

Thursday, February 25, 1932.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

(Tonight the Literary Digest Poll is big news. We have more than three quarters of a million voters and they come from seventeen states. New England, the South, the Middlewest.

An ~~the~~ interesting fact is the way the dry vote is creeping up and gaining on the wets,) and in the office we are all asking - Will the drys keep forging ahead, cutting down the lead of the wets, perhaps overtaking them, following that first scattering vote which was so very strongly against prohibition? For, naturally, the votes from the rural communities are among the last to come in.

(Now for some figures.

Connecticut comes first with

1 a total of 10,107 votes. The wets make a big showing. 1,528
2 are for prohibition, 8,579 are against.

3 But Georgia is not so wet. It's just a little over
4 two to one in Georgia. Out of 9, 187 votes, 2,969 put a loud and
5 emphatic O.K. on prohibition. 6,218 are against it. That's a wet
6 majority of course, but it's the sort of majority that's cutting
7 down the big lead the opponents of the Eighteenth Amendment had
8 at first.

9 But the wets come right back in Illinois with a
10 four to one majority -- a total of 18,427 votes -- 3,744 declare
11 that the present system is all right -- 14, 683 register a
12 chorus of dissent.

13 Well, it's nip and tuck here. Strong dry indications
14 come from Indiana. You know Indiana has about the strictest
15 dry enforcement law of any of the states. 20,383 votes are on
16 record in our poll. 7,221 are

1 ~~impressive support~~ for prohibition;
2 13,162 call ~~xx~~ for a change. That's
3 less than two to one. There may be
4 enough votes from Indiana in today's
5 mail to turn that wet majority bone dry.

6 (From that familiar rockbound coast
7 of Maine we also have returns that tend
8 to cut down the big wet lead. The state
9 at large gives a majority of a little
10 over two to one against prohibition -
11 a total of 2,135. 689 for the dry law,
12 1446 against.)

13 But Maryland keeps up its emphatic
14 protest against prohibition, by a ~~xxxxxx~~
15 majority of more than four to one
16 against. The folks down in Maryland are
17 represented by a total of 22,341 votes.
18 4,450 Marylanders think prohibition is
19 O. K., while 17,891 shake their heads
20 and say no.

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22 The wet majority in Michigan is not
23 as big as that. 3,674 votes come
24 streaming out of the wintry weather in
25 that northern state - 754 say yes to

1 prohibition. 2,920 say no.

2 Here are the new votes on these new states -- New
3 Hampshire, New Jersey, New York. New Hampshire first. 855 are
4 for prohibition, 1,808 are against. New Jersey -- dry, 14,616 --
5 Wet, 86,603.

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7 (New York, 38,144 dry -- 255,662 wet.
8)

9 But here's another story. In North Carolina prohibition
10 is so strongly supported that in these early returns the wets
11 have only a slim lead. Out of 15,350 votes, 6,480 favor the
12 18th Amendment. On the other side of the North Carolina fence
13 8,870 ballots are cast against the dry law.
14)

15 Ohio gives us a big vote, 62,439 altogether. The dry
16 showing is 17,584. 45,055 turn thumbs down.

17 Some of these are states we didn't hear from in our
18 last statewide returns. The biggest not previously reported is
19 Pennsylvania. Its total is 190,970, which expresses the size
20 and importance of Pennsylvania in national affairs. The Keystone
21 state goes between three and four to one against prohibition, with
22 43,831 for, and 147,139 against.
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Let's see, Rhode Island never ratified the 18th

1 Amendment. And tonight's returns from Rhode Island are right
2 in line with that, five to one against prohibition, total 2,073,
3 of which the drys get 340 votes, and the wets 1,733.
4

5 Vermont's total is pretty close to Rhode Island's, 2,337.
6 The wet vote is pretty much the same. It's 1,707. But the dry
7 vote is much larger. It's 630. That's a little more than two
8 and a half to one in favor of the wets.
9

10 Here's a good sized vote. It's from Virginia. The Old
11 Dominion comes through with a total of 14,689, of which 4,493
12 are wet, and 10,196 are dry.
13

14 Here's another state that can possibly go dry before
15 the shooting is over. The wets have a majority of less than
16 a thousand. West Virginia gives us a total of 3,332 votes.
17 The drys make a strong showing with 1,198, while 2,134 West
18 Virginians register their votes against the present prohibition
19 law.
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22 In the new Literary Digest, which came out today,
23 these figures are summarized and interpreted by the experts who
24 direct the Poll. They point out the significant thing that in
25

1 the last state-by-state report the Drys couldn't muster
2 a percentage of more than 15.85, while tonight the percentage
3 has risen to 19.28. The total vote is 775,332. Dry: 149,526.
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5 Wet: 625,806.

6 Well, that does dramatize the matter, and the whole
7 country is going to be watching and waiting to see whether that
8 increase of the Dry vote will continue cutting down and whittling
9 away that present Wet majority.
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12 Now let's take a few city figures. Bridgeport,
13 Connecticut, one of the great industrial centers of New England.
14 It's vote:- For continuance of the 18th Amendment, 326. For
15 repeal, 2,376. More than 7 to 1 for repeal.
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17 Let's see how the tide is running down in Delaware.
18 The total count for Wilmington so far is 2,995. Of these 644
19 say: "Let the 18th Amendment stand! We're for it." But those
20 who don't agree send in 2,351 votes.
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22 Here's a nice little battle of ballots in Michigan --
23
24 252 for prohibition, and 601 for repeal.

25 The total number of ballots from Newark, New Jersey,
is 11,119. Of these 1,055 are for the 18th Amendment, while

1 10,064 are marked the other way. 9 to 1.

2 4,525 votes from Albany, New York, have gone through
3 the Literary Digest tabulating machines. 703 of these are
4 for the law as it is -- 3,822 don't want it.

6 What's the matter with Kansas? She's all right. At
7 least so say the Drys. From Emporia, Kansas, made famous by
8 William Allen White, we have 175 votes against prohibition, and
9 295 for continuance.

11 Springfield, Illinois, where Lincoln lived and where
12 he was buried, incidentally the capital of Illinois. From
13 Springfield we have 1,549 votes all told. 3,200 of these are
14 for the 18th Amendment -- 1,229 are for repeal. Almost 4 to 1.

16 Jacksonville, Florida, comes through with a total of
17 822. 129 of these are for the Amendment -- 693 say it ought to
18 be removed.

20 And I've a report on 7,647 St. Louis votes -- 685 are
21 for the Amendment, while 6,962 are for repeal.

23 And that's the Prohibition story tonight.

1 It's mighty cheerful to be able
2 to report some really good financial
3 news.

4 The new Banking law and the
5 reconstruction measures just enacted at
6 Washington are already having their
7 effect. We learned from the American
8 Banker that bank failures are getting
9 fewer and fewer every week. There
10 were only sixteen last week, as
11 compared with twenty-four the week
12 before.

13 That means that we are down to
14 the average for the last eleven years.
15 In other words, we are coming back to
16 something like normalcy in the banking
17 business.

18 And speaking of banks, here's
19 a new one.

20 *comes the news that*
21 From ~~the~~ Chicago, the Roosevelt Trust
22 and Savings Bank decided to close up
23 shop because deposits weren't big
24 enough to make banking profitable.

25 In this Chicago suburb of
Forest Park, deposits had shrunk down to

1 only 10% of what they were in 1928.

2 So the directors ^{of the bank} sent a letter to
3 every depositor asking him to come and
4 take out his money so the bank could
5 shut down. But out of 1400 depositors
6 only 100 turned up.

7 And what's the bank going to do?

8 Here's one case where the people
9 have too much faith in their bank
10 instead of too little.

11 It also tends a little to draw money
12 away from New York and Wall Street to
13 other financial centers, where people can
14 get a better return on the money they
15 lend.

16 Probably this is all part of the big
17 program that the government and the big
18 banks are co-operating in to loosen up
19 credit and make it easier for business
20 men to increase their activities.

1 Tomorrow morning we're all going to
2 read in the papers that money is easier.
3 Well, that's because the Federal Reserve
4 Bank of New York has cut down the ^{re} discount
5 rate from 3½ to 3 per cent. I haven't
6 time to explain all the ins and outs of
7 money rates, but in general this tends to
8 keep all interest rates down, and
9 therefore makes it easier for people to
10 borrow money.

11 It also tends a little to draw money
12 away from New York and Wall Street to
13 other financial centers, where people can
14 get a better return on the money they
15 lend.

16 Probably this is all part of the big
17 program that the government and the ~~big~~
18 banks are co-operating in to loosen up
19 credit and make it easier for business
20 men to increase their activities.
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1 It looks as if we are going to
2 have a sales tax, all right.

3 Speaker Garner of the House of
4 Representatives declared today that
5 the new tax bill, which will be ready
6 in about a week or ten days will
7 provide for ^{some kind of} a tax ~~which will~~ ^{to} be levied
8 on sales made by manufacturers.

1 An interesting detective story
2 comes along in the capture of Cleveland's
3 public enemy Number One. Smiling Joe
4 Filkowski, one of the most desperate
5 bandits of the Middle West, is in a
6 prison cell in New York this evening.
7 He is being held for a murder committed
8 in Cleveland.

9 The New York Evening Post tells how
10 the credit for the capture belongs to
11 Police Chief George Matowitz, of
12 Cleveland, who did a clever bit of
13 detective work. He learned the name of
14 one of the bandit's friends and started
15 a correspondence with him, pretending to
16 be a crook. He wrote, suggesting a job
17 to be done, and succeeded in palming
18 himself off so well that a plan was
19 arranged for a supposed robbery. Smiling
20 Joe Filkowski was in on the job. An
21 appointment was made in New York. A
22 squad of detectives were on the scene,
23 and the next thing you know, the Cleveland
24 desperado was safely under arrest.

25 In a room which he occupied, the

1 detectives found several books. The
2 pages had been scooped out, and stolen
3 jewelry had been hidden away between the
4 covers.

Handwritten notes:
5 This is a copy of the
6 T. J. Lawrence King book
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1 The battle at Shanghai entered
2 its most violent stage today and once
3 more the Chinese did a surprising thing.

4 All day long the Japanese surged
5 forward in a terrific assault. The
6 New York World Telegram tells how under
7 the cover of devastating gun-fire the
8 Japanese launched one attack after
9 another. Masses of green uniformed
10 troops surged against the Chinese
11 positions.

12 This afternoon, the Japanese
13 Commander issued a report claiming that
14 his regiments had driven the Chinese
15 back in a wild retreat along a two mile
16 front, and now comes the surprise. A
17 late dispatch tells how the Chinese after
18 being hammered unmercifully all day, came
19 back with a smashing counter-attack, and
20 ~~drove~~ ^{made} the Japanese ~~back~~ ^{retreat}.

21 The Chinese claim to have regained
22 nearly all the ground they have lost, ^{in Shanghai.}
23 The whole world is ~~standing~~ amazed at the
24 ~~fact~~ ^{fight} that the supposedly inefficient
25 army of China is putting up against

1 the magnificent military establishment
2 of Japan.) In the diplomatic field, the
3 Japanese came back with a counter-attack
4 directed against a statement made
5 yesterday by Secretary of State Stimson,
6 in which ~~the Secretary, speaking for~~
7 ~~the United States Government~~ declared
8 that the Kellogg Peace Pacts and the
9 Nine Power Treaty were ~~being~~ violated
10 in the Far East. The United Press quotes
11 the spokesman of the Japanese Government
12 as declaring that the Nine Power Treaty
13 did not guarantee the sovereignty and
14 integrity of China because there was
15 no sovereignty or integrity to protect.
16 He points out that China has been in
17 ~~a position of~~ chaos for ten years and
18 claims that when the Nine Power Treaty was
19 negotiated, the diplomats were thinking
20 of Chinese sovereignty and integrity
21 whenever China happened to get any
22 real sovereignty and integrity.

23 Meanwhile other nations have
24 been expressing their approval of Secretary
25 of State Stimson's statement. A United

1 Press cable declares that the French Foreign
2 of fice today expressed its agreement with
3 Uncle Sam's viewpoint concerning the
4 trouble in the Far East.
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1 Uncle Sam's diplomatic ~~xxxx~~
2 representatives at Shanghai have been
3 trying to find out how many Americans
4 are mixed up in the fighting.

5 This comes as the result of
6 a Japanese protest over the fact that
7 Robert M. Short, an American, was shot
8 down in a Chinese airplane during the
9 course of a battle in the sky.

10 A United Press cable printed
11 in the New York Sun tells that the
12 American Consul General is notifying
13 ~~xxxx~~ American aviators at Shanghai that
14 there is an American law which forbids
15 any American to take part in a War in ~~x~~
16 which the United States is neutral.

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18 *But we thought this wasn't a war!*
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JAPANESE UNIFORMS

Page _____

You know we spoke of

1 ^ The Japanese fighters at
2 Shanghai ~~are~~ wearing green uniforms,
3 and Col. Kosuda, a Japanese army
4 officer in New York tells the New
5 York World Telegram that they are
6 wearing green uniforms in Shanghai
7 because in that country of trees and
8 green fields, that color gives low
9 visibility.

10 In Manchuria during the fall
11 they used khaki. Another reason
12 is that just now it is easier to get
13 green cloth than khaki in Japan.

1 Well, it's getting toward my
2 dinnertime, and while I enjoy talking
3 to you, I also like my meals.

4 Probably if I were over in
5 London just now and wanted to keep in
6 fashion, I'd be going out to dine on
7 tripe and onions, because the Prince
8 of Wales sets ^{the food} ~~a~~ fashions in London,
9 and just now His Royal Highness'
10 favorite food is tripe and onions.

11 And so, the dinner bells are
12 calling, and I can no longer stay.
13 But it will not be tripe and onions.

14 Goodnight.