



1925-2025

UN AN AVEC HOWARD PHILLIPS LOVECRAFT

#126 | 8 MAI 1925



*New York, Jumel Mansion, 1925.*

[1925, vendredi 8 mai]

Write — SL call 10:30 — out to cafeteria — SL hat — he home, I boot  
black — subway to museums — lunch for SL — Indian — Hispanick —  
Jumel Mansion — Shelton — Bus down to 53 — Curio — bookstall —  
automat — sub. to Downing. find RK — wait — MK — Penn Sta. — sub.  
to 169 — write — RK call — out to Tiffany — home & WRITE LDC —  
retire////////

*Écrit. Visite de Loveman à 10h30. Je le retrouve à la cafétéria. Son  
chapeau. On revient chez moi, mes chaussures noires. Métro pour les  
musées. Déjeuner pour Loveman. Galeries indienne, puis hispanique. Puis  
la Jumel-Mansion. Shelton. On revient en bus jusqu'à la 53ème.  
Antiquaires, bouquinistes. On mange à l'Automat. On rerouve Kleiner  
Downing Street, attente. On accompagne Karmin à la Penn Station, puis  
métro pour le 169. Écrit. Visite de Kleiner, on va au Tiffany. Puis retour  
et écrit à tante Lillian. Couché.*

Tout en haut de Harlem, dans Washington Heights, au bord de la rivière Harlem et là où maintenant le bâtiment célèbre c'est le Yankee Stadium, la Morris-Jumel Mansion, du nom de ce colonel Morris, mais dont l'épouse, Mary Philipse, porte presque le même nom que celui du grand-père maternel de Lovecraft, s'y est installé en 1765 et c'est la plus ancienne maison de Manhattan (c'est toujours le slogan du musée actuellement : « il y a toujours du neuf dans la plus vieille maison »). Le colonel a fait le mauvais choix lors de l'indépendance : il a choisi les Anglais, et Washington en personne a fait de la maison, désertée en 1776, son poste de commande stratégique pour contrôler la presqu'île — quant à ce Jumel, planteur français d'Haïti, qui en devient le propriétaire en 1820, peut-être a-t-il contribué à l'idée de Roulet, ce Français diabolique de la *Maison maudite*. Quant à l'errance urbaine, la journée est exemplaire. Et Lovecraft a-t-il entendu, ou eu la curiosité de passer, à quelques dizaines de mètres de chez lui seulement, à Brooklyn, devant le Garfield Building en démolition ? Balzac, dans la *Cousine Bette*, a su faire de la démolition urbaine une matière de la fiction. La ville, en se reconstruisant sans cesse sur elle-même, devient vivante. L'idée de formes noires vivantes qu'on trouve sous les décombres est présente dans le *Commonplace Book* — mais Lovecraft ne franchit nulle part cette étape, d'utiliser le présent même de la ville comme rouage du fantastique : l'allégorie de l'horloge qui tombe, pour lui le lecteur de Baudelaire et Huysmans, était belle pourtant.

*New York Times*, 8 mai 1925. Cinq personnes légèrement blessées hier quand une gigantesque horloge, en train d'être démontée du haut de la tour du building Garfield, à l'angle de Court Street et Remsen Street à Brooklyn, s'est échappée de ses élingues et s'est écrasée à travers les étages du bâtiment au main des démolisseurs, pour finir à la cave. Les blessures ont été dues aux débris projetés depuis le bâtiment sur la rue. Le bâtiment était un des plus anciens immeubles de bureaux de Brooklyn. Il a été livré à la démolition il y a plusieurs jours. Après que la structure a été débarrassée de tous les petits équipements, les ouvriers se préparaient à démonter l'horloge qui a donné l'heure à tant de générations d'habitants de Brooklyn. Un trou de 3 m2 avait été ménagé à



chaque étage pour laisser le passage à l'horloge pesant plus d'une tonne. Les câbles ont glissé, laissant s'échapper la masse d'acier. Toute la masse est tombée d'étage en étage, emportant des morceaux de planchers et plafonds. Les débris qui en ont résulté montaient de la cave au premier étage. Le bruit de la chute a été entendu à des blocks alentour. De nombreuses personnes marchaient auprès du building à cet instant, et le petit parc en face de la mairie était plein. Le grondement a vidé la rue et en un instant le parc était vide. Quand le bruit cessa, un nuage de poussière recouvrait tout le voisinage, et on pouvait à peine y voir. Le bruit courut immédiatement

qu'un certain nombre d'ouvriers avaient été enterrés. On envoya des ambulances et des pompiers avec échelles, tandis que la police établissait un barrage autour du bâtiment. Une première recherche de la police et des pompiers établit qu'il n'y avait aucun corps dans les décombres, et le rassemblement des ouvriers prouva qu'aucun ne manquait ni n'était blessé. Sidney Davidson, domicilié 55 Hanson Place, Brooklyn, était dans son automobile garée au coin de la rue, les débris ont détruit la voiture et il a été blessé aux mains. Mme Ida Pressner, 22 ans, domiciliée à Manhattan, a été atteinte par les débris et contusionnée en plusieurs endroits du corps. Son oncle et sa tante, M et Mme Louis Nussbaum, domiciliés au 1219 de la 54ème rue, à Brooklyn, souffrent de contusions, ainsi que M Silverstein, domicilié au 59, Rockaway Parkway et plusieurs autres. En l'état actuel de l'enquête, et après interrogatoire des responsables du chantier et de certains des ouvriers, l'attorney du district, Charles J Dodd, a déclaré qu'il n'y avait aucune preuve de négligence.

## 2,000 POUND CLOCK CRASHES 7 STORIES

Slips as Wreckers Are Lowering  
It Through Garfield Build-  
ing in Brooklyn.

## FIVE INJURED BY DEBRIS

Roar Is Heard for Blocks as Old  
Landmark Smashes Through  
Floor After Floor.

Five persons were slightly injured yesterday when a huge clock which was being removed from the tower of the Garfield Building at Court and Remsen Streets, Brooklyn, slipped from a cable and crashed through the floors of the building, which is in the hands of house wreckers, to the cellar. The injured received their wounds from bits of debris that fell from the outside of the tower to the street.

The building was one of the oldest large office buildings in the Borough Hall section. It was turned over to a wrecking firm several days ago. After the structure had been stripped of all small articles workmen prepared to lower the works of the clock, which had told the hour for generations of Brooklynites. A shaft ten feet square had been cut in the seven floors of the building for the clock, weighing more than a ton, to pass through.

The cables slipped and the mass of steel fell. As the weight fell from floor to floor it carried away sections of floors and ceilings twenty-five feet across. Debris followed the clock to the cellar and made a pile extending to the second floor.

The noise of the falling material could be heard for blocks. Many persons were passing the building at the time and the small park in front of Borough Hall was filled with loungers. The roar sent an instant the benches in the park were vacant. As the noise died away a cloud of dust settled about the vicinity, so dense that it was barely possible to see in it.

Immediately a report spread that a number of workmen had been buried. Ambulances were summoned, a fire cell was sent. In the clock and ladder companies and the police reserves from several precincts were called out. Police lines were established about the building. A thorough search by the police and firemen disclosed no bodies and a checking up of workmen proved that none had been killed or injured. Sidney Davidson of 35 Hanson Place, Brooklyn, was in his automobile parked at the curb on Court Street when the clock fell. Bricks and pieces of mortar wrecked the car and cut his hand. He was attended and went home.

Miss Ida Pressner, 22 years old, of 21 Avenue C, Manhattan, was struck by debris and cut on the hands and body. Mr. and Mrs. Louis Nussbaum of 1219 Fifty-fourth Street, Brooklyn, aunt and uncle of Miss Pressner, suffered bruises. S. Silverstein of 59 Rockaway Parkway, Brooklyn, also was bruised. Many others had narrow escapes.

Assistant District Attorney Sylvester Ebbatino questioned the men in charge of the work and a number of workmen. At the conclusion of his investigation District Attorney Charles J. Dodd stated that there was no evidence of negligence. Superintendent of Buildings Albert E. Kleinert also is conducting an investigation into the cause of the accident.

## PICTURES RADIOED HERE FROM HAWAII

War Game Photographs Come  
5,136 Miles in Twenty  
Minutes Each.

## TESTS CALLED MARVELLOUS

Gen. Summerville Says Wide Field of  
Military Communication Has  
Been Opened Up.

Photographs of the war games and army and navy leaders in the sham combats were transmitted by wire and wireless over a distance of 5,136 miles from Honolulu to New York City yesterday by the picture-transmitting process of the Radio Corporation of America.

It took the transmitting machine just about twenty minutes to transform the details of each photograph into electrical impulses. After being relayed by wire and radio, the electrical impulses reproduced the detail on films in the Broad Street office of the Radio Corporation of America. Within a very small fraction of a second after the last detail of the picture had been picked up by the transmitting machine at Honolulu, it was registered again by the recording apparatus in New York.

Each signal went through a long series of transformations before it became a part of the picture in the office of the Radio Corporation in New York City. Each signal existed twice in the form of light, three times in the form of electrical current running over wire and twice as radio waves. The exact route traversed by each signal was as follows:

Twenty-nine miles by wire from the picture-transmitter at Honolulu to the broadcasting station at Kahuiki. Two thousand three hundred and eighty miles by radio from Kahuiki to Marshall, Cal.

Twenty miles by wire from Marshall to the broadcasting station at Bolinas. Two thousand six hundred and forty miles by radio from Bolinas to River.

Eighty miles by wire from the picture-transmitter at Kahuiki to the office of the Radio Corporation. After the signal had been sent and received through sunlight and static, the signals arrived here in a fraction of a second after starting. Some of the signals

## PHOTOS RADIOED FROM HONOLULU.



Soldiers at mess at coast defense post at Pearl Harbor, and W. P. S. Hawk, superintendent of the Radio Corporation's plant at Honolulu.

scenes, troops at mess, a big gun in action and the flagship Seattle of the fleet standing at anchor. The picture-transmitter is a portable apparatus developed by Captain H. H. Ranger, the inventor of the process which started yesterday with fading the developed film into a cylinder and placing it on the vacuum tube. The powerful needs of light. The black density of the picture stopped the light and the white part let the light through. With vertiginous intensity the light passed through the film and fell upon a photo-electric cell, which transformed the light into electrical impulses so controlled that they preserved the pattern of the picture.

Photographs of Officers.

Among the pictures transmitted yesterday were photographs of Major Gen. John L. Hines, U. S. A., and Rear Admiral Robert B. Coombs, U. S. N., the umpires in the war games. Major William Remond, Governor Wallace R. Farrington of Hawaii, three war game

## MOTION PICTURES.



## FRIENDLY ENEMIES

was a play of enormous appeal, heart-throbs and laughter. During its two-year run on Broadway it made thousands laugh and cry. The screen version, retaining all the sunshine and shadows of the original, has proved so extremely popular that it will be held over for a

## SECOND WEEK

beginning next Sunday at the Colony. Great as has been their success on the speaking stage, creating a new and delightful brand of fun—in the stellar roles created by Samuel Shipman and Aaron Hoffman

## WEBER AND FIELDS

have, through the medium of the motion picture, surpassed all their former triumphs. "Friendly Enemies" affords them very varied opportunities to display their abilities.

B. S. COLONY B'WAY AT NOON TO MOSS 53rd ST. 11:30 P. M.

"FRIENDLY ENEMIES" is shown at 12:45, 2:30, 4:30, 6:15, 8:10, 10:00





*New York, Shelton Hotel, 1925.*