

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1930

INTRO

I certainly enjoyed hearing Ben Adams broadcast the news on Saturday night. Thanks to him I was able to celebrate my Christmas on Saturday. In fact if it hadn't been for Ben Adams I might have had to postpone it until next Christmas. I got a great kick out of every item in his talk, and there was one that hit me right between the eyes. It concerned ice. Hard, frozen, slippery ice.

I didn't get started for the country until Saturday and then I had to drive seventy miles in a blinding snow storm. Just to show you what a chump I was I tried to get through without chains, and did. It took me two hours. But when I got in my own yard, right within five feet of my garage door, my rear wheels started to slide. In a split second the car was out of control and had crashed into a tree, snapped off a bumper, messed up the tail light, and one of the fenders.

Yes, and it took me as long to get out of that pocket of ice and into the garage door as it had taken to drive up to Dutchess County from New York City. Then I went into the house

and listened to Ben Adams broadcast about ice, hard, frozen, slippery ice.

In fact, ice played a big part in my holiday. Are you an expert on skis? Well, I'm not, but some of my neighbors lured me out, and the sun had shone just long enough to turn the snow to ice. And for several hours I did more nose dives, inside and outside loops, Immelmann turns and tail spins on those skis than Jimmie Doolittle or Al Williams ever did in an airplane.

1           There seems to be some trouble  
2 down in <sup>the</sup> South African gold fields. Well,  
3 gold mining and trouble often go hand  
4 in hand. I long ago learned that in a  
5 gold mining camp ~~where I lived~~ <sup>out west</sup>. But  
6 this disturbance in South Africa is  
7 different from the old gun fights at  
8 Cripple Creek and Dead Man's Gulch. This  
9 one is a rumpus between two native  
10 tribes. They employ native labor on  
11 the Rand in South Africa and these  
12 natives are mostly Basutos and Pondos.

13           They are old traditional enemies,  
14 the Basutos and the Pondos. They have  
15 been working side by side for a long time  
16 now but they haven't learned to love each  
17 other. <sup>The Pondos</sup> Instead of digging for gold ~~they~~  
18 often dig holes in <sup>the Basutos, and vice versa.</sup> ~~each other~~. The  
19 International News Service informs us that  
20 the trouble began when a Basuto bounced  
21 a boulder off a Pondo skull, whereupon  
22 all the members of the two tribes went  
23 at each other, fighting like demons not  
24 only on the surface of the earth ~~xx~~ but  
25 also far down in the subterranean depths

1 of the mine<sup>s</sup>. Police ~~have been~~ rushed to  
2 the scene, but the first ~~police~~ to arrive  
3 met the usual fate of peacemakers. Both  
4 tribes united and started pinging sharp  
5 cornered rocks at the police, and then  
6 the Basutos and the Pondos went at  
7 each other again. According to the latest  
8 reports they are still at it.

9           And that isn't all the trouble  
10 down there in that famous gold district  
11 called the Rand. Another International  
12 News Service dispatch informs us that  
13 man-eating lions are prowling around,  
14 hunting for prey. It is reported that  
15 they are in large numbers, and the  
16 natives who work on farms near the mines  
17 are refusing to work unless given  
18 protection. The lions are said to have  
19 claimed thirty-four victims so far. The  
20 government has been urged to send a  
21 battalion of infantry to wipe out the  
22 lions. But some of the local jokesters  
23 say the lions are more likely to  
24 wipe out the battalion of infantry.

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## TURKEY

Now the villain of this next piece seems to be the old and familiar ABC's, the alphabet. The present trouble over in Turkey is reported to have been caused by the attempts of the progressive Turkish Government to make the Turks give up the old time decorative Arabic alphabet and use our own kind of ABC's instead. Anyway, they are trying to modernize Turkey and some of the Turks don't like it. Last week a revolt broke out and the intention of the rebels was to re-establish the old Kalifate. In other words, they want the head of the Mohammedan religion to rule them, instead of Ghazi Mustafa Kemal.

Thousands of people were arrested today by the government, and a good deal of severe fighting has taken place, says the United Press while the International News Service informs us that a whole battalion of troops has been interned, suspected of being in sympathy with the rebels.



CHINA

Here's a question I've been wondering about for some time. You'll recall that just recently Chiang Kai Shek, President of China was converted to Christianity. Well, when a President of China becomes a Christian it sounds important. But just what does it mean? Does it help the cause of Christianity in China? Is the conversion of Chiang Kai Shek something like the conversion of Constantine the Great which christianized the Roman Empire?

Well, there are some who tell us that it doesn't mean a thing. This week's Literary Digest quotes the Christian Century magazine as saying that -- Christians everywhere will be well advised NOT to greet the announcement of General Chiang's baptism as any sure indication of a forward stride in China on the part of the Kingdom of God. The Digest adds that the Religious Telescope, a publication of the United Brethren in Christ, points out that -- such a step on the part of a high official of a non-Christian country often is involved in matters of political expediency, or prompted by a mercenary motive.

But the Digest, as usual, goes on to give both sides of the question. It quotes the Methodist Christian Advocate as saying that the conversion of China's President brings credit to the Chinese missionaries and prestige to the cause of Christianity in China. And another publication called the Baptist, declares that Chiang Kai Shek's conversion appears to have been a personal and domestic affair between the President, his family and his God.

All who are interested in missions and the expansion of Christianity will be interested in turning to this week's Literary Digest and reading this article. I wonder what your conclusion will be.

1 Just for a change we may soon  
2 be without news from China. That is,  
3 we will if they don't hurry up and  
4 settle an argument regarding the control  
5 of the Pacific cables.

6 The Chinese National Govern-  
7 ment is threatening drastic action unless  
8 its demands for the control of the Pacific  
9 ~~Chinese~~ cables are met by American,  
10 British and Danish cable companies. The  
11 cables up to now have been operated  
12 under a twenty-five year concession.

13 But according to the  
14 International News Service this ~~is~~  
15 concession expires on Wednesday. New  
16 terms will have to be framed. Already  
17 there has been a lot of discussion  
18 without an agreement. Newspapers in  
19 the Far East are ~~clamoring for~~ <sup>suggesting that</sup> the  
20 Chinese Government ~~to~~ seize the <sup>Chinese end of the</sup> Pacific  
21 cables, and it is reported that this  
22 may happen. ~~And that~~ <sup>which</sup> would mean <sup>of course, no</sup> ~~no~~  
23 more news about Chinese massacres and <sup>no</sup>  
24 <sup>or news about</sup> kidnapped missionaries for a while.



1           Here are several letters from radio  
2 listeners who write in telling me about  
3 odd stories--bits of news that are never  
4 printed, the news that doesn't reach  
5 the papers.

6           One is from C. B. Edwards, of  
7 Scottdale, Pennsylvania. He tells us that  
8 one time he was out hunting and sat down  
9 to rest against a pine tree. "Well,"  
10 writes Mr. Edwards, "one of those  
11 consarned redheaded woodpeckers lit on  
12 my hair, and before I had a chance to move  
13 he hit me four stiff raps right on the  
14 top of my head. You know those redheaded  
15 woodpeckers can knock a hole in a tree  
16 ~~pretty~~ <sup>plenty</sup> quick, and there's no saying what  
17 they'll do to a <sup>human</sup> head if they keep it up.

18       When I got those four knocks my ears ~~just~~  
19 began to ring and ~~then~~ four ~~big~~ bumps  
20 rose right up. ~~on my head.~~ Yea, and they  
21 were biggern hickory nuts." Well, I am  
22 sure we will all want to express our  
23 heartfelt sympathy to Brother Edwards, and  
24 we thank him for his frank little news  
25 item about the woodpeckers attacking his  
head.

## MERGER

This next news concerns a huge financial operation which seems to have run into a snag. Well, financial operations have a way of running into snags, especially the minor ones, that I have anything to do with.

Anyway, a gigantic billion dollar merger was planned between the Bethlehem Steel Corporation and the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company. Everything seemed all set for the combining of the two huge corporations, but some of the stockholders of the Youngstown Company objected, and went to court. There was a bitter legal fight, and the Associated Press informs us that today Judge David Jenkins, of the Ohio Court of Common Pleas, issued an injunction forbidding the merger. Which means that for the moment, at least, the plan is help up.

1 Out in Salem, Indiana, the old  
 2 days of private warfare and family  
 3 feuds have returned. The town is virtually  
 4 under martial law, and posses are  
 5 searching the country-side for two  
 6 brothers who helped to renew an ancient  
 7 Tennessee feud--<sup>in fact</sup> ~~they~~ carried that feud ~~on~~  
 8 ~~up~~ into Indiana.

9 More than 20 years ago the Spurlock-  
 10 Gibson feud began in Tennessee. <sup>According to the U.P. the</sup> ~~The~~  
 11 Spurlocks and the Gibsons killed each  
 12 other in the old traditional fashion.  
 13 About 12 years ago members of both  
 14 families moved ~~up into~~ Indiana. The  
 15 Indiana branches of the two families  
 16 seemed to be at peace, but two weeks ago  
 17 one of the Gibsons was killed. Two of  
 18 the Spurlocks were put in jail. Early  
 19 yesterday four Gibson brothers stormed  
 20 the jail. They shot the sheriff in the  
 21 leg, and <sup>wounded</sup> ~~his wife was also wounded.~~ The  
 22 town marshal fell with a dangerous wound. <sup>But</sup>  
 23 He shot one of the Gibson brothers dead.

24 But the Gibsons didn't get <sup>to</sup> the  
 25 Spurlocks in the <sup>Salem</sup> jail. The whole town

was aroused. The three surviving Gibson brothers fled.

Several posses set out in hot pursuit. So far one brother has been caught.



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Another oil well has gone wrong down at Oklahoma City. The No. 1 Emerson-Joyce was an old well and should have known better. But today it blew out of control and is shooting oil and gas into the air at the rate of 40,000 cubic feet daily. The International News Service informs us that they're afraid down there that this old-time oil well, which seems to have grown young and foolish, is in danger of catching fire, *and running amuck.*



# HORSE CAR

1 Chicago had a reminder of early  
2 times today. A horse car rumbled  
3 through its streets. According to the  
4 Associated Press, they opened a new  
5 trolley line out there and the first  
6 car that went across it was an old-time  
7 horse car. 71 years ago that horse car  
8 bumped along through Chicago, and it  
9 did again today--but not with the same  
10 horse.

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1            Here's a note about royalty, but  
2 not about any kings of today. It's  
3 about three great kings who reigned  
4 43,000 years ago in the ancient city  
5 Ur--Ur<sup>of</sup> the Chaldees, where Abraham  
6 lived. The International News Service  
7 tells us that University of Pennsylvania  
8 archaeologists have dug up the tombs  
9 of these three great kings who lived  
10 so long ago, and this may<sup>prove to</sup> be one of the  
11 great scientific finds of the year.  
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# CHESS

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We have been ~~xxxxxx~~ losing a lot of champions lately and this time we nearly lost a chess champion. Not that the deep thinking Dr. Alekhine<sup>allayhin</sup> was in any danger of being beaten at chess. He merely went to sleep with a lighted cigarette in his hand, and the bed caught fire. This was over in Jugoslavia, and according to the ~~International~~<sup>Associated</sup> ~~News Service~~<sup>Press</sup> the hotel attendants broke into the chess champion's room just in time. He had managed to stagger to the door and <sup>had</sup> then ~~had~~ fallen unconscious in the smoke. He is now in the hospital being treated for burns.

TABASCO

The Associated Press carries a story today from Mexico City telling about a hot time that is predicted in the Mexican province of Tabasco. The Governor of Tabasco has aroused a political storm by announcing that he intends to transform his ~~xxx~~ state into one vast cooperative society in which agriculture, industry, commerce and cattle raising will be all combined and made a collective matter; and with Atheism and religion on his state. From which you can see that things look a bit peppery in Tabasco.



1 Well, the old show boat is gone,  
 2 one of the most famous of the old-time  
 3 craft that used to carry shows up and  
 4 down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers.  
 5 Years ago it was one of the gala sights  
 6 as it <sup>paddled</sup> ~~ran~~ down the river, with colors  
 7 and lights and <sup>what we used to call</sup> the steam calliope (<sup>balloop</sup>)  
 8 echoing along both banks. It carried  
 9 the show from town to town, minstrel  
 10 show or dramatic show. Those old show  
 11 boat days have gone forever. The old  
 12 boat, according to the Associated Press,  
 13 was sold recently to pay for storage  
 14 costs, and now after <sup>some final</sup> dancing and  
 15 ceremonies aboard <sup>the Sensation of the Old Ohio</sup> ~~it's going to the~~ <sup>the Show Boat</sup>  
 16 ~~junk heap.~~ <sup>goes to the bone yard.</sup> ~~and~~



END

They had some great warblers on the old Show Boats.  
But they had not a single osiso.

What a wonderful bird is the osiso, it neither sings,  
nor talks, nor whissos! But there is one thing the osiso does.  
The osiso tells us that the city of London sings baritone, Chicago  
sings bass, and New York sings tenor. And what is the osiso?  
Well, the osiso is a scientific instrument for analyzing voices.

And cities do have voices, it seems, and the voice of  
each city is different. Above the city's noises there are over-  
tones which we poor mortals cannot hear. But the osiso, the  
New York Herald Tribune tells us, hears them all and records  
them. The osiso pilots a city's voice in curves. London's  
song comes out in a curve that means that it sings bass.  
Chicago warbles baritone, something like the hum of an automobile  
without engine knocks, and Chicago's sound wave resembles the  
teeth of a saw. As the tenor of the soprano, New York's sound  
wave is shaped like a neckless hand with the teeth of saws  
wild and prodigious.

With the osiso we come to the end of our song of the  
news. So I'm off now to listen x once more to New York sing  
tenor.

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.