

1 One of the first items I
2 ran across tonight was one that
3 staggered me - almost bowled me over.
4 It concerns a large figure. That
5 figure is 136,800,000. Not dollars -
6 but pounds. Not pounds sterling but
7 pounds of sauerkraut. And that's a
8 lot of sauerkraut in any language. In
9 fact, it's a mountain of sauerkraut.

10 According to the United
11 Press, that was the amount produced
12 last year, not by the whole United
13 States, but by just one state. What
14 state?

15 Yes, you've guessed it.
16 Wisconsin did it.

17 The Wisconsin sauerkraut
18 crop for last year showed an increase
19 of 37%. It amounted to 68,400 tons,
20 or 136,800,000 pounds - ALL SAUERKRAUT.
21 And ~~to~~ even ^{to} contemplate that amount of
22 sauerkraut makes me weak in the knees.

1 Now comes a very large proposal, *that doesn't concern summerhouse*
2 It's to build a union terminal in New
3 York City ~~for~~ all the railroads that at
4 present have no terminals on Manhattan
5 Island.

6 According to the International
7 News Service, a bill was introduced
8 into the New York State Legislature
9 today to provide for that super-railroad
10 station. The plan is to have it in the
11 area bounded by 23rd and 16th Streets
12 on the north and south, and by 4th and
13 Fifth Avenues on the east and west. The
14 bill also provides that the existing
15 terminals in New York City be given
16 added facilities.

Here's one for the youngsters.

When you go to school tomorrow the geography teacher may take up the subject of the United States, and she may say: NOW CHILDREN, THE WESTERNMOST POINT, THE FURTHEST WESTERN TIP OF THE UNITED STATES IS CAPE BLANCO ON THE SOUTHER COAST OF OREGON.

And bright Johnnie or bright Mary can rise and say:

NO TEACHER, YOU'RE WRONG THERE, - and get away with it.

Well, school geographies have long been teaching that Cape Blanco was the furthest west point of the United States. But that's all wrong. According to the United Press, recent geodetic surveys by Uncle Sam show that there are several tips of the Pacific Coast that are further west than Cape Blanco. It will be interesting to look this up in your new Funk & Wagnals Atlas.

Yes indeed, children, teacher has been wrong on that point for many a year. Even teachers make mistakes - but not often. Oh dear no.

1 An impressive ceremony was held
2 today, and I am glad I got back from
3 Chicago in time to be present. It was
4 the christening of the submarine
5 Nautilus, in which Sir Hubert Wilkins
6 intends to make his widely heralded trip
7 under the ice to the North Pole.

8 The Brooklyn Navy Yard was the scene
9 of the event. Many famous people were
10 there. Standing a few feet from me was
11 Simon Lake, one of the pioneer inventors
12 of the submarine. He made an address
13 and broke into tears in the middle of it.

14 Right next to me stood Dr. Isaiah
15 Bowman, director of the American
16 Geographical Society, holding an eight
17 year old boy who will remember the
18 occasion as long as he lives.

19 Every way I looked there were
20 famous explorers. Stefansson, Fiali and
21 many others. Also scores of Uncle Sam's
22 Naval Officers in their gold braid--and with
23 their wives. Newspaper men and an army
24 of photographers.

25 The principal figure beside^s Sir

Hubert Wilkins and the members of his crew was the grandson of Jules Verne, a characteristic Frenchman, pleasant, polite. He said with a touch of humor that this new Nautilus was a good deal more practical than the original Nautilus, the imaginary submarine in the famous book Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea, written by his grandfather.

Well, the new Nautilus was christened with appropriate ceremony. The grandson of Jules Verne, together with Lady Wilkins, were the sponsors. Instead of breaking a bottle of something or other, Lady Wilkins emptied a small barrel of ice over the bow, and that was indeed a vivid symbol of the fact that the bow of the Nautilus is going to be in the neighborhood of plenty of ice before its under-water journey to the North Pole is done.

1 I wouldn't have missed that
2 ceremony for anything. I wish you
3 could all have been there.

4 The Nautilus looked tiny indeed
5 compared to the great ships tied to
6 the nearby docks. But if her cruise is
7 successful she will be one of the most
8 famous vessels in all history--since
9 man first went down to sea in ships.

FIRE

They have had an explosion and a big blaze in Detroit. People were tossed around like mannequins, and nine nearby houses caught fire. The people had to hurry from their homes as fast as they could scurry as the flames swept down on them.

The explosion occurred in a golf ball factory. A 40 gallon tank of naphtha went up. That inflammable liquid had been used for cleaning golf balls. According to the Associated Press, the backfire from the grate of a high pressure boiler set fire to the naphtha, and off it went with a terrific bang.

Only two people were injured. Two men inside the golf ball factory were blown clear out into the street, but they escaped with only a few bruises. And I suppose it rained golf balls in Detroit.

With him were Varick Frizzell and Arthur Penrod, the other two Americans who vanished in the explosion.

A member of the crew came in and suggested that a sign marked "Danger" ought to be placed on the door of the store room which contained the supply

1 A ship steamed into port today at
2 St. Johns, Newfoundland. A big crowd
3 was gathered at the pier, but there
4 was no cheering or hip-hip-hoorah of
5 any kind.

6 The vessel was the rescue ship
7 Sigona, bringing back the 29 woebegone
8 survivors of the Viking--that same
9 sealing ship the Viking which was making
10 motion pictures and blew up with a
11 terrific loss of lives. The survivors
12 came ashore, many of them badly bruised
13 and battered.

14 ~~And~~ a story of ironic drama was
15 told. Henry Sargent, one of the
16 Americans aboard the Viking in charge
17 of the taking of the motion pictures,
18 tells that he was sitting in a cabin.

19 With him were Varick Frizzell and
20 Arthur Penrod, the other two Americans
21 who vanished in the explosion.

22 A member of the crew came in and
23 suggested that a sign marked "Danger"
24 ought to be placed on the door of the
25 store room which contained the supply
of

1 of explosives which the ship carried.

2 Frizzell said that was a good idea,
3 and that, while he was no artist, he was
4 going to make this sign. He had actually
5 started to paint that sign of danger.

6 And then that same supply of explosives
7 went off. The explosion tore the cabin
8 apart and filled it with flame and

9 smoke. ¹¹ The story, as wired in by the
10 / ~~United~~ ^{United} Press, states that Sargent
11 lost sight of Frizzell and Penrod.

12 Sargent himself was saved, but the
13 other two men were never seen again.
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In New York State the political pot is boiling more fiercely than ever. Morning and evening papers headline the fact that the State Legislature has voted for a sweeping inquiry into the affairs of New York City. The head of the investigation will be Judge Seabury, who has been prominent in the recent outcry against the scandals involving the police force and other branches of the city government.

Yes, it's boiling, that political pot in New York City, and it may cook up a few sensations bigger and louder than ever.

by industrial progress and by the improvement of agriculture.

The Chief Executive made no reference to the political situation in Porto Rico. He didn't say anything about the demand of some Porto Ricans for self-government. He implied that the present American administration, headed by young Teddy Roosevelt, is okay.

President Hoover is on the high seas again tonight.

He steamed away from Porto Rico this afternoon and is now headed for the Virgin Isles. He may arrive tonight.

Last night ^{Hoover} ~~the~~ President made a speech at San Juan, Porto Rico. He addressed an audience made up of the Legislative assembly of the island and many prominent citizens. The President promised that Uncle Sam would help Porto Rico in every way possible. According to the United Press, he declared that Porto Rico's main problem was economic and could be solved by industrial progress and by the improvement of agriculture.

The Chief Executive made no reference to the political situation in Porto Rico. He didn't say anything about the demand of some Porto Ricans for self-government. He implied that the present American administration, headed by young Teddy Roosevelt, is okay.

1 ~~told the Chief Executive that they~~
2 ~~wanted an election so the Porto Ricans~~
3 ~~themselves could decide upon the future~~
4 ~~of the island.~~

5 ~~Well, all that aside, the~~
6 ~~President of the United States has~~
7 ~~received an enthusiastic welcome from~~
8 ~~the people of the beautiful Caribbean~~
9 ~~isle.~~

10 With the President away, there is
11 a breathing spell in Washington--a sort
12 of political holiday. But folks have
13 to have something to talk about and this
14 is a good time to sit back and pass
15 judgment on the Hoover administration,
16 which is just two years old this month.

17 All over the country political
18 wise-acres have been striking a balance.
19 There is a great variety of opinion,
20 and it's summed up in interesting
21 fashion in this week's issue of the
22 Literary Digest.

23 The Digest finds there is general
24 agreement that the President shows the
25 strain--the wear and tear of his first

1 two years in the White House.

2 The Washington representative of
3 the Associated Press tells us that new
4 lines are being etched into the
5 President's face; his hair is thinning;
6 and his hair is turning white.

7 But, we hear also ^{that} the President
8 is actually in better physical condition.
9 He is naturally inclined to be stout. He
10 really doesn't like physical exercise,
11 but just the same he has been
12 resolutely and methodically doing his
13 daily dozen. Also, he has been dieting.
14 The result is that he has cut away a
15 good deal of surplus avoirdupois. The
16 Digest quotes the Washington Evening
17 Star as saying that a recent visitor to
18 the President summed up the change in
19 the Chief Executive's appearance by
20 saying:--HE WEARS A FIGHTING FACE NOW.

21 The Digest editors discover that
22 there is a pretty general agreement
23 about what writers call the "DEFLATION
24 OF HOOVER". This, of course, is a
25 natural reaction from the super-man idea.

1 But I am giving you only a hint
2 of the widely conflicting ideas which
3 that Digest article lines up, with one
4 balanced off against the other.

5 For example, the Kansas City Star
6 regards the President's first two years
7 in office as the biggest come-down in
8 American history.

9 On the other hand, another important
10 paper, the Seattle Times proclaims that
11 the country, as a whole, looks upon
12 President Hoover's record with a feeling
13 of satisfaction.

14 Well, those two conflicting
15 opinions certainly don't gee and haw.
16 But it's a vital and interesting topic
17 and you will find the views of the
18 country summarized in a concise way in
19 this week's issue of the Literary Digest.
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1 Now for a real thriller.

2 I told last week how an American
3 naval airplane had disappeared during
4 maneuvers at Panama. The plane was
5 flown by Chief Pilot Harshman of the
6 Navy. It disappeared in a cloud bank
7 and was not seen again. Two hundred
8 army and navy fliers scouted one hundred
9 miles over the sea for several days,
10 but couldn't find any trace of the missing
11 machine.

12 But now Harshman has been
13 rescued. He was picked up off the
14 Northern Columbia coast, ^{along the old Spanish Main,} by a steamer, and
15 he certainly has an exciting story to tell.

16 According to the International
17 News Service he lost his bearings in
18 heavy clouds and flew on and on until
19 his fuel was exhausted. He landed on the
20 sea. At night he fired off his signal
21 flares, but there was no ~~xxx~~ one to see
22 them. Heavy rain poured down continually.

23 The plane was breaking up
24 in the sea. He abandoned it and took
25 to his rubber life-boat. And then for

1 three days more he drifted. Sharks today
2 followed the boat. They circled it,
3 swept up from under it. Scenting death,
4 they kept continually after the rubber
5 lifeboat.

6 Harshman saw a plane high in
7 the sky and headed north. The plane
8 did not see him. Then a ship hove
9 in sight. It came his way. He was
10 half dead with hunger and thirst when
11 they picked him up.

3 An airplane came to earth today
over in France. It had been in the air
32 hours and 18 minutes after setting
a whole hatful of new world records,
records for duration, distance and
speed. It had previously set a world
record for duration with ^aone-ton load
and a duration, distance and speed
record with a two-ton load. That made
seven records altogether and that's ~~not~~
~~lots~~ quite a few ~~records~~ to hang up all at once.

According to the United Press
the two aviators were Lebrix and Dor et.
Lebrix is the famous flier, who with
his companion Coste, made a notable
flight across ^{the}South Atlantic and ^{later} flew
around the world, or around most of it.

1 There was a loud and lively
2 discussion this afternoon over ^{In the}
3 old Swiss city of Geneva. A committee
4 is meeting and discussing the economic
5 union of Europe which was proposed by
6 Foreign Minister Briand of France.

7 The argument started when an
8 Italian delegate got up and demanded
9 that Sōviet Russia be made a full-
10 fledged member of that committee. He
11 said that any discussion of an
12 economic union of Europe would ~~not~~ be
13 ^{ingless} mean ~~anything~~ without the Sōviets
14 taking a full part.

15 According to the United Press,
16 Delegates of other nations opposed
17 the admission of Bolshevik delegates,
18 and the big talk-fest grew fast and
19 furious. ^{We'll probably hear a great deal}
20 ^{more about this noisy argument.}

GIANT

Now for a cable from China, a cable that makes me feel that I want to nominate a new member to the Tall Story Club tonight. He is called the Szechuan Giant.

He has wandered into the Ling Kiang Szu district of the Province of Szechuan. He says he is 150 years old, but he can't prove it. He adds that he is a giant, and for that statement he doesn't need any proof at all. He is way over seven feet tall. His arms are as big around as a child's body. His fist is like a football, and his eyes are as big as the mouth of an ordinary person. He eats six pints of rice a day. Yes, that's what the International News Service cable says. So it must be so. And, what is more the szechuan Giant tells a tall story that is just about as tall as he is.

He says that one hundred and ten years ago he carried two millstones, each of which was more than eighteen men could lift. With one of those huge millstones on each shoulder he started across a great

bridge. His weight was so much that the bridge collapsed. He fell and broke his back. That caused his spine to double up a bit, and as ~~the~~ a result he isn't as tall as he used to be.

Yes, sir, that one certainly does entitle the Szechuan Giant to a membership in the Tall Story Club. M The yarn has also persuaded the Szechuan villagers to provide the giant with his six pints of rice a day, and ~~xxxxxxx~~ he probably thinks that a good deal more important.

1 I'll begin this next item by
2 reading the score. It was 165 to 14.
3 Yes, and the game was basketball.

4 According to the International
5 News Service the game was played over
6 in China between the team of Shih Ta Ta
7 University and the Yi Wen College Five.

8 Yi Wen sounds good, but Yi Wen
9 didn't win. Yi Wen had the 14 points,
10 while Shih Ta Ta had 165 *points*.

11 Well, the boys certainly scored
12 a lot of goals. They had that ball
13 bouncing in the basket most of the
14 time. The Shih Ta Ta collegians as a
15 matter of fact made a goal every thirty
16 seconds during the forty minutes of
17 play. The high point man was Wang who
18 all by himself scored fifty points.

19 'Ray for Wang, and rah, rah, rah
20 for Shih Ta Ta.

21 Which reminds me that it's time
22 for me to stop dribbling the old news
23 basketball and say "Ta Ta."

24 So, so long until tomorrow.
25