

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1931

CREDITS

Good Evening, Everybody:

(There seems to be a chorus of general approval sweeping over the country today - approval of President Hoover's home-loan plan. In financial circles it is generally agreed that business conditions should be considerably improved by the President's proposal to establish a 2-billion-dollar fund to be used to back up credits extended for the building and maintenance of homes.) An immense quantity of money in this country is tied up in mortgages, and much of this at present comes under the heading of frozen credits. The mortgages are good, but they simply cannot be collected, and that has tied up the credit situation for people generally who want to build homes.

The Associated Press explains that the two billion-dollars will be handled by discount banks in the twelve Federal Reserve districts. They will have charge of the distribution of credits, which will enable people to go ahead and build homes, and will ease up the real-estate situation generally.

HOOVER

President Hoover was a bit of a hermit today -- that is, he was in seclusion. He retired to the silences of the White House study, and kept far away from the maddening crowd.

The Associated Press explains that the President was not resting up from that medicine ball bout he had yesterday with the members of his old football team at Leland Stanford University. He was busy with his message to the next Congress. He started in today to put together the words he will have to say to the lawmakers when they assemble on December 7th.

1 It seems as though some of the
2 railroads are going to get a bit of
3 help -- that is, the weaker lines.
4 A plan ^{to do this} was set in motion at a meeting
5 of the Association of Railway
6 Executives today.

7 The International News Service adds
8 ~~explains~~ that the plan is to establish
9 a 100-million-dollar pool, out of which
10 to provide credits for the weaker lines
11 that find themselves in an unfavorable
12 position just now. And steps to do this
13 were actually taken today.
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1 Now for some more word about the
2 Russian wheat situation which has been
3 attracting so much attention of late.

4 The Department of Agriculture at
5 Washington received today a report which
6 shows that the Russian wheat crop this
7 year will be 84 per cent of the amount
8 that the Soviet government has been
9 expecting.

10 The Associated Press adds that the
11 amount of grain planted in Russia this
12 year was 10 per cent less than last.

13 This is just ~~some~~ more confirmation
14 -- rather authoritative confirmation --
15 of what we've been hearing, that during
16 the coming year Russian wheat won't be
17 so much of a bugaboo in forcing down the
18 price of grain.
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One particularly interesting feature in this week's Literary Digest is the poetry page. Quite appropriately the Literary Digest gives us a series of poems about the death of Thomas Alva Edison. One is by George S. Holmes, poet-laureate of the Scripps-Howard

newspapers. Here ~~are~~ ^{is} the ~~last~~ ^{last stanza:}
~~lines~~ ^{Bubbles banish night along the Great White Way,}
^{Thin threads of copper throb with might unseen;}
On silver curtains shadow-actors play
That walk and talk from magic-mouthed
machine.
While continents converse through skies
o'er-head --
And yet fools say that Edison is dead!

Well, that's a thought that must have occurred to thousands of us -- that the accomplishments of the king of inventors were so great that we can almost say: "Edison still lives!"

1 It was announced in Tokio today
2 that the Japanese Commander in Chief ~~at~~ in
3 Manchuria has been ordered to deliver
4 an ultimatum to the Chinese Commander
5 General Ma Chan-Shan.

6 This ultimatum will demand that
7 the Chinese must evacuate their present
8 position along the Nonni River by
9 November 12th. They must get out, the
10 Japanese threaten, or there will be real
11 trouble.

12 The Associated Press quotes the
13 Mikado's officials as saying that Japan
14 will take "effective steps", unless the
15 Chinese obey the ultimatum.

16 An International News Service
17 correspondent at the fighting front in
18 Manchuria had an interview today with
19 the Japanese Commander in Chief, General
20 Honjo. The General talked somewhat
21 frankly about the demand made by the
22 League of Nations that the Japanese
23 should get out of the disputed part of
24 Manchuria.

25 General Honjo declares that

1 this is impossible. The Japanese will
2 not withdraw their troops. The General
3 declares that they cannot, without
4 turning Manchuria over to anarchy and
5 disaster.

6 He points out that the Mikado's
7 Government has supervised the development
8 of the Province and cannot abandon it
9 now without endangering the lives of the
10 Japanese residents. He repeats ~~xxx~~ the
11 Japanese contention that the trouble was
12 provoked by the Chinese and that Japan
13 took her war-like measures only because
14 the Japanese-own^{ed} Manchurian Railroad was
15 being raided and damaged by the soldiers
16 of China.

17 A report from Shanghai states
18 that the Chinese have a new national
19 hero. He is that same General
20 Ma Chan-Shan who has been battling with
21 the Japanese on the Nonni River. Many
22 Chinese are tempted to regard him as the
23 Saviour of their country.

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1 Echoes of those battles in far-off
2 Manchuria were heard in New York's
3 Chinatown today. Forces set in motion
4 by quarrels in the Far East had their
5 effect in narrow New York streets where
6 inscrutable, slant-eyed celestials are
7 seen.

8 New York's Chinese colony today
9 declared a boycott against Japanese
10 goods. The Chinese population of the
11 city pledged itself not to buy any
12 article manufactured in Japan.

13 The International News Service
14 relates that powerful Chinese
15 associations, both patriotic and
16 commercial, are behind the boycott.

17 And it's not to be a boycott merely
18 for the duration of the war. They say
19 it will be eternal -- that is, the
20 Chinese of New York have sworn never in
21 their lifetime to buy Japanese goods.

22 Anyone who breaks the oath will be
23 ostracized, and they say that a man who
24 is ostracized in Chinatown is liable to
25 find death lurking around any corner.

1 In Philadelphia hundreds of Chinese
2 have taken an oath to return to their
3 homeland to fight the Japanese, unless
4 an agreement is made soon which
5 guarantees justice to China.

1 Reports of a war come from West
2 Africa. In Portuguese Guinea, also
3 called Portuguese West Africa, a savage
4 war has been going on between two native
5 tribes.

6 The black warriors have been
7 battling as fiercely as if they were
8 world powers disputing possession of this
9 globe of ours. There have been battles,
10 skirmishes and savage deeds.

11 The United Press relates that
12 the cause of the trouble was a stolen
13 pig. Somebody stole a pig ^{and away he ran} and the battle
14 was on.

1 Over in Paris there's a public
2 official with a practical turn of mind.
3 He is the Minister of Education in
4 Premier Laval's cabinet. Recently he has
5 been saying that the National Museums
6 are being run in a careless way.

7 He has been urging the curators
8 of the museums to exercise a greater
9 care over the art treasures under their
10 control. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~

11 It seems that his words were
12 not listened to with sufficient attention.
13 And so he made a practical demonstration.

14 The New York Evening Post relates
15 that one morning the Minister of Education
16 walked into a large museum in Paris and
17 went meandering around. Then he proceeded
18 to do a bit of artistic thieving.

19 When he saw nobody was looking
20 he calmly reached ~~on~~ to a shelf and took
21 a small statuette, one of the art
22 treasures of the museum. He put it in
23 his pocket and looked up the curator of
24 the museum. There was a friendly greeting.
25 Then the Minister of Education fished into

1 his pocket and pulled out the priceless
2 statuette.

3 "Monsieur", he remarked, "what
4 do you think of this?"

5 "I am astounded", responded the
6 curator.

7 "So was I astounded", retorted
8 the Minister of Education when I ~~dis~~
9 discovered how easy it is to steal things
10 out of the Museum here.

11 They say that the Minister's
12 little trick has made a profound
13 impression upon the curators of the French
14 Museums and they are going to be more
15 careful hereafter.

1 That discussion about whether or
2 not a girl should pay half the expenses
3 of a date, is waxing fast and furious.
4 Co-eds all over the country have been
5 expressing themselves on the subject.
6 Most of them have come out with a flat
7 negative.

8 "No," they say, "we won't pay half
9 the expense of a date."

10 And now come the co-eds of the
11 University of California with a most
12 enlightening announcement on the subject.
13 They say, "Yes." # With a generous
14 unselfishness they proclaim to the
15 world and to the race of men that they
16 are willing to pay half the expense of a
17 date, with only one qualification -- if
18 the escort is perfect.

19 They go ahead and give their
20 specifications for a perfect escort. He
21 must be tall and broad-shouldered, he
22 must dance well, talk well, and think
23 well. He must have a clear understanding
24 of the word NO. But the perfect man
25 also has one other important

1 qualification. What is it? Well, if
2 he is perfect, why he simply wouldn't
3 allow a girl to pay half of the expenses.

4 So it seems that she's willing if
5 you won't let her -- and if you want
6 her to, she's not willing.

7 And that seems to be a pretty good
8 bit of general philosophy on the subject
9 of woman.

FOOTBALL

I wonder how many million people saw football games today? Judging from the figures that streamed in over the press tickers nearly every stadium in the country must have been jammed with yelling fans.

The Associated Press reports a throng of 60,000 in Baltimore, when a badly battered Navy team met an all-conquering Notre Dame eleven in a game that ended in favor of the lands from South Bend:- NAVY -- nothing, NOTRE DAME -- twenty.

The United Press tells us that 71,000 spectators packed a Pittsburgh stadium to see Pittsburgh wallop the Army, to a score of twenty-six to nothing.

In the south TULANE swamped GEORGIA twenty to seven.

TENNESSEE wrecked the hopes of VANDERBILT - twenty-one to seven.

Mobs even larger attended the big games in the Middle West and the Far West. I'll not mention all the scores because they have gone out over the air. But here are a few of the more important ones:-

Mich.	-	Mich. State	--	a tie
Wisconsin	-	0	Ohio State	-- 6
Northwestern	-	7	Indiana	-- 6
Illinois	-	6	Chicago	-- 13

dispatch

1 I have a ~~tall story~~ tonight
2 from Page Pitt who is director of the
3 Department of Journalism at Marshall
4 College, Huntington, West Virginia. He
5 tells us how they catch snakes in the
6 mountains of his state.

7 In Logan County when a farmer
8 closes his chicken house at night he
9 leaves a small hole in the side open.
10 He takes two hard boiled eggs and puts one
11 on the inside of the hole and one on the
12 outside. ~~of the hole. It should be~~
13 ~~observed that the hole was too small for~~
14 ~~a hard-boiled egg to pass through. But~~
15 ~~it's not too small for a snake.~~

16 Mr. Snake comes along looking for
17 chickens, but he also likes an egg. Seeing
18 the egg on the outside of the hole he
19 swallows it. Then he starts through the
20 hole. Upon seeing the egg inside he
21 swallows it also. When he tries to go
22 forward the egg at the rear holds him.
23 When he tries to go backward the egg at
24 the front holds him. As the result, when
25 the mountaineer comes out in the morning

he finds Mr. Snake, and removes the eggs to use for the same purpose the next time.

So says Professor Page Pitt, Tall Story teller of Marshall College, Huntington, West Virginia.

END

I have also a philological communication. It's on the subject of the trouble the Harvard students are having in finding a Latin word meaning Mulligatawny soup.

J. Saxon Lock, a New York psychiatrist, writes in and presents some learned comment. Mr. Lock declares that he himself has done a bit of research on the subject of Mulligatawny soup. He has hunted in various languages for a similar word that might explain the origin.

At first he thought it had an Irish sound, but he found he was wrong. Finally, after investigating the spoken speech of many peoples of the world, he came upon the Tamil tongue. No, not Camel - Tamil. Now the Tamils are a people of southern India who are generally regarded as having furnished nothing in particular to our western civilization. Mr. Lock, however, declares that the Tamils are responsible for the euphonious name

1 Mulligatawny soup.

2 He points out a term in Tamil. It is
3 "Milagu-tunni," which means "pepper-
4 water." Well, pepper-water does somewhat
5 resemble Mulligatawny soup.

6 And Mr. Lock draws attention to the
7 fact that if you change the Tamil
8 language around a bit you can make it
9 sound like Latin. The difference between
10 the two languages, he remarks, is
11 practically negligible so far as Harvard
12 students are concerned.

13 But just for the benefit of those
14 Harvard students, he gives a Latin
15 phrase that expresses the idea of
16 Mulligatawny soup. It is -- "Mësson
17 ~~ahqueye pee pearis~~
18 ~~aquae piperis~~ compositus," a mixture
19 composed of water and pepper. *I hope that's*
20 *correct.*

21 And so I suppose those Harvard
22 students ~~■~~ can go ahead and order
23 ~~■~~ Mulligatawny soup by saying to the
24 waitress, "I think I'll have a mësson
25 ~~ahqueye pee pearis~~
26 ~~aquae piperis~~ compositus."

And while we are on the learned
subject of languages, I have a letter

from a young lady, a listener-in at Columbus, Ohio, who suggests that I use a phrase in Latin - I mean in pig-Latin at some appropriate time. And here is what she sends me:-

O-say Ong-lay Un-tay ill-tay Unday-may.

And the young lady in Columbus tells me that all that gibberish means:-

SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.