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12-1-30-5M

Lowell Thomas Broadcast For Literary Digest Wednesday, April 1, 1931

Page.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Yes, it's April Fool's Day all right. One of the boys here has just handed me a red hot dispatch straight off the wire which states that Mussolini has eloped with Peggie Joyce. And it goes on with the important information that President moover walked over to the stately halls off the Senate with an axe and demolished everything. Yes, it's April Fool's Day; and

I suppose most of you have had your share of the jokes, both on the giving and receiving end. Maybe somebody gave you a dish of rubber oatmeal.

Well, be that as it may, let's see whether this next dispatch is another April Fool story, Nope, Liberty McFadden, this one's O.K.

LIBERTY

I had a telephone call this afternoon which conveyed a mighty interesting bit of information. It was from Herbert Stephen, one of the editors of the New York Evening Post. Herb told me that the magazine <u>Liberty</u> has just been sold - sold to Bernarr MacFadden, the publisher of a whole string of magazines of the True Story type.

That bit of news appeared in the last edition of the New York Evening Post, and the United Press flashed it to me also. For the past half dozen years <u>Liberty</u> has been one of the big magazines of the country and its passing into the **x** hands of the MacFadden interests is sensational news in the world of publishing.

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DIVER

Boing on from that Well, now let's see. Suppose a 1 diver were working down below the 2 water and you were at the surface and 3 you saw a diver's glove come floating 4 up. That might astonish you a bit. It would me 5 Welt, according to the United 6 Press, it did astonish the boys out near 7 Cleveland, Ohio, who were running 8 things on the surface while Thomas 9 Carroll, a professional diver, was 10 working on a maxim pier foundation at 11 the bottom of Lake Erie. The glove 12 came floating up and after a moment 13 of astonishment they hauled the diver. 14 He was unconscious but came to. 15 As he worked his cutting utensils 16 cut his glove off, and naturally the 17 water poured into his diving suit. But 18 he's all right now, after what we'll 19 all agree was anmost unusual experience. 20 21 22

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FISHING

The fishing season being at hand, Uncle Sam has just given out a few figures which indicate that the disciples of Izaak Walton are as enthusiastic as ever.

In one year alone, according to the United Press, the amount spent for fishing equipment in the United States came to a grand total of \$8,500,000. And that ought to buy a lot of fish hooks.

The government figures don't indicate how many fish the fishermen caught with all that fishing equipment. But one thing is certain. And it's that the fishermen didn't catch $8\frac{1}{2}$ million dollars worth of fish. And if you say they <u>did</u>, why that makes you a member of the Tall Story Club in good standing. SAFETY PIN

Page_ 6

Here comes an answer to the age old question: xh WHY BOES BABY SWALLOW THAT SAFETY PIN?

⁴ Dr. Chevalier Jackson, of ⁵ Philadelphia, is an authority on the ⁶ removal of foreign bodies from the ⁷ throat and stomach. He has removed ⁸ hundreds of safety pins which babies ⁹ have swallowed.

According to the Associated Press he tells why baby swallowed the safety pin. in the first place. It's all because the way mothers have of holding safety pins in their mouths. The child imitates the mother and gulps down the safety pin.

Well, that question seems
 to be successfully answered.

¹⁹ But there's one XXXXXXX ²⁰ other question which, says the doctor, ²¹ is still a profound mystery. Three ²² hundred patients have had him remove ²³ chicken bones from their throat. ²⁴ Of these XQX eighty per cent were women. ²⁵ It is an undeniable scientific fact SAFETY PIN - 2

12-1-30-5M

that in the matter of getting chicken
bones lodged in the throat ladies
come first. And the doctor says
that science has been able to discover
no reasonable explanation for this
peculiar phenomenon.

MILK .

Page____8

1 I hope you folks will pardon 2 me if I moan a little bit before 3 starting in with this next item. But for I'm a farmer and the story concerns the 4 5 price that farmers get for milk. That is, I'm one of those amateur 6 7 farmers, one of those city tellews 8 that invest in a farm and figure he 9 can find a way to make it show a 10 profit.

The farm consists principally
 of fields that grow feed **xx** for the
 cattle and of cattle that produce milk.
 l employ a first class farmer named Pat
 and we have some good cows. But as
 for profits - please excuse me while
 l moan again.

18 Anyway, I have an editorial here 19 from the Boston News Bureau which 20 deals with the dairy farmer's problem 21 in New England. It points out that 22 between lands, buildings and cattle. 23 dairy farming in New England represents 24 a total capital of eight hundred and 25 ninety-two million dollars. The milk

MILK - 2

that is produced fetches ninety-one
million dollars a year. That milk is
sold to the public, cream and butter
included, for a total of three hundred
million dollars. In other words, the
farmer gets less than a third.

Page 9

The editorial goes on to say 7 that the farmers are disorganized. 8 What they need is a systematized 9 industry. Then the suggestion is made 10 that since baseball, the movies and 11 other large industries have a czar. 12 the milk business should also have a 13 **Ex czar.** That is, there should be 14 someone who could coordinate and 15 or ganize the dairy farms and put them 16 into a position where they could 17 protect themselves and develop profits. 18 It is shown that dairy farming 19 in New England, with a total investment 20 of eight hundred, ninety -two million 21 dollars, is almost a billion dollar 22 busi ness. all over the country davy forming should represent plenty of billions. Well, that cheers me up a 23 24

little . It makes my position as a

MILK - 3 Page_ 10 farmer a little more dignified even though I own a mighty small share of the billion^s dollars and aithough t don't get any profits worth writing home about. 12-1-30-5M

SLEEP

Page //

I feel called upon to sound a slogan now and it is - Sweet Sleep! And It appears that if you are sweet you will sleep better.

I have a wakeful night once
in a while and so I was particularly
interested when I saw an article on
sleep in my usual advance copy of the
new Literary Digest, the April 4th
number which comes out tomorrow.

It tells about a series of 11 experiments that were staged at Colgate 12 University and the subject of the 13 experiments was sleep. Girl and man 14 students were the subjects. The idea 15 was to find out how they xxxxx slept, 16 whether their slumber was sound, 17 whether they were fully rested, and 18 whether they got up pix promptly. 19

It was found that the girls
xxxxxx/better than the mën. They were
less disturbed by agitating dreams.
They jumped out of bed at the first
tick of the alarm clock and were
sprightly and full of life. The men

SLEEP - 2

had more dreams and were harder to roust out and had more sleepy eyes and cobwebs in their brains after they did get up.

Well, the girls are just naturally sweeter than the men. But it was found that the sweeter of the girls were the better sleepers; that is, the girls who ate the most sweets, the most carbohydrates. In other words, when the box of chocolates was passed around, the damsel who didn't say: "No, I must be firm. I'm on a diet" - why she was the one who enjoyed the most refreshing slumber that night. Her sleep was the sweetest.

And so I think that the next time the chocolates are passed my way - I'll take a handful. SLEEP - 2

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ANNAPOLIS

There was a free-for-all fight today in the Maryland House of Delegates. As usual it was a case of Communists. The Reds tried to present a petition in behalf of the unemployed. They made an uproar, and a general fight followed. According to the United Press. chairs and tables were overturned as the legislators and the Communists swung and kicked each other. 15 arrests were made, and in the quietude of jail the imprisoned Communists are thinking it over.

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Page_14

Tonight in the good town of Ottawa, capital of the Dominion of Canada, the old and historic city hall lies a smouldering ruin. Fire broke out, and it was too much for the firefighters. In fact, those firefighters were lucky to escape with their lives.

According to the Associated Press. 8 seven were on man the third floor when 9 a heavy vault crashed down. Those, 10 seven firemen just went along after the 11 vault, and they fell to the basement, 12 four floors down: Four were pulled out 13 of the debris. Three were trapped. 14 They were rescued later. None of the 15 seven was hurt badly--and that seems 16 like a miracle. 17

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MANAGUA

Tonight the City of Managua is still burning although the flames are reported to be under control.

According to the Associated Press the dead are estimated at between five hundred and a thousand. Two thousand people have been injured.

Not one house in the city remains standing so that people can live in it. New tremors have shaken the earth and have increased the people's terror. Martial law has been declared. The United States Marines have been working day and night, rescuing people and helping the sufferers. Uncle Sam, as you know, is withdrawing most of the Marines from Nicaragua, but the Marine officers the devastated city have asked the government to stop the withdrawals and leave all possible marines on the scene.

The earthquake shook many sections of Nicaragua, but only in the capital city was the damage serious, and there it has been a catastrophe.

According to the International News Service most of the casualties were among women and children - because the women were

MANAGUA - 2

in their homes preparing the noonday meal when some violent demoniacal force shook the earth and shattered the city.

A wire from the United Press informs us that the American Aircraft carrier, LEXINGTON, has steamed from Guantanamo, Cuba, for the coast of Nicaragua and will launch seven amphibian planes in addition to a number of land planes. These will wing their way to stricken Managua. Aboard the planes are seven doctors, a corps of hospital assistants and all the medical supplies that could be gathered in Cuba.

The International News Service wires that the Naval Transport CHAUMONT has left California for the Nicaraguan port of Corinto on the Pacific side. The Chaumont will take aboard as many injured people as it can accommodate and carry them to Panama. The American warship, the Rochester, is likewise on its way to the Nicaraguan coast.

The late editions of the New York Evening Sun print a story by Charles J.V.Murphy, a newspaper reporter who happened to be at Managua when the quake took place. Here are a few lines from his description:

"There is no water, and forty

MANAGUA - 43

five thousand persons are homeless. 1 They huddle in silent, speechless 2 groups in the square in the north end 3 of the town, or straggle aimlessly along the **xix rim** of Lake Managua. They lie prone in the dry dirt of the hills 6 to the south - shelterless, bewildered. 7 There have been ugly incidents. One person has been shot for looting.

Page_ 18

"The fire that flamed up out of 10 the flattened egg shell that was 11 Managua, was not altogether the fault 12 of the earthquake. Some hawsehaxders 13 house owners not protected by earthquake 14 insurance have deliberately set fire 15 to their houses. This suspicion has 16 been borne out by the curious serious of 17 fires at a considerable distance from 18 the main conflagration." 19

The story goes on to emphasize 20 the heroic work of marines who are 21 doing their best and bravest in the 22 23 merciful work of rescue.

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PRINCE_GEORGE

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And now along comes a story which has leaked out after having been carefully hushed up. It is revealed that one rather awkward thing took place during the recent visit of the Prince of Wales and his party to Buenos Aires in the Argentine, to open the British Empire Trade Exhibition there.

Page 19

Along with H.R.H. was his brother, Prince George, and lo and behold 10 Prince George was robbed of a quantity 11 of jewelry. 12 were.

The Argentine police got right 13 on the job and soon arrested the 14 culprit. He was a young Argentinean 15 society man, who had struck up an 16 intimate acquaintance with Prince George. 170 The two had become bosom friends. The 18 young society man had sneaked into the 19 Prince's guarters and swiped the royal 20 jewelry. 21

The International News Service 22 wires the story and adds that the Prince 23 refused to prosecute his false friend. 24 All he did was the take back an autographed portrait of himself which he had given 25 to the young society man, who had taken a fancy to the Royal jewelry. 2-1-30-5M

Well, I guess I'll have to be hurrying along. I have an invitation to a party here and I don't want to be late. It's an April Fool invitation sent by one of the life members of the Tall Story Club. Here's the way it reads:

North Pole-on-the-Equator,

MARCH 32nd, 1931 B. C.

Dear Enemy L. T .:

Yourself and families are cordially not invited to attend an afternoon Moonlight picnic to be held in the morning. Admission free; children half price; orphans accompanied by their parents double rates.

Amusements: - Men without legs will run a foot race for a pair of silver dumbells made of tin. The loser to get the cup. Twenty-five million dollars worth of Fireworks will be donated by Ex-President Coolidge, - if you bring them along. Meals will be given away to unknown persons if they are known and have **fre** friends to pay for them.

Bill of fare :- Very long short cake. Pea soup 5¢ a

END