

LOWELL THOMAS BROADCAST FOR THE LITERARY DIGEST

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1931

CUBA

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

Let's begin with a conspiracy. A suave Latin-American doctor ship-loads of ammunition, and dashing gum-running exploits. Yes, it sounds like Richard Harding Davis.

Agents of the Department of Justice with the help of the New York police have jumped in and nipped in the bud what seems to be an extensive plot formed in New York to put a big revolution in Cuba.

The New York Sun gives us the picture of a highly educated, aristocratic Doctor as the head of the revolutionary movement. He's a political exile and a bitter enemy of President Machado.

Well, Doctor Blanco, as they call him, raised a million dollars in cash to buy munitions in the United States and ship them to the revolutionary element in Cuba. They say he hid away vast quantities of machine guns, rifles, poison gas, and hand grenades, and was arranging for gun-running expeditions.

1 They say that one ship of this
2 deadly material did get through, ~~to~~
3 ~~Cuba~~, and that was the cause of those
4 ~~Cuban~~ insurrections in ~~the~~ Oriente
5 province ^{down in} of Cuba a couple of weeks ago.

6 But now the American authorities
7 are onto the Doctor, and they have told
8 him that he can't go on using American
9 soil as a base from which to stir up
10 trouble in Cuba. No, Señor, that party
11 is off.

1 There were loud sounds of cheering
2 in Paris today. The Chancellor ~~of~~ and
3 the Foreign Minister of Germany arrived
4 in Paris and a big crowd was there
5 to greet them.

6 The United Press says that ~~th~~
7 thousands of Germans and also Frenchmen
8 shouted enthusiastic "hurrahs," *locks and vines!*
9 "Long Live Peace"!, the crowd yelled.

10 The German officials arrived
11 for conferences with the French
12 ~~Government~~ Ministers and representatives
13 of other governments including the
14 United States. The subject of the
15 discussion is of course that big loan *for*
16 ~~which~~ Germany. ~~is after~~

17 Immediately after the arrival of
18 the German ministers conferences with
19 the French began. After ^{the} ~~a preliminary~~
20 session the French Government issued
21 a statement which is given by the
22 International News Service. It is in
23 formal diplomatic language but simply
24 means that the Germans stated their
25 side of the matter and the French stated

1 their side and that everything was
2 exceedingly cordial. The statement
3 makes the encouraging comment that the
4 ^{diplomats} ~~statesmen~~ hope to be able to settle
5 matters on terms of hearty cooperation.

6 The foreign correspondents of
7 the various newspapers are sending reams
8 of copy with statements and ~~statements~~
9 counterstatements, rumors and denials.

10 The general impression still
11 remains that France has her demands to
12 make, and that, bad ^{ly} as Germany needs the
13 money, old ^{herr} Fritz will not allow himself
14 to be pressed too hard.

DIGEST

Of course, I don't suppose that a nation dead broke and threatened with revolution can entirely forget its woes by remembering that it has just won the women's singles tennis championship and the heavyweight boxing championship of the world. But nevertheless every little bit helps.

This week's Literary Digest tells us that all over Germany newspapers have been pointing to the fact that Fraulein Cilly Aussem now wears the tennis crown that once graced the fair brow of Helen Wills, and that Herr Max Schmeling is to the boxing game what Jack Dempsey was a few years ago.

The Literary Digest quotes an important newspaper of the city of Leipzig as saying that these two German victories on the field of sport prove that the German people, although burdened by political and financial difficulties, are not in any way dropping out of world affairs.

The Literary Digest, on the authority of the Associated Press gives us a reminder that most German newspapers were a bit hostile to Max Schmeling. They didn't think he was much of a champion.

But now it's different. After the way Schmeling beat Stribling, why, even the German newspapers that didn't like him one bit, are now shouting his praises.

1 A wedding was held this morning in
2 St. Mary's Church at Roslyn, Long Island,
3 a wedding which combines fabulous wealth,
4 high society, the world of music and
5 memories of the old mining days of the
6 West. Clarence H. Mackay, the multi-
7 millionaire married Anna Case, the
8 singer, who was formerly ~~the~~ a
9 soprano at New York's Metropolitan Opera
10 House.

11 Among those at the wedding, the
12 New York World-Telegram mentions the
13 bridegroom's daughter and her husband,
14 Irving Berlin, the composer of jazzy
15 tunes. Most of us will remember the
16 social furor that took place when Ellen
17 Mackay, prominent social leader and
18 daughter of the patron of music married
19 Irving Berlin, who had ^{once} been known as
20 the "singing waiter", and whose musical
21 compositions had brought him fame and
22 millions.

23 And people familiar with the lore
24 of the Old West will recall the father
25 of Clarence Mackay, founder of the

1 Mackay fortune. He was one of the
2 extraordinary characters of the old
3 mining camps, - a hardened, bearded
4 fighter of the wild and wooly days of the
5 West. He struck it rich. He discovered
6 the ^{famous} Comstock ^{ck} lode in Nevada and that
7 brought him an immense fortune.

8 Well, a whole volume could be
9 written about the interesting people
10 and circumstances that are connected
11 with that wedding in the quiet little
12 Long Island church.

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A speed record was nearly, ^{almost, but} broken today. James Goodwin Hall, a New York stock broker and war aviator, took off in his plane, Crusader, and ~~hit~~ lit out for Havana. He was trying to beat the record for a New York-to-Havana flight made by the speed-demon Captain Frank Hawks.

The plane landed at Havana this afternoon. The International News Service gives the time of the trip as 8 hours and 57 minutes, and that's just 8 minutes short of the record. It was mighty close.

And here's an interesting bit of news about the two round-the-world flyers, Post and Gatty. They're on their way circling the country in their plane, the Winnie-Mae. They dropped into Schenectady today and put in a telephone call for Australia. Gatty is a native of Australia.

Well, they spoke to Sir Keith Smith, the famous Australian flyer. And Post, the American, had a thing

1 or two to say to Australia about his
2 companion Gatty.

3 After remarking that Gatty was
4 an Australian, Post ^{added: ~~remained~~ ~~fact:~~} ~~had this to say:~~ -
5 "You'd better knight this fellow Gatty
6 right away or the United States will make
7 a citizen of him."

8 And by the way, I just learned
9 something novel about that circle of the ^{cities} ~~the~~
10 ^{of America} flying fields, that Post and Gatty are
11 making. Most trips by aviators after
12 they have come back from a big flight
13 have been subsidized. Somebody has put
14 up money for them. But right now Post
15 and Gatty are making their trip ^{entirely} on their
16 own. Nobody, not even their original
17 ~~backer~~, is putting up any money for them.
18 They're paying their own way.

19 And today an expedition
20 connected with aviation got under way
21 from the Russian port of Archangel. A
22 Russian ice-breaking ship put to sea.
23 Aboard it is General Nobile, commander
24 of the disastrous Nobile expedition to
25 the North Pole which reached the Pole

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1 all right but then came to grief, with
2 the loss of several men.

3 This Russian ice-breaker with
4 General Nobile aboard intends to head
5 up into Arctic seas, hoping to find
6 survivors of the Nobile ^{tragedy,} ~~expedition~~. And
7 they also think ~~there~~ ^{there} maybe some chance
8 of finding the great Norwegian explorer
9 Amundsen, who was lost while engaged in
10 an airplane hunt for survivors of the
11 Nobile expedition.

12 Well, Amundsen and Nobile had
13 flown over the North Pole together in the
14 famous trip of the dirigible ~~the~~ Norge.
15 The two men had become enemies and had
16 carried on a bitter controversy.

17 But when Nobile and his own
18 expedition got into trouble Amundsen
19 didn't hesitate. He went out to help
20 the man with whom he had quarreled. He
21 set out in a plane to hunt for survivors
22 and was never seen again. — *Just vanished into the*
23 *North.*

24 The United Press tells us that
25 this Russian ice-breaker will be away

for about 6 weeks and will steer for Franz Joseph Land. There seems to be some vague reason to believe that the Nobile survivors, or Amundsen himself, may still be alive on one of the Arctic Islands. Anthony Fiala, the American explorer, is the originator of this theory. But the probabilities are next to nothing. Still, the Russian ice-breaker with Nobile on board set out today to investigate, and there's high drama in that.

1 Well, let's have a question and
2 an answer.

3 Suppose a man steals 1800 dollars
4 and the authorities know all about it.
5 What should be done?

6 Why, send the crook to jail, of
7 course, *you say.*

8 Oh yeah!

9 In this case the crook can't be
10 sent to jail and also there's no way in
11 which he can use or spend the money.

12 The United Press gives us the
13 story of the strange embezzlement and
14 tells us that it occurred on the leper
15 island of Molakai. The Postmaster out
16 there is himself a leper, and the
17 Postoffice Department at Washington
18 declares that ~~the Postmaster out at the~~
19 ~~leper colony~~ ^{he} has defrauded the government
20 out of 1800 dollars. But they admit that
21 they can't do a thing about it. He can't
22 be sent to jail because he can't be
23 removed from the island, and the island
24 has no jail. And on the other hand,
25 there's no way in which the embezzler could

1 spend the money in that leper colony *if he wanted*
to. 2 It's a case of a crime that cannot be
3 punished.
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1 I don't know what kind of a dinner
2 the boys had at Sing Sing this evening.
3 But anyway the common subject of
4 conversation among the inmates of New
5 York State Prison is the fact that they
6 have lost their cook. They've lost
7 their chef. Yes, they've lost him but
8 they may get him back again.

9 George Geiger, they say, is a first-
10 class prison chef. Nobody knows how to
11 make hash and stew better than he. ~~But~~
12 George was a paid civilian employe of
13 the prison. He merely worked in ~~the~~
14 ~~prison~~ *America's most famous cooler.*

15 Well, George didn't show up at
16 Sing Sing today for his usual work in the
17 kitchen and the boys wondered why. Then
18 the news came. George was in jail.

19 The story is of a tragic downfall.
20 It seems that George, the Chef, learned
21 too much in that kitchen at Sing Sing.
22 Most of his assistants were convicts
23 and from them he heard many a tale of
24 robbery, burglary and of easy crooked
25 money. And these stories seem to have

1 gone to George's head. He started ^{out} ~~to~~ on
2 a career of crime, but he didn't get
3 very far. He walked into a lunch-room
4 at Orangesburg, New York, drew a knife
5 and held up the manager. He was just
6 taking \$42. out of the cash register
7 when another employe^e walked in and that
8 employe^e had a gun. The pistol made
9 George's knife null and void.

10 And so the Head-Chef of Sing Sing
11 was locked up and is being held on the
12 charge of larceny. He'll be off the
13 job at Sing Sing while his trial is
14 being held and then the boys expect they'll
15 get their chef back, not as an employee
16 but as a guest and I suppose he'll go
17 right back to the kitchen and carry on
18 with his pots and pans where he left
19 off.
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1 Which brings us to the highly
2 educational subject of - BEANS, Or I
3 should say the succulent subject of
4 Beans. A thousand men all eating beans,
5 from a rolling, army kitchen on a New
6 York street. Now there's picture for
7 you.

8 How come? Well, the thousand men
9 ~~are here~~ ^{came} from all parts of North America.
10 They are veterans of the Third Division,
11 the only entire American division that
12 was in the front line at the Second Battle
13 of the Marne, the turning point of the
14 World War.

15 Tonight comes the big banquet with
16 a whole row of ~~of~~ harrumphers, distinguish-
17 ed generals I ^{should say,} ~~mean~~ at the head table.

18 But the big event was that bean
19 breakfast from a rolling kitchen on the
20 streets of New York this morning, with
21 the boys sitting on the curbs swapping ^P
22 yarns about the days when they gave Fritz
23 that jolt in the solar plexus ^{at} ~~on~~ the
24 Marne.

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tells us that a police

The N.Y. World-Telegram, this evening,

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There was a roar of gun-fire last night in the bayside section of the Borough of Queens. ~~A police~~ emergency squad blazed and blazed away. No, it was no battle with bandits -- it was a battle with screech-owls.

Recently the inhabitants of an apartment house neighborhood have been missing quite a bit of sleep. All night long their slumbers have been disturbed by the lugubrious repeated sounds of HOO-HOO. Nearby is a big maple tree which not long ago became the home of a colony of screech-owls. When night settled down and bedtime came along, those ~~screech-owls~~ *noisy fowl* would flock into that tree, and then for the rest of the hours of darkness there was a babel and bedlam. They were ~~noisy~~ *boisterous* birds -- they went HOO-HOO. They carried on long conversations and they fought among themselves. Well, you must try sleeping some night in the neighborhood of a noisy tribe of screech-owls.

That maple tree had formerly been

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1 the home of lovely song birds ~~and robins~~
2 ~~and starlings~~ sang sweet music there.
3 But these melodious birds disappeared
4 with the advent of the owls. What
5 happened to them? Well, that's a sad
6 story. The screech-owls ate the song
7 birds.

8 The people of the neighborhood
9 got all fed up with that unholy concert
10 every night. They complained to the
11 police, and the police said they'd show
12 those screech-owls. In fact, they said
13 they'd exterminate them, ~~screech-owls~~.

14 And so when night came the riot
15 squad, armed with a ■ battery of shotguns
16 marched down to the big maple tree where
17 the screech-owls had their hangout. The
18 cops took a convenient position under the
19 ~~tree~~. The ~~birds~~ ^{owls} were up there in the
20 darkness somewhere, and the idea was that
21 a couple of well-directed voll ^{eye} ~~eyes~~ would
22 settle their hash.

23 From above came the hoot of an
24 owl -- a loud ^{razzberries} raucous HO-HOO -- and
25 instantly in the darkness of the night

there came a terrific BANG-BANG-BANG, as the riot squad blazed away. Leaves and twigs and branches shattered by the blast came raining down. The cops expected screech-owls would come raining down too. But nothing like that happened. A search disclosed that the casualties among the owls had apparently been NIX -- NOTHING.

The owls had got away, had just gone winging through the dark sky at the first alarm.

Well, it was too bad, and all the boys of the riot squad could do was shoulder their guns and slink away, back to the station house.

As for tonight, I don't know what sounds are being heard in that owl-infested neighborhood. Maybe the clamorous birds, frightened by the roar and blast of gun-fire, have gone somewhere else. Or maybe those screech-owls are back in their same old tree keeping the neighborhood awake with their screeches and hoots and squawks.

But I do know one thing, I'm on my way to farm tonight and I'll be hearing a screech owl or two up there, saying hoo hoo.

And meanwhile I'll be saying,

SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.