

LOWELL THOMAS BROADCAST FOR THE LITERARY DIGEST

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 1931

MADEIRAS

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

Well, that rebellion in the Madeira Islands has passed the talking stage. Or rather they are talking with bullets now. Soldiers of the Portuguese government landed this afternoon and occupied a town near Funchal, capital of the islands and stronghold of the rebels.

According to the United Press, the revolutionists resisted the landing with machine gun fire. And for their trouble they were bombarded with shot and shell. Warships off shore laid down a barrage of artillery fire. Under this barrage ~~of~~ landing parties gained the beach. They destroyed a rebel wireless station and captured sixteen insurgents.

According to the International News Service airplanes from the warships took part in the show. They dropped bombs and silenced the guns of the rebels. As the planes came roaring over Funchal, the population fled in terror to the hills. An Associated Press dispatch states that nearly all foreigners have taken refuge aboard ships.

MADEIRAS

There's the same old story from Honduras tonight.
The Madeiras are beautiful islands in a southern sea.

The government claims that a truce has been put on the
But just at present they're swept by war and turmoil.

insurrection. But other reports indicate that the rebellion
is increasing and if anything growing more formidable.

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stating that hundreds of young Hondurans are flocking to the
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HONDURAS

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ENGLAND

Over in England the bill collector is at the door. That is the subjects of King George are being told just how much money the Government will have to have and how much taxes our British Cousins will have to pay.

Philip Snowden, Chancellor of the Exchequer for the Labor Government appeared in the House of Commons today and presented a big bill, - and that bill is the annual budget. Snowden is a thin, pale, wan, forlorn - looking chap. People say heresembles a severe medieaval monk. The United Press informs us that the budget he presented comes to a total of over Four Billion Dollars. That's the amount that will have to be raised. Snowden says he doesn't intend to make the poor people pay either. Instead he intends to tax land-owners by making them pay a percentage on the value of their land.

The International News Service tells us that the automobile owners of Great Britain will be among those who will have to kick in. The Chancellor of the Exchequer plans to increase the tax on gasoline by jacking it up just 4¢ more a gallon.

Well, the budget is before the House of Commons and for

the next day or so the M P's will palaver about it - and the rumor is that there will be a stormy debate - with the landowners leading the uproar, of course.

and, now apparently it's still headed in the same direction.

The trouble that was about the replacement of obsolete warships. France wanted to have new sea fighting units to take the place of old ones that were worn out, and the other powers didn't like the kind of replacements that France insisted on having. Yes, that was the trouble then, and still is.

The United Press informs us that negotiations between Great Britain, France and Italy, are practically at a standstill. The British simply can't see things the way the French do - by Jove - Italy is supporting England - and France is standing pat. and what could be sicker than a deadlock?

NAVAL TREATY

We haven't had much of late about that naval agreement which Great Britain arranged between France and Italy. The last time I mentioned it the agreement seemed to be going on the rocks. And, now apparently it's still headed in the same direction.

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ARABS

Over in Palestine they are trying to negotiate a settlement of the long standing dispute between the Zionists and the Arabs. This evening word comes that there's been another hitch in the friendly proceedings. The Arab executive commission has been invited to talk the situation over with Sir John Chancellor, British High Commissioner in the Holy Land.

~~According to the United Press~~ the Arabs have refused. The British want the discussions to be based on the terms of that Post-War Palestine Mandate in accordance with which England has control of the Holy Land.

The Palestine Mandate contains clauses which guarantee certain rights to the Jewish people, and these clauses make the Arabs tear their beards, fold their tents and chant:- "No, by Allah, we will have none of it."

OLYMPIC GAMES

There seems to be a chance that the Olympic games for next year will be called off. The Olympic committee is said to have voted to drop the women's events for track and field, and also swimming. Which means that the girls will not take part in the running competitions and jumping, the shot put, and so on. The fair sex will be limited to tennis and yachting.

The International News Service reports that if this is put through it will precipitate a big international row. The athletic authorities of some of the countries want the women in the games and threaten to withdraw altogether if the girls are not allowed to gallop along the track or hurl the ponderous javalin. And if these countries do withdraw, why there won't be much left to the Olympiad. And the whole business may be called off.

"What is an Olympiad without the girls," - as the Ancient Greeks would not have said.

1 Now let's take up the subject of
2 dreams that come true. No, I don't
3 mean something that somebody wanted and
4 then after a long time ~~he~~ got. ~~it~~ I
5 mean that familiar old story - you're
6 asleep and you dream something and you
7 find out that it's all true.

8 The New York Sun today tells us
9 that the London Daily Mail gathered a
10 whole flock of stories about dreams that
11 came true. Here's one that's ^{truly} amazing:

12 An English farmer writes that
13 he was afflicted with blindness for
14 three years. One night he had a vivid
15 dream in which he was reading the bible
16 to his wife. He awoke and remembered
17 just what chapter of the bible - ~~it was~~
18 the fourteenth chapter of St. John.
19 ~~Next~~ He asked his wife to get the
20 bible and turned ~~ed~~ to the fourteenth chapter
21 of John. ^{then he took the book and} ~~he~~ read the chapter just as
22 he had done in the dream. His eyesight
23 had returned. He had dreamed that he was
24 no longer blind and he awoke to find it true.

1 I was thinking today about a few
2 things I have to buy. I need a new
3 suit of clothes and the car needs a ~~couple~~
4 ~~of~~ new ^{paint job.} ~~tires~~. But why go on with that?
5 At any rate, there's one thing I don't
6 have to buy, and that's a lucky telephone
7 number. ~~That, however~~ ^{But that} might be another
8 one of my troubles ^{if} I lived in Japan.

9 This week's issue of the Literary
10 Digest tells us that in the Land of
11 the Rising Sun there's a regular and
12 profitable trade in lucky telephone
13 numbers. If you have a ~~telephone~~ put
14 in, the telephone company assigns a
15 number to you. And if that number
16 happens to be an unlucky one, why you
17 go out and buy a new one from somebody,
18 who was fortunate enough to draw a
19 lucky number.

20 The Digest, quoting from the Wall
21 Street Journal, informs us that the
22 prices run from \$500 up. A really
23 lucky number, one on which the goddess
24 of fortune smiles with a rapturous,
25 beaming smile, will cost as much as

⑦
1 \$3,000.

2 The unluckiest number is 42.
3 ■■ 49 is also a symbol of ill-fortune.
4 As for bright and promising numbers, 8
5 is the luckiest. A number containing
6 the figure 8 is always desirable. A
7 great popular favorite is 357, which is
8 considered sure of bringing ■■■ all kinds
9 of lucky breaks.

10 The Japanese telephone companies
11 try as far as possible not to give
12 sensitive subscribers the unlucky
13 numbers. What does it do with the ones
14 that are particularly dark and sinister?
15 The Digest informs us that the telephone
16 company usually assigns them to the
17 police stations. I don't know why
18 they should wish the cops any hard
19 luck, but that seems to be the ^{quaint Japanese} idea.

1 And now let's have what may be
 2 a scene in an ultra-modern romance.
 3 The up-to-date suitor is courting a
 4 girl, telling her sentimental things.
 5 And this is what he may say:

6 "YOU REALLY OUGHT TO FALL IN
 7 LOVE, ^{Honey bunch.} ~~BEARS~~ YOU'LL DIGEST YOUR FOOD
 8 BETTER, ^{You fall in love.} ALL FOODS WILL TASTE GOOD TO
 9 YOU, ^{even spinach.} YOUR HAIR WILL POSSESS MORE SHEEN.
 10 YOUR SKIN WILL POSSESS MORE GLOSS. AND
 11 YOU'LL BURST FORTH IN MUSIC AND
 12 LAUGHTER, SONG AND JOYOUS DANCE.
 13 CONSEQUENTLY, ^{dearie,} ~~BEAR~~, YOU ^{ought} ~~WANT~~ TO FALL
 14 IN LOVE."

15 That's what the ultra-modern
 16 lover will say if he follows the ideas
 17 of Dr. Josiah Oldfield, a prominent
 18 British physician. The International
 19 News Service informs us that the
 20 doctor's scientific investigations have
 21 revealed that when a girl falls in love
 22 it improves her health 100 per cent --
 23 or more.

24 The doctor also has a few words
 25 to say about the kind of conversation

1 that goes on after love--that is,
2 nagging. He warns wives not to nag
3 their husbands, because nagging ~~is~~
4 shortens a husband's life. But it also
5 does more than that. When a wife nags
6 she's putting wrinkles in her face.
7 And she's taking the first steps toward
8 becoming old and haggard.

9 So I suppose the scientific
10 theory is that a girl should fall in
11 love, and then after she marries a
12 guy she shouldn't nag him.

13 Yes, doctor, it's a ^{grand} ~~good~~ idea.
14 Three cheers for you, ~~doctor~~ doc.

MACAULAY

Here's a timely line. It's only a hundred years old.

It was uttered by one of the great English writers, the historian Macaulay. These words were spoken by Macaulay at a time, a hundred years ago, when, as at present, things didn't look any too rosy.

"The present moment", said Macaulay, "is one of great distress. But how small will that distress appear when we think over the history of the past forty years."

He made that remark in the year 1830, and then Macaulay went on to add: "If we were to prophesy that within the year 1930 a population of fifty millions will cover these islands, better fed, clad and lodged than the English of our time, many people would think us insane."

Well, times were bad in 1830, but Macaulay foresaw great things for the future. And now, a century later, when things are a little off, well we too can look forward to a great future, with more confidence even than Macaulay had a hundred years ago.

1 Here comes a supposed to be test-case
2 that has fallen flat. It's ~~is~~ that ship
3 loaded with lumber from Soviet Russia.
4 When the vessel put in at Providence,
5 Rhode Island it was believed that the
6 lumber would not be allowed into ^{the} United
7 States until the importers had proved
8 that it had not been produced by forced
9 labor.

10 But now according to the Associated
11 Press, Under Secretary of the Treasury
12 Mills, today issued an order admitting
13 that Russian lumber. All that he
14 required was a set of affidavits ~~■~~
15 testifying that the lumber had not been
16 produced by forced labor and so ends an
17 affair ~~which~~ ^{that} was supposed to come off
18 with a bang but ~~which~~ ^{that} has turned out to
19 be a dud.

DIAMOND

Well, it looks like they got Legs Diamond this time.

According to the International News Service the latest word from the hospital in Albany is that he may survive the night but he is sinking and his chances are exceedingly slim.

Early reports today stated that Legs Diamond was mostly scared -- just plain frightened. Later bulletins from both the International New Service and the United Press, however, state that he is badly wounded and in a serious condition. Anyway, somebody walked up with a shotgun and fired a charge of buckshot into the notorious gangster.

It was not long ago that Legs Diamond was an International figure. He was trying to live somewhere abroad, but the countries of Europe wouldn't let him. He had to come right back to the U.S.A., and he was not long ashore when the killers of gangland pumped bullets into him and nearly finished him off.

He has been up in the Catskill Mountains recently taking a quiet little vacation. He broke into the news only a few days ago, when he beat up a man in a garage. He was held on a charge of assault and let out on bail.

This latest attempt to kill Diamond was indeed a strange affair. When the buckshot hit him he crumpled up, and lay roaring that his enemies had got him at last. But, according to the New York World-Telegram, the doctors said that all he had was a lot of buckshot under his skin, and most of his injuries were caused when he fell down. He hit his nose a terrific crack and hurt his arm. ~~Frank Burke, a notorious killer was given life.~~

The doctors were busy for the next few hours, picking the buckshot out of the hide of the widely advertised gangster. They ~~hi~~ thought at first he was mostly scared, but now they announce that those shotgun slugs hurt him pretty badly after all.

GANGSTER

The newspapers tell us of another important criminal who has come to grief. He is James Nannery, wanted for robbery and murder. He is likewise an escaped convict from Sing Sing. He swore that the police would never take him alive, at Dover, N. J., but he was captured by a hick cop.

According to the Associated Press, out in St. Joseph, Missouri, Fred Burke, a notorious killer was given life.

According to the Associated Press the Bimbo that would be king has been brought from New York to Chicago to face a charge of trying to hire two gunmen to eliminate one of his rivals who would also be king. Bimbo laid his plans with the two gunmen, but they turned out to be detectives.

The Chicago police say that twenty gypsy establishments have been bombed during the past month, and they hint that Bimbo is trying to remove some of his rivals by the use of high explosives. And so the Bimbo that would be king is more likely to become a jail bird.

1 Well, this Bimbo's in trouble,
2 and I don't mean to be slangy, when
3 I say ~~Bimbo~~ Bimbo. The full name is
4 Tene, T E N E Bimbo. And Bimbo is
5 a gypsy. He is an ambitious gypsy.
6 He wants to become king of the gypsies
7 of the ^{whole U.S.A.} ~~United States~~ - at least so say
8 the police. And the cops add that
9 Bimbo tried to eliminate a competitor.
10 He wanted to put that competitor on
11 the spot.

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END.

(1)

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1 Well, I hope I don't stumble as
2 I tell this next one. It's all about
3 stumbling and falling down in ~~just~~
4 one grand tumbling act. And it
5 happened right after the wedding.

6 The United Press informs us
7 that the bride, Mrs. Mark Johnson, of
8 Waterboro, Maine, was showing her new
9 home to the mother of one of the
10 bridesmaids. They were upstairs when
11 the bride stumbled and fell against
12 the other lady. Both of them tumbled
13 down ~~the~~^a flight of stairs, and the
14 kerosene lamp which the bride was
15 carrying went ^{bouncing} down the stairs with them.

16 The lamp landed on a rug which
17 caught fire. A man, who was a guest^{at the wedding}
18 went to put out the flames. He fell
19 over the lamp and cut his wrist. Another
20 man ~~fell~~^{spilled} over him and burned his hands.

21 After that nothing more
22 happened. Plenty had happened already.

23 Well, it's a stumbling
24 story and I hope it doesn't inspire me
25 to go now and do likewise. I hope that

LOWELL THOMAS BROADCAST
FOR THE LITERARY DIGEST
TUESDAY EVENING

as I leave the studio here I won't trip over the mike and fall over announcer Neil Enslin, or stumble over a chair and fall out the door and down the elevator shaft.

Here's hoping that I won't and, SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

But let's just take one way.

The President today called off his usual conference with the newspaper men in Washington. Ordinarily the boys get together and the Chief Executive talks over with them the latest affairs of state. That didn't happen today. The President said there wouldn't be any conference. The reason being given by one of his secretaries, that the President didn't have any news to tell.

And that's one way in which I differ from ~~the head of the United States Government~~ ^{President Hoover}. Tonight I have an array of assorted news from all over the world-- news that's serious and news that's not so serious--for instance