

LINDBERGH

Lowell Thomas Broadcast Page _____
for Literary Digest
Friday, March 4, 1932.

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2
3 Good Evening, Everybody:

4 The most important thing tonight
5 is an appeal which was made public this
6 afternoon. Here's the way it reads:

7 "Mrs. Lindbergh and I desire to
8 make personal contact with the kidnapers
9 of our child. Our only interest is in
10 his immediate and safe return. We feel
11 certain that the kidnapers will realize
12 that this interest is strong enough to
13 justify them in having complete confidence
14 and trust in any promise that we may make
15 in connection with his return. We urge
16 those who have the child to send any
17 representative that they desire, to meet
18 a representative of ours who will be
19 suitable to them, at any time, and at any
20 place that they may designate.

21 "If this is accepted we promise
22 that we will keep whatever arrangements
23 ~~that~~ may be made by their representative
24 and ours strictly confidential and we
25 further pledge ourselves that we will

1 not try to injure in any way those
2 connected with the return of the child."

3 (Signed) Charles A. and
4 Ann Lindbergh

5 That is how two young parents
6 are begging for the return of their *baby*.
7 ~~child~~. The plea was written by the
8 weary and anxious couple this afternoon
9 and sent to the office of the Governor
10 of New Jersey, where it was made
11 public.

12 At the same time the public
13 prosecutor of Mercer County, New Jersey,
14 where the crime was committed, came
15 to the support of the Lindbergh
16 statement. He too asks the kidnapers
17 to come forward with the child, and
18 promises that as prosecuting attorney
19 he will abide by the wishes of Colonel
20 Lindbergh, and will be bound with the
21 promise the famous aviator has made.

22 In common with the great mass of
23 American people Prosecutor Erwin E.
24 Marshall declares: "I believe that the
25 most important thing at the moment would

1 be the return of the Lindbergh baby."

2 The New York Sun quotes him as
3 admitting that perhaps the promise may
4 not be considered ethical, but just the
5 same, he agrees with Col. Lindbergh
6 and will do everything in his power to
7 grant the protection necessary to insure
8 the return of the baby.

9 (Thus far, the frantic hunt for
10 the missing child has resulted in
11 little more than a wild maze of rumors.
12 From an account given in the New York
13 Evening Post today, there seems to be
14 some doubt as to whether or not Col.
15 Lindbergh has been in communication with
16 the kidnapers. ^a~~The~~ Lieutenant of the
17 State police made a statement which
18 seems to indicate that the Colonel has
19 received a message from them, but this
20 is by no means certain.)

21 The police have been working
22 hard on the supposition that the
23 kidnapping may have been an inside
24 job. They have been questioning and
25 investigating present and past employees

1 of the Lindberghs, but nothing seems to
2 have developed along that line.

3 The New York World Telegram
4 declares that the United Press was
5 authorized today by the Lindbergh
6 family to state that there were no
7 definite clues, that no solution seems
8 to be in sight, and that the main hope
9 of the family is to establish contact
10 with the kidnapers^P and get the baby
11 back.

12 A weird assortment of messages
13 from cranks has been streaming in,
14 letters, postal cards, telephone calls,
15 telegrams. Some are threatening or
16 encouraging communications from people
17 who obviously are ~~xxxx~~ pretending
18 that they're the kidnapers^P. Others
19 offer all sorts of advice.

20 The police^{today} arrested a man who
21 sent a telegram, ~~to the Lindberghs~~^{family}, in
22 which he merely stated that the baby
23 was being held for \$50,000 ransom. The
24 police found that this man has a son
25 who lives about two miles from the

1 Lindbergh home in New Jersey, and that
2 he was at his son's house on Tuesday
3 last when the ^{crime was committed.} ~~child was kidnapped.~~ He
4 left shortly before the time of the
5 kidnapping, telling his son that he
6 was going to a hospital and have a cut
7 on his hand treated, and then would
8 continue along to Brooklyn. ~~But~~ The
9 police are now convinced that he had
10 nothing to do with the crime.

11 And then from Springfield,
12 Illinois, comes a note which reads as
13 follows:

14 "We have Lindy's baby with us.
15 We will return him for \$50,000 cash.
16 We flew to Chicago yesterday. We will ~~x~~
17 feed him on the diet asked by his
18 mother. He is over being sick. We
19 need the money, not the baby. If they
20 meet our demands, we will return the
21 baby at once." ~~We will be careful with~~
22 ~~the baby."~~

23 In some quarters there is
24 suspicion that crooks, or chiselers,
25 as they are called on Broadway, may try

1 to edge their way in, pretend they
2 have the child, and get some money.

3 The way this almost incredible
4 case stands tonight is this: No real
5 clue has developed. ~~The~~ search for the
6 baby has resulted in nothing, and the
7 wildly anxious parents are now living
8 in the hope that the kidnapers will
9 take the money and return the child
10 unharmed.

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1 That sales tax which we've been
2 expecting seems to be on its way. The
3 Ways and Means Committee of the House
4 of Representatives today approved of the
5 sales tax to be paid by manufacturers.
6 The rate is to be 2½ per cent, and a
7 United Press dispatch in the New York
8 World-Telegram declares that it is
9 expected to raise between 600 and 625
10 million dollars.

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And,
~~Not~~

1 it looks as if ~~both~~ the
2 Bulls and Bears were ~~ix~~ in for a bit of
3 investigating. At Washington today
4 the Senate ordered the Banking and
5 Currency Committee to look into the
6 operations of the Stock Market. The
7 inquiry isn't limited to those wicked
8 Bears who go in for the practice of
9 short selling. The United Press
10 declares that the investigation will
11 include the Bulls as well. It will
12 take up the subject of stock
13 manipulations and so on.

~~LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :-~~

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2 I've a ~~short~~ string of returns
3 from the Prohibition Poll tonight, and
4 every single town on the list is a
5 new one that we haven't heard from so
6 far. ~~Yes, and some of them are as far~~
7 ~~apart as the Canadian border and the~~
8 ~~Mexican border.~~

9 ~~These figures will be interesting~~
10 ~~to everyone in the country, but they'll~~
11 ~~be doubly interesting to those of you~~
12 ~~who live in the states of Illinois,~~
13 ~~Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota,~~
14 ~~Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania~~
15 ~~and Texas.~~

16 Let's start with the state
17 famous for long-horned cattle, oil wells,
18 cotton fields, the Alamo, and a million
19 other things. ~~When~~ ^{When} they shout Whoopie
20 and throw their ten-gallon hats in the
21 air and sign their Digest ballots
22 in old ~~xxx~~ San Antonio, ^{and} then when the
23 votes are counted they total as follows:
24 1,049 for the 18th Amendment, 4,990
25 for repeal. More than 4 to 1.

1 When some of our forefathers
2 were laying out cities, they had the
3 good sense to pick spots of marvelous
4 scenic beauty. Right now I am thinking
5 of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on the
6 banks of the Susquehanna. And how are
7 the votes for the 20-Million-Ballot-Poll
8 rolling down the Susquehanna from
9 Harrisburg? Here's the way: 1,988
10 for the Amendment, 3,842 for repeal.
11 ~~That is about 2 to 1 -- and about twice~~
12 ~~as conservative as San Antonio, Texas.~~

13 I once went to school with a lad
14 who was good at everything, a crack ~~xxx~~
15 marble player (he won most of mine), a
16 born quarter-back, and he could do the
17 hundred yards in less than 10-flat.
18 All the girls were wild about him. In
19 fact, he was good at everything --
20 except his studies. Therefore, when he
21 grew up, Bill Hayes became a learned
22 and scholarly Professor of Bacteriology
23 and other "ologies" at a university in
24 Manhattan, Kansas. Well, when the
25 professors and their neighbors at

1 Manhattan vote in the Digest Poll they
2 are dry, absolutely dry -- dry by 2 to
3 1: 229 for repeal, and 456 for
4 continuance.

5 Here are some figures from ~~the~~ a
6 great railroad center in the Middle
7 West, the city of Fort Wayne, Indiana:
8 700 even, are dry, and 4,508 are wet,
9 more than 6 to 1.

10 ~~One of the loveliest valleys in~~
11 ~~northern Illinois is the Valley of the~~
12 ~~Fox River, famous for its millionaire~~
13 ~~estates. And In the Valley of the Fox~~
14 ~~River,~~ ^{in Illinois,} are a number of fine cities. One
15 of the most famous is Aurora. And
16 here's how the vote is going out that
17 way: 471 for, and 1,653 against the
18 present dry law. ~~That's more than 3 to~~
19 ~~1 for Aurora.~~

20 St. Joseph, Missouri, seems to be
21 quite a bit drier. St. Joe, of course,
22 is on the Missouri River, ~~not very far~~
23 ~~away from where the three great states~~
24 ~~of Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska come~~
25 ~~together.~~ The St. Joe vote is 516 Yes,

1 1449 No, less than 3 to 1 wet.

2 One of the heaviest votes
3 against the 18th Amendment so far has
4 come from Cincinnati, and right across
5 the river is Covington, Kentucky.

6 What's your guess as to the difference
7 between the two? What difference does
8 a bridge across the Ohio River make?

9 Well, ^{considerable.} ~~a little, but not a great deal.~~

10 359 Covington, Kentucky, votes say, "Let
11 the present Amendment stand," and
12 2,271 demand a change. That's about
13 6 to 1, while those first returns we
14 had from Cincinnati a week or so ago
15 were around 11 to 1.

16 Youngstown, Ohio, ~~is another of~~
17 ~~those cities that have grown like~~
18 ~~magic since we middle-aged folks were~~
19 ~~youngsters.~~ ^{It's} a city of steel and
20 vast industries. And here's the way
21 the ~~fr~~ vote is going: 1364 for
22 prohibition, 5302 for repeal of the 18th
23 Amendment.

24 Youngstown is also famous for
25 rubber. So let's step quietly on our

1 rubber soles and gum-shoe over into
 2 New York State and see how the Poll is
 3 going in Elmira. Well, it's ~~a shade~~
 4 drier. Out of 2699 Elmira votes, 916
 5 say Yes, and 1,783 say, "We want change."

6 ~~We started our ramble with the~~
 7 ~~Poll tonight near the Mexican border.~~
 8 ~~Let's end it up near Canada. Let's~~
 9 ~~board one of those great iron or grain-~~
 10 ~~steamers, ^{and} ~~Let's~~ smash our way through~~
 11 ~~the ice of Lake Superior, ^{to} ~~and call on the~~~~
 12 ~~folks in Duluth. The Duluth ballots~~
 13 ~~tallied so far total 4,086. 724 ^{Duluth ballots} ~~of~~~~
 14 ~~these~~ say "Everything is okay." 3,356
 15 want repeal. ~~More than four to one.~~

16 While the returns on the big poll
 17 are still pouring in, a series of
 18 supplementary straw votes are under way.
 19 I mentioned the other night how an
 20 auxiliary poll of Literary Digest
 21 subscribers is being taken, ~~for the~~
 22 ~~purpose of testing the opinion of this~~
 23 ~~large and influential group on the subject~~
 24 ~~of prohibition.~~

25 But that's not all. The Literary

1 Digest editors ^{were} ~~are~~ determined to do a
2 thorough job of sounding out the feeling
3 of the country, and ~~one way of doing this,~~
4 ~~is to consult various groups and classes.~~
5 And so a whole series of supplementary
6 polls was planned. ~~Ballots have already~~
7 ~~been mailed by the hundreds of thousands.~~
8 For the poll of Literary Digest
9 subscribers, the ballots began to go
10 out on February 29th. Two other polls
11 got under way on March 3rd and 4th, a
12 straw vote of lawyers, and another
13 straw vote of bankers. The returns from
14 the poll of lawyers will have an obvious
15 bearing on the legalistic aspects of
16 prohibition, while the bankers naturally
17 will take an economic slant on the
18 subject.

19 ~~We now return to our program --~~
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1 The League of Nations today
2 adopted a resolution saying the fighting
3 at Shanghai must stop and demanding
4 that Japan withdraw her troops.)

5 Well, the fighting was supposed
6 to be over yesterday, when both armies
7 were ordered not to attack each other.
8 But just the same, there was shooting
9 and skirmishing in various parts of
10 Shanghai.

11 Late this afternoon the International
12 Settlement was startled by an outbreak
13 of gun fire, which sounded as if it
14 were not far a way.

15 In the last reports the
16 foreigners in the Settlement hadn't been
17 able to find out the cause of the trouble.

18 Along the line where the two
19 armies are facing each other, there was
20 severe fighting at various places. The
21 orders not to start any trouble don't
22 seem to have been obeyed very successfully.
23 The Chinese claim that after the scrapping
24 began they captured the city of Liuho,
25 after a fierce encounter that lasted for
several hours.

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The New York Evening Post has a cable that the Chinese Government at Nanking has flatly rejected the terms which the Japanese have proposed as a basis for peace negotiations. ~~The Chinese declared that these stiff Japanese terms are not compatible with the dignity and sovereign rights of China.~~

1 A big time is on schedule
2 tonight in New York, and all of us that
3 deal with the news are ~~mightily~~ ^{mightily} interested
4 in it. ~~No, newspaper men haven't~~
5 ~~anything to do with the grand festivities.~~
6 ~~It's the newspaper women who are throwing~~
7 ~~the big party.~~

8 The New York Newspaper Women's
9 Club is giving its annual supper dance
10 tonight at the Hotel Plaza, and ~~this~~
11 ~~year's extravaganza is certainly a~~
12 ~~magnificent affair.~~ The girls who work
13 in city rooms and Sunday rooms have
14 gathered a dazzling array of talent. ~~to~~
15 ~~provide the maximum of fun.~~ The reason
16 ~~they are putting on the biggest show~~
17 ~~ever is a mighty good one. It's for the~~
18 benefit of ~~x~~ unemployed newspaper ^{folks.} ~~men and~~
19 ~~women.~~

20 The newspaper women are staging
21 the gala celebration for the purpose of
22 raising funds to help the newspaper
23 jobless. Heywood Broun, ~~the columnist,~~
24 is going to auction off ~~a lot of~~ pictures.
25 and the proceeds will be donated to

1 ~~newspaper men and women out of jobs, who~~
2 ~~may be in need.~~

3 Well, we're all strong for the
4 newspaper women. Any man who was ever
5 broken in as a cub reporter knows how
6 much good-hearted help he can get from
7 the girls who are wise in the ways of
8 the old newspaper game. ~~In my own~~
9 ~~cub reporting days I was saved from~~
10 ~~making more than one awful bull by~~
11 ~~going to a girl who worked beside me~~
12 ~~and asking her what she thought I~~
13 ~~ought to do.~~

14 ~~So three cheers for the big party~~
15 ~~the newspaper women are holding tonight,~~
16 ~~and here's hoping they have a grand~~
17 ~~time and raise plenty of funds to help~~
18 ~~the ~~XXXXXX~~ newspaper men and women~~
19 ~~who are out of jobs.~~

20 And, ^{by the way} ~~now~~ let's take note of the
21 passing of a great character who was
22 eminent in both the world of music and
23 the world of journalism. Billie Guard
24 died last night, that same stately,
25 charming and whimsical Bill Guard who

1 held forth for so many years as the
2 publicity director of the Metropolitan
3 Opera House. He was a quaint sort of
4 figure, who might have stepped out of
5 an old print, with his old-fashioned
6 way of dressing, his long thin
7 ascetic face with a mustache and
8 goatee. ~~He looked like the artist,~~
9 ~~Whistler.~~

10 In his curious little cubby-hole
11 at New York's great opera house, Billie
12 Guard used to talk to the newspaper men
13 of today in tones of dignity and
14 authority, because he himself was a
15 veteran of the game and had been a
16 Sunday editor in the great old days of
17 the craft.

BIRTHDAY

Page 20

1 Well, today's ^{the} ~~a~~ birthday. ~~Of~~
2 ~~course, every day is an anniversary for~~
3 ~~a lot of people, but today is the~~
4 birthday of a really important fellow,
5 a fine up-standing chap with chin
6 whiskers, and red, white and blue
7 suspenders. It's Uncle Sam's birthday,
8 although the event is not celebrated to
9 any great extent.

10 This is an odd reminder that I
11 picked up from the Funk and ~~Wagnalls~~
12 Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary. You'll
13 find it in ^{that} ~~the section at the back of the~~
14 ~~big book,~~ [^] ~~the section that gives us the~~
15 history of the world day by day, ^{at the back of the big book.} It
16 reminds us that George Washington was
17 inaugurated as President on March 4th,
18 1789. And that really began the career
19 of the United States. Of course, the
20 colonies gained ~~their~~ their independence
21 at the end of the Revolutionary War, but
22 between that time and 1789, we were a ~~sort~~
23 sort of loose confederation of semi-
24 independent states. It wasn't until the
25 constitution was put into effect and a

1 regular government got under way that
2 the United States really came into
3 being.

4 And so today we celebrate the 143rd
5 anniversary of the inauguration of *George*
6 Washington. And today Uncle Sam is 143
7 years old.

8 Well, let's ^{all stand now and} pull the old gentleman's
9 chin whiskers, and snap his red, white
10 and blue suspenders, and say, HAPPY
11 BIRTHDAY ~~TO YOU,~~ UNCLE ~~SAM,~~ and --
12 SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.