

LOWELL THOMAS BROADCAST FOR THE LITERARY DIGEST

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1930

INTRO

It sort of seems as though this dizzy old world of ours is on a shooting spree. I am not going to give you all the details of war and revolution today, but I am going to get the shooting out of my system right away so that we can hurry along to pleasanter things. Here is a quick resume of the fire works in tonight's dispatches:-

Out in India two have been killed and 17 injured in a clash between police and railway workers. In Madrid, over in Spain the cavalry, charged into a labor demonstration and cut down 67 men with sabers and killed three.

In Peru, cavalry and machine guns have been rushed into the copper mining regions of the Andes. Underneath the romantic palm trees of Havana, mounted policemen, armed to the teeth, are patrolling the streets and martial law has been declared. On the other side of the globe, in the province of Kiangsi, Chinese bandits have massacred 2000 people.

RUSSIA

And here's a startling news flash. The Associated Press states that revolt has broken out in Russia. The Bolsheviks are fighting peasants who don't want their land collectivized, that is, they don't want it taken over by the government. The dispatch says the Reds are seizing the Peasant's crops. Another cable from Riga, the capital of Latvia, on the Gulf of Finland, tells of fighting on the Russo-Latvian border. Two villages have been destroyed by bombardments from an armored train, and a number of peasants have been executed.

REDS

The other day the Soviet leaders uncovered what they called a world wide conspiracy to overthrow Red Russia. Now, according to the Associated Press the Bolsheviks claim to have discovered a White Russian plan to assassinate the entire Soviet Delegation at Geneva.

JAPAN

Hurrying on to Japan, we find the Prime Minister *Japan*
in a Tokyo hospital fighting for his life. His name is Yuko
Hamaguchi. He was shot down this morning in a railway station.
According to the United Press, a curious thing about the
affair is that news photographers were snapping pictures of
the Prime Minister, and accidentally got the whole shooting
on their photographic plates. So an hour later, the newspapers
of Tokyo were on sale with complete pictures of it.

Hamaguchi has been known in recent years as the
strong man of Japan. He was responsible for his country
ratifying the recent London Naval Treaty. A young Japanese
fanatic shot the Prime Minister and then gave himself up
meekly to the police.

1 The cables have been simply
2 humming with ~~important~~ news today. Over
3 in Geneva the delegates to the Dis-
4 armament Conference have not been
5 planning things in a way that suited our
6 government in Washington. The conference
7 has been talking about a plan to limit
8 land war material. Our government ~~has~~
9 expressed its ^{dis}approval. Nevertheless
10 this afternoon the Geneva scheme was
11 adopted. ~~by a vote of~~ the delegates. ~~The~~
12 voted ~~was~~ 16 to 3 with six nations not
13 voting. After the ~~vote~~ ^{ballot} was cast, ~~the~~ our
14 ^{ambassador to Belgium} ~~United States Ambassador~~, Hugh Gibson,
15 announced that Uncle Sam would not abide
16 by the ~~scheme~~ agreement.

FOOTBALL

Saturday looks like the big day of the year in the football world. Some of tomorrow's rivalries date back for nearly 60 years. The Associated Press has sent out a list of some of the traditional games that are on. The list starts off with Yale and Princeton who have been rivals since 1873. Among the other games are Williams vs. Amherst; Wisconsin - Northwestern; Colgate - Syracuse; Michigan - Minnesota; Nebraska - Missouri; Chicago vs. Illinois; Dartmouth - Cornell; Harvard and Holy Cross.

According to the New York Herald Tribune, there are 14 leading teams in the country that are still undefeated, or have only been tied. They are:-- Fordham, Western Maryland, Dartmouth, West Point, Northwestern, Notre Dame, Marquette, Michigan, Alabama, Georgia, Texas Christian, Washington State, Utah and Oregon.

Yes, and here's the latest news of the Army -

1 Navy game. It is to be played in New
2 York, and the date ~~has been~~ set ~~for~~
3 Saturday, December ~~the~~ 13th.

4 Are American college football players
5 subsidized? A lot of our leading sports
6 writers have some rather sensational
7 remarks to ~~say~~^{make} on the subject. Joe
8 Williams, in the Scripps-Howard papers,
9 and Arch Ward, of the Chicago Tribune,
10 are among them. If you want to read a
11 sizzling article on American football,
12 one that every American who is keen about
13 the game will find ~~is~~ mighty fascinating,
14 just take a look at this week's Literary
15 Digest.

16 ~~Have you heard about the six freshmen~~
17 ~~who demanded their football ~~max~~ pay?~~
18 ~~Have you heard the story about Jarring~~
19 ~~Jim, the Kansas halfback? It tells about~~
20 ~~them in this Literary Digest article.~~

21 But I don't want you sports
22 enthusiasts to think that football is the
23 only game in which I am interested. For
24 fear you will think so, I'm going to give

Here it is:-

1 you another red hot news item. ^ Isaac
2 Kashdan, of New York, has just won the
3 big Swedish chess tournament, with Mr.
4 ~~Bogoljubow~~ ^{Bogoluboff} as runner-up. How's that
5 for thrilling news?
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INSURANCE

Down in our American Southwest a big insurance swindle has been exposed. Ten thousand people in Texas says the United Press, have lost half a million dollars. Other people in other states, too, have been hooked by the scheme. The operators of the affair did a land office business with a kind of marriage and birth insurance. People who bought the policies were usually promised a thousand dollars when they got married or when they had a child. Thousands of young people fell for the swindle. The Post Office authorities have arrested six of the operators in Forth Worth and four in Dallas.

WILD HORSES

Farther west in Texas, the king of the Wild Mustangs is now munching his oats in a stall like any tame horse, and I suppose it won't be long before they'll be giving him to fat men to ride on some Dude Ranch. An Associated Press dispatch from San Angelo, says that he was the last wild horse in western Texas. His stamping ground was around the foot of El Capitan Mountain. For fifteen years he roamed the range, and he never once had felt the whistle of a lariat dropping round that handsome neck.

But this week they decided the King of the Stallions should be free and independent no longer. Five cowboys trailed him for three days and three nights in relays. Finally they cornered him. He bit the first rope in two. They roped him again, and there was a struggle over half of the mountain side. The King of the Stallions finally had to give up, and they led him in. They're breaking him now, and soon he'll be - just another horse.

GRASSHOPPERS

The other evening I told you about thousands of grasshoppers impaled on cactus spikes down in Arizona, and I wondered how they got there. Well, I have a couple of letters here explaining the strange phenomenon. One is from Mr. Loring of Owego, New York. The second letter is from Kenneth Clough of Springfield, Mass. And both of these gentlemen tell me that it is the butcher birds or shrikes that put the grasshoppers on the cactus spikes. "These birds have a habit of hanging up their meat just as you see it in the butcher shops," says Mr. Clough, "they eat grasshoppers, crickets, other insects and occasionally a mouse or two. They let them hang until they have reached a state where the quarry suits their taste. Out in Arizona where there are plenty of cactus spikes, it is only natural that they should use the spikes for their butcher shops.

LITERARY DIGEST

Up in Canada they have built a dam on dry land, and that certainly does seem like a useless performance. It is just about the oddest piece of engineering on record. A hundred and forty odd miles north of Quebec they wanted to dam the Saguenay River for a big hydro-electric plant. Well, they built the dam out on dry land, and dumped it into the river. How? Well, they erected a huge column beside the river. That was the dam. They simply stood it on end. One side was shaped to fit the river bottom. Then they blasted away part of it at the base, and it fell right into place across the river - damming the water just the way they wanted it. The whole story of how this ~~amazing~~ was done, and two remarkable pictures of the operation are in this week's Literary Digest. One of the pictures shows the dam hitting the water, and it certainly is some splash.

Here's another odd
engineering item:

1 Those terrific landslides in the
2 city of Lyons in France, ^{the ones} ~~that~~ I told about
3 last night, have been followed by a romantic
4 explanation. There was a shifting of
5 ground down a densely populated hill.
6 Buildings piled up in a yawning ~~xxx~~
7 hole. According to the United Press, you
8 can blame the ancient Romans for it. The
9 City Engineer of Lyons states that the
10 landslides were caused by ancient Roman
11 tunnels and underground galleries.
12 Catacombs, in other words. These, flooded
13 by recent rains, suddenly caved in.

14 From Roman catacombs, we'll
15 swing over to a transatlantic
16 airway that is being planned.
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DO-X

According to the New York Evening World, the Pan American airways and the Imperial Airways of England, are joining forces in order to establish a three day passenger mail service across the Atlantic with just long enough ~~to~~ stops at Bermuda and the Azores for passengers to mail a few souvenir postcards.

And speaking of flying boats, the biggest one in the world, that German DO-X, hopped off on the next leg of its journey today. It started on the flight from England to Southern France, but according to a late dispatch from the International News Service the huge DO-X has come down in the Bay of Biscay and has put in at La Rochelle for the night on account of fog.

DOPE

Let's make a trans Pacific flight
out to China. There,

Page

1 ~~out in China~~ (they have what they
2 call their "Model Army". But it isn't a
3 model army any more. According to the
4 United Press, the Model Army has been
5 demoralized as a result of the dope habit.
6 In other words, it has taken to drugs.
7 The Model Army is commanded by General
8 Yen Hsi Shan. He is the general who
9 established a Model Government in the
10 province of Shansi. And both the army
11 and the government were models for a long
12 time. Then the General got mixed up in
13 China's civil war, and his Model Army
14 invaded Shantung. There it got into bad
15 shape, and retreated. And now the trouble
16 is said to be opium, ~~China's old curse.~~

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NEWS ITEM

As I came in here tonight I laid my sheaf of news dispatches down for a moment, and then I saw Frank looking through them. Who is Frank, Well, Frank K. is the gentleman of Scottish ancestry who operates the control board here.

"Say," he said, pointing to one story. "Why isn't this one your News Item of the Day?"

Well, why wasn't it, I had picked something else, but F. K. judgment wasn't so far off. The story he recommended as the most interesting has a touch of smile and a touch of pathos. F. K. is a hard boiled Scot, but a warm heart beats under the surface of Caledonian

1 granite. Anyway, here's the story:

2 There is a happy boy in this
3 country tonight - even if he is blind.

4 Out there in the Colorado School for the
5 Deaf and Blind ^{at Colorado Springs} they're all congratulating
6 him, the teachers and the other blind
7 children.

8 They're saying, "Gee, Marvin, I
9 told you that was a swell story."

10 For Marvin Milan, according to the
11 New York Sun, has won a short story prize.

12 Every year for four years now the
13 New York Association for the Blind conducts
14 a short story contest for blind children.

15 The first prize is a fifty dollar Liberty
16 Bond. And today the prize winners were
17 announced, and the top honors go to Marvin
18 Milan, of Colorado. He is sixteen now,
19 and he was four years old when an accident
20 destroyed his sight.

21 Well, Marvin worked hard on
22 that short story. "Proving His Mettle"
23 is the title of it, ~~and it's the tale of~~
24 ~~a boy who works in a mine to get money to~~
25 ~~go to college. He meets a bully who makes~~

NEWS ITEM - 3

I'll bet it's a swell story. And I'm sending my
congratulations out to Marvin.

1 You hear a lot about how faithful
2 a dog can be to his master. But here is
3 a story from down in Gladstone, Virginia,
4 about a Coon dog named "Red." Every day
5 for a week he was seen carrying food
6 off down the road. Finally his master
7 followed him to a stone quarry. There
8 he found a Collie dog named "Pete" that
9 had fallen into a hole forty feet deep.
10 Every day "Red", the Coon dog, had been
11 bringing food and dropping it into the
12 pit. I saw that item in the New York
13 Evening telegram and in another part of
14 the same paper I read a dog story from
15 Australia. A pet dog named Charlie was
16 injured in an automobile accident. His
17 jaw was broken and most of his teeth were
18 knocked out. So his master hired a
19 dental surgeon to make a special plate
20 of false teeth for Charlie and he uses
21 the ^{plate} to gnaw bones just as successfully
22 as he did with his original teeth.

23 Now lets go on to a
24 modern Solomon.
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END

Judge Stein, out in Detroit, was a telegraph operator once upon a time. The Associated Press tells us that a telegrapher by the name of Christopher Denny was brought before Judge Stein on a minor charge.

"So, you're a telegraph operator," said the judge.

"Well, let's see what you know. Take that pencil and tap out a message to me on the desk. Tap out one tell^{ing} me what to do with your case."

"P-l-e-a-s-e l-e-t m-e g-o," tapped the prisoner.

Judge Stein took his gavel and tapped out four words that ended the trial. Those four words were "G-e-t o-u-t o-f h-e-r-e."

Well, I think I'll take my cue from that prisoner and tap out a short news dispatch to all of you who are listening in.

"T-h-a-t-s a-l-l t-h-e n-e-w-s t-o-n-i-t-e."

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.