

FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 1931

ZEPPELIN

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

A great sight was witnessed today on that lake that borders on both Switzerland and Germany. I mean Lake Constance, on the shore of which Germany builds her great Zeps.

Well, as the International News Service describes the scene, there were hundreds of boats on the lake, and people lined the banks. They were treated to a great show -- an important aeronautical experiment.

For the first time on record a giant Zeppelin descended on the water. The huge Graf, which has flown over oceans and sailed around the world, was equipped with pontoons today. The great cigar-shaped bulk nosed down toward the lake. With skilful maneuvering, she slid gently onto the water and came to rest. Ordinarily, to land the big ship, there must be a mooring mast or a crowd of men as a ground crew. But today she had neither mooring mast nor ground crew, and she proved conclusively

1 that a dirigible can land unaided on the  
2 surface of the water.

3 The Graf Zeppelin floated on the  
4 lake for <sup>quite</sup> a while. <sup>And</sup> The United Press tells  
5 us how the crew aboard got out their  
6 rubber boats , launched them in the  
7 lake, and paddled around the dirigible.

8 Then they scrambled aboard again,  
9 and the Graf Zeppelin taxied along the  
10 water for a short distance, rose in the  
11 air again, and sailed away through the  
12 sky.

1 News from Paris <sup>sounds a note</sup> ~~tells of a bit~~ of  
2 French disarmament. The French  
3 government proposed to build 44 million  
4 dollars worth of warships during the  
5 coming year. But the French Chamber of  
6 Deputies has said -- NO, THAT'S TOO  
7 MUCH. The Deputies decided that 20  
8 million was about the right figure, and  
9 so it looks as if the French might build  
10 less than half as many fighting ships  
11 as has been intended.

12 The New York Evening Post gives  
13 the interpretation that this cut in  
14 ship building is intended as a French  
15 gesture of peace toward Italy -- just a  
16 move toward settling that familiar old  
17 argument between France and Italy on the  
18 subject of how big a navy each country  
19 should have.

20 Another interpretation is that the  
21 French want to fall in line with  
22 President Hoover's declaration that  
23 unless there <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ armament reduction  
24 there <sup>can</sup> ~~would~~ be no debt reduction.

25 People over in Europe seem to be



1 convinced that President Hoover has  
2 given out a hint that if armies and  
3 navies are cut down the United States  
4 may be willing to cut down the amount of  
5 money that's coming to us from those  
6 old war debts. It has been stated that  
7 President Hoover <sup>has</sup> made no promise, but  
8 it's hard to convince the Europeans on  
9 that point.

10 Anyway, advocates of disarmament  
11 are delighted with the cut in the French  
12 naval estimates and are loudly congratu-  
13 lating that well-known old bird, the Dove  
14 of Peace, whose feathers are always a bit  
15 muddy and ragged but who still manages  
16 to emit a gentle coo coo now and then.



There is a happy young American woman in London tonight. All day she has been overwhelmed with congratulations. She is Rosa Ponselle, the star soprano of New York's Metropolitan Opera House. She scored an overwhelming triumph at historic old Covent Garden last night.

The London correspondent of the New York Evening Post uses the adjective delirious in describing the ovation she got, and it's only appropriate that Ponselle has <sup>scored</sup> this great London success in an opera written by her teacher. The opera is called <sup>ay</sup> Fedra, and the composer is Romano Romani. He is an Italian, but he has been <sup>a</sup> ~~in~~ New York <sup>er</sup> for these past fifteen years or more, and during most of that time has coached Ponselle in her operas, guiding her interpretation, instructing her in the singing of lyrical phrases.

Well, he wrote this opera Fedra and they say it is just the part for Ponselle. She always cuts a stately figure on the stage, and this new opera

gives her a chance to wear a red wig  
and a gorgeous silver robe. And the  
music is said to rise to a <sup>superb climax</sup> ~~splendid power~~.

Anyway, the great soprano, singing  
the music of her teacher, has conquered  
London.

1 And now comes another story,  
2 a theatrical triumph. But it is triumph  
3 mingled with tragedy.

4 In Paris they gave a new play,  
5 a comedy called <sup>Bourrachon</sup> Bourrachon, by Louis  
6 <sup>Duvalley</sup> Doillet. It made a hit.

7 Well, people spoke of the playwright  
8 and the long struggle he had had. Ten  
9 ~~xxx~~ years ago he wrote a successful play,  
10 but after that his luck seemed to peter  
11 out. He couldn't even get a play put on.  
12 He was poor and wretched, striving,  
13 always striving.

14 Then at last, after years the  
15 manager accepted his comedy called  
16 Bourrachon, and, as they say on Broadway,  
17 it went over big. It was a wow.

18 Well, that seems like x the  
19 perfect ideal of a happy ending, but  
20 there's something more to the story -  
21 a tragic something more.

22 The playwright had been in bad  
23 health for some time. He grew weaker as  
24 the rehearsals of his play went on. The  
25 night when it was produced he was sinking.



1 The curtain rose, the actors  
2 played their laughing parts in the comedy,  
3 but the playwright was dying. At his  
4 home he was informed that the play seemed  
5 to be going well, but he died before the  
6 last curtain and the ovation.

7 His last words were: "If I  
8 die before the end, don't tell the news.  
9 I should not like to influence the critics"

10 Well, the audience shouted and  
11 cheered with applause, <sup>for the play,</sup> and the critics  
12 wrote eloquent praises, but the playwright  
13 can never know anything about that.

14  
15 *54 year old*  
16 *A Canadian Opera singer soared*  
17 *higher than ever before in his life today. Yes,*  
18 *away above high c. In a glider, towed by an*  
19 *airplane he went up to 12,000 feet. Then the*  
20 *plane turned him loose and he glided across*  
21 *the English channel from England to*  
22 *France — from Lyme to St. Angelbert*

The Republic of Venezuela has a new President tonight.

I told the other evening how Senor Perez, who then was President, had been asked to resign by the Venezuelan Congress, and how he had been told the same thing by Gomez, Venezuela's iron man.

Well, Gomez had been President for a long time, and then had stepped out of office, saying he was too old. But, as the Associated Press informed us, the old dictator was still a great power in the land. And when he told the President to resign -- well, the President resigned.

Today the Venezuelan Congress elected a new president. They elected him by a unanimous vote -- and he is Gomez, the old iron man. And thus Venezeula has her famous dictator back again in the President's chair. <sup>TP</sup> Gomez has long been one of the dominant figures in South American politics. I had occasion to hear a good deal about him

1 not long ago. General Rafael de Nogales,  
 2 Venezuela's Soldier of Fortune, who was  
 3 a Turkish General in the World War, told  
 4 me many stories about Gomez. Nogales is  
 5 an old-time revolutionist and an enemy  
 6 of <sup>the dictator,</sup> ~~Gomez~~. But he admitted the ability  
 7 and granite strength of the old man. He  
 8 told me that Gomez is one of the richest  
 9 men in the world -- richer, perhaps, than  
 10 Rockefeller or Ford. <sup>He's a pure Indian, from the</sup>  
 11 <sup>harsh fighting race.</sup> ~~Andes.~~ <sup>A harsh fighter from a</sup>  
 12 And tonight the old dictator is  
 13 sitting in his usual place down in  
 14 Venezuela -- in the presidential chair.



1 In Mexico high ecclesiastics have  
2 ~~appealed~~ appealed to the President of the  
3 Republic against the Governor of the  
4 state of Vera Cruz. They ask the  
5 President to intervene and put an end  
6 to what they call religious persecution.

7 The Governor and the legislature  
8 in the state of Vera Cruz have put  
9 through a ~~law~~ law which declares that  
10 there shall be only one priest to every  
11 100,000 people.

12 The Church authorities, as quoted  
13 by the United Press, claim that the law  
14 is unconstitutional and, furthermore,  
15 that it will be impossible for the  
16 priests to carry out their religious  
17 duties if there is only one to every  
18 100,000 people.

19 President Ortiz Rubio has  
20 summoned the Governor of Vera Cruz to  
21 come to Mexico City for a conference.  
22 It is believed they will talk over the  
23 religious situation.

24 Meanwhile, the clergy in the state  
25 of Vera Cruz are carrying on as usual.

1 They have been told, the International  
2 News Service informs us, to go right  
3 ahead until they are arrested.

4 Under the new law only eleven  
5 priests would be allowed to officiate  
6 in the state of Vera Cruz. The Church  
7 authorities have ignored the law by  
8 refusing to name the eleven priests.

9 The Associated Press reports that  
10 a Catholic priest was attacked and  
11 seriously wounded near the town of  
12 Huatusco. He was returning home after  
13 a visit to a dying person, when  
14 communists set upon him. The Reds then  
15 attacked the Parish house, but were  
16 driven away when a crowd of country  
17 people came to the rescue.

1 In the current issue of the  
2 Literary Digest are two of the most  
3 interesting caricatures I've ever seen.  
4 Both drawings show the sardonic features  
5 of Bernard Shaw. One is done by the  
6 caricaturist Houghton of the Continental  
7 Daily Mail which is printed in Paris.  
8 The other sketch was penciled out by  
9 Shaw himself. It's a mocking self-  
10 portrait.

11 These two caricatures are  
12 evidences of an adventure, an adventure  
13 in art - because for an artist to call  
14 upon <sup>and draw a picture of</sup> that formidable Irishman Shaw may be  
15 classed as an ~~event~~ adventure.

16 The Literary Digest quotes the  
17 caricaturist Houghton, who, writing in  
18 the Continental Daily Mail, tells us  
19 what a sharp critic Shaw is of his own  
20 portrait.

21 Shaw was posing and the artist  
22 was working his pencil. The famous  
23 dramatist took a look at the drawing and  
24 said the ears weren't right. They weren't  
25 big enough.



1 "I have elephant's ears", commented  
2 Shaw.

3 A minute later the dramatist  
4 took another peep. This time it was the  
5 eyes. He isn't under any illusion that  
6 he has big beautiful eyes.

7 "No," he said, "they are not right.  
8 I have squirrel's eyes."

9 The mouth also didn't seem to  
10 be just right.

11 "My mouth stretches from ear to  
12 ear", declared Shaw.

13 A couple of days later the artist  
14 sent the completed caricature to Shaw and  
15 there was still something wrong. Just  
16 to make sure, the great dramatist sat down  
17 and took pen and ink and drew a caricature  
18 of himself.

19 If you will look at your copy  
20 of the Literary Digest, you will see that  
21 Shaw makes his face look particularly  
22 diabolical, just like old man Mephistopheles  
23 and he makes his legs long and lanky,  
24 regular giraffe's legs.

25 And next to the sketch Shaw

wrote a message to the artist. You will see in your copy of the Literary Digest that it reads:

"Dear Mr. Houghton:

"You have not done my legs on the caricature scale; this does them more justice."

Well, apparently Shaw hasn't much vanity about his own looks. Here's what he thinks of himself: elephants ears, squirrel's eyes, mouth stretching from ear to ear, and giraffe's legs. And that ought to be a picture for a painter to have some fun with.

- - - - -

Today was the gala day of the year at New London, Conn. the day of the annual boat race between Yale and Harvard up until this evening it looked as though old Eli intended to walk all over John Harvard - or rather row rings around him.

The bulldog swept to victory - easy victory in both the Freshman and Junior races. But along about 8:00 o'clock tonight the big fellows up stream swung into action. And what a race! It was anybody's race most of the way - but the victory went to Harvard; by two lengths. So Harvard had the last laugh after a day that was all blue -- Yale blue.

1 A curious story comes from  
2 Maryland this evening, and I suppose it  
3 will make a lot of parents think.

4 Roger ~~Perry~~ is four years old,  
5 but even in his tender years he has a  
6 jail record. His mother sentenced him to  
7 jail.

8 Roger apparently is a lively little  
9 lad and something of a trial for ~~his~~ mother.  
10 ~~Perry~~ He was disobedient, and if his  
11 mother told him to play in the front yard  
12 why he'd promptly go over to the  
13 neighbor's yard. And if his mother told  
14 him to wash his ears - well, Roger just  
15 hated washing his ears - also his neck.  
16 He'd throw stones and light matches.

17 He nearly wore his mother's patience out -  
18 in fact, he did wear it out. ~~Mrs. Perry~~ <sup>So she</sup>  
19 decided upon something drastic. She  
20 called the police.

21 Now any little fellow four years  
22 old is afraid of the cops. Roger trembled  
23 when he saw the man in uniform. ~~Mrs.~~ <sup>His mother</sup>  
24 ~~Perry~~ said she was the judge and she  
25 was going to sentence Roger to one day in jail.



1 She asked the cops to take the little  
2 lad and lock ~~xxx~~ him in a cell over night,  
3 and ~~they~~ did. <sup>So the mother and the cop</sup> ~~they~~ took the wailing four  
4 year old to the police station and put  
5 him in a cell. All around were the rough  
6 voices of tramps and burglars in the  
7 lock-up. The boy was too frightened to  
8 cry. He just went to one corner of the  
9 cell and cuddled up with his head on  
10 one arm, and that's the way he stayed all  
11 night.

12 The next morning, as the  
13 International News Service informs us,  
14 <sup>his mother</sup> ~~Mrs. Perry~~ showed up at the jail. She had  
15 it all fixed up that Roger's lesson should  
16 be climaxed by a sermon from the chief of  
17 police. She expected to stand by in  
18 maternal dignity while the chief told  
19 Roger all about the necessity of being a  
20 good boy, but the scene turned out to be  
21 a little different.

22 They brought Roger to his mother,  
23 and the majestic chief of police stalked  
24 in. Yes, the chief had a few things to  
25 say, but they weren't for Roger. He let

1 out a long and forceful sermon - but it  
2 was ~~Mrs. Perry~~ <sup>the mother</sup> that got it. Instead  
3 of scolding the boy, the police scolded  
4 the mother. He told her that jails  
5 were not made for four-year old boys,  
6 and that she had done the wrong thing by  
7 having that small ~~kid~~ kid put in a cell  
8 and kept there for the night, frightened  
9 to death.

10 And that's ~~the~~ <sup>a</sup> story that should  
11 make a few parents think.

1 A swift little thriller comes  
2 from over in England -- a tale of  
3 dreadful peril, and then a fine rescue.

4 On the river Thames, near  
5 Dagenham, on the outskirts of London,  
6 they are building a jetty for a Ford  
7 plant. Divers <sup>have been</sup> ~~were~~ working under the  
8 surface of the river. Dangerous stuff,  
9 that diving business -- you know it's  
10 always liable to happen -- the diver  
11 gets tangled up under the water ~~when~~  
12 somehow, and they can't get him up.  
13 And that's desperate.

14 Well, it happened today. A diver  
15 working 16 feet below the surface of the  
16 Thames got snarled up among a bunch  
17 of cylinders that had been laid down.  
18 Somehow or other he got himself jammed  
19 and couldn't get out -- try as he might.  
20 Luckily, the tube which supplied him  
21 with air was O.K. But there he was, at  
22 the bottom of the river, and he stayed  
23 there hour after hour.

24 An earlier dispatch today from the  
25 International News Service told the tale



1 of peril -- said the diver had been down  
2 6 hours and they couldn't get him up.  
3 They were working like fiends. They  
4 were feeding him oxygen. They didn't  
5 know how long he could last. Other  
6 divers were trying to unsnarl ~~him~~  
7 him, but it was a hard job.

8 All the suspense was there --  
9 the pity for a man probably involved in  
10 a dreadful Fate.

11 But after 7 hours of heroic work,  
12 a rescue was brilliantly effected. They  
13 got the diver free and drew him to the  
14 surface, and tonight he's O.K., *breathing*  
15 *a big sigh of relief.*

16 And that's a pleasant note on which  
17 to end this evening's adventure with  
18 the news. And now I think I'll come  
19 up for air ~~and~~ and say *solong*  
20 *until tomorrow.*  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25