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Lowell Thomas Broadcast for Literary Digest  
Thursday, November 6, 1930.

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Gales

Well, we said "hello" to Old Man Winter this morning. And the Weather Bureau reports that the gale off the Atlantic coast is growing wilder and wilder. Captain Frank Hawks, by the way, took advantage of a howling tail-wind, and hopped off on an attempt to fly from New York to Cuba in 7 hours. But the wind didn't boost him along quite enough. He got thru in 9 hours and 36 minutes. On both the Atlantic and Pacific, calls for help are being flashed out from ships in distress. The Associated Press reports a fishing ship missing off the coast of Spain, and an American liner, the Northwestern lost

its rudder in a storm off the coast of Alaska this morning. A late dispatch from the International News Service says that the famous little coast guard cutter, the Haida and the steamer Tanana are speeding to the rescue. There are 21 passengers on board the helpless Northwestern.

On the Atlantic Coast last night the schooner Annie May with twenty tons of dynamite on board ran on a sandbar off Highlands, New Jersey, during the gale. There she lay, pounded by the waves, with the cases of dynamite hurled back and forth. As you would imagine there was plenty of excitement on the Annie May. The crew lowered a boat and rowed for shore -- and how they rowed. They went at top speed for fear the dynamite would go off any minute and blow them to Kingdom

Come. This morning the sea died down a bit, so they went back and got the schooner off. But until she was free there were a lot of uneasy people on the Jersey Coast in the vicinity of that shipload of dynamite.

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DO-X

The Weather is all wrong over in Holland, too, and the DO-X, that big German flying boat, will wait till it clears.

I've been saying DO-X, but the Associated Press tells me that I am wrong. The official German pronunciation is "dough-iks", that's what the members of her crew affectionately call her. So, we'll have to say "dough-iks" hereafter.

I read an article in the Literary Digest today about American sky travel.

3-30 PM  
REFERENCE REGISTRATION  
Rotarian \$25.00  
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Total \$50.00 (includes all information)  
Sunday, April 17

The Digest has an up to the minute Motoring and Aviation section, and this week it discusses some of the newest wrinkles in American commercial flying. It won't tell you much about those occasional hops folks make just for a thrill, but if you figure you will ever have to take a plane just to get to some place in a hurry, why that Digest article will be a very practical thing for you to read. It points out that the American public has unquestionably taken to the air. It also quotes the Washington Star as saying that "it is now possible for the American air traveler to go almost anywhere he desires by this modern means of transportation."

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Intro.

From coast to coast the question

~~tonight seems to be~~ will the Republicans have the edge in Congress or will the Democrats have it? And no one seems to know the answer. ~~According to the United Press both parties are running neck and neck.~~ But several candidates are demanding a recount and there is still some dispute in Minnesota and Kentucky. ~~George Morris, staff writer for the independent New York Telegram~~ <sup>They say</sup> adds that Republican leaders everywhere are becoming more panic stricken as they analyze the vote.

Anyway the jury is still out.

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Flash

Here's a flash with a bit of excitement in it. There was a riot in the French Chamber of Deputies today. And that Chamber of Deputies is often the French equivalent of Madison Square Garden.

3:30 PM G.P.A.  
SUNDAY, APRIL 17  
OFFICE REGISTERED  
Rokarim \$25.00  
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Total \$45.00 (includes all following)

Socialists and royalists staged a free-for-all. According to the International News Service it was one of those punch-in-the-nose and sock-in-the-eye, statesman-like affairs. The publisher of the newspaper, La Liberte, who was fighting on the side of the royalists, was pushed through a window, and fell into the garden below. Then the police arrived, and made the Deputies stop fighting.

In Italy, too, there have been ructions.

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### Italy

Mussolini is striking out at his enemies. And as all the world knows, Mussolini packs a real punch. According to the correspondent of the New York Sun at Milan, he has ordered a round-up of his political opponents. Il Duce says they're plotting to kick over his government.

Scores of arrests have been made, especially in Milan, which is a socialist center. Professor Rossi, a leading Italian technologist, was being taken to Rome as a prisoner, and threw himself off the train. He wasn't hurt, and they soon recaptured him. A prominent newspaper editor and a former minister of finance were arrested, and the prisoners are being sent to penal islands in the Mediterranean.

In Germany the Fascists are still the political storm center--they and the Steel Helmets. The Steel Helmets are a sort of private, unofficial army allied with the Fascists. In the new Literary Digest that went on the stands this morning, there is an article about the Steel Helmets that tells of an amazing demonstration they held at Coblenz. It states that the Steel Helmets claim to have 8,000 branches and a million members.

Steel Helmets may sound like threat of war, but

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Disarmament

The League of Nations is getting busy with that old, old question of disarmament. The nations are toting guns like old time western sheriffs, and everybody is saying--why don't they check a few of their six shooters at the door? And so a body called the League of Nations Preparatory Disarmament Commission is talking things over. Right off the bat, according to the United Press, the British have come forward with a suggestion to establish a Permanent Disarmament Commission. That commission would act as a "world control" of armies, navies and air forces. In other words, it would keep an eye on the number of six-shooters the nations would be carrying.

The Soviet delegate, naturally,



made trouble. And he is that old trouble maker, Litvinoff. The Associated Press states that he spoke in English, and denounced the French and nearly everybody else. Litvinoff also protested against making motion pictures of the proceedings, and he had his way. No motion pictures were made. It is said, according to the United Press, that the Bolshevik secret service men with Litvinoff, objected to the movies, because they didn't want their faces to become known all over Europe. Still pictures were taken, however, although the Soviet delegation didn't like that either.

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Mine

In Ohio they are feeling bad about that mine disaster. But a curious story has just come through about it. The Associated Press tells how one miner saved his life with his wife's apron. When he went to work in the morning he happened to have the

apron stuck in his pocket. After the explosion he dipped the apron in the coffee at the bottom of his lunch pail and put it over his mouth and nose. The apron served as a sort of gas mask, and thanks to it he managed to crawl out of the shaft alive.

250 were in the mine at the time of the explosion. A hundred escaped and the rest were trapped. The last victim was taken out today, and according to the United Press there were a total of 81 lives lost, twenty more were so badly gassed they may die.

From India comes a grim tale.

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### Indian Killer

The worst murderer in the world has struck again, and this time he has killed fifteen people. It is far off Penjaub which is cursed with this atrocious killer. His name is Harphul Singh. He began his career of murder by shooting his sister's father-in-law. Then he robbed and murdered a Mohammedan butcher at Narwana, and then killed a sub-inspector of police sent to

3:30 PM  
Total \$45.00 (includes all postage)  
Sundays 4-17  
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arrest him. A month later he killed two more Mohammedan butchers. He has a strange hatred against Mohammedan butchers, which may be a fanatical religious quirk.

In his latest atrocity Harphul Singh and a companion held up a whole village, and robbed the villagers of their money and bangles. Harphul Singh looked around for Mohammedan butchers, and killed five of them. Then he shot down five Hindus, then a Mohammedan mother and her baby, then a money lender who would not give up his gold. After that the two criminals fled, and finally on the road they killed a young tax collector and his orderly.

There are still fourteen million people in India who belong to the so-called criminal tribes. They look upon crime as a religious duty. This man Harphul Singh may be one of these, or he may just be an Oriental run amuck.

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#### Abyssinia

In Abyssinia there's a second John D. Rockefeller. I don't mean in making millions -- but in giving away dimes. And it's the new

emperor himself -- the one they crowned last Sunday as "Lord King of Kings of Ethiopia, Conquering Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Elect of God, and the Light of the World." Wowie, hoe'd you like to have that for a title? Anyway, he announced he would give a dime to every child in his capitol. The New York Evening World says that thousands of youngsters -- some white, some black -- stampeded the throne and got their dimes.

There's another part of the tropics where there may be a great change, and I'm picking this story as the news item of the day.

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Devil's Island

You all know about Devil's Island, that island of terror in the tropics just off the northern tip of South America, the Devil's Island where French criminals go to do penance for their crimes, and authors go ~~to~~ for thrilling stories. We have always thought of Devil's island as a difficult place to escape

3:30 PM 7/2/51  
SUNDAY, APRIL 17  
GENERAL REGISTRATION  
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Total \$28.25 (includes all following)

from. But the French say it is too easy to get away from Devil's Island. So the most famous and most ~~xxx~~ terrible prison in the world may soon be a thing of the past. Another reason the French may abandon it is because it is so unhealthy. The convicts who go there soon become physical wrecks. So they are talking about moving the prison from the tropics to an island down near the South Pole. The name of it is Kerguelan Island, and it is just a dot in the Antarctic between the southern tip of Australia. It is one of the most remote spots on the planet.

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### Havana

Here's a flash from a place a few hundred miles north of Devil's Island.

Havana, one of the first cities founded in the Western Hemisphere, is about to lose its old identity. Within the next five months, says the United Press, Havana will become a federal district similar to the District of Columbia. But like the well known rose, no

matter what they call it, it will be the same old glorious, the same old sparkling Havana.

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Rickenbacker

After twelve long years, Eddie Rickenbacker, America's Ace of Aces, was decorated today for his heroic feats of flying during the World War. President Hoover presented him with the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest honor this country can give its war heroes. Not only was he the commander of the famous Hat-in-the-Ring squadron, but he also held the American record for having shot down 26 enemy planes. The New York Telegram says that all the members of the Hat-in-the-Ring squadron who could get to Washington, were present to see Eddie decorated by the President. It had been twelve years since many of them had seen each other -- and some odd things have happened since they were together in France. For instance, the New York Evening Telegram reminds us that twelve years ago Eddie Rickenbacker was shooting down Fokker airplanes at sight over the German lines, and today he is vice president of the Fokker

3:30 PM Get  
Sunday, April 17  
Total \$15.00  
Ricketson \$10.00  
Kearney \$5.00  
EXHIBIT REGISTRATION

Aircraft Corporation.

Another celebrity of a few years past appears in the news.

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Valentino

You remember Rudolph Valentino's funeral when tens of thousands of people blocked traffic and women fainted? Well, now we are told that the funeral was all framed up as a press agent's stunt, just a bit of ballyhoo for the Valentino films, all worked up for advertising purposes. This was revealed today in a law suit out in Los Angeles where the courts are settling up Rudy Valentino's estate. The actor's brother and sister claim that funds have been misappropriated by George Ullman, the executor. It was Ullman who gave out the startling news about the funeral. On the witness stand he stated that he stage-managed the funeral and hired fifteen hundred policemen and forty press agents to put it over in a big way. He adds that Valentino was half a million dollars in debt when he died, but

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Rotations \$26.00  
Rotations \$20.00  
Total \$46.00 (includes all following)  
Sunday, April 17

that the deficit was turned into a \$700,000 profit, all because of judicious management, so Ullman says.

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Sea Water

A strange cargo was delivered at the docks of London. It consisted of a shipload of sea water. The water was brought from the Bay of Biscay to the London Zoo. According to the New York Telegram, fish in the aquarium require this water to sustain life.

Here's a letter from West Virginia. It's about a fish story. It comes from a banker down in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. Shepherdstown is just three miles from the battlefield at Antietam, where one of the great battles of the Civil War took place. And the man who sends me the fish story is Joe Trout. He's the banker. And he tells it on a local mail carrier who went fishing in the Shenandoah River and caught a five and a quarter pound bass. When they opened Mr. Bass they found another bass inside him that weighed three quarters of a pound, and in the

3:30 PM 4/17/17  
SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 1917  
POSTAL REGISTER  
Religion \$25.00  
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Total \$25.00 (includes all following)



second bass they found a chub. As Joe Trout points out, it certainly was a case of fish eat fish.

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Milkman

And Aaron Swanson is a milkman out in Chicago who isn't going to play catch with milk bottles any more. For weeks Swanson delivered a quart bottle of milk every morning to Customer Witt by tossing it to him from the street. It was a good twenty feet, says the Associated Press, but Customer Witt always got it on the fly just as he was leaving for work. But yesterday Witt was late, and absent-mindedly hurried out the door. He forgot all about the milk. Just as he shut the door his daily quart came whizzing past his ear and crashed through the window. It made Customer Witt so mad he hailed the milkman into court to pay for the windowpane.

So, goodnight, and until tomorrow  
lookout for your milk bottle.