

Constant Bob
WASHINGTON

Lowell Thomas for the Literary Digest
Friday, April 22, 1932.

Page _____

Good Evening, Everybody:

1 The investigation of the stock
2 market went along in full swing today at
3 Washington. Percy ~~R.~~ Rockefeller, a
4 nephew of John D., took the witness
5 stand before the Senate Banking Committee.
6 The nephew of the Oil King has been
7 mentioned as a prominent bear operator,
8 one of those short sellers who are
9 supposed to be beating down prices in
10 the Stock Exchange. But Percy
11 Rockefeller told the Committee that for
12 the past five or six weeks he has been
13 on the other side of the fence. He has
14 been long instead of short. He admitted
15 that he had done some extensive short
16 selling in the past, but of late he has
17 not been a Bear -- he has been a Bull.

18 Another witness was Matthew C.
19 Brush, a veteran Wall Street trader. His
20 name appeared on the list of short
21 sellers that was given out yesterday.
22 He testified that he had been on both
23 sides of the market -- both long and
24 short. The Chicago Evening Post quotes
25 Mr. Brush as declaring that he started to

1 sell short in the spring of 1930. And it
2 also came out that a brother of his is
3 the real person behind the American
4 Brush Company, listed as a short seller.

5 The committee is trying to get at
6 the people who are represented in the list
7 of short sellers by various corporation
8 names and other camouflage.

9 Senator Norbeck, of the Banking
10 Committee, declares that he is not
11 satisfied with the testimony given by
12 Richard Whitney, the head of the New York
13 Stock Exchange. He claims that Mr.
14 Whitney's testimony has not been frank.

15 Senator Watson of Indiana comes forth
16 with the charge that international banking
17 interests have been beating down the
18 stock market for the purpose of
19 handicapping the economic recovery in this
20 country. His idea is that certain
21 foreign interests want to keep American
22 business bad for the purpose of forcing
23 a cancellation of the war debts.
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1 Here are some prize winners. They
2 are healthy prize winners, ~~that is,~~
3 ~~they have done the most for the prevention~~
4 ~~of illness and the promotion of public~~
5 ~~health.~~

6 Each year the United States Chamber
7 of Commerce Health Conservation Committee
8 holds a contest, ~~with the cooperation of~~
9 ~~the American Public Health Association,~~
10 ~~and the National Health Council.~~ Scores
11 of cities all over the country enroll,
12 and each one tries to outdo the others
13 in the way of improving public health.

14 Then the honors ^{are} ~~were~~ awarded. There
15 are six prizes given in each of several
16 groups of cities. This year, ~~among the~~
17 ~~six prizes~~ in the group of cities with
18 500,000 population or over, Milwaukee,
19 Wisconsin, took first honors.

20 In cities of from a quarter of a
21 million to half a million, Rochester,
22 New York, took the first prize.

23 Among six prize winners in cities
24 from 100,000 to 250,000 ~~people~~ New Haven,
25 Connecticut, comes first.

Mountain Bobs L

HEALTH - - 2

1 And ⁱⁿ the group of 50,000 to 100,000
2 population, Evanston, Illinois, makes
3 the best showing.

4 20,000 to 50,000, ~~people~~ --
5 Brookline, Massachusetts.

6 And in communities of under 20,000,
7 La Salle, Illinois, takes the ^{palm} ~~cake~~.

8 ~~That gives Illinois two winners of~~
9 ~~first prizes. Which speaks well for the~~
10 ~~work that is being done to promote public~~
11 ~~health in the municipalities of the~~
12 ~~great mid-western state. Considering~~
13 ~~minor prizes as well as major, New York~~
14 ~~State comes first with a total of six.~~
15 ~~Then follow New Jersey and California.~~

1 Every once in a while I get into
2 a fine jam over the pronunciation of the
3 name of some town which I've missed in
4 my travels. For instance, night before
5 last I mispronounced Eau Claire, Wisconsin,
6 and I sure did hear about that!

7 Well, here's another I may slip
8 on, and it's from Wisconsin too. It looks
9 like an Indian name -- ~~Waxau~~ Wausau,
10 Wisconsin, where the folks vote 131 for
11 the 18th Amendment and 1204 in favor of
12 repeal.

13 I wonder if this next town is named
14 ^{that roaring prohibitionist} General Smedley Butler? At any rate,
15 it's Butler, Pennsylvania, where the vote
16 now stands 971 dry, 1,869 wet.

17 Here's Shenandoah, but not the
18 Shenandoah you are thinking of. This is
19 Shenandoah, Iowa. And it's dry. 239 for
20 continuance, 147 for repeal.

21 Kirksville, Missouri, is another
22 in the dry column. 243 for things as they
23 are; 212 the other way.

24 Shades of Bismarck -- I mean
25 Bismarck, North Dakota, 144 dry, 527 wet.

Billings, Montana, says 206 dry,

Captain Bob

POLL - 2

728 wet.

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There are quite a few Springfields in this country. This one is the big industrial city in Ohio. 2,076 dry, 4,480 wet.

Newark, New Jersey, comes along with ~~the~~^a third report. 1,962 for the Amendment; 19,280 for repeal.

Phoenix, Arizona, where the sun shines all the time and the tall cactus grows and the folks wear trick cowboy outfits on dude ranches: ^{2nd. report. -} -- 602 for continuance, 1,599 for repeal.

Great Scott! I beg your pardon, I mean ~~xxx~~ Fort Scott, Kansas. And it's dry. 268 for the 18th Amendment, 178 the other way.

JAPAN

1 Here ~~is~~ a bit of comment to the
 2 effect that General Araki is a bold
 3 fellow, but that the folks over in
 4 Japan are not surprised or displeas~~ed~~
 5 about what the General had to say. And
 6 that, ~~explains~~ ^{it} a special cable to the
 7 Chicago Daily News, ^{declares} ~~is~~ because the high
 8 ranking military officer merely said
 9 what most of the Japanese people feel
 10 to be right and just.

11 Anyway, General Araki, ~~is~~ the
 12 Minister of War in the government at
 13 Tokio, ^{has just issued a sensational statement --} ~~And he comes out with~~ a plain, ~~and~~
 14 unvarnished declaration that Japan will
 15 not tolerate the interference of either
 16 the League of Nations, the United States,
 17 or Russia in the Manchurian tangle. He
 18 explains that Japan intends to transform
 19 Manchuria into what he calls a paradise,
 20 meaning that the men of Nippon intend to
 21 exploit it in a modern industrial way.
 22 And so he says to the rest of the world --
 23 "Hands off!"

WORLD'S FAIR FROM HOTEL MORRISON

Page 8

1 Today, here in Chicago, Colonel
2 Robert Isham Randolph was appointed
3 director of operations and maintainance
4 of Chicago's 1933 World's Fair. Colonel
5 Randolph is a notable citizen of the
6 windy city. ^{The Chicago Daily Times reminds us that} He is head of the Secret 6,
7 that group of influential citizens who
8 have been fighting against crime. And he
9 is a former President of the Chicago
10 Association of Commerce. The appointment
11 of Colonel Randolph is just another sign
12 that Chicago is determined to make that
13 exposition a spectacular success.

14 ~~Well, there is one question that pops into~~
15 ~~the mind of every traveler who comes to~~
16 ~~Chicago these days:- What about that~~
17 ~~World's Fair for 1933?~~

18 Well, Perched ~~here~~ above Chicago, on the
19 42nd floor of the Morrison Hotel I can
20 look out of my windows and see for
21 miles and miles in all directions. And
22 from one of them I can see a number of
23 strange buildings, in the distance, along
24 the lake. Sir Hubert Wilkins and I
25 asked Leonard Hicks, the six-foot-two

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1 manager of the World's tallest hotel,
2 what the buildings were. He replied,
3 "Why, they are part of the World's Fair."
4 Later on I talked to Mr. Rufus Dawes,
5 one of the two famous Dawes brothers;
6 Charlie, of banking, World War, peace
7 treaty, Vice-Presidential, Ambassadorial
8 fame, being the other.

9 When I asked Mr. Dawes if the Fair
10 was going to take place in 1933, per
11 schedule, I could see his hair bristle.
12 He said it most certainly was, and then
13 he took me on a tour of the Fair grounds.
14 In a few minutes' time he had demonstrated
15 to me something we all ought to know.
16 They are working with strange, bewildering,
17 dazzling lighting effects. Everything
18 at the Fair seems to be in key with
19 modernistic architecture.

20 And here's one thing that appealed
21 to me: They are making the streets out
22 of a soft material that makes you feel
23 as though you are walking on grass or
24 carpet. Did you ever go to a World's
25 Fair and tramp around for a few hours?

1 Your feet give out first. But they are
2 fixing all that for the Chicago Fair.

3 Then too, they have filled in the
4 Lake, made lagoons, islands, and laid
5 out the Fair grounds for three miles.
6 Instead of spending money recklessly,
7 now that times have changed, they are
8 trying to make every dollar count. They
9 are depending more on ingenuity and
10 imagination. ~~And I'll wager that the~~
11 ~~Fair will be vastly more interesting as~~
12 ~~a result of this.~~

13 Then there's another thing that's
14 going to help. Chicago has many giant
15 ~~***~~ hotels now, like the Morrison here.
16 There will be lots of room for visitors
17 to the Fair, ~~just as there is going to~~
18 ~~be lots of room for all the folks who~~
19 ~~come to the Democratic and Republican~~
20 ~~National Conventions in Chicago this~~
21 ~~summer.~~

22 We have often heard the remark:
23 "The day of the successful World's Fair
24 has passed." I half way believed that.
25 But since I've seen what has been

tain Bob

WORLD'S EXHIB - 4

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accomplished so far, I have changed my mind. The recent Colonial Exposition in Paris was an immense success because it was so utterly different. And the Chicago World's Fair in 1933 will be a success for the same reason. I'd come across the continent just to see the night lighting effects they are going to have in the courts and above the lagoons and on the walls of these extraordinary modernistic buildings.

1 A vivid story of the terror of the
 2 tropical jungle ^{is featured in all the papers today, the story} comes with the news of
 3 the death of a young American scientist
 4 in the wilds of Ecuador. He was Thomas
 5 Walsh, Junior, ^{of Chicago,} a graduate of the
 6 University of Illinois. He was a
 7 chemist who for a couple of years had
 8 been doing metallurgical work at the
 9 great Cerro de Pasco copper mines of
 10 Peru.

11 There were two young Americans
 12 down there in South America who were
 13 great friends, Tom Walsh and Harold
 14 Ford, a West Virginian. Walsh wanted to
 15 get a Phd. degree and decided to do a bit
 16 of research for his thesis. And he
 17 picked out a romantic kind of research.
 18 He and his friend, Ford, decided to
 19 explore the headwaters of the Paute
 20 River in southern Ecuador. That's a
 21 wild and almost inaccessible region,
 22 inhabited only by a few fierce tribes.

23 It was last November when they
 24 left civilization and started up the
 25 Marañon River. A United Press dispatch

1 to the Cleveland Press tells how for
2 days they traveled with a party of
3 Indian porters. Then when they had
4 reached the wildest part of all, they
5 sent the porters back. They made the
6 final dash alone in a boat which had
7 been shipped to them from New York. The
8 boat had been constructed to be strong
9 enough to buck the rapids of the river.

10 For two weeks they navigated
11 through the swirling waters, amid jagged
12 rocks. Then, when they were in the
13 wildest depths of the jungle the boat
14 was caught in the treacherous rapids.
15 It was dashed against the rocks and
16 smashed to pieces. All supplies were
17 lost, and the two young Americans were
18 left a thousand miles from nowhere with
19 only one rifle and a few cartridges.
20 They were trapped, buried, in that green
21 inferno of the tropical forest.

22 They started out to struggle their
23 way through the countless miles of
24 jungle. Week after week they toiled
25 along. One by one they used their

JUNGLE - 3

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precious cartridges to shoot game. Then their last bullet was fired, and after that ~~■~~~~■~~~~■~~ they had to live on the strange fruits and herbs and roots of the jungle. They were growing ill and weak. Every day they felt themselves nearer the end.

After five weeks Tom Walsh collapsed, and Ford was not much better off. They were sure now that they could never get out of that green inferno, but each sat down and wrote a note to the folks at home. They agreed that if either survived he would deliver the message written by the other.

Tom Walsh was too weak to walk any farther. He begged his friend to leave him lie there and go on alone. Ford refused. He lay down beside his friend, and so they remained for one long night of terror. In the morning Walsh was in a coma, and then in a little while he died.

Ford buried him in a shallow grave in the steaming jungle, and then struggled

on alone, carrying the note that his friend had written.

Five days later he was found by a friendly Indian, ~~and~~ In a native hut ^{he} was nursed back to health and strength. Then he made his way back to civilization. And the first thing he did was to send to the parents of Tom Walsh the note which the young scientist had written on that last day deep in the heart of the green inferno. Here's the way the note reads --

"Mother: I am making Ford go on for aid -- can't move -- God save us -- please help Ford marry Clarissa -- he is your son now."

And so the tale ends on a note of melancholy romance. Clarissa is a girl in Ohio, and it was she who was in the thoughts of the two young men trapped in the toils of the green inferno.

STENOGRS

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Here's a slight bit of goofiness from a distinguished Englishman on the subject of U. S. A. ~~You might say it's goofy because what else might you expect?~~

~~Anyway,~~ a United Press dispatch to the Chicago Daily News, gives us the important information that Commander J. M. Kenworthy, former Labor member in the House of Commons, has a few things to say about American stenographers. The distinguished gentleman has just returned to dear old London from a visit to these shores, and he doesn't seem to have had a good time with the stenographers over here. I suppose that's because he insisted on dictating to them instead of taking them out to dinner.

Commander Kenworthy's comment is that American stenographers are great at making dates but they are not so good when it comes to spelling. The girls that he employed were always making a hit with good looking men and

1 dating them up for dinner and parties.
 2 But when it came to spelling, the nifty
 3 stenog might spell "promotor" with an
 4 "er" on the end instead of an "or."
 5 And she might even commit such a social
 6 error as to spell "honor" h-o-n-o-r,
 7 instead of h-o-n-o-u-r, as the English
 8 spell it. If you leave that "u" out,
 9 that's enough to break an Englishman's
 10 heart. Anyway, the Honorable gentleman
 11 claims that the American stenogs are
 12 expert on dates but not so hot at
 13 spelling.

14 Well, my own spelling is sometimes
 15 not so ^{hot} perfect, but here's something that
 16 I can ~~xxxx~~ spell with great fluency.
 17 It's s-o, so, l-o-n-g, long. And it's
 18 So long until we take another turn with
 19 the news in New York on Monday.