

Good Evening, Everybody:-

(The sounds of war are loud tonight, perhaps louder than any day since the trouble began at Shanghai. Heavy fighting raged all day. The turmoil of battle was unceasing; the big guns of warships; the boom of cannon from Chinese forts; the crashing ~~ing~~ of field artillery ~~shots~~ amid ruins; the rattle of machine guns and rifle fire; the charge and counter-charge of fighting men.) *That tells the story.*

The most sensational thing is that the Chinese claim to have sunk a Japanese warship. There was a spectacular fight between the Japanese fleet and the Woosung forts which guard Shanghai. The ships hurled salvos of high explosive shells against the forts. The Chinese replied *by pounding back at* ~~with a heavy fire against~~ the ships. The military headquarters of the Chinese forces declare<sup>s</sup> that a Japanese destroyer was hit by shells from the forts and sank. ~~beneath the murky waters of the river.~~

The Chinese report adds that three other of the Mikado's war vessels were

1 damaged by shell fire.

2 This the Japanese deny. ~~Edgar~~  
3 ~~Snow, a Chinese correspondent of the~~  
4 ~~New York Sun,~~ quotes the Japanese  
5 command as declaring that only three  
6 of the Mikado's craft were engaged in  
7 the battle with the forts and that none  
8 of them were sunk.

9 The Japanese version of the  
10 fight tells of an ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ intense  
11 bombardment of the forts by ships and  
12 also by aircraft, which swooped down  
13 and dropped their bombs on the defences.  
14 The fighting men of Nippon claim that  
15 tonight the Woosung forts <sup>are a</sup> ~~were~~ wrecked.  
16 They were blasted and destroyed by the  
17 shells, and ~~air~~ <sup>from the air,</sup> ~~bombs hurled by the~~  
18 ~~Japanese.~~

19 In the ruined Chinese city of  
20 Shanghai a fierce battle raged. Heavy  
21 forces of Chinese held their ground  
22 against repeated Japanese attacks.  
23 The regiments of the Mikado assaulted  
24 the Chinese trenches with a blasting of  
25 artillery, machine gun and rifle fire,



1 and at the same time airplanes joined  
2 in the fray and high-explosive missiles  
3 came whistling from the sky. The  
4 Chinese claim that their own artillery  
5 fire drove the Japanese back. And the  
6 Japanese themselves admit that they were  
7 not able to drive the Chinese out of  
8 their entrenchments. at the North Station.

9 The New York World-Telegram cables  
10 that the Chinese brought 4,000 fresh  
11 troops to Shanghai today and are heavily  
12 reinforcing their regiments. ~~that are~~  
13 ~~facing the Japanese.~~

14 The military side of the far  
15 eastern situation is a savage picture of  
16 war. But the diplomatic angle seems to  
17 be more hopeful tonight. The New York  
18 Evening Post correspondent at Washington  
19 wires that State Department officials  
20 are encouraged by the stand that Japan  
21 is taking on the subject of the peace  
22 proposals made by the United States,  
23 Great Britain, France and Italy. The  
24 Tokio government seems to put its okay  
25 on all of the proposals except one.

1 The Powers had suggested that in a  
2 peace conference to be held ~~at~~ there  
3 should be a discussion of all the questions  
4 outstanding between China and Japan.  
5 This the authorities at Tokio don't  
6 seem to like. They don't want  
7 negotiations to concern such matters as  
8 Manchuria. They think that's a separate  
9 thing and should be ~~xxxxxxx~~ argued all  
10 by itself. But otherwise they accept  
11 the various suggestions made by the  
12 Powers, and that makes it seem as if  
13 something might develop from that  
14 international move to bring about peace.  
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1 An official statement of the  
2 Japanese side of the Shanghai dispute  
3 was given out today by the Japanese  
4 Premier at Tokio. Karl Beckel, President  
5 of The United Press, <sup>cabled direct to</sup> ~~asked~~ the Premier, <sup>asking him</sup>  
6 to explain Japan's position, ~~and to back~~  
7 <sup>came a</sup> ~~reply, comes~~ an exclusive statement,  
8 the first that the head of the Japanese  
9 government has made since the beginning  
10 of the Shanghai trouble. It is printed  
11 in the New York World-Telegram today  
12 ~~as~~ <sup>no</sup> an article signed by, <sup>none other than</sup> Tsuyoshi  
13 Inukai, Premier of Japan.

14 The statement declares that  
15 Japan acted in accordance with an  
16 arrangement made by the International  
17 authorities at Shanghai. When the  
18 marines from the Mikado's warships  
19 were landed, <sup>he states,</sup> Chinese troops opened  
20 fire on them. Then heavy forces of  
21 China's soldiers proceeded to attack  
22 the Japanese residential quarter in  
23 Shanghai, and threatened the lives of  
24 30,000 Japanese residents. It was to  
25 ward off this attack that the Japanese



1 employed artillery fire and a bombardment  
2 from the sky.

3 The Japanese Premier denies that  
4 Japanese airplanes bombed the Chinese  
5 city. He claims the attack from the  
6 sky was directed exclusively against  
7 forces of the Chinese army that were  
8 bent on destroying the Japanese settlement.

9 The Premier then discusses the  
10 Chinese boycott. He claims it is being  
11 enforced by tactics of terrorism, and that  
12 the societies that are enforcing the  
13 boycott are backed by the Chinese  
14 government. He denies that the boycott  
15 is a spontaneous popular movement, and  
16 claims that the Chinese government, by  
17 supporting it, is violating its treaty  
18 of commerce with Japan. That is the way  
19 the Japanese Premier justifies the use  
20 of force ~~by the Mikado's government~~  
21 in attempting to break the Chinese boycott.

1 News about the earthquake in  
2 Cuba is not as bad this evening as the  
3 first account, <sup>that</sup> came flashing across the  
4 wires.

5 It appears that the quake was  
6 not as disastrous as ~~had been~~ at first  
7 supposed. Instead of thousands being  
8 killed, the casualties are now reported <sup>to be</sup>  
9 ~~at~~ about a dozen.

10 And yet the earthquake at Santiago  
11 de Cuba ~~seems to be~~ <sup>was</sup> a terrific series  
12 of tremors. Time after time the earth  
13 shook, while buildings crashed on every  
14 side. Tonight the city lies in ruins.  
15 Three-quarters of the buildings have been  
16 shaken down.

17 An article in the New York World-  
18 Telegram today explains that <sup>when</sup> the first  
19 shock caused the houses of the city to  
20 tremble, why the people in a wild panic  
21 ran into the streets. Most of them  
22 were in the open when the buildings  
23 collapsed. That is why, although the  
24 earthquake was so severe, the number  
25 of casualties is comparatively light.

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The shocks were felt over a considerable area. Other towns were damaged, but not so much. The brunt was borne by the <sup>famous old</sup> city of Santiago, which tonight lies ~~in~~ a heap of ruined debris.



1 Another million and a half ballots  
2 went into the mails today, as the  
3 Literary Digest 20-million-ballot  
4 Prohibition Poll swung into ~~the~~<sup>its</sup> third  
5 day. Those ballots are now speeding on  
6 their way to men and women in the same  
7 states I mentioned last night --  
8 Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Georgia,  
9 Massachusetts, Ohio, Maryland, Virginia,  
10 New York, and New Jersey. If your  
11 ballot has not arrived, it will be along  
12 pretty soon now. You'll notice it the  
13 moment the mailman hands it to you.

14 And by the way, here's a bit of  
15 lively newspaper comment on the Poll.  
16 An editorial in the New York World-  
17 Telegram last night puts ~~it~~<sup>its</sup> O.K. on the  
18 new <sup>Lit.</sup> Digest ballot which has only two  
19 questions; - for and against.

20 "Two men in a ring fighting,"  
21 declares the editorial, "are more  
22 interesting than three or four mixing it  
23 up in the same contest. The repealist,"  
24 -- I'm still quoting that editorial,  
25 "the repealist in the new Digest poll

1 will meet the Volsteadian standpatist,  
2 and may the best man win."

3 Well, that's what we all say. And  
4 I find a whole lot of enthusiasm for  
5 the poll wherever I go. So much so that  
6 I have been quite embarrassed at having  
7 to say "NO" to many charming people,  
8 some of them friends and some complete  
9 strangers, who have written or called up  
10 to ask me to obtain ballots for them.  
11 They're all eager to vote in the Poll.  
12 It seemed such a simple request that I  
13 put the case up to Doctor Woods, the  
14 editor of the Digest.

15 "With ~~at~~ these 20 million ballots  
16 going all over the country by mail," I  
17 said to him, "surely there'd be no harm  
18 in my having a few to pass around among  
19 some folks who want to be sure to cast  
20 their straw votes on Prohibition."

21 Doctor Woods smiled sympathetically  
22 but shook his head.

23 "I'm sorry," he said, "but that  
24 couldn't be done without violating the  
25 Digest's polling system. And the secret

1 of <sup>the</sup> success of our polls -- their  
2 'uncanny accuracy' as so many have  
3 remarked -- is that we stick absolutely  
4 to our system of distributing post-  
5 card ballots by mail, and by mail only,  
6 to certain proportional quotas of voting  
7 and home-living men and women in every  
8 state in the Union."

9 "That is why Literary Digest polls  
10 have become a regular proverb for  
11 accuracy," Doctor Woods continued. "And  
12 yet we're always prepared for a lot of  
13 scolding while a poll is going on.  
14 Sometimes we're scolded by both sides,  
15 and accused of all kinds of shenanigans.  
16 That was the case with our last Prohibi-  
17 tion Poll. It was the case during the  
18 Davis-Coolidge race of 1924. Yet the  
19 election figures proved that the Digest  
20 poll, several weeks earlier, had  
21 scored over 95 per cent of accuracy as to  
22 the popular vote, and well over 99 per  
23 cent of accuracy as to the Electoral  
24 College figures.

25 "And of course you remember," Dr.



1 Woods added, "how bitterly the Democrats  
2 reproached us during the 1928 campaign,  
3 because our poll figures forecast  
4 absolutely what was going to happen --  
5 the smashing of the Solid South and the  
6 amazing capture by Hoover of Texas,  
7 Virginia, North Carolina and Florida.  
8 In that case, too, the Digest poll was  
9 almost 100 per cent accurate."

10 "O.K., Doctor," said I, "I'll tell  
11 the folks they'll have to get their  
12 ballots in the regular way."

13 So that's how the matter stands.  
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10 begin The weather forecast for tomorrow  
11 is that it will be clear and cold -- I  
12 mean at Lake Placid, and the eyes of  
13 the world are on Lake Placid just now, *because*  
14 ~~and~~ tomorrow is opening day for the  
15 winter Olympic games. And just now all  
16 trails lead to the Adirondacks.

17 Also At last they have plenty of snow  
18 at Lake Placid, and the weather man says  
19 there won't be any

1 weird and freakish heat to turn the  
2 snow into slush.

3 It happens that the New Literary  
4 Digest comes out tomorrow ~~x~~ on the same  
5 day that the winter Olympics begin,  
6 and the Digest editors have given us an  
7 ~~an~~ <sup>appropriate</sup> article ~~to put us right up to the~~  
8 ~~minute~~ <sup>^</sup> on the subject of those swift  
9 and dizzy sports in the snow <sup>at Lake Placid,</sup> ~~it~~  
10 begins with a word picture of a ski  
11 jump. The flashing bit of action ends  
12 with the exclamation - 201 feet!

13 <sup>And</sup> that's <sup>a</sup> long <sup>long</sup> distance for anybody  
14 to jump. But Sigurd Ulland, the  
15 Scandinavian ski jumper did it. He  
16 went shooting through space at Lake  
17 Placid for a distance of 201 feet.

18 The two most spectacular of  
19 the winter sports are ski jumping and  
20 bobsledding. The Literary Digest  
21 quotes an article in the New York Sun  
22 <sup>which</sup> ~~as~~ <sup>is</sup> declar<sup>ing</sup> ~~ing~~ that bobsledding is a  
23 nerve-~~shaking~~ shocking thriller  
24 that makes even automobile racing and  
25 steeple-chasing seem tame by comparison.



1 And bobsledding is a dangerous sport.  
 2 Only yesterday there was an accident  
 3 in <sup>the</sup> try-outs at Lake Placid, and <sup>four</sup> ~~one~~ man  
 4 ~~was badly~~ <sup>were</sup> hurt, members of the German team.

5 Well, tomorrow is the <sup>opening</sup> day, ~~that~~ and <sup>from</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the 4th</sup>  
 6 ~~with~~ <sup>until the 13th,</sup> swift young athletes representing  
 7 more than a score of nations, <sup>will</sup> ~~giving~~  
 8 dizzy demonstrations of speed on snow  
 9 and ice - speed skating, figure skating,  
 10 hockey, the old Celtic sport of curling,  
 11 and also there will be races of dogsleds  
 12 to remind us of the Arctic.

13 And talking about snow and ice,  
 14 they seem to be having plenty of it in  
 15 the West. <sup>have</sup> A town ~~has~~ been isolated.  
 16 Ely, Nevada, has been snowed in for  
 17 several days, and today huge rotary  
 18 ~~snow~~ plows churned their way through  
 19 the drifts and brought the town in  
 20 contact with ~~the~~ the outside world.

21 In Utah there have been blizzards,  
 22 snow-slides, and heavy wind. Smaller  
 23 towns are faced with the necessity of  
 24 digging their way out, and one large  
 25 agricultural section has been entirely  
 isolated.

1 <sup>Q</sup>  
2 ~~One~~ thousand miles or so to the  
3 South, <sup>I mean south of Nevada,</sup> it isn't a case of snow, but of  
4 flood. Tonight near Monroe, Louisiana,  
5 3,000 men are working like mad, piling  
6 ~~■ ■ ■~~ sand bags. Yes, it's the old story  
7 of the whole countryside turning out to  
8 build dykes in an effort to head off the  
9 flood. The <sup>Wahchita</sup> Ouachita River is rising  
10 swiftly. It's waters are swirling and  
11 climbing. It is threatening to flood  
12 over it's banks and engulf the town.

13 So day and night, the men are  
14 working. At night they continue their  
15 frantic labor under the glow of giant  
16 arc-lamps. Trucks rumble through the  
17 streets carrying sand bags, and timbers,  
18 and food for the workers. Louisiana  
19 ~~Maximum~~ National Guardsmen are controlling  
20 the levees and give warning whenever  
21 there is a threatened break.

22 ~~The United Press telegraphs that a~~  
23 good deal of the lowland has been flooded  
24 already. The backwaters of the stream have  
25 been spreading for miles, and they say  
5,000 families have had to flee from  
their homes.

1           They say silence is golden. And  
2 that certainly does fit the bill so far  
3 as Mrs. George Ward is concerned.

4           Mr. and Mrs. George Ward were in  
5 a Chicago furniture store. Bandits  
6 entered and help up the place. They told  
7 Mr. and Mrs. Ward to sit down and remain  
8 quiet -- not a peep. And that command  
9 was obeyed, especially by Mrs. Ward. She  
10 didn 't utter one syllable.

11           "I'm glad they didn't ask me to  
12 talk," she declared after the bandits  
13 had gone, "because when they held up  
14 the store I found a chance to slip my  
15 rings into my mouth, and if I had tried  
16 to say anything with that mouthful of  
17 rings, it surely would have been awkward."

18           And those rings were worth nearly  
19 a thousand dollars, thereby proving  
20 that silence is golden. And that being  
21 the case, well, so long until tomorrow.

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