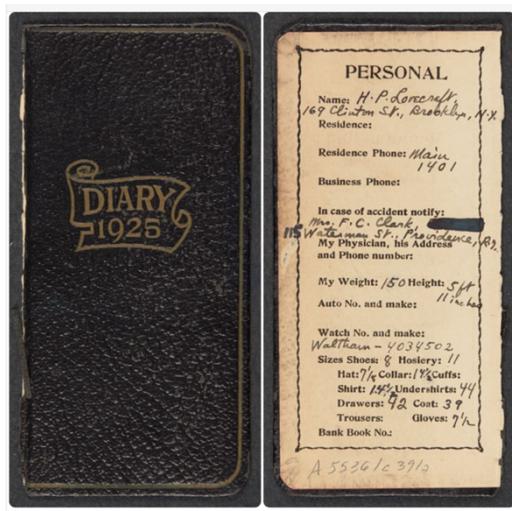


1925-2025
UN AN AVEC HOWARD PHILLIPS LOVECRAFT
#16 | 16 JANVIER 1925



« 1925-2025, un an avec Howard Phillips Lovecraft » est une proposition du site Tiers Livre, à partir du « diary » tenu par l'auteur tout au long de l'année 1925 à New York. Il comporte pour chaque envoi : la notation logoglyphe originale de Howard Phillips Lovecraft, sa traduction/expansion française, un commentaire ou développement portant sur les références et le contexte, ainsi que la traduction brève d'un article du *New York Times* du jour. L'envoi (PDF double page) est accompagné d'un fac-similé du journal de Lovecraft à la date correspondante (source : Brown University), d'illustrations ou fac-similé pris au *New York Times* du jour, ou de photographie d'archives de la ville du New York des années 20.

Saw SH off - shopping for S1 deal **FBI**
Fin 81 - ~~not~~ ^{more} than 50% **16**

Fix SL now - trips to office - find **16**
SL & TRK at 46.9 - MCN & SPL arrive,
conversed ^{at 50 p.m.} to SL's - surprised
break up ^{at} L.A. - JK MCN & SPL stay
- HP & JK to 106 St. Tall - sleep **SAT.**

FRI.

16

SAT.

17



Cafeteria, Brooklyn, années 1920.

[1925, vendredi 16 janvier]

Saw SH off — shopping for SL desk Fix SL room — trips to & fro — find SL & RK at 169 — McN & GK arrive, converse — cafeteria adjourn to SL's — surprise — break up 2 a m — GK McN & HPL subway — HP & GK to 106 St. Talk — sleep.

Au revoir à Sonia qui part. Dernières courses pour les cadeaux à Loveman, j'installe tout dans sa chambre. Différents aller-retours. Retrouvé Loveman et Kleiner au 169. McNeil arrive avec Kirk. On discute. Attente cafétéria jusqu'à l'arrivée de Loveman. Sa surprise. On se quitte à 2 heures du matin. Kirk, McNeil & Lovecraft en métro. Je raccompagne Kirk 106^e rue, on parle, je dors chez lui.

La surprise à Loveman pour son anniversaire, que Lovecraft décrit comme « complète et extatique », en tout cas pour lui-même une émotion sans commune mesure avec le sec au-revoir à Sonia repartie pour Cincinnati ? Ils ont déniché à pas trop cher une jolie bibliothèque de bois noir à porte vitrée et motifs dorés (ses préférences à lui, Lovecraft, comme par hasard), et avec deux tiroirs sous les étagères, précisera-t-il dans sa description à Lilian, dans un magasin d'occasion, après une recherche qu'il dit *hectic* : les ressources de ces messieurs les contraignant à la trouvaille. On se souvient qu'il a la clé de Loveman, les conspirateurs ont tout installé, puis iront l'attendre à la cafétéria du quartier, chez Tiffany. Vases, coupes, reproduction au mur, chandelles, papier et crayons : *his rapture was of appropriate magnitude*, au mot à mot « son ravissement fut d'une amplitude appropriée », c'est le remerciement aux frères, à peu près proportionnel à la réaction inverse de Lovecraft, quelques mois plus tard, quand il décidera qu'il a assez perdu de temps avec la bande et qu'il est temps de se remettre à écrire. Entrée en scène d'Henry Everett McNeil (1862-1929), donc presque vingt ans de plus que Lovecraft, qu'il a rencontré en septembre 1922. Il est un des premiers à l'avoir poussé à écrire pour le nouveau magazine, *Weird Tales*, lancé en mars 1923 mais qui ne prendra son essor que ce printemps, notamment via la nouvelle d'Houdini. McNeil est membre du Kalem Club, mais ses très pauvres conditions de vie, dans le Hell's Kitchen de New York, sa mésentente avec Leeds contribueront à une progressive relégation du groupe — Kirk notamment disant qu'il « écrit pour les adolescents et a le même âge mental ». Ses contes sur fond historique, connaîtront un succès tardif, trop tard pour la maladie qui l'emporte en 1929. Lovecraft lui sera loyal jusqu'au bout (*Tribute on the death of Everett McNeil*). Métro depuis Brooklyn à 2 h du matin : une fois de plus Lovecraft s'héberge 106^e rue Ouest, tout près de Central Park, mais plus qu'une semaine avant que Kirk rejoigne le 169 Clinton

Street, ça n'empêchera pas les bordées de nuit. Les récits de matches de boxe dans le *Times* sont des performances écrites qu'on abordera bientôt, et 16 janvier l'événement en Une c'est la retraite de Benny Leonard, boxeur né dans le ghetto juif de Manhattan, champion des poids-légers, vingt-neuf ans, perdra cependant toutes ses économies dans le crash de 1929 et remontera sur le ring en 1931 pour une suite de combats pathétiques : dur métier, dur destin. Il mourra en 1947. « J'arrête la boxe pour l'amour de ma mère, qui m'a supplié de ne plus jamais combattre. » J'ai préféré cependant cet extrait concernant le rêve de l'inventeur Francis Jenkins, que la postérité n'a pas reconnu : le mot *wireless*, vous savez ? L'arrivée de compagnies *low cost* pour les liaisons paquebot avec l'Europe. Et mon propre cadeau à Samuel Loveman, traducteur de Heine, mais aussi de Baudelaire et Verlaine, ce petit écho bilingue en inversant l'ordre de lecture, quand même il en aurait été bien fier, notre Baudelaire ?

New York Times, 16 janvier 1925. Des expérimentations en projet pour transmettre des films par radio. L'inventeur prédit le cinéma à la maison. Washington, 15 janvier. Francis Jenkins, inventeur, prévoit d'accomplir des essais dans un très proche futur, pour la transmission par radio d'images animées. Il pense que ce sera une des prochaines étapes dans le développement du sans-fil (*wireless*). Les expériences qu'il souhaite mener, il les désigne comme la « radio vision ». Il a construit un petit studio dans son laboratoire, et si ses plans se réalisent, il souhaite y faire danser une pantomime et d'autres mouvements qu'il transmettra par les ondes. Des récepteurs seront installés dans la maison de quelques volontaires pour témoigner que la transmission fonctionne. Ces récepteurs ressembleront à des meubles où, lorsqu'on relèvera le couvercle, apparaîtra un écran sur lequel seront projetées les images, l'appareil ressemblant en gros à nos récepteurs radio d'aujourd'hui. M Jenkins ne s'aventure pas cependant aujourd'hui à une quelconque prédiction sur le succès de son expérience, du moins tant qu'il n'aura pas prouvé une telle possibilité de transmission des images.

Plans Experiments on "Movies" by Radio; Inventor Predicts Cinemas in the Home

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—C. Francis Jenkins, inventor, is planning to conduct tests in the near future of wireless transmission of motion pictures. He believes this will be one of the next stages in the development of wireless. The experiments are to be conducted in what he designates as "radio vision."

A small studio is to be rigged up in his laboratory, if plans materialize, in which will be dancing pantomimes and other movements for sending over the

air. Receiving sets will be installed in a few homes to ascertain if the transmission is successful. These sets will consist of boxlike affairs which, when the lid is raised, will reveal a screen with the motion pictures cast thereon, the instrument being turned on in somewhat the same fashion as a radio program is found now.

Mr. Jenkins would venture no predictions tonight as to the success of the tests, although he has forecast the possibility of such transmission of pictures.

See "Betty Lee" at 44th St. Theatre.
Funniest musical comedy in town.—Advt.

LINCOLN MOTOR CARS.
Fuller-Luce, 217 W. 57. Circle 6363.—Advt.

ANNEXE

Frank Belknap Long, traducteur de Baudelaire

Thou art a sky of autumn, clear and rose !

Vous êtes un beau ciel d'automne, clair et rose !

But in my blood a sadness like the sea

Mais la tristesse en moi monte comme la mer,

Is leashed in flowing by these lips morose,

Et laisse en refluant sur ma lèvre morose,

Bitter with ooze of poignant memory.

Le souvenir cuisant de son limon amer.

Thy sinuous hand glides on my swooning breast ;

Ta main se glisse en vain sur mon sein qui se pâme,

That, which it seeks, love, is a place unfit,

Ce qu'elle cherche, amie, est un lieu saccagé

Where fang and tooth of woman found behest.

Par la griffé et la dent féroce de la femme,

Seek not my heart; the brutes have eaten it.

Ne cherchez plus mon cœur, les bêtes l'ont mangé.

My heart's a mansion by the mob opprest ;

Mon cœur est un palais flétri par la cohue,

They drink, they slay, they hale me by the hair !

On s'y soûle, on s'y tue, on s'y prend aux cheveux !

A perfume swims upon thy naked breast.

Un parfum nage autour de votre gorge nue !...

O beauty, scourge, and deeper than despair !

Ô beauté, dur fléau des âmes, tu le veux !

With eyes of fire, lustrous as at thy feasts,

Avec tes yeux de feux, brillants comme des fêtes,

Calcine these tatters left me by the beasts !

Calcine ces lambeaux qu'ont épargnés les bêtes !

LEONARD QUILTS RING ON MOTHER'S PLEA

Lightweight Champion Says
Her Fears He Will Be Hurt
Force Retirement.

SAYS HE WILL BOX NO MORE

Stage Career and Moving Picture Engagements Will Replace His Old Activities.

"I am retiring from boxing for the love of my mother, who has begged me not to fight again."

With this statement Benny Leonard, world's lightweight champion, last night announced his retirement from the ring. The announcement, contained in a statement covering five typewritten pages and signed by Leonard, sets at rest conflicting reports which have been in circulation for the past year. Leonard has decided to confine the ring and probably will confine his future activities to the stage or to motion picture work.

The champion is expected back in this city from Lakewood, N. J., today. According to his schedule he will be here for only a few hours, leaving there for Chicago, where he is to open a fifteen weeks' vaudeville engagement on Monday, working his way back East.

Leonard's retirement, it was announced, was prompted by the objections of his mother to his continuing in the ring. The title holder stated that this, together with the fact that he had become convinced that if he remained active as a boxer, it would prove dangerous for his mother to witness his action. Fears for her son's safety and the ever present thought that he might come home from a fight bearing injuries made his mother apprehensive and made her insist in the statement that he retire from the ring, the statement said.

Saw Champion Train.

His mother's fears became so great of late, Leonard said in his statement, that Gibson, his manager, called him on the phone not long ago, following a meeting with the champion's mother, in which, according to Leonard's account, of the conversation between himself and Gibson, his mother cried and sought to induce the boxer to quit. Leonard retires. In this conversation, Leonard said, Gibson advised him to retire, saying that "the shock of another fight will be too much for her."

His mother's fears reached an alarming state during the period he was at Tannersville, N. Y., training for his bout against Lew Trotter in 1926. Leonard said. At the camp, Leonard's statement said, his mother became familiar with the necessary demands of camp life and grew alarmed when she witnessed the drawn appearance of his face as the champion went through the task of making weight, and, rather than witnessing "how all these things as hardships for her boy, Benny."

Says He Beat Them All.

In his statement Leonard said in part: "During the last three years I fought my biggest ring battles. I fought Jack Britton, Lew Tendler twice, Richie Mitchell, Pinkey Mitchell, Rocky Kansas twice, Sailor Friedman, Joe Welling, Pal Moran, Ever Hanner, Charlie White—all the real contenders. I fought

IDENTIFIES CHAPMAN AS MAIL TRAIN THIEF

Clerk Who Was Held Up Picks
Out Leonard St. Bandit in
Rogues' Gallery.

DETECTIVES ARE SKEPTICAL

Believe Famous Robber Is Living
Abroad—Fingerprints
Found on Pouch Tag.

Photographs of Gerald Chapman, mail robber and jail breaker, were identified yesterday as those of the man who stole a mail pouch containing \$10,000 from a Long Island train at New York on Tuesday by John P. Greene, the railway mail clerk who was held up. Notwithstanding the certainty of Greene, however, detectives and postal inspectors were skeptical. Chief Inspector C. C. Claranhan said he thought Greene was mistaken, and others were confident that the robber, who is said to be living abroad on the \$2,000,000 he got when he robbed a mail truck two years ago at Leonard Street. Chapman made a sensational escape from the Alameda penitentiary.

The dinner was given at the Waldorf-Astoria by former Controller Herman A. Metz, and the eighty persons present included the Deputy and honorary Police Commissioners, city officials, men of affairs and other personal friends of the guest of honor. Mayor Hylan did not attend, but he and Governor Smith sent congratulatory messages.

The identification system suggested by the Commissioner is in effect in Buenos Aires. There cards are refused to persons with criminal records and employment is denied to those without cards.

"If I can get the support of the press and of the civic organizations," the Commissioner said, "we can establish this system at Police Headquarters. We will charge a small fee for the card. That would pay the expenses and we would have a tidy sum as well to put in our Pension Fund."

There is another thing that ought to be done here, and that is the registration of aliens. There is a situation that breaks out in this city every now and then and we can't help it. I mean the tattooed people in Chinatown. We can't get anywhere with it. We can't get evidence or conviction. Now where do these people come from? How do they get here? They're not citizens. Why can't we have them registered?"

Speaking of the international police conference, Commissioner Enright said the meeting next May would be the largest gathering of police chiefs ever held. They would come from all parts of the world.

"We are learning a great deal from one another," he said. "We have made many improvements as a result of these conferences, and we are going to get what you might call a perfect, efficient, centralized department in every country in the world."

"In London they have a central system of criminal records. They have them in Paris, too. We have no such thing here. We have down at Police Headquarters more than 500,000 records and fingerprints, but that is less than one-half of the police organizations in the country. There should be a central headquarters. It should be established at Washington under the National Government."

"Some time ago former President Taft started the country when he said that 10,000 persons were done to death by criminals in this country every year. That was taken up by the Bar Association. They found it was true. They found that 7,000 of those 10,000 persons were killed with pistols. We should have a Federal law prohibiting the sale of pistols. If we had that we would cut down crime."

ENRIGHT WOULD FINGER-PRINT US ALL

Compulsory Identification System for Every Citizen Is Proposed by Commissioner.

DINERS WELCOME HIM HOME

He Also Would Register Aliens and
Put Federal Ban on Pistols
to Curb Crime.

Police Commissioner Enright, speaking last night at a dinner welcoming him home from his two months' trip to South America, advocated a system of identification whereby every one would have to carry a police card containing his photograph and fingerprints. While the Commissioner did not specify women, he was understood to have included them.

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GIRL, 16, KILLS MOTHER BECAUSE OF SCOLDING

Held for Murder in San Francisco,
She Regrets Act—Diary Tells
of Night Life Adventures.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 15.—Dorothy Ellingson, 16, who confessed to the police today that she shot and killed her mother last Tuesday morning in a fit of anger, is sorry now.

When the girl was first arrested this morning in a rooming house, where she had registered under an assumed name, she appeared calm and unconcerned. After she had been booked at Police Headquarters and formally charged with murder and placed behind the bars, she became remorseful. Relatives and newspaper men visited the girl and to them she expressed sorrow. She told a straightforward story after admitting she shot her mother.

Miss Ellingson told the police that she had a deep seated grievance against her mother, but that she shot her in a moment of anger and resentment because her mother demanded that she cease "running around so much late at night." The girl frankly confessed being a frequenter of San Francisco's night life cafés and dancehalls.

In a diary found among her belongings, the girl said, she had written of adventures in the city's night life and the names of many well known "jazz" musicians in the city, some of whom have been questioned by the police.

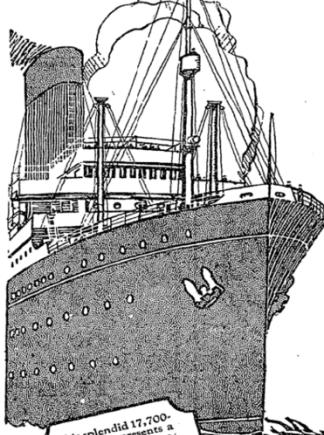
A man known as Harry Lesser and also as Harry Chinette has been arrested on a charge of contributing to the girl's delinquency, and a warrant has been issued for Keith Lord, a musician.

The police said tonight it was a case of lack of discipline in early youth. At 12 years of age the girl became for a time a charge of the juvenile authorities. Her parents separated and, according to statements of the police from relatives, the separation resulted from a disagreement between them over the management of the girl.

Because she is under 18, she cannot be hanged in California, as the law prohibits the execution of minors.

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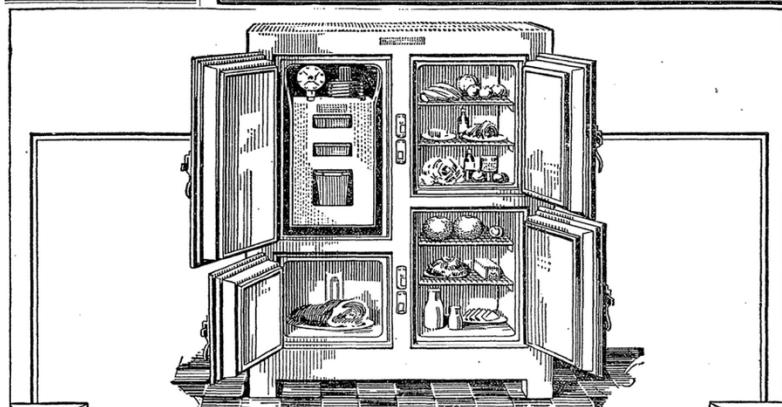
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