

LOWELL THOMAS BROADCAST FOR THE LITERARY DIGEST

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 1931

CHICAGO

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

The big election in Chicago has been whirling and surging all day. And according to reports Big Bill has been licked to a frazzle -- and not by King George but by Anton Cermak, his Democratic rival.

The International News Service wires that the vote apparently stands 155,188 for Cermak and 91,776 for Thompson. The count stood at that when the news from only 700 precincts had come in. And at that point Big Bill dropped out of the picture.

The Chicago election has been one of the wildest on record. There were fist fights galore; two men were badly beaten up; a plate glass window was smashed; a truck with a lot of political banners was set afire; and another truck, carrying a radio loud speaker blaring out a political speech, was attacked and the driver beaten up. The election authorities were swamped with demands for police protection.

The United Press reports a curious instance when a man walked into

1 the office of the Chief Clerk of the
2 City and wanted to know whether he
3 couldn't force his wife to vote for
4 Big Bill Thompson. The Chief Clerk
5 said he couldn't do anything about it.
6 And the man thereupon declared:--

7 "I'll divorce Gertie before I'll
8 see her vote against Big Bill!"

9 The London Herald put in a
10 trans-Atlantic telephone call to the
11 Chicago Police Commissioner and asked
12 whether ~~it~~ it was possible for Big Bill
13 to win. The Police Commissioner
14 responded--sure, and added that Big
15 Bill expected ~~that~~ King George to help
16 him.

17 The London editor gasped, ^{— they say.} He
18 remembered how Mayor Thompson had
19 threatened to punch King George in the
20 snout.

21 But, according to the Associated
22 Press, the Police Commissioner
23 explained that in an election like ^{today's} ~~that~~
24 Big Bill ~~Thompson~~ would welcome the
25 support of anybody, ^{even} ~~including~~ King George.
And judging from the way the returns are going
he needs it.

1 A number of British newspapers
2 have sent special correspondents to
3 Chicago to report the election for the
4 benefit of readers over in dear old
5 London. The correspondent of the
6 London Times declares that people in
7 England are anxious to know how
8 Cermak stands on the subject of King
9 George. Anxious - but not worried.

10
11 Anyway, it has been a rip-
12 roaring exciting election.

13 In the State of Michigan they
14 have just had an important election too.
15 The citizens voted on the subject of
16 capital punishment. For many years
17 there has been no such thing as the
18 death penalty in Michigan. A proposal
19 was up to reestablish the extreme
20 penalty. According to the United
21 Press, it was voted down. The
22 majority against capital punishment
23 in Michigan was more than 50,000.

WASHINGTON

5-4a.
~~Dowell Thomas' Broadcast Page~~
~~for The Literary Digest~~
~~Tuesday, April 7, 1931~~

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8 ~~GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY!~~

9 President Hoover used an understudy
10 today. It was at the press conference--
11 the daily gathering of newspapermen at
12 the White House.

13 Secretary of Agriculture Hyde had
14 just given ~~him~~ Mr. Hoover an official
15 report on the drought situation in the
16 West. And this inspired the President
17 to do something unusual. He asked the
18 Secretary to pinch hit for him and give
19 his report direct to the newspapermen.

20 ~~The United Press informs us that~~
21 Secretary Hyde ~~thereupon~~ took Mr. Hoover's
22 place. And his official announcement to
23 the press of the nation was that the
24 drought is ended. In fact, Mr. Hyde
25 said there is every prospect of a fine

1 crop this year.

2 And that's good news for the
3 farmers. Yes, it's mighty good news
4 for all of us.
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1 I am happy to report this
2 evening that science has achieved
3 another one of its miracles.

4 Helium, one of the lightest
5 gases in the world, has been liquified
6 for the first time. That is, the boys
7 in the laboratory have turned this
8 rare gas into a fluid, something
9 like ice water - only a good deal
10 colder. The scientists liquify gas
11 by chilling it. When the gas gets
12 cold enough, why it turns into something
13 that you can ^{even squirt} ~~pour~~ out of a ^{garden hose.} ~~glass, or~~
14 ~~drop out of an eye-dropper.~~ And,
15 according to the International News
16 Service, they frappe^d that helium gas
17 considerably. They had to reduce it
18 to a temperature of 452 degrees below
19 zero - ^{which is slightly} ~~and that's~~ colder than a
20 January day at the North Pole, with the
21 windows open. ~~It's 142 degrees below~~
22 ~~the temperature at which air turns~~
23 ~~into a liquid.~~

24 The experts say that the
25 liquefying of helium is of great

scientific importance, although I don't suppose anybody is likely to order liquefied helium at the ~~next~~ soda fountain.

FAIRBANKS

Every so often in the hurly-burly of rustling through the days news, I feel like paying silent homage to the race of newspaper reporters. You know the reporter. He writes his pieces as fast as he can run his rickety typewriter. But, just the same, every so often he manages to do a piece of particularly fine, vivid writing, or dash off a telling, sparkling phrase.

For example, the New York Sun today printed an Associated Press dispatch about Douglas Fairbanks' visit to India. The reporter ~~in~~ states that the famous movie star received many gifts from the various maharajahs whom he visited. In fact the maharajahs gave him 180 suits of clothes.

"But", remarks the reporter, "Doug was unable to pay a visit to Mahatma Gandhi, who gets along with a loin cloth."

So there's no danger of Doug arriving back in Hollywood dressed in any loin cloth. Praise be to Brahma, Vishnu and Siva for that.

1 Now folks, here comes a ringing
2 call for all of us to start poking
3 fun at ourselves. We should be
4 satirical at our own expense - so says
5 the famous English novelist ^{John} Galsworthy.

6 There was a big literary
7 event over in the Brooklyn Academy
8 of Music. Galsworthy spoke and was
9 introduced by Dr. Charles Gray Shaw,
10 author of that amazing best seller,
11 The Road to Culture. Dr. Shaw, as you
12 ~~may~~ ^{probably} know, is Professor of Philosophy
13 at New York University, and is one of
14 the most human professors of philosophy
15 that ever taught people how to be wise
16 and happy.

17 Well, Galsworthy told ~~x~~ one way
18 of how we can measure the amount of
19 civilization we have. In other words,
20 how far we have progressed on the road
21 to culture. The famous English novelist
22 said that people are really civilized
23 when they are able to make satire ~~x~~ at
24 their own expense. ~~In other words,~~ That is,
25 we have real culture when we are able
to make fun at ourselves.

This evening's story about sport might as well come under the heading of crime and racket. The particular sport which the tale concerns is the ancient pastime of kings -- horse racing. A band of thugs and desperadoes tried to put a great ~~ha~~ race horse on the spot.

It happened out in Australia. Out there they have a phenomenal bit of horse flesh called Phar Lap, an animal said to rank with our own famous racers such as Man-o'-War and Dan Patch.

Phar Lap was entered in two important races, which took place a few days apart. The betting was heavy, so heavy in fact that there were plenty of people who had every reason to do something to prevent Phar Lap from winning.

The trainer took the big bay gelding out for a practice run. Ahead was a big touring car. As the trainer leading the race horse drew near the car, he saw the muzzle of a shotgun. And it was only the trainer's quickness and courage that saved Phar Lap.

He quickly maneuvered the horse out of the line of fire. Then there was a chase, with the big automobile cornering the trainer and the racer against a fence. The trainer threw himself

in front of the race horse, to protect it.

There was a roar of shotgun fire, as the bandits desperately tried to get Phar Lap without killing the trainer. But their slugs went wild. Then the big car vanished down the road in a cloud of dust.

Well, the affair made a great sensation throughout Australia, and this week's Literary Digest tells all about the other remarkable events that followed. At any ~~at~~ rate, Phar Lar won both races.

1 to be called New England.

2 However, it doesn't look like
3 any civil war out there, and I don't
4 suppose there will be any Australian
5 Lee chasing the Australian federals
6 to the gates of an Australian
7 Washingt~~o~~n - or an Australian Sherman
8 making an Australian march to the sea.

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1 A big trial opened today in
2 far away Burma. 114 rebels including
3 one woman appeared before a British
4 court. They are being tried for taking
5 a hand in that big Burmese revolt
6 which got columns in the newspapers
7 three months ago.

1 ~~I have a~~ ^Q ~~xxxxx~~ late International
2 News Service dispatch ~~which~~ states that
3 a British cruiser has ^{just} been ordered to
4 Madeira.

5 Also, Six hundred Portuguese troops
6 are on their way to those beautiful
7 islands off the west coast of ~~xxx~~
8 Africa. The revolt is still on at
9 Funchal, the capital of the Madeiras,
10 and the Portuguese soldiers who have
11 mutineered are in possession of the city
12 and there are reports of fighting
13 on the island. Not much news is coming
14 through. ~~from the islands because of a~~
15 Heavy censorship ~~that~~ has been clamped
16 down over those romantic isles.

1 If a visitor this evening
2 happened to look in the jail in the
3 little town of Klagenfurt in the
4 Austrian Province of Carinthia, he
5 might be astonished to see the dapper
6 and immaculate figure of the famous
7 playwright Molnar locked up in a cell.
8 But it really isn't Molnar who is in
9 the cooler. It's his double. —

10 ~~There is~~ an art dealer who
11 looks amazingly like the playwright. *In fact*
12 ~~and~~ he carries out the resemblance by
13 wearing a monocle just as Molnar does.
14 This art dealer has made plenty of
15 money by selling rare antiques to
16 wealthy art collectors. He goes around
17 to ancient churches in the small towns
18 of Austria and buys what antiques they
19 will sell, and what they won't sell
20 he swipes. At least that's what the
21 police say.

22 According to the Associated
23 Press, it has been discovered that the
24 art dealer while making his honest
25 purchases, has been directing a gang

AUSTRIA - 2

of confederates who have stolen from the churches old statues and wood carvings and have substituted clumsy modern imitations in their places.

And so the double of the renowned playwright Molnar is in the lockup - still wearing his monocle, but not quite so cocky.

MEXICO

Down in Mexico a relief expedition started out today in search of a lost caravan - a caravan of automobiles carrying a number of Mexicans who are returning to their home country from the United States. They were political exiles who have just been given permission to return.

The caravan has been traveling down towards Central Mexico. They were passing through the Bichimba Canyon when they ran out of gas. The Bichimba Canyon is in a wild and remote section of the mountains, and the travelers will be in a beautiful jam unless they get help. According to the Associated Press a relief expedition has just started for Bichimba Canyon.

1 This evening the Tall Story Club
2 is honored by a contribution from a
3 celebrity - Margaret Petherbridge,
4 one of the originators of the crossword-
5 puzzle craze in America.

6 Miss Petherbridge relates that
7 she was in Central Africa a few months
8 ago, in a remote section of Somaliland.
9 There she was seated in the heart of
10 Africa with a crossword-puzzle book
11 in one hand and an elephant gun in the
12 other.

13 When suddenly up walks a tall
14 and solemn bird - the emu. Yes sir, the
15 emu, the sacred bird of all crossword
16 puzzle addicts.

17 Well, the emu stood there
18 gazing intently at the crossword-
19 puzzle that Miss Petherbridge was
20 struggling with, and she observed that
21 the emu's eyes were fixed on a three-
22 letter word meaning bird. Yes sir, old
23 Mr. Emu was staring at his own name,
24 without which no crossword puzzle is
25 complete. And that, it seems, was the

1 beginning of a perfect friendship.

2 The emu understood how much
3 the crossword-~~xxxxxx~~ puzzlitis' craze
4 had done to make him and his brother emus
5 famous. His gratitude was ~~xxx~~ touching
6 to behold. But one day inadvertently
7 a native servant dropped Miss
8 Petherbridge's crossword-puzzle book
9 into a large galvanized bucket. Well,
10 the emu, even more than the ostrich,
11 thrives on bricks, and broken crockery,
12 and so on. The faithful emu saw the
13 bucket and with one gulp swallowed it -
14 book and all.

15 When the friendly emu realized
16 what he had done, two great tears dropped
17 from his large and friendly eyes. From
18 then on he refused to eat and soon died
19 of grief.

20 Well, after that sad, sad
21 story I think I'll close on a crossword-
22 puzzle note. Here are a few definitions
23 which you can check over in your Funk
24 and Wagnalls' Standard Dictionary:-
25 A two-letter word meaning thus.

1 A four-letter word, an adjective
2 signifying extending either in space
3 or time.

4 A five-letter word meaning to the
5 time of.

6 An eight-letter word meaning the
7 next day.

8 Well, I wonder if you can guess
9 what the words are?

10 Yes, you've guessed it.

11 They are So long until tomorrow.

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