

Good Evening, Everybody!

1 Let's start off with a bang tonight.

2 They were having a gala opening of
3 a new motion picture. It was out at
4 Los Angeles, and all the film stars
5 were there. Suddenly a violent explosion
6 shook the theatre. It is believed that
7 accumulated gases in the basement blew
8 up. The audience hot-footed it for the
9 street - and the film stars led the
10 way.

11 According to the United Press,
12 a freakish thing happened outside the
13 theatre. The explosion blew a whole
14 section of the street right into the
15 air. A taxi-cab was standing exactly
16 on the spot that went skyward. It was
17 hurled fifteen feet in the air and came
18 down completely demolished. The driver
19 had an almost miraculous escape. They
20 had to dig him out of the wreckage.
21 But he was O. K. Just scratched and a
22 bit groggy.

23 Thirty-one people in all were hurt.
24 Most of the injuries took place in the
25 street.

1 A disastrous panic in the theatre
2 was averted by the coolness of actors
3 who were featured in the picture and
4 who were appearing in person on the
5 stage. When the big bang came they
6 kept their wits and shouted dramatically
7 that flashlights were being touched off
8 in front of the theatre.

9 The performance had only fifteen
10 minutes more to go. If that explosion
11 had taken place fifteen minutes later,
12 thousands of people would have been
13 milling right over the exact section of
14 the street that was blown into the
15 air, and there would have been a ghastly
16 disaster.

17 But Lady Luck was among those
18 present.
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1 Another thrilling story comes from the
2 storm-beaten shore of Lake Erie. All day a
3 violent gale ^{has been} ~~is~~ beating the eastern end
4 of the lake around Buffalo, ~~and~~ Blinding
5 snow is falling.

6 A crowd of men were fishing out
7 on the edge of the ice which fringes
8 the shore. The wind came with such
9 a violent blast that it broke the
10 ice loose and sent it drifting out over
11 the lake. Four men jumped off the ice
12 floe and swam ashore, but nineteen
13 men remained, helpless, frightened and
14 shivering as they drifted north.

15 According to the International
16 News Service, that ice floe was only
17 six inches thick and it was breaking
18 up in the heavy sea. Boats put out to
19 rescue the men. One was caught and
20 jammed in the ice but another, ~~the~~ a
21 coastguard vessel, forced its way to
22 the ice floe and took off five of the
23 fishermen. Ten are still on the ice
24 and are being rescued. Four are
25 missing, ~~and~~ They may have drifted away

1 on a chunk of ice that broke off the
2 main floe. Boats are out hunting for
3 them. ^{And} [^] Meanwhile the gale is still
4 howling ^{across} ~~up there at~~ [^] Lake Erie.

1 Now for the sound of wedding bells.
2 Amelia Earhart, the trans-Atlantic
3 flier, today married George Palmer Putnam,
4 the publisher and traveller. It's not
5 just ~~■~~ a rumor this time. The report
6 has been out for a long time that the
7 couple were married, or expected to be.
8 At last the wedding has taken place.

9 According to the International
10 News Service, it was celebrated at
11 Noank, Connecticut, the home of the
12 mother of Mr. Putnam.

13 So that persistent rumor has
14 ended to the tune of wedding bells
15 after all.
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INSANE ASYLUM

There's a manhunt on tonight. It's in Tennessee.

Police officers are looking for 14 inmates who escaped from the criminally insane section of the Central State Hospital.

They had a fire in the institution last night and it was necessary to move several hundred patients. During the confusion 21 broke away and escaped. According to the International News Service, 7 were soon captured, but the hunt is still on. They are scouring the hills for the other 14.

1 Well, it looks as though the big
2 battle down in Washington ~~might be~~^{is} over.
3 President Hoover has accepted the
4 compromise offered by the leaders in
5 Congress.

6 According to the Associated Press,
7 he has O.K'd. an addition of \$20,000,000
8 to be added to the \$25,000,000 already
9 appropriated for ~~farm~~^{drought} relief.

10 ~~As I explained last night,~~ the
11 basis of the compromise is in the
12 expression "farm rehabilitation". The
13 Senate wanted to let the farmers use the
14 money to buy food. The President was
15 against that. So now they're going to
16 let the farmers use the money for farm
17 rehabilitation. The President says he has
18 won his point. His opponents in the
19 Senate say they've won their point. Apparently
20 *everybody is happy. Well, we all hope so.*
21 *Yes, and now that they've finally got*
22 together on that subject, it looks as if
23 Congress will put through necessary bills
24 in a hurry and thus avoid an extra session—
25 which the President doesn't want. ^{PP} On the
other hand, ^{the} insurgent Republicans are

still on the warpath. The New York Evening World says they're shouting for a few pet ideas of theirs -- government operation of Muscle Shoals, for example. That, of course, leaves a possibility for further trouble, but it looks tonight as if the main battle has been fought -- and compromised. And that's that.

1 With all that drought relief
2 under way in Washington, here's some
3 more - and ^{by gum,} it's drought relief as is
4 drought relief. I mean - rain.

5 Old Mother Nature has taken a
6 hand in the situation, and the New York
7 Sun informs us that heavy rain storms
8 were sweeping ~~today~~ ^{today - eastward} eastward from the
9 Rocky Mountains.

10 The farmers in the Middle-
11 West and Southwest have been just about
12 desperate because of the lack of
13 moisture. But today the flood gates
14 of the heavens opened and ^{down came a} ~~there was a~~
15 good, hard, ^{soaking} ~~wet~~ rain.

16 One rainy day, of course,
17 isn't enough, but it will help, and
18 if the ~~xxxx~~ wet season continues for
19 a while a lot of farmers are going to
20 be mighty happy. And when the farmers
21 are happy - well, the rest of us are
22 generally happy.

NEWS ITEM

Tomorrow will be the twenty first birthday of a movement that has five million members and all of them are boys.

I met the head of that movement in New York today -- Dan Beard, the National Boy Scout Commissioner of America, and I asked what he thought was the most interesting news item in today's papers. Well, naturally Dan picked one that ought to interest every boy.

It tells about three boy scouts away up in Alaska who did a heroic thing. These boys were playing about on the shores of Eyak Lake.

Some other children were taking a joyride in a launch across the lake. Suddenly something happened. Just what nobody seems to know.

But the boat rolled over, pitched the helpless children into the icy water and then sank like a rock.

There were the youngsters struggling in the lake an eighth of a mile from shore -- and only one of them could swim.

Did those boy scouts hesitate. Did they lose their heads? Not a bit of it. They plunged into the cold waters, and

one of them rescued four of the children. Another dived down ten feet and brought up a five year old girl and saved her.

And the story Dan Beard chose tells how those three boy scouts, Philip Lydick, Lew Cochran and Jerry Cochran -- who live away up North in Cordova, Alaska, have just been awarded the Boy Scouts' Gold Life Saving Medal. And they deserve it.

END

Now for a story with a warning. The moral is: If you travel on shipboard look out for strangers who want to play bridge.

Sydney Lenz, famous bridge expert, tells a few things about how the card sharpers on the Trans-Atlantic liners fleece innocent contract and auction bridge players. The wise words that Mr. Lenz utters are printed far and wide today.

He tells first about crooked bidding. Card sharpers have a complete code of bridge signals, and that code consists of just nine words. According to Mr. Lenz, with the proper use of those nine words they can signal to each other every important card in their hands.

Then there are ways of marking the cards and of dealing the second card instead of the top one. And sometimes they ring in a cold deck, that is, a deck with the cards stacked. Which means of course that they are able to run up scores that would astonish most bridge players.

1 Getting back to politics again --
2 tropical politics this time.

3 Down in Havana an event took place
4 today which causes everything to remain
5 about the same.

6 President Machado has decreed that
7 Cuba is to get along without a
8 Constitution for another ninety days more.
9 He had previously suspended it for sixty
10 days.

11 This, of course, is practically
12 martial law, and the International News
13 Service points out that the strong hand is
14 being held over Cuba for the duration of
15 the tourist season. President Machado
16 prefers not to take any chances while the
17 tourist rush is on.

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At the top of a page in this week's Literary Digest is a row of mysterious, cryptic messages, in handwriting. You'd think they were coded messages used in some dark conspiracy. For example, you see the mysterious, occult phrase "SWEET SPENHEAD." Now what does that mean?

Well, the Digest informs us that these strange cryptograms are notes which people send to the corner drug store, asking for some item or other. And oh, what a headache those druggists must get trying to figure them out.

For instance, a customer wrote a note asking for SWEET SPENHEAD. What was meant was SWEET SPIRITS OF NITER. Another customer's note asked for MENTAL SOLESSOLAY. That mean METHYL SALICYLATE.

~~Then there was ABERIGAIL OIL. That is~~
~~AGAROL.~~ Another masterpiece reads: "PLEASE GIVE CHILD 10¢ HORSESEFETTEE." What the lady really wanted was ASAFETIDA.

Well, the Digest further informs us that these strange hieroglyphics were all deciphered and the orders were filled.

Yes, the druggist is a mighty man.

1 They've had another riot in the
2 Japanese Parliament, something like the
3 disturbance I told about ~~that~~ last night.

4 This time the scrap took place in
5 the lobby of the House of Parliament and
6 in the room where the Budget Committee
7 was to meet.

8 According to the International
9 News Service, the fight started when
10 members of the opposition tried to stop
11 the Budget Committee from holding a
12 meeting. Fists flew and missiles were
13 hurled, and several members of the
14 Japanese Parliament were battered and
15 bruised.

1 This evening's news from India is
2 not too optimistic -- that is, there
3 doesn't seem to be much prospect of peace
4 in that vast Asiatic subcontinent.

5 Ghandi and the Nationalist Party
6 apparently are going to turn down the
7 British offer of self-government.

8 According to the Associated Press,
9 one of the delegates to the Round Table
10 Conference is on his way to confer with
11 Ghandi. And the Mahatma is said to
12 believe that Delegate Sapru is bringing
13 him a private message from Prime Minister
14 MacDonald. But Sapru has no such message.

15 And so that strange and paradoxical
16 movement of non-violent rebellion seems
17 likely to go on and on.

AFRIDIS

Now comes word of wild doings out in one of the wildest parts of the world.

On the northwest frontier in India the British have fought an important battle with the Afridi tribesmen. Those wild mountaineers are always in a state of chronic rebellion and of late they have been more troublesome than usual. The British Tommies advanced against the Afridi. Artillery, armored cars and airplanes advanced also. After a severe fight among the jagged hills the tribesmen were driven from their strongholds.

That word Afridi brings back memories. I did a lot of rambling over those wild mountains. For months I lived with those fierce Afridis giants. One thing that struck me was the constant evidence of their blood feuds. They are never at peace. When they're not fighting the British they are fighting among themselves.

I noticed that the women at work in the field all wore bright red baggy trousers and an Afridi told me why. The tribesmen have quite a chivalrous idea about women. No woman is ever killed in those savage feuds. Of course, there might be a

mistake and as the men and women both wear trousers a feud fighter might accidentally mistake a woman for a man in the distance, and shoot her, and so when a feud is on the women always wear bright red trousers, which distinguishes them from the men and saves them from the flying bullets.

Well, our time is up - and as the Afridis say:-

Salaam Alicum, and,

SO LONG UNTIL MONDAY.