LINDBERGH

Lowell Thomas Broadcast for the Literary Digest, Friday, March 11, 1932

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GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:-

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The New York Evening Post declares today that it
has reliable information that the Lindbergh family has had no
word from the kidnappers of the baby. The bereaved home at
Hopewell, N.J., has been deluged with communications, letters,
telegrams, telephone calls, many of which purport to come from
the kidnappers. But the Post declares that Colonel Lindbergh has
been convinced that none of these countless communications are
actually from the criminals that stole the baby. Even at the
Literary Digest office we have been receiving these communications
for the Lindberghs. I got a number of simply fantastic letters
today.

The New Jersey State Troopers apparently have accomplished nothing in their hunt for the child and their attempts to break the case. The New York Sun today points out that the State Police is not a detective organization and adds that it appears that the troopers conducted their investigation without the help of trained detectives and there is a feeling that what was needed on the case was not a State Police organization, but the

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services of trained investigator's, experienced detectives.

They say that the underworld is trying to muscle in. No, not to k get any money out of this pitiful Lindbergh tragedy, but merely to gain fame and credit. Underworld le aders would like to appear in the role of lending a helping hand. And thex x under man x d x a m m a u m a e d to the world-renowned aviator, and no xxx doubt they would very much like to get the baby back. Scarface Al Capone now in a Chicago jail, told Arthur Brisbane, the famous editor, today that he would like to help recover the child. Arthur Brisbane, in the New York Evening Journal, quotes Capone as saying:-"I DON'T WANT ANY FAVORS IF I AM ABLE TO DO ANYTHING FOR THAT BABY".

The interest of the underworld has been sharpened by the fact that two important figures of the underworld are acting as agents for Colonel Lindbergh. and by the way, these two men, Spitale and Blitz, seem to be in a bit of trouble in

Brooklyn; it was revealed today that they are two of sixteen men, who have been indicted on charges of violating 3 the Prohibition Law. They are scheduled to stand trial, and that may bexa 5 handicap their activities in the Lindbergh case. According to the New York World Telegram today Spitale and Blitz declared that they have a lead, which suggests that the Lindbergh baby may be in Detroit. 10 They say that they will go to Detroit 11 to investigate as so on as the Prohibition 12 trouble they are in is straightened out 13 sufficiently for them to leave Brooklyn. 14 and once more the word is - well 15 there is no word. That blank, pathetic mystery. 17

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The coming week-end will be an exciting one in Germany. The Presidential election, which will be held on Sunday, promises to be one of the most bitterly 5 fought in German history. The New York 6 Sun today declares that German political campaigners have thrown politeness to the winds, and have turned the campaign into 8 a knock-down and drag-out free-for-all.

Of course, the big issue Handsome Adolf Hitler and his man cohorts ef Fascists win the battle of ballots? Who will be the next President of Germany -- Hindenburg or Hitler? It is up to the German voters to decide between the iron leader and who led Germany's armies during the World War, or the young firebrand who has risen to eminence in such sensational fashion.

The hint has gone around that if Hitler is beaten in the election, why his Fascist fire-eaters may stage an attempt to overthrow the government by violence.

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A quiet wedding was performed today 1 in a Register's office in London. 3 Prince Lennart of Sweden married a girl who is not at all of royal rank, but is just a commoner. And you can say too that the bridegroom is not of royal rank -- that is, he isn't any more. By 8 marrying a commoner he forfeited his proyal rights. He has no chance ever to become King of Sweden. His grandfather, 10 King Gustav, refused to give his consent, 11 and so the marriage could not take place in Sweden. However, at the last minute King Gustav sent his best wishes.

The United Press cables that the mother of Prince Lennart was not at the 16 17 wedding either. And yet she had gone to 18 London to attend the ceremony. She is the Russian Grand Duchess Marie who has become such a prominent figure in America of late. She was the wife of xxx Prince William of Sweden, the famous explorer, also well known in America. He is Prince Lennart's father. But the marriage between the tall, quiet,

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scholarly Swedish Prince and the spectacular and even fantastic Russian Princess resulted in unhappiness and a separation.

Well, the mother, the Grand
Duchess Marie, wanted the wedding today
to be held with formal ceremony in a
Church, but the young bridegroom
decided otherwise. The Grand Duchess
is said to have offered 10,000 pounds
to her son, as a wedding gift, if he
would consent to have a gala, ceremonia!
wedding. But Prince Lennart insisted on
a quiet affair in a Register's office,
with just the legal formalities. And
they say that's the reason why the
brilliant Grand Duchess Marie, the mother
of Prince Lennart, did not attend that
London wedding today.

From England, the interesting young couple will go to Switzerland for their honeymoon. They will live on an island in Lake Constance, and henceforth they will be known simply as Mr. and Mrs. Lennart Bernadotte.

Here's a bit of a surprise in our list of figures tonight. Most of our towns are in the South and Middle West. That's where you'd expect to find a strong dry sentiment. But as a matter of fact, our decisive showing for prohibition this evening is from another part of the country entirely. It is the Morth-last substitute we want to the first city on the list is both South and West. It is Little Rock, Arkansas -- for prohibition 780, against 1.481.

In California the city of Oakland gives 1563 in favor of the 18th Amendment -- 5,969 against.

We had a report on Colorado Springs several days ago, but here 's another. For the dry law 813 -- 1120 against.

Macon, Georgia, 589 for -- 1114 against.

Here's to city that's neither

Southern nor Western; but it's the

one that goes for prohibition. It's

Worcester, Massachusetts -- 1407 votes

things as they are."

say "Yes, we like prohibition."

4692 say "No. we don't."

Great Falls, Montana -- 186 votes for, I, II8 votes against.

Well, here's our prohibition majority, and it's from one of the big Eastern states -- one of the biggest in fact -- Pennsylvania. Well, We know that there's a good deal of xxx strong dry sentiment in the state founded by William Penn. That's indicated by the fact that the present governor, Mr. Pinchot, is an ardent dry.

Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, votes 615 enthusiastic ballots in favor of the dry cause. The wet vote is 510.

Now comes Columbia. South Carolina -- 358 for -- 1275 against.

Schenectady, New York, 870 for 3077 against.

Houston, Texas, 1588 for 5,629 against.

The New York Herald Tribune today prints a pointed editorial which makes some interesting comment concerning a victory scored by the Literary Digest

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Poll at Wichita, Kansas. The state-bystate figures thus far show Kansas dry. But they also show a wet majority for the city of Wichita. Well, those figures were challenged. Thee ditors of the Wichita Beacon did not believe that the Literary Digest figures accurately indicated the sentiments of the city. But they were content with mere words and arguments. They decided to hold a conclusive test. They staged a poll of their own. They expected it to show that Wichita was dry , was, in sentiment and that the Literary Digest figures were wrong.

When the returns from that poll donducted by the Beacon came in, the editors were astonished. Their vote was almost an exact duplicate of the Literary Digest vote -- so far as percentages were concerned. The figures of the Digest Poll werel, 199 in favor of prohibition and 1,649 against. The newspaper poll was much larger. It showed 7,239 for prohibition and 9,680 against.

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Well, now let's figure out the percentages. The Literary Digest Poll indicated a percentage of 42.1 in favor of the 18th Amemdment. The newspaper poll's percentage in favor of the dry cause was 42.79. The Digest percentage for repeal was 57.9. The newspaper proportion for repeal was 57.21. And that brings us to the fact that the difference between the Digest Poll and the poll conducted by the Wichita Beacon was less than seven-tenths of one percent.

Well, this just duplicates an event that took place in the course of the Literary Digest Prohibition Poll of 1930. At that time a Savannah newspaper challenged the Savannah figures and held a poll of its own -- and then found to its astonishment that its own straw vote virtually duplicated the results as shown by the Literary Digest Poll.

the Rochester idea seems to be spreading - I mean that drive against the depression which the citizens of Rochester put on with such success. I mentioned it a few evenings ago, and now we have it once more - but this time the plan is much bigger.

An impressive meeting was held in New York today, a gathering of a number of big industries. And organization work was begun for the purpose of putting that Rochester idea into effect in the metropolitan area of New York. A representative of the Literary Digest took part in the proceedings, because an article printed in last week's issue played a big part in telling the rest of the country about that project to relieve unemployment.

The Rochester idea is a drive for home improvement. It's a concerted movement to get people to make those improvements that a home always needs. In that way they can provide employment for many of the thousands that are so badly in need of jobs.

A Congressional investigating committee brought in a report today on the subject of the giant dirigible, the Akron. The Committee decided unanimously that the big airship is okay. Various charges were investigated, charges that faulty material had been used, the construction was poor, that the dirigible was dangerously overweight and that there had been sabotage—that is, that working men had deliberately done bad work, and otherwise had injured the huge airship when she was built.

investigating committee declares that there is nothing to it. The charges are all nonsense. A United Press dispatch in the New York World Telegram adds that the Committee congratulated both the builders and the Navy Department.

They're having a peculiar difficulty with the traffic in Chicago. Thousands of seagulls seem to have decided to take possession of the boulevards along the Lake front.

A United Press wire in the New York Sun terms there's a lot of ice in the lake, and this floating ice has kept the birds from getting to their usual feeding grounds. And the seagulls have been crowding by the thousands in the streets near the water. Automobile drivers don't want to run over the birds, and traffic has been seriously held up.

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There seem to be certain problems connected with the delicate art of sticking a ten inch needle into the neck of a hippopotamus. At least so says Tex Clark, superintendent of the Swope Park Zoo at Kansas City.

There's a theory that the skin of a hippopotamus is so thick that it would take a dumdum bullet or a cavalry at sabre to make much of an impression. It was supposed that anything so tiny and inoffensive as a ten inch needle would only tickle a hippopotamus and 14 perhaps make him laugh. And, of course, a hippopotamus has an ideal mouth for a 16 good hearty laugh. But it appears that 17 the theory is all wrong.

At the Kansas City Zoo they have a huge hippo named Cleo. Cleo has 19 been out of sorts. She has what the 20 doctors call Haemorrhagic Septicaemia. 21 22 | don't know much about Haemorrhagic Septicaemia, but it seems the way you treat the malady is to make an injection 25 with a hypodermic needle.

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Armed with a hypodermic needle xime
ten inches long, Tex Clark and an
assistant, walked into Cleo's cage,
sidled up to the crittur, and started
to jab ten inches of steel into the
hippo's neck. That was when the
excitement began. With a roar of
astonishment and pain, Cleo, the hippo
tried to swallow the two men alive.
Tex and his partner got out of the
enclosure as fast as they could.

They made two other attempts to insert the ten inch needle into Cleo's neck. Each time the hippopotamus nearly turned a somersault, and nearly ate 'em alive.

And now the United Press quotes

Tex as declaring that he's going to build a construction of timber and get Cleo under it, and lash her to the mast.

Then he will jab that needle into her neck.

But as for trying it again without suitable protection, Tex says in his drawling Western way - So long until Monday.