

1
2 Good Evening, Everybody:-

3 First, I have more news tonight
4 about the Poll -- the Literary Digest's
5 Prohibition Poll of 20 million postcard
6 ballots, that I announced last night.

7 An additional million-and-a-half
8 ballots in envelopes addressed to men and
9 women in Pennsylvania, North Carolina,
10 Georgia, Massachusetts, Ohio, Maryland,
11 and Virginia, went pouring through Uncle
12 Sam's mails today. More ballots also
13 went out to New York and New Jersey.

14 Don't let your ballot go astray.
15 Whether you are for or against Prohibition,
16 make sure your voice is included in the
17 mighty chorus for your side of this
18 insistent and persistent question which
19 thoughtful men and women agree is the
20 most important issue to confront the
21 American people since the Civil War.

22 If you lose your ballot you lose
23 your ^{vote} ~~voice~~. So don't let it get
24 tossed away among circulars that come in
25 your mail. The front of the envelope

1 tells its own story. On the left-hand
2 side, in bold black and red lettering,
3 it reads:

4 "This Envelope Contains YOUR SECRET
5 BALLOT (Return Postage Paid.)"

6 All you have to do is drop the ballot in
7 the mail, and it comes back at the
8 expense of the Literary Digest.

9 The editor of the Digest, Doctor
10 Woods, was telling me that the material
11 of these ballots is made specially by a
12 paper manufacturer with a patented
13 process for card material which cannot
14 possibly be forged or successfully
15 imitated. Every attempt that has been
16 made in the past to make counterfeit
17 Literary Digest poll ballots has been
18 detected immediately. Moreover, the
19 cards are supplied by the manufacturer
20 under an agreement that no similar
21 material shall be put out by him within
22 a period of six months.

23 I tore a little corner from a
24 sample ballot, and was interested to
25 see the different colored layers it had

1 inside -- a regular rainbow effect. Yet
2 they all cling together and inter-
3 penetrate their fibers so perfectly
4 that it ~~was~~^{is} impossible to separate the
5 layers. And I saw how ~~impossible~~^{hopeless} it
6 would be ^{to try} to counterfeit a Literary
7 Digest ballot closely enough to get by
8 our hundreds of expert examiners and
9 tally clerks.

10 So when you drop your ballot in
11 the mail you can have perfect confidence,
12 not only that it will be counted, but
13 that every ballot counted in this great
14 ~~Literary~~ Digest 20-million ballot
15 Prohibition Poll is a genuine ballot
16 representing the judgment of an
17 American citizen on the great issue of
18 our day.

1 A strong move toward peace is
2 under way tonight, an attempt to bring
3 about a settlement of the bitter
4 quarrel in the Far East.

5 The United States and Great
6 Britain today joined forces in proposals
7 to both ^{the} Chinese and Japanese governments.
8 *The* Two great western powers sent identical
9 notes to the Far East. *Q* France and Italy
10 are expected to send similar diplomatic
11 communications.

12 It is emphasized that ~~this~~ this
13 peace move is made at the mutual request
14 of both China and Japan. The two
15 embroiled nations have asked Uncle Sam
16 and John Bull, France and Italy to use
17 their influence to bring about a peaceable
18 settlement of the trouble.

19 Ray Tucker, the Washington
20 correspondent of the New York World
21 Telegram, wires that the diplomatic
22 proposals suggest four points upon which
23 China and Japan should agree.

24 First : Both sides should stop
25 fighting right away.

1 Second: Neither China nor Japan
2 should mobilize any more troops or make
3 any preparations for further warfare.

4 Third: The withdrawal of
5 Chinese and Japanese forces from those
6 sections where they are facing each
7 other, the idea being to get the fighting
8 men out of the same general neighborhood,
9 so that they won't start scrapping again.

10 Fourth: The protection of the
11 International Settlement at Shanghai.
12 The scheme ^{now} suggested is to establish a
13 neutral zone, ~~which would be~~ policed by
14 the consular authorities of the
15 International Settlement. ~~The~~

16 These proposals were submitted
17 simultaneously by the American Ambassador
18 ~~at Tokio~~ and the American Consul General
19 at Nanking. At exactly the same time
20 the British representatives at Tokio
21 handed in their suggestions which
22 proposed exactly the same thing.

23 The story of how this strong
24 diplomatic move came to be made, has
25 a dramatic touch.

1 On Sunday a bit of news came through
2 to the effect that the Japanese government
3 would welcome a bit of diplomatic aid in
4 straightening out ~~xxxxxxx~~ the snarl
5 in China. The story didn't attract much
6 attention, but the United Press reports
7 that President Hoover and Secretary of
8 State Stimson noticed the dispatch and
9 decided to act upon it. The action came
10 in the ^{peace} ~~xxxxx~~ proposals cabled to Tokio and
11 Nanking today.

12 Meanwhile, the fighting has ^{still} been
13 going on. A big battle raged in the
14 Chinese section of Shanghai today, a
15 battle of machine guns, rifle fire and
16 cannon. The Japanese and Chinese
17 ~~apparently~~ pounded away at each other amid
18 the smoky ruins of the devastated city.
19 Strong forces of Chinese pressed forward
20 among the blackened ^{debris} ~~ruins~~. The Japanese
21 made a counter drive, and claimed that
22 after heavy fighting they won a smashing
23 victory.

24 Edgar Snow, the Shanghai
25 correspondent of the New York Sun, cables,

1 however, that the Chinese still hold
2 parts of war blasted Shanghai. They are
3 hanging on grimly, and the Japanese
4 have not been able to dislodge them.

5 At Nanking things have been
6 relatively quiet. The Japanese warships
7 are riding ^{ominously} ~~grimly~~ on the murky waters
8 of the Yangtse River. A Japanese
9 landing force is holding a position near
10 the city. ~~Efforts to avert further~~
11 ~~fighting in the Nanking section are~~
12 ~~being made, but they say that the~~
13 ~~Chinese are in a fighting mood, and~~
14 ~~it is quite likely that they will make~~
15 ~~a strong attack upon the troops of the~~
16 ~~Mikado, for holding on in grim array.~~

1 At San Francisco Fong Choy, whose
2 nationality is Chinese, was taken to a
3 hospital with a broken leg and hip. The
4 Doctor came along to set the fractures.
5 The Doctor's name is Walter Iraiki, and
6 his nationality is Japanese.

7 When Fong Choy saw the Japanese
8 Doctor he burst into a stream of wrathful
9 ^{sing song,}
~~Chinese~~, calling down the vengence of his
10 ancestors upon Japan, ~~and all the men of~~
11 ~~Nippon. He refused to let the Doctor~~
12 ~~come near him.~~

13 The New York Sun relates how a
14 policeman and two nurses used all their
15 strength to hold Fong Choy, so that ether
16 could be forcibly administered. ~~to him.~~
17 The ether calmed his celestial wrath, and
18 the Japanese Doctor set his leg and hip.

19 When Fong Choy came to^o he looked at
20 the neat job of bone-setting the Doctor
21 had done and couldn't help admitting that
22 so far as he could see it was a first
23 class piece of sur^gery. Referring to the
24 Japanese medica^t, he said: ^{"Huh"} "Him pretty
25 good. Maybe go school in China."

1 Just as a small sort of
 2 sideshow, another bit of trouble has
 3 ■ started up in South America. In the
 4 mountainous republic of Ecuador today
 5 government troops were battling with an
 6 outbreak of revolution. ~~Fighting took~~
 7 ~~place in the province of Charchi.~~ The
 8 ^{N.Y. Eve. Post} ~~United Press~~ quotes a statement given
 9 out by the government to the effect that
 10 a battalion of troops ^{was} ~~were~~ attacked at
 11 the town of Tulcan. The soldiers were
 12 assailed by a party of 400 rebels, but
 13 they seem to have won the fight.

14 It is estimated that 2,000 men are
 15 involved in the revolt, ~~and the trouble~~
 16 ~~is confined to the section of Ecuador~~
 17 along the border of ~~the republic of~~
 18 Colombia.

1 ^{An}
 2 got ^{under way} ~~going~~ in Geneva today. The New York
 3 Evening Post describes it as convening
 4 in an atmosphere more tense than any
 5 other international assembly since the
 6 historic Peace Conference thirteen years
 7 ago.

8 Nanking and Shanghai supply an
 9 ominous background for the Disarmament
 10 Conference, ~~which opened today~~. The N.Y. ^{Eve.}
 11 ^{Post} ~~piece~~ goes on to tell ~~us that the~~
 12 ~~introductory speech was something of a~~
 13 ~~contrast to the general atmosphere of~~
 14 ~~pessimism~~. ^{How} Arthur Henderson of Great
 15 Britain, ~~President of the Disarmament~~
 16 ~~Conference~~ started the proceedings off
 17 with an ^{optimistic} address. ~~hopeful and optimistic.~~

18 They say that all sorts of
 19 ~~cross purposes are working below the~~
 20 ~~surface of that gathering. Only a~~
 21 ~~handful of British and American pacifists~~
 22 ~~are really thinking of disarmament~~
 23 ~~exclusively. Most of the members~~ ~~are~~
 24 ~~are~~ have their heads full of ideas
 25 ~~concerned with national~~

1 ~~security, the rights and wrongs of the~~
2 ~~peace treaty and ~~xxxx~~ other matters~~
3 ~~that will have to be solved before there~~
4 ~~can be any real disarmament.~~ The fact is
5 that the Disarmament Conference which
6 bulked so big in the news some time ago
7 is rather eclipsed by the events in the
8 Far East. Plans of disarmament and
9 world peace don't stand out so vividly
10 when they are in the dark looming shadow
11 of war.
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1 This is ground-hog day -- and I
2 certainly ought to have something brilliant
3 to say about it. Because I ought to be
4 an authority on ground-hogs. My farm up
5 in the Berkshire hills is a favorite
6 haunt of that celebrated animal. ~~They come~~
7 ~~from miles around to attack our crops. We~~
8 ~~hunt them with guns, with dogs and with~~
9 ~~traps.~~ But, expert though I ought to be, *I*
10 ~~on the subject, of ground-hogs, I even~~
11 forget from year to year just what is the
12 significance of ground-hog day. I mean I
13 get it mixed up.

14 ~~I am not sure whether we have winter~~
15 ~~if he sees his shadow, or whether it is~~
16 ~~something else. But I do know that in~~
17 ~~this neck of the woods we haven't had any~~
18 ~~winter so far, that is until today.~~

19 ~~The winds howled and the snow blew~~
20 ~~today, along the Eastern coast, and old~~
21 ~~Mr. Ground-Hog surely didn't see his~~
22 ~~shadow.~~

23 From press dispatches that have been
24 coming in I notice that many parts of the
25 country are celebrating Ground-Hog Day.

Some of my old neighbors fact, are
 having a gala banquet. ~~that is~~
 folks who were my ~~when I was~~
~~one year old.~~ I was in a little
 burg in ~~southwest~~ that might be
 described as a whistle station, ~~that~~
~~is,~~ the trains ^{but} never
 stop. The name ~~place is~~
~~Woodington.~~ I understand that a big
 banquet is being given at the neighboring
 metropolis of Greenville tonight, ~~out~~
~~where~~ Mad Anthony ~~chased the Indians.~~
 The United States ~~is~~ in charge
~~one of the chief~~ ~~series tonight.~~
 And state officials of Ohio are on hand.
 In fact, it is ~~red annual banquet.~~
 a little like the Iron Club banquet
 in Washington. This is one at Greenville
 in honor of George Washington Day is a Tall Story
 banquet, ^{and I} ~~and~~ ^{choppers are flying thick}
~~and fast~~ Well, sitting here in the studio
 with me tonight is a distinguished
 gentleman who looks altogether too
 dignified to tell a whopper. He is very
 tall and he has a long beard. He is a

RETAKE

Gregory
Mas on.
explorer -
ancient
American
civilizations.
Feb. 2, 1932 -
p-13.

1 Some of my old neighbors, in fact, are
2 having a gala banquet tonight. ~~that is~~
3 ~~folks who were my neighbors when I was~~
4 ~~one year old.~~ I was born in a little
5 burg in ~~southwestern~~ Ohio that might be
6 described as a whistling station, ~~that~~
7 ~~is~~, the trains used to whistle, ^{but} never
8 stop. ~~The name of that place is~~
9 ~~Woodington.~~ I understand that a big
10 banquet is being held in the neighboring
11 metropolis of Greenville tonight, ~~out~~
12 ~~where Mad Anthony Wayne chased the Indians.~~
13 The United States postmaster there, ~~is~~ ^{in charge}
14 ~~one of the chief dignataries tonight.~~
15 And state officials of Ohio are on hand.
16 In fact, it is ~~a renowned annual banquet,~~
17 a little like the Gridiron Club banquet
18 in Washington. But this one at Greenville
19 in honor of Ground-Hog Day is a Tall Story
20 banquet, ^{and I'll bet the whoppers are flying thick}
21 ^{and fast} Well, sitting here in the studio
22 with me tonight is a distinguished
23 gentleman who looks altogether too
24 dignified to tell a whopper. He is very
25 tall and he has a long beard. He is a

1 leader of expeditions -- an explorer.
2 For years he has been delving into
3 the mysteries of the ancient American
4 civilizations that once flourished in
5 Mexico and Central America -- particularly
6 in Yucatan. His name is Gregory Mason.
7 He has written fascinating books about
8 the silver cities of Yucatan, and one
9 entitled "Columbus Came Late".

10 Now, Mr. Mason, before you leave
11 for your next expedition to the jungles
12 of Central America, on this, Ground-Hog
13 Day, which is certainly a distinctly
14 American day, and for the benefit of the
15 various Tall Story banqueters through-
16 out the country who may be listening
17 in, will you tell us something that ^{something}
18 sounds tall, but is, nevertheless, true, ^
about what you have discovered concerning
20 America?
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1 In 1492 America discovered Columbus.
2 It is hard to say which of them was the
3 more surprised. Columbus, of course,
4 thought that the Bahama island which he
5 sighted from the Santa Maria was a piece
6 of land lying off the coast of India or
7 China. The American Indians thought that
8 Columbus was a god arriving from the ~~eastern~~
9 eastern sea. It is said that one of the
10 Indians, approaching one of the Spaniards,
11 grasped the latter's sword out of
12 curiosity and cut his fingers. In this
13 incident we may see a tragic symbol of the
14 whole conquest of America. Europe
15 accomplished that conquest not by
16 superiority in the arts of peace, which
17 she did not possess, but merely because
18 Europeans were more skilful than Americans
19 in the art of killing men.

20 Even fourteen years later, when
21 Columbus lay dying, the idea had not
22 entered his head that the ancestors of
23 the people his followers were conquering
24 in America had created a painting, a
25 sculpture, a mathematics, and an astronomy

1 worthy of comparison with the best art
2 and science of Europe. Yet such are the
3 facts.

4 We today, are just beginning to
5 appreciate them. We have fallen into
6 the error of Columbus, the error of
7 assuming that a mastery of mechanics
8 spells civilization. The ancient Americans
9 were inferior mechanics to the Europeans,
10 but in many respects they were better
11 artists and better scientists.

12 In the Middle Ages probably no
13 surgeons in the world could be compared
14 for skill to the surgeons of the Inca
15 Empire of Peru. They knew how to trepan
16 an injured skull. They also were probably
17 the first medical men in the world to use
18 anesthetics in operations, using coca, the
19 plant from which our surgeons today get
20 cocaine.

21 And what ancient people built the
22 largest pyramid in the world? The
23 Egyptians? No, the largest one is right
24 here on our own continent. It was built
25 by the Toltecs, who preceded the Aztecs.

1 They built a ~~pyramid~~ three times greater
2 in bulk than the biggest one in Egypt.

3 And in recent years we have
4 discovered that the painting and sculpture
5 of the Mayas, who flourished in Central
6 America from the time of Christ down to
7 about 1400 A.D. was perhaps superior to
8 the painting and sculpture of the
9 Egyptians.

10 Another thing that interests me
11 is the fact that when Columbus came to X
12 America he and all Europeans were using
13 a calendar far less accurate than the
14 calendar which had been made by the
15 astronomers of the Mayas. Also, that
16 the Maya mathematicians invented the use
17 of zero 600 years before its separate
18 invention by the Hindus, which means that
19 the Mayas were able to multiply and
20 divide 1000 years before Europeans were
21 able to do so.

22 And these great early American
23 civilizations - Maya, Inca, Toltec,
24 Aztec, Pueblo and others, were Indian,
25 I mean, native American.

1 And we now know that irrespective
2 of where man originated, these early
3 American Indians developed their own
4 culture in our twin continents of
5 America without help from Asia, Africa
6 or Europe.

7 Columbus came late. We are
8 just beginning to discover America.

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1 And now, it seems that we are going to
2 have a few European ideas on the subject
3 of a cure for the depression. The
4 Swiss Federal Commission on European
5 cooperation decided today to draft a
6 five-year plan.

7 The United Press cables that
8 the plan will try to provide means for
9 dealing with the European economic *crisis,*
10 ~~prices.~~ It will cover the whole ground
11 all the way from Unemployment to
12 Agriculture.

13 Well, it will be interesting
14 to see what the Swiss Federal Commission
15 has to offer.

1 A ticklish legal point is brought to the front today
2 by the arrest of the Professor, together with Napoleon Sandow
3 and a number of other --- fleas. Yes, ticklish is right. You
4 see, Napoleon is a flea, and Sandow, as his name would indicate,
5 is the strong man of fleadom.
6

7 The Professor is the impresario, trainer, and director
8 of the flea circus.
9

10 The United Press relates how Professor William Heckler
11 and his troupe of trained fleas have been hauled into court
12 charged with violating the Sunday law. That legal statute for-
13 bids the performance on Sunday of any "tragedy, comedy, opera,
14 ballet or farce."
15

16 Now under just which heading would you class a
17 performance of trained fleas?
18

19 You could scarcely say it's tragedy. It certainly
20 isn't an opera because the fleas don't sing. But I suppose they
21 dance, a sort of flea ballet. You might call it a comedy, and
22 then again you might call it a farce.
23
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25 But the professor has a more strong legal argument

1 to make than that. He says how can they prove anything in
2 court when they couldn't even see the performers? That is,
3 you can't see much at a flea show without a magnifying glass,
4 and in fact a high-powered microscope would be still better.
5 So it does seem as if there might be some slight difficulty about
6 witnesses in this flea case.
7

8
9 "No indeed," declares the Professor, "the law can't
10 do anything about fleas. In fact my fleas are a couple of jumps
11 ahead of the cops."
12

13 And this split second clock here is a couple of jumps
14 ahead of me -- so, SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.
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