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10 BRIDGE

11 Good evening everybody. (The news
12 has been flashed far and wide that they
13 opened the biggest bridge in the world
14 today. There was an imposing ceremony
15 and the great George Washington Bridge,
16 across the Hudson River was formally
17 turned over to traffic.) I couldn't get
18 up there. I had to stick with the news
19 dispatches all afternoon but the Literary
20 Digest was represented just the same. One
21 of the editors went up and ~~naturally~~ it was
22 Ben Adams, the Digest ^{expert} ~~editor~~ who keeps in
23 touch with transportation and building.
24 Well, Ben called me up later on to tell me
25 about the grand ceremony. Governor Roose-

1 velt of New York was there and Governor
2 Larson of New Jersey. There were speeches
3 and general congratulations.

4 Ben Adams reminded me of some of the
5 outstanding physical facts about that
6 bridge. He had them all at his finger
7 ends. I suppose he has already written
8 them in a Digest article. The bridge
9 cost \$60,000,000. The length, one end
10 to the other, is 4760 feet, and that's
11 nearly a mile. It's 120 feet wide. And
12 the amount of wire used in the cables
13 comes to 107,000 miles.

14 ~~Ben reminded me of the economic im-~~
15 ~~portance of this nobel span which is~~
16 ~~flung across the broad Hudson and connects~~
17 ~~New York with New Jersey. It will mean~~
18 ~~much to transportation. In fact, Ben~~
19 ~~explained it in a rather telling phrase.~~
20 He said that this new George Washington
21 Bridge across the Hudson is just another
22 big step in the re-making of this country
23 for the motor age. And that seems to put
24 the matter in a nut shell.

1 And then there was an interesting
2 celebration at Rochester, New York,
3 today. It was staged in commemoration
4 of the opening of the first trans-
5 continental telegraph line.

6 ~~Well,~~ Why all the to-do in Rochester?
7 Because ^{that city} ~~Rochester~~ was the birthplace of
8 the pioneering company, the Western
9 Union, ^{which} ~~that~~ sent that trail-blazing
10 strand of wire across the great plains
11 and mountains of the North American
12 continent.

13 David Kessler, president of the
14 Rochester Press Association, tells us
15 that it was the dauntless spirit of
16 Hiram Sibley, Ezra Cornell, Don Alonzo-
17 Watson, and their companions that made
18 it ^{first} ~~possible~~ to send a message in the
19 flashing of minutes across a distance ~~which~~
20 which took weeks and months in the old
21 time of the Pony Express.

22 One of the simple but exceedingly
23 eloquent ceremonies of the day was an
24 exchange of greetings between the
25 newspapers of Rochester and those of the

1 Pacific coast.

2 Yes, it was appropriate that a
3 flashing of telegraphic messages should
4 commemorate the establishment 70 years
5 ago of the first trans-continental
6 telegraph line.

(His Honor, the Judge, ^{uttered} ~~said~~ some stern words in Chicago this afternoon.

He said: "Eleven years in prison and a fifty thousand dollar fine" That's the sentence, stiff music, that Scarface Al Capone has to face.

And there's no delay about it, no long waiting before ~~xxxxxx~~ going to jail. No time out on bail.

Federal Judge Wilkerson, as the United Press relates, refused to let the Big Shot out on bail while he's making an appeal. Capone must go to prison at once. [¶] He took this stiff dose of medicine with a stony face. He seemed to be stunned. He just walked over to his attorneys, shook hands with them and said: "I guess it's all over."

And it does seem to be all over for the burly gang chief. [¶] Unless his attorneys can find some legal way to break through the stiff decision of the judge, ~~why~~ the king of Chicago's gangdom will have to serve eleven years for the way he defrauded the government out of income tax. ?

1 Tonight at Washington there's
2 an interesting meeting between two
3 statesmen. One is Premier Laval of
4 France and the other is ^{none other than} Senator Borah,
5 the head of the Senate Foreign Relations
6 Committee. Yes, and that meeting has
7 its elements of tension.

8 Senator Borah has thrown a
9 stick of dynamite into the grand
10 conference between President Hoover and
11 the French Premier.

12 The Senator gave a statement to
13 a group of French newspaper men and he
14 is quoted by the Associated Press as
15 speaking some very plain blunt words.
16 Senator Borah declared that there would
17 have to be a revision of the Treaty of
18 Versailles. He was also against the
19 Polish Corridor which gives Germany ^{so much} ~~such~~
20 a pain.

21 He declared that if France
22 would consent to an overhauling of the
23 Versailles Treaty why he would be in
24 favor of a total cancellation of ~~full~~ all
25 reparations and war debts. Otherwise

1 he was afraid that the Versailles
2 Treaty would lead to another war.

3 Well, that statement created
4 quite a political sensation. Some
5 people are saying that it wasn't
6 discreet or wise of the Senator to talk
7 so plainly for publication while
8 delicate negotiations were going on
9 between the President of the United
10 States and the Premier of France. The
11 French newspapers don't seem to be
12 going into any raptures of joy over
13 Senator Borah's statement. The central
14 point of French politics is to
15 stick hard and fast to that Treaty of
16 Versailles.

17 Various bits of personal byplay
18 are reported. French newspaper men are
19 said to have told Premier Laval somewhat
20 excitedly about Senator Borah's
21 strong words, and the Premier is quoted
22 as replying that he came to the United
23 States to talk to President Hoover and
24 not to Senator Borah. And some of the
25 French newspaper men declare that they

1 had been warned in advance ~~xx~~ by
2 Premier Laval that when they got to the
3 United States they should not pay too
4 much attention to what Senator Borah
5 had to say because he spoke only for
6 himself.

7 Senator Borah is reported to
8 have come back with the snappy statement
9 that as for the Premier not coming to
10 America to talk to him, why, Monsieur
11 Laval had expressly indicated the desire
12 to have a chat with the Senator.

13 Anyway, the Premier and the
14 Senator are meeting tonight at the
15 house of ~~the~~ Secretary of State Stimson,
16 and their conversation ought to be
17 interesting.

18 The formal conference between
19 the President and the Premier ended
20 today. There will, however, be some
21 more informal conversation between the
22 heads of the two governments.

23 President Hoover in a press
24 conference today declared that the
25 visit of Premier Laval was a success and

1 that it would result in profits for the
2 future. The President ~~declared~~^{added} that it
3 wasn't only frozen credits that were the
4 trouble just now. The main thing was
5 frozen confidence. He believes that his
6 ~~confabulations~~^{conference} with the French Premier will
7 tend to thaw out that frozen confidence.

8 Meanwhile Jose Laval, the
9 attractive nineteen year old daughter
10 of the French Premier, didn't go to the
11 football game today. That young lady
12 has been attracting quite a good deal
13 of attention. She wanted to go to ~~the~~
14 Princeton to see the Navy-Princeton
15 game, but her father, as the United
16 Press relates, shook his head and said
17 no. It appears that Premier Laval
18 doesn't want his daughter so much in
19 the limelight and furthermore, she
20 had social engagements in Washington
21 today which had to be kept. And so she
22 couldn't go to the football game.

1 (Here's what the League of Nations
2 said today:- "Now listen, Japan, what
3 we want you to do is take your soldiers
4 out of Manchuria on a specified date.
5 Let's name a time and have a guarantee
6 that by then you will have marched all
7 your troops out of those parts of
8 Manchuria, where they have no right to
9 be; ~~anyway.~~"

10 And here's Japan's reply to that.
11 It's very short -- it's just a 2-letter
12 word. Japan says, "NO."

13 ~~And that's how that Far-Eastern~~
14 ~~quarrel stands tonight.~~ The United
15 Press reports that Japan today turned
16 down the League of Nation's ~~latest~~
17 proposal for setting a definite day for
18 Japanese evacuation of Manchuria.

19 The League Council responded to
20 that by passing a resolution. The I. N. S.
21 advises us that this resolution demand
22 that Japan withdraw her troops by
23 Nov. 16th. Meanwhile the League Council
24 has adjourned until that same date.
25

1 From Italy tonight comes the
2 sound of wedding bells, with the wedding
3 bells chiming out a little bit in advance.
4 That is, there's a rumor of an
5 approaching royal marriage. ~~In fact,~~
6 there are quite a few tidings with
7 an echo of wedding bells from the
8 ancient land of the Caesars.

9 Today King Victor Emanuel and
10 his Queen celebrated their 35th
11 anniversary. Back in 1896 one of the
12 brilliant events of the year ~~was~~ was the
13 marriage of Victor Emanuel, then the
14 Crown Prince of Italy, to Ellena,
15 Princess of Montenegro.

16 ~~The United Press describes the~~
17 ~~celebration of the royal anniversary~~
18 ~~today as a quiet affair. Their~~
19 ~~Majesties this evening are attending a~~
20 ~~special performance in a small theatre~~
21 ~~in the Province of Piedmont. The play~~
22 ~~is an old comedy in the local dialect~~
23 ~~of the Province, which is a racy,~~
24 ~~humorous and funny dialect.~~

25 Tomorrow the royal family of

1 Italy will celebrate the first
2 anniversary of the wedding of the daughter
3 of the King and Queen to King Boris
4 of Bulgaria. Their Royal Bulgarian
5 Majesties are visiting the King and
6 Queen of Italy, and the two marriage
7 celebrations are being held together.

8 Well, with all these wedding
9 bell festivities it does seem like an
10 appropriate time to announce a new
11 marriage.

12 The Associated Press declares
13 that tomorrow an engagement will be
14 announced. The Princess Maria, sixteen
15 year old daughter of the King and Queen
16 of Italy, is to marry Archduke Otto,
17 nineteen year old pretender to the
18 vacant throne of Hungary. The Archduke,
19 scion of the ancient Austrian House of
20 Hapsburg will be present, and the news
21 of the engagement will be given to the
22 world with all suitable ceremony.

23 Well, all these royal Italian
24 affairs are interesting all right - but
25 what about Mussolini? Well, he's having

1 a little celebration of his own. He
2 has been visiting Naples, where he has
3 received a tremendous ovation. It was
4 from the city of Naples that nine years
5 ago, Mussolini began the Fascist march
6 to Rome, which resulted in an overturn
7 of the government, and the elevation of
8 the Duce to the dictatorship of his
9 country.

1 Down in Mexico there are 105
2 school masters who are hungry. They're
3 on a hunger strike.

4 In the city of San Luis Potosi the
5 105 school masters assembled today in
6 the State Palace and formally went on a
7 hunger strike. They announced their
8 intention to remain within the Palace
9 and without food until their salaries
10 were paid.

11 The International News Service
12 explains that on account of a financial
13 mix-up, the school masters haven't
14 received any pay for six months.

15 ~~At the same time they sent a~~
16 ~~telegram to the President of Mexico~~
17 ~~asking him to do something about getting~~
18 ~~them their hard-earned wages.~~ I don't
19 know what the result will be, but I
20 should think that 105 school masters on
21 a hunger strike in a State Palace ^{would} ~~should~~
22 be a strange enough sight to make the
23 State government say, "O.K., boys, step
24 up and sign the vouchers. Here's your
25 money."

Josaf Israels.

Traveler + writer.

Oct. 24, 1931 -

p. 15.

re: Abyssinia

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1 I thought we might enjoy a bit of
2 travel this evening, ^{a week-end} a trip to a strange
3 and far-distant place. Let's have ~~Mr.~~ Josef
4 Israels take us there. He's a traveler
5 and a writer. In his book called "The
6 Sea and the Land," he tells of the
7 fascinating barbaric ^{ethiopian realm} ~~land~~ of Abyssinia.
8 ~~And Mr. Israels is right here to take us~~
9 ~~for a moment on the wings of the~~
10 ~~imagination to the odd sights of that~~
11 ~~interesting African kingdom.~~

12 It's a long, long way to Tipperary
13 -- but tell us, Mr. Israels, how long a
14 way is it to Abyssinia?

Well, from New York it's almost two months by sea, and then a week on a rattle-trap African railroad. That takes you to Addis Ababa, Abyssinia's capital.

~~I say Abyssinia because it is best known that way here. But the people there like to call it Ethiopia, which was the name of their ancient kingdom when the famous Queen of Sheba was its ruler.~~

The present Emperor, Haile Selassie the First, is a descendant of the Queen of Sheba by the paternity of King Solomon, and very proud of it he is. His skin is dark and he wears a noble beard. ~~But he speaks a good French, is well educated, and most interested in what is going on in Europe and America.~~

His capital city is a wonderful place, sprawled out on the side of a great mountain. Its name means "The New Flower." There are some paved streets and a few houses built on the European stone style, but most of the city is still composed of the same round straw and mud tukuls in which the Ethiopians

3
1 have lived for thousands of years.

2 These Ethiopians, by the way, are
3 Christians. In fact, Abyssinia was the
4 first Christian country in all the world.
5 Saint Mark converted the King, and the
6 entire nation, only forty years after the
7 death of Christ. Their faith is the
8 Coptic Catholic one, practically unknown
9 now outside of Egypt and Ethiopia. And ~~the~~
10 their forms of worship are a strange
11 mixture of the Catholic service of the
12 mass and barbaric customs. They take
13 the sacrament, and then dance before the
14 Ark of the Lord to the frenzied beat of
15 tomtoms.

16 In "The Sea and the Land" I tell
17 about a pioneer family of Germans in
18 Abyssinia who built a farm in the midst
19 of some of the most desolate wilderness
20 in all the world. I found a number of
21 Europeans in that barren region. Some
22 were Germans, fugitives from what was
23 formerly German East Africa. There were
24 also some Greeks and even a couple of
25 Englishmen. ~~Their farms were beauty~~

1 ~~spots in the midst of desolation.~~ They
2 grew cotton, tobacco and coffee; some
3 of them even having private gold mines.

4 On all of these homesteads, as even
5 in the city of Addis Ababa, one of the
6 most lovely things is the profusion of
7 flowers. Every house, every courtyard,
8 even the sides of the streets are banked
9 with them -- gorgeous lillies, orchids
10 which would be ⁴ worth a fortune in New
11 York, bougainvillea vines with their
12 heavy scent. All this beauty contrasts
13 interestingly with the barbaric splendour
14 of the clothes of the many noblemen and
15 the swarming thousands of white-robed
16 black men in the streets.

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END - RODEO

And now let's step off Joseph Israel's magic carpet, and here we are back in New York.

At midnight tonight they will hold a solemn ceremony in the big ring at Madison Square Garden. In attendance will be long, lean men in chaps, flaming colored shirts, 10-gallon hats, and high-heeled boots. Yes, they're cowboys, and ranchmen. And they're holding a funeral.

The men of the rodeo came on from the West and they ran into a little New York gunplay.

It was a scrap between cowboys and a New York policeman. They say that Owen Crosby, a cowman from Montana, was trying to make peace. If so, he was out of luck, as a peace-maker so often is.

Two cowpunchers were beating up the cop when he pulled a gun and fired. Crosby was killed.

I was at the rodeo last night. I wanted to see how the old art of the bowboy was getting along these days. I had seen many a frontier celebrations out West, and thought at this late day the ways and tricks of the old art of the plains must

have come down a bit.

I was wrong. I was thrillingly, delightfully wrong.

And I want to report right here that busting broncos is as wild and exciting as ever. And as for the roping and the general art of the lasso, why you'd think that the cowboy days were still here, from the way those rodeo boys handle a rope.

I don't suppose those traditional accomplishments of the wild West -- busting broncos and roping steers, have any vital economic value in these modern times.

But just the same it seemed like old times to me to witness the mad, exciting spectacle of the bucking bronco, the swish of the lariat, settling around the neck of a calf; and to see the boys bull-dog steers.

Yes, it was a sight to make glad the eyes of any Westerner. And all I can say is "ride 'em, cowboy," and,

SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.