INTRO.

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Lowell Thomas Broadcast for the Literary Digest, Monday, June 29th, 1931.

Page.

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY :-

I suppose you all had a warm week-end. I did. But luckily it was up in the hills where there always is plenty of breeze and a lot of ice cold spring water in which to swim.

Well, I've come back from the e curione country to find hot weather news items flooding in from everywhere. Let's see 10 what the first one says. It's from Madison, Wisconsin, in the cheese capital of America. I mean the capital of the state where they make most of our cheese--. Out there they had a blistering hot Sunday. The United Press tells us that at the Madison Zoo, NERO, a big African lion from the glazing sands of the Sahara, died of the heat. And on his tombstone I suppose they'll put this sad epitaph: "HERE LIES NERO, FORMER KING OF THE SOUTHERN SAHARA. HE CAME FROM 23 EQUATORIAL AFRICA AND DIED FROM THE HEAT IN MADISON, WISCONSIN".

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At South Bend, Indiana, the 1 temperature soared to around 103, and ice and winter vet the town had ice and winter. infact, they had Mr. and Mrs. Ice, and Mr. and Mrs. Winter! The people of South Bend may have thought it a bit of mockery, but at the local hotel among the guests who registered were Mr. and Mrs. Palmer Ice, of Fairmont, Indiana, and Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Winter⁴. of Buffalo, New York. This odd weatheritem is passed along by the International News Service, which also gives us another:

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At Chicago it was so hot that an ice manufacturing machine set itself afire, and burned up.

And then at the bathing beaches 17 along Lake Michigan in Chicago so many 18 people splathed out into the water to 19 cool themselves off that the temperature 20 of the water went up. At the most 21 congested beaches the heat of human 22 bodies increased the temperature of the 23 water by 10 degrees. 24

And now let's see if we can't find something in the news that's a bit cooler.

4-9-31-5M

AIRPLANE

4-9-31-5M

the arctic circle. All day a plane has been flying through a strange sky. The round-theworld aviators, Post and Gatty, have headed into the skies of the midnight sun.

The Associated Press, the Interna-5 tional News Service, and the United Press 6 all report that they took off from the 7 coast of Siberia at 6 o'clock this morning 8 and started on the long leg of their 9 flight to Nome, Alaska. The distance is 10 even greater than across the North 11 Atlantic. It's a flight of more than 12 2.000 miles. 13

Well, at Nome at this time of the 14 year the sun does set at all. Many 15 years ago we used to play baseball up 16 there at midnight, at this season. Yes, 17 the two adventurous fliers are confronted 18 with no problem of nightfall or darkness 19 on this hop. No matter at what hour they 20 land it'll be broad daylight. 21

The Japanese wireless stations were out of touch with Post and Gatty's plane today. The two fliers didn't seem to be sticking at their radio set. Just why of course no one knows.

A Japanese canning ship, the Jimbu Maru, which was lying in the mouth AIRPLANE - 2

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of the Kamchatka River, reports that 1 it sighted the round-the-world-airplane. At least the Japanese fishermen spied a monoplane flying high in the direction of Alaska. They say it was too far away to distinguish the markings, but unquestionably it was Post and Gatty's plane.

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Well, it's a long and dangerous 9 hop they are making, the longest and 10 most dangerous of their entire globe 11 encircling trip, But they ought to be 12 landing pretty soon now, and once they 13 get to Nome the going should be a little 14 easier, although they will still have to 15 fly across the barren heart of Alaska. 16 But these boys are making great time and 17 Certainly looks as if they were on their 18 way to a record breaking circumnavigation 19 which will make & old Magellan up there 20 in the clouds shake his shaggy head and 21 22 wonder.

4-9-31-5M

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MacMILLAN

Oh yes, and here's another one to take our minds off the hot weather.

A ship is on its way up the northern New England coast this evening. It's headed for the Arctic and the purpose of the expedition is aviation - and teeth. There will be aerial exploration and dentistry.

The well-known Arctic explorer, Donald MacMillan, is on his way to Grenfell mission on the coast of Labrador. Sir Wilfred Grenfell, as many of us know, conducts an extraordinary mission on the bleak Labrador shore, helping the Eskimo and the poor Whites who make a hard living on that inhospitable coast. MacMillan with the help of Sir Wilfred Grenfell intends to explore a large unchartered section of northern Labrador. He will make a survey from the air and put the maps to rights on a

three hundred mile line of northern shore.

MacMillan's ship is loaded to the gunwales

MacMILLAN - 2

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with stores and supplies for both the Eskimos and poor Whites - especially dental supplies.

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The Eskimos have bad teeth. Ordinarily, Stimos have splendid sets of molars and incisors. But the Eskimos near the Grenfell Mission are too close in contact with the White man to do them any good. They eat White man's food and the result is their teeth have gone to the dogs. And so MacMillan who has already established a dental clinic for the benefit of the Labrador Eskimos, will take the occasion of his present expedition to establish two more.

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SPAIN

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The results of the Spanish elections are what everybody expected. The Associated Press summarizes the elections as a sweeping victory for the various Republican parties. The Monarchist supporters of ex-King Alphonso were decisively beaten, and so were the Communists.

Page 7

There are a number of political 9 parties in Spain that will be represented 10 in the parliament which the voters 11 elected yesterday. The political 12 situation may be a bit confused, but one 13 thing seems to be certain. The Spanish 14 voters in their first general 15 parliamentary election under the Republic 16 voted decisively against ex-King Alphonso 17

The International News Service comments that the Spaniards spent today counting the votes and counting the casualties. All over Spain there were election-day disorders. yesterday. Eleven people were killed.

In the city of Malaga trouble
flared up today. Crowds were out to

SPAIN - 2 Page_8 protest against the killing of a workingman by the civil guards yesterday. There was rioting and disorder. Three people were killed, and the civil guards put down the disturbance. Jes, ex-King alphonso is still Just Mister alphonso, a visitor in France. & man-without-a-country.

DIGESI

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I am afraid if any of us get up at this point and shout - Rah, Rah, Rah, we'd better do it in a low voice and perhaps in a minor key - because we now come to a discussion of football.

Page 9

Any time the conversation drifts around to the subject of the great game of the American colleges, why you'll always find some people who take a delight in giving the big American football one swift kick. Of course, the pigskin was made to be kicked, but not in that way.

In this week's Literary Digest there is an article that sums up in a brilliant and able way all this talk we have been hearing about intercollegiate football.

It begins with a snappy little scene. A Harvard student is talking, a typical undergraduate. That is, he's typical of the present sophisticated moment, although perhaps not at all typical of what many an old grad might consider the glorious days of the past.

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At any rate, this up to the minute student is remarking: - "Why should we holler our heads off at a football game because a lot of silly old grads tell us to?"

And then this disillusioned young undergraduate continues: "We are supposed to get red in the face shouting 'You've got to beat Yale! You've got to beat Yale!'

And the Digest assures us that this is a real line of talk spoken by a real student. It is reported by Walter Prichard Eaton in the New York Herald Tribune Sunday Magazine.

"Of course the team will beat Yale - if it can."

They say professional football is cutting in on intercollegiate football. They say that professional football is a better game. It's better played and many football enthusiasts would rather see a skillful, well played professional game than a blundering and bungling match on the gridiron between the rah rah boys.

But it isn't only a swift kick that intercollegiate football gets. The pigskin is also given a friendly pat of approval. That's natural, because the

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Literary Digest makes it a point to give both sides of the controversial issues of the day.

Page 12

The Digest quotes the Christian 4 Science Monitor as pooh poohing the 5 idea that professional football can 6 seriously compete with the intercollegiate 7 game. We need only to remember that the 8 sentiment back of a college game can 9 never be grafted on to a professional 10 game. A tussle of football between רר paid players can never have the color and 12 the pecular enthusiasmin which makes the 13 college game simply blaze with thrilling 14 excitement. 15

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4-9-31-5M

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BOYS

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4-9-31-5M

! have two stories about brave 2 boys here tonight.

Page_13

Near Ottawa, Illinois, Howard 3 Smith, 16 years old, was down in an old 4 well, repairing it, when it caved in. 5 The boy went to the bottom, and a ton 6 or so of earth and rock tumbled down on 7 top of him. Just one thing saved his 8 9 life. Two big rocks wedged themselves over his head. Those two rocks got 10 jammed in such a position that they 11 left him a small air space. From his 12 hips down he was buried. The upper part 13 of his body remained in the small cave 14 that was formed by the two rocks. And 15 young Howard Smith remained buried alive 16 17 there for 24 hours.

Rescuerers were afraid to try to dig down to him, for fear they might dislodge the two huge rocks above him.

All they could do was to work a garden hose down through the chinks between the stones and pump air to the boy.

The Associated Press tells us

BOYS - 2

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1 that a force of miners from a nearby coal mine got busy and did their stuff. They sank a shaft near the well and then started a tunnel to the boy.

Page 14

Young Howard was down there 5 under ground waiting, always waiting. 6 Pretty soon they had to tell him that 7 the miners had struck rock and couldn't 8 go on with the tunnel. And that nearly 9 broke his courage. He says that all he 10 did was pray. He kept praying all the 11 time, and he prayed hardest when he 12 found that the tunnel had failed. 13

The miners sank another shaft and 14 started a tunnel again. This time they 15 were able to battle their way through 16 earth and stone and reach the imprisoned 17 boy. 18

They took him out, and he's O.K. 19 And all he says is that he's glad he 20 knew plenty of prayers to say while he 21 was down there a day and a night, a 22 full 24 hours, under ground. 23

The other story tells us how a 24 3-year-old girl fell into a well at 25

BOYS - 3

Kingston, North Carolina. She was the daughter of Mrs. Peter Robinson, a farmer's wife. The United Press gives us the sinister detail that there was 6 feet of water in that well. And the little girl fell in.

Page 15

Mrs. Robinson ran to the well and 7 8 for an instant she felt utterly helpless. But she has a boy, a sturdy little 9 fellow. She told him what to do. He's 10 got spunk and courage, and he did it. 11 The Mother put the boy in the well-12 bucket and lowered him. Into the well. 13 14 It was all done more swiftly than it can 15 be told. The boy caught hold of his ¹⁶ drowning sister. There wasn't room for 17 both of them in the well-bucket. He 18 himself plunged into the cold water and ¹⁹ supported himself by hanging onto the ²⁰ rocks that lined the side of the well. ²¹ And all the time he was holding up the 22 little girl.

He put her in the bucket, and the Mother hauled her up.

He waited there helding onto the

BOYS Page 16 side of the well until the mother sent the bucket down again and pulled him up. Pyes, I think we ought to give 6 rousing -- 3 for each of those brave boys. cheers de' 4-9-31-5M

MOVIE

4.9-31-5M

Now don't get too angry about this next dispatch -- wait until you hear the end of it. About half way through you are certainly liable to make a savage remark about the fire department of the town of Freeport, New York.

Page 17

8 Smoke pouring out of a house --9 three flights up a window, with a 10 beautiful girl leaning out and 11 screaming for help. Around her lovely 12 head sinister, menacing clouds of smoke 13 are pouring.

As the United Press describes the 14 scene, the Freeport fire department 15 dashes up. The noble fire fighters of 16 Freeport are the big heros of the 17 occasion. Their boots and helmets are 18 polished. Expressions of courage and 19 determination are in the faces of those 20 rugged smoke-eaters of Freeport. They 21 get their life-net ready -- they get 22 their ladders ready -- and the big 23 and particular hero of the hour is real 24 to dash up the ladder and save the 25

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1 beautiful blonde girl.

But just then the scene changed suddenly. The Freeport firemen looked at each other. Swiftly they hauled down their ladders. Just as swiftly they gathered up their life-net. And even more swiftly they jumped on their fire engine and started down the street.

They left the burning building to burn. They left the beautiful girl screaming at the window. They left her to her terrible Fate.

The explanation is that it was a 13 movie act. The Freeport firemen were 14 taking part in a big screen production. 15 But why did they behave in such an 16 unseemly way? Why did they spoil the 17 picture? Well, that's just the funny 18 part of it. The cameras were grinding 19 away, and the Freeport firemen were 20 ready to do their heroic bit as movie 21 actors, when a shrill sound echoed. It 22 was the skriek of a siren -- the fire 23 alarm. It was a real fire alarm. There 24 was a real fire somewhere. And so the 25

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Freeport amagina smoke-eaters had to leave their movie pals flat. A real fire busted up the screen fire and all the gellatine heroics.

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Well, the Freeport firemen dashed to the real fire as fast as they could, but there was no beautiful heroine to save. It was just another fire. RADIO

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In case any of you tolks pick up any musterious wireless signals during the next year or so, why, they may be static. In fact, that's probably what they will be - static.

But on the other hand, they may be signals from Mars.

Anyway, an ambitious attempt is 8 on this evening to try to signal Mars. 9 Station W6 DAX is trying to get into 10 communication with a supposed people 11 of the mysterious planet. The attempt 12 is hay being made by Urmsbee Rim Taylor, 13 a radio expert, who has set up his 14 apparatus at Sunnyvale, California. 15 For the next twenty months at regular 16 intervals he is going to send out 17 wireless signals for the benefit of the 18 people of Mars. He has one of the most 19 powerful short wave sets in the country, 20 and hopes to get some result. 21

The International News Service reminds us that just at present Mars is one hundred twenty-seven million miles

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RADIO - 2

away from the earth, but in December of 1932 it will be a good deal closer. It will be only about ninety-three million miles away. And that's when the chance is best of getting a bit of wireless conversation through to Mars.

And so, if you hear any weird squeeks coming out of your loud speaker, it may be some Martian news broadcaster saying:

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.