LOWELL THOMAS BROADCAST FOR THE LITERARY DIGEST, MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1931

Tonight there is a king who is thinking, wondering. Yes, he surely must be meditating upon those threatening words that were spoken today.

The King is Alfonso, and the threat was made by Zamora, the Spanish Republican leader.

According to the International News Service Zamora declared that if Alfonso does not heed the voice of yesterday's elections he will be tossed off his throne by force. The election showed that Spain wants a republic and if Alfonso does not step down and turn in his crown,why, then Zamora promises that the Republicans will stage a revolution--pronto--not mañana!

At the same time the Republic an leader guaranteed that no matter what happens the lives of the king and the royal family will be safe.

Alfonso himself declared today that the Republican victory at the polls took him utterly by surprise. He had expected that the people of Spain

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SPAIN - 2

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uphold him. He said he felt like a man who, needing help has gone to the house of a friend and has found that the friend was died.

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Suffice to say that the elections in Spain yesterday went heavily against the king. Nearly all the cities and towns of Spain voted Republican. The country districts polled a good vote for the monarchy, but 42 out of 52 provinces declared for a change.

According to the Associated Press, the district in Madrid where the royal palace is, voted against the Refore, ting: Rud that must have been the bitterest blow Aall.

The United Press informe us th that as an immediate consequence three ministers of the present government have resigned. Of course, those elections of yesterday were only for municipal officers. Another election is scheduled to choose representatives for the national parliament, but the sentiment in Spain against the king was unmistakable, and now Alfonso can

Page 3 SPAIN - 3 either abdicate at once or hold on and see what the national parliament will do, or he can resort to a military dictatorship. Ves, there are exciting days ahead in Sunny Spain. . . 12-1-30-5M

DIGEST TOPICS

Well, the troubles of King Alfonso certainly give a lot of point to a snappy line in this week's Literary Digest. The Digest quotes Judge, and says - NOWADAYS THE SPORT OF KINGS IS TRYING TO STAY ON THE THRONE.

That remark is printed on the Topics in Brief page, which goes on to give us another nifty which the Digest editors have picked up from the Boston Herald, that runs like this: IN SOUTH AMERICA A PRESIDENT DOESN'T BOTHER MUCH ABOUT GETTING AWAY FOR A REST AND RECREATION. HE'S PRETTY WELL SATISFIED IF HE JUST GETS AWAY. JAPAN

Japan is without cabinet government The New York Sun has a cable from its Tokio correspondent stating that Baron Wakatsuki is expected to become the new Prime Minister.

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Today was a day of **m** resignations in Tokio. Premier Hamaguchi and his whole cabinet gave up their posts.

The Premier was shot and wounded
 by an assassin last November. He is
 still most fully recovered, and is
 more or less physically disabled. That,
 according to the Associated Press, is
 the reason why he has now resigned.

2-1-31-5M

NICARAGUA

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Yes, and there has There a been a battle down in Nicaragua, According to the Associated Press, three Marines have been killed and a number of Nicaraguan National Guardsmen.

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A large force of bandits attacked a fruit ranch on which several American civilians were living. A force of the Nicaraguan National Guard, lead by three Marines, two of whom were officers, attacked the bandits. The Americans and their men were surrounded by the outlaws. They fought to the end and were overpowered only after their ammunition was exhausted. There was a savage hand to hand fight. 16

The cruiser Ashville, of the United 17 States Navy, **is** on her way to the scene 18 of the trouble; also, the cruiser 19 Memphis. Appeals have been sent for 20 airplanes to bomb the bandits their 21 mountain strongholds. 22

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12-1-30-5M

RECREATION

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A meeting was held today in the Cabinet Room at the White House, a meeting that may mean a great deal to countless thousands of children.

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It was the annual gathering of the National Recreation Association, an organization that for years has been fighting to provide the children in our crowded cities with suitable playgrounds.

And the President of the United States opened the meeting. And not only was **dum@**President Hoover there, but with him were three cabinet members, Secretaries Wilbur, Hyde, and Adams.

The International News Service wires that the meeting passed a resolution to raise \$10,000,000 for the purpose of promoting national recreation.

And that will mean many a new playground for children of the congested cities, children who have no place to play but the crowded streets where they are in constant danger of being run down by a huge truck.

HOOVER

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The annual convention of the Red Cross met in Washington today, President Hoover addressed the gathering. He congratulated the Red Cross on the may good work done, and went on to make a speech and make emphasize on what was speech and make emphasize on what was the activities of the organization the activities of the organization

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9 In praising the policy of the Red Cross, Mr. Hoover was also strongly 10 defending his own policy. And that 11 has a considerable political meaning. 12 Ind the series of political battles 13 14 between the President and the Senate. one of the biggest fights was over 15 the question of whether the people who 16 had suffered from the drought should be 17 helped directly with government money, 18 or whether the relief should be 19 accomplished by private aid--in other 20 words, the Red Cross. 21

Well, the Red Cross organization itself took the same attitude as the Presidentm. And that gives a special meaning to what President Hoover said HOOVER - 2.

Page 9

in his address today. President According to the United Press, ared -- WE ARE DEALING WITH THE dec HIGHEST THING IN OUR CIVILIZATION. THAT IS, THE SENSE OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF NEIGHBOR FOR NEIGHBOR. 2-1-31-5M

FOREST FIRE

This evening an immense fire is roaring across northern Michigan and there is a scare and a panic over a wide stretch of country. Yes, it's another forest fire.

According to the International News Service the small village of Wallace on the Upper Peninsula, was surrounded by the flames and wiped right off the map. It is not known whether any of the inhabitants lost their lives. There are rumors that a number perished, but it is more probably that they all escaped.

The fire has swept on to the town of Menominee. A big lumber yard nearby is in flames. The town of Marinette is also threatened. Damage running up into the millions has been done,

AIRPLANE

Well, along comes Ruth Nichols and zip goes another airplane record.

According to the Associated Press, Ruth darted through the sky at a speed of more than 210 miles an hour. And that beats the previous speed record for women of approximately 181 miles an hour, which record you may fecall was established by Amelia Earhart.

CAPONE

Here's a dispatch from Dublin - yes, the original Dublin, over in Ireland. It's about Scarface Al Capone. It states that the gangster chief has been amking inquiries concerning the schools in Dublin.

According to the Associated Press the idea is that Scarface Al has a ten year old son named Tony and he wants to send Tony to a real toney school. Apparently the Big Shot things well of the schools of Ireland, which in fact are excellent, and so the plan seems to be to send the youngster who is son and heir to the king of gangdom across the water to attend one of the famous boys' schools of Old Erin where they teach the lads Latin and Logic.

DEMPSEY

Page 13

Well, it looks as if that rumor about Jack Dempsey were correct. According to the United Press, the former heavyweight champion of the world announced today that he is guing to seek a divorce from Estelle Taylor, his movie actress wife. The gist of Dempsey's statement was that he still loves Estelle, but she wants him to get a divorce. And so that seems to be the end of one of the most widely advertized romances of recent years. 2-1-31-5M

PHILADELPHIA

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The Philadelphia newspapers today print, a statement given out by the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, which, by the way, is not in bankruptcy. A Pennsylvania court has, ordered it put under the management of a receiver. This is called receiver management. The statement which the company makes is definite and emphatic. It states, first, that the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company is solvent, perfectly and entirely solvent. No mmm creditorm or employe^eneed have any anxiety. Secondly, the receiver management part of it is by no means definite or final. The case will go to the higher courts, and the company will fight. Thirdly, the decree of the court does not affect the worth or value of the P. R. T. The assets of the company will, if anything, be increased. That statement should put an end

to any misapprehension that may have been held about the present status of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, or at least so the news comes to us today.

12-1-30-5M

ROBBER

Now comes the case of a man who must have thought he was back on the Western Front again.

Frank Abler is the headwaiter in a fancy Chicago night club. During the World War Frank was in the German army as a sharpshooter and a machine gunner. He served many long months in the trenches, in the days when it was **maxy** anything but "All Quiet on the Western Front."

And so the veteran of the German army must have thought that those unhappy days were here again when three robbers, with guns in their hands, walked into the night club, and said:--STICK 'EM UP!

All of which didn't make things seem so quiet on the Chicago front. But Frank hadn't forgotten his stuff. There was a shotgun handy. Frank grabbed it and opened fire. According to the Associated Press, he killed two of the robbers. The third got away, apparently wounded.

And then all was quiet once more, on the mid-western front.

SEQUOLA

Page_16

Let's go maxa on to an obituary 1 notice and tell of the passing of an 2 ancient giant. That giant was more 3 than 275 feet tall and 27 feet in 4 diameter, and about 2000 years old. 5 It was one of those majestic California 6 Sequoias, or Red Wood trees in General 7 National Park. That tree t was called 8 Grant The State of Michigan." 9 It was a lame giant too -10 11 that is, the enormous tree didn't 12 stand quite straight. At it's base was a great burn caused no doubt by 13 some ancient forest fire, and this 14 15 caused the tree to lean. The Associated Press tells us that now is has fallen and come 16 17 crashing to the ground. _ Pieces of the 18 a quarter brown as far as fifteen tree were 19 20 hundred feet. I telephoned the New York 21 Botanical Gardens today and asked them 22 how old that tree might be. They said 23 there was no way of telling exactly, 24 but that 2000 years would be a good 25

SEQUOIA - 2

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guess. Which means that the great tree was a sapling in the days when ancient Rome was rising to its greatest grandeur.

Just for fun let's suppose that two thousand is the exact figure. Why, then that Sequoia was a youth when Julius Caesar was a young man of thirty-three just coming into prominence. in Roman politics. - when Caesaw was making friends with Pompey the Great, whom he was later to overthrow.

And that giant Red Wood had been alive and standing ever since than. But today it lies, a fallen, shattered trunk.

Service informs we is make up of the

FASHION

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This next bit of news looks to me like a compromise--somewhere between long and short. It's a bob, but it's a long bob. The statement is that the stylish American woman wears her hair about half and half. In the daytime her tresses, which are **manufam** neither too long nor too short, are done in simple waves. At night they're dressed in a stately manner which reminds one of the formal, old-fashioned days of Queen Victoria.

Them authority md for this information comes from the Coiffeur Guild of New York which, the International News Service informs us, is made up of the most fashionable hairdressers along 5th and Park Avenues.

Milady's makeup, during the spring and summer, must be delicately toned and softly blended with a tendency toward natural colors and pale ivory and rose-petal cheeks. Gypsy tan, 23 sunburned, and bronzed skins are passe. They're just plain old-fashioned.

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And those violent blushes and the glaring kind of makeup are out, because bright colors on the face spoil the expression of the eyes.

Page 19

Fingernails, the experts say, are to be tinted a natural pink, coral, or cerise. The dark reds of last season have gone to join the bustle and the picture hat and the limbo of forgotten things.

Well, the styles of feminine beauty are as changeable as the weather, and, 12 like the weather, they're sometimes not 13 so hot. But, anyway, the ladies are always 14 charming, and I im guess we can let it go at that. 16

NOISE

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Page_20

Now wait a minute, folks, while I feel my neck and also feel my back, because I ought to have the mumps or lumbago or something.

Here's a news item which
tells us that a driver of a noisy car
is liable to get all sorts of maladies
and diseases, and that bus which l
drive has an amazing assortment of
rattles, squeaks, wheezes, groans and
grunts.

The New York Herald Tribune 12 tells us that Edward Fisher Brown. 13 director of the New York Noise Abate-14 ment Commission, has come out with a 15 strong statement of how noise injures 16 our nerves and our health. Mr. Brown 17 goes on to point out that in the case 18 of a noisy car the driver is situated 19 at the very center of the uproar. A 20 noisy automobile makes more of a row 21 than thunder does when it is a mile 22 away. He declares that it's/dangerous 23 to health to drive a car that goes 24 squeaking and banging along as it would 25

be to take a ride with Typhoid Mary or the carrier of any contagious. disease. And so he proclaims in a loud voice that drivers of slam bang cars ought to have them fixed right away and get the uproar taken out of them.

Page 21

Well, I've got the old bus a downstairs and I think I had better rush the clattering, stuttering old girl around to a garage.

So excuse me folks if I hurry along now.

So long-until tomorrow.

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