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3 Good Evening, Everybody!
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5 By Joe, here's a spectacular item:-
6 All of the New York papers tonight
7 are calling attention to a remarkable
8 experiment that was put on this afternoon
9 at the Curtiss Airport, out at North Beach,
10 Long Island. An airplane landed by
11 itself. In fact, it took off and landed
12 several times, and each time as it came to
13 earth the pilot in the cockpit kept his
14 hands above his head, dramatically showing
15 that the plane was landing entirely of its
16 own accord.

17 According to The Evening Post, this
18 is the result of an invention by Albert
19 Adams Merrill, who has devised a plane
20 with ^{moveable} wings. ~~that can be moved.~~ The wings
21 are so flexible that they can change their
22 angle to an extent of fourteen degrees.
23 The center of gravity of this new plane is
24 also different from that of the ordinary
25 machine.

1 The inventor claims that the success
2 of these experiments today ~~removes~~ the
3 danger of nose dives and tail spins. At
4 any rate, the International News Service
5 tells us that plane did land with ease and
6 safety time after time, while the pilot
7 held his hands above his head.

8 Well, as my friend Felix Luckner,
9 the Sea Devil, would say: "Boy Joe, it
10 looks like we'll all be up flying around
11 with the birds before long."
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1 In Washington the general topic of
2 conversation today was the announcement
3 that the Democratic National Committee was
4 going to meet for a big pow-wow on March
5 5th. Chairman Raskob has called the
6 meeting. The purpose is to make plans
7 for the national political battle of 1932.

8 The United Press points out that
9 it is most unusual for a political party
10 to start things humming so long in advance.
11 The next presidential campaign won't get
12 into swing until a year from now, but the
13 Democrats seem to think they have a grand
14 chance, so they are going to start early.

15 There are a lot of questions of
16 policy which the Democrats will have to
17 settle among themselves, prohibition for
18 example. It is said that they intend to
19 ^{have} ~~have~~ all their ^{party} ~~scrapping~~ ^{out of the way} long before 1932
20 rolls around, so they can present a
21 united front ^{against the Republicans} ~~in the big presidential~~
22 campaign.

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1 Let's see. Here comes one
2 about silver, the stuff of which dimes,
3 quarters and half dollars are made.

4 It appears that there is something
5 wrong with silver. The price of silver
6 isn't steady and the shiny white metal
7 isn't distributed ^{properly} ~~right~~ over the world.

8 The Foreign Relations
9 Committee of the ^{U.S.} Senate has been study-
10 ing the subject and has decided three
11 things ought to be done. First we've
12 got to talk the matter over with Great
13 Britain. Silver produced in India is
14 being dumped on the world's markets and
15 that brings down the price of silver.

16 Secondly, there ought to be an
17 international conference to draw up some
18 world wide rules and regulations to
19 govern the use of silver as money.

20 And thirdly, the nations
21 ought to get together and lend a lot of
22 silver to China.

23 The Associated Press tells
24 us that the flowery kingdom is suffering
25 from a shortage of silver. *P* As a matter

1 of fact China ^{seems to be} ~~is~~ the real center of the
2 problem.

3 The chief reason why the
4 Senate Committee is so much concerned
5 is that the bad silver situation is
6 affecting our trade with China. The
7 Chinese ought to be able to buy a lot
8 of merchandise and there are plenty of
9 people who'd be glad to sell it to them.

10 But the standard medium
11 of exchange in China, is silver —
12 and they haven't got it.
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1 Now, let's take up one of the most
2 controversial issues before the public.
3 I doubt whether there's any problem
4 which is being argued so widely and
5 sharply ^{at present} as the soldier's bonus.

6 Secretary of the Treasury Mellon
7 is against the idea of paying immediately
8 the money still due the soldiers. He
9 says that it will cost about \$3,000,000,000
10 and ~~he says~~ ^{adds} that if all that money is
11 paid to the veterans the country may be
12 swept into a ^{still} deeper valley of depression.
13 The New York Telegram comes out with a
14 warning that nothing ^{that} ~~which~~ hurts the
15 country now, can help the veterans.

16 The new Literary Digest--the
17 February 14th number--which ^{came out today,} ~~will be on~~
18 ~~the stands tomorrow, will give~~ ^s you both
19 sides of the controversy. You'll find
20 in it a summary of the arguments against
21 the bonus--also the arguments in favor
22 of the bonus.

23 The Baltimore News, for example,
24 supports that bonus proposition and says:
25 THAT, ~~BY~~ PAYING THIS JUST DEBT NOW, WHEN

1 MILLIONS OF VETERANS NEED ^{the money desperately,} ~~IT MORE THAN~~
 2 ~~THEY WILL EVER NEED IT AGAIN,~~ WILL TURN-
 3 LOOSE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS. This money
 4 will add to the buying power of the
 5 people and will give a stimulus to
 6 business that will benefit the entire
 7 country.

8 Meanwhile there is a lively fight
 9 on in Congress. I have a dispatch
 10 from the International News Service
 11 which states that the House of
 12 Representatives today turned down the
 13 proposition to pay all of that bonus
 14 money. ~~XXXXXX~~ ^{But it isn't over.} ~~^~~ As a substitute two other
 15 bills are up for discussion; one is
 16 to pay 25% of the bonus money, and
 17 the other proposal is to put through a
 18 bill ~~which will~~ ^{to} raise the amount which
 19 the veterans are able to borrow on their
 20 bonus certificates. If that bill goes
 21 through the veterans ~~would~~ ^{will} be able to
 22 borrow 50% of the face value of their
 23 certificates. ~~So it isn't settled yet~~
 24 ~~by any means.~~

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From Russia comes word of a stampede.

The Soviet Government opened several clothing stores and offered for sale, shoes, overcoats, shirts, dresses, and clothing of various kinds. The word spread like lightning through Moscow. It has been a long time since luxuries like ~~them~~^{these} were to be had. People flocked by the thousands.

There was a wild scramble, with everybody eager to get near such wonderful things as new shoes and new clothes. The crowds milled around in the streets. Windows were smashed and railings were broken down. And, according to the United Press, five people were trampled to death.

Business may be bad elsewhere, but they did a rushing, tragic business over there in Moscow.

1 A lot of strange dispatches about
2 ~~xxx~~ Soviet Russia are always coming
3 from Riga, which is a ~~xxx~~ port on the
4 Baltic Sea near the borders of Russia.

5 The International News Service
6 has a cable from Riga to day which
7 tells of an amazing battle in Leningrad.
8 In Soviet Russia there are thousands of
9 homeless children, who form roving bands
10 of outcast waifs. A gang of three hundred
11 children, made desperate by the cold,
12 invaded the former Imperial palace at
13 Leningrad and ~~just~~ camped ~~out~~ there,
14 intending to stay ~~there~~ until the
15 weather grew warmer. Soldiers were sent
16 to drive them out. The waifs were armed
17 with knives, crowbars and clubs and they
18 put up a fight. There was an ugly
19 skirmish between the soldiers and children,
20 until the fire department came and
21 turned streams of cold water upon the
22 maddened children. That subdued them
23 and they were ejected. *So says the*
24 *story that comes from Riga.*

1 Well, this particular Wednesday,
2 February eleven, will go down in history as
3 a day when the people over in Germany did a
4 lot of tall thinking -- I mean thinking over
5 the peculiar political situation they have
6 on their hands just at present.

7 When a large group of delegates in
8 the Reichstag seceded, went on strike,
9 walked out, and said: WE ARE GOING TO FORM
10 A LITTLE REICHSTAG OF OUR OWN - why that
11 certainly made things look very, very odd.
12 I told about that Reichstag walk-out last
13 night -- about how the Fascist party is in
14 the Reichstag no longer. And, along with
15 them, muttering angrily on the outside, are
16 the delegates of the conservative German
17 Nationalist party.

18 Well, today the two groups are
19 talking things over and trying to come to an
20 agreement to form a rival parliament -- a
21 Reichstag of their own.

22 Of course that's a strange situation
23 and the International News Service tells us
24 what the German people think about this
25 extraordinary matter.

1 Some political wiseacres are saying
2 that the walk-out of handsome Adolf Hitler's
3 Fascists and their allies is just a piece
4 of theatricalism, sound and fury which
5 signifieth nothing. Other observers,
6 however, are inclined to be worried.
7 Hitler has often threatened to take control
8 of the government by force, and this may
9 be the time when he will try something like
10 Mussolini's march on Rome.

11 Anyway, if Germany does have two
12 Reichstags it will be something like
13 England with two parliaments, or the
14 United States with two Congresses, and one
15 Reichstag, parliament or congress is enough
16 for anybody.

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1 ^{Let's}
2 ~~I want to~~ enter this ~~news~~ item
3 in the long catalog of strange lawsuits.

4 Over in Germany, a factory worker
5 named Schmidt is suing a Cabinet Minister
6 whose name is Treviranus. Schmidt says
7 that he had a job in a factory in Poland.
8 Treviranus, as a minister of the government
9 made some anti-Polish speeches. What he
10 said about the Poles caused a lot of
11 excitement in Poland and just because
12 Schmidt was a German, he was fired from
13 his job.

14 According to the New York Evening
15 Post, he blames it on the Cabinet Minister
16 ~~and not~~ ^{whom he} is suing ~~him~~ for damages.

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1 Here's news that shows the terrible
2 Turk in a new role -- ~~as a~~ ^{in the role of} peace-maker.

3 An Associated Press Dispatch from
4 Angora, Turkey, informs us that the
5 Turkish Foreign Minister is going to try
6 to persuade Soviet Russia and Rumania to
7 stop picking on each other and make up and
8 be friends.

9 He is Tewfik Rushdi Bey and he has
10 been invited by Rumania to act as a
11 go-between in the various disputes between
12 Rumania and the Soviets. Tewfik Rushdi Bey
13 has accepted the job and instead of the
14 old familiar "terrible Turk", ^{why here} we have a
15 ~~Turkish~~ ^{Abdul, the} angel of peace.

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1 And now let's all rise and sing
2 Bright College Days, because out at
3 Iowa State College the male students,
4 have declared that they want a course
5 in cooking and home economics. What do
6 you know about that?

7 Yes, and, according to the United
8 Press, the faculty O.K'd. the demand and
9 initiated a course in which college men
10 at Iowa are learning to cook and clean
11 house and set a table.

12 Well, you might ~~think~~ think that
13 item was one of the whoppers the Tall
14 Story Club has been sending in. But it
15 happens to be true. Well, well.

1 Tonight's spokesman for the Tall
2 Story Club is Charles Glen of Lebanon,
3 New Jersey. Mr. Glen sends me a clipping
4 from the Gananoque Reporter which goes to
5 press up in Ontario, Canada. It tells us
6 of a community of back-woods mountaineers
7 who had never seen a mirror.

8 It seems that one of them found a
9 small pocket mirror which a tourist had
10 lost. He picked it up, looked into it
11 and was astonished to see a face in it.
12 He stared at that face and said: "Well,
13 if it ain't my old Dad. It sure is a good
14 picture of him. I never knew he had his
15 picture took."

16 Well, the mountaineer put the
17 looking glass in his pocket and his wife
18 found it there. She looked into it and
19 when she saw the reflection of her own
20 face she said: "So, he's carrying around
21 a women's picture, is he? And what an
22 awful old hag she is."

23 And then she threw the skillet at
24 the old man.

25 Well, that's a real classic and I

1 think we'll have to frame it and hang it
2 on the wall of the Tall Story Club.
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BEAUTY CONTEST

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Page 17

1 Whoa, there! Wait a minute!
2 I thought this dispatch was about a
3 fire. Well, most anybody would think
4 so. It tells about the fire wagon
5 coming down the street and the firemen
6 rush~~xxx~~ in with the hose and the ~~xxxxx~~
7 hose goes into action with a noble
8 stream off water. ~~ff~~ But it isn't about
9 a fire at all. It's about a beauty
10 contest.

11 Down in Guadalajara, Mexico,
12 they had a beauty contest in a theatre,
13 and the beauties all were there. They ~~x~~
14 were on the stage and the auditorium
15 was packed with thousands of enthusiastic
16 caballeros.

17 Well, the beauties were
18 beautiful, but two of them were ~~more~~ *super-*
19 beautiful. That is, the caballeros
20 in the audience were divided into two
21 parties, one side shouting for one of
22 the ^{*super-beauties,*} ~~senoritas,~~ and the other side
23 shouting for the other ^{*senorita.*} And they did
24 plenty of shouting - and that wasn't
25 all.

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1 According to the Associated Press, a
2 fight broke out. The beauties on the
3 stage screamed as the caballeros beat each
4 other in honor of those two super-beauties.

5 That's where the fire department
6 entered. Somebody sent in an alarm and
7 the firemen came and turned the hose on
8 the battling caballeros. The Mexican
9 temper is hot but the Mexican water is
10 cold. It must have been a remarkable
11 sight to see that fire hose squirting
12 thousands of gallons of water on those
13 hundreds of Mexicans battling about two
14 women, especially when that powerful
15 stream of water hit the beauties on the
16 stage. They got a wonderful drenching
17 and you can guess what it did to silk
18 dresses, lace mantillas, make-up, and
19 marcelled hair. Anyway, that beauty
20 contest was all wet.

21 The ardent but half-drowned
22 caballeros spluttered and cooled down; and
23 the prize winning super-beauty, after
24 shaking the water out of her ears, was
25 chosen.

1 She is Senorita Stella Corona. She
2 is so lovely that not even a fire hose
3 could impair her beauty. And a fire hose,
4 ordinarily, is somewhat devastating to
5 beauty.

6 Well, it's the old, old story, folks.
7 Time's up and if I don't get away from
8 this microphone they'll be turning the fire
9 hose on me.

10 So, so long until tomorrow.

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