

LOWELL THOMAS' BROADCAST FOR THE LITERARY DIGEST

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1931

POLAND

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

In the quaint old world town of Poznan, in Poland, there was a solemn Fourth of July celebration today. A huge statue of Woodrow Wilson was unveiled.

The International News Service reminds us that the American wartime President took a considerable part in the re-establishment of the freedom of the Polish nation. This is appreciated by the Poles, especially by the great Polish patriot and musician, Paderewsky.

It will be remembered that Paderewsky, world famous as a virtuoso on the piano, became the head of the Government of the reborn Polish nation. Paderewsky in his labors for Polish independence, had enjoyed the deep sympathy and the help of Woodrow Wilson.

And that huge statue of America's war president which was unveiled today was donated by Paderewsky.

The unveiling ceremonies were attended by the President

of Poland, by the American Ambassador, and by Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, who had journeyed to Europe just to attend this event. A message from Mr. Hoover was read, in which the President recalled the part that Polish lovers of freedom had taken in the establishment of American independence. President Hoover spoke of how Kosciuko Pulaski and other Polish volunteers crossed the ocean and fought in the ragged regiments of Washington.

Well, just one thing was missing from the stately ceremony over in Poland today, one person was absent. Paderewsky, was not there. The famous pianist remained in Switzerland at the bedside of his wife who is critically ill. In fact she is so dangerously ill that Paderewsky could not attend the dedication of the statue that he had donated.

BRAZIL

And another figure was unveiled today - down in Brazil.

It is a statue of liberty presented by Uncle Sam to the people of Brazil as an expression of good will. It stands, appropriately, in Wilson Avenue, a thoroughfare which Brazilians have dedicated to the American war president.

The International News Service tells us that President Vargas of Brazil and the American Ambassador were there, ~~xxx~~ and a gathering of glittering officials - also a huge crowd of people who shouted with loud Brazilian cheers. And Uncle Sam isn't always cheered in South America.

1 I don't suppose there is any further
2 possibility of a ~~xxxx~~ doubt about what's
3 at the bottom of that quarrel between
4 the vatican and the Fascist Government
5 of Italy. The controversy ~~has taken~~ ^{has taken} a
6 highly dramatic turn, with the latest
7 ~~xxxxxxx~~ Encyclical of Pope Pius XI
8 which ^{was} ~~is~~ made public today. This
9 document, issued by the Pontiff, was taken
10 secretly out of Italy and made public
11 in France, just so the Fascists could
12 not suppress it and keep it from reaching
13 the outside world.

14 The Encyclical is also printed
15 today in the official vatican newspaper.
16 Of course, that newspaper, which is
17 printed in Rome, could be suppressed by
18 Mussolini's government. In having the
19 Encyclical taken to France, Pope Pius
20 was making doubly sure that his message
21 would reach the whole world. In fact,
22 the Pontiff is appealing to the world
23 against the Fascist government.

24 That new Encyclical does not
25 mince words. It complains in strong

1 terms against the actions of the
2 Fascists, and goes on to state clearly
3 and precisely the issue between the
4 Papacy and Mussolini - ^{and} that issue is
5 the question of youth.

6 The Encyclical declares that the
7 Fascists insist on having entirely in
8 their hands, the education of children,
9 and that the Black Shirts make it a point
10 of doctrine that they and only they shall
11 be allowed to mould the minds of youth.

12 The Pope contradicts this strongly.
13 He declares that the Christian Church
14 shall and must have the right to instill
15 Christian ideas into the minds of the
16 growing generations.

17 The Pope denounces the Fascist
18 oath which Italian children are required
19 to take. That oath binds the youngsters
20 to devote themselves to the cause and the
21 theories of Fascists.

22 And so the controversy between
23 Pope Pius XI and Mussolini has blazed
24 up again, and one cannot help remembering
25 the many struggles during 2,000 years
between the Popes and the Princes of the
Earth.

FRANCE

Well, the French government celebrated the Fourth of July - yes celebrated it by giving out the statement we've been expecting. It's a carefully phrased communication. The International News Service summarizes the statement as setting forth that an agreement has been reached on all important principles involved in the Hoover plan. Financial details still remain to be thrashed out before that suspension of reparations of war debts can go into effect.

But everybody seems of the opinion that these details will be settled in due course. Most of the morning papers carry headlines indicating that the matter has been settled and that the French have agreed to the Hoover plan in a way satisfactory to the United States.

In Washington, however, as the Associated Press tells us officials of the State Department don't say that a satisfactory understanding has been definitely reached. But they say they are sure that it will be. It's just a question of a little more time and a little more discussion.

Oh yes, here's an odd one.

1 ~~Gosh~~, When I first read this *next*
2 dispatch I thought it must mean my own
3 house. It talks about a raggedy window
4 shade and a patched lace curtain - you
5 know, the kind of window shade with
6 frayed edges and a few crinkles in it
7 through which you can see the daylight,
8 and the kind of lace curtain that is
9 mended here and there. You know how
10 once in a while we have them hanging
11 in our windows when they ought to be
12 tossed in the ^{JUNK} ~~chunk~~ heap.

13 Yes, ~~I had a sneaking suspicion~~
14 ~~that somebody was saying that a few of~~
15 ~~the shades and curtains in my house are~~
16 ~~on the bum.~~

17 However, it's all about ^{one} ~~some~~
18 ~~vastly more~~ venerable and august
19 dwelling. It's about the first mansion
20 of the land, the presidential mansion,
21 the White House. The United Press
22 informs us that passersby in Washington
23 have noticed that on the Pennsylvania
24 Avenue side of the White House there is
25 a ragged window shade in one window and

1 a patched lace curtain in the other.
2 It looks ^{as if} ~~like~~ some of us poor people
3 live there.

4 But the explanation is: Hoover
5 economy. They say that each year it
6 is customary to renovate the shades
7 and curtains of the White House
8 during the summer when the President
9 and his family are away on vacation,
10 but this year President Hoover ~~is~~
11 has called for economy. He says
12 expenses must be cut down, and anyway,
13 Mr. Hoover isn't enjoying the usual
14 presidential vacation this summer.
15 He's busy with affairs of state in the
16 White House right now.

17 And so, the usual summer
18 renovation didn't ~~not~~ take place - hence
19 the shabby shade and the mended lace
20 curtain in the window^s of the White
21 House.

1 This evening on the gray choppy
2 waters of the North Atlantic not far
3 from the New England coast ten tiny craft
4 are steering East -- ten yachts. They
5 are on their way across the ocean, headed
6 for England.

7 *Yes,* This afternoon was starting time
8 for a trans-Atlantic ^{yacht} race.

9 The International News Service tells
10 us that the ten trim little craft are
11 competing for the Prince of Wales Cup.

12 The race is from Newport to
13 Plymouth -- a distance of 2,956 miles.
14 It will take the yachts something like
15 three weeks to sail the distance.

16 Well, there was only a breath of
17 air off Newport this afternoon, and a
18 fog lay on the water, but the brave
19 little fleet spread its sails and headed
20 out for the wide spaces of the sea.

21 They say this will be one of the
22 most adventurous races in the history
23 of yachting. And so let's all wish fair
24 weather and a good breeze abeam for the
25 ten sailboats that are scudding along with
tall graceful masts and white billowing
sails.

1 Now comes a two-to-one proposition.
2 In the big tennis tournament at
3 Wimbledon, over in England, the United
4 States has gained two titles and lost
5 one. An American won the honors in the
6 men's singles. Germany takes first
7 place in the women's singles. And ~~now~~^{today}
8 as the International News Service tells
9 us, an American team won the men's
10 doubles.

11 George Lott and John Van Ryn won
12 their match today against the French
13 team of Cochet and Brugnon.

14 And so it's two victories and one
15 defeat for Uncle Sam.

1 Well, folks I want to tell you in
2 advance that the poor old dog didn't
3 have a license, and the Judge knew that
4 by law a dog is required to have a
5 license. And that Judge felt he was
6 required to see that the law was
7 observed. And with that preliminary
8 I'll ^{just} go ahead with the story.

9 Pal ^{is} ~~was~~ just a mutt. His master
10 says he's a good dog, a faithful dog,
11 and a smart dog. But just the same, we
12 can't call him anything but m-u-t-t --
13 mutt.

14 Pal didn't have any license, and
15 they brought the dog and his master into
16 a South Chicago court before Judge John
17 J. Lupe. Pal, just a mutt, stood before
18 the ~~magistrate~~ ^{majesty} of the court -- and the
19 old dog wagged his tail. He didn't know
20 what it was all about. He didn't know ^{that in}
21 the ordinary course of events, ^{he} ~~he~~ was
22 due to go to the ^{dog} pound, and then -- well,
23 you know what happens to a dog that
24 hasn't got a friend.

25 There, also before the ~~magistrate~~ ^{majesty}

1 of the court, stood Pal's master, Fred
2 Zasznelto. Fred is 11 years old, and he
3 wore an old shabby pair of overalls.

4 The Judge asked Fred why he didn't
5 have a license for his dog Pal. The
6 11-year-old boy had been standing with
7 his head down, frightened by the police-
8 men and the Judge, but when he heard
9 that question -- well, he knew what the
10 answer was. He was ready to cry, but he
11 fought back his tears and just told the
12 court:-

13 "I ain't got any money," he said,
14 "and if I had any I couldn't keep it for
15 ~~myself~~, ^{me and Pal.} And I couldn't spend it for a
16 license ~~for Pal~~, because my Mother would
17 need ^s any money I ~~could~~ ^{can} get."

18 Judge Lupe didn't quite know what
19 ~~to~~ to say to that. You know how it is --
20 a Judge is a stern and solemn man, but
21 sometimes he can't help feeling the way
22 the rest of us do. So he just asked Fred
23 another question.

24 "What kind of a dog is that?" the
25 Judge inquired.

1 Well, I don't think that was a
 2 very bright question. The Judge could *easily*
 3 tell just what kind of a dog Pal was.
 4 Anybody could tell that Pal ^{was} a 100 per
 5 cent example of m-u-t-t -- mutt.

6 ~~Well~~ ^{All the same,} Pal may be 16 kinds of a
 7 mutt to you and me, but to ^{eleven year old} Fred -- well,
 8 just listen to what Fred said:-

9 "Judge," he declared, "my dog Pal
 10 is the smartest dog in the world. He
 11 can do a lot of tricks. If I throw a
 12 stick, why, he just runs and gets it and
 13 brings it back to me. And it takes a
 14 smart dog to do that, don't it?"

15 "And he plays with us boys all the
 16 time, Judge. He's just ■ like another
 17 boy. When we go swimming, we always
 18 take him along with us. Why, Pal is so
 19 smart, Judge, that he can swim better than
 20 ~~I can~~ *me*.

21 "He's a good dog, Judge, and he
 22 likes all the boys. But he likes me
 23 better than anybody in all the world.
 24 And please, Judge, don't let anybody take
 25 him away and kill him. I just can't get

1 along without Pal."

2 Well, ~~as I said before, Pal had~~
3 ~~to have a license. That's the law. And~~
4 Judge Lupe felt that he had to uphold the
5 law. ~~He couldn't allow a dog without a~~
6 ~~license to be at large in his jurisdic-~~
7 ~~tion. That's all there was to it.~~

8 ~~Well~~ "Fred," declared the Judge,
9 "your dog Pal has got to have a license."

10 And when Fred heard that he hung
11 his head and began to cry.

12 Meanwhile, the Judge was fishing
13 about in his pocket. He pulled out 3
14 dollars.

15 "You take this money, Fred,"
16 commanded the Judge, "and you get a
17 license for Pal." ^{TP} That 3 dollars would pay
18 for the license and leave a little bit
19 over."

20 They say that during this scene
21 many people in the court room dabbed their
22 eyes with handkerchiefs. And I'll bet
23 they did. Anyway, this evening Pal, with
24 a perfectly shining brand new license is
25 out with Fred and the boys -- probably
out swimming.

1 Let's revamp the first line of an
2 old nursery rhyme and make it go
3 something like this: XWill you come
4 into my parlor, said the spider to the
5 rattlesnake.

6 We all know that a spider can
7 eat a fly, but this week's Literary
8 Digest, in describing the bill of
9 fare of some spiders, includes frogs,
10 lizards, bats, mice, birds and even
11 rattlesnakes.

12 Of course, the common small
13 spider that lives in the cobwebs of
14 old attics, is not likely to walk up
15 to a big rattler and look him in the eye
16 and say - yum, yum, what a fine hotdog
17 you are.

18 But, of course, there are many
19 kinds of spiders including big ferocious
20 and dangerous spiders. Take the well
21 known and justly famous tarantula, for
22 example. Wouldn't a pitched battle
23 between a giant tarantula and a rattlesnake
24 be worth watching? It would, if you had
25 the gumption to stick around.

(2)

1 The Literary Digest quotes from
2 an article in the New York American
3 by Dr. E. W. Gudger of the American
4 Museum of Natural History. The Digest
5 informs us that Dr. Gudger is an
6 expert on spiders. The Doctor takes
7 off his hat in admiration to a small but
8 game little spider called Dolomedes.
9 The Doctor tells how Kid Dolomedes
10 has been known to go fishing. No,
11 there's no occasion for saying - Will
12 you come into my parlor, said the spider
13 to the fish. Kid Dolomedes doesn't
14 persuade the fish to climb, jump or
15 fly into the spider's web. Kid
16 Dolomedes takes a dive into the water,
17 grabs a small fish, and drags it ~~out on~~^{to shore}
18 ~~the land~~ and eats it.

19 In the Aquarium of Golden Gate
20 Park, San Francisco, a spider went after
21 the goldfish in a choice collection,
22 and devoured several of them.

23 And then in Porto Rico there's
24 an enterprising spider that eats lizards.

25 And so it isn't so surprising

1 when we read in the Literary Digest
2 that a big poisonous spider, maybe a tarantula,
3 *can* kill a rattlesnake and eat it.

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TALL STORY

On the other hand, I've a newspaper clipping here about the misadventures of a rattlesnake. It is sent by C. E. Riley of Brooklyn. Mr. Riley comments that the tale sounds tall enough for the Tall Story Club.

It tells us that Bill Gates of Nashville, Indiana has a store. It doesn't specify what kind of a store, but out in front, as a display, Bill had a cage and in it a big rattlesnake.

That was all right until Bill decided to give the rattler something to eat. So he dropped a mouse into the cage.

Now Bill Gates, of Nashville, Indiana, sounds like a magnificent tall story teller when he goes on to inform us that the next thing he observed was that the mouse was eating the rattles right off the rattlesnake's tail. I don't know what the reptile was doing all this time, but Bill solemnly declares that the mouse was doing one fine job of eating those rattles.

In order to save the rattlesnake's life Bill had to remove the mouse.

Yes, sir, and the next thing on the program will be for

TALL STORY

me to make out a hand-tooled diploma of membership to the Tall
Story Club for Bill Gates, of Nashville, Indiana.

Meanwhile - SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.