INIRO

Lowell Thomas Broadcast for Literary Digest Page February 16, 1931.

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GREETINGS EVERYBODY:

I'M a little out of breath tonight. Since I dropped in at your house with the news Saturday evening I've traveled about sixteen hundred miles - out to Cincinnati, Ohio, and back. ** I only stayed there a few hours and then dashed back east again.

In a way I look upon Cincinnati as my home town -- or one of my home towns.

serhaps would be more accurated. I lived there once, for a year - when I was once year old.

the most beautifully situated cities in the world -- on a series of high hills overlooking a wide sweep of the Ohio River. A marvelous place to live.

On my way back I sort of caught the news on the fly. Newspapers and dispatches were brought to me all along the line - at Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia. Our fat, jovial sleeping

car porter, William Washington Abernathy brought them to me.

And when I arrived in New York a little while ago, as I stepped into my office at The Literary Digest, a news dispatch from Washington came right in hot on my heels --- a late flash right from the Capitol---news that millions of people are waiting to hear.

Yes, the Soldiers Bonus Bill has passed the House of Representatives. The House passed it late this afternoon after a debate of only 40 minutes.

Speaker Longworth, Republican leader, was for the bonus bill although the White House was known to be against it. Everybody expected the measure would pass. And that, according to the International News Service dispatch, is just what happened. The vote was overwhelming---363 to 39!

The bill, as you know, is intended to enable veterans to borrow as much as 50% on the face value of their bonus certificates. Heretofore they've

been able to borrow only 22 1%.

The bill will go to the Senate tomorrow. It will be debated upon there and undoubtedly will pass. Then it will go to the President, who will either sign it or veto it.

As the train was passing through Philadelphia a message from Cincinnati was handed me, an Associated Press News dispatch from the city I had just left. It told of a serious fire that had broken out in Cincinnati this morning. It was in the factory of the Pick Pen Company. An explosion preceded the fire. The fumes of burning celluloid and other chemicals filled the building . Twenty employes were overcome, but Cincinnati firemen arrived in time to rescue them and prevent a more serious disaster.

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that the next heavyweight championship fight would be held--as has been expected--in Chicago on June 19th. Young Stribling will try to take the heavyweight championship of the world away from the present title holder, Max Schmeling, of Germany. That also is as expected. This is an International News Bervice dispatch which merely confirms what has been to before.

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l guess we might as well take up the old subject of Yale, Harvard and Princeton, and this time the tremendous question arises - WHO IS THE TRADITIONAL RIVAL OF WHOM?

The Yale Athletic Board of Control has announced that hereafter the Yale Harvard game will not always be Yale's last game of the season. will be the last game xuxxxxxx every other year. That is, Yale will finish up the season with Harvard one year, and then the next year will play Princeton after it has played Harvard.

And so the duestion arises: WHO IS YALE'S TRADITIONAL KIVAL? The game with the traditional rival is customarily the last game of the season and by splitting x that last game of the season between Harvard and Princeton, Yale signifies that both teams are

equally its traditional rival.

Some consider this a place tack right between traditional goal poster, Harvard's football and, according to the

New York Sun, some people think that it will bring back the old football regime of the Big Three, and cause Harvard and Princeton to resume their gridiron battles.

I suppose all we can do now is sing the refrain: Who is the traditional rival of whom?

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I thought this next item was to be about the Rand in South Africa or the wilds of South America or some romantic section of Asia -- because it is about diamond mines.

But I see that the name of the diamond country is given in this dispatch as Pike County, Arkansas. Diamonds have been found in Pike County, one weighing twenty and one half carats.

This, according to the International News Service was revealed at a meeting of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurigal Engineers.

The boys there were discussing a new instrument for detecting precious minerals underground. It is worked on the principle that minerals exert a magnetic force and that magnetic force causes the mineral-detecting—instrument to point an indicating finger and almost to say:

"Here's where."

They put the new device to work and it pointed to diamonds in Pike County, Arkansas. They dug and discovered diamonds

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Well, apparently there are some things that even the world famous Arkansas traveler didn't know. If you had mentioned discovering diamonds in Arkansas to him, he probably would have just gone on to say -- "that road don't go nowhere, it stays right here."

When my train passed through Baltimore at noon today

I placked up a copy of the Baltimore Sun, edited by my friend

Mark Watson. He was Captain Mark Watson when I last saw him in

France, 13 years ago.

Well, I was just looking through the Sun when the sleeping car porter came along, again and he stopped to exchange a few words and tell me about the problems of the sleeping car porters. So I asked William Washington Abernathy to take the paper and glance through it and come back and tell me what was the most interesting bit of news -- the News Item of the Day, in his opinion.

He came back and said: "Boss, hyas a story about rustlin' cows. I suppose most of us associate cattle rustling with the old West -- the West that has just about vanished. I did a bit of cowpunching years ago on my father's ranch. It was on the Ute Indian Reservation near Durango, Colorado, in one of the most

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remote sections of this country. And even then cattle rustling was almost unknown.

But it appears that cattle rustling is on the upgrade now. They blame the automobile. The old-time horse-riding cattle thieves have been succeeded by rubber tired rustlers. In the old days cattle could be tracked across the plain. Today stolen cattle are transported in motor trucks and whisked swiftly away. and no trail is left. In the old days, After the rancher's posse had trailed the cattle, the animals could be recognized. Today they are turned into dressed beeves almost before the theft has been discovered, and are sold to lumber same and mining camps. The hides, which might be recognized, are buried.

It has got so bad that the Wyoming Stock Growers' Association want to make it unlawful to transport animals in trucks without a permit signed by the owner of the animals. They want special truck inspectors to patrol the highways,

seem to

and airplanes to scout over the highways and spot trucks carrying cattle. The West-South Dakota Protective Association recently announced that it would pay a \$500 reward for the capture of those any modern automobile-riding cattle-rustlers.

Governor Adams, of Colorado, is a rancher, and the foreman of his ranch is William Carson, a great-grandson of the famous Indian scout and Western character, Kit Carson. Well, those modern cattle rustlers recently stole four steers from Governor Adams' ranch, and from right under the nose of the great-grandson of Kit Carson.

Well, the boys had better call out the posses, although the posses don't seem to be of much use any more.

That's your modern cattle

It looks this evening as if King Alfonso over in Spain may lost his crown. He has been trying to get somebody to form a Cabinet that will have enough political support to be able to stand up and face the tide of unrest.

And now, according to an Associated Press, dispatch that I saw in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, he has asked Sanchez Guerra, the leader of the Constitutionalists Party, to try to form a cabinet. Guerra has accepted and is lining up political support.

The crucial point of the matter is that Guerra is the leader of a large section of the public which demands that a constitutional convention be held to decide whether Spain is to remain a monarchy or become a republic.

A late dispatch from the International News Service states that Guerra has visited the leaders of the Republican and Socialist parties to try to get them to take a hand in the government he is trying to form. Most of these leaders are in jail. They

1 told him they would gladly help him to 2 form a government but only under one 3 condition and that condition was that 4 King Alfonso must first leave the country.

The King meanwhile announced that he 6 would not leave the country until a 7 constitutional convention has be en held 8 to decide whether he ought to remain 9 King or not.

Senor Guerra says he is confident that he will be able to form a cabinet and 12 claims that one Republican at least is 13 willing to join it.

The United Press reports that if a Guerra cabinet is formed, it will consist 16 for the most part of liberal monarchists.

All in all, one thing is evident --18 that King Alfonso is sitting on a very 19 shaky throne.

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ENGLISH STRIKE

Things are picking up over in the Black country in

England. In the Philadelphia Ledger I saw an Associated Press

cable from Manchester stating that over a quarter million

Lancashire cotton mill workers went back to work today and thus

brought to an end a long and serious strike.

tenight a lot of the boys are to

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Here comes a new president.

Herbert Hoover may be the President

of the United States, but P. E. Svinhufvud is the President of Finland.

In Finland the president is elected by 300 delegates who are chosen by the people. They got together today, and by a very slender majority elected the leader of the Coalition Party.

And I suppose over in Helsingfors tonight a lot of the boys are shouting: "Hurray for Svinhufvud!"

Now let's see. I suppose the thing to say here is that it's hard to do right by somebody without doing wrong by somebody else.

An Associated Press dispatch states that Mile. Esterhazy had a run-in im with Monsieur Richepin. Well. that doesn't seem important except that Mile. Ex Esterhazy is the daughter of Major Esterhazy and that may not seem important either until we learn that Major Esterhazy is supposed by many to be the real villain in the world wide Drevfus case.

Dreyfus was convicted of selling French military secrets to Germany, and then was exonerated as a much persecuted & Major Esterhazy innocent man. And represented as the man who really sold the German secrets to the Germana.

Monsi er Richepin comes into the story because he has recently written a play adapted from the German. The play is about the Breyfus case and Major Esterhazy is represented as the

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villain.

And so the daughter of that
Major Esterhazy met the author of the
play, on the street, and just what
happened is a bit confused. The
playwright says that she called him
miserable and bawled him out generally.

Etha But rumor has it that the lady
lit into the playwright with a
haxxw horsewhip.

Anyway, it some new dramatics have now been introduced into the already sufficiently dramatic Dreyfus case.

This me for me

Well, there isn't any use trying to tell this next item, with any attempt at romantic effects. The simple facts are sufficient. Away high up in the French Alps, while a violent blizzard was raging, a group of nuns laid away the body of their Abbess. Out in the open, in a craggy cemetery, while the snow and wind were lashing about them, they placed the Abbess in her tomb.

She was the Marchesa di Rudini Carlotti, a daughter of the Antonio di Rudini, who was a premier in the kingdom of Italy. She had been likewise the wife of a multi-millionaire. She was famous as a beauty and as a woman devoted to athletic sports.

Poet d'Annunzio fell in love with her. The beautiful
Marchesa was one of the great romances in the life of the poet of
many romances. D'Annunzio made her famous in that day by praising
her in wild, infatuate verse. He completed the task of
immortalizing her by making her

the principal figure in one of his most fiery novels.

Then her brother died and her father killed himself. The brilliant young woman gave all of her fortune amounting to five million dollars to charity and retired to the seclusion of a Carmelite Convent.

She devoted herself to penance and prayer, and then recently achieved the great ambition of her monastic life. She founded a convent of her own high up in the Alps. According to the international News Service, she exposed herself to storm and snow in her work at her convent. As a result, she fell ill and did not recover.

The poet d'Annunzio has created many strange and dramatic stories, but none so strange and dramatic as the actual stories of the women who passed across the pages of his life.

In glancing through the Washington papers on the train, in the Scripps-Howard Daily News I came across a few lines of rhyme by George S. Holmes. Although I haven't seen him for many years I understand this is the same George Holmes who was my first city editor on a metropolitan newspaper. That was in Denver, Colorado twenty years ago.

Well, in the eyes of the average cub reporter a city editor is generally anything but a poet. In fact the cub looks with awe at the great man, the city editor, and regards him as a combination of Socrates, Nero and Simon Legree. George was all of that to me. And when I approached the desk of the great man my knees knocked and my tongue clove to the roof of my mouth.

And now George is a poet - writing political rhymes in Washington. His verses in today's paper concern the trials of a newspaper reporter of most anyone who wants to have a chat with his

His precon poem runs as follows:

WHEN A SENATOR IS BUSY

OH, AS BUSY AS A BEE,

AND YOU ASK SOMEONE, WHERE IS HE?

HE'S THE MAN I'VE GOT TO SEE,

DON'T LET THE NEWS SURPRISE YOU

BUT JUST TAKE IT WITH A BOW,

WHEN OFFICE CLERKS APPRIZE YOU

HE'S"IN CONFERENCE" JUST NOW.

WHEN CONSTITUENTS ARE CALLING

WITH A BATCH OF "NUT" REQUESTS,

AND A CONGRESSMAN IS STALLING

TO AVOID PERSISTENT PESTS,

WHY SHOULD SUCH THINGS PERTURB HIM

WHEN A CLERK HAS BUT TO SAY,

WE REALLY CAN'T DISTURB HIM-
HE'S "IN CONFERENCE" ALL DAY.

WHEN YOU HEAR LOUD GALES OF LAUGHTER
COMING FROM THE INNER ROOM,
AND GUFFAWS RESOUNDING AFTER
TILL THE VERY RAFTERS BOOM,
DON'T THINK YOUR MAN IS CHAFFING

2-1-31-5M

BUT JUST MOP YOUR FEVERED BROW
AND JOIN THE PLEASANT LAFFING-HE'S "IN CONFERENCE"-- AND HOW!
Which is the way they do it
in Washington -- says George.

George's plaintive little jingle
Reminds me I must fly
To a conference, to mingle
With a luscious chicken pie.

That is - if I'm lucky. At any rate, so long until tomorrow.