Gandhi has
20 sent to the leaders of the Indian
21 National ^{int} party. According to the
22 United Press he has called them to meet
23 at New Delhi to talk over the
24 possibility of coming to terms with
25 Great Britain. This is a result of

1 those secret talks which Gandhi had
2 with the ^{retiring} Viceroy, Lord Irwin. The
3 delegates, when they gather, will be
4 told what the Mahatma and his Lordship
5 had to say to each other and what
6 agreement they arrived at - if any.

7 The disturbance in Bombay ^{however,} has
8 created what is ^{termed} ~~called~~ a tense situation
9 and ~~this tense situation~~ ^{it} may have a bad
10 effect on the meeting which Gandhi has
11 called.

~~2~~

1 Today was a day of battle down
2 in Peru. Revolutionists captured the
3 important city of Arequipa, the second
4 largest city of the republic.

5 The Associated Press states that
6 the government is sending all the
7 soldiers it can to put down the rebels. But
8 There are rumors that all of southern
9 Peru has joined the revolutionists. *And*
10 *it may be a long drawn-out affair.*

1 The question of disarmament
2 is prominent in the news ^{again} today and an
3 Associated Press dispatch states that
4 Arthur Henderson, Foreign Secretary
5 of Great Britain, and A. V. Alexander,
6 First Lord of the Admiralty, have gone
7 to Paris to take a hand in negotiations
8 between France and Italy.

9 I have already told how a
10 British Naval expert has been working
11 to get France and Italy to agree on ^{what} ~~size~~
12 ~~size~~ ^{size} navy each ~~country~~ should have.
13 The French and Italian governments have
14 ~~not~~ been saying ^{very little concerning} ~~much about~~ the progress
15 of the negotiations, but rumor has it
16 that considerable ^{headway} ~~progress~~ has been
17 made. And now the fact that the British
18 Foreign Minister and the First Lord
19 of the Admiralty have gone to Paris
20 to add their voices ~~to the conference,~~
21 ~~pow-wow and palaver,~~ makes it look as
22 though there is a real chance of ~~getting~~
23 that naval rivalry between France and
24 Italy ^{being} straightened out.
25

1 I suppose that Washington's
2 birthday is the one day of the year when
3 the Tall Story Club would be certain to
4 hold a meeting. George Washington, as
5 you know, couldn't tell a lie. I believe
6 the Tall Story Club has adopted as its
7 motto the immortal phrase: "I cannot
8 tell a lie!"

9 Anyway, ~~there~~ I have two letters
10 here which relate a couple of particularly
11 shameless whoppers. And both of them
12 tell of the peculiar effects of cold
13 weather.

14 Fred L. Wise, of Bedford,
15 Pennsylvania, ^{recalls a} ~~tells of a thing that~~
16 happened ^{was} ~~ed~~ down in the mountains of West
17 Virginia. A train was rumbling along,
18 and it was bitterly cold. The engineer
19 pulled the whistle, but to his astonishment
20 there was no sound. He pulled that
21 whistle three times in all, but still
22 there was not a peep. Then he realized
23 that it was so cold the sound had been
24 congealed. ^{The toot of} ~~by the cold. In other words,~~
25 the whistle had frozen in mid-air.

I
 1 Several months later, when it was
 2 spring in the Blue Ridge Mountains of
 3 Virginia, on the trail of the lonesome
 4 pine, that same train was bumping along.
 5 The engineer was just reaching to blow
 6 ~~the whistle~~ ^{a blast}, but he hadn't ^{yet} touched the
 7 cord ~~yet~~ when he heard a whistle--in
 8 fact, he heard three whistles. It was
 9 a warm spring day, and he realized that
 10 what he heard were the same three
 11 whistles that he had blown several months
 12 before. They had just thawed out.

13 The second tall story is from the
 14 boys out at Camp No-Be-Bo-Sco, near
 15 Blairstown, New Jersey. The boys at
 16 No-Be-Bo-Sco ~~write and~~ tell ~~me~~ ^{us} how cold
 17 it was out their way. On the morning
 18 of February 7th, of this year, several
 19 of them were standing out in the open.
 20 They started to talk, but the conversation
 21 froze as it came out of their mouths.
 22 The congealed and solidified words fell
 23 clattering on the icy ground. They ~~had~~ ^{boys}
 24 ~~to~~ get a basket, ~~xx~~ ~~and~~ They gathered
 25 the frozen words and took them ~~in~~ into their

camp fire. They had to thaw out these words to find out what they were talking about.

Well, I guess that's plenty for Washington's birthday.

I guess we've gone far enough, so we'll now adjourn this particular meeting of the Tall Story Club and say --

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

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