

WED.
18 *bed for SIC - delgros - home -
write letter to wife -
up noon - read - out to Tiffey -
ret. - read - SIC brief all - read
more - SIC arr - grapefruit - read
more. - retired*

1925-2025

UN AN AVEC HOWARD PHILLIPS LOVECRAFT

#76 | 18 MARS 1925



Première mention dans le New York Times des conditions d'hygiène et de santé dans les réserves indiennes, rares sont les documents qui échappent aux archéotypes convenus d'avance.

[1925, mercredi 18 mars]

Up noon — read — out to Tiffany — ret. & read — GK brief call — read
more — SH arr. — grapefruit — read more — retired.

*Levé midi. Lu. Sorti dîner au Tiffany. Revenu, lu. Bref passage de Kirk.
Continué à lire. Retour de Sonia avec des pamplemousses.
Lu encore. Couché.*

Parfois on souhaiterait que Lovecraft, au lieu de dire qu'il lit, nous dise ce qu'il a lu ou relu. Poésie, histoire, magazines aussi. Les romans sont plus rares, en général il les signale — quand on retrouvera les lettres, le 2 avril, il mentionnera être depuis plusieurs jours à lire des livres prêtés par James Morton, dont un volume des *Mille et une nuits*. Ou alors comme une sorte de mise en carapace dans l'impossibilité à vivre en couple : trop facile. Mais c'est cet enfermement qui compte, soit : « lu [...] lu [...] lu encore [...] lu encore ». L'assise mentale qui se crée en soi-même à force de ce temps d'une activité inaccessible à soi-même, puisqu'à l'arrière-fond du mental. Dans le journal, pour une fois, écho à la réalité indienne (et incidemment la preuve que d'autres positions sociales sont intellectuellement assumées par d'autres que Lovecraft). Retour à ces moments d'enfoncement dans la lecture, et comment son propre imaginaire est au travail dans la tension du lire : en 1933 (cf dossier réservé), Lovecraft établit pour lui-même des résumés d'histoires surnaturelles — en voici trois, uniquement pour une raison, la part de l'imaginaire urbain, et Brooklyn donc, dans ce travail souterrain en amont des grandes fictions. Et l'occasion de découvrir Waldo Elwyn Backus, qui a le même âge que Lovecraft mais ne mourra, en Floride, qu'en 1979...

New York Times, 18 mars 1925. Les conditions de santé dans les Réserves indiennes sont pires que dans n'importe quel endroit du pays, selon le Dr Haven Emerson, professeur de Santé publique à Columbia, et ex-président de la Commission pour la santé publique, qui hier a pris la parole au Commodore devant l'Association de défense des Indiens d'Amérique. Le Dr Emerson s'en est pris violemment au Bureau des affaires indiennes de Washington en tant que responsable de ces conditions. « La négligence du gouvernement des États-Unis, a-t-il déclaré, se mesure dans un taux anormalement haut de décès par la tuberculose ou les trachomes (conjonctivites bactériennes contagieuses) parmi les populations indiennes. La grande majorité des médecins affectés aux réserves sont totalement incomptétents. Les personnels de médecine dont on ne veut plus dans les services traditionnels, on les expédie dans les réserves, qui sont devenues le placard aux échecs. » W H Hodge, le directeur du Musée des Indiens d'Amérique, s'en est pris lui aussi à la façon dont le gouvernement prend soin des Indiens et a déclaré que le Bureau des affaires indiennes est sous la coupe des politiciens.

« L'ensemble des employés du Bureau devrait passer sous le régime des affaires civiles. La plupart des médecins ont été l'an dernier moins payés que des cantonniers, et touchent seulement 1 200 ou 1 300 dollars par an. Mais augmenter la paye des incompétents n'améliorera pas les conditions de santé des Indiens. On compte environ 75 000 cas de trachomes dans les tribus, une condition si alarmante qu'il est impossible de mettre en place désormais une politique d'éradication de cette maladie. L'année dernière on a recensé 200 morts de la coqueluche dans les Pueblos, soit 10 % du total de la population. Parmi eux, seulement 27 cas ont été officiellement déclarés à la Commission des affaires indiennes. Lors d'une épidémie d'angines parmi les enfants indiens, j'ai vu un docteur examiner leurs gorges avec la même lamelle. Je préférerais pour moi-même m'en remettre aux vieilles médecines indiennes traditionnelles que dans les mains de tels médecins. Ils font infiniment plus de mal que de bien. » M Hodge, comme plusieurs de ceux qui ont pris la parole, a déclaré qu'on devrait autoriser les Indiens à pratiquer leurs anciens rites religieux. « Envoyer des missionnaires chez les Indiens est une faute inadmissible, a-t-il dit. Leur accorder leur pleine liberté religieuse, ce serait seulement respecter la Constitution. » Les Indiens en général ne sont en rien des paresseux, a déclaré le Dr George Bird Grinnel, écrivain et éditeur, mais ils sont totalement inaptes à se fondre dans la conception du travail de l'homme blanc.

Everyone who is contemplating the purchase of a new car should, in justice to his own peace of mind, and to his pocketbook, give serious consideration to the Wills Sainte Claire.

By "serious consideration" we mean an interview with several Wills Sainte Claire owners who have driven their cars thousands and thousands of miles in the past four years. We mean a ride in the Wills Sainte Claire with you at the wheel on a trip which will give you a vivid picture of the power, the speed, the stamina and the inherent engineering which has caused the Wills Sainte Claire to be regarded in the industry as the most finely engineered and conscientiously built car on the market today.

And we should like to show you, in black and white why it actually costs less, over a period of years, to own a car which holds its youth—a car which grows old gracefully.

We will gladly give the names of Wills Sainte Claire owners and, as suits your convenience, take you out in the car, which does not, of course, incur any obligation to buy. Phone for appointment.

WILLS SAINTE CLAIRE
Motor Cars
The New Six *The Vogue Eight*

SAVES HER TENANTS BUT DIES IN FIRE

Woman Rushes to House From
Marketing and Warns
Sleeping Roomers.

COLLAPSES ON TOP FLOOR

Lodger Whom Fireman Rescued Re-
members Too Late Landlady Is
Still in the Building.

When fire swept through her rooming house at 105 East 11th Street yesterday Mrs. Emma Gunther rushed from her room to rescue several roomers she knew were sleeping. She collapsed on the top floor and died of suffocation and burns before firemen could rescue her.

Mrs. Gunther was a block away when she saw flames bursting from a window. Knowing that Carl Kossack and William Gunther, whose roomers were asleep, she ran through the burning halls shouting warnings. On the top floor she found Kossack, who was slightly affected by the smoke. He managed to get out. Mrs. Gunther then raced to the roof, falling winding up from where a fireman brought him to safety.

While Mrs. Gunther sought Kossack's room the smoke overcame her, and she fell near the top landing. When Kossack took her to the roof she was unconscious. Through the smoke and brought her body to the window. Dr. J. H. Drury of Harlem Hospital and a pulmonist crew worked over her in vain.

Many roomers were taken to Harlem Hospital suffering from burns and smoke inhalation.

The fire completely burned the interior of the building.

In the early morning three other fires in hallways in Harlem apartment houses were discovered. One in 19th Street Station and two investigators from the Bureau of Investigation found the pyramids must have been set on fire. In each instance a bundle of rags and matches were found. The fires were quickly extinguished, but several dozen families were driven to the streets. They sought shelter in 10th Street, 100 East 12th Street and 102 East 176th Street. There was little damage.

AMERICAN ACCUSED AS LONDON 'CHARLATAN'

Bow Street Police Recommend De-
portation for Homer Tyrell Lane,
Psychoanalist, 'Individualist.'

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By Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

LONDON, March 17.—Homer Tyrell Lane, American psychiatrist, was charged today by Bow Street Police Court as an "dangerous charlatan." The police recommending deportation. Lane has been in England for nearly a year.

Since 1920, Lane is said to have furnished lectures at the Royal College Square, London, where he lectured on a "Philosophy of Life." He gave courses for two guineas an hour.

Prosecuting counsel estimated his income at £1,000 a month, equivalent to £1,000 a week.

The case was adjourned to a week.

'DOC' WATERBURY, FAMOUS CROOK, DEAD

Often Had Riches, but Little
Was Left When End Came
on His Up-State Farm.

STRICKEN IN CALIFORNIA

Wife's and Mother's Pleas Led Him
to Quit His Old Life in the
Last Few Years.

Special to The New York Times.

ITHACA, N. Y., March 17.—Jules H. Ford, known to the police of two continents as "Doc" Waterbury, international crook, died today in his little farmhouse at Enfield, near here. In his day he had made large sums of money from the victims of his confidence games and other swindles, but he died with very little except his farm and his automobile.

Since 1923, when he was released from Auburn Prison, he is said to have "earned his living," largely because of the losses of his wife and mother. They were both at his bedside when he died. A few months ago he was stricken with heart disease in California. Because of the chronic Bright's disease from which he had suffered for years, he was warned that he had no hope to recover.

He expressed the desire to return to the old farm house where he was born, in order that he might die there. Accompanied by his wife, he started from California to New York by automobile, but became so weak when he reached Chicago that he had to make the final stage of the journey by train. He reached home a few weeks ago and lingered between life and death until this morning.

Ford, 50 years old, he attended Cornell University in 1904 and is well known as a football player. He later coached several teams in the West.

Early in his career he went to Paris and on his return posed as a representative of The Associated Press in Washington. Representing to many Congressmen and Government officials that he was active in The Associated Press he obtained a position in the White House, he obtained large sums of money. He was indicted for receiving money under false pretenses, but escaped to Europe. On his return through Canadian port, he was arrested and sentenced to the Atlanta Penitentiary.

This, so far as known, was his first arrest and was the first time that public opinion was asked to turn its attention to a criminal of such spectacular acts. He was generally regarded as the friend of the "we boys" who liked themselves to be called, in order to "shake down" public men who foolishly believed that contributions could be easily obtained by a favorable treatment in the press.

After leaving Atlanta, he returned to New York and became well known on Broadway. His operations were closely watched by the police, because of reports of forged checks and other schemes in which he won the confidence of unsuspecting persons. He was arrested and put in the charge of Captain John Mori, whom he had promised to introduce to theatrical managers, but jumped his bail and fled to Europe again.

NEW ROSES APPEAR AT FLOWER SHOW

Throngs View the Madame Alex-
andra Dreux, a Gorgeous
Yellow Bloom.

HONORS TO PERCY CHUBB

Takes Principal Prize With 25
Roses—Mrs. J. I. Blair and Mrs.
F. A. Constable Also Winners.

Roses were the feature yesterday at the Flower Show in Grand Central Palace, America, a very large rose, seemed to be the favorite of commercial growers, while the open classes of the Columbia, Claudia, Parrot and Butterfly were displayed by private growers, and scattered all over the show were the golden yellow blooms of the Mrs. Calvin Coolidge rose, exhibited last March for the first time.

To Percy Chubb of Glen Cove, L. I., was awarded the principal prize in the private growers' competition for a display of twenty-five roses in one vase. He also took a first in the "Butterfly class." Mrs. J. I. Blair and Mrs. F. A. Constable also received prizes in the Claudia Parrot exhibit and Mrs. F. A. Constable of Mamaroneck, exhibited the rose which she named Bradford. It is a delicate pink rose.

The exhibit of table decorations is unusual. The one winning the first prize and described by the judges as "the most attractive" was the creation of Mrs. Ejnar Hansen's table decoration is Sienna-colored chintz, decorated with orange, yellow and saffron colored sections. The petals of the flowers are also garnish the board. A notable decoration is a copper bowl centre piece filled with vivid yellow, purple and lavender tulips. Mrs. Hansen's table was covered with linen in two shades and a large glass bowl filled with delicate pink roses and a small ring of yellow and white flowers.

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Prizes were awarded in several special classes of medals and certificates, most of them given to amateur exhibitors. Colonel H. H. Rogers received an award of merit for a display of begonia, Mammata christata agenensis, and Mrs. B. H. Bogart received a silver medal for a display of cymbidium. Miss Nicholas F. Brady earned a silver medal for an exhibit of nine species of begonias. Mr. George F. Baker won a silver medal for his display of primroses and auriculae, and W. M. Cox a gold medal for his group of orchids, including Miltonia and crotos. The J. B. Cobb estate won a bronze medal for a collection of begonias and a culture certificate for a polyodium specimen. For a specimen of begonia, Mrs. E. C. Gandy, a bronze certificate was awarded to Percy Chubb.

W. Atlee Burrows received a rose medal.

CHARGES NEGLECT OF INDIAN HEALTH

Dr. Haven Emerson Says Con-
ditions on Reservations Are
the Worst in the Country.

CALLS THE DOCTORS POOR

Other Speakers at Defense Luncheon
Attack Administration of
Federal Bureau.

Health conditions on the American Indian reservations are worse than in any other section of the country, according to Dr. Haven Emerson, Professor of Public Health at Columbia and former Commissioner of Indian Health, who spoke yesterday at the luncheon of the American Indian Defense Association at the Commodore. Declaring that infant mortality among the Indians is three times greater than elsewhere, Dr. Emerson attacked the Indian Bureau at Washington as responsible for conditions.

"The neglect of the United States Government," he said, "has resulted in an appalling high death rate among the Indians, and particularly the children. The great majority of the doctors assigned to the reservations are utterly incompetent. The medical men who have tried in other departments are turned over to the reservations, which have become the dumping ground for incompetents."

W. H. Hodges, director of the American Indian Museum, also attacked the Indian Bureau, charging that the Indian service is under the thumb of the politicians. "The entire field force of the bureau should be under the civil service. This is the only cure for the terrible evils. Most of the doctors have until last year been paid less than \$1,200 or \$1,300 a year. But the health of the Indians is going to be improved by raising the pay of incompetents."

"There are 50,000 cases of trachoma among Indians, so alarming that there is under way a systematic effort to eradicate it. About 100,000 Indians have 200 deaths from whooping cough among the Pueblos, or 10 per cent of the entire Indian population. Sixty-eight deaths were officially reported by the Commission of Indian Affairs. In an epidemic, more throat infections among Indian children are treated by doctors with their threats with the same swab. I would rather go to one of the old Indian medicine men than to a doctor in the care of such a doctor. They do infinite harm than good."

Other speakers, as several of the other speakers, declared that American Indians should be allowed to practice their own religion and that the coming of missionaries among the Indians is entirely wrong," he said. "They stand for the right of religious freedom, according to the Constitution."

The average Indian is not lazy, dependent, shiftless, and ignorant," he said, and editor, but is merely unable to adapt himself to the white man's mode of work.

*ANNEXE
LOVECRAFT LISANT, TROIS
RÉSUMÉS D'HISTOIRES DU CARNET DE 1933*

W. Elwyn Backus, Le bus fantôme.

La fiancée d'un jeune homme est tuée dans un accident d'autobus. Lui avait déclaré qu'elle reviendrait jusqu'à lui si elle était la première à mourir. Un an plus tard, il remarque un étrange et sinistre autobus qui passe juste avant celui qu'il prend habituellement pour aller au bureau. En rêve. Une étrange et persistante odeur quand il monte, et des passagers qui semblent dormir. Sa fiancée est parmi eux, et soudain elle hurle. Même si le bus ferraille comme pas possible, il semble glisser avec douceur. Se réveille en terreur. Le rêve revient — au début, la scène n'allait pas si loin. Il essaye d'embarquer dans le bus pour de vrai, mais toujours se rendort. La fois où il tente de ne pas s'endormir, le bus n'apparaît pas. Un nouveau rêve — l'action se répète et cette fois va plus loin. S'écrase contre un camion — il aperçoit enfin vraiment le visage du chauffeur : il en manque une moitié... On retrouve le corps du jeune atrocement mutilé dans son lit. Il a crié toute la nuit. On retrouve sur la route le lendemain matin un vieil autobus — mais pas en service — tout tordu et brisé. Personne ne peut expliquer comment il est arrivé là. Des indices de morts — mais aucun corps.

Conrad Aiken, M'Arcularis.

Après une périlleuse opération, un homme se retrouve sur un paquebot. On dit que son corps est dans la soute. L'homme a des rêves et est somnambule — se retrouve sans cesse allant vers un même lieu — probablement là où est son corps. En fait, il est toujours à l'hôpital, endormi sous éther. Il rêve tout cela et meurt.

Hanns Heinz Ewers, L'araignée.

Une chambre d'hôtel dans laquelle on a trouvé plusieurs fois des gens pendus à la fenêtre — des araignées retrouvées près du corps à chaque fois. Un jeune étudiant décide d'y loger pour mener l'enquête. Il est fasciné par la vue de la fenêtre, l'apparition d'une jeune femme, dans la maison de l'autre côté de la rue, faisant tourner un rouet antique. Perd tout intérêt à

autre chose — mais remarque sur la fenêtre une araignée femelle dévorant un mâle. Quelle scène fantasque, avec la voisine à la fenêtre d'en face, comme si elles en copiaient les mouvements. Les gestes sont quasi simultanés, comme télépathiques. Ce jeu devient progressivement une obsession — l'étudiant est psychologiquement condamné à le poursuivre. Cela se transforme en peur. La vision de ces pendus, et maintenant lui-même parmi eux. Pense que ce personnage de l'autre côté de la rue dicte réellement tous les mouvements du jeu. Hypnotisé par le spectacle des gestes de la voisine, coupe le câble du téléphone qui le reliait au commissariat du quartier. Alors, quand elle fait elle-même le geste de se pendre elle-même à sa fenêtre — il fait pareil, laissant inachevé son journal d'observation. Tout à la fin, il ressent un étrange enlèvement, une révélation effrayante. Trouvé pendu par la police. La peur déformant ses traits. Mordu, et entre ses lèvres une araignée gigantesque dont les taches bizarres ressemblent à la robe de la femme décrite dans les carnets de la victime. La police étudie ses notes, et fouille la maison d'en face. L'appartement auquel appartient la fenêtre est abandonné depuis des mois.