

1 Good evening, everybody.

2 It would take one of those artists  
3 who get up wild, modernistic stage scenes  
4 to do justice to this first item. Last  
5 night at almost the identical hour that  
6 I was telling you about an earthquake  
7 in the Andes, they were having an  
8 earthquake in Mexico City. Houses  
9 started to rock, and for four minutes the  
10 shaking continued. Walls swayed dizzily  
11 and fell crashing. People rushed into  
12 the streets in a panic.

13 For three days Mexico has been having  
14 unusual weather conditions. There has  
15 been snow and cold. Last night the rain  
16 poured, ~~and~~ the wind howled and the  
17 lightning flashed.

18 And right in the middle of that  
19 storm came the earthquake. While the  
20 city shook the sky took on a strange,  
21 unnatural, unearthly hue. A weird,  
22 flickering light, a <sup>shootty</sup> ~~strange~~ yellow glow  
23 came out of the storm and out of the  
24 blackness of the night. The terrified  
25 people who abandoned their houses milled

1 around in the streets, and thousands  
2 kneeled to pray, while the earth kept  
3 on trembling as the tempest beat down.

4         According to the Associated Press,  
5 one person was killed and twenty-five  
6 injured in Mexico City. The shocks were  
7 felt over a wide area all the way down  
8 to the Atlantic Coast. The International  
9 News Service states that the quake was  
10 especially severe in the city of Oaxaca,<sup>h</sup>  
11 where seven people were killed. In all  
12 twenty-five lives have been lost.

13         This is the worst earthquake that  
14 Mexico has had since the disastrous  
15 trembler of 1911, and that quake took  
16 place under extraordinary circumstances  
17 too. Mexico City began to rock and shake  
18 just a few hours before Madero, the  
19 victorious revolutionary chief, rode into  
20 the city at the head of his army. And  
21 Madero made his triumphal entry into a  
22 city filled with ruin and devastation.

## SOUTH AFRICA

Now comes what seems like a small edition of the Great Flood when it rained for forty days and forty nights.

There have been tremendous rains, cloudbursts, and floods in South Africa. Rivers which are normally dry at this time of the year are raging torrents, and bridges are being swept away. The deluge has caused landslides, which have blocked railway lines.

The International News Service informs us that there had been a drought, and last Sunday prayers for rain were offered in churches all over the South African Union. The answer to the prayers was overwhelming, and it almost seemed as if the flood gates of heaven were opened. The drought came to a sudden end.

## AIRPLANE

I wish I were down in Rio de Janeiro tonight. They certainly are celebrating. This afternoon eleven giant planes swept over the harbor, and circled above the city. Then they swooped down all eleven of them, in perfect formation.

And that completed the most ambitious flight ever made by a great squadron of the air. I mean, of course, that squadron of Italian bombers from Rome to Rio.

On the last leg the eleven machines made eight hundred miles in seven and a half hours. And now all that remains for the aviators who made the historic flight is to enjoy the entertainment that the wildly enthusiastic Brazilians have arranged for them.

1 Here's a little aviation thriller.

2 The Wabash River, <sup>out in Indiana</sup> went on a rampage  
3 and flooded the country. Several families  
4 were trapped by the <sup>waters.</sup> ~~flood~~. They made  
5 their way to a hill, which stood like an  
6 island in the middle of the murky ~~flood~~.  
7 ~~waters of the river~~. And they waited  
8 there, and maybe they were singing the  
9 old sentimental song "On the Banks of  
10 the Wabash". But I <sup>doubt it - because</sup> ~~don't think they were~~.  
11 They were without food. It was freezing  
12 weather, and they had no <sup>spare</sup> ~~extra~~ clothing.

13 Well, airplanes are doing a lot  
14 of rescue work these days, and pretty  
15 soon an army plane was sent to drop food  
16 and clothing to the people marooned on  
17 the hill. The pilot was Lieutenant  
18 Genaros, of Ft. Benjamin Harrison. He  
19 swooped <sup>low</sup> ~~down~~ over the refugees, and,  
20 ~~flying low~~, started to drop ~~the~~ packages  
21 and bundles.

22 A high wind was blowing, and a  
23 ~~blustery wind~~ gust caught a roll of  
24 blankets, and blew one blanket loose.  
25 That blanket floated and drifted, and

1 was blown upward. It was blown right  
2 into the tail of the plane and got <sup>all</sup>  
3 tangled up with the rudder. It ~~was just~~ <sup>got</sup>  
4 snared among the ~~pulleys and~~ wires and  
5 tied the rudder like a snarled fishing  
6 line.

7 Well, it's no fun to be flying in a  
8 plane that won't steer. Lieutenant Genaro  
9 looked anxiously below for a landing  
10 place. The hill was a bumpy affair, and  
11 all he could see was a ~~■ ■ ■~~ short stretch  
12 of ice, where shallow waters of the  
13 flood had frozen. That's where the  
14 Lieutenant had to show some first rate  
15 airmanship. With a plane that wouldn't  
16 steer, he made a clean landing on that  
17 small bit of ice.

18 The first thing he did was to pull  
19 that blanket out of the rudder gear.  
20 Then he turned over his supplies of food  
21 and clothing to the refugees who came  
22 running. ~~to him~~. That was all right, but  
23 his troubles had just begun. How was he  
24 ~~going~~ to take off ~~his plane~~ when <sup>there</sup> ~~■ ■ ■~~ wasn't  
25 ~~not~~ room enough <sup>for a run</sup> ~~to ■ ■ ■ give it any kind~~

He had the refugees hold the plane while he opened the motor wide. The propellor roared. He gave her the gun, and at a signal the men on the ice turned her loose and she bounded into the air and was off.

That story is in the new Literary Digest that is on the stands today. It's just one of a number of vivid facts, which the Digest gives in an article on the perils which face aviators who go out to rescue people. For example, take the case of the aviators in the Far North, who have to do their work during the short Arctic day.

You'll find all about it in the new Digest.

1 Here's another legend exploded.

2 Over in London the bargemen who navigate  
3 their clumsy craft along the Thames

4 have been famous as a rough and hard-  
5 boiled lot. They swaggered and used

6 hard language and generally were <sup>considered fairly</sup> ornery  
7 customers. But now the Associated Press

8 informs us that those old bargees of

9 London are greatly changed. Their <sup>manners and</sup> ~~old~~

<sup>boisterous</sup> <sup>somehow</sup>  
10 ways have <sup>^</sup>toned down. They've lost  
11 their ancient fierceness.

12 Just the other day Lord David  
13 Cecil made a sensation along the Thames

14 waterfront when he said that the old

15 bargemen were chiefly remarkable for a

16 pleasing and old fashioned courtesy. And

17 that caused an old river character to

18 compose a poem, which <sup>they are talking about all</sup> ~~is said to have~~

19 ~~spread~~ up and down the Thames, <sup>these days,</sup> ~~for miles.~~

20 ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Here it is:

21 Oh, the bold bargees of London,

22 Will soon be wearing spats,

23 And when they pass each other's barge,

24 They'll always doff their hats.

25 Instead of calling, "Hey, you lout!"

1 As they sail up and down,  
2 They'll give a bow and gently shout,  
3 "Good morning, Mr. Brown."  
4

5 Well, that's too bad. I can  
6 remember myself a greenhorn in London  
7 standing and watching those bargemen  
8 and believing the old tradition ~~all the~~  
9 <sup>of how</sup> ~~time that~~ they chewed nails for  
10 breakfast, ~~and~~ washed their faces with  
11 ~~handfuls of tacks,~~ sand paper and combed  
12 their beards with fish hooks.  
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1 A long telegram from Pittsburgh was  
2 delivered to me at the offices of the  
3 Literary Digest today. It's from Ted  
4 Claire and tells about a dog that was  
5 marooned for fourteen hours on a ~~ice~~ cake  
6 of ice way out in the middle of the  
7 Pittsburgh reservoir. ~~Of course the~~  
8 ~~Pittsburgh papers told about it last~~  
9 ~~night. But it's mighty interesting.~~

10 In his wife, Ted tells me that a  
11 crowd gathered and tried to coax that  
12 <sup>animal</sup> ~~dog~~ to jump off and swim ashore. But he  
13 wouldn't be coaxed.

14 Well, they finally got to feeling  
15 so sorry for that handsome big police  
16 dog shivering and freezing out there on  
17 the cake of ice, that they decided not  
18 to let him die of cold and hunger. They  
19 thought it would be better to shoot him.  
20 So they got a rifle and opened fire from  
21 shore. But they missed the dog every  
22 time.

23 Then a little girl came running up.  
24 She was six-year-old Dorothy Shoprone.  
25 She looked out and recognized the animal

1 on the ice floe. It was her dog Keno.

2 Well, Dorothy just called once to  
3 old Keno and she accomplished what the  
4 others had vainly been trying to do for  
5 hours.

6 At the sound of the little girl's  
7 voice, Keno took one jump off that big  
8 cake of ice and started to swim as hard  
9 as he could. In a couple of minutes he  
10 was scrambling on shore and jumping  
11 and barking in front of his little  
12 mistress. Then Dorothy took Keno  
13 home to thaw him out a bit.

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## MOTHERS

I suppose we'll have to break this next bit of sad news to mother, although she may not like it. They say that the religious appeal of mother songs is vanishing. Those old camp meeting songs which told about mother are losing their magic. At any rate according to the Associated Press, so says the Reverend George Dibble, a singing Evangelist.

He goes on to inform us that the song which used to have the biggest effect upon religious meetings was - Tell Mother I'll be There. But now, says Reverend Dibble, that song has lost its effect. The reason, thinks the Evangelist, is that mothers aren't the same these days. That is, he thinks the younger generation isn't producing the old fashioned kind of mother any more.

The Reverend Mr. Dibble adds that the most persuasive song of all nowadays is the old fashioned hymn "JUST AS I AM." He says it has sent more people into the kingdom of Heaven than any other song.

1 Mark this one down as the craziest  
2 law of the year--or, at any rate,  
3 proposed law.

4 Down in Georgia some people think  
5 there ought to be a law against wearing  
6 red neckties. And so a bill has been  
7 introduced in the Georgia House of  
8 Representatives providing that anybody  
9 who wears a red necktie must pay a  
10 special tax of a dollar per day.

11 But that's not all. That law  
12 will also levy a dollar a day on all  
13 persons who wear loud socks--you know,  
14 the rainbow variety. And that same  
15 dollar a day tax is to be levied on all  
16 girls who wear stockings with runs  
17 in them.

18 The bill was introduced by  
19 Representatives Bessie Kempton and  
20 E. H. Griffin. The United Press informs  
21 us that the bill has been ~~held up~~  
22 ~~temporarily~~ and has been referred to *the*  
23 ~~the Georgia~~ Game and Fish Committee.  
24  
25

CHINA

And put this one down in your list of quaint Chinese stories. Five dollars for mending the Holy Chicken. It was a bill for services rendered.

It certainly puzzled the Quartermaster of the Fourth Regiment of the United States Marines now stationed on the China Coast. When he enquired about that five dollars for mending the Holy Chicken, he found out that the Holy Chicken was not a chicken at all. It was the American Eagle.

According to the International News Service, a carved image of our national emblem, the Eagle, is part of the decoration in a certain church out in China attended by the Marines. The Eagle needed shining up a bit, and they gave the job to a Chinese artisan. To his untutored mind the noble bird was just a chicken, and since it was in a church it must be a holy chicken. What could be more logical.

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A United Press dispatch has just been handed to me which states that President Hoover tonight signed the drought relief bill. This makes \$45,000,000 available immediately for seed, fertilizer and equipment loans to farmers in 21 southern and middle western states.

## VITAMIN D

Now comes a discovery which may mean a great deal to all of us. It promises to put more nourishment and health-giving substance into milk and other foods.

One of the important health-giving elements of milk is Vitamin D. It is often lacking in ordinary milk because the cows don't get enough sunshine. So scientists have tried to create this element in milk by exposing the milk to artificial rays, which have about the same effect as sunlight. In the past they have been able to produce Vitamin D in milk, but the process has always given the milk an unpleasant taste. But now the New York Times tells ~~me~~ us that Professor Sperti, of the University of Cincinnati, has found a way to put that same Vitamin D into milk without affecting the taste at all.

We learn that Vitamin D is formed by the irradiation of the pro-vitamin known as ergosterol. The vitamin begins to form at the critical wave length of 3100 angstrom, and one result is that it cures rickets. Dave Bowman, one of the editors of the Cincinnati Times Star wires me that he votes for this for the news item of the day.

1 I think I ought to call for another  
2 three cheers for science right here,  
3 because science has achieved another  
4 one of its ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ marvels - I might  
5 even say miracles. It has discovered  
6 what a wonderful thing is a beard,  
7 whiskers, <sup>or</sup> spinach as some call it.

8 The United Press informs us  
9 that a scientist out in Iowa has found  
10 that whiskers are not merely beautiful  
11 and ornamental but they also strain and  
12 wash the air we breath and keep our  
13 chests warm in the winter and cool in  
14 the summer. In other words, whiskers  
15 are ~~VERY~~ useful to us, if we have any.

16 These discoveries about beards,  
17 whiskers and spinach come from a  
18 <sup>zo</sup>zoologist out at Grinnell College, Iowa,  
19 and the zoologist is Amy Elizabeth Blagg.  
20 But she doesn't say how she is going to  
21 get any of these newly discovered benefits  
22 which whiskers bring <sup>to</sup> the wearer. So why  
23 should Amy get all hat and bothered about  
24 beards.

NEWS ITEM

I had an interesting visitor today. He was Farmer Rucker from our in Ottumwa, Iowa, and he came in to thank me for having broadcast the fame of a champion egg-laying chicken of his.

Farmer Rucker is really a former university professor or poultry husbandry and is an authority on chickens, and he goes into the egg laying business on a scientific basis. He told me that his chickens really lay eggs according to algebraic formula, and he gave me a book which he had written, entitled:- "How to lay eggs."

It was an interesting visit and also useful, because Farmer Rucker had a try at picking out my news item of the day. It's a story that would make any farmer just lean against the old fence and laugh his whiskers off and holler out: "Hi there, wait a minute. Whoa Dobbin. What kind of oats do you think you ought to get?"

Well, old Dobbin sure did

eat some valuable oats.

The Associated Press informs us that Mrs. E. M. Marshall of Madeira, California, was leaning against the fence at a riding academy. On her hand was a \$500. diamond ring, and that same hand was gracefully draped over a stall. The horse in the stall, attracted by the glittering, gleaming gem, just reached over and took a bite at it. He nipped the diamond right out of its setting and swallowed it.

~~Whoa there, Dobbin! No horse was ever supposed to eat diamonds.~~

Well, I'm going to close tonight with a warning that Farmer Rucker of Ottumwa, Iowa wants me to give to all you folks who live in the country, on the farm. Says Farmer Rucker, "folks, when you go out to feed the horses at daybreak tomorrow morning and when you give old Dobbin his hay and oats, look out for those \$500 diamond solitaires on your fingers."

And Solong until tomorrow.