DISARMAMENT

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Lowell Thomas Broadcast for Literary Digest Thursday, October 29, 1931. Page

Good Evening, Everybody:

The League of Nations today received a couple of disarmament notifications. Two countries put their O. K. on the proposal of a year's armament holiday to begin on November Ist. These two nations said, "Yes, gentlemen, we think it's a good idea to call off the manufacture of warships and guns for a while. And for one year, beginning November 1st, we won't increase our Armies or Navies."

The two countries are named by the International News Service. They are Switzerland and Egypt. And now let's take time out for a laugh. Of course, neither Switzerland nor Egypt are great military or naval powers, - although the Swiss Navy is famed in song and story.

Also, the League of Nations expects that the armament holiday will so on receive an O. K. From Belgium and Holland. There once more we can make the philosophic reflection that every little bit helps.

However, here's

a later dispatch which tells us that Japan has accepted that armament holiday proposal.

Now, that sounds like something, for The Tokio government wax today signified its approval with one reservation. Japan will take a disarmament holiday of a year, except but that she claims the right to continue building the warships on which she has already started construction.

The League of Nations expects
that the United States will fall into
line too, but also with that same
reservation - that ships already
started will be completed as per schedule.

Meanwhile, the Navy League in the United States is out for President Hoover's scalp. The advocates of a strong navy claim the President is all wrong in his ideas of not spins ahead and building plenty of warships men-of-war.

Well, Moscow has come right back with a sharp answer to Japan. The Bolshevik assistant commissar of Foreign Affairs today told the Japanese Ambassador that the Tokio government was all wrong. Soviet Russia has not been helping the Chinese in their scrap with Japan, said he. He is quoted by the United Press as declaring this most positively.

by the Japanese complaint that the Red Army is gathering its forces on the Manchurian border. What right has Japan to have anything to say about the way the Red Army moves around inside Russian territory? That indignant question is being asked by the Bolshevik officials in Moscow.

And in his reply to the Japanese ambassador today the

Soviet Commissar took a couple of sharp digs at the policy of

Japan. He declared, says the International News Service, that

the Soviets believe in observing international treaties and are

not in favor of a policy of military occupation. And that has

a direct bearing upon the military activities of Japan in Manchuria.

The Soviet Commissar seems to be saying: Don't accuse us of any wickedness. People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones, or however they say that in Russian.

They say that today is the third time that President

Von Hindenburg of Germany has had anything much to say for

publication.

He is famous as one of those strong, silent men. Only twice before in times of national emergency has he made an appeal to his country.

And now for a third time the grizzled old leader of the Kaiser's armies during the War, has come forward with a plea to his people. He is asking for unity. He begs the Germans not to engage in factional strife and political battles during the present time of economic crisis.

The aged Von Hindenburg spoke at the opening meeting of the new Economic Advisory Council in Berlin today. He made an earnest appeal, like a father to his children. The Associated Press tells how he called for a truce to party bickerings.

On the Pacific Coast, from the sunny shores of Southern California to the rocky coves of Puget Sound, better times seem to be approaching. In fact, better times are already at hand.

An Associated Press dispatch from San Francisco reports a general increase of business in the Far West. The farmers of Washington and Oregon are feeling good because of the way the price of wheat has gone up.

"It is 25 per cent higher than it was several months ago," declares an official of the Farmers National Grain Association.

The price of butter has risen 40 per cent. In San Joaquin Valley, in California, the grape growers point out that the price of raisins has been going up.

And things are better not only for the farmers but also for the manufacturers and the merchants. The volume of retail business is climbing. And it looks like bright business—sunshine for the sunny coast of the Pacific.

There's an interesting chart in the new Literary Digest that came out today, at there are mighty few people, I imagine, who upon seeing it won't stop, and look and at it for a minute. Listen. Helt,

It's a chart which shows the progression of the infantile paralysis this year, as compared with that terrible epidemic of 1916.

One thing is made mighty clear -that this year's outbreak of the dreaded
disease was much less severe than in 1916.
In some respects the course of the two
epidemics was much alike. For example,
they passed out at about the same time.
Both in 1916 and in this year, the
epidemic decreased in September, and
virtually disappeared in October.

The Digest goes on to give us some vivid facts about the dreaded malady, which is so mysterious. Almost everyone gets infantile paralysis, but in only one out of a thousand does it reach the dangerous stage. The other 999 think that it's just a cold, and don't bother

with it.

The Literary Digest, quoting the American Weekly, passes along some authoritative facts which were given out by Doctor Shirley W. Wynne, Commissioner of Health of New York City, and Doctor William H. Park, of the city's Health Department Bureau of Laboratories. These are truths about infantile paralysis which very few people know. They are of immense importance.

They tell us of the symptoms of infantile paralysis which are commonly misunderstood even by Doctors. They tell us how the disease is communicated. And just to show you how much those facts about infantile paralysis mean to us, especially to parents, why here's an example, It's definitely known that once you've had an attack of infantile paralysis, even a very mild one, you are in no danger of getting the disease again. One attack sets up an immunity immunity. It builds up the body to resist the dangerous germs in the future.

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And in consequence, thousands of people may have a thorough immunity against infantile paralysis, and never know it. They have had a mild attack which they merely took for a peculiar cold. But just the same that attack has fixed them up so that they can never again contract the malady which is one of the most pumped perplexing of our time.

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I don't know what ware we can do about that new planet which the astronomers are trying to find. They've never seen it although they seem to have figured out something about it.

They call it Planet P., It's a huge affair, with a diameter of 44,000 miles, which is more than five times the diameter of the earth. It appears to be between five million and nine million miles away from the sun. It takes an awfully long time to revolve around the sun. Six hundred fifty-six years in fact. That means that kke a year on Planet P. is equal to six hundred fifty six of our years. In other words you're How do they know all this when they've never seen Planet P? Well, that's because of Uranus. The planet Uranus doesn't behave in the right way. is constantly being pulled out of position. Something must be doing the pulling, think the scientists, and that something must be another large body, another planet. So they calculate the

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size and distance of a body that would 2 be capable of causing Uranus to missessiste misbehave the way it does, and that gives the set of figures for planet P.

This new member of the sun's 6 big family has just been announced by 7 Professor Pickering, the famous astronomer. The United Press reminds us that a couple of years ago Professor Pickering was one of two astronomers who figured out the existence of planet X. Another member of the Solar System which until then was unknown. Later on planet X was discovered. It was seen through a

powerful telescope. So Prof. Picherin to be on intimate terms with these undeen planets. Sod now the astronomers will spend a lot of their time with their eyes

glued to telescopes, searching the sky, and trying to discover planet P.

Well, you can put that new heavenly wonder on your traveling schedule, if the scientists ever succeed in developing interplanetary transportation. and also if they ex ever succeed in Prof Picker finding, planet P.

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and Now let's take up the case of that richest baby in the world. He has just inherited, as the United Press expatrates. relates, nearly a million, and eight hundred thousand dollars from his great grandmother, That makes him the wealthiest infant in captivity.

He is John Mitchell Reynolds III. Jackie, k as he is called, is fifteen months old. He has eight teeth. He's a millionaire now, and he'll be a millionaire many times over by the time he grows up. He is scheduled to inherit twenty million dollars, sooner or later.

Well, there's a baby who's going to be raised with a whole flock of gold xxx spoons in his mouth.

Today a little old woman was laid to rest in a humble grave in the Montparnasse cemetery of Paris. Only her maid, a bent old woman who had served her for years, and a man, a mere acquaintance, were there as mourners.

This faded, aged shadow had lived in Paris for years. Nobody knew who she was, save that she was an American. It was only when she died that they found that she was the once beautiful and sensational Josie Mansfield.

Does that name mean anything? It didn't to me until I read on in a dispatch printed in the New York Evening Post, Josie Mansfield was the third figure in one of the most sensational crimes of the late years of the past century. She was the woman in the Stokes-Fiske murder.

Jim Fiske was one of the most famous men of Wall Street. He was a partner of Jay Gould, and the two of them staged that memorable attempt to corner gold which resulted in Black Friday, the day of

panic in 1869.

Im Fiske was a bewildering figure in those rather bewildering days of American finance. He was noisy of speech, and noisy of dress, roaring with gaiety, full of strange and fantastic ideas of how to impress the public. He cut a great figure with the beauties of the town, especially the theatrical beauties. And it was because of the beautiful Josie Mansfield that he quarreled with Edward Stokes, who had been a partner of his.

This rivalry resulted in a famous shooting affair, in which Stokes shot and killed Jim Fiske, the gay buck buccaneer of Broadway and Wall Street.

The crime is a famous one in the history of the minor and more colorful affairs of these United States. Josie Mansfield was manhammed blazened far and wide. Stokes, the killer, on a plea of self-defense was acquitted. Josie Mansfield, the woman in the case, disappeared and was forgotten. She was

so thoroughly forgotten that the little old woman in Paris lived for years unknown, unrecognized.

And it's only now that she has been laid away to rest in a poor grave in the cemetery of Montparnasse that it is known the that she was a gay and beautiful Josie Mansfield, because of whom one of the most famous crimes of her youth was committed.

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We've been hearing a good deal [†]rom explorers, who have been debunking the/ war of big game hunting in the say shooting big game is 5 not much more dangerous than killing one of a farmer s cows

But just the same, here's a 8 United Press dispatch which tells us how an American tourist in East Africa wanted to have himself photographed shooting a lion. He had everything fixed up, with the motion picture camera grinding away. The only trouble was that the lion than In the right ways He charged the big game hunter and killed him. The lion was probably wounded, and, of course, those explorers who debunk big game hunting do take care to inform us that almost any animal when wounded is dangerous.

The Mosquito Section of the Tall Story Club is called upon to take note of this bit of scientific news. It has been found that one type of mosquito at least is a benefit to humanity. It does a lot of good -- at any rate, in some ways.

Well, it would have to do a lot of good in those particular ways to make up for the rest of that skeeter!s activities.

The New York Sun reports that the beneficial mosquito occurs in the region of Cheasapeake Bay, as far north as New Jersey. New Jersey seems to figure in all mosquito news. The critter is known to science as the psorophora ciliata. To the inhabitants of Cheasapeake Bay and southern New Jersey it is known as the gallinipper. It's a big yellow critter, with a ferocious bite. Fishermen have been known to jump operboard and remain submerged with only their nose sticking out of the water, just to avoid the water of the psorophora -- otherwise known as the gallinipper.

I must admit that all this does not

sound very beneficial. However, government entomologists have discovered that the psorophora, or gallinipper, when in the larval stage, feeds on other mosquitos.

The Mosquito Story Department of the Tall Story Club will have no difficulty in understanding the fact that the only good that has been discovered in a mosquito is that it eats other mosquitos.

So three cheers for the psorophora and,

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.