

INTRODUCTION

Lowell Thomas' Broadcast Page
for The Literary Digest.
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Good Evening, Everybody!

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5 Tonight the United States of
6 America has a national anthem. I
7 suppose some of you will say, "Yes,
8 but why tell us that? We have a
9 national anthem tonight and we've also
10 had one every other night since Hector
11 was a pup".

12 Why, of course. Hasn't the
13 Star Spangled Banner always or nearly
14 always, been the national anthem?

15 The answer to which is:- "No,
16 it hasn't."

17 It has been to all practical
18 purposes, but not officially, not by
19 government decree.

20 But today the Senate passed a
21 bill, which had already been passed by
22 the House of Representatives. That bill
23 sets forth that the Star Spangled Banner
24 shall be the national anthem. So that
25 just about settles it.

1 Of course the bill still has to
2 be signed by the President. To be sure
3 Mr. Hoover is in a vetoing mood just
4 now, but the story going the rounds in
5 Washington tonight is that the President
6 is not likely to veto the Star Spangled
7 Banner.

8 Well, "long may it wave, o'er
9 the land of the free and the home of
10 the brave." And long may we sing it--
11 ~~at any rate, long may you sing it.~~

12 *Although* I'll not be ^{of} much help because I never
13 could hit those high notes.
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MUSCLE SHOALS

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1 But President Hoover ^{did} ~~has~~ vetoed the
2 Muscle Shoals Bill. ^{It happened late this afternoon.} According to the
3 International News Service, the President,
4 in his veto message, states that he ~~is~~ is
5 opposed to the government going into
6 business in such a way as to compete
7 with its own citizens.

8 This ^{bill} is the Muscle Shoals compromise
9 that was agreed upon by the Senate and
10 the House of Representatives. With the
11 President firmly saying "No," it looks
12 as if the bill ^{will} ~~would~~ have to wait until
13 the next session of Congress.

1 Among the disturbances of the day
2 was a riot at Albany, New York. ^{Several} ~~A couple~~
3 ~~of~~ hundred Communists crowded into the
4 galleries, while the State Legislature
5 was in session. ~~today~~ They broke out
6 into a terrific uproar. ~~and~~ ^{then} the state
7 troopers took a hand.

8 According to the Associated
9 Press, it was a wild fight before the
10 rioting Communists were ~~ejected~~ ^{thrown}
11 out on their ears.

A disturbance in the form of) occurred

1 ~~There was~~ an explosion in a
2 motion picture house at Youngstown, Ohio.
3 The theatre was completely destroyed.
4 Luckily it was empty. The blast hurled
5 the ticket booth all the way across the
6 street, and for ^{many} blocks houses were shaken
7 and people thrown sprawling. Nobody was
8 hurt seriously, but one girl was reported
9 to have lost her voice as a result of
10 the shock.

11 According to the International
12 News Service, the fire department blames
13 the blow-up on gasoline, and there's a
14 suspicion that fire bugs were at work.

15 Philadelphia had an explosion too.
16 It partly wrecked three apartment houses
17 in West Philadelphia. A score of people
18 were ~~in~~ hurt, one seriously. The
19 police believe that ~~the explosion was~~
20 ~~a case of~~ somebody planting ^{ed} a bomb.

1 Now here's a solution to
2 one of the most curious mysteries of
3 recent months.

4 Edna May Cooper is a Hollywood
5 film actress and an aviatrix. Together
6 with another young woman, Bobbie Trout,
7 she established a world's endurance
8 flying record for women. That occurred
9 last January. A week ago she took off
10 in an airplane intending to fly to
11 Santa Monica, and she vanished, dropped
12 out of sight, and all California
13 hunted for her.

14 And now she has reappeared
15 at Monterey, California. She had lost
16 her memory. She registered in a hotel
17 as Caroline Hope and called a doctor
18 to treat her for a headache. The
19 doctor, noticing something curious
20 about her, began to question her. He
21 found she thought she was in Santa
22 Monica. When he told her she was in
23 Monterey she said she knew Mrs.
24 Gouverneur Morris, the wife of the
25 novelist, who lives a mile from Monterey.

1 At the doctor's suggestion she wrote
2 a note to Mrs. Morris, and she signed
3 it - Edna May Cooper. ^{Then} She kept
4 looking at the signature she had
5 written and ^{exclaimed} ~~then said~~ - WHY THAT'S MY
6 NAME.

7 Then her memory came back -
8 all except what had happened to her
9 after she had started out in her
10 airplane from Hollywood. She showed
11 evidences of having been battered and
12 bruised. The doctor said it might have
13 been the result of an airplane accident
14 or of a beating.

15 According to the United
16 Press, it is thought ~~that~~ ^{may be} the explanation
17 of the strange episode ~~is~~ that Miss
18 Cooper underwent so great a strain in
19 breaking the endurance record that it
20 caused her to lose her memory.

1 Today the Texas Rangers are in
2 command of Kilgore. They didn't come
3 in as in the old days, galloping *along on*
4 mustangs, and singing a song. They
5 swooped down ^{upon the} ~~into~~ town by automobile
6 and by train.

7 The trouble with Kilgore is
8 that it is so rich. It is the center
9 of a wild and hilarious oil boom.
10 The owner of the general store found
11 himself worth a couple of million
12 over night.

13 A gusher was brought in
14 on a miserable little cotton patch and
15 a poor-white farmer had wealth beyond
16 all his dreams piled into his lap.

17 Well, naturally things began
18 to buzz around Kilgore and they buzzed
19 in something like the old Wild West way.
20 Gambling houses and ^{blind tigers} ~~speakeasies~~ sprouted
21 like a bed of mushrooms.

22 According to the New York
23 Evening Post things got so scarlet in
24 Kilgore that the state had to intervene.
25 So the Texas Rangers pounced down upon

1 the town and rounded up the bad citizens.
2 A couple ~~of~~ hundred ~~of them~~ were herded
3 into an old shack. Not a single pistol
4 was found in the entire collection, and
5 that's not like the old Wild West. A
6 dope needle was found on one man and
7 that's not like the old Wild West either.

8 But in any case, Kilgore, a
9 bad town in the oil boom land, is a much
10 chastened and sobered down place today.
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1 Here's a real note on unemploy-
2 ment.

3 Along the coast of Maine
4 there is no need of anybody being
5 jobless so long as there is an ocean
6 in the neighborhood, and believe me
7 there is plenty of ocean up there off
8 the Maine coast. Men without jobs
9 have simply become fishermen. They
10 go~~x~~ out and catch ~~x~~ the food they
11 need for themselves and families, and
12 what they don't eat they sell.

13 According to the Associated
14 Press, there are six thousand new
15 fishermen along one section of the
16 Maine coast.

17 Jobless men go in for ice
18 fishing. ~~xxxxxxx~~ For example, they
19 knock holes through the ice on the
20 inlets and tidal rivers, ^{They} ~~and~~ can catch
21 ten pounds of smelt ^{on} ~~at~~ a tide ~~hour~~ and
22 they can sell ^{the} fish for twenty-five
23 cents a pound.

24 Well, I've always envied a
25 fisherman's life. It seems like a
glorious combination of work and fun,
although I know, of course, the work is
long and hard.

1 Now I don't like this next
2 item one bit.

3 The Associated Press informs
4 us that the International Garment
5 Manufacturers Association ^{has} ~~have~~ decreed
6 that overalls are not in good form.
7 Of course, we know they are not in good
8 form at a banquet, but those garment
9 manufacturers say they are not good
10 form for a man laying bricks or
11 ploughing a field.

12 They say that ^{the} a working man ^{should} ~~has~~
13 ~~get to~~ wear more formal garments, and ^{they}
14 explain that the proper costume for the
15 well dressed ^{coal miner or one-armed paper hanger} ~~brick layer or farmer is~~
16 a cotton suit well tailored and with
17 trousers neatly creased.

18 We've all heard comic talk
19 about street sweepers and farm hands
20 dressed in tail coats and plug hats.
21 I suppose that's what the garment
22 manufacturers are driving at. Well,
23 so far as I'm concerned, the garment
24 manufacturers can wear those tailored
25 cotton suits with knife creased trousers

1 themselves. When I putter around my
2 house repairing something - and
3 usually making it worse - I'm going
4 to stick to my old pair of overalls.
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VANISHING BATHING SUITS

Now comes a mystery that has been solved. It's the mystery of the disappearing bathing suits.

An American with a villa on the Mediterranean Coast of France, was said to have procured a number of the disappearing garments. They were like ordinary bathing suits except that when they became wet they dissolved, and vanished.

The story was that this American would invite large companies of companies of guests to his villa and arrange it so that they came without bathing suits. Then he would suggest a swim and would bring forward the vanishing bathing suits. The guests innocently would put them on and then merrily plunge into the water of the Mediterranean and the bathing suits would promptly dissolve.

And that's when the fun began. There were exclamations of dismay and shouts of astonishment and consternation. Friends of the distressed bathers would come running with barrels. Meanwhile the host would be rolling around on the sand in serious danger of laughing himself to death.

That's the story the New York Evening Post tells tonight. And it explains how an American business man cabled the tale back to his firms, and presently those firms were inquiring who were the French manufacturers that made the vanishing bathing suits. They wanted to order them by the thousands.

The French manufacturers looked up the American with whom the story started. He said it was just a yarn. He had merely told it around as a tall story. (Well, I think we ought to elect him Grand Prevaricator of the Tall Story Club.)

Meanwhile a number of people over here in the United States who were all set to buy those vanishing bathing suits, are wondering whether some clever chemist won't come forward and find a way to produce them.

1 Well, after the vanishing
2 bathing suits, let's take up the
3 case of the disappearing ink.

4 At Upper Darby, Pennsylvania,
5 Mrs. J. W. Neilson, ~~Bywood~~, advertised
6 that she wanted to sell a fur coat.

7 A couple of strangers called and after
8 a bit of bargaining bought the coat
9 for \$65.00. According to the United
10 Press, they gave Mrs. Neilson a check
11 for ^{the} ~~\$65.00~~.

12 A few hours later she looked
13 at that check again. By this time it
14 was a blank. ~~check~~. It had been written
15 with disappearing ink and every trace of ^{the}
16 writing had vanished. Mrs. Neilson ^{can't}
17 ~~cannot~~ remember the name of the
18 stranger who signed the check, and there
19 is nothing in the vanished signature
20 to give any hint.

1 I have just been looking at one of
2 the most unusual pictures--photograph
3 I mean--that I have seen in years. It
4 is a picture of a water-spout at sea.
5 In fact, it is more than that, it is a
6 picture of six water-spouts all in a
7 row--all six whirling and swirling from
8 dark somber clouds that are milling
9 above the Sulu Sea.

10 The Sulu Sea is a sort of far
11 eastern Mediterranean. It lies between
12 the Philippines and the north coast of
13 Borneo.

14 Water-spouts are quite uncommon.
15 In approximately 100 voyages at sea, I
16 have only encountered one water-spout
17 and that was in the Caribbean. But in
18 this picture, there are six. One water-
19 spout is awe-inspiring to behold, but
20 six of them in a row--well that seems
21 impossible.

22 A French sailor snapped this
23 strange photograph and it appears in
24 this week's Literary Digest.
25

1 The London News-Chronicle prints
2 a cable from its Indian correspondent,
3 Robert Bernays. And that cable starts
4 off in a somewhat startling fashion.

5 "Gandhi," it says, "has suddenly
6 swung over to the side of peace. That's
7 the miracle which has transformed the
8 situation in a few hours from one of
9 ~~despondency~~ ^{desperation}, even despair, to one of
10 considerable hopefulness. This sudden
11 change in Gandhi's unyielding attitude
12 can hardly be exaggerated," *continues the London reporter.*

13 Add to that another amazing fact.
14 According to the New York Evening Post,
15 Gandhi has compromised with the British
16 authorities on the subject of salt.

17 Now, that question of salt has
18 been the chief moral issue between Gandhi's
19 Hindu Nationalists and the British Indian
20 government. The British have a ~~tax on~~
21 ^{monopoly} salt in India. And this the Nationalist
22 Party resents. Gandhi's non-violent
23 rebellion began when the Mahatma and his
24 followers went to the seashore, boiled
25 seawater down, and made salt.

1 Gandhi's recent negotiations with
2 Lord Erwin, the British Viceroy, were
3 held up by a couple of thorny questions
4 on which they couldn't agree. And the
5 principal one of those thorny questions
6 was that same subject of salt.

7 The International News Service
8 states that In that compromise on salt
9 the British will still keep the ~~salt~~
10 monopoly, but they will permit Hindus
11 along the seacoast to manufacture and
12 sell that prime necessity of life--salt.

13 Gandhi is still conferring with
14 the Viceroy, and the report is that all
15 signs point toward--peace.

1 And now let's try to imagine a
2 terrific honking of horns, ~~the~~ blowing
3 of traffic cop whistles, and angry
4 shouts in Spanish.

5 Yes, folks, we're in Mexico, ~~and~~
6 where a traffic jam is threatened that
7 will make even New York and Chicago
8 traffic jams seem like a wide open road.

9 The Associated Press states that
10 in Mexico City the taxi drivers' union
11 is demanding recognition ~~and~~ by the city
12 authorities, and they don't want any
13 independent, non-union drivers to get
14 hacking licenses. They've informed the
15 city fathers that if they ^{fail to} ~~don't~~ have
16 their way they'll proceed to tie Mexico
17 City up with the most terrific traffic
18 jam in history. They'll just park their
19 cars in a series of impenetrable jams
20 and tangles at the intersections of the
21 principal streets of the Mexican capital.
22 ^R The city fathers ⁱⁿ ~~at~~ Mexico City are
23 stroking their whiskers and wondering
24 what to do. ~~And talking about whiskers--~~
25

1 Now boys--duck. I am ducking
2 myself because there is a big brick
3 coming our way. At the same time there
4 is a big gold medal awarded to the
5 ladies. It seems that it's the wives,
6 and sisters and daughters who are the
7 possessors of culture--and not us *chaps*.

8 This comes from Dr. Charles Gray
9 Shaw, the author of a highly
10 successful book called "The Road to
11 Culture". I read it a week or so ago
12 and found it mighty fine.

13 Dr. Shaw says that we men have
14 gone in for business and for physical
15 culture, while the women folks have
16 gone in for intellectual culture. Men
17 began to turn away from cultural
18 education a generation ago and the women
19 began to turn toward ^{it at} ~~cultural education~~
20 about the same time. The result,
21 according to Dr. Shaw, will be that the
22 great works of art in the future will
23 be produced by women.

24 Well, that certainly is a big brick
25 thrown in the general direction of the

1 of the men-folks. I guess the only
2 thing you boys can do is brush up
3 on your culture by reading Dr. Shaw's
4 book. In fact, I think that tonight,
5 I'll re-read a few pages from "The
6 Road to Culture" myself. And as we
7 less-cultured fellows say, so long
8 until tomorrow.