LOWELL THOMAS BROADCAST FOR THE LITERARY DIGEST TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1931

ELECTION

Good Evening, Everybody:

There's plenty of tense interest in Washington tonight.

The Associated Press observes that political leaders are watching the election returns as a barometer for 1932. They believe the voters today have given some hint regarding how far the people at large are blaming or not blaming the administration for the economic depression.

The International News Service reports the Democrats are confident that today's voting is going to give them control of Congress. And at this hour tonight it looks though they are right.

Everything hinged on the five Congressional seats that are being filled. The latest report is that the vacant Congressional seats in Brooklyn and Cleveland, have been won by the Democrats. But it is conceded that the Republicans have elected their man in the second Pennsylvania district, in Philadelphia.

The first Ohio, Nich Longworth's old domain, has gone Republican, but the eighth Michigan district which is normally Republican, has gone Democratic.

So, apparently the Democrats have won control of the House of Representatives. Evidently they will have 217 seats, the Republicans 215, farm labor one, and there are still two more vacancies to be filled.

Well, this evening the Beautiful Lady Prosperity comes waltzing up along decked with wreaths and garlands and festoons of macaroni.

macaroni may be the ***xxxx gladsome
harbinger of more prosperous days.
Wheat went to a dollar a bushel today that is, one carload did. Dollar wheat
is a thing which the farmers have been
praying for, these many months. It is a
thing which might readily mean that
the depression is on its way out.

The International News Service reports that today at Minneapolis one carload of wheat sold at a dollar a bushel. What kind of wheat was it?

Why, it was amber duram wheat. Now, amber duram wheat is used in making macaroni.

bounding merrily upward. The grain market is better than it has been in a long time. And how that macaroni wheat is leading the way and has already touched

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I suppose that's not so strange after all because there are a lot of Italians in this country who simply must have to have their macaroni.

So evivoa à macaroni!

in the aviation industry. They say that the airlines are doing a good deal better this year than they did last.

the number of sky passengers will has a million.

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Well, this is a nutty state. Yes. New York seems to be going nutty this year. I mean the nut crop is bigger than usual.

An Associated Press dispatch relates that in central New York the trees are bowed down under a weight of butternuts, walnuts, and hickory nuts.

There's only one kind of nut that isn't flourishing so well, and it's the chestnut. A blight hit the trees this year, and the chestnut crop isn't so goods

I suppose you'd call this a nutty kind of prosperity, but just the same it's helping the New York State farmers atong quite a bit. and this week end Ill probably be among the nut gatherers,

Now comes a series of amazing facts. They tell us of cycles, regular periods of rise and fall. The activity of nature seems to go in waves. The animals of the wilderness increase suddenly in numbers. Then they decrease just as suddenly.

In this week's Literary Digest
there is an article headed "Strange Cycles
in Animal Life." It tells us of the
findings of the Canadian Biological
Conference on Mamatak River, in the
province of Quebec. The biologists
there devote their attention to the almost
weird way in which the numbers of wild
animals increase and decrease in regular
cycles.

The Literary Digest quotes an article in the New York Times which tells us that many birds and animals increase and decrease regularly in four year cycles. Northern mice, the strange lemming of Scandinavia, the fantastic Arctic ptarmigan, the Arctic fox, the snowy owl, and other types of creatures

Page #

will be tremendously enormous one season. Then they will die off by the millions and become scarce. Four years later they are swarming again in countless numbers. This cycle is shown clearly in the fur trade where the number of pelts brought in is great or small in accordance in regular succession.

But the most important cycle of all is one of between nine and ten years. An immense variety of birds, animals, fishes and even of plant—life is subject to a periodic change which takes place every nine years or so. This cycle seems to be connected with the changes of the moon. The moon in her movements follows the cycle of eighteen and a half years, which is twice the natural cycle of between nine and ten years.

almost fantastic in that article which the Literary Digest gives us. Economic conditions in the United States follow the same cycle as the moon. We seem to have a panic every eighteen and four-

tenths years, and that comes mighty close to the lunar cycle of eighteen and a half years.

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What is the cause for these 5 strange periodical changes?

The Literary Digest tells us that the ultimate cause is a profound mystery and then goes ahead to give us bits of other strange information which tend to link these weird facts to each other.

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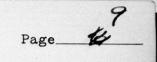
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If you've ever been pushed around by a crowd in a theater, and the usher took you to the wrong seat, and so on -- why, you'll sympathize with this one.

It's told by Louis Sherwin, 6 special writer for the New York Evening 7 Post, who writes a piece about the 8 opening of the New York opera season last 9 night.

Louis said he was milling around 11 trying to get to his seat, and so was another chap who apparently was a regular opera goer. Louis overheard this regular opera goer say to one of the girl ushers:-

"Madam, I have a season of 24 weeks before me. Don't make me use all my patience the first night."

A sidelight on the opening of the opera in Chicago comes in the fact that the tenor couldn't get his feet out of the way of the train of the prima donna's gown. The Associated Press reports that Jan Kiepura, a young Polish tenor, made his debut and sang very well in La Tosca. As a result, he and Claudio Muzio, the

prima donna, had to respond to salvos of applause. They made a number of curtain calls. The happy young tenor while taking a bow got his feet all twisted up in the train of the stately Muzio's flowing gown. He bowed to her and apologized profusely. Then they took another curtain call, and he did the same thing all over again.

This time he got what W. O.

McGehan would call his dogs all wrapped
up in the prima donna's silken train, and
he did some more bowing and apologizing.
And thereafter, I suppose, he kept on the
other side of the stage, as far as possible
from that silken snare worn by the prima
donna, for it must have seemed to him
something like fly-paper.

There was a man hunt on today
in the desert east of Owens Valley,
California. The authorities were hunting
for two men who blew up the section of
the aqueduct which carries water from
Owens River to the city of Los Angeles,
two hundred fifty miles away.

The United Press quotes police
investigators as saying that the two
men were employees working on the water
system. They became disgruntled about
something or other and resorted to
dynamite. They placed a charge of high
explosives under the letter nine foot
syphon at Jaw-bone Canyon, and then
fled into the desert. The explosion
did plenty of damage. Five million
gallons of water poured out, before it
could be got under control.

Los Angeles, however, wasn't inconvenienced particularly. Even with the blow-up the water supply was x sufficient for the city.

There hase been long series of disputes connected with the aqueduct.

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Trouble has flared up periodically for the past twenty years, and one attempt after another has been made to damage the water system.

The police in Chicago have discovered a regular arsenal used by the gangs. They raided a place and found a workshop equipped with elaborate mechanism.

The Associated Press quotes the Chicago police as saying that this establishment was the place where Chicago gangdom kept its firearms in order, where the pistols and machine guns were oiled and polished up. It was likewise a place where they had the numbers removed from their weapons. There's always a chance that a pistol can be traced by its serial number, and so the gangsters commonly make it a point to have the numbers filed off.

In the same formidable workshop a large store of counterfeiting implements were found. Apparently the scientists who ran the place were manufacturing a bit of false money as well as keeping the guns of the gangs in order.

The Chicago cops did a clever

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bit of sleuthing in gettong on the trail of gangdom's armament headquarters.

No, they probably didn't do it the way. Sherlock Holmes and other detectives in books perform their exploits. They probably used the actual methods of common workaday police, which are quite different.

hard-boiled detective who goes out to solve the crime mystery by using the methods the police actually use. Here's the way that rollicking tough guy cop explains it:

"Sometimes we plain-clothes cops do pull a

Sherlock Holmes, but it's seldom - it's good if you can,
but mostly you can't. Our methods are different. They
have less of false romance, more of violent wolf-and-rat
drama. There are perplexities, puzzles, ingenuities,
unravelings, but they are different. The problems are
darkly human. The solutions are darkly human."

right. Anyway, he goes on to solve a deep and dark mystery by the use of methods which give you a sense of hard-boiled excitement on one page and a howling laugh on another.

The world's record for carrying passengers into the sky was broken today when Uncle Sam's new giant dirigible the Akron, took 207 people aboard and sailed away among the clouds.

The previous record was held by the huge German seaplene, the DO-X, which carried 169 people on one flight.

Today the Akron with 207 aboard, soared into the sky at Lakehurst, New Jersey. The New York Sun adds that the passengers consisted chiefly of officers, enlisted men, and marines of the Lakewood Station.

The Akron, with her record breaking passenger list, made a quiet trip through the sky. There was no trouble.

Everything went off according to schedule.

This is another indication of what a fine success the big ship has been. Her commander is enthusiastic about her - and she is indeed a majestic awe-inspiring sight in the sky.

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(A dramatic but not unexpected move in British politics comes in the resignation of Lloyd George from the leadership of the Liberal Party. Lloyd George is stepping out simply because he knows that he hasn't a chance of holding on as the leader of the historic old party which cut such a great figure in British history.

He split his party in two during the recent election campaign in England. The bulk of the Liberals supported the present co-operative government, but Lloyd George said NO, he would not make an alliance with the Conservatives.

Well, he backed the wrong horse. It was an overwhelming Conservative victory, and only three followers of Lloyd George were elected to Parliament. One is his daughter, another his son, and the third is his son-in-law. And that makes the Lloyd George faction of the Liberal party look very much like a family affair.

His place, says the New York
Evening Post, will be taken by Sir Herbert

Samuel, a member of the present government, who will be the leader of 35 Liberal members in Parliament. Sir Herbert has long been known in British politics as the Oyster, because of his dead pan face. I knew him when he was High Commissioner of Palestine and I can vouch for the fact that he has a perfect poker face just as an Oyster has. But he is a brilliant man.

Well, the resignation of Lloyd George from his party leadership marks the lowest point of the political fortunes of the man who during the World War was the spectacular and powerful head of the British government.

And now we have the busy bee -- but, it seems, the not-very-intelligent bee.

The United Press gives us a report on some studies made by Doctor William C. Wilson, a scientist on the subject of bees. He has three bee farms on which dwell 6 million of the busy insects.

The Doctor has been busy figuring out how far those bees fly in their wanderings in quest of honey. He reckons that a swarm will fly a total of between 50 and 75,000 miles while they are making one cube of honey, which weighs a pounds. That pound will sell for 25 cents.

No, it doesn't seem like shrewd business on the part of the busy bee to fly 75,000 miles to make 25-cents worth of honey.

Well, here's one busy bee that's going to make a bee-line for just about a mile, for 60¢ worth of dinner, and -- so LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.