

Good Evening, Everybody:

The Los Angeles police today hold the belief that the <sup>terrible</sup> Canyon fire in Griffith Park <sup>on the outskirts of the city</sup> in which more than fifty people perished, was of incendiary origin <sup>-- ~~the~~ the work of a fiend.</sup> They arrested a young man, a discharged employee of one of the moviestudios and announced that they found him in possession of rags soaked with gasoline, matches and wire cutters. There were several circumstances in connection with this holocaust that led detectives to suspect arson. They were watching particularly a motor car which was parked near the spot where the deadly <sup>brush</sup> fire first was discovered. It was in this car that they found the rags soaked in gasoline. So when the young man stepped into the car the detectives hopped on him and took him to headquarters. There he denied any knowledge of the cause of the <sup>fire.</sup> ~~conflagration~~

The complete roll call of the dead is not yet known.

*HP* While the detectives were questioning their prisoner, police and

LEAD - 2

~~XXXXXXXX~~ firemen were holding a tragic parade, carrying on stretchers the bodies of the victims of <sup>flaming trap in the canyon,</sup> ~~that fire trap.~~ It is feared that the total number of dead may be anywhere between fifty and eighty. The fire is still smoldering in that valley of death and nobody knows how many bodies are still there. Those that have been brought out are so charred that it is almost impossible to identify them, except by belt buckles, rings, almost melted, and other bits of metal. This certainly is the most shuddersome tragedy ~~as~~ that I have had to mention this year. And I don't think we will go into any more details about it.

N.B.C.

N.R.A.

Incidentally, the staff of the National Recovery Act Administration is being reorganized. Under the new scheme there will be four divisional deputies working under General Johnson.

N.B.C.

RELIEF

Plans for relief by Uncle Sam's Government are being made in a big way. The idea is to establish what is called a federal surplus relief corporation. This will be managed by a board composed of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Interior, and the Relief Administrator.

N.B.C.

## STRIKE

Meanwhile the N.R.A. officials, as well as the National Labor Board, are still suffering from a bad attack of strike trouble. Most of the coal miners in Western Pennsylvania are still out. All the mines of the Pittsburgh Coal Company are closed and the same condition prevails at most of the other big mines. Those in Central Pennsylvania, however, are being operated once more. In some cases there were clashes between pickets and strike breakers. And in Massachusetts several thousand employes of the shoe factory are also still on strike.

N.B.C.

ROOSEVELT

The President <sup>today</sup> was supposed to be on his vacation at his home in New York <sup>city,</sup> but it was one of the busiest days of the year for him. He signed N.R.A. codes for eighteen industries, including bankers, motor car dealers, lumber men, and shoe makers. He also had a conference with Henry Bruere of New York, who has been mentioned as coordinator of the various credit agencies of the government. Postmaster General Jim Farley also paid a visit to congratulate the President on his speech to the American Legion in Chicago.

Tonight the President will address the Catholic Charities Conference <sup>in the magnificent balconied Gold Room</sup> at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. You will have a chance to hear his speech over this network at nine-thirty. As soon as he finishes he will take a train to Washington.

N.B.C.

AUSTRIA

Austria's fiery little Chancellor celebrated his <sup>41<sup>st</sup></sup> birthday today, <sup>(he's a young man)</sup> celebrated it in bed, in a hospital, as a result of the two bullet wounds he got from a would-be assassin yesterday. However, Chancellor Dollfuss's condition is not serious. He made a short radio speech to the country in which he said he would be in bed only a few days. The discharged Nazi soldier who shot at him told the police that he did not intend to murder the Chancellor, but merely wished to show that he was not the man of the hour.

Schoonmaker

SPAIN

Another political crisis in Spain. The cabinet of Premier Lerroux having sustained an unfavorable vote in the Spanish parliament, has resigned. The prediction is that <sup>either</sup> these ministers ~~can either~~ <sup>will</sup> be succeeded by a Socialist Cabinet or that General Elections will have to held throughout Spain.

Schoonmaker.



FRANCE

A striking bit of news comes from Paris today. The report of a new agreement between France and Germany. It <sup>amends</sup> ~~concerns~~ the tariff ~~and~~ agreement made between those countries in 1929. The effect of it will be to junk all existing international commercial treaties and it means that France will have complete liberty in the matter of tariffs. Her next step will be to ~~denounce~~ the tariff truce concluded before the World Economic Conference. As this truce has already been ~~denounced~~ by Holland, Sweden, Switzerland and Ireland, ~~already~~, the only ~~xxx~~ achievement of the London Conference is thus thrown into the ~~scrap~~ heap.

NBC.

LINDBERGH

Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergh are back on British soil once more. They arrived at Southampton, England, today after a smooth and speedy flight from Oslo, Norway. They motored to London, ~~ref~~ declining the offer of a special British plane for that jaunt---  
N.B.C.  
and they dodged all the reporters.

PILOT

And a young New York pilot named Montgomery Chumbley  
*pulled off*  
a profitable flight last night. He <sup>won</sup> ~~won~~ fifteen hundred  
dollars for winning the night race from Los Angeles. He landed  
at Roosevelt Field this morning, having made it from the Pacific  
Coast in twenty-four hours and twenty-six minutes. He had  
fine clear weather for all those three thousand miles, something  
which seldom happens to a pilot. Chumbley is here to take  
part in the National Air Pageant Friday and Saturday.

N.B.C.

FLIERS

While ~~Chumbrey~~<sup>he</sup> was winning this nice little prize,

the French transatlantic fliers, Assolant and Lefevre, left

Oran in the hope of piling up a new long distance record. They

are heading towards Rangoon, the Rangoon of Song and Story, *on*

*the Road to Mandalay.*

Schoonmaker.

REPEAL

Few people would have thought ~~two~~ years ago that Virginia, the state of Bishop Cannon, would ever become state number thirty-two to ratify the repeal of prohibition. Virginia has not only ratified the abolition of the eighteenth amendment; she has voted to do away with her own state-wide prohibition Enforcement Act. The vote was around a hundred thousand wet to fifty-seven thousand dry. ~~Thus the Literary Digest Poll is again vindicated.~~

9  
Only four more states are needed for ~~the~~ ratification to be final. On November 7th ~~ix~~ six more are going to vote on this question, North and South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Utah, and Kentucky.

Repeal of prohibition seems so much a foregone conclusion that people who used to be in the business of selling wines and spirits are making and announcing their plans to resume. For instance, the firm of Park and Tilford ~~who~~<sup>which</sup> used to be the biggest importers of wines and liquors in the United States, will publish advertisements in the newspapers <sup>of the country</sup> tomorrow for the first

time in almost fifteen years. Theoretically the advertising of liquors is still illegal, but everybody takes it for granted that prohibition is at an end, so Park and Tilford are becoming the first dealers in the country to bring break<sup>ing</sup> the ice in this phase of the New Deal. But ~~direction.~~ <sup>^</sup> ~~and~~ they certainly won't break the hearts of the newspaper publishers ~~who~~ since 1919 they have been losing ~~millions~~ <sup>millions</sup> of dollars in revenue every month.

N.B.C.

Spencer Asmütsonq.  
Executive, "Literary  
Digest."

~~Oct 4~~

Oct. 4, 1933

INTRO TO SPENCER ARMSTRONG

8

The subject of prohibition brings to mind the Literary Digest Prohibition Poll, which, by the way, correctly foretold the victory of repeal in Virginia. The Literary Digest right now is running a poll, which has an amusing angle. It concerns the coming city election in New York. The amusing twist comes in the tangled-up condition of the New York campaign.. At first it looked like a simple two-man fight between Mr. O'Brien, the Tammany candidate, and Mr. LaGuardia, the Fusian champion. Then in jumped Joe McKee as ~~independent,~~ ~~candidate.~~ I am told that made things a bit complicated for the Digest poll. The man who told me happens to be here with me now. He is <sup>my former associate Mr.</sup> Spencer Armstrong, one of the executives of the Literary Digest, <sup>a Digest tycoon as the editors of Time would say.</sup> How about it, Spence? Let's hear something about the peculiar combination you fellows ran into in launching your New York poll, and why is the poll of National interest and importance?



INTRO TO SPENCER ARMSTRONG

8

The subject of prohibition brings to mind the Literary Digest Prohibition Poll, which, by the way, correctly foretold the victory of repeal in Virginia. The Literary Digest right now is running a poll, which has an amusing angle. It concerns the coming city election in New York. The amusing twist comes in the tangled-up condition of the New York campaign.. At first it looked like a simple two-man fight between Mr. O'Brien, the Tammany candidate, and Mr. LaGuardia, the Fusian champion. Then in jumped Joe McKee as independent, ~~an~~ candidate. I am told that made things a bit complicated

for the Digest poll. The man who told me happens to be here

with me now. He is <sup>my former associate Mr.</sup> Spencer Armstrong, one of the executives

of the Literary Digest, <sup>a Digest tycoon as the editors of Time would say.</sup> How about it, Spence? Let's hear

something about the peculiar combination you fellows ran into in launching your New York poll, and why is the poll of National interest and importance?

Well, Lowell,

7

There ought to be a law, though, a law to simplify politics for us poll makers. We started mailing out ballots several weeks ago. That was before <sup>JOE</sup> McKee <sup>jumped into</sup> ~~got in~~ the race. We sent out a hundred thousand <sup>ballots</sup> before we found out it was going to be a three-party fight. Right now we have a flood of returns from these earlier ballots. They are mighty interesting. They indicate what would have happened if McKee had stayed out. The figures are printed in the Literary Digest which comes out tomorrow, but I can give you an advance tip. They show ~~Mr~~ LaGuardia leading ~~Mr~~ D'Brien by over four to one.

L.T. Whistle: - that's astonishing. And then. -  
L.T.: - <sup>well</sup> what did you do about ~~the~~ McKee ~~angle?~~ when he <sup>got in the race?</sup>

Armstrong: - We had to do some fast moving. As soon as it seemed that McKee might become a candidate we called a halt until he had made up his mind. When he did, we started things going again at double quick time. We called in an emergency force of a thousand men and women who were experienced in the work of running a poll.

6

Believe it or not, within thirty-six hours we had nearly four hundred thousand ballots in the mail -- ballots which presented to the voters the three-man lineup of O'Brien, and LaGuardia, and McKee. And we are still mailing them out by the tens of thousands.

And here's something unusual:- We are actually sending these ballots to all two million, three hundred thousand New York registered voters.

-----  
L.T.:- But, just why is this nationally important?  
-----

Mr. Armstrong:- The best answer I can give you is that we have stacks of editorials from newspapers in every city in the country showing that the entire nation is watching this coming election.

That is interesting. And by the

RUM SHIP

5) way, While the returns from the Virginia repeal election were coming in, an amusing prohibition comedy was being enacted in the Port of New York. It began when a ~~costguards~~ coast guardsmen saw a coastwise freighter called the Texas Ranger steam up the Hudson River, presumably on her way to Albany. Coastwise vessels are not subject to investigation by Coast ~~Guards~~ or customs authorities. Four hours later the same coast' guardsman ~~keeping~~ ~~watch on the craft entering the Hudson River,~~ saw another ship, blinked his eyes, and could hardly believe what he saw. For there was the same Texas Ranger again. He took a second look and verified what he had seen. He became suspicious and notified the Customs House.

Assistant United States Attorney Markus tells me that what happened was that ~~x~~ a rum ship carrying twenty-five thousand cases of liquor valued at three-quarters of a million dollars, had masqueraded as the Texas Ranger. They had painted the smoke stack to resemble that of the ~~Texas~~ Ranger, and had also put the names of that

RUM SHIP - 2

vessel on its life preservers. Shortly after this became known a squad of customs officials caught two sailors of the rum ship rowing <sup>from</sup> ~~to~~ shore, at Haverstraw, New York, They were arrested and the State police were notified to be on the qui vive for the rest of the crew. Two hours later seventeen more were picked up at Nyack further up on the Hudson River. All the prisoners are Canadians.

An ingenious and amusing device, but it didn't quite come off.

N.B.C.

ESCAPE

A romantic escape from prison took place in New York today from the famous Welfare Island which used to be Blackwell's Island. Three men got away by burrowing a hundred and twenty feet underground. They burrowed their way to an emergency exit used by the B.M.T. ~~sub~~ subway, which runs from Manhattan over to Queens. It runs a hundred and twenty feet under the river. During the excitement over this escape two other prisoners made their getaway from that penitentiary island in a boat.

N.B.C.

MURDER

3

A story has just come to light at Police Headquarters in Chicago which is worthy of Victor Hugo. The Chicago coppers picked up a man among the crowds watching the American Legion parade last night, and arrested him on suspicion of picking pockets. When they took him to the station house and finger-~~print~~ printed him, the records of the Bureau of Identification showed that this man was wanted in connection with a murder committed way back in January, 1913, More than twenty years ago. So, the police found themselves in possession of a prisoner suspected of committing a murder on that date, but, <sup>they didn't</sup> ~~not~~ knowing whom he had murdered. The records of the Identification Bureau gave no details whatsoever of the crime. So now the cops ~~must go to look through~~ <sup>must go to</sup> the old vaults and hunt through the ancient archives of the Department to dig up the details of the case. The prisoner in question said that he had been told twenty years ago that he was wanted for that murder, but as he had ~~not committed~~ <sup>committed</sup> the crime he had ~~simply~~ <sup>simply</sup> forgotten all about it.

N.B.C.

INTRO TO HERB HUNTER

Herb Hunter, former baseball player for the New York Giants, sends me a curious item from Tokio, Japan. As we all know, Japan has gone wild over American baseball. Well, Herb Hunter tells me they recently had a game that was so close it went for twenty-five innings! To a 1 to 0 score! The winning team played the entire twenty-five innings without an error. The pitcher was a Japanese youngster only seventeen years old. It was a semi-final game. The young chap pitched the entire twenty-five innings, won the day, and then took the mound the following day and pitched his team to the championship.

2  
L.T.



## BASEBALL

The Washington Senators needed a pitcher just like that this afternoon.

I suppose you've heard the news from the Polo Grounds that the New York Giants won the second game of the series, and now have the Washington Senators two down. The hero again was the pitcher. Hal Schumacher, like Carl Hubbell yesterday, held the Senators to five hits. The Giants helped themselves to ten hits, the most important being a double by Manager Bill Terry, and a pinch hit single by Lefty O'Doul, - Lefty really won the game. All these runs were piled up in the big sixth inning. Joe Moore of the Giants set a world series record by getting two hits in that one inning. The score was six to one.

NBC

LEGION

They are having a hot time in Chicago over the next National Commander of the American Legion. It won't be settled until tomorrow. Preliminary voting went on today which indicates that Edward A. Hayes <sup>a lawyer,</sup> of Decatur, Illinois, will be the next head of the Legionaires.

Incidentally the next meeting place of the Legion in 1934 will be ~~held in~~ <sup>Florida,</sup> Miami. This was decided by unanimous vote.

NBC

And now <sup>we come</sup> ~~let me refer~~ to National Fur Week. This is a movement to further the production of bigger and better fur coats for the ladies. Gentlemen may prefer blondes, but the ladies prefer furs. I must not furget to add that National Fur Week means a good deal to the President's NRA Program. A million farmers are engaging in fur trapping and fur production, not counting several hundred thousand industrial and retail workers. And the fur industry has decided to keep retail prices down to rock bottom in accordance with the President's program.

National Fur Week will enchant the ladies. That's a furgone conclusion. And now it's time for me to go fur, ~~fx~~ fur away, with a furtive - SO LONG UNTIL TOMORFOW.