

13
LOWELL THOMAS BROADCAST FOR LITERARY DIGEST

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1930

PROHIBITION POLL

You all remember the Literary Digest's great prohibition poll of last spring. You know what argument it kicked up all over the country. Everybody admitted it was one of the most sensational stunts in American journalism. And everybody wanted to know how accurate it was.

Well, now you have a chance to check up on the accuracy of the big poll. In the recent elections prohibition -- pro and con -- was voted on in referendums in three states. Just how these states voted is shown in the Literary Digest that's on your news stand tomorrow morning. Together with the official election figures in these states, you will find the literary Digest poll figures, taken months ago. All you need is a lead pencil and a few minutes time and you can figure your own conclusion.

Now for some important news from across the Pond.

13
INDIA

A big discussion got under way in London today. Eighty-six gentlemen sat down in the House of Lords and started talking about the future of India. And that's a subject they could talk about for the rest of their natural lives. The 86 gentlemen, most of them from India, are delegates to what is called the Round Table Conference. And what a gorgeous array of jewels and turbans they wore. Maharajahs, Gaikwars, Sultans and Nabobs were there. The Maharajah of Patiala, according to the Associated Press, was on hand, with his perfumed beard, and his huge pearl and diamond pendants that are worth a young fortune.

King George opened the proceedings and Prime Minister Ramsey McDonald was made chairman. A socialist presiding over oriental potentates seems strange indeed. The United Press dispatch says that Mr. McDonald uttered a ringing challenge to the Conference to succeed in a job that everyone insists is so full of difficulties.

People all over the world are watching this conference. The British say it is going to be just about the most important

13
INDIA - 2

discussion in the whole history of the British Empire. They haven't forgotten that famous saying of Napoleon's that he who rules India rules the world.

But Mr. Gandhi isn't there. He and his party are not represented. And they happen to be the ones who are making most of the trouble in India these days.

A late dispatch in the New York Evening Post states that the India representatives at the conference demanded a dominion status, and were unanimous and emphatic about it. And here's an Associated Press flash from Bombay. There was a wild riot in protest against the Round Table Conference and the Bombay police have arrested all the members of the so-called Bombay war council. 25 were injured in the fighting.

13
DO-X

Among other London celebrities here is the Prince of Wales breaking into the news again.

Today, according to the International News Service, he made a flight in the Do-X. For a half hour he looked down on a part of his future kingdom, particularly the Isle of Wight. And for ten minutes of that half hour he took over the controls himself, and piloted the huge German seaplane. The German officers said the Prince was a fine pilot. Whether they meant it or whether their remark was just a little German banana oil the dispatch doesn't say.

13
PRINCESS

Oh yes, and have you heard how the British public is puzzling over an affectionate nickname for the latest addition to the royal family, Princess Margaret Rose? According to the New York Evening World they have a lot of choice. There's Maggie, Peg and Peggy; there's Meg, Mog, and Madge; and there's Marjorie, Margaretta and Margarethen. Madge and Peggie are the nicknames generally used in England. The name the Scotch use most is Maggie. Let's think it over tonight and take a vote on it. I'm for calling her Princess Maggie. What's your choice?

It's an abrupt change from baby princesses to Bolsheviks, but here it is - from baby to Bolshevik.

13
RUSSIA

That big blast from Russia yesterday has brought a flood of denials. The Soviet leaders made a sensational charge against the nations of Europe, accusing them of forming a gigantic conspiracy to invade Russia and overthrow the present regime. Yes, and Moscow mentioned names, big names too. They declared that some of the most important statesmen in Europe are at the head of the plot. Today these statesmen have all come back with a counter-blast. They say it's all nonsense.

One thing in the Moscow blast has caused a bit of laughter. It was that the mysterious Colonel Lawrence is in the international plot. I watched Lawrence in operation out in Arabia during the War, and he certainly is a daring and clever young fellow. But he is being accused of everything these days. Any trouble in the world and Lawrence is supposed to be back of it. He is constantly reported to be in all parts of Asia and Africa, when, in fact, he is still trying to keep out of the limelight over in England by working as a simple aviation mechanic.

13
RUSSIA - 2

But those Soviet charges, whether true or false, may be serious. William Phillip Simms, the Scripps-Howard Foreign Editor, states that the Soviet leaders are stirring up a mighty dangerous situation.

It's all a very sour note along with the cooing of the Dove of Peace, and here's another note that doesn't make close harmony either.

13
RUSSIA - 2

But those Soviet charges, whether true or false, may be serious. William Phillip Simms, the Scripps-Howard Foreign Editor, states that the Soviet leaders are stirring up a mighty dangerous situation.

It's all a very sour note along with the cooing of the Dove of Peace, and here's another note that doesn't make close harmony either.

ed.

RETAKE

13
LUDENDORFF

1 Ludendorff -- the famous head of
2 the German general staff during the World
3 War -- has come forth with a fantastic
4 blast. In his latest he predicts another
5 European War for 1932. On one side, lined
6 up as Allies will be Germany, Italy,
7 Austria, England, and Russia --- and
8 on the other will be France, Belgium,
9 Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Rumania.
10 What is more, says Ludendorff, France
11 and her allies will win. According to
12 ~~the New York Evening Post~~, Ludendorff's
13 imagination reaches its climax when he
14 says that at the end of this next war,
15 the German population will be exterminated.
16 ~~How about it? Don't you think we had~~
17 ~~better nominate the fire eating general~~
18 ~~as the Grand Dragon of the International~~
19 ~~Order of Glooms?~~
20
21
22
23
24
25

13
DRUG RING

In New York a huge drug ring has been exposed. Federal agents and the New York police have been making arrests for the past twenty four hours, and thirty prisoners are now having a chance to see what the inside of a jail looks like. According to the New York Evening World this drug ring has been doing business on a chain store basis, and has had a turn-over of \$50,000 a week. The story is a regular old dime novel detective thriller. Just listen to this:

Edward Lackeneau, a Federal Agent, managed to make himself a member of the drug ring. He made friends with the Big Boss, a man named Collins. In fact, the two became pals. Then the Big Boss had a birthday yesterday, and Lackeneau big heartedly said he would like to throw a birthday party for him. The Big Boss was delighted with the idea. So a swell party was arranged. It was held last night, and among the guests were most of the big guns of the drug ring. A huge, expensive birthday cake was in the middle of the table, and they had just come to the romantic moment when the guest of honor was to blow out the birthday candles. At that instant

Room 1
(International)
13
DRUG RING - 2

Federal Agent Lackeneau stepped outside and gave a signal.
Then the police crashed in and - well, you can just imagine
what a dramatic climax that was to a big birthday party.

As a birthday party it certainly must have been a
wow!

And talking about birthday parties.

COVER

13

This year of 1930 is the 250th anniversary of the birth of the state of Pennsylvania, and tomorrow you will have a chance to see how appropriately the new Literary Digest is celebrating Pennsylvania's birthday. The Digest cover is a striking painting of King Charles II granting to William Penn the right to found Pennsylvania. The Merry Monarch is sitting there, and Penn stands before him. The great Quaker has his hat on, even in the royal presence. You'll remember that one of the peculiar things about the Quakers was that they wouldn't take their hats off to anybody. Not even to Kings or ladies. But jolly King Charles doesn't seem to mind it.

And here is the jolly, old theory of relativity cropping up again. Einstein is coming to pay us a visit.

13
EINSTEIN

The United Press says he is going to spend three months in secret research at the Mount Wilson observatory in California. In fact, it is mostly a secret, when he leaves, what boat he leaves on, what he thinks. It is said that there are only twelve men in the world able to understand Einstein. One of them is my friend, Dr. Vizetelly, editor of the New Standard Dictionary. I asked the doctor today if he could tell me what the Theory of Relativity is. "Certainly," he roared. "Just look it up in the Standard Dictionary, my boy." And there it was in the big book -- the whole thing packed into less than two hundred words. Well, that ought to make me the thirteenth to understand Einstein, but I am feeling a bit superstitious about number 13 tonight, so I'm going to let it stand at twelve.

Well, I don't know if the high-brow Gene Tunney knows anything about relativity, but he's going to know something about law before he gets through.

13
TUNNEY

Having won that fight I told you about last night, I mean the law suit with Tim Mara, he's stepping right into another fight. This time it's with a chap who has the pictureaque name of Boo Boo Hoff. Boo Boo Hoff is a Philadelphian, and he is asking that the courts take \$400,000 away from Gene Tunney and give it to him. Just why nobody knows. That's one of the mysteries of the fight racket. The New York Evening Sun also tells us tonight that the fight Gene won yesterday isn't quite over, because Mara, who lost that round, is going to appeal to a higher court.

13
CHRISTMAS CLUB

Six hundred million dollars will be distributed to eleven million people from coast to coast within the next few days. Eight thousand banks are going to pay it out. The money isn't going to be given away. It belongs to eleven million people, and is the savings they have put aside in Christmas clubs.

I was talking to Mr. Couzins, financial expert for the International News Service, a few minutes ago, and he told me that today had been one of the most encouraging days in Wall Street the country has had since early October. He said that the improvement was noticed in the grain and cotton markets as well as in other stocks.

13
NEWS ITEM

Here's an item with an old, old moral. It just shows the way fortune bestows her favors. It happens often. But here is a new version in tonight's New York Sun. It's by my old friend, Sherman Alrick, the aviation expert, and I'm picking it as my News Item of the Day.

Three years ago two aeroplanes stood side by side on the floor of an Aircraft Company at San Diego, California. They were sister ships, ~~xx~~ new and for sale. A tall, thin young man came in to buy a plane. He looked the two machines over. The sisters were exactly the same, both mighty good looking. And the tall young man fell in love with both. But he couldn't take both, so he finally picked one and had a name painted on her. The name? Yes it was "The Spirit of St. Louis", and the tall young man, of course, was Slim Lindbergh.

So, Lindbergh made his famous flight across the ocean in the Spirit of Saint Louis, and the machine became the most famous aeroplane in the world. Hundreds of thousands of people streamed to look at it, and columns of space were written about it. Today it makes its home down at the Smithsonian in

13
NEWS ITEM - 2

Washington, where it holds a place of honor.

Meanwhile, what happened to the other sister? Well, she was put into ordinary, hum drum commercial service. Her aviator was that same Frank Hawks who has been making so many records of late. But Hawks did none of his famous flying in the sister of Lindbergh's plane. He soon sold her. He didn't see anything of her for a couple of years. Then he happened to be in Texas, and ran across the ship. She was in good shape, flying every day. He noticed a peculiar smell about her. It was the ~~xx~~ smell of fish. He learned that today she is being used to fly fresh fish from the Gulf of Mexico to inland towns. Isn't that just like Fate? One sister is the Spirit of Saint Louis, resting in fame and honor at the Smithsonian Institution. And the other sister carries fish.

Room 13
International
Letters
LETTERS

Page _____

1 I have a letter here from G. W.
2 Jones of Hopemont, W. Va., which tells
3 about a twenty five cent lawsuit as a
4 result of an election bet. Two men bet
5 the tremendous sum of one quarter on the
6 election, and then the loser refused to
7 pay. So the winner has hired a lawyer
8 and he's starting suit for the two bits.
9 The question is: if he wins, what will
10 his lawyer's bill amount to?

11 G. M. Focke of Galveston, Texas,
12 sends us an oddity too. The Galveston
13 Tribune printed a headline reading as
14 follows: "Beach Hotel Guests driven
15 into street, scantily clad by flames."
16 Well, what I hope is that the ladies
17 had the flames draped modestly around
18 them.

19
20
21
22
23
24
25

13
DIAMOND

And here are some oddities in the day's news. A Mrs. Long, out in California, had a flock of 250 chickens. While engaged in the laudable occupation of feeding them, she dropped a thousand dollar diamond ring. One of the chickens gobbled it up. But she didn't know which one. So the Longs went in for a diet of chicken, and they found the diamond in their 120th chicken dinner.

13
GRASSHOPPER

Out in Phoenix, Arizone, a curious grasshopper problem has come up. Last summer, says the associated Press, there was a locust invasion, and a lot of the cactus plants were covered with grasshoppers. They were all stuck on the sharp cactus spines. The question is: do these pests simply fail to look where they leap, or are Arizona farmers right in surmising that birds catch the grasshoppers and then impale them on cactus spikes and file them away for winter food? At any rate, that's a good one on which to end our evening's spin around the globe. If you have time just think it over until tomorrow and let me know what your solution is to Arizona's grasshopper problem.

Goodnight.