LOWELL THOMAS BROADCAST FOR LITERARY DIGEST THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1931

INTRO- FLIERS

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

Well, I'd certainly like to be over in Budapest tonight.

The twin cities Buda and Pest on the banks of the Danube are
having a wild celebration. Those two fliers got there. Captains
George Andre and Alexander Magyar made it. Non-stop, all the
way from New York to Budapest, 3400 miles. At any rate, they
came so near their goal that you can count it a complete flight.

They were forced to land about 20 miles from Budapest, and of
course that means right on the outskirts of the capital city of
Hungary.

After twenty-six hours in the air, and after traveling 3400 miles, their fuel ran out, right on the edge of Budapest.

When they came down they cracked up the landing gear of their plane simply because they were trying to avoid hitting some people in a cornfield. But the two men themselves didn't get a scratch.

The International News Service reminds us that it was a flight with a political angle. The two Hungarians undertook

their adventure to advertise to the world that their native country of Hungary hasn't been treated right.

This evening and tomorrow morning the name of their plane - JUSTICE TO HUNGARY - will be blazened in newspapers all over the world.

Well, the Hungarians sympathize entirely with the ideas of the two fliers about the way Hungary has been treated, and that only makes their welcome tonight in Budapest all the wilder. Citizens of the twon are yelling their heads off with cheers for the aviators Andre and Magyar, and their plane --

Captain Magyar in an exclusive statement to the

International News Service, stated that never even caught a

glimpse of the ocean on their way across. They flew above a

dense fog and the first land they sighted was central France

where they flew low and read some road signs - and then on they

went to Budapest.

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Now comes a bit of news about some more round the world jaunts; 3 Post and Gatty's remarkable circumnavi gation by air, it's a bit tame. But just the same, it would have been a great stunt a few years, - or rather two great stunts.

Two Japanese set out on a race alaround the world. Kenzo Fukuma started g west, Suté Maru Shingu started east. 10 And the two men beat it around the world as fast as they could, one hurrying 12 westward, and the other hurrying eastwards

The Associated Press explains 14 that they took only normal means of 15 passenger travel, steamships, railroads 16 and whenever possible airplanes on the 17 regularly organized passenger airlines.

Kenzo Fukuma, who traveled 19 west, has won out. He made the round the 20 world circle in thirty-one days and six hours. Sute Maru Shingu's time swae over thirty-five days.

Well, that's about as fast as man can go by ordinary means of travel, but it certainly does seem slow going

when you think of that flight to
Budapest which the Hungarians have just
made, and Post and Gatty's whizz around
the world in eight and a half days.

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MUNICIPAL And while we're on the subject of travel and adventure let's go back to the familiar theme of Polar exploration. People are always asking what's the use of all those trips to those use less expanses of ice and show.

Well, the New Literary Digest, the one that came out today, tells us ammunition something illuminating about that.

This time the Literary Digest goes to a French periodical for a shrewd bit of information. The name of this magazine translated into English means "All the World," and it begins by saying that the barren regions that surround the Pole are likely to be a fruitful source of international disputes. The nations will quarrel with each other for the possession of those deserts of ice -- that's how important they are. The Digest goes on with the explanation that the shortest route between Europe and North America is across the Polar regions. The most direct line lies over Greenland and the frozen Franklin

archipelago. Travel from Europe to America by that route would save airplanes and dirigibles thousands of miles.

And then the Literary Digest gives us this additional piece of illumination. Sky voyagers traveling across the Arctic don't have to worry about nightfall and darkness. They're in the Land of the Midnight Sun. The Digest tells us that travelers leaving Paris or London in the morning would be in the Land of the Midnight Sun by evening, and by the time they had crossed it day would be have broken in the more mandal would be southernly regions. They'd be traveling in daylight all the time.

All of us who wonder about what possible use the Polar regions can have might fust as well consult the Literary Digest article and get the full explanation.

They're dancing tangos in 2 Buckingham Palace tonight. Yes, and maybe a wedding is being announced.

Tonight is the night of the Royal 5 Ball. King George and Queen Mary are 6 holding the first dancing entertainment 7 since 1924. It's not a formal state 8 affair, stiff and solemn with ceremony. 9 Their Majesties are just throwing a party 10 for the younger set.

And the London newspapers are full of rumors and gossip. It's hinted that tonight's jollification may be an 14 occasion set for the announcement of a 15 royal marriage.

Of course the Prince of Wales is mentioned. The fact that he still obstinately remains a bachelor is an endless source of talk. And so the gossips in London see the possibility 20 that the Prince of Wales may at last have decided to take a better-half unto himself and that his engagement will be announced tonight.

In the better-informed social

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circles of Mayfair, however, it is believed that if any wedding is announced tonight, Lady Mary Cambridge will be the prospective bride. She is the daughter of the Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, and She is the first cousin of the Prince of Wales and his brothers. The International News Service goes on to give us other royal names that are mentioned in the rumors of a wedding. There's Princess Ingrid, the beautiful daughter of the Crown Prince of Sweden. She is a granddaughter of King George and is now on a visit to the British court. And some believe that she may marry the Prince of Wales one of his brothers, the Duke of Gloucester or Prince George.

And so rumors of a royal wedding are drifting around in fashionable London. Perhaps there'll be a wedding -- and perhaps there won't.

As to the Prince of Wales, all he says on the subject is, "Let's tango."
H.R.H. has insisted that among the

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dances tonight there must be several tangos. The Associated Press reminds us that he's a splendid dancer and loves to glide across the floor in the slow sinuous grace of the tango and american slide.

A great pajama battle is on at Asbury Park, New

Jersey. In that popular seaside resort the city fathers

and the leading citizens have lined up in opposite parties -
the pro-pahamas and the anti-pajamas.

It appears that the ladies vacationing at Asbury Park have gone in for beach pajamas. In fact I was down there enjoying the pajama scenery myself this morning. At any rate a number of citizens of Asbury Park are shocked. They say there ought to be a law. "Can you imagine," they ask, "those beach pajamas worn over a wet bathing suit?"

They say the effect is best described as shocking.

And then Asbury Park is right next door to Ocean

Grove, which is a famous Methodist Camp Meeting ground and

summer resort. And right now at Ocean Grove the Women's

Christian Temperance Union is holding a big gathering. And

the question grows louder -- ARE BEACH PAJAMAS IN HARMONY WITH

THE SPIRIT OF THE W. C. T. U.? And the

answer is NO, a hundred times No.

The Asbury Park Hotel Men's Association declares that those beach pajamas tend to lower the fair name of Asbury Park. They've gone to the City Council and have demanded that something be done about it. And so the City Council is now debating the question -- SHOULD THE LADIES WEAR BEACH PAJAMAS OR -- WHAT SHOULD THEY WEAR?

Meanwhile, the ladies don't seem to be particularly interested in the controversy. They lounge around the beach in their pajamas and talk -- well, what do they talk about? Why, about the Hoover moratorium, I suppose.

und fly the way, that moratorium habit seems to be spreading.

The Republic of Chile today declared a moratorium on its foreign debts. All payments to foreign countries will be suspended temporarily.

During the rest of July, Chile is supposed to pay a little over 2 million dollars in interest and charges on debts. These payments will be postponed until August 1st. On that date the Chilean government will make a decision about future payments and will announce when the money will be forked over.

The Associated Press reminds us that the world depression has badly disorganized the market for minerals and nitrates, and these are the principal source of wealth of the Republic of Chile. The result has been financial stringency and hard times.

And from Mexico comes word that government officials and important financiers are looking to the United States to give them a hand. The

International News Service explains that the Latin-American countries in general are having a hard time to part payments on their national debts. An official of the Mexican Ministry of Finance declares that Mexico needs aid and if she gets it she will not only be able to make her debt payments but will also be able to buy increased quantities of goods from the United States.

6-16-31 - 5M

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Things seem to be a bit more cheerful tonight over in Europe -- 1 mean with regard to the financial situation of Germany. A conference has been called to be held in Paris between the Chancellor and the Prime Minister of Germany and officials of the French government. This will be followed by a conference on Monday in London, when the British will have their say.

The New York Evening Post gives the information that the United States will take a large hand in these proceedings. Secretary-of-State Stimson, who is in Europe, will participate in the discussions. It looks as if a big concerted effort is being made to pull Germany off the financial rocks.

The United Press cables that the French cabinet today discussed the possibility of arranging a big loan for Germany, with Europe putting up half of the money and the United States the other half.

The International News Service adds

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the detail that optimism in French financial circles was reflected today in a rise of prices in the Paris stock market.

Anyway, statesmen are getting together, and the general word seems to be that something will have to be done—and there's a strangely familiar rung to those words.

6-16-31 5M

Now comes word of a armistice, a truce. The Vatican and the Italian government have agreed to call off their big controversy during the rest of the summer. The International News Service calls it a truce until autumn and explains that newspapers and spokesmen representing the Vatican on one side and the Fascist government of Italy on the other, will stop making charges and 10 countercharges.

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They still seem to be having bomb outrages over in Italy. Each of two Fascists officials at AMMON Genoa received from the postman two packages which seemed to contain nothing more than mail order fountain pens. But those fountain pens were bombs, and when those two Fascist officials opened the packages the fountain pens went off with a roar and the men were my uned, badly hart around the hands.

That was today's big source of excitement in Genoa, but it wasn't the only source. A bomb went off near the water front.

well, these are the series of a series of bomb explosions that Italy has been having. Most of them have branks done very little damage.

The Associated Press sends

word that the Fascist authorities are

intermediate and are mobilizing

the secret police in an effort to arrest

the bombers.

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6-16-31 -5M

There was a flare-up of race war in New York today, and it only goes to show what a cosmopolitan city New York is.

The race riot was between Porto
Ricans and Filipinos. They lived in
adjoining neighborhoods in the lower
part of Harlem, and bad feeling has
been brewing. And now it has flared
up and mobs of Filipinos and Porto
Ricans went babbling through the streets.

One man was killed and several badly
bounded, and tonight the police are
keeping a close watch to prevent any
more trouble in that little corner of
New York's gig-saw puzzle of nations
and races.

The talk almong the boya,

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Norristown didn't have a new addition to Noah's Ark. That's what they needed.

There were the animals of many kinds and the waters began to rise but there was no ark.

The Associated Press explains that Norristown, Pennsylvania, has a real nice Zoo, or at least it had. The zoo was near Stony Creek.

Well, it began to cloud up and the sky grew black. There was a tremendous cloudburst over that part of Pennsylvania and Stony Creek began to rise.

Ordinarily, it's a dinky sort of brook
--about 12 feet wide, but the waters
came swirling down and Stony Creek rose
until it was 200 feet wide and 20 feet
xxx deep. And it washed out the zoo.

The Norristown Zoo long had been the proud of its ten alligators. They were the wonder of all the children of the countryside. Well, of course the attacks cloudburst and the flood didn't distress those alligators

6-16-31 SNA

particularly. When the waters rose, foot by foot, in the menagerie, the alligators just had a good swim for themselves. They swam right out of their enclosures and went paddling down Stony Creek.

Other animals were in danger of being drowned and the keepers had a hard time saving some of them. Harmless critters such as deer or antelope were released. Eight deer went parading down the main street of Norristown. They trotted along with a friendly curiosity. Later on one of them came wistfully back to the flooded zoo. The waters still were deep and the poor old deer couldn't get in, but he was doing his best to return to the only home he knew.

Yes sir, the weather is hot.
That's what I am saying, and that's what
you've been saying. It's also what
Charlie Seabury's hen said.

the language of chickens. "It certainly is hot today. But it isn't the heat. It's the humidity."

And then that bird went on to add what millions of folks have been saying all day - "it's just too hot to work."

The Associated Press passes along the story that Charlie Seabury's hen, at Plainfield, Nebraska, went on strike today. It was just too hot and she refused to set on her eggs. There was one thing today, however, that was not on strike, and that was the heat. And the heat went right ahead and did the work of Charlie's hen. The hot weather hatched out four eggs which were had been abandoned when that hot and bothered bird went out to seek some cooling breezes.

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Well, like Charlie's hen I am
warm. I haven't gone on strike; but I've
have hatched out my nest full of news
items.

And now, like Charlie's hen I think I'll seek whatever cooling breezes I can find.

Meanwhile, so long until tomorrow.