LOWELL THOMAS BROADCAST FOR THE LITERARY DIGEST MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1931

GERMANY

Good Evening, Everybody:

An exceedingly important bit of foreign news comes along this evening. It hails from Berlin, where Prime Minister Laval and Foreign Minister Briand of France are visiting the heads of the German government.

Laval and Briand announced this afternoon to representatives of the press that it had been decided to form a Franco-German Economic Commission. This is to be a body with a permanent secretary which will direct the economic policies of both countries. This Commission will suggest new markets for the products of both France and Germany. It will also advise ways in which sections of the peace treaty between the

3

5

6

10

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

sections of the peace treaty between the two countries may be revised. This does seem like something.

Furthermore, the way will be open for other nations to make suggestions to this Commission -- suggestions for revisions of the peace treaties between France and Germany.

The International News Service passes along a comment that's being made to The effect that this new Franco-German Economic Commission may point the way to a new customs union which will embrace most of Europe.

A sidelight on these important events is found in the meeting of the two French ministers with President Von Hindenburg of Germany. The old Field Marshall who led the German Armies during the World War is 84 years old. Briand is 20 years younger. But Briand has been in bad health of late, and when the two old fellows met, Von Hindenburg was concerned about Briand's physical condition. Although 20 years older than

Briand, the President of Germany seemed almost like a young fellow worrying about the health of a much older man.

"How did you stand the trip from Paris to Berlin?" asked Von Hindenburg.

"Not so well as Your Excellency would have stood it," responded Briand, with perfect French courtesy.

And I suppose he smiled a bit wistfully as he looked at the rugged bulk and strength of the 84-year-old veteran who even when the World War broke out was an old man, supposedly retired from active life.

A few plain words were uttered in London today. They were spoken at the Round Table Conference on India. It was Kamsay MacDonald, the Prime Minister of Great Britain who got up and told the boys what's what.

The Associated Press quotes the Prime Minister as saying to the Indian delegates that they would have to settle their own private quarrel, that is, the old controversy between the Hindu and the Mohammedan. He declared that the British didn't want to do any arbitrating. He pointed out that anybody who acted as peacemaker would get a few kicks from both sides - in others words, he would be a scapegoat.

The canny Scot made the observation that he had been a scape-goat many a time in his life and he was willing to be a scapegoat once more if necessity demanded. But in the case of this row between the Hindus and the Mohammedans, he thought they should be their own scapegoats.

2

3

5

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

A few more words were said after that which didn't make the problem any simpler and they were spoken by Ur. B. R. XMX& Ambed Kar. one of the delegates, who was an untouchable. He made the observation that the Hindu-Mohammedan quarrel wasn't the only thing to be considered. There were others xxxxxxxx minorities in India who would have to be considered, - and he meant the untouchables. Yes, there are 52 millions of those Untouchables, those outcasts whose very shadow is uncleanx to the members of the honored castes. and they are indeed a problem.

It's an odd thing to think of an Untouchable sitting in the same conference with the Brahmins and the Maharajas of India. Urdinarily they are not allowed to come near the higher castes. I suppose the answer is that those aristocrats of India at the conference, solved the problem of the Untouchable, at the conference by undergoing the orthodox rites of

purification. These are a most as old as India, and must be practised by the man of the upper castes who happens in some way or other to be man polluted by contact with the Untouchables.

As for Gandhi, of course this is no problem because it is one of his cardinal tenets that the Untouchables of India must be raised to the status of normal human beings.

Let's take a look at that latest financial move -- with the Scandinavian countries abandoning the gold standard.

The Associated Press today gives

the reason, which is;—that the kinddoms
of the North are tied up to the financial
system of Great Britain. For example,
the greater part of the merchant marine
of Norway operates under a system
according to which payment is made in
British pound-sterling. This same thing
applies to other Norwegian industries,
including paper and wood-pulp. Norway
sells these products under contracts
which call for payments in British
currency.

Now that the pound-sterling is not on a gold basis any more and its value has gone down, why Scandinavia finds itself in something of a jam. They figure that since they don't get paid on a gold basis, why it isn't good business to go ahead and keep paying on a gold basis.

So Norway and Sweden have

followed the example of Great Britain and abandoned the gold standard.

That other Scandinavian country, Denmark, is still considering the matter. The Danish cabinet met today and is trying to decide whether to stick to gold or fall in line with the others.

so the J. M. S., states, that she intends to stick to the gold standard. Why? She's abready gone thrue this deflation business, when the mark full to nothing.

13

3

15

16

17

18

20

21

22

23

24

7 8

9 10

11 12

13

14 15

16

17 18

19

21

22

20

23

24 25

Well, these are days when the white shining metal, silver, is beginning to take on a new glitter. The friends of silver are picking up courage especially in Colorado.

That's a great old mining state, Colorado -- great for gold, also great for silver. But silver mining has been languishing for years With the triumph of gold, silver wasn't used so much any more, and the price of the white metal went down. In Colorado today there are dozens of ghostly towns, abandoned mining camps, where silver used to be mined with a great noise of activity and profit. Today they are deserted, with tall grass growing in their streets.

But now, with the various nations abandoning minimum gold standard, hope is returning to those idle mines, and many Coloradans are hoping and working for the days when silver may be mined profitably again.

There is a regular campaign on. Colorado merchants and banks are trying insist on receiving silver dollars instead of paper money, which has gold behind it and not silver. They are going back to those old cart-wheels that used to be so familiar.

"Use More Silver Dollars" is

their slogan. They are urging people to demand/change in silver.

The Associated Press reports that the man campaign is having some effect. In parts of Colorado paper money is becoming scarce, with silver more and more prominent.

Silver bars are displayed in bank and store windows. The Bi-Metalists Association, which advocates a silver as well as a gold standard, is coming out strong with propaganda for a world conference on silver. United States Senator King of Utah, which state is also interested in silver, is demanding that such a conference be held, with India and China participating. These countries still do their business on a basis of

silver. The idea is to change the money system so that silver will be used as money on the same basis as gold.

It costs 45 cents an ounce to produce silver. At present the white metal is selling at from 25 to 30 cents an ounce. But the Coloradans are full of hope that silver will come back as money and that this will run the price up so that it will be possible to mine the metal at a profit. And that is raising visions of the old deserted mining towns roaring with life again -- Leadville, Central City, Idaho Springs, Creede, and Cripple Creek, and so on.

Many of the boys are remembering those old days, and they are saying that maybe Bryan was right, and that the silver-tongued orator when he sang the praises of silver and wasn't going to have man crucified on a "cross of gold", was just a bit ahead of his time.

And talking about old mining towns, a United Press telegram from Arizona tells how they are going to stage a revival of the old roaring days at the famous mining town of Tombstone. Yes, that was one tough burg. It deserved its name of Tombstone.

They used to eall those old days Helledorado. Well, the fact that they are going to stage a big show at Tombstone and revive the old Helledorado has started was many of the old timers reminiscing/telling tales. One is quite a classio.

There was a rough and tough miner who walked into a restaurant ExxXEM EXX and called the manager. Yes, that miner gave his order. "Manager", he commanded, "bring me a broiled and coiled rattlesnake on toast." "All right", responded the manager who was used to tough characters. A little while went by and then the order was served sizzling hot. A broiled and coiled rattlesnake on toast. By this



time the miner had sobered up a bit and as he stared at the formidable order of food he decided he wouldn't eat it.
"I'll just pay for it", said he, "how much do I owe you, partner?" "Twenty-five dollars" replied the manager.

"Well, I'll make it twenty-five more" said the miner, "if you'll eat it."

"Called", exclaimed the manager.

And he sat down and proceeded to eat that broiled and coiled ratthesnake on toast. In fact, he said it was quite good. The miner paid the twenty-five for the food and the extra twenty-five to the manager for eating. It was only sometime later that he learned that that broiled and coiled rattlesnake was really an eel.

Lieutenant Schildhauer. American Pilot of Do-4, German flying boat. Sept. 28, 1931p. 14

L. I. re Lt. S.

That was a marvel - and here's another

I have heard many people ask the question, "How did it happen that this giant German flying boat, the DO-X, or D-O-X, or whatever you prefer to call it, had an American pilot?"

Well, that American pilot of the DO-X, Lieutenant Schildhauer, is here in the studio with me so I'll just ask him that question.

How about it, Lieutenant Schildhauer?

Lt.S. Well, the reason is just this:That big flying-boat was made by the
Dornier Company of Germany. And I work
for the Dornier Company of America. They
simply loaned me to the German organization
because they wanted me to have the
experience of flying the largest
heavier-than-air craft in the world.
That might make me more useful to the
American company--later on.

M

- L.T. Well, Lieutenant that Literary Digest Book of Marvels includes that big flying-boat as one of the marvels of the age. Tell us a little about it, and incidentally, you might tell us which is the correct way to pronounce its funny name DO-X or D-O-X?
- Lt.S. The Germans call it DO-X. And they built it, so I suppose that's the correct name, but most

Extra: - Bythe way, Would you like to be a platinum blande? It's as simply de rolling off a log. and you can do it without injuring your havi. At any rate the assoc. Press corres a dispatch to that effect from Kanosas City, I new concaction trao been evening gown and fyon want to startle the boy friend by having your hair match your silvery gown you can now point your tresses a delicate platinum and then presto next day you can be your old brienette self again.

Lt.S. The Germans call it DO-X. And they built it, so I suppose that's the correct name, but most

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

15

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

L.I. re Lt.S - #3

English-speaking people call it D-0-X. So take your choice.

A lot of people are puzzled as to why it took so long for the DO-X to get over here. Well, the reason is fairly simple. She was an experimental ship, and they went about everything in a very methodical and careful way. Every time she made a fairly long flight something new was learned and the engineers immediately got busy. They just kept improving her and improving her. Until now she is as fine a craft as ever took the air.

As you probably have heard, she Ste holds the world's record for the largest number of people ever taken into the air at one time. There were 170 of us on board when we made that flight over Lake Constance.

Including her own weight and 55,000 pounds in fuel, oil, passengers and crew she can get into the air with a load of 125,000 pounds -- that is, 62 tons She is the most comfortable and

sensible airplane ever built for the transportation of passengers and cargo.

She has two sister ships - one of these has already been delivered to Italy and the second will be delivered to the Italian government within about two or three months.

The Dornier people came to America for her motors because over here they could get the best in the world.

People often ask me, is there any limit to the size of airplanes?

Apparently, there isn't. Engineers can make them as huge as they like, so far as design is concerned. The big problem now is to develope motors so they will be lighter and still more efficient.

2

3

A lot of folks all over this country have a way of kicking once in a while about the city government under which they live. They grouse at the Mayor and beef at the Aldermen. But what would you do if you had two governments in your town, with two mayors and a double portion of administration all down the line?

Well, that's x the predicament the Mexican city of Guadalajara. They have two municipal governments, two mayors, at Guadala Jara and the citizens don't know which one to obey. Each mayor sternly forbids them to observe the commands of the other man. The police are enforcing the edicts by one mayor, the soldiers are enforcing the edicts issued by the other. Yes, and isn't life is kind of complicated for the citizens of Guadalajara.

The trouble all originates in the fact that recently the governor of the state of Guadalajara was thrown

10

11

13

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

out of office and a new governor appointed in his place.

Whereupon the new governor appointed a new mayor for the city.

The followers of the former governor got together in the City

Council and elected a mayor of their own.

The two rival mayors have appealed to the District Court, and today the court decided that a little more time was necessary to figure out the puzzle as to who is mayor and who isn't. The court ordered that things should remain just as they are for the next few days, while the matter is being considered.

As a result, relates the Associated Press, the city of Guadalajara has that double dose of municipal government and nobody knows who is mayor and who isn't.

6

10

14

If you happen to see anybody going along wearing two left shoes, s especially in the vicinity of Chicago, 4 that person may be able to put you on the 5 track of a burglar.

Charles Weiss is a show salesman. 7 Last night he was robbed. The thief 8 stole 350 shoes and as the United Press relates, all of those shoes were for the left foot. It looks as though the crook might have a hard time in disposing of them, unless he can find a lot of one-legged people for those left shoes.

It's Just a case of left, left, he had a good home but he left. And, now, for me also, it's a case of left, left and solong until tomorrow.

19

18

20

21

22 23

24

25

6-16-31-5M