Lowell Thomas Broadcast for Literary Digest Frimday, February 27, 1931

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This did begin to look like just another scrap in Washington, but everything has turned out happily and with all kinds of good-will.

The Senate and the House of Representatives were rolling up their sleeves preparing for a good sorap, when President Hoover stepped in and said: **Hompsim** "Boys, you'd better shake hands and be friends."

The trouble was about the big Naval Appropriations Bill which is waiting to be passed before the present Congress adjourns on March 4th. If, by any chance, that bill didn't go through, it would compel the President to call an extra session of Congress just to pass it. And that extra session is what most everybody in Washington has been trying to avoid." The Senate and Congress got into an argument over the question of who should build the new warships that are to be constructed. It was the old question of whether the work should be done by the government or

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HOOVER

by private concerns. The Senate wanted the government to do it, and the House thought private concerns should be given part of the job.

And so, according to the Associated Press, President Hoover called the leaders both of the Senate and the House to breakfast at the White House. He gave the lawmakers some excellent ham and eggs, and also some excellent advice. He smoothed things over between them and got them to come to an agreement.

And now that Naval Appropriations Bill will be passed they say, and then there will be nothing to keep Congress from winding up aftairs by March 4th. BONUS

Well, at last the bonus bill is a part of the law of

the land. The Senate passed it today over President Hoover's veto.

There was a huge crowd in the Senate gallery. The President's supporters defended his views in fervent speeches, but the vote was 76 to 17 in favor of passing the bill, in spite of President Hoover's stand.

And apparently that ends a political controversy which has created a vast deal of excitement in Washington, and which has been watched closely by the whole nation.

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CAPONE

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ah ha!

That's what the Judge out in Chicago said today. The Big Shots was convicted on a Contempt of Court charge.

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Back in 1929, he was summoned to 6 Court but sent in an affidavit saying 7 he was too ill to appear. Witnesses 8 at the trial testified that Capone had 9 been seen at race-tracks and other 10 places of amusement at the time when he 11 was supposed to be so sick. Doctors 12 and nurses testified that he really had 13 been ill. 14

The Judge apparently didn't take 15 much stock in what Capone's witnesses had 16 to say because he handed down that 17 verdict of "Six Months", According to 18 the International News Service, Capone 19 is taking an appeal, his lawyers demand 20 several weeks to prepare the appeal and 21 he will probably be out on bail for that 22 23 length of time.

Meanwhile, one of the Big Shot's Lieutenants has been ordered He is Tony Volpe - Mops Volpe they call him in the Under World. According to the Associated Press, he has been a body-guard to the Czar of the Racket and is on Chicago's list of public enemies. He will be deported to Italy.

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wes concerned. When I asked him what he

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21-31-5M

I read a stanza of verse today which makes me itch to pack my bag and sprint for the nearest gang plank. It's a sea-song, -- a song of ships, and the poet is Wilfred J. Funk.

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The verse appears on the Poetry Page of this week's Literary Digest. And by the way, a book of Mr. Funk's verses appeared in the book stores of America today.

But here's that stanza, the one about ships and the sea:--

I HAVE GONE, I HAVE SEEN, I HAVE KNOWN AGAIN THE SWIFT, SHARP LURCH AND THE LONG-SEA ROLL STEEL RIBS ACHING, WIND-LASHED RAIN SINGING A SAGA AT A BLACK PORTHOLE.

The poet himself paid me a visit 17 this afternoon and I congratulated him on 18 the publication date of his new book but 19 that didn't seem to interest him so much. 20 The appearance of his book didn't seem to 21 be the News Item of the Day so far as he 22 was concerned. When I asked him what he 23 thought was the most interesting bit of 24 news he pointed out a few sentences from 25 the lead of a 2-column

NEWS ITEM - 2

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article in the New York Sun today. Here they are:

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"Shortly before dawn today the 3 presses stopped, one by one, in the basement 4 of the Pulitzer Building; and when the 5 last one was motionless and silent the 6 New York World, as it has been known, was 7 dead. The liberal newspaper, which Joseph 8 Pulitzer developed, passed out of existence 9 between mid-night and day-break." Meaning 10 that the deal has gone through by which 11 the New York Morning World, Evening World 12 and the Sunday World was sold to the 13 Scripps-Howard interests. The Morning 14 World and the Sunday World passed out of 15 existence and the Evening World has 16 merged with the Scripps-How ard New York 17 paper, The Telegram. This afternoon 18 the Telegram came out under the heading 19 of both the "Evening World and the Telegram" 20

The employes of the World fought for a chance to buy their old paper and run it themselves, but they failed. The Pulitzers announced that half a million dollars of the \$5,000,000. paid for the

NEWS ITEM - 3

World will be distributed among the employees. Roy Howard of the Scripps-Howard organization comes forward with the statement that the consolidation means "not the death of the New York World, but its Re-Birth". But, in any case, the passing of the old paper as an independent entity leaves a yawning gap in the newspaper world of America - yes, of the entire world.

Wilfred Funk and I talked for half an hour about the old paper that had established such a brilliant record in American Journalism, and now was going the way of all flesh, or perhaps I should say -- the eventual way of all news print. SNORKING

Page 19

Now folks, just imagine a buck saw and a log of wood and the sound made when the buck saw goes back and for th cutting that log of wood. That is also the sound made by a man snoring. It is also the sound which may be made by a Jady snoring.

I have a charming lady friend 8 who doesn't speak English very well and 9 she calls it "snorking". And that is a 10 shade more elegant. Well, science has 11 come for th with another one of its 12 marvelous discoveries. It has now 13 revealed that the snorking of a man and 14 the snorking of a woman are exactly alike. 15

According to the Associate Press, 16 Dr. Donald Laird of Colgate University has 17 been making a study of the why and how 18 people snork. He discovers that 19 snoring, snorking I should say, is a sound 20 of the saxaphonic type. It has nothing 21 to do with the quality of the voice. The 22 vocal cords may be different in a man and 23 woman, but the snorking cords are just the 24 25 same.

SNORKING - 2

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Dr. Laird has listened to the snorking of men. He has also listened to the snorking of women. He has made a profound scientific observation of both kinds of snorking, and he has discovered that it is impossible to tell them apart.

Well, that may be true but I remember listening to a bit of snorking which certainly seemed beyond the capacity of the ladies. In fact, it might have seemed beyond the capacity of a man. You would have thought that saxaphonic noise might have been produced by a bull rhinoceros suffering from insomnia.

We were hunting mountain lions out in South Eastern Utah on the North rim of the Grand Canyon -- in the now famous Kaibab Forest. We had several pup tents. A party of strangers came along and as they had no place to camp, we agreed to share our tents with them for the night.

One of them, a huge man who weighed about 300 pounds, said he wanted to warn us that he was a tremendous snorker. So we drew lots to see in whose pup tent

SNORKING - 3

Page

he would sleep. I was the unlucky one. He slept in mine.

Well, I stood that man's snorking for about two hours. It was raining and cold but anything was better than listening to that saxaphone solo. I spent the rest of the night rolled up in my blanket in the rain.

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21-31-54

Here's another one of those stories that appear in the news and equal any of these whoppers that members of the Tall-Story Club. send in.

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Louis Sherwin, the Roving Reporter of the New York Evening Post, tells of various interesting things at the Bronz Zoo, in New York. This, is the one that made me open my eyespoport:-

A burglar was trying to pry things open up there at the Zoo when he was frightened away and what do you think he was trying to steal?---Well, he was trying to make away with a big cobra!

Apparently, if he had been given time, he would have broken into the cobra's cage and swiped the huge reptile, one of the most poisonous and deadly serpents in the world.

What did he want it for?---Well,

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Now this next item is what I would call "Cruelty to Burglars". The New York Evening Post informs us that a hold-up man walked into a drug-store at Newark, New Jersey. He drew a gun and said "Stick 'em up."

Two men were at the counter and they were working out a cross-word puzzle. They just turned to the burglar and said to him "What's a nine-letter word, beginning with 'k' and meaning a farm implement?"

The burglar turned and walked right out. Apparently he figured he had stumbled into a meeting place for dangerous lunatics. RUSSIAN_IRLAL

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I suppose we are going to 1 have another one of those international conspiracy melodramas staged over in 3 Moscow. 4

Last night I mentioned the fact 5 that a number of prominent Russian 6 experts have been indicted for working 7 against the Soviet government. There 8 are fourteen of them and they will go to 9 trial on March 1st. That's the word tonight. 10

11 The Associated Press states that they are charged with having been 12 associated with the engineers convicted 13 in that other big Soviet trial 14 was held not long ago. The men who 15 will, be brought before the Soviet 16 tribunal are likewise accused of having 17 helped along a plot formed by several 18 nations to overthrow the Communist 19 20 Government. table to be sent to prison

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Newspapers **x** over in Russia are carrying a lot of want ads these days, but they are the kind of want ads that mean: - "arrest this man on sight". Cherful ada like that!

There are a lot of men in Russia who are what the Soviets call Industrial deserters, that is, they are workder who have quit the jobs to which they were assigned.

In Soviet Russia the government tells a man what job he is to have and then refuses to let him get another.

According to the International News Service many workingmen don't like this, and think they ought to have the right to leave a job that they doent the communist papers are advertising for these men, and when they are arrested they are liable to be sent to prison or to be forced to labor in the convict camps. In any case, no employer is allowed to hire them for a period of six months. They cannot get work and They can't get food for that period. This means they have to starve unless they have relatives who will give them something to eat.

In spite of all these severities the dispatch states that workers are continuing to desert.

NAVIES

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21.31-54

The New York Evening Post prints a dispatch which gives what is said to be some inside information based on good authority. It's about the Naval agreement which Great Britain is arranging between France and Italy.

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France, according to the 7 report, is to have a big edge in Le tivo nati submarines. In large cruisers France and Italy are to be equal. "The Italians are to have the bulge in the way of small cruisers.

The idea is, of course, that 13 the French want a bigger navy than the 14 Italians and talians don't agree with 15 And I suppose the solution will this. 16 be to have an agreement so arranged 17 that each side can say it has won it's 18 point. That's a common way of settling 19 a row between individuals or between 20 nations. The idea being to allow 21 each to save his face. 22

BOMB

An attempt was made on the life of the Italian Ambassador to France. The United Press informs us that the French Police found a high-powered grenade in the automobile of Count Manzoni, the Ambassador from Rome.

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Apparently it was supposed to explode when the Ambassador was in the car. ITALY

From Sunny Southern Italy comes news of a big storm. This evening the wind is said to have quieted down a bit, but it certainly did blow furiously for a while. In fact, it blew with cyclonic force. Houses collapsed and there were floods.

According to the Associated Press 27 people lost their

lives.

Ganghi stated that his taiks with Lord Inwin plot be resured, and that word Paight" is not reparded as GANDHI

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21-11-04

Out in India the dove of peace seems to have run into a bit of trouble, Mahatma Gandhi, the leader of the Indian nationalists, and Lord Irwin, the British Viceroy, have been continuing their talks in which they are trying to find a way a of agreement about the future of Indias Hindustan. They had a long conference today, but the Associated Press informs us that one vital point came up on which the two leaders could not agree. Just what that vital point was is being kept a secret.

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Gandhi stated that his talks with Lord Irwin might be resumed, and that word "might" is not regarded as a very hopeful sign.

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2-1-31-5M

Down in Peru the government seems to be getting the best of the rebellion that has been going on for some days - at least that's what the government says.

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According to the Associated Press the Provisional President announced today that the rebels in Northern Peru are on the run and are expected to surrender soon.

Meanwhile the rebels in

Southern Peru seem to be holding ense their own. On the whole the trouble down there seems to the the condition of stalemate, and in which not y is doing anything much with all quiet on the Peruvian Front tonight. Oh, I almost forgot this :-

I've a letter here from Mrs. Irene Ward, of Charleston, Illinois. "Tall stories," writes Mrs. Ward, "are scarce in the cornbelt."

Well, maybe - but I've heard a few tall ones out there where the tall corn grows. However, Mrs. Ward goes on and adds that she's contributing a poem instead of a tall story. The poem is entitled "So Long Until Tomorrow". It's full of beautiful in fact delicious sentiments, and I'll just quote one stanza:

*So Long Until Tomorrow,

Until another day,

For on the arms of Morpheus

I'll soon be borne away

To that land of 'Just Supposing'

Where the bright sun always shines

And the ladies wear quaint bonnets

Trimmed with moming-glory vines."

Well, I don't know any ladies who wear quaint bonnets trimmed with morning-glory vines. But just the same, I'll say --

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.