



1925-2025

UN AN AVEC HOWARD PHILLIPS LOVECRAFT

#44 | 13 FÉVRIER 1925

Comment je vais est une question d'appréciation. Tu vois, Lucy, c'est comme ça. Parfois c'est joyeux et parfois ça ne l'est pas. Parfois, je n'arrive pas à dormir. D'autres fois, incapable d'aller marcher. D'autres fois encore, incapable de même m'allonger. Et jamais capable de m'asseoir. En général, pas possible de rester éveillé. Je n'arrive jamais à manger, même s'il m'arrive souvent de trop manger, jusqu'à en être malade. S'il n'y avait pas ces problèmes, je me porterais très bien, je te l'assure... Si tu es de retour à Cleveland, et je pense que c'est le cas, ne t'occupe pas de ce vieux poème *Erster Stew*: HPL en a retrouvé une copie qu'il a envoyée à sa tante. Je suis dans cet immeuble de vingt-cinq logements et je m'y sens bien. Je ne suis pas toujours fourré avec RK [Kleiner], bien qu'il vienne ici de temps en temps, ou le contraire — il est venu samedi soir dernier, a passé la nuit de dimanche à lundi chez moi et est resté jusqu'à deux heures du matin lundi. Je n'ai pas regretté de le voir partir. Sam [Loveman] est toujours à Brooklyn Heights et prévoit de déménager cette semaine, bien qu'il ne sache pas encore où... Je ne te reproche pas le moins du monde de vouloir que je me fasse soigner les dents, et je le ferai dès que je le pourrai, bien que je n'en aie pas les moyens pour l'instant. J'écrirais bien plus, mais de vieux amis arrivent pour une petite bouchée et une petite tisane (*a bit of a bite and a wee nippee*), et je dois me préparer. J'en ai assez de ce bouillonnement social (*social wool*) et j'essaie vraiment d'y mettre un terme, au moins de le ralentir un peu. Et je me méfie les femmes qui ont un quelconque attrait sexuel. N'est-ce pas ?
George Kirk ou les contradictions, lettre à Lucile, 11 février 1925.

[1925, vendredi 13 février]

Wrote SH — Kirk called — out to Span. Rest. — Loveman's — cafeteria
— home — help GK on text — out to Tiffany — home & bed.

*Écrit à Sonia. Kirk passé. On sort au restaurant espagnol. Puis chez
Loveman. Cafeteria. J'aide Kirk pour son texte. On ressort au
Tiffany. Maison, couché.*

La lettre à Sonia lui demande deux jours. Elle les a détruites, on l'a dit et comment lui en vouloir. Dans cette période, si on suit son *Mémoire sur la vie privée de H.P. Lovecraft*, il lui cite l'exemple d'un couple dont le mari est gravement malade, et donc qui vivent séparés et indépendants sans remettre en cause le mariage : « Mais toi, tu n'es pas gravement malade ? » rétorque Sonia. Et deux fois le restaurant, même si ce sont leurs échoppes à trois sous de Brooklyn — mais il est persuadé, ces jours-ci que *Weird Tales* peut lui assurer entre trente et cinquante dollars mensuels, en sus de l'étroite pension du notaire : il a pris près de 20 kilos depuis son mariage (« il les portait très bien, avec sa haute taille », dit Sonia), mais le demi-tour, qui s'amorce portera sur ça aussi. Dans le journal, des expériences de télépathie : avec l'essor de la radio et d'autres prouesses technologiques, pourquoi n'y croirait-on pas ? Nouvel espoir à mesure que les sauveteurs approchent de Floyd Collins, mais confirmation de deux cents mineurs tués dans la Ruhr. Une femme nommée directrice de banque, ça ne s'est jamais vu, mais ça ne change rien à la lutte contre les bas salaires féminins. Et c'est aussi au sommaire du *Literary Digest* : de l'égalité des noms des époux sur leur tombe. L'héroïne en usage médicamenteux ? C'est précisément ce que tente au même moment le docteur Toulouse à Saint-Cloud sur Antonin Artaud. Et le concours des plus beaux chiens de New York.

New York Times, 12 février 1925. De Londres, le 12 février, câble spécial pour le New York Times. De nouveaux exemples d'expériences remarquables dans la transmission de la pensée à distance ont été menées par le professeur Gilbert Murray, avec la participation du comte de Balfour, et certifiés par un rapport de Mme Henry Sidgwick, qui l'a soumis à l'Association de recherche psychologique. Le rapport passe en revue les résultats de 259 expériences, menées sur plusieurs années, et mettent en évidence la capacité du professeur Murray à décrire avec précision et en détail une variété surprenante de scènes et d'incidents, réels et imaginaires, et de retrouver des phrases dites en dehors de sa présence. La méthode employée par le professeur c'est de sortir de la pièce dans laquelle le sujet est interrogé par une personne agissant comme principal intermédiaire des autres personnes présentes dans le cercle. Le professeur Murray revient alors, et s'efforce de re répéter les mots du sujet ou de décrire l'incident auquel

TELEPATHIC FEATS BY PROF. MURRAY

He Succeeds in Scores of Experiments, Reading Thoughts Expressed in His Absence.

SUGGESTS A SIXTH SENSE

Thinks This Might Explain an Otherwise Unaccountable Faculty of Perception.

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Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

LONDON, Feb. 12.—Further instances of remarkable experiments in thought transference carried out by Professor Gilbert Murray, in which the Earl of Balfour recently participated, are recorded in a paper by Mrs. Henry Sidgwick submitted to the Society for Psychical Research. The paper reviews the results of 269 experiments, spread over many years, and reveals Professor Murray's ability to describe faithfully and in detail an amazing variety of scenes and incidents, real and imaginary, and to repeat quotations—all arranged when he was out of earshot.

The method employed is for the professor to go out of the room in which the subject is decided on and announced aloud by a person acting as principal agent to other persons in the circle. Professor Murray then returns, endeavors to repeat the words of the subject or describe the incident to which it refers. Thirty-six persons at different times have taken the part of principal agent and about twenty others have been present on different occasions. Professor Murray in his presidential addresses to the society in 1915, suggested that he got into a state of slight hyperaesthesia and was particularly sensitive to every kind of impression, noises, for instance, becoming intolerable. He added:

Possibility of a Sixth Sense.

"But we must be prepared for the possibility that there is a sense of perception not confined to the canonical five channels of sight, sound, smell, taste and touch. Thus I should be inclined provisionally to admit the likelihood that we may become directly sensitive to another person's state of mind."

Mrs. Sidgwick's comment on this is:

"In this last sentence Professor Murray, of course, admits the probability that telepathy has operated, but without committing himself to telepathy's being a purely physical process. He leaves the way open, as I understand him, to the theory which used to be described as brain waves."

Mrs. Sidgwick reviews the chances of the five recognized senses—sight, taste, touch, hearing and smell—having operated in the case. She says:

"As against the theory of hearing is the instance in which Mrs. Arnold Toynbee, Professor Murray's daughter, says: 'I'll think of Margaret K. at a particular restaurant in Munich where I used to have lunch.' Professor Murray enters and says: 'It's some girl I don't know—Cambridge girl, I think. I can't get it clear. Is she standing in a restaurant or something like that?'"

"Arnold Toynbee, the agent, says: 'I'll do Rip Van Winkle coming down the mountain.' Professor Murray says: 'Oh, I've got this. It's an old sort of gnome-like person with a matted beard, coming down with a very funny feeling of expecting to be known and find things—oh, it's Rip Van Winkle.'"

"There are two instances where the idea required is introduced by feeling or an appropriate smell. Patrick Murray, agent, says: 'A lion in the Zoo, trying to reach a large piece of meat just outside his cage.' Professor Murray says: 'A sort of smell of wild animals, carnivorous animals, something grabbing through the air a piece of meat at a Zoo. I don't know the animal.'"

DEAD IN RUHR MINE MAY NUMBER 200

Bodies Brought to Surface of Minister Stein Shaft in Dortmund Already Total 138.

GAS KILLS TWO RESCUERS

Fire and Collapse of Tunnel Roofs Hamper Work—Frantic Watchers Break Police Line.

By T. R. YBARRA.

Copyright, 1923, by The New York Times Company.
By Wirelens to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BERLIN, Feb. 12.—Probably 200 or more miners, according to a late estimate, perished in last night's explosion of firedamp at the Minister Stein coal mine, at Dortmund, one of the greatest catastrophes of its kind ever recorded in Germany.

So far 138 bodies have been brought to the surface. The gas is still so heavy in the first level that it has been impossible to reach the dead there, and two of the rescuers have already succumbed to its effects. Moreover, the work of rescue has to be proceeded with cautiously because the explosion was so terrific that the pit props in the levels near the shaft were destroyed and the roofs caved in.

President Ebert today sent a telegram of condolence to the Mining Superintendent of Dortmund and informed him that 50,000 marks from the President's emergency fund had been placed at his disposal for the relief of the widows and orphans of the victims.

Chancellor Hurries to Scene.

Cutting short his stay at Karlsruhe, where he has been visiting Baden's state officials and had planned a speech tonight, Chancellor Luther today went to Dortmund. The Chancellor, President Loebe of the Reichstag, Over President Gronowski of Westphalia and other leading men telegraphed condolences.

The pit mouth has been surrounded ever since the explosion by a crowd of weeping women and children, who are enraged because the mine officials are not giving out details and who twice succeeded in breaking through the police cordon surrounding the shaft.

All Germany has forgotten for the moment its political quarrels and unsavory scandals in grief over the calamity and sorrow for the victims. All flags in Dortmund have been half-masted and all places of amusement closed.

The explosion appears to have begun near the shaft so that its full force was felt in all three levels, the lowest of which is 550 yards deep. Miners near the shaft were blown many feet and mangled beyond recognition, but the dead elsewhere died of suffocation.

The rescuers found in one place this chalked inscription on the wall:

"All well up to 11 o'clock. Nine men." Underneath the inscription lay all nine hopeful workers, killed by the poisonous gases which they had pathetically hoped to escape.

At another point three brothers were found dead, locked in one another's arms.

The State mine, which belongs to the

CAVE DRILL REACHES A CAVERNOUS AREA; NEW RESCUE HOPE

But Engineers Admit Seven-Foot Section of Limestone Is Big Obstacle.

SHAFT IS NOW DOWN 53 FEET

Optimistic Workers Think They May Reach Passageway to Collins at Any Moment.

BUT OTHERS ARE DUBIOUS

Progress Is Slow All Day Because of Constant Need of Re-timbering.

Special to The New York Times.

CAVE CITY, Ky., Friday, Feb. 12.—Sand Cave may give up its victim at any hour in the next twenty-four, the mining engineers who have been making such a gallant fight to wrest Floyd Collins from his subterranean prison of fourteen days indicated this early this morning.

The situation in the shaft which is being sunk to reach the captive man or take out his body was set forth as follows at midnight in a bulletin issued by H. E. S. Posey, Executive Secretary of the State Highway Commission, personal representative of Governor Fields:

Thursday, Feb. 12.—12 P. M.—Clear and cold.

The shaft is now 48 feet below the top of the timber, or 53 feet below the top of the ground. Material is a mass of limestone boulders. The core drill in the shaft went through four feet of muck to the 50-foot mark, showing a ledge of limestone where it is now drilling. The drill is somewhat delayed on account of the water line freezing.

Most of the afternoon was consumed in putting the last set of timbers, as we are handling about four times the amount of material in the shaft on account of sides caving in.

The same forces are working tonight as were working this afternoon. The rock we have reached shows beyond a doubt we are now in a cavernous area.

A Louisville newspaper is installing a radio broadcasting station at Sand Cave.

Figuring the Situation.

The statement that "the rock we have reached shows beyond a doubt we are now in a cavernous area," means that the barrel-like passage way in which Collins is pinioned by a falling boulder may be reached at any time, although the more conservative engineers do not look for immediate results.



MRS. WILLIAM LAIMBEER
First Woman to Become a National City Bank Official.

WOMAN WINS PLACE AS BANK EXECUTIVE

**Mrs. William Laimbeer, Widow,
Will Control New Department in the National City.**

WON RECOGNITION IN WAR

**Remarkable Rise in 12 Years to
High Position in Finance,
Praised in Society Circles.**

Over the Lincoln Day teas and luncheons yesterday society in New York was chatting about the remarkable rise in finance of Mrs. William Laimbeer.

Mrs. Laimbeer had never done a stroke of work as a wage earner until twelve years ago. Then came the death in an automobile accident on Long Island of her husband, the late William Laimbeer, who was prominent in society and also in Wall Street, where he was a partner of the old Stock Exchange firm of Bishop, Laimbeer & Co., and upon Mrs. Laimbeer was thrust the problem of caring for herself and her three children. This she solved by going to work. In the twelve years since she has carried herself, so her friends said yesterday, to an important executive position with the National City Bank of New York. She will have charge of all business done by the bank with women.

As to when she will assume her new office, what her official title will be, these and other details could not be learned yesterday. Inquiries were referred to the National City Bank and this was closed on account of the holiday. Charles E. Mitchell, the bank's President, could not be reached in his retreat in Tuxedo Park, and Lee Olwell, the bank's Executive Vice President, was somewhere off the coast of Florida en route to Cuba.

LADY ASTOR ATTACKS LOW PAY FOR GIRLS

**Urges Women to Study Evils of
Dark Places—Gives New M.
P. Advice on Clothes.**

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
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LONDON, Feb. 12.—Lady Astor, who is a Conservative M. P., in a speech today to the women's Conservative meeting, delivered an indictment of the Conservative Party for its apathy. Declaring vested interests were too strong in the party, she urged women to fight the interests which put welfare of certain trades and industries against true interests of the country at large. Most of the matters she desired to talk about, she said, were not fit for the public mind, but if evils were to be cured they had to be spoken of and women must go into the dark places of the country and see for themselves.

"Prostitution comes from sweated labor, and 12 shillings 6 pence a week is not enough for any girl to live on," she said.

Miss Ellen Wilkinson, the new Labor M. P., promises to reb Lady Astor of much of the limelight which the latter hitherto has enjoyed in the Commons. Miss Wilkinson, who caused a sensation in the chamber on Tuesday by wearing a green dress, told a reporter yesterday how it cost her only 10 shillings and that she liked a bit of color now and again. On Wednesday, however, she appeared in Parliament in a sober gown which is described as "demure beyond reproach." Lobby gossip has it that the transformation was due to Lady Astor, who begged her to "dress dull." It is stated Lady Astor talked to her in motherly fashion and said, "You're not here to excite an assembly already superheated on every occasion."

Apart from her dress, however, Miss Wilkinson has provoked much comment because she shingled her hair. Her auburn tresses used to hang to her knees, but the weight of them gave her such headaches, especially during long sittings of Parliament, that she decided to sacrifice them for her comfort.

BAN ON MEDICINES CONTAINING HEROIN

**Geneva Conference Agrees to
Limit Sale to Doctors' Prescriptions
After a Sharp Debate.**

NEW PRINCIPLE IS ADOPTED

**Powers Agree to Strengthen Present
Laws for the Control of the
Production of Opium.**

Copyright, 1925, by The New York Times Company.
Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

GENEVA, Feb. 12.—The opium conference today reached the stage where everybody was dissatisfied. The greatest discontent, however, was that of Great Britain and France with the amendment to Article 1. of the American plan, which they conceived and two days ago persuaded the conference to adopt. It had been promised that this article, which deals with control of production and distribution of raw opium, would be adopted in a form satisfactory even to the Americans. Instead, an amendment providing for unlimited reservations really opened the way for any nation to weaken the Hague convention.

Day before yesterday fourteen American allies abstained from voting on the amendment. Today it disappeared before the first onslaught and after several hours' discussion a substitute article presented by France was adopted. It provides that the signatories shall take measures to enforce the laws executing the provisions of the Hague conventions and where laws not exist to pass suitable stringent laws. It was adopted, 19 to 9. Great Britain and her colonies standing together for the new British draft.

The remainder of the day was given over to heroin, which the Americans wished to abolish. A strong bloc, headed by the French, wanted to permit heroin up to a certain amount in patent medicines. It was contended that no one ever became an addict through patent medicine. In an attempt to drive home this contention M. Bourgeois of France declared he would withdraw the French thesis if it could be shown any addiction was caused by patent medicines containing heroin. The challenge immediately was accepted by the Belgian medical adviser, who knew a number of cases.

In the end it was decided that heroin should be included with those drugs requiring a medical prescription.

GENEVA, Feb. 12 (Associated Press).—Cough drops and patent medicines containing heroin will henceforth be interdicted by reason of a decision by the International Opium Conference today. This victory, which does not go as far as the Americans wished, was attained only after a struggle, because the countries permitting the wholesale manufacture of medicines with a certain percentage of heroin, as allowed by the Hague convention, endeavored to maintain their privilege.

The conference finally voted that all preparations with heroin must be subject to medical prescription. The American delegation when hers had favored total abolition of the manufacture of heroin.

Michael Macwhite of Ireland spoke on the desirability of hurrying the work of examining the draft of the Anti-Narcotic Convention. Unless they accelerated this work, he declared, the delegates would be here until Christmas.

Who Reaps the Riches From \$2.00 Wheat?

AFTER a steady rise for months in wheat prices, on one day in January the Chicago Wheat Pit burst into a wild frenzy as May wheat skyrocketed to the peace-time record price of \$2.05 1/2 a bushel.

As wheat prices soar the newspapers tell of the great operators making their millions in the wheat market, and of Chicago bootblacks, elevator boys and stenographers drawing down their hundreds or thousands in profits on shoe-string margin speculation.

In the Emporia (Kansas) Gazette we read that wheat "is liable to be one of the precious jewels of the earth if the shortage of this year holds over until next. In the meantime out in Western Kansas the snow is peeling off the wheat, and showing it

looking like a million dollars. Another big wheat crop in Kansas with prices ranging over a dollar will put diamond pants buttons on the Kansas farmers."

But there is another aspect to this strange eventful drama—flour selling in San Francisco at \$11.40 a barrel, the highest price since 1868; another sou added to the price of the Frenchman's bread; another penny added to the cost of the quarter loaf in London; predictions of price advances of one or two cents a loaf for bread in our cities, and calculations by experts that the high price of wheat will mean an increase of \$13 a year in the average family's food expenditure.

All the humor, the tragedy, the glamorous tales of sudden riches, are reflected in the comprehensive story of wheat speculation in this week's Literary Digest (February 14 Issue). It will furnish valuable information to any business man and farmer, to any one—for all of us are affected.

Can the American Farmer Prosper Without a European Market?

THE recommendations of the Agricultural Conference include this: "The American farmer can neither compete with imported agricultural products created through cheap foreign labor and lower standards of living, nor can he compete in foreign markets for the sale of his products at world price levels created by supply and demand arising out of foreign productive standards and foreign buying power."

According to Mark Sullivan in his New York Herald Tribune Washington correspondence: "The policy which America is moving toward, as yet gropingly, is one of withdrawing to itself a self-contained country, and trying to maintain our high standard of living by avoiding the competition of Europe, in either the role of buyer or of seller. A fairly certain result of that policy should express itself in advocacy of a tariff that will be protective beyond the previous standards of protective tariffs."

"The Pig Is Out of the Bag—and Isn't It a Bird of a Pig!"

exclaims the Omaha World-Herald as it contemplates the tariff recommendations of the Agricultural Commission. And this Nebraska paper continues ironically:

"The farmer is to become prosperous by surrendering his foreign market—which is just now pushing wheat above the two-dollar mark—and depending upon the domestic market. And the domestic market is to be made just as profitable to him as he deserves by means of protective tariffs."

"Down, in other words, with Europe! No more cotton, no more wheat, no more beef, no more pork, for the condemned foreigners. Let them dress themselves in silk and linens and eat frogs."

"And up, UP, UP, with the great American appetite! Let us require every patriotic American to eat two loaves of bread where he ate one before—and by

beneficent tariffs let us compel him to pay twice as much for each loaf as he pays now. Let us stuff him with pork-chops and beefsteaks till he bursts. And if he is taken down with dyspepsia, let us limit production till he is well again. If he goes broke trying to pay the price, we can, of course, raise his wages, and we can share the wages in the price of the commodity he produces, and the farmer can join with the rest of us in paying the increase."

"And so up and up and around and around, in the merriest, maddest, most enriching whirligig a startle sun ever shone down upon."

For a complete reflex of public opinion upon this most important of subjects to the business man, the farmer, and, in fact, every citizen, don't fail to read "The Digest" this week.

Other Big News-Features in This Week's Literary Digest—News-stands—To-day—10 Cents

The Conviction of Colonel Forbes

To End War "Do It Now"

German Rage at the Allied Stay at Cologne

Impending Changes in Spain

The Child's Disordered Speech

Radio and Real Estate

Artificial Sugar

A British View of "Eminent" Americans

The Evolution in Slang

The Unfrocking of Bishop Brown

The Centenary of the Collar

Men from the West Now Rule in the Senate

Side-Stepping a Hungry Cannibal

The High Cost of Watching Other People Play

Baseball Crusaders and the Sporting Spirit

The Making of a Bottle

She Wanted a WHOLE Tombstone!

All the rest of it is a story of a woman who wanted a whole tombstone for her husband's grave. The story is told in a most interesting and humorous way.

A WOMAN OF FIFTY

A woman of fifty, who has been married for twenty years, is the subject of a most interesting and humorous story. The story is told in a most interesting and humorous way.

Many Interesting Illustrations, Including the Best of the Week's Cartoons

The Literary Digest

PUBLISHED BY THE LITERARY DIGEST COMPANY (Publishers of the Famous NEW Standard Dictionary) NEW YORK

It Solves Your Cross-Word Puzzles

These puzzles are one of the most popular and interesting of all the puzzles. They are solved by the use of the words and phrases given in the puzzle.

English Synonyms, Antonyms and Propositions

This is a most interesting and humorous story. The story is told in a most interesting and humorous way.



WHEN
a wealthy English Baronet was forced
to pawn his coat

Unquestionably, Sir John was pawning his coat. He, Sir John Paston, one of 17th Century Britain's wealthiest men, was certainly passing over his doublet in exchange for a coin or two.

FROM which scene it would be easy for the modern observer to get a wrong impression. He might easily imagine that Sir John had been enjoying himself in some mad escapade. He might even conclude that the Baronet was raising every possible farthing to put through some deal.

But both conclusions would be wrong. Like other rich men of his day, Sir John protected his wealth by putting it into gold and silver plate,

chains, brooches, silks and damasks, which often were difficult to quickly turn into cash. This possessor of 16 thousand ounces of plate was frequently at his wit's end for the wherewithal to keep on speaking terms with his butcher, baker and his candlestick-maker.

In those days, there were no stocks, no bonds, or other present familiar types of investment. To make provision for his family, a man was forced to invest in precious metals, jewels and rich clothes and garments.

Today there are plenty of ways of investing money—good, bad and indifferent. The difficulty is in choosing wisely.

The Seaboard has a service to help its depositors select investments wisely. It offers many advantages. We have no stocks or bonds of our own to sell, but we do have unusual facilities for obtaining information on the standing of most securities that are offered or held. These facts, free from self-interest, are at the disposal of Seaboard depositors who ask for them.

Because of the amount of work involved, this investment counsel is supplied only to Seaboard depositors, but we would be glad to have others consider this valuable feature of Seaboard service in connection with their deposit accounts.

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