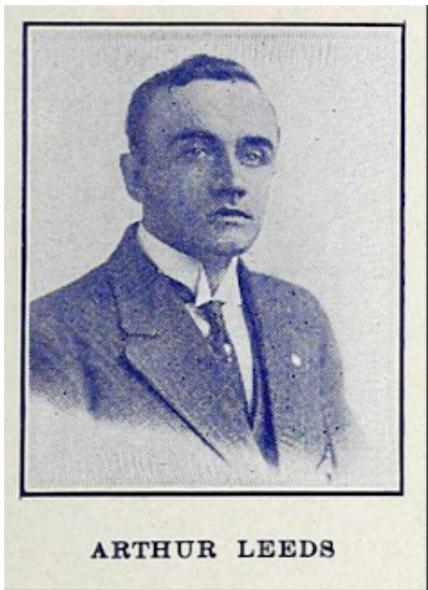


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1925-2025

UN AN AVEC HOWARD PHILLIPS LOVECRAFT

#119 | 1^{ER} MAI 1925



Arthur Leeds, portrait, 1914 (le seul de lui qu'on connaisse). On en sait désormais un peu plus sur lui que lors de la publication de « *I am Providence* », notamment sur sa vie d'enfant dans un cirque (comme Bob Dylan dans ses premières autobiographies inventées), les emplois qu'il occupe de

modèle dans une école de peinture puis d'acteur, et ses incursions dans le monde du cinéma. Sa famille à Chicago, les deux enfants qu'il laisse avec leur mère, pour cette période maigre dans les années New York et Hell's Kitchen. Il n'a que huit ans de plus que HPL, mais la certitude d'un lien affectif, voire protecteur du jeune à son aîné. Il tente par exemple les cours de scénario par correspondance pour les « photoplays » (le nom qu'il utilise lui aussi Dench). À New York ce sont des piges précaires, au *Writer's Digest* par exemple. Il ne se risquera qu'épisodiquement dans les « short stories » (une dans *Weird Tales* en 1925, une dans *Adventure*). Il survivra à la Grande Dépression grâce au projet de guide du Federal Writer's Project. Et plus aucune nouvelle, ni même date de décès, après 1937.

[1925, vendredi 1er mai]

Up late — Leeds tel. — Tel. SL — read & write — down to meet Leeds — his room — out to surprise — Strand — Pilsen — cinema — Wash'n — out to Coffee-Pot — dinner — up to Leeds rm. — discuss & read — return in small hrs. — read — stay up.

Levé tard. Leeds appelle. Je téléphone à Loveman. Lu & écrit. En ville pour voir Leeds. Chez lui. On sort pour un cadeau en librairie, chez Strand puis Pilsen. Au cinéma, Washington. Puis au Coffee Pot, on dîne, puis retour chambre de Leeds. Lu & discuté. Retour aux petites heures, lu, pas couché.

Ah, vous n'avez rien remarqué ? Mais regardez mieux ! Non, pas plus de « GK » que de Kirk. Même Loveman se contente de téléphoner au lieu de passer sonner à la porte. Heureusement, il y a Leeds, rare journée que les deux hommes partageront sans les autres « boys » du Kalem Club, aller en librairie évidemment, ô pensée pour l'éternel (j'espère) Strands : de quelle surprise il s'agit, que veut lui faire Lovecraft ? Et quel film vu ensemble. On se retrouve Washington Square, et s'il l'avait pu peut-être que Lovecraft l'aurait bordé. Ces quatre lignes pourraient émouvoir. Dans le journal, variation anti-variole : le président Coolidge donne l'exemple. Deux exécutions à Sing Sing dont John Farina. 50 000 dollars pour entreprendre une cartographie exhaustive des Etats-Unis, via la photographie et la transmission radio des informations. Isadora Duncan sur la Côte d'Azur : on le relève à cause de Gertrude Stein.

New York Times, 1er mai 1925. Gus Malafront, 37 ans, détaillant en fruits et légumes au 2 111 1st Avenue, est comparu hier devant la Cour des infractions automobiles. Il est accusé d'avoir tourné à gauche sans avertir à l'angle de Broadway et Canal Street, une seule main sur le volant, tout en tenant par la taille la jeune femme assise à coté de lui. « C'est une accusation sérieuse, a dit le magistrat Charles A Oberwager, s'adressant à Malafront. Que plaidez-vous ? — Je plaide coupable, votre Honneur, fut la réponse, mais je souhaite m'expliquer. La dame assise à mes côtés était ma femme, nous avons onze enfants. — Vous voulez dire que vous, le père d'onze enfants, conduisiez une automobile sur Broadway en tenant votre épouse par la taille, demanda le magistrat ? — Oui, votre Honneur, insista Malafront, vous voyez que je l'aime. — Alors pourquoi ne pas l'aimer à domicile ? — On n'y arriverait pas, répondit l'épicier, les enfants sont trop nombreux et font trop de bruit. — Et votre voiture est le seul endroit où vous pouvez faire l'amour à votre épouse, commenta la Cour ? Bon, je vous donne jusqu'à demain pour que votre épouse comparaisse devant cette Cour. Si vous pouvez établir que la dame que vous teniez par la taille est votre épouse, la mère de vos onze enfants,

vous serez condamné avec sursis. Sinon, préparez-vous à quelques jours à la maison d'arrêt. »

62,000 Are Being Vaccinated in Washington; President Believed to Have Taken Treatment

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, April 30.—The prevalence of a virulent form of smallpox in Washington has prompted the decision of Dr. George B. Hins, Surgeon General, who has led Dr. Hugo S. Cummings, head of the Public Health Service, to request the \$2,000 Government employees to be vaccinated.

Vaccination was begun several days ago under the direction of the Veterinary Bureau, and today Dr. J. W. Coupland, the White House physician, and J. T. Boone vaccinated all of the attendants in the White House office.

President Coolidge and Mrs. Coolidge, also took the precautions advised by the health authorities, although no confirmation of the report was obtainable.

"The severity of the present smallpox is the hemorrhagic type," said Dr. Cummings, "and the high mortality of 31 per cent. make it very dangerous that Government employees in the District should accept the risk of the protection afforded by vaccination. This measure is also intended to reduce the danger of the spread of this disease to neighboring States, where it is now prevalent."

No sooner had part of the Government employees been vaccinated than pickets began to appear near the Government building displaying signs and papers to the effect that hundreds had been murdered by vaccination.

Since Jan. 1 there have been fifty-four smallpox cases here with the increase

being greater in the past few days. Of this number, including those not yet vaccinated, nine have died. Of those who contracted the disease only three had been successfully vaccinated. Dr. William J. Fowler, district health officer, said today.

According to health officers smallpox is prevalent in many cities. In Philadelphia the disease has made some progress, and over 500,000 have been vaccinated in the last few months. Dr. Cummings said that Detroit had an epidemic during the winter, and that isolated cases have been reported in Denver, Los Angeles and Kansas City, were known to have been reported during the last few months and there is quite an outbreak in St. Paul and Minneapolis at present.

Special to The New York Times.

PHILADELPHIA, April 30.—No new cases of smallpox were reported in the last twenty-four hours and officials believe that the spread of the disease has been stopped, with 500 cases reported since the first of the year reaching a total of 150 yesterday.

Dr. Frank J. Monaghan, Director of the Department of Health, in a statement yesterday said there was no danger of a smallpox epidemic in New York. There are at present, declared Dr. Monaghan, 150 cases in the city and none has been reported within the past two weeks. There is enough vaccine in New York to give the city authority to vaccinate every person in New York and its environs, if necessary.

ISADORA DUNCAN PLANS GREEK TEMPLE FOR NICE

She Is Reported to Have Bought the Theatre Promenade des Anglais to Fight Jazz.

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By Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

NICE, April 30.—It is understood that Isadora Duncan has bought the Théâtre Promenade des Anglais and will open it in December, after the transformation of the building into a Greek temple of beauty. She is convinced that the rich visitors to the Riviera are thoroughly tired of jazz and want other distractions, and will provide sufficient support for her enterprise.

She intends to limit the audience to 100 seats at the equivalent of \$5 each. The shows will consist of a certain number of soirees.

The coming season will bring a number of changes to the Riviera, notably in Monte Carlo, where the Casino authorities have decided to make notable alterations to smarten up the place along lines similar to the one at Cannes. From the \$3,500,000 profits this season will be spent on the sale of improvements, reconstruction of the gaming rooms, the erection of a new sporting club, a theatre and a motion picture hall.

Police Sell Stolen Silk Stockings at Auction; Owner Demands \$3,000 and an Explanation

The sale at the Police Department auction on April 13 of unclaimed property, or silk stockings to a friend of the merchant from whom they had been stolen, has caused a stir in police circles. It was learned last night. An investigation of the part played in the sale by Oak Street Station detectives and clerks at headquarters is underway.

The stockings, with other goods, were stolen from the store of Jacob R. Gold, & Co., 476 Broadway, last August. The robbers broke in to remove the goods, the goods on a truck and started to drive away. A short time later a truck with the stolen goods was found near police headquarters, where it was believed to have been abandoned, while police officers were approaching.

The goods were turned over to the property clerk of the manning office, identified as Detective Oak Street Station and Detective Devoti was assigned to the investigation. He obtained a good description of the goods and a general alarm was sent out, although the property at the time was in the property clerk's storehouse, due to some failure in the telephone machinery.

When the auction was held the goods were put up in two lots. The one containing the silk stockings was bought by a retailer from Passaic, N. J.,

whose name was not revealed. When this merchant took the goods to his store he discovered that the trade-mark on the stockings was the same as that used by his friend Gold.

The purchaser immediately got in touch with Gold and the latter identified the stockings as part of the stolen goods. He informed the police and requested an explanation. Also he said he wanted not only the \$3,000 in damages for the property, but an additional \$300 to cover the declared value of the goods he declared he would have made. The goods brought only \$600 at the auction.

The retailer of the goods had been sold while their owner was still looking for them. They started an inquiry. Detective Devoti was called in and he was told that the goods had been sold to a man with a police badge, and it was said to have been due to his part in the case. A general cleanup was made, although the identification of this could be obtained yesterday.

Gold said that he was still negotiating with the Police Department for the \$3,000. In police circles it was said that sale of the goods might make the Police Department liable to civil action. The proceeds of the auction were turned over to the Police Pension Fund.

COOK'S MEDIT. SUMMER CRUISE.

See today's Travel Page.—Advt.

CITY BREVITIES.

The annual review and rodeo of Troop C of the Police Reserves will be held at Durand's Riding Academy, 5 West Sixty-sixth Street tomorrow night. The proceeds will be devoted to the troop's expenses for horses and equipment.

Municipal officials and employees will attend an entertainment and dance given by Mayor John F. Hylan's committee on athletic activities tonight in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Commodore. WNYO will broadcast the entertainment.

The King of Sweden will make the opening address at the Universal Christian Conference on Life and Work to be held in Stockholm Aug. 19 to 30, it was announced yesterday by Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, General Secretary of the World Alliance for International Friendship Through the Churches.

The annual meeting of the Jewish Board of Guardians will be held at the new building of the Committee on Field Activities, 228 East Nineteenth Street, next Wednesday, at 4 P. M.

The annual meeting of the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association will be held on June 18 at the Hotel Pennsylvania, it was announced yesterday. More than 2,000 delegates, representing the owners of 1,000,000 dairy cows which supply this city with milk, will attend.

Under the patronage of Prince Bibesco, Rumanian Minister to the United States, a private view will be given today at the Waldorf-Astoria of wood carvings and decorative sculptures by Alexander Julian Secani. The exhibition will remain open until May 10.

A movement to establish a library in memory of the late Sir George Parkin, former Organizing Secretary of the Rhodes Trust, in the new Rhodes House at Oxford University has been started in London and an appeal made for funds. R. L. Robinson, a former Rhodes scholar, has been appointed Honorary Secretary. Checks may be sent to him at 17 Waterloo Place, London, S. W.

The annual meeting for the election of officers of the Women's City Club, 33 Park Avenue, will be held at the clubhouse on May 18. The officers whose terms expire are Mrs. H. Edward Dreier, President; Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Miss Mina Bruen, Mrs. Samuel A. Lewisohn, Mrs. Samuel J. Bens and Mrs. Irene Osgood Andrews, Vice Presidents; Mrs. Percy Grier Hart, Treasurer; Mrs. John Kirkland Clark, Secretary; Mrs. Frederick L. Cranford, Mrs. Alfred F. Hess, Miss Oliver M. Jones, Mrs. Henry Moskowitz and Miss Frances Perkins, directors.

SAYS IT WAS HIS WIFE HE EMBRACED IN AUTO

Prove It or Go to Jail, Replies the Magistrate to Man Arrested as Reckless Driver.

Gus Malafront, 37 years old, a wholesale fruit merchant of 2,111 First Avenue, was arraigned yesterday in Traffic Court. He was charged with recklessly making a left hand turn in his car at Broadway and Canal Street, with one hand only upon the wheel, while his other arm encircled the waist of a young woman seated beside him.

"This is a serious charge," said Magistrate Charles A. Oberwager, addressing Malafront. "How do you plead?"

"I plead guilty, your Honor," was the reply, "but I want to explain. The woman seated beside me was my wife. We have eleven children."

"Do you mean to tell me that you, the father of eleven children, were driving an automobile on Broadway with your arm about your wife?" asked the Magistrate.

"Yes, your Honor," Malafront persisted. "You see I love my wife."

"Then why don't you confine your lovemaking to your home?"

"We don't get a chance," explained the merchant, "the kids are so many and so noisy."

"And the automobile is the only place where you can make love to your wife," commented the Court. "Well, I'll give you until tomorrow to produce your wife in this court. Never mind the eleven children. If you can prove the woman you had your arm around was your wife, the mother of your eleven children, and not somebody else's wife, you'll get a suspended sentence. If you can't, prepare for a stay in the workhouse."

NEW YORK-CHICAGO AIR EXPRESS SOON

Continued from Page 1, Column 6.

was the leading pursuit motor of the world, weighing 630 pounds and delivering 300 horse power, whereas today an American motor is in existence weighing 655 pounds and delivering 512 horse power, which is superior to the best motors of Europe.

Excellent progress has been made by American engineers in the design of air cooled motors. The Wright J-4 is a small, air-cooled motor, economical both to build and operate, but England has led in the development of this type.

A Wing Radiator.

"To sum up America's part in motor development, in no other part of the world has progress been so rapid or so striking as it has been in America since the war. No accomplishment of the English, French or German motor builders equals with the D-12 motor and the developments that have followed that motor."

"So far as racing airplanes are concerned, the most striking factor came with the introduction of what is known as the wing radiator in 1922. This device, a purely American invention, takes the covering of the wing and also so directs the air that the motor is cooled by circulating through hundreds of feet of small brass channels in the surface of the wing. This practically eliminates the need of a propeller and added many miles to speed. The principle is used now in all countries where there is racing."

In 1923, Albert Reed, an American engineer, invented what is known as the Reed propeller, which consists of a very thin blade of duralumin—very light and very strong. This propeller was first used in racing in 1923. Navy Miss America of 1923, which set a world's record of 286 miles an hour. The French machine of 1924, which established the French record of 278 miles an hour, used a Reed propeller made at the Garden City plant of the Curtiss Company.

"American engineers have improved aviation instruments. The earth inductor compass, which has greatly increased the safety of long-distance flying and of flying by night, is almost entirely an American invention. It was used on the world cruise, and now is considered standard equipment."

"Fortunately for flying in America, there has lately been a great awakening in Washington. The army, the post office and the navy are now encouraging in every way possible the pushing forward of aviation by private capital."

