

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1930

TEXAS DAM

Two towns out in Texas are under ten feet of water tonight. Twenty-eight miles of Texas countryside is flooded. All this is the result of a break that occurred yesterday in a Dam near the city of Corpus Christi. The United Press wires that two men fishing in the Nuaces River not far from Corpus Christi discovered a tiny leak. But they didn't stick their thumbs in it like the historic Dutch boy who once saved Holland. And before workers could get there, a 1200 foot section of the Mathias dam gave way. Down the valley swept a wild, raging flood. A plucky telephone operator, Miss Goldie Jenkins, clung to her post and sang out warnings to valley residents. Deputy sheriffs and volunteer workers in autos raced along notifying all who couldn't be reached by phone. Not a soul was lost.

But the property loss? It was terrific. Besides the two towns, La Fruita and Bluntzer, that were under water, hundreds of farm buildings were destroyed. Bridges were washed out. Railway tracks were swept away or strewn with

wreckage. Some 2000 head of livestock were killed. Tonight
the flood is subsiding and thousands of refugees are on
their way back to the valley to see if anything is left of
their homes.

EUROPEAN FLOOD

They are having floods in Europe too. And according to the Associated Press, they are far worse than the flood in Texas. They followed a terrific rainstorm that swept the British Isles as well as the Continent. In northern France, tens of thousands of acres are under water. Suburbs of Paris are flooded. The Seine is on a rampage and has risen 16 feet above normal, so high that scores of tugboats can't get under the Seine bridges.

In Germany, the Rhine and the Moselle have left their banks and chased thousands of folks to the hills.

In Belgium, dykes have burst and swamped coal mines and steel mills.

In Vienna, people were killed by walls and chimneys blown over by high winds.

In Spain and Portugal, all shipping has been driven into the harbors for shelter. A German ship with a crew of 30 went down with all hands in the North Sea, and a Greek steamer ran aground off the coast of England.

The International News Service reports that the toll

EUROPEAN FLOOD - 2

of this European storm so far is 37 dead, 200 injured, and millions of dollars worth of property destroyed.

MOTION PICTURES

The United States Supreme Court has just handed down a decision against ten of the biggest motion picture companies in the country. The New York Sun says they have been violating the anti-trust law. The Supreme Court points out that they should be competitors, instead of binding themselves together for their dealings with the movie houses.

NAVY

Down at Annapolis there are a lot of naval cadets who will never be officers. There simply won't be enough commissions to go around. The graduation class this year is unusually large, while the navy is being cut down. The Associated Press states that of the 435 men who are graduating only 250 will be given commissions. The rest will get a year's pay and be dropped from the service.

Oh, yes, and we are going to receive an important visit soon - at least our navy is. The British, according to the New York Evening Post, announce that they will soon send a big squadron of powerful warships to pay a visit to the Panama Canal Zone, just as a friendly gesture.

1 President Hoover moved a special
2 grand piano into the White House today.
3 It was put into ~~the chief guest suite~~
4 for the use of Paderewski. Paderewski
5 and the President are old ~~firm~~ friends.
6 ~~That was in~~ ^{Their friendship began in Mr. Hoover's College days and was} the days when Hoover was ^{renewed}
7 directing food relief in Europe and ⁱⁿ
8 Paderewski was Premier of Poland. The
9 famous musician is giving a concert in
10 Washington ^{this} Wednesday, and the International
11 News Service announces that Mr. Hoover
12 has invited him to live at the White
13 House.

RACKETEERS

1 The subject of rackets and racketeers
2 is still with us, and I suppose always
3 will be. Here's an Associated Press
4 dispatch which informs us how the word
5 "racket" originated. Paul Blanchard,
6 ~~Executive Director of the City Affairs~~
7 ~~Committee, up the Hudson at the famous~~
8 ~~old city~~ of Poughkeepsie, New York, tells
9 the story. He says the word "racket" got
10 its modern meaning 46 years ago, back
11 in 1884.

12 Two Chicago politicians organized a
13 teamsters' union, but not in Chicago.
14 Oh, no, they came to New York. They
15 boosted teamsters' wages from \$40 to
16 \$50 a week. ^{Then} They took \$5.00 a week from
17 each laborer ^{^ for} ~~as~~ their share. It proved
18 to be such a soft snap that one of ^{the two} ~~those~~
19 politicians said: "This ain't a noise.
20 This is a racket." And ever since it's
21 been called a racket.

22 In New York the District Attorney's
23 big drive against racketeering is getting
24 under way. A lot of evidence is being
25 uncovered, and Frank Bolland, General

1 Consul for the Hotel Association of
2 Greater New York, comes forward and tells
3 about a new form of racketeering. He
4 says ^{that certain} ~~the public~~ porters who carry
5 travelers' baggage, and also ~~some~~ some of
6 the taxicab drivers who ^{float by and} pick up fares
7 at the railroad stations have a racket.
8 They tell the traveler that the hotel
9 he wants to go to is overcrowded, and
10 ^{they} then steer him to another hotel. The
11 second hotel pays ~~them~~ a dollar or so
12 for each guest ^{thus} delivered. Mr. Bolland
13 states that this racket costs the New
14 York Hotel Association about two million
15 dollars a year.

SIX HOUR

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Here's Old Man Unemployment taking a haymaker on the jaw. ~~The Kellogg~~ ^a breakfast food company, out in Battle Creek, Michigan, has announced a six hour day for its employees, ^{and} an increased rate of pay per hour. The number of ^{their} employees is being increased twenty-five per cent.

Yes, And here's another industrial item which may mean something,

HOUSES

A revolution in the ways of building a house seems to be at hand. An engineer from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has been studying the science of building houses. He finds that the houses we live in are put up in an unscientific way. There has been no great evolution in house building, as there has been in other sciences. So he has worked out a new system. Houses will be turned out by mass production, both cheaper and better, and at the same time without that standardized, machine-made look. We all are interested in the place we live in, and the whole fascinating story of this new plan is told in this week's Literary Digest.

RUSSIA

Now we come to that flood of wild rumors from Russia. They have had at least one effect. They caused Stal~~in~~in, Russia's Iron Man, to break his long habit of silence. He called in an American and told him all. The American was Eugene Lyons, Moscow correspondent for the United Press. To Lyons Stal~~in~~in gave out his first interview. That is, the first ever given to a western correspondent. And the first thing he said was to repeat Mark Twain's famous phrase that the rumors that he had been killed were grossly exaggerated.

Stal~~in~~in also said that Soviet Russia wanted the friendship of the United States. He added that if this was impossible politically he at least wanted to strengthen economic relations.

When asked how the prospects for world revolution looked to him, he replied that they looked good.

Meanwhile, according to the Associated Press, Maxim Litvinoff, head

1 of the Bolshevik delegation to that big
2 Disarmament Conference at Geneva,
3 Switzerland, is returning to Russia. He
4 has been a prominent figure in the
5 disarmament discussions, and has made a
6 lot of radical proposals, which have
7 not been accepted.

8 Last week Moscow made a sensational
9 charge that there was a giant inter-
10 national plot against the Soviet
11 government and named eight engineers as
12 having a hand in it. They will go to
13 trial tomorrow--it will be one of those
14 grim ~~and terrible~~ Bolshevik trials--and
15 the Associated Press correspondent in
16 Moscow cables that they ^{engineers} haven't ~~got~~ a *chance*
17 chance.
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1 Major Ramon Franco, the Spanish
2 air hero, has escaped from prison in
3 Madrid. He was sentenced last week to
4 eight months ~~imprisonment~~ for statements
5 he had made against the government and
6 the King. Another aviator, Eduardo
7 Reyes, escaped with him. The Associated
8 Press cables that Franco had given his
9 word not to try to get away, and the
10 guards were not watching him very care-
11 fully when he gave them the slip.

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1 Over in Ireland, the Free State
2 government is investigating what seems
3 like an attempt to assassinate one of
4 its prominent ministers, General Mulcahy.
5 The whole affair, according to the
6 Associated Press, is mysterious. General
7 Mulcahy was entering the house of the
8 Speaker of the ^{Irish Parliament} ~~Dail Eirann~~, when ~~he was~~
9 ~~fire~~d upon. Then the would-be assassins
10 vanished.

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5 In the harbor of Oslo, Norway, a
6 famous old ship has hauled down its
7 sails for the last time. The Associated
8 Press says it will be put into a museum.
9 It's name is the Eram, and it holds the
10 record of having been the farthest north
11 and the farthest south of any sea-going
12 vessel on earth. The great explorer,
13 Nansen used it when he tried to reach
14 the North Pole in 1893. Roald Amundsen
15 sailed in it when he went to the
16 Antarctic, and was the first to reach
17 the South Pole.
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NEWS ITEM OF THE DAY

A United Press dispatch brings out one of the most interesting facts that I have seen so far on the Round Table Conference in London, that Conference where they are discussing the future of India. There is an Untouchable, an outcast, at the Conference. His name is Bimrao Ramji Ambekdar.

The editors of the Literary Digest have asked me to take a moment off occasionally to tell you of some personal experience I have had in the course of my wanderings up and down the earth as a news gatherer.

Well, here's this dispatch today from London about the Untouchables. I lived with these so-called outcasts in India at one time. They are scattered all over the Peninsula of Hindustan. Out of a total population of 320,000,000 people in India, more than 50,000,000 are outcasts, Untouchables, lower than dogs. Some of these outcasts are still so primitive that they live in trees. In most parts of India they are not allowed to use the public roads, cross public bridges, send their children to public

schools, or even draw water from a public well.

One section of the outcasts is called the Criminal Tribes. There are 14,000,000 of these religious criminals in India, 10,000 of them for every single British administrator in the country. Each tribe specializes in its own kind of crime. One tribe that I lived with made a speciality of stealing gold and silver bangles from the earlobes and nose lobes of rich women. They carried sharp snippers in their hands. If they saw a woman with lovely golden bangles they would snip them off and then run.

One old outcast chieftain who entertained us was named Venkatigadu. He was called the "Chief who stole six policemen," because he and some of his companions captured six native policemen, took off their uniforms and put them ~~on~~ on themselves. Then they went up and down the country raiding more than ever.

One night I was on the Bombay Daily Mail train. In the compartment next to me was a haughty British general,

one of the pompous sort that wore a monocle in his eye. During the night some criminal tribesman pinched all of his clothes and the general had to get off at Bombay the next morning dressed in his pajamas and monocle.

So this outcast representative who is attending the Round Table Conference over in London has some interesting constituents back in India. And strangest of all, he is sitting along with all those Maharajahs and Nobobs.

LETTER

Here is a letter from Mrs. P. Ottenstein of Norfolk, Virginia, in which she refers to a strange thing that happened at Norfolk. Quite a mystery. She relates how two houses disappeared. Not from flood or cyclone either. They were stolen. Two ~~XXXXXXXX~~ perfectly good bungalows they were. The owner saw them on a Saturday, and they were safe and sound. A couple of days later, a friend asked him what he had done with them - because they were gone. The owner took a look. The houses had vanished. And no one knows where.

LITERARY DIGEST

There's an article in this week's Literary Digest that has been attracting wide attention. Yesterday the pastor of one of New York's prominent churches advised each of his congregation to get a copy of the Digest and read this article. It is entitled: "In the Hollow of His Hand." It tells what a well-known scientist thinks on the subject of religion.

Here's a question which is not exactly religious, but it must have been a serious matter in the days of Noah and the Ark.

1 Can any of you give us a bit
2 of advice on how to move a herd of
3 giraffes? A lot of Frenchmen are
4 scratching their heads over this prob-
5 lem. They want to get ~~we~~ seven
6 giraffes from Marseilles to the Paris
7 zoo, but all the railroads over that
8 route have tunnels and the giraffe's
9 necks are ~~just~~ too long to clear those
10 tunnels. Transporting them by motor
11 truck was suggested, but that sort of
12 a ride makes giraffes ill. So for the
13 present they are stranded in Marseilles.

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CLOSE

There's a young woman in London who probably holds the world's record for names. Her family name is Pepper, and she has twenty-five given names - one for each letter in the alphabet. They were discovered in court.

"What is your name?" asked the clerk of the court.

"Anna Pepper" quoth she.

"I mean your full name," said the clerk.

Whereupon the lady drew a long breath, and let her name fly. All of it. Said she, my name is Anna, Bertha, Cecilia, Diana, Emily, Fanny, Gertrude, Hypatia, Inex, Jane, Kate, Louise, Maud, Nora, Ophelia, Quince, Rebecca, Starkey, Teresa, Ulysses, Venus, Winifred, Xenophon, Yatta, Zenus - Pepper.

And that mouthful ought to be about enough for tonight. So if the audience will now rise and sing the ABC's, we will adjourn for the evening.

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.