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Lowell Thomas' Broadcast for The Literary Digest, Friday, March 6, 1931 Page

There was a loud humming and droning over New York City today. An airplane was doing the droning--and in that plane was Ruth Nichols, out to break the altitude record for women.

She took off from Jersey City 6 airport shortly after noon, and then 7 circled over New York. City. She flew 8 over to the Statue of Liberty, dipped and circled round the Goddess and then 10 she turned the nose of her ship toward the Sun and started for a long climb upstairs.

An hour and a half later she 14 returned to Jersey City airport and 15 announced that she had broken the 16 altitude record for women. 17

The highest a woman had ever 18 flown before was 27,418 feet. Miss 19 Nichols reported that she had played tag 20 with the clouds at 30,000 feet, which as 21 you know, is higher than the top of 22 Mount Everest. 23

One of the officials who examined 24 the instruments of the plane said that 25

2-1-31-SM

•	INIRQ.=2_ Page 2
1 2 3	Miss Nichols might have been as high as 32,000 feet. The record, however, is not yet of ficial. It has to be formally
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2-1-31-5M

The Federal Farm Board has a new chairman. Alexander Legge, who has been the chairman, has resigned, and President Hoover has appointed James G. Stone to take his place. Mr. Stone was formerly Vice-Chairman of the Farm Board.

Page 3

According to the International News Service, President Hoover states that Mr. Legge was resigning because of private affairs. The President tried to persuade him to stay on the job, but Mr. Legge felt timself compelled to resign retire.

UNEMPLO YMENT

The unemployment question has vanished, at least in one part of the country. The place is down in Mississippi.

In Bolivar and Washington Counties work has been started on the levees which hold back the waters of the Father of Rivers. All of the jobless in those parts have been put to work on the big operation.

In Coahoma County, Mississippi, they are starting in on a \$400,000 road building job, and it is expected that by summer all of the unemployed in that locality will be at work and drawing wages too.

MINING

Well, I see they are doing something for the desert rat. He's the wandering mining prospector, often unkempt and unshaven, who with inexhaustible patience and hope, toils his way across mountains and through deserts, looking for pay dirt; looking for gold.

According to the United Press, the Governor of Nevada says that the desert rat is one of the most important elements in the development of mining and in the discovery of new mineral deposits.

And so the old adventurous prospector is going to have something done for him.

Governor Balzar of Nevada in a message to the Legislature, has recommended that the State Bureau of Mines should go so far as to grubstake the desert rats. He recommends that the Bureau assay free of charge all samples sent in by the prospectors.

It is further proposed to give a bonus of one thousand dollars to

MINING - 2

every desert rat who makes a strike which produces ten thousand dollars worth of gold in the first six months. Well, the old time desert rat has been kicked around a good deal when going about looking for grubstakes and talking about the big strike he is going to make - and it's about time somebody did something for him.

Page_6

men in the world than the wandehers who search for new Eldorados. The life story of nearly everyone of them would make a thrilling book. 1

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Newspapers today are carrying pictures of a series of white geometric forms. These are miniature buildings, and they make up a model of what will be New York's great radio city. The construction of this new marvel will begin next summer.

Page 7

According to the New York World-Telegram, the radio city will occupy a great area, the blocks from 48th to 51st Street, and from Fifth Avenue to Sixth Avenue.

It will be a grandiose center for all kinds of entertainment, radio, television, phonograph records, vau deville shows and motion pictures, and possibly the new Metropolitan Opera House may be in that gigantic new radio city.

2-1-31-54

HEADACHE

At this point I'm inspired to make the request -- please pass the headaches.

According to the Associated Press, scientists at the University of Illinois Research Hospital have discovered that headaches are caused by brains. Migraine, which is the twodollar word for headaches, occurs principally among the intelligentsia. In other words, no brains, no headaches. The scientists point out that Julius Caesar and Napoleon suffered from headaches.

So if you have one you are in excellent company.

Some further inside information about the World War came out today. It shows that Prime Minister Clemenceau of France wanted to have General Pershing removed irom his command of the A. E. F.

The New York World-Telegram prints a series of paragraphs from the mm memoirs of Marshal Foch which were published today in book form. They show that Clemenceau told Foch that he ought to appeal to President Wilson.

The dispute was caused by Pershing's insistence that . the American troops should not be simply made part of the French and British armies. General Pershing insisted that the doughboys should fight as the American army and under the American flag.

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Foch, as the generalissimo of the Allied Forces, disagreed with Clemenceau and supported Pershing. The Memoirs show that Foch and Pershing agreed that the Americans should fight as an American Army.

FOCH

DIGESI

Page 10

Now, wait a minute here. I don't 1 want to get bawled up on this figure. 2 3 It's a big one. Let's see--it's 17,632 MILLIONS! That is, 17 BILLION, 4 5 632 MILLION DOLLARS. That's how much money there is saved up in the world. 6 It's a total of the savings, great and 7 small, of millions of people. It's the 8 biggest ever. Strange to say, more 9 10 money was saved in 1930 than in any 11 previous year. One billion three hundred 12 fifty million dollars were saved all over 13 the world

Or rather, according to the Literary 14 Digest, it isn't strange at all. People 15 are more inclined to save money during 16 times of depression than during boom 17 times. The uncertainty and lack of 18 confidence cause people to put their 19 money aside instead of spending it or 20 21 investing it.

Well, all that money saved up
²³ Certainly does mean that people are not
²⁴ buying enough to make business boom.
²⁵ But that's only one side of it. The

DIGEST -- 2.

2-1-31-5M

Literary Digest quotes the publication known as Business Week as saying that while the orgy of saving impedes business temporarily, it only means that money is being piled up for a future boom, future prosperity. Once the tide starts running strongly toward prosperity all that money will swing into action and there'll be good times as never before. And the sooner the better.

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Peru

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This next item might come under the heading of moving pictures.

Page_ 12

The Government of the Republic of Peru certainly is a swiftly moving picture. They've had another overturn down there. This week's record stands at two successful revolutions and the succession of three governments.

According to the Associated 9 Press, Colonel Jimenez is Peru's 10 new ruler. He appeared at the presidential 11 palace last night and told the proxisi 12 provisional president, Dr. Elias, that 13 Peru needed a new chief executive, and 14 the colonel thought he was the man for the job. As was backed by a 15 16 considerable force of soldiers who had 17 rallied around bim, Dr. Elias gracefully 18 stepped down, and thus ended another revolution. 19 Now just a few days ago Dr. 20 aleens Elias did the same thing to Provisional 21 President Cerro, and pushed him right 22 off the throne. 23

The one good thing about these swift moving pictures of government is that there has been little bloodshed and violence. In fact no more than might accompany an election in some countries,

MOSLEY

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A new political party has started upon its career in England--that is. maybe! There has been a lot of talk about how Sir Oswald Mosley, the main aristocratic and very radical leader in the ranks of British labor, is out to start a new me political party a good deal redder than the present Socialist government of Great Britain. Sir Oswald was a member of the Labor Government but he has broken with his old associates because their Socialism wa any hot enough to suit him.

Page V3

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Well, a big meeting was called to 14 start the new Red radical party. Sir 15 Oswald was to preside as the Moses who 16 would lead the English workers into the 17 new promised land, but he got sick and 18 couldn't be there. His place was taken 19 by his wife, Lady Cynthia Mosley. She's 20 as radical as her husband, although 21 whe's the daughter of the late 22 Curzon, who was the **mmmd** haughtiest 23 and most aloof of British noblemen. 24 Lady Cynthia addressed the big 25

MOSLEY - 2.

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throng in a fiery speech and said all the parties in England were blundering and meddling. She said a desperate and dangerous crisis was confronting England, and she offered as a solution the plan which her husband has been advocating. This is to establish a dictatorship in England which would lead the island into the truth paths of Socialism. Lady Cynthia suggested that England should be run by a governing board of five men.

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Recording to the Associated Press, most of the crowd had come to heckle the fair advocate, who was dressed in what is described as a most becoming fashionable gown. But the daughter of Lord Curzon spoke her radical speech with vigor and fire, and made a good impression. They came to heckle-but they stayed to cheer.

SCOILAND YARD

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Now Hi Si! This is what I calls a shime? You mut imagine a London Bobbie talking his most indignant cockney. With has a right to be indignant, because a mean trick has been played on the English police, and a woman did it. 7

According to the New York Sun, she is a well known fraud. Sixteen times she has been sent to jail for 10 larceny. When she was released after her last prison sentence, she came out of jail without a twopence, and she wanted to get to the north of England. That was a problem, but the lady proceeded to solve it.

She went with to the police 17 and said she was a Scotland Yard 18 detective and told them to get a car 19 for her right away. She was after 20 two men who had committed a crime. 21 The local Bobbies were eager to oblige a 22 * Sherlock Holmes from Scotland Yard 23 and they got the car. She was driven 24 to Hersham and there she made a winke

SCOILAND_YARD - 2

1 bluff at searching a house, and then she had the police drive her to London, 2 where she entered a prominent club. 3 When she came out she told the Bobbies 4 in the car that she had word that she 5 must trail tive Americans who had gone 6 7 to Torquay. They took her to Torquay, several and then on various pretexts xxx she 9 had them drive her from place to place. ¹⁰ The police in the car paid for her meals and other expenses. 11

Page_ 16

P

It was when they had taken her 12 F all the way to Northern England that she 13 made her big mistake. She tried to 14 buy a fur coat on credit and used the 15 police officers with her as evidence 16 that her credit was O. K. The gullible 17 ey Bobbies at last got a touch of inspiration. 18 they communicated with Scotland Yards, and then it was indeed a "bloomin' shime" because 19 the next thing on the program was 20 d the arrest of the clever lady. 21

And so she's back in jail now, but she certainly did have an extensive 23 and pleasant tour of England. and But didn't she twist those ba

British police around her little # Well rawther

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In an interview today Gandhi, 1 the leader of the Indian Nationalists to Id, the newspaper men that he expected 3 to accomplish the complete independence 4 of India. But that, he explained, 5 doesn't mean separation from the 6 British Empire. He wants India to remain 7 within the British Commonwealth of 8 nations as an equal partner. 9

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According to the Associated 10 Press. Gandhi said that some of his 11 Indian associates did not believe that. 12 England would ever agree to the freedom 13 of India within the Empire. But, the 14 Mahatma added, that he thought the 15 British Government would see things as he 16 saw them and he was working with the 17 optimistic hope of achieving his goal - ad 18 at goal · shari Completely self-governing India. 19

RIFLES

21-31-0

I have a letter here from Leon 1 2. Smith, of Earlville, New York. He 2 asks me if Flint Lock guns are in use 3 by wild tribes in any part of the world. 4 Well, I can't answer for the 5 whole world, although I imagine that 6 Flint Lock guns are not used to any 7 great extent. I can speak though about 8 the wild peoples of the southern parts 9 of Asia. Among them you see plenty of 10 Flint lock rittes but they are mostly 11 hung up in houses and are no longer used. 12 Nearly all primitive peoples are now 13 armed with modern weapons. 14

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How they get them would make a 15 long Romance in itself. I remember while 16 traveling in Central Asia among the fierce 17 Afridis, I visited a rifle factory in a 18 19 remote mountain pass. There I saw them making rifles, making them, one at 20 a time. Workman would bore out barrels 21 on a wobbly hand-lathe, another shaped a 22 breach-Hock with a chisel and a broken file. 23 Still another held a stock between his toes 24 25

and whittled away at it with a knife.

But those fellows turned out a tip top imitation of our Western rifle and it seemed little less than a miracle.

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Other rifles came into those parts from Russia. In the days before the War the Germans would run fire-arms across the Persian Gulf and then send them inland by caravan. And then the British Army itself is a constant source of supply. The tribesmen enlist in British regiments and are given weapons. Then they desert and go back to their hills. Thousands of British rifles have thus found their way into the hands of the wild fighters of the Hindu Kush mountains.

With them the first necessity of life is a good weapon and they seem to know how to get them. So the flint lock has just about vanished, even in savage lands.

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There has been a new outbreak of trouble in China. The United Press reports that 10,000 troops of the Nationalist Government has mutineed, and When the authorities attempted to disarm them they went on a rampage and begain looting the surrounding countryside.

8 They call China the Sleeping 9 Strant. But the grant is sleeping fitfully these days. - in fact walking 10 11 his sleep. 12 and gets a ticket and is admitted.

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RUSSIAN MOYIES

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Now, wait a minute, Ivan. What have you got there? And Ivan replies that he has a head of cabbage and six carrots.

The little scene takes place at the box office of a motion picture house over in Russia. The ticket seller that the head of cabbage and six carrots aren't enough. Ivan will have to put up another head of cabbage if he wants to see the show.

So Ivan digs up the farm produce and gets a ticket and is admitted.

The Associated Press states that the movie the movie of Russia haven't any money so they buy tickets to the movies with farm produce--eggs, potatoes, or old clothing, or make Beaven knows what.

The favorite price of admission, so far as the motion picture house⁵ is are concerned, is a pair of galoshes. Shoes are scarce in Russia, and between the cold and the snow galoshes are much in demand. So all you have to do is bring

RUSSIAN MOVIES - 2.

Page 22

a pair of galoshes to the box office and you can see the latest masterpiece which the Soviet impressarios have devised.

Give me those galoshes, Ivan, and step right in, says the impressario. and as for me, give me My. galoshes and del step night out-and solong until tomorrow.

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