

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1931

GANDHI

Good Evening, Everybody:

(Mahatma Gandhi returned home today. He landed on Indian soil and received a turbulent welcome. In his first speech Gandhi said that he would not flinch in sacrificing the lives of a million people if necessary to purchase the liberty of India.) A huge crowd of enthusiastic supporters were at the pier in Bombay to meet him.

But it wasn't all cheering and applause. There was plenty of trouble. The Associated Press describes the riot that ensued when the welcome home crowd was rushed by a flying wedge of Untouchables. We have all heard about these Untouchables, the pariahs, the outcasts of India, whose very shadow defiles the presence of the higher castes. Well, a number of those despised Untouchables gathered and carried black ~~black~~ flags. They were there to stage a demonstration against Gandhi.

They made a rush for the pier. There was a wild skirmish and 12 people were hurt before the police could restore order.

The first person to greet Gandhi was his sixty-year-old wife; the second was a boy whom he has adopted as his son.

1 Strangely enough that boy is an
2 Untouchable, an outcast lad whom Gandhi
3 has taken into his own home.

4 The Mahatma is in favor of bettering
5 the condition of the Untouchables, but
6 on the other hand he represents the
7 general mass of ~~the~~ Hindus who are
8 conservative and are deeply attached to
9 the old manners and customs of India.

10 Gandhi was received by throngs of
11 women admirers who placed garlands of
12 flowers around his neck, while others
13 bowed reverentially before him.

14 The huge crowd yelled its head
15 off and when the Little Holy Man was
16 driven through the city throngs of Indian
17 Nationalists in the streets cheered and
18 acclaimed him.

19 Meanwhile, disturbances are
20 reported in many parts of India. The
21 Mahatma has returned home to take part *in affairs*
22 ~~in a very dangerous state of affairs.~~
23 *at a time when things look mighty uncertain*
24 *in Hindustan.*

25

1 The word tonight is that there
2 is not going to be any meeting between
3 Prime Minister MacDonald and Premier
4 Laval of France.

5 It had been expected that the
6 two statesmen might get together and
7 talk things over in preparation for that
8 ^{coming} conference on reparations and
9 international debts. ~~The~~ announcement
10 is made that the French Premier was
11 not officially invited to go to
12 London.

13 The New York Evening Post
14 comments today that this is technically
15 true, but that Prime Minister MacDonald
16 did convey a broad hint that he'd
17 like to have Premier Laval ~~go over~~ ^{drop over} to
18 London for a chat.

19 The International News Service
20 reports that the French don't see any
21 particular good to be served by a
22 meeting of the heads of the two
23 governments, and so the proposed ~~meeting~~ ^{session}
24 is off.

25 From Washington comes word that

1 the United States may take part in
2 the reparations conference, that is,
3 provided the big pow-wow doesn't
4 limit itself to German debts.

5 The United Press wires that if
6 the conference is broadened out to
7 include world financial problems in
8 general, why, then the United States
9 may send a delegate.

10 And by the way tonight's report
11 is that the reparations conference will
12 be held at Lausanne, Switzerland instead
13 of at the Hague.
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

1 ^{long distance}
 2 Let's take a [^] look at China's
 3 new President. He is one of the
 4 thousands of Chinese who received part
 5 of their education in America, those ~~xxx~~
 6 bright eager ~~young Chinese~~ ^{almond eyed youths} that we see
 7 at universities all over this country.
 8 After his graduation he lived for many
 9 years in California. ~~His name~~ is Lin Sen.

10 He became acting president
 11 when General Chiang Kai Shek stepped
 12 out of office and now he has been
 13 elected as the regular head of the
 14 Nationalist Government.

15 Well, it's a long time since
 16 young Lin ^{Sen} [^] was a student in America.
 17 The United Press ~~says~~ ^{cables that} he is 67 years old ^y
 18 a veteran of Chinese Revolutionary
 19 disturbances.

20 Well, Lin Sen now occupies the
 21 highest office that his country can
 22 give. But just ~~now~~ ^{at present} with all the unrest
 23 in China, and in the face of the
 24 aggressions of Japan, the head of the
 25 Chinese Government has a ~~xxxxxxx~~
 troublesome job to hold down.

MANCHURIA

The Japanese are continuing their advance against Chinchow. Three thousand soldiers of the Mikado are advancing in a carefully prepared offensive for the purpose of capturing that important town with the musical comedy name which has been the object of world wide attention this winter. The Associated Press states that they are fighting in weather that is 20 below.

I have a dispatch here, cabled to the International News Service. Guess whom it's from. Well, it's from our old friend Floyd Gibbons who's doing a war correspondent's job out there along the frozen battle lines in the Far East.

Floyd in describing the warlike scenes tells of a rather amazing crossing which the Japanese troops made across the frozen Liao River, at a place where it was about eight hundred yards wide.

"In some places the ice is only eight inches thick", he says, "but nevertheless

1 the heaviest war equipment was
2 successfully rolled over it. The
3 reflection of a yellow moon made the
4 ice appear like mother of pearl, as
5 the Japanese troops carefully continued
6 their hazardous crossing." ~~late at~~
7 ~~night~~ ^{then he adds:} They wore coverings of white
8 cloth over their helmets and knapsacks,
9 as a camouflage to blend with the
10 snowy background. ^{he adds,} Thousands of Chinese
11 coolies, hundreds of Chinese two wheel
12 carts, and Mongolian ponies were used
13 in the march. The transport of a
14 cannon was ~~most~~ picturesque, each
15 piece being attached to a Chinese
16 cart pulled by three ponies."

17 Well, that word picture from
18 Floyd ~~Sibbons~~ gives us a vivid idea
19 of ~~the~~ winter campaign in bleak ~~and~~
20 ~~Manchuria~~ Manchuria.

1 ~~Chinese~~ China's troubles tonight
2 are increased by a mutiny in the
3 Chinese Navy. An International News
4 Service cable from Shanghai declares
5 that the northeastern squadron of the
6 Chinese fleet revolted today, seized
7 an admiral, and held him prisoner
8 as a hostage.

9 The Chinese navy consists
10 principally of destroyers, gun-boats,
11 and armored flat-bottomed river boats.
12 The celestial Jack Tars are said to
13 have been discontented for sometime,
14 and today their discontent flamed into
15 mutiny.

16 Marshal Chang, the former
17 war lord of Manchuria, got busy and
18 pacified the rebellious sailors. He
19 promised to meet their demands and
20 see that they got what they wanted.
21 Then they called the mutiny off and
22 released the admiral.

DIGEST

Let's imagine a 7-year-old boy, a husky lad, not tall for his age. He weighs 50 or 60 pounds. And then let's imagine this tiny chap holding on his shoulders the full bulky majesty of the 220 pound Sultan of Swat Babe Ruth. If you don't believe it, just take a look at page 27 of this week's Literary Digest and you'll see little Sonny Walker taking Babe Ruth piggy back.

The Literary Digest goes on to tell us a bit of school gossip. The teacher didn't like the way the other boys were picking on one particular little chap.

"Sonny," said the teacher, "those other boys are taking advantage of you. Why don't you do something? You shouldn't let them pick on you like that."

"Well, what can I do?" replied Sonny ruefully, "My father says I shouldn't hit a boy, because I don't know my own strength, and I'm liable to hurt somebody."

Apparently the teacher didn't take this any too

seriously, because he said, "Sonny, I'm sure your father wouldn't want you to be a sissy, and you ought to make those boys stop pestering you." Sonny made no further reply, but recess came along and Sonny looked up some of the lads who had been punching him and it wasn't long afterward that an ambulance came clanging up to the school-ground. They took a boy, a strapping young fellow, to the hospital. He had a big lump on the side of his face, and it was a week before the swelling went down.

I guess we're all agreed that Sonny Walker is a pretty husky lad and that brings us to a remarkable story of Child rearing in the current Literary Digest.

George H. Walker is a citizen of Phoenix, Arizona. His friends call him Scotty. He's not a big man -- just middle sized, in fact, but he's pretty husky. When he was a small boy he

1 wanted to do stunts. He wanted to
2 be a cowboy, a boxer, a wire-walker,
3 an acrobat. But his parents said that
4 was all foolish.

5 When Scotty Walker grew up and got
6 married, however, he remembered all
7 those thwarted ambitions of boyhood,
8 and decided he'd give his children plenty
9 of chance to do all those athletic
10 things that his own parents had
11 forbidden. So from infancy he trained
12 them to ^{be}athlet^{is}. ~~sports~~. He developed
13 them along the lines of certain physical
14 ideas that he had formed.

15 Well, it all worked out quite
16 successfully. The children, four of
17 them, are all remarkable athletes -- not
18 professionally, but just for the fun of
19 it. The oldest two are girls. One of
20 them is a tight-wire performer. The
21 second is a tumbler and contortionist,
22 and ^{besides} she's getting ready to enter next
23 year's Olympic games as a mile-runner.

24 The ~~oldest~~ boy, who held Babe Ruth
25 on his shoulders and socked that kid in

1 school, is quite appropriately state
2 amateur boxing champion. The youngest
3 boy rides ^{in the horse} ~~and~~ races as a jockey.

4 TP As the headline on the Literary Digest reads:
5 ~~article is right to the point. It says:~~
6 "Meet the Walkers, but Don't Make ~~th~~'em
7 Mad."

BABY

I don't know how important this next bit of news may be, but anyway, it's interesting.

It is now possible to take a ~~girl~~ child the moment it's born and tell whether it is going to be right handed, or left handed. They do it with X-rays.

The International News Service describes the procedure. You make an X ray picture of your squawling darling.

The photograph shows that the bones of the arms and legs on one side are more dense and solid than the bones of the arms and legs on the other side. If the bones on the right are more dense, snookums will be right handed. If the bones on the left are more dense, the angle-child will be a southpaw.

This discovery was announced today at the opening of the 89th annual meeting of the American Association for the advancement of science, and I suppose parents will now be able to

1 tell right off the bat whether they
2 should buy the baby a left handed
3 monkey wrench or not.

4 That same meeting also brought
5 forward what is called the ^{abstracted} Arachnid
6 theory.

7 Now the Arachnid theory is
8 something like a nightmare. It tells
9 us about the origin of the human face.

10 Most of us just take the human
11 face for granted. When somebody asks -
12 How did it get that way - we reply -
13 well, how could it be any different?
14 But science goes deeper into things
15 than that. In fact, it sometimes goes
16 so deep it gets ^{lost.} ~~out of sight.~~

17 Take the Arachnid theory, for
18 example. We are told that the human
19 face, your face, my face, ~~and~~ the
20 Queen of Sheba's face, ^{and also the face that sank a thousand ships,} got its start
21 from the face of an extinct fish
22 closely related to ^{an} ancient sea
23 scorpion.

24 Of course, I don't mean it would
25 be wise for a fellow to say to a

beautiful girl - Your face is a cross between a fish and a scorpion. But just the same, Professor William Patten of Dartmouth College, today produced evidence to prove the truth of the Ar^ochnid theory.

The evidence that the Doctor brought forward consisted of a series of ancient fossils. No, it wouldn't be the ~~ixxt~~ right thing for a fellow to say to a beautiful girl - Your face reminds me of an ancient fossil.

But the Professor claims that if you study those fossils you will discover that the human face is just a variation of the face of a spider, or a scorpion, or a horse shoe crab. (I hope the Professor isn't getting personal.)

But he insists that those beautiful faces that make hearts flutter, those pert, pretty noses, those rosebud lips, and those languorous blue eyes -- they're all in the fish that's just a scorpion. To which we say tut, tut, Professor.

While we're on these scientific topics, let's make it a really scientific evening by going ~~ix~~ on to another remarkable phenomenon of nature.

1 Some years ago the silver-tongued
2 orator, William Jennings Bryan was out
3 on a lecture tour. He was attacking the
4 doctrine of evolution. One night the
5 great commoner was confronted by the
6 Reverend Arthur J. Brown, DD., LLD,
7 of New York City.

8 Dr. Brown is a prominent
9 minister of the Presbyterian Church.
10 With great dignity he addressed Bryan
11 and told him of a remarkable incident
12 which, quoth Dr. Brown, established the
13 truth of evolution.

14 He told Bryan the story of a
15 party of campers in the Canadian woods
16 who were aroused one night by a
17 commotion in the tent where the supplies
18 were kept. They went to investigate and
19 saw a large bear running away with a
20 syrup can over his head.

21 They saw no more of the
22 bear that season. The next year they
23 went hunting again in the same Canadian
24 woods, and one day they came upon that
25 same bear with that same syrup can over

its ears like a tin plug hat. The big bear was followed by four little ones, and each cub had a smaller syrup can over its head.

And as he told that one, the Rev. Dr. Brown looked William Jennings Bryan square in the eye.

That historical whopper is contributed tonight to the archives of the Tall Story Club by S. S. Smith, who manages a lime and stone company at Mercer, Pennsylvania.

Which brings me to the hour when I put on my syrup can and say,

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.