

INIRO.

Lowell Thomas' Broadcast
for The Literary Digest. ^{Page}
Wednesday, June 17, 1931.

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5 Good Evening, Everybody!

6 It's about time that we all did
7 something to celebrate an important
8 birthday--a magnificent and solemn
9 birthday. This year, 1931, is the 500th
10 anniversary of a great and illustrious
11 event. This year we celebrate the 500th
12 birthday of spaghetti.

13 In the year 1431, just half a
14 millenium ago, spaghetti was first
15 invented. The ancient city of Bologna, *also*
16 *famous for its university - and its sausage, Bologna,*
~~in Italy~~, is celebrating this noble
17 birthday in great style. Because it
18 was at Bologna that spaghetti was first
19 discovered.

20 They didn't call it spaghetti then.
21 They called it ~~ma~~ tagliatini. But, as
22 we all know, it's real name is spaghetti.

23 The New York Sun today tells us the
24 story of the invention of the great
25 Italian dish, without which no Italian

1 could be happy. The story is full of
2 splendor and grandeur. In fact, it was
3 first told in a poem. The poem was
4 written by Salinbeni, who was the court
5 poet for the Duke of Bologna. It was
6 up to him to describe in verse the glorious
7 wedding of Lucrezia **D'**este and Count
8 Bentivoglio.

9 The wedding was climaxed with a
10 great banquet, and the chef **of** was ordered
11 to prepare something special. The name
12 of that remarkable chef has been preserved
13 by history. He was called Maestro
14 Zafiran. And he was ^{indeed} a genius. He
15 immortalized that wedding banquet by
16 inventing a new dish--and what a dish!
17 He invented spaghetti.

18 The poem tells us all about it.
19 It describes the invention of spaghetti
20 in magnificent verses of lyric Italian.
21 It informs us that the great chef, that
22 genius of cookery, was so delighted with
23 his invention that he declared it would
24 be written in the pages of history with
25 immortal glory.

1 And he was right. ^{So}~~As~~ long as
2 there is a descendant of the ancient
3 Romans left in the world, there will
4 ~~not~~ also be spaghetti--and there's no
5 sign that the Italian race is dying
6 out.

7 The poem tells us that the newly
8 invented spaghetti was carried into the
9 banquet hall on great dishes of massive
10 silver. It was a solemn occasion, and
11 the guests, once they had wrapped some
12 of that spaghetti around their tonsils,
13 declared that this indeed was a history-
14 making event.

15 As I remarked before, in those
16 days it was called tagliatini. The next
17 great step forward was taken when a later
18 genius gave it its right name--~~which is~~
19 spaghetti.

20 In fact, the Italians have a
21 hundred names for it. They call it
22 macaroni, vermicelli, tagliatelli,
23 macaronicelli. And even one form is
24 called capellini, which means "Maiden's
25 Hair"--because the Italians say that

1 *this particular form of spaghetti*
2 ~~capellini~~ is like the tresses of the
3 Goddess Venus.

4 Well, those may be beautiful and
5 poetic names, but ~~into~~ it's just spaghetti
6 to me. And the next great step to be
7 taken by some enlightened genius is to
8 invent a satisfactory way of eating it--
9 without too much noise, and without
10 dropping the ~~■~~ sauce on your necktie.

11 Anyway, this is the 500th birthday
12 of ~~■~~ spaghetti--and long may it wave! And
13 I hope some of you folks are having
14 spaghetti for dinner, just to celebrate
15 the noble anniversary in the right way.
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1 They've had a spectacular fire
2 down at Bermuda, A big ship burned. ~~up~~

3 The passenger liner, Bermuda, was
4 lying at the dock in the harbor of the picturesque
5 *city of* Hamilton. The sea was blue, and the
6 palms green on the tropical isle. The
7 fire broke out suddenly, and the next
8 thing you know the big ship was sending
9 an immense cloud of black smoke skyward.

10 The crew got ashore, and then the
11 fire-fighters began a desperate battle.
12 The flames were roaring, and several
13 men were overcome by smoke.

14 It was only after a hard 4-hour
15 fight that the flames were checked and
16 ~~got~~ ^{put} under control. The ~~Associated Press~~ ^{Int. Nat. News Service}
17 reports that the ship is badly damaged.

18 *She sank to the bottom of the harbor in*
19 *shallow water.*

1 There's some ~~more~~ complaint about
2 airplanes that fly low over crowds, and
3 this time it's President Hoover who is
4 doing the complaining.

5 Yesterday at the dedication of the
6 monument to the late President Harding,
7 at which ex-President Coolidge and
8 President Hoover officiated, three
9 airplanes flew low and circled over the
10 crowd. They were taking pictures.

11 And now President Hoover has
12 entered an emphatic protest. The United
13 Press quotes the President as declaring
14 it was a danger to the lives of people
15 in the crowd to have the flying machines
16 swooping so low. And, beside^s, the roar
17 of the motors interfered with the
18 speaking. It was particularly annoying
19 during the address of former President
20 Coolidge.

21 And ~~we will~~^{many} ~~all~~ agree with the
22 President that the way some aviators
23 fly low over crowds and ceremonies is
24 bad business — both for the crowds and
25 for the aviators.

1 The President made another
2 speech today — at Springfield, Ill.,
3 at the dedication of the remodelled
4 tomb of Abraham Lincoln. In
5 the course of his address Mr. Hoover
6 said: —
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8 “
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10 “There can be no man in our
11 country who, either by his position
12 or his influence, stands above the
13 law. ~~Mr. Hoover said~~ That the

14 ~~The text of President Hoover's~~
15 ~~address appears on page 18.~~

16 Republic cannot admit and still
17 live. For ours is a government of
18 laws and a society of ordered lib-
19 erty safeguarded only by law.”

20 This brief but emphatic declara-
21 tion toward the end of a short ad-
22 dress eulogizing Lincoln was linked
23 by many who heard it with condi-
24 tions in Chicago, where Alphonse
25 Capone and sixty-eight of his em-
ployees last week were indicted as
a result of the federal government's
effort to break up long-standing
wholesale defiance of the prohibi-
tion and other laws. Capone pleaded
guilty yesterday.

1 Well, the battle lines are being
2 formed for the big campaign of next
3 year. Probable candidates, possible
4 candidates, and impossible candidates
5 are gathering their forces and sounding
6 their battle slogans.

7 Of course the big scramble is among
8 the boys who are looking for the
9 Democratic nomination for the presidency.
10 The Democrats see bright signs of hope.
11 And all of the Democrat chieftains who
12 may have a possible chance for the
13 nomination are figuring out plans of
14 campaign.

15 On the Republican side things
16 seem to be more cut and dried. The
17 general belief is that President Hoover
18 will be renominated, but just the same
19 there seem to be some folks who have
20 other ideas.

21 I've been waiting to see what the
22 Literary Digest has to say about the big
23 conference of governors, which was held a
24 couple of weeks ago at French Lick Springs,
25 Indiana. It was generally recognized

1 that that conference of governors
2 involved a good deal of kite flying.
3 Several of the boys who have presidential
4 aspirations took the occasion to go on
5 record with various policies and platform
6 planks which they hope will interest
7 the voters.

8 ~~Of course the interesting thing~~
9 ~~about kite flying is to see how well~~
10 ~~the old kite can fly. And so I've been~~
11 ~~depending upon the Literary Digest to~~
12 ~~tell us how the country at large has~~
13 ~~taken the various ideas which the~~
14 ~~governors put forth.~~

15 My advance copy of the new ^{Literary} Digest,
16 the one that will be out tomorrow, has an
17 article headed--PINCHOT'S HAT SAILS INTO
18 THE RING. That Digest article goes on
19 to tell us that a big kite was sent
20 sailing into the sky by the militant
21 governor of Pennsylvania. They say that
22 Governor Pinchot's supporters have an
23 idea that he may beat out President
24 Hoover for the Republican nomination.

25 ~~Pinchot has two main planks in~~

1 ~~his platform--prohibition and power.~~

2 And at the governors' convention ~~he~~ ^{Pinchot}
3 emphasized power. He declared that the
4 big power interests who control the
5 electric energy of the country are
6 working together harmoniously under a
7 common policy, toward a common end--which
8 is: milking the public. ^R Governor Pinchot,
9 in a scathing speech, declared that the
10 companies which sell us electric power
11 for our electric lights, heaters, and
12 so on, constitute a new threat to the
13 rule of the people established by the
14 founders of the republic.

15 ~~text~~ This, as the Literary Digest tells
16 us, is interpreted as a frontal attack
17 against the administration and the
18 policies of President Hoover.

19 Well, some folks agree with the
20 Governor of Pennsylvania. The ^{Lit.} Digest
21 quotes the Detroit News, a politically
22 independent journal, as saying that
23 Governor Pinchot has presented by far
24 the most acutely reasoned case against
25 the electric power concerns.

1 On the other hand, some folks do
2 not agree with Pennsylvania's fighting
3 governor. The St. Louis Globe-Democrat,
4 as the Digest informs us, declares that
5 the whole power issue is 95 per cent
6 bunk, *hobum, baloney.*

7 Mark Sullivan, the political
8 expert, writing in the New York Herald
9 Tribune, declares that an attempt by
10 Governor Pinchot to grab the presidential
11 nomination for himself may have the
12 effect of stirring up and solidifying
13 whatever anti-Hoover sentiment there
14 is in the northwest.

15 But the ^{lit.} Digest goes on to quote
16 Mark Sullivan as saying that Pinchot
17 couldn't possibly get more than 100
18 delegates out of the 1100 who will
19 nominate the next Republican candidate.

20 On the other hand, it is possible
21 that if Governor Pinchot gets into the
22 fight against President Hoover, it may
23 help the Democrats in the election.

24 David Lawrence, another prominent
25 political observer, ^(who by the way is trying to buy the Wash. Post) writing for the

Consolidated Press Association, takes up the possibility that Governor Pinchot may head a third party. He declares that a third party would help President Hoover's chance of reelection. The Literary Digest quotes David Lawrence as point out that other third party movements have caused the Democrats more loss than the Republicans.

It's a tangled up ~~xxx~~ political situation that faces the country next year. And that exhaustive article in the new Digest gives us the clear meanings of the picture of Pennsylvania's embattled governor with a string in his hand, flying a large political kite.

New York had a sensational jewel robbery today. Two men appeared at the brownstone home of S. Stanwood menken on West 52nd street near Fifth Avenue and announced to the maid that they had "flowers for the missus." She opened the door. They rushed in and got away with jewels valued between \$100,000 and \$200,000.

1 They've had an earthquake in
2 Japan. The city of Tokyo was severely
3 shaken. There was a wild panic as
4 people dashed out of their trembling
5 houses.

6 Another earthquake also is
7 reported from Afghanistan. The
8 International News Service gives the
9 location as 60 miles north of Kabul,
10 the capital of the country. A village
11 was destroyed, 50 houses tumbled down,
12 and the casualties are said to number
13 15.

14 Both Japan and Afghanistan are
15 on an Earthquake belt. Minor shocks are
16 felt every day and sometimes every few
17 hours. So it takes a pretty stiff
18 earthquake to excite either the Japanese
19 or the Afghans. I spent a short time in
20 wild Afghanistan on one occasion and we
21 had a quake served up to us with dinner
22 each night. Each night the table would
23 start to jump, the dishes would jiggle
24 and dance, and the chandelier would sway,
25 and we would sprint for the open air.

1 In Italy three bombs were
2 exploded. They went off with a bang
3 in three different parts of the ^{great manufacturing} city
4 of Turin.

5 The Associated Press reports little
6 damage to property, although I suppose
7 there was considerable damage to the
8 temper of the Fascists.

WEDDING

The next piece on the program is a wedding march, and you can make it either the Mendelssohn Wedding March or the bridal march from Lohengrin. In fact, you might even sing: "Here comes the bride, all dressed in white."

I don't know any words for the Mendelssohn Wedding March, although as I recall there was a popular song some years ago in which they sang the famous tune with the following words -- "Hully gee, I'm glad I'm free. No wedding bells for me."

Well, while the festive music of both of the wedding marches is being played, you hear a loud deep voice saying -- "Nein! Nix! Heraus!"

Over in Austria there's a movement on foot against those two classical wedding marches. At the head of the movement is His Highness, Johannes Gfoelner, Bishop of Linz.

The Bishop declares that those two best know wedding marches are not sufficiently austere and

1 religious in spirit for Church use --
2 at least not in his Church. The Bishop
3 declares that the two wedding marches
4 are worldly and theatrical in spirit.
5 I suppose he prefers the severe
6 spiritual beauty of the Gregorian chant.
7 Anyway, the learned prelate has
8 banished those two favorite wedding
9 marches from his Church.

10 But some of the other Austrian
11 Bishops don't agree with him. They say
12 the ^{se well known} wedding marches are ^{quite} all right.
13 And so there is a lively controversy
14 under way.

15 As for me, I'd say those two
16 wedding marches are O.K. ^{-- absolutely O.K. --} at somebody
17 else's wedding.
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1 Two more Marines have been
2 killed in Nicaragua. ~~MM~~ There was a
3 skirmish in the western part of the
4 country. The Associated Press declares
5 that few details have been given out.

6 All that can be told is that some
7 of the few Marines still left in
8 Nicaragua were in a battle with
9 Sandino's men, and there were two
10 casualties among the Americans.

1 I don't suppose the fact that
2 they passed a law down in the republic
3 of Guatemala will sound very important,
4 but this new Guatemalan law is interesting.

5 It all started not long ago when
6 General Ubico, the president of
7 Guatemala, read a message before the
8 Guatemalan Congress. Everybody was
9 astonished when the president proceeded
10 to read a detailed list of his property.
11 He gave a catalogue of everything he
12 owned, from acres of land to suspender
13 buttons.

14 Then he explained the reason for
15 this peculiar procedure. He declared
16 that he wanted to go on record so that,
17 when he left office, he could prove that
18 he didn't have any more going out than
19 he had coming in. He wants to show that
20 he isn't using the presidency of his
21 country as a means of getting rich.

22 Well, the Congress of Guatemala
23 thought so well of the president's idea
24 that now the legislature has passed what
25 it calls a Law of Probity. It requires

1 that every government employee, making
2 more than \$200 a month, shall declare
3 how much property he owns when he takes
4 office. In other words, the government
5 employees are required to do just what
6 the president of Guatemala has done.
7 Then, when the employees leave office,
8 their possessions on going out will be
9 checked against the list they swore to
10 on going in.

11 And, as the New York Sun tells us,
12 any government employee who succeeds in
13 making any money--that is, as much as
14 \$10,000--while in office is required
15 to report the fact to the government.

16 Well, that sounds like a good
17 idea. In fact, if government employees
18 in some other countries were required
19 to make out lists of their property
20 like that, why it might be slightly
21 embarrassing. *Slightly!*
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1 In Brazil this evening they are
2 saying a sweet so-long. It goes some-
3 thing like this:-

4 "So-long, K. Farewell, W. And
5 goodby, Y."

6 That is, the Brazilians are
7 parting with three letters of the
8 alphabet -- K, W, and Y.

9 Today the President of the Republic
10 proclaimed by ~~an~~ official decree that
11 the Brazilians ~~would~~^{will} have to get along
12 hereafter without those three letters.
13 K, W, and Y have been kicked out of the
14 Brazilian alphabet.

15 The International News Service
16 explains that the three letters are
17 useless in writing Portuguese, which is
18 the language of Brazil. Instead of K,
19 Q can be used just as well. U takes
20 the place of W. And there isn't anything
21 that the letter Y can do that the letter
22 L can't do just as well.

23 And so down in Brazil this
24 evening ~~it's a case of~~^{they are} saying so-long
25 to K, W, and Y.

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And right here in this
broadcasting studio, I'm saying so-long
to Y-O-U.

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.