



1925-2025

un an avec Howard Phillips Lovecraft

#158 | 9 juin 1925



« Concernant la question des tant célèbres “faits de la vie”, je n’ai pas attendu qu’on m’en informe oralement, mais épuisai le sujet tout entier dans le rayon médical de la bibliothèque familiale (à laquelle j’avais accès, même si je n’étais pas prolix sur ce versant de mes lectures), alors que j’avais huit ans — en particulier l’*Atlas anatomique* de Quain (très bien illustré et documenté), la *Physiologie* de Dunglison etc. etc. Le résultat fut à l’opposé de ce que craignent généralement les parents — puisque cela m’ayant donné un intérêt anormal et précoce pour le sexe (comme une curiosité non-satisfaite l’aurait fait), cela a tué

virtuellement tout mon intérêt pour le sujet. L’affaire a été entièrement réduite à un mécanisme prosaïque — un mécanisme que j’ai plutôt méprisé, ou au moins trouvé attristant (*non-glamourous*) à cause de sa nature purement animale et sa séparation d’avec des choses comme l’intelligence et la beauté — et tout le désir s’en évanouit. »

*HPL, lettre à John Vernon Shea, 4 février 1934, la seule occurrence du mot « sexe » en 35 000 lettres ? — et bien sûr tout d’abord un rapport livresque... Et planche prise aux Éléments d’anatomie de Jones Quain (1796-1865).*

P.S. glad to hear that you have some correspondence & study  
courses. When you get brushed up on stenography & figures,  
you can go over & land a safe secretarial berth in our  
good friend Adolf's administration!

66 College St.,  
Providence, R.I.  
Feb. 7, 1934.

Dear Jewish-Et:

<sup>P.S. just saw "Little Women" cinema. Extraordinary, read 19th century  
atmosphere & details, & considerable art in presentation. Sentimental in  
execution, though. Even the 1860's were even quite like that!</sup>  
Your generous shipwreck duly arrived, & I greatly  
enjoyed both the epistle & the story material. I am returning the latter  
- with utmost thanks & appreciation - under separate cover by parcel post.

The late autumn & winter have been slightly diversified by enjoyable  
interludes. Thanksgiving Day I did something I have been wanting to do  
for years - ate my Thanksgiving dinner on the soil of ancient Plymouth  
itself, where the whole thing started 312 years ago. The day was  
phenomenally warm - 68° in the afternoon - & I explored the old town  
much as I would have in summer. An enormous amount of ground  
17th & 18th century material still remains, some of it has been restored  
to its original state by careful antiquarian craftsmanship. I saw the  
sunset from brooding Burial Hill, & after dark I watched the great  
round moon turn the harbor to a sheet of silver flame. All told, it  
was a remarkable outing for the 30th of November.

Christmas marked the start of a pleasant 15-day visit to Long N.Y.  
After a festive home Yule I took a midnight coach & enjoyed a duplicate  
Yule at Bellvue's. During the days that followed I saw all the old gary  
- Loverman, Marton, Talman Kirk, Leeds, Klaim, Wauds, &c - I met  
several new personalities, including Wauds's brother Howard (the curious  
your question about relationship), a weird pictorial artist of almost  
startling genius & maturity: Desmond Hall, Editor of Rotterdam Stories;  
T. Everett Harris, author of "Barbarian After Dark" (which included my  
Chubb); & A. Merritt, the gifted author of "The Moon Pool" & other  
weird masterpieces. I gave me quite a hard to meet Merritt & learn  
that he likes my tales - for I have admired his peculiarly fancy-storing  
as the old year out at Loverman's, & he gave



...with objects for my "museum" -  
...crocheted ushabti from the Egypt of 4000 years  
...taken from Central America - of early Mayan  
...I visited my favorite museum - seeing among  
...new Assyrian, Etruscan, & Greek material at the  
...two or three book bargains, chief among which was  
...his "Wandering in Roman Britain" - which I had  
...perhaps my greatest Manhattan achievement was  
...a fountain pen which will actually write! As is usual  
...with a Waterman central office (i.e., Boston or N.Y.),  
...with requests for point exchanges & feed  
...adjustments..... making three calls, & trying out an infinity of points.  
At last I got an almost ideal point, have concentrated on the question of  
an ultra-free feed. Since the clerks gave contradictory accounts of the  
possibilities of feed-adjustment, I worked on seeing the chief repair man  
in person - & the ultimate result is the best fountain pen I've had since  
1923. It glides along smoothly & without pressure (even on the corrected  
bargain paper) at any speed - the feed being about as free as it can be  
without actually dripping ink. Indeed - so ideal is the thing, that the  
more or less adequate Parker of recent months seems difficult in comparison.

again, & I believe I'll enclose it to you as a sample of my latter-day "essay-writing". You may or may not agree with the politics - I am for a fascism which includes as much socialisation as may be found necessary for a proper spreading of resources - but at any rate you will have a sample of the way an "article" can be made from a letter.

stars / one  
1900's, though I most unfortunately missed sex during those years. In the matter of the justly celebrated "facts of life" I didn't wait for oral information, but exhausted the entire subject in the medical section of the family library (to which I had access, although I wasn't especially loquacious about the side of my reading) when I was 8 years old - through Quain's Anatomy (fully illustrated & diagrammed), Darghison's Physiology, &c. &c. This was because of curiosity & perplexity concerning the strange reticences & embarrassments of adult speech, & the oddly inexplicable allusions & situations in standard literature. The result was the very opposite of what parents generally fear - for instead of giving me an abnormal & precocious interest in sex (as unsatisfied curiosity might have done), it virtually killed any interest in the subject. The whole matter was reduced to prosaic mechanism - a mechanism which I rather despised or at least thought non-glamorous because of its purely animal nature & separation from such things as intellect & beauty - & all the drama was taken out of it. When the kids talked or acted decently I could have told them more than they tried to tell me - although (such was the state of Victorian formal medicine) my knowledge was restricted wholly to normal sex. I was middle-aged & married before I even knew that there was such a thing as instinctive homosexuality - though I suppose there must be dozens of Baldwin-fueled booklets about the matter now. I talked as toughly as anybody else, since I didn't wish to be a sissy; but my real ideals of life always inclined toward the ascetic. I didn't stop over in youthful romance, since I didn't believe - & still don't - in the existence of sentimental "love" as a definite, powerful, or persistent human emotion. I have always regarded marriage as composed of friendly regard, mutual

Deux extraits de la lettre de 16 pages manuscrites serrées (24 pages dans l'édition Hippocampus Press, le fac-similé pris au fonds numérisé de la John Hay Library) à Vernon Shea (1912-1981) du 4 février 1934, qui est d'une valeur incalculable en tant que rapport à l'enfance, à la lecture (Proust y compris, à la première place), un passage essentiel aussi sur le cinéma tout au long de sa vie, enfin à la politique en général (ci-dessus « I am for a fascism... ») et à la situation du moment (« the trouble with most pacifists ») et... au « normal sex », peut-être la seule occurrence de toute la correspondance. À noter que HPL revient tout juste (il décrit ses nouvelles visites au MET par exemple) d'un nouveau séjour de deux semaines (« a pleasant 15-days visit ») à New York, hébergé chez les Long... Vernon Shea, alors étudiant à l'université de Pittsburgh, a commencé à correspondre avec HPL en 1931, il a alors 19 ans, et meurt en 1981, un des derniers témoins vivants directs de HPL.

[1925, mardi 9 juin]

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Up early — read — up to Sonny's for lunch — meet young Randall — out on Bus & to bookstalls — Angell's Reminiscences — home — find telegram — read & write LDC///down to meet SH — return, read, & retire.

*Levé tôt. Lu. Je vais déjeuner chez les Belknap. Y rencontre le jeune Randall. On prend le bus pour les bouquinistes. Lu les Souvenirs de James B Angell. Retour. Trouvé télégramme. Lu, puis écrit tante Lillian. Reparti pour chercher Sonia. Rentré, lu, couché.*

Invitation du mardi chez les Belknap Long, il y rencontre un jeune universitaire en philosophie à l'université Columbia, où il fera toute sa carrière, John Herman Randall (1899-1980). Petite excursion en commun chez les bouquinistes, il en rapporte ces mémoires d'un ancien diplomate états-uniens auprès de l'empire ottoman. Oui, mais ! James Burrill Angell a été au XIXe siècle un des professeurs de littérature anglaise à la Brown University : raison suffisante de l'achat ! Et coup de théâtre ? C'est par télégramme que Sonia annonce son retour impromptu — quelques jours plus tôt, il était question que Lovecraft la rejoigne mi-juin à Saratoga. Ils vont cohabiter de nouveau presque un mois, et ça ne rendra pas le décryptage du journal plus aisé, la vie des deux époux remplaçant une large part de l'activité littéraire : évitons tout suspense, elle va retrouver un travail qui de nouveau va l'emmener en célibataire dans l'Ohio, cette fois à Cleveland. Il faudra nous y faire : leur relation restera toujours un mystère. Les conventions sociales attachées à son statut d'époux pèsent sans doute d'un poids déterminant. On a trop longtemps considéré ce mariage comme une erreur que l'isolement à Clinton Street puis le retour à Providence auraient interrompu très tôt. La relation compliquée de Lovecraft à sa mère pèse évidemment fort — et bien sûr cette lettre à Vernon Shea mentionnant son désintérêt pour les questions liées au sexe. Les ennuis de santé qui frappent Sonia depuis bientôt un an comptent aussi. Mais comment ne pas rire de la scène du premier baiser, sur la falaise de Magnolia, quand Sonia le raconte ? Ce soir-là, ils se sont pas vus depuis un mois : on rentre, on mange, on lit, on se couche. C'est sans doute cette même réserve à l'égard du sexe qui fera que Lovecraft s'engage si loin dans sa relation avec Barlow, alors que celui-ci n'aura que treize ans, et dix-neuf quand il en fera son exécuteur testamentaire, à son décès (rappelons que Barlow se suicide au Mexique à trente-trois ans, lorsqu'une étudiante menace de révéler son homosexualité). Il faudrait peut-être seulement



contraindre nos esprits d'aujourd'hui à penser que cela n'avait peut-être *pas tant d'importance* ? En tout cas, le retour de Sonia, après trois moi de séjour dans une clinique de Saratoga Springs, ayant échangé ses frais de séjour contre l'aide aux enfants hospitalisés, va marquer une nouvelle étape dans l'histoire du couple. Dans le journal, cette mention que, lors de la canicule désormais finie, plus de 250 000 new-yorkais dormaient dans les parcs, squares, jardins, partout pourvu que ce soit dehors et non plus dans les mansardes ou les cours insalubres : rêver de l'image fantastique d'une ville qui soit communauté humaine ainsi livrée aux rues et aux parcs, tous bâtiments déserts ou en ruine ? Les heures de Lovecraft lisant et écrivant Prospect Park en pleine nuit font qu'il appartient peut-être (sans le savoir) au décompte. Amundsen toujours disparu : MacMillan prêt à lui porter secours, et en profite pour proposer un protocole international de législation pour l'Arctique. La course en ballon au-dessus de l'Europe : partis du Bois de la Cambre à Bruxelles, plus de cinq cents kilomètres pour la plupart des concurrents, avant d'atterrir où on peut et qu'un pigeon voyageur en rapporte la nouvelle. Le français Marcel Bienaimé n'est pas le meilleur, beau duel anglo-belge mais le champion américain Gordon Bennett reste favori. Et Chrysler vante la conduite sportive au féminin pour se trouver des clientes.

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*New York Times*, 9 juin 1925. On a estimé à deux cent cinquante mille le nombre de personnes qui ont dormi dehors dans les parcs de New York pendant la vague de chaleur, mais pas une seule amende ou inculpation par un agent de police, pas un seul arbre ou arbuste dans aucun des parcs qui ait été endommagé. « Le Département des parcs se félicite de la coopération avec les dormeurs pour prendre soin de la végétation et garder le sol sans détritres », a dit le commissaire aux parcs, Gallatin. « Nous avons été heureux de leur laisser le libre accès aux parcs pour les soulager de la chaleur dans leurs appartements, et si le thermomètre grimpe à nouveau nous recommencerons ». On estime que 125 000 personnes environ ont dormi à Central Parc, et autant à Prospect Parc. Les plus petits parcs de la ville étaient proportionnellement encore plus bondés que les grands. Les foules qui sont revenues de Central Parc et Prospect Parc hier, grâce à la baisse des températures, étaient reconnaissants de la suspension provisoire du règlement des parcs. Ils étaient nombreux à s'arrêter aux cabines de police des parcs et remercier les agents. La plus grande famille à avoir dormi dans le parc est sortie un par un par la porte de l'Arsenal : ils étaient dix-neuf devant le bureau. Le père, avec dans les bras le plus jeune de trois paires de jumeaux, a remercié le lieutenant O'Brien. Il s'est excusé pour l'absence du vingtième, qui avait dormi deux nuits dans le parc mais avait pris un travail de nuit en plus de son travail de jour pendant la canicule, puisque de toute façon il n'arrivait pas à dormir. Les agents avaient pour mission chaque jour de réveiller les dormeurs à l'aube, mais n'en ont pas eu besoin : les cris des écureuils suffisaient. L'accès à certaines pelouses de Central Parc a été restreint durant la semaine, celles où l'herbe a

du mal à pousser, et on a demandé aux dormeurs de laisser libres les allées. De même, on n'a pas autorisé l'accès aux pelouses voisines du Metropolitan Museum.

## 250,000 Slept in City Parks During Heat Wave; No Shrubs Harmed, No Arrests; Thank Police

One-quarter of a million persons, it was estimated yesterday, slept in New York's parks during the heated spell, but not a single summons was served by a policeman, not a single arrest was made and not a single shrub or tree in any of the parks was reported damaged.

"The Park Department is highly pleased with the cooperation the sleepers in the parks gave us in taking care of the shrubbery and keeping the ground free of litter," said Park Commissioner Gallatin. "We were very glad to give them the use of the parks to relieve them of the heat of their tenements, and should the thermometer rise again we shall be glad to have them back."

Central Park, it was estimated, gave sleeping accommodations to 125,000 persons, Prospect Park to 125,000, and the smaller parks all over the city were more crowded, proportionately, than the large ones.

The crowds who poured from Central and Prospect Parks yesterday, refreshed by the drop in the temperature, were apparently grateful for the suspension of the city's park ordinances. Many of them stopped at the park police stations

to thank the police. The largest family reported to have slept in the park filed one by one into the Arsenal station, until there were nineteen standing before the desk. The father, stooped under the load of the youngest of three sets of twins, thanked Lieutenant William O'Brien. He apologized for the absence of the twentieth member, who had slept in the park two nights, but who had taken a night job in addition to his day one during the hot spell, as he could not sleep anyway.

The police were instructed each day to awaken the sleepers as soon after dawn as possible, but found it unnecessary. The barking of the squirrels proved to be better alarm clocks.

A few of the lawns in Central Park were restricted during the week. Those in which the Park Department has been having difficulty in growing grass were roped off. Sleepers were requested to keep a few feet away from the walks, and the lawns in the neighborhood of the Metropolitan Museum of Art were restricted.

Dubonnet Night Cap Cigars, 5 cents.  
United Cigar Stores Co.—Adv.

### THE REMINISCENCES OF JAMES BURRILL ANGELL

LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.  
FOURTH AVENUE & 30TH STREET, NEW YORK  
LONDON, BOMBAY, AND CALCUTTA  
1912



*Lecture du jour : James Burrill Angell (1829-1916), ancien ambassadeur des Etats-Unis auprès de l'empire ottoman, et un temps professeur de littérature à la Brown de Providence : « Reminiscences. »*

# MACMILLAN TELLS OF PLANS TO HUNT AMUNDSEN IN ARCTIC

Will Start From Etah in August  
If Norwegian Has Not  
Been Heard From.

CAPE COLUMBIA TO BE BASE

Will Then Cover Route He Ex-  
pects Explorer to Take  
From the Pole.

THINKS LATTER NOW SAFE

American Conjectures Various Sit-  
uations In Which Norse Expedition  
May Find Itself.

*Special to The New York Times.*  
BOSTON, June 8.—Donald B. Mac-  
Millan, the Arctic explorer, in an in-  
terview here today said that he believes  
that his commission from the Amer-  
ican people is to subordinate all the  
present plans for his polar air expedi-  
tion and go to the relief of Amundsen.  
Commander MacMillan believes that  
Amundsen is alive and well and that  
he will be heard from in time, but  
that a year may elapse before it is  
known, even approximately, where the  
Norse explorer seeking the pole by sea-  
plane actually is.

MacMillan is here completing ar-  
rangements for his trip north. He is  
to leave Boston on June 17, sailing to  
Wiscasset, Me., and, after taking on ad-  
ditional supplies there say a final fare-  
well as soon as possible, probably on  
June 18.

The month for which Amundsen car-  
ried provisions will be up next week  
Thursday, the day after Commander  
MacMillan sails in the Peary from the  
Boston Navy Yard and two days before  
he is to sail with that ship and its  
consort, the Bowdoin, from Wiscasset.  
He considers it likely that Amundsen  
is taking advantage of every ounce of  
food and every gallon of gasoline that  
he has aboard his two planes to extend  
his stay in the Arctic to the very  
last minute for purposes of exploration.

Keenly Aware of Perils.

On the other hand, the American is  
keenly aware of the perils that beset  
the man who has preceded him into the  
great northern wastes and has discount-  
ed with mathematical precision the pos-  
sibilities of tragedy that lurk, even in  
the Summer Arctic, and the great care  
that will have to be used if he is to  
rescue his fellow-explorer.

Unless Amundsen has been heard from  
when the MacMillan expedition reaches  
Etah in Greenland about Aug. 1, its  
commander, advised by his powerful  
radio equipment, will abandon his  
project to make Cape Thomas Hubbard  
his advanced food and fuel base and will  
start through the air for Cape Columbia  
as soon as he can get his two planes  
ready for flying.

A little more than two hours' flight  
should suffice to take the two planes to  
Cape Columbia, which Commander Mac-  
millan considers will be the point at  
which Amundsen, if his plans for a di-  
rect return to Spitzbergen go wrong, will  
make his immediate objective.

## REFUSES TO SEND DIRIGIBLE TO ARCTIC

Wilbur Rejects Plea Made to  
President Coolidge by the Nor-  
wegian Aero Club.

OPOSES WILD GOOSE CHASE

Secretary Says America Has No  
Definite Knowledge of Amund-  
sen's Plans or Location.

RISK TO AIRSHIPS STRESSED

Experts Say They Would Face  
Hazards of Temperature and Ac-  
cretions of Freezing Water.

*Special to The New York Times.*  
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 8.—“We  
do not care to start any wild goose  
chase in the Polar regions,” Secretary  
of the Navy Wilbur asserted today, in  
announcing that the Navy Department  
would refuse the request made by the  
Norwegian Aero Club that the United  
States Navy send the dirigible Los An-  
geles or Shenandoah in search of the  
Amundsen Polar expedition.

The request of the Norwegian Aero  
Club was forwarded by the North Amer-  
ican Newspaper Alliance to President  
Coolidge while he was en route from  
Washington to St. Paul to attend the  
100th anniversary of the first organized  
Norse emigration to the United States.  
The President transmitted the request  
to the Secretary of the Navy, who, after  
conference with Admiral Eberle, Chief  
of Naval Operations, today reached the  
decision to reject the appeal. Admiral  
Eberle was instructed to draft a reply  
embodying the decision of the depart-  
ment.

Text of Message.  
The request for use of one of the naval  
dirigibles read:

President Calvin Coolidge:  
The North American Newspaper Al-  
liance has received the following from  
the Norwegian Aero Club:

Norwegian Aero Club having or-  
ganized Amundsen-Ellsworth polar  
flight, now think it is time to organize  
help for the brave men. We hereby  
make appeal that America send re-  
scue expedition via the American way  
to the pole, namely, by way North-  
western Greenland and Cap. Colum-  
bia, so that the explorers if they re-  
turn there can meet effective help as  
far North as possible, at Spitzbergen.  
Rescue work has already been  
started by Norway. At East Green-  
land the French explorer Charcot has  
offered help. But the most probable  
point of return of the airmen is Cape  
Columbia in northernmost North Amer-  
ica.

As much as the North American  
Newspaper Alliance is informed that  
the MacMillan airplane expedition to  
the Arctic circle will not reach North-  
western Greenland until Aug. 1, the  
alliance respectfully urges your con-  
sideration of a prompt attempt to  
rescue the explorers by means of a  
Government dirigible.

LORING PICKERING,  
General Manager, North American  
Newspaper Alliance.

Secretary Wilbur said that the postigo  
of the Navy Department in the matter  
is that “we cannot think of undertaking  
any relief expedition without definite  
knowledge” of the plans of the Amund-  
sen expedition or some indication as to  
their position or location. Without  
something definite to go on, he said, it  
would be impossible to send the Los An-  
geles or the Shenandoah on a “wild  
goose chase” into the Arctic.

Fears Climate Effects on Ships.

“and add layer after layer of ice and  
you have a problem we are not inclined  
to face.”  
Mr. Wilbur repeated that the Navy  
Department is without any information  
as to the exact plans of Amundsen,  
where he was going or exactly what  
he intended to do.

## CHARCOT WILL HUNT AMUNDSEN IN JULY

French Explorer Believes Polar  
Expedition Is Safe and Making  
for Inhabited Land.

PARIS, June 8 (AP).—Dr. Jean Charcot,  
the French polar explorer, announced  
today his intention to leave during the  
first week in July to search for the  
missing Amundsen-Ellsworth polar ex-  
pedition. He expressed the belief that  
the Amundsen party is safe and is try-  
ing to reach civilization before the polar  
winter sets in.

ABOARD S. S. INGERTRE, June 8  
(By Wireless).—At 9:30 this morning  
the Ingertre, carrying the Norwegian  
Government's Amundsen relief expedi-  
tion, was proceeding toward Spitzbergen  
at her maximum speed of 10½ knots.

The seaplanes P-18 and P-22 were  
slung across the deck ready for instant  
service whenever needed. They will be  
used in searching for the missing ex-  
plorers, who started for the North Pole  
from Spitzbergen in two flying boats  
May 21.

The Ingertre spent two hours taking  
on supplies at Bergen, 190 miles north-  
west of Oslo.

Lieutenant Lutnow Holm, Norwegian,  
leader of the aviators, told The Asso-  
ciated Press that his intention is to re-  
connoiter along the edge of the Arctic  
ice pack to the northwest of Dane's  
Island. Lieutenant Holm's assumption  
is that if Amundsen is returning afoot  
from the Pole toward his original base  
he will naturally make for the nearest  
land, which would be the so-called  
Northeast Land or Spitzbergen Archi-  
pelago.

OSLO, June 8 (AP).—Meteorologists and  
representatives of airplane works who  
were in Spitzbergen in connection with  
the Amundsen polar venture returned to  
Bergen today. They do not believe the  
Amundsen planes were wrecked in land-  
ing. They are confident Amundsen and  
Ellsworth made no attempt to fly back  
to Spitzbergen, but are tramping over  
the polar ice fields to Cape Columbia.

## STUDENTS WILL SEEK TEACHER'S MURDERER

Plan to Search Rooms of Class in  
Louisiana Where Axe Was  
Used in Slaying.

*Special to The New York Times.*

BATON ROUGE, La., June 8.—Thirty-  
five students, members of Agronomy,  
'33, a junior class at the Louisiana State  
University, of their own volition to-  
night started an investigation to find  
which of their number, if any, was re-  
sponsible for the murder of Professor  
Oscar B. Turner early Sunday morning  
with an axe.

The work of the students was offi-  
cially recognized by a Coroner's jury  
by District Attorney John Fred  
Odom. Dr. W. S. Cushman, Coroner,  
announced tonight that at 5 o'clock to-  
morrow evening the students would be  
given a hearing on their report.

Theories of the police and the other  
officials are to the effect that the ex-  
amination questions were stolen from  
the room and that subsequently the stu-  
dent thief was trying to bring them back  
and while doing so, was caught by Pro-  
fessor Turner, who engaged him in an  
argument, which it is believed resulted  
in blows.

All the members of the Agronomy class  
were present this morning and took the  
examination in the class as had been  
previously scheduled. All were sum-  
moned before a Coroner's jury this af-  
ternoon, but were not called on account  
of the disqualification of the class to  
search the rooms of the members of the  
class for any incriminating evidence.

Another theory of the killing of the  
professor is that he was killed by a  
maniac who had escaped from a hospi-  
tal.

Two brothers of the slain man arrived  
today from Alabama. They said he  
was born and reared near Plymouth,  
Ill., where he was a farmer for more  
than twenty years, retiring a few years  
ago and entering the teaching profession  
because he liked it.

Professor Turner's hacked body was  
found at the foot of the stairs in a dark  
hallway leading from his office. Finger-  
prints were not discernible on the  
handle of the axe with which the man  
was slain. A Bertillon expert from  
New Orleans will go on the case to-  
morrow and seek any fingerprints that may  
have been left about the furniture or  
elsewhere.

## SIX STILL ALOFT IN BALLOON RACE

**American Continues as One of  
Bennett Cup Favorites—Two  
Bags Come to Grief.**

BRUSSELS, June 8 (AP).—Six of the eighteen competitors in the Gordon Bennett Cup balloon race still were in the air at 11 o'clock this evening, more than twenty-four hours after the start from Solbosch Plain.

The aeronauts aloft included the three men picked as favorites to win the race—Ernest de Muyter, the Belgian champion and holder of the original Gordon Bennett Cup; Wade T. Van Orman, United States; and Maurice Bienlame, France.

Of the balloons which have come down none has traveled the distance that generally wins a Gordon Bennett race. The Italian Ciampino has the best figure, 570 kilometers (354.19 miles), and the Italian Aerostier the next best, 540 kilometers (335.54 miles).

The other bags which had been recorded as landing were the American S-14, piloted by Lieutenants Flood and McCormick; the English Elsie, Miramar and Banhee; the French Maroo, the Spanish Duro, Hespero and Captain Peneranda, the Belgian Ville Bruxelles and the Swiss Helvetia.

The Ciampino came down at 7:45 o'clock this evening at Loudac, Brittany. At 5:10 o'clock this afternoon the Aerostier landed at Romille, near Montfaucon, in the Department of the Marne, France.

Captain O. W. Spencer in the English Miramar descended at Beaumont de Lomagne, France, having gone 480 kilometers (298.37 miles). The English Banhee landed at 10 o'clock this evening near Auderville, near Cape Hague, in the Department of Manche, France, 495 kilometers (307.50 miles) distant from the starting point. The balloon was brought to earth only five yards from the sea.

The Belgian Ville Bruxelles, piloted by Captain Labrousse, descended in the Department of Manche, France, having gone 470 kilometers (292.06 miles).

The Spanish bag Hespero, piloted by de la Rocha, fell in the North Sea and was lost. The pilot and Señor Lobez, who was in the basket with him, were rescued. The English Elsie also came to grief. Its guide rope became entangled in a moving freight train near Boulogne and the bag was dragged down and destroyed. The pilot, Lieut. Col. Johnson, was uninjured, but his companion, Captain Dongall, was slightly hurt.

Late this afternoon a carrier pigeon from the Belgica, piloted by de Muyter, arrived with a note saying the Belgica was in difficulty and that de Muyter, who, when the pigeon departed, was over the English Channel, had dumped 250 pounds of ballast in order to keep in the air. Belgian experts tonight were of the belief that de Muyter would succeed in extricating himself from his dilemma and finally land in the vicinity of Bordeaux.

The American bag S-14 went 250 kilometers (155.35 miles).

Helvetia, the sole Swiss entry, came down at Agon, Department of Manche, France, about 300 miles from Brussels.

At midnight the six balloons which had not yet reported were the Picardy, France; Belgica, Belgium; Goodyear III, United States; Charles, France; Prince Leopold, Belgium, and Trionfale, Italy.





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