

Lowell Thomas - Nov. 2nd, 1932

PROSPERITY

Here are a few bright items to cheer us up a bit.

There is a very definite feeling that ~~things~~^{times} are getting better. The way things are looking up, there is going to be ~~a lot~~ less of that discontent we have been hearing about. Here's a United Press summary of business indications:

Steel production is up this week. Why? Because of an increase of orders from the automobile industry. Bigger business in automobiles, that means bigger business in steel.

From Cleveland comes news that payrolls have increased and real estate sales have gone up. The Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland reports better business in general.

2500 men were put to work this week at Schenectady, N.Y.

The shoe business is picking up. By the way, how many pairs of shoes do you suppose are turned out per month? Well, the figure for September was over 33 million. That is an increase of more than two million over September of last year.

Bradstreets reports that there is a decided drop in the number of business failures.

And here is another important jump. **Thirty-six** thousand airplane passengers were carried during September as against twenty-six thousand carried during the same month in 1931.

From Youngstown, Ohio, comes a real high note. An engineering concern reports that the sale of its steel plant machinery is bigger right now than ever before. A new high record for sales has just been established. A large freight company announces that it has repealed the cut in wages which was put into effect a few months ago. All its employees are now getting full wages.

Yes, that's the sort of news that will ease the discontent that is said to be playing a large part in the roaring political campaign which is now approaching its climax.

TRUCKS

That motor truck war which the State of Pennsylvania started is producing all kinds of unexpected reactions. The latest complaint comes from truck owners not in other states, but in Pennsylvania.

A dispatch to the Trenton Times relates that the new law requires all motor trucks operating within the Keystone commonwealth to be licensed by Pennsylvania. They must have not only Pennsylvania license plates, but the drivers must have Pennsylvania drivers' licenses.

So the neighboring states have started to retaliate. As a consequence, Pennsylvania truck owners will have to pay two million dollars a year extra for the privilege of operating in the states of New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland.

At all points of entry on the border between New Jersey and Pennsylvania there were armed guards today to enforce the decrees requiring truck operators to obtain

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special registration plates. The Motor Vehicle Commissioner of New Jersey announced that since yesterday forty-one Pennsylvania trucks have been turned back by New Jersey inspectors.

ADD TRUCK

This state of affairs has given rise to severe ~~xxx~~ criticism about the law. Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania today issued a statement defending it. Mr. Pinchot believes that the law is a wise ^{one,} ~~law~~. He points out that Pennsylvania was losing extensively because trucks from other states were ^{wearing out} ~~using up~~ Pennsylvania ^{highways.} ~~roads~~. "When they use Pennsylvania roads, it is no more than fair that they should pay for them", adds the Governor. He says further; "the same is true for Pennsylvania trucks in other states."

It all sounds extremely complicated.

CHICAGO

The Chicago police made a sensational raid yesterday.

A dispatch to the Cleveland Press reports that in Chicago more notorious gangsters are in jail today than at any time ^{since} the gang menace was first heard of.

Among the prisoners are ten former lieutenants of Al Capone.

Having arrested them, the Chicago cops were rather at a loss ^{as} what to do with them. They had no definite charges to lay against them, only hopes that once they were in jail witnesses would be forthcoming to justify the arrest. The story adds that never before have so many important criminals been in ~~jail~~ ^{the city} at one time, anywhere.

STRIKE

The police of London took vigorous measures today to prevent any further demonstrations by the hunger marchers. They descended upon the principal place where the unemployed were ~~gathered~~ quartered and bottled them up. Some seven hundred of them are confined there, and are unable to leave. A dispatch to the Boston Traveler declares that it is believed some of them will be forcibly escorted out of London.

There was rioting on a small scale in the various parts of the English capital.. Thirty or more persons were injured. In South London a certain amount of looting took place. However, there was no rioting on a big scale.

Sir Ronald Lindsey, the British ambassador at Washington, returned to the United States today. He told

reporters that the cause of the rioting in England was boredom. — just
boredom. And
a bored Englishman is the Nth. degree in boredom.
When people are unemployed, he points out, they become bored.

They have nothing in particular to take their minds off their troubles, hence the rioting. *Fighting because they're bored!* ~~Well~~ *Oh I say.*

A petition carrying seven hundred and fifty thousand signatures of unemployed, which was to have been presented to the House of Commons today, was checked at the parcel room of a London subway station. *It didn't get any further.* The deputation carrying it was on its way to Parliament when it was dispersed in the subway station by the police. The leaders of the hunger marchers accused the police of threatening them with violence and seizing their petition.

INSULL

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Apparently Uncle Sam has not given up all idea of bringing Samuel Insull back to the United States. A dispatch ~~from Athens~~ to the Toronto Star relates that (the American Legation in Athens has been making ~~new~~ fresh advances to the government of Greece with a view to having Mr. Insull extradited. On the other hand, Mr. Insull's friends say that he has obtained regular identity papers which permit him to live in Greece indefinitely.)

At the same time a dispatch from Washington relates that the State Department expects to issue papers today for the extradition of his brother Martin, from Canada.

CUBA

It's fortunate for some of us in the United States that we don't vote in ~~the~~ Cuban fashion. They have been having legislative and municipal elections in that island. As a result it became known today that four people have been killed and several wounded.

The dispatch says that the returns indicate that the Liberal Party of President Machado has won. *And the Cuban undertakers won also.*

SPORTS

Here's a bit of news that seems to ^{have} got one fellow excited. ~~at least~~. He ^{is} Joe Williams, ~~the~~ star sporting writer on the New York World Telegram. The tragical news is that the Brooklyn baseball team did not make any money last season and Joe seems to weep bitter tears. Not that he is a stockholder or anything like that. Joe says it all goes to show that in this unhappy world people don't properly appreciate foolishness. He points out that year after year the Brooklyn team has made a nice little bit of dough. That was when they had a team that was known as the Daffiness Boys. Others called them the Foolish Fellows from Flatbush. Those were the days when the inimitable Babe Herman ~~played~~ made Brooklyn an even more humorous place than it naturally is. ~~The~~ Babe Herman was known to catch a fly ball on the top of his head. ^{That would be nifty.} ~~He~~

^{He} also enjoyed the distinction of having hit a home run and ~~caused two outs~~ ^{I wonder how} because of the way he got tangled up with the other runner on the base line.

But last season it was different. A new and more

sensible regime was in power in Brooklyn. Baseball was played with efficiency and a certain amount of skill, minus the bonehead comedy on the field. Babe Herman and his goofy plays were sent to far-away Cincinnati. And as a result the Brooklyn Club didn't make any mazuma. So now, instead of laughter along Flatbush Avenue there is bitter weeping.

HELLEN

Here's an item about the Princess Hel^aene, divorced wife of King Carol of Roumania. A dispatch to the Montreal Star relates that she has won her fight for the partial custody of her son, the eleven year old Crown Prince Michael.

An official communication was issued at Bucharest to the effect that Princess Helene and King Carol have arrived at a complete agreement regarding the Crown Prince, also about the money the Princess receives for her support from the Crown.

Princess
The ~~Princess~~ is to have the custody of her son six months out of every year. It is up to her to decide whether she ^{and he} shall spend the six months in Roumania or ^{in some} ~~in any~~ other country.

RAILROAD

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An interesting development in railroad circles was reported today from Pennsylvania. The Interstate Commerce Commission will be asked to approve of a merger of the lines of the Pennsylvania and the Reading railroads to New Jersey seashore resorts. The roads are confident that both ^{the state of} New Jersey and Pennsylvania will cooperate in this proposal.

GLASSFORD

General Pelham D. Glassford - Happy Glassford as he is known in Washington, D. C. - the retired superintendent of the Washington Police, is going to tell the story of the eviction of the Bonus Army. A dispatch to the Newark News relates that General Glassford will tell ^{it} ~~this story~~ at a Veteran's Mass Meeting at the Metropolitan House in Philadelphia tomorrow night. The speech will be broadcast ^{by} ~~over~~ the N.B.C. ~~'s network~~

RENO

Reno, Nevada, the home of the quick divorces, is now
having ^{totally} an unexpected boom. When the Acting Governor

declared a banking holiday and a moratorium of all debts, ^{as I}
^{last night,} everybody expected hard times. A dispatch to the Detroit ^{mentioned}

News reports that the contrary has happened ^{in Reno.} Although

most of the banks in the state are closed in accordance

with the Lieutenant Governor's order, a totally unforeseen

amount of cash ^{suddenly} made its appearance throughout Nevada and

especially in Reno. All through Nevada's capital you can

hear the rattle of the dice and the click of the little

marble in the roulette wheel today.

There's been no falling off at all in the divorce
business, ^{either} ~~which is~~ one of Reno's most important industries.

The bankers say there is so much cash in sight that Reno will be

able to pull through the two weeks' moratorium without

suffering any hardship or lack of money.

^{In fact they}
^{are making a celebration out of it.}

CAMPAIGN

(President Hoover will leave Washington at four o'clock tomorrow afternoon for his fifth trip ^{to} ~~in~~ the Middle West ~~in during~~ [^] ~~and~~ this campaign. ~~for re-election.~~ The President will make speeches at Springfield, Illinois, St. Louis, ~~Missouri~~, St. Paul, ^{and} Indianapolis. From St. Paul he ~~may~~ and Mrs. Hoover may decide to go to their home in Palo Alto, ^{California.} ~~If the Hoovers go to Palo Alto arrangements have been made by which they will be able to vote by mail.~~

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Meanwhile Governor Roosevelt of New York, having returned from his New England tour, ^{he} ~~was~~ resting and preparing ~~his~~ speeches for the final week-end of ^{the} ~~his~~ campaign. Tomorrow night ^{he} ~~Mr. Roosevelt~~ will speak at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York ~~City~~. On Friday and Saturday nights there will be Democratic rallies at the Brooklyn Academy of Music and ~~the~~ Madison Square Garden.

RING

Here's a campaign statement from good old Ring Lardner, of "You know me, Al" fame. Ring says he's going to vote for Norman Thomas, the Socialist. He says that the principal reason for his vote will be that if Norman Thomas becomes President, Heywood Broun will probably have a job in the Cabinet, which would keep him laughing for four years. Ring Lardner adds:

"As a citizen of New York I feel that Broun's place is in Washington."

For the benefit of any politicians who happen to be listening in, I probably should explain that the foregoing story is facetious, just a gag.

SMITH

An interesting story in tonight's New York World Telegram relates the inside details of the famous reconciliation between Al Smith and Governor Roosevelt. The person responsible for it, ^{states} ~~said~~ the story, was Jack Garner, ~~the~~ candidate for Vice-President.

It was not until last February that Mr. Smith and Mr. Roosevelt actually fell out. There had been a coolness for months before that. *But now it's all over.*

TRIAL

A peculiar sort of court case ~~was~~^{is} reported from a town in Mississippi. A colored gentleman was on trial charged with murder. The evidence was all in and the jury was discussing its verdict. After the jurors had been out for an hour, the defendant became nervous and impatient. He stood up and said to the court:

"Judge, I'd like to plead guilty to manslaughter."

The judge accepted the plea and sentenced the man to seven and a half years in prison. Just as he had passed the sentence, the jury came back into court.

"What is your verdict, gentlemen?" said the Judge.

"Not guilty", said the foreman.

But the judge's sentence stands.

Seven and a half years for speaking out of turn. Oh oh.

VOICE

The Research Engineer for a well known talking machine has been investigating the colors of the voices of the national candidates. This engineer is the same man who invented the so-called color organ for photographing sound. It seems that President Hoover's voice is a serene blue. Governor Roosevelt's is orange. As for those who would associate redness with Socialism or Communism, they may be astonished to learn that neither Norman Thomas, the Socialist candidate, nor William Foster, the Communist, has a red voice.

As for my voice, as they say in the theatre, it's now going to be a black out . — and s - l - u - t - e - m