#### STORM

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49-31-5M

Lowell Thomas' Broadcast for The Literary Digest. Page /-Friday, June 26, 1931.

Good Evening, Everybody!

This evening Pittsburgh is straightening itself up a bit after the big storm. Wind and rain hit the moky city this morning and did so much damage that the Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph is giving two pages to the story. and the ptotures.

A deluge of rain flooded down, and
 a wind of 50 or 60 miles an hour came
 howling. There was a terrific display
 of lightning with an incessant cannonade
 of thunder.

The lightning struck a huge oil tank, and 9,000 barrels of oil went up in an immense blaze. Houses were flooded. Tunnels and streets were flooded. Automobiles were stalled in water up to their headlights.

An airplane was up in the middle of the storm. The wind beat the plane to earth. The pilot describes the tempest with one vivid line:

<sup>23</sup> "Old Nick was riding the wind," <sup>24</sup> he said.

Rittsburgh will be talking for some time about the storm that hit the city this morning. SIORM - 2

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And in other parts of the Middlewest they have been having stormy weather too. The Associated Press reports that on the Great Lakes boats were overturned in the heavy gale. Several persons ## are missing.

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In Cleveland they had what they refer a water spout. The United Press reports that about noon today a wind, almost a cyclone, **h**xxxkkxxxxkx his the city, and rain deluged down, in drenching torrents - xm almost a water spout. The weather has been blazing

<sup>14</sup> hot, and I suppose these storms are just
 <sup>15</sup> one result.

JOAN

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4-9-31-5M

A weird story comes from Paris. It tells us that Joan of Arc has had a nervous breakdown.

Page\_ 3

She is the Norman girl who took the part of Joan of Arc in a grand pageant which depicted the life and final tragedy of the Maid of Orleans.

This Norman girl from the old city of Rouen, the capital of Mm Normandy, seems to have taken her part of Joan of Arc very seriously. She went through the action with an emotional fervor.

Then came the last scene, when Joan of Arc is burned at the stake. The Norman girl was tied to a post amid the fagots. The fire was lighted -theatrical fire, of course -- just stage play. But when the girl saw the flames rise she seemed to think indeed that she was Joan of Arc and that she was being burned at the stake. She clasped the crucifix wildly to her breast and fainted.

and Now the Associated Press, in giving the story from a prominent Parisian JOAN - 2

newspaper, tells us that the Norman girl is seriously ill. She has had a nervous breakdown. The emotional strain of playing Joan of Arc amid the flames was too much for her. She has been becausid haunted and distracted by her part as the tragical Maid of Orleans and the savior of France. 

Page 4

## ERANCE

4.9.31-5M

Let's see what's happening to President Hoover's plan for helping the world to get its financial affairs straightened out.

Page 5

In Washington the government seems 5 willing to discuss matters patiently with 6 France. The Associated Press quotes 7 Secretary-of-State Stimson as saying that 8 the French didn't quite agree with the 9 Hoover plan, but that a bit of good 10 natured discussion would undoubtedly 11 straighten things out. 12

In Paris, Secretary-of-the Treasury Mellon is talking things over
 with the heads of the French government.
 The United Press tells us that the
 Secretary-of-the-Treasury will have a
 series of conferences with various
 members of the French ministry.

The subject of the Hoover plan came up in the French Chamber of Deputies this afternoon, and the International News Service describes the scene as a lively One. Secretary Mellon was in the galleries listening to the debate, and

ERANCE - 2

Page 6

he heard some fiery things said in fiery French. Some of the deputies made sharp criticisms of President Hoover and his plan. Several of the French law-makers declared damade they thought that even if the French accepted the Hoover plan, why, the American Congress would turn it down. The general belief is, however, that the French will fall in line, and that President Hoover's scheme of a suspension of reparations and war debts will go through. and that sounds like more good news. 4-9-31-5M

GOLE

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4.9-31-5M

Now comes a sad wailing cry --THERE AIN'T NO JUSTICE. It comes from golfers all over the country -- good golfers, medium golfers, bad golfers -all those golfers who have been driving and putting for years, and have never made a hole-in-one.

Page 7

8 Mrs. Estelle Steinweg, of New 9 York, as the Associated Press informs 10 us, is just a beginner at golf. She's 11 been studying with a professional, and 12 all she had had was lessons. She had 13 never played on a regulation course 14 before.

Well, she teed up for the first time, and her teacher was showing her how. She hit the ball a smack with a spoon. The ball went sailing toward the cup 138 yards away. It landed near the cup and rolled right in.

And so Estelle Steinweg had made a hole-in-one with her first stroke on a golf course.

No sir, there ain't no justice.

(L.T.) I think I've spoken about 1 Mcclelland Barclay before--I mean 2 McClelland Barclay the artist, who paints 3 those marvelous pictures of beautiful 4 girls for magazine covers. You've seen 5 her -- that lovely creature, with the 6 gorgeous red hair. Well, her name is 7 Helene--and McClelland Barclay married 8 her. 9

Page 7ª

Tonight, they are both here 10 in the studio with me. In fact she is 11 sitting right beside me--ehem, for 12 inspiration--and what an inspiration! 13 I believe I'll ask her what 14 she thinks is the most interesting item 15 in the news today. What do you think, 16 17 Helene?

(H.B) Oh, I'm all excited about
these two fliers who are racing around
the world. My, oh, my, they're going
like the wind. I can't keep up with them.
Where are they now? Do tell us!

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# AVIATION

Those two adventurous aviators, 1 Post and Gatty? are, in Siberia this 2 evening. They made a 2000 mile hop 3 from Moscow, across the Ural Mountains 4 and landed at Novo Sibirsk this afternoon. 5 And this means that they have accomplished 6 the astonishing feat of flying half way 7 around the world in four days. And that's 8 sure going some! Ooh Uh! 9

Page 8

According to the itinerary they've blocked out they have a total of 14,000 miles to go. At midnight, tonight they expect to take off for Irkutsk, the famous city of Central Siberia, about 15 1000 miles farther east.

<sup>16</sup> The *i* multiple ambition is to make it <sup>17</sup> around the globe, that is around the top <sup>18</sup> of the globe, in ten days. The present <sup>19</sup> record is just under 22 days, held by the <sup>20</sup> Graf Zeppelin. But at their present <sup>21</sup> gait Post and Gatty may zip around the <sup>22</sup> old globe in eight days.

The two Danish transatlantic fliers have completed their transatlantic trip to Copenhagan. After they had been

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AVVATION - 2

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4-9-31-5M

forced to land in Germany, they continued 1 their way to Copenhagen where today they 2 met a tremendous reception. Fifteen 3 Danish military planes went out and 4 escorted them to the flying field. A 5 6 crowd of 20,000 people cheered them as 7 they landed. The mob cheered anth sand 8 the Danish national anthem and waved 9 Danish and American flaga as the two triumphant aviators were carried across 10 the field. Hoiriis, the aviator of the 11 two, was taken to a microphone and the 12 United Press tells us that he uttered 13 this highly original line: "This is 14 15

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the greatest, biggest moment of my life," said the Dane for the benefit of thousands of loud speakers.

Yes, sir, it certainly was an original line - maybe. And by the way, this same flier is said to have trained three weeks for the flight. He trained like a prize fighter. I wonder how Jimmie Doolittle or Al Williams trained. But at any rate, there was

great excitement in Copenhagen.

## DIGESI

Now comes a health warning--it's a warning against health warning. We are told that there's a tremendous interest in health and hygiene, and that's a good thing in moderation. But this interest in health and hygiene is being carried to such extremes that it's really getting to be unhealthy.

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9 The subjectminis considered in a 10 bright article in this week's Literary 11 Digest. We are reminded of the many 12 things that are supposed to be necessary 13 to our health.

The Digest editors quote the Journal of the Indiana State Medical Association as saying that the housewife is caught in a maze of vitamins, calories, carbohydrates, and acid producing foods, until she doesn't know which way to turn.

On one hand she has the children who are supposed to get fat, and they tell her that takes a special diet. And then there is herself, and she's supposed to get thin--and than takes a Couple of special diets. Then along

## DIGESI - 2.

comes friend husband who doesn't care whether he gets fat or thin, but he's liable to get indigestion.

Page 11

The whole business of these scientific theories about food gets so bewildering that the poor housewife might as well get herself a crossword puzzle to find something simple and easy.

All these health fade cause her so much worry that pretty soon she's liable not to have any health to look after.

In that Digest article we are 14 told that raising a baby these days is 15 a complex undertaking if the mother 16 believes all she hears. The health 17 cranks expect her to do so many things 18 that she'd have to be a Ph.D. to understand 19 it all. But as lady Ph.D.'s don't 20 go in for children, why that leaves the 21 make problem all the more tangled. 22 23

In conclusion, the Digest editors
 join the Journal of the Indiana State
 Medical Association in a ringing cry for
 just memory some plain common sense.

# BERLIN

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4.9-31-5M

Over in Berlin I suppose people cim on the street look at a taxi driver and say--Ja, maybe he's an underworld king.

Page 12

The Berlin police have discovered that the underworld kings were linked up with the Berlin taxi drivers. In fact, the most of the rulers of the gangs were taxi drivers.

A number of arrests have been 10 made, and it was found that one gang of 11 12 robbers operated in three taxi cabs. Three taxi drivers planned and directed 13 the crimes. They sat in their driver's 14 seats and gave orders. And after their 15 henchmen had committed the robberies, 16 why the taxi "driver-commanders" drove 17 18 them away.

The New York Evening Post tells us that the German police are working on the theory that if you lined up all the men who sit in cabs and wait for fares, why you'd find among them almost every underworld boss in Berlin.

It was explained that among the

BERLIN - 2.

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4-9-31-5M

taxi drivers of Berlin you would find 1 one time noblemen, professors who have 2 gone to the dogs, soldiers, and also 3 ex-convicts. The police haven't been 4 keeping any close supervision over 5 taxis, and the result has been a league 6 between the dri vers and the crooks, in 7 which the drivers have been able to get, 8 Command of gangs of crooks.

Page 13

But now, say the Berlin police, **been** that will all be changed. A lot of those criminal lords who drive taxi cabs are going to be **be** their sauerkraut in jail.

## TRADER\_HORN\_

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This evening on an adventurous 1 trail to some dim far off valley of spirit land, a slender, bald headed, long bearded old man is trudging his way. He is making his last trek to a misty paradise in the sky, where, let us hope, there are lands of big game and wild tribes, jungle filled valleys and broad rivers.

Page 14

Trader Horn is dead.

He was born Alfred Aloysius 11 Smith. Then during a strange long time 12 in Africa he was called Zambesi Jack. 13 Later, at the end on his days, he was 14 celebrated in a famous best selling 15 book as Trader Horn. 16

He was one of the oddest of 17 18 Characters, a droll, whimsical old man 19 whose life had spanned an almost 20 infinite variety of events and places. the New York World - Telegram, in a telling of Irader Horn, says, that he 22 <sup>23</sup> had yawned in the face of death, and peddled tinware at back doors. He 24 chummed with cannibals, chased butterflies 25

IRADER\_HORN\_ RETAKE 14

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This evening on an adventurous trail to some dim far off valley of spirit land, a slender, bald headed, long bearded old man is trudging his way. He is making his last trek to a misty paradise in the sky, where, let us hope, there are lands of big game and wild tribes, jungle filled valleys and broad rivers.

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IRADER\_HORN - 2

and murderers, sought for the bones of mastodons, shot it out with the Indians of Utah, and winked and wise cracked his way through New York.

Page 15

The better part of his life was 5 spent in Africa where his career ranged 6 all the way from reigning as a white king 7 among black tribes, to peddling tinware 8 at the back doors of farm houses 9 was while he was a vagrant peddler that 10 an English woman writer became interested 11 in the odd old fellow, and collaborated 12 with him in writing a strange story of 13 his life, which was printed as Trader 14 15 Horn.

"I'm a bit of a rogue elephant", he is quoted as saying, "something of a rascal elephant. I've always been out of the herd."

He was a rare story teller with his shrewd smile and wise wink. He'd begin with authentic happenings in the tropical jungle or on the South African belt, and he would have his audiences fascinated. Then he would

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IRADER\_HORN - 3

amuse himself by gradually making his
stories wikder and wilder until finally
with a most serious face, he would tell
a tall one of the most shameless sort.
Then he would chuckle at the

Page 16

sudden laughter of the crowd.

And so the Tall Story & Club is in mourning this evening for one of its most talented members, **XXR** Alfred Aloysius Smith, Zambesi Jack, and Trader Horn, who has taken his way to new game lands, new secluded corners of another wilderness, away out there beyond the store - "beyond the storest purple rim."

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## IALL SIORY

This evening we have a bit of news from an African paper. It's a weekly called "East Africa", and it's the only journal of news for the people of Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, and other points east on the road to the mountains of the moon.

Page\_17

7 The latest issue of that East
8 African weekly was brought to me by my
9 friend Carveth Wells. He was a bit hot
10 under the collar.

"Look here!" he cried. "Read this and tell me if I'm a member of your Tall Story Club."

Well, Carveth Wells is an explorer 14 and a writer. And some people think 15 he's a member of the Tall Story Club. But 16 this he utterly denies. What he tells 17 about his adventures is really the truth. 18 but he is known as a man who has the 19 faculty for making the truth sound just 20 like a lie. 21

<sup>22</sup> "You know," he told me, "every so
<sup>23</sup> often I tell a crowd of people about my
<sup>24</sup> trip to the mountains of the moon. And
<sup>25</sup> among other things I explain to them that

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### IALL STORY - 2.

at Jinga, in Uganda near the sources of the Nile, is a golf club. But I add that I never played golf on that course because of Old Man Hippopotamus. There are a number of hippopotami always wandering around the green<sup>s</sup>, and I was afraid they might bother me, sort of cramp my style,

Page 18

<sup>8</sup> "And people **instit** call that tale of <sup>9</sup> hippopotami on the gold course nothing but <sup>10</sup> a tall story. And so, look here, "Read <sup>11</sup> this bit of news, old chap," said Carveth, <sup>11</sup> this bit of news, old chap," said Carveth,

And in that copy of "East Africa" And in that copy of "East Africa" I read a news item which had an exceedingly English headline. The headline read: SAVAGED BY A HIPPOPOTAMUS.

The article went on to tell that 16 Mr. R. T. Wickham, an agriculture officer 17 in Uganda, while walking across the 18 Jinga golf course with his dog, was 19 attacked by a ferocious hippopotamus. 20 The hippopotamus killed the dog and 21 injured Mr. Wickham before it was driven 22 23 off.

After I had read the article, Carveth Wells asked once more:

#### TALL STORY - 3

"Now, do you think I'm a member of the Tall Story

Club?

"Why, do you know," he continued, "one evening after I had told that story about hippopotami on the golf course, a man came up to me and asked if I was the discoverer of the fatuliva bird.

"'And what is the fatuliva bird?' I asked.

"'Oh, ' he replied, 'that's the bird that lays square eggs and says 'ouch!'"

Well, I had to sympathize with Carveth Wells, the man who can make the truth seem like a lie. And I guess we'll have to end this evenings proceedings by erasing his name, temporarily, I hope, from the membership roll of the Tall Story Club - only temporarily -.

And with that, SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.