



1925-2025

un an avec Howard Phillips Lovecraft

#190 | 11 juillet 1925

« Samedi, le 11, je me suis levé tôt, j'ai lu un peu et reçu un appel téléphonique de Small Sonny, dont l'adresse estivale, jusqu'à nouvel ordre, sera l'hôtel Wellesley, Thousand Island Park, N.Y. Lui et moi avions eu des nouvelles, ce matin-là, du puissant Alfredus-Child qui, loin de venir à N.Y., se trouve dans un siège de la gauloiserie tout aussi approprié que Paris lui-même ! Le petit coquin a quitté la Nouvelle-Orléans (en 3e classe) le 14 du mois dernier et s'est depuis imprégné de l'accent et des couleurs de Paris, tandis que sa femme étudie à la Sorbonne. Ils habitent un hôtel plutôt coûteux dans la rue Madame, et Galpinus ne semble pas être déçu le moins du monde — jusqu'à présent — par la ville historique de ses rêves. Il promet de nous en écrire des descriptions détaillées avec ses impressions. Pour en revenir au samedi, en début d'après-midi, je suis allé chez Sonny et j'ai passé le reste de la journée à discuter de littérature et de science. À 6 h 30, nous sommes allés à pied au bureau de poste et à la bibliothèque, puis nous sommes revenus au 823 pour le dîner et d'autres discussions. À 9 heures, tout le monde — Sonny, sa maman, son papa et grand-père Theobald — s'est rendu à une séance de cinéma locale et, à 11 heures, les adieux généraux s'en sont ensuivi, pour des retrouvailles à l'automne. Puis métro, retour au 169 et couché.

Des nouvelles de Galpin, une soirée chez les Belknap, la vie de New York en été est bien familiale. Heureusement quand même qu'on a parlé science.



C'est fréquemment, dans les années à venir, que les Belknap Long passeront à Providence pour embarquer Lovecraft, qui partagera avec eux — Vermont ou Cape Cod — voyages et vacances. Mais, là, c'est la séparation jusqu'à l'automne : ils rejoignent le Wellesley Hotel, à Wellesley, une des « Thousand Islands ».

Dock at Fine View, Thousand Islands, N. Y.



[1925, samedi 11 juillet]

Up early — read — Sonny telephone — over to Sonny's for afternoon & evening — out to P.O. & Library — dinner — cinema show at Symphony — bid adieux — return & retire.

Levé tôt. Lu. Frank Belknap Long téléphone. On va chez lui tout l'après-midi et le soir. Puis à la Poste et à la bibliothèque. Dîner. Spectacle de cinéma au Symphony. Grands adieux. Retour et couché.

Pour l'été, Frank Belknap Long accompagne ses parents dans les Thousands Islands, l'archipel des Mille Îles, 590 kilomètres au nord, au débouché du lac Ontario tout près de la frontière du Canada (tiens, c'était aussi le pays de John Ravenor Bullen, pour lequel Lovecraft a écrit ce grand article dans le *United Amateurs* à paraître). à la frontière des États-Unis et du Canada, dans l'estuaire du Saint-Laurent, d'où les adieux. En attendant, hier le cinéma avec Sonia, aujourd'hui avec Sonny, son papa et sa maman : mais, une fois de plus, le programme ne semble pas l'avoir marqué. On ouvre à Newark un cinéma « Symphony Hall », mais ce sera seulement en septembre et c'est un peu loin. Des nouvelles de Galpin, mais c'est Sonny qui a reçu la lettre, en tout cas rien dans le volume Hippocampus des lettres à Galpin : on fera connaissance de son épouse fin août, lorsqu'elle leur rendra visite à New York. Puis cette étrangeté d'écrire dans un carnet avec agenda réglé : l'expression & retire qui vient boucler cinq fois le carnet, c'est bien la première et dernière fois, comme un amen de missel. Cinq cases par pages, de taille égale : parfois l'écriture de Lovecraft se fait minuscule pour en mettre le plus possible dans le petit espace. D'autres fois, s'installe dans la marge pour un complément. Et si vraiment ça déborde sur le jour suivant et qu'il refait le trait à la main, le lendemain devra bien tenir en une ligne. Dans le journal, retour sur le meurtre de ce chauffeur de taxi de Long Island, c'est froid, sordide et violent, on se croirait dans un mauvais film (celui que Lovecraft et les Belknap Long ont vu ce soir-là ?), ce qui n'empêche pas le *NYT* de publier en page 2 sa glorieuse photo — on le recherche. Que la ville de New York se voit interdire de jeter ses ordures à la mer ? Quelle idée (on en a déjà parlé). Et début officiel du procès Scopes à Dayton près Nashville : oui, le monde s'étonne, il y a de quoi... Enfin petit point météo : une averse géante dure trois heures et transforme en lacs les rues du bas Brooklyn.

New York Times, 11 juillet 1925. Philip K Knapp, un ancien étudiant de la Cornell, et fils d'une famille renommée de Syracuse (New York), est recherché par la police de Nassau County, en relation avec le meurtre de Louis Panella, un chauffeur de taxi de Hempstead (Long Island, et comme déserteur de l'armée. Le capitaine Frank McCahill, chef de la police de Nassau County, a dit qu'il s'était rendu devant le juge de Mineola aujourd'hui et avait demandé un mandat d'arrêt au nom de Knapp, avec suspicion de meurtre. Le meurtre de Panella a beaucoup de points communs avec les affaires Leopold et Loeb, ont déclaré et la police et l'armée. Knapp a laissé une lettre pour son père, William W Knapp, 209 Lincoln Park Drive, Syracuse, et pour le commandant de son escadre aérienne, le capitaine H C Drayton, avant sa désertion de Mitchel Field le 3 juillet, et une absence de trois jours. Il n'est jamais revenu. Dans sa lettre, il avoue être hanté par l'idée qu'il trouverait le frisson suprême qu'il recherche en prenant une vie humaine. Il dit dans cette lettre qu'il a d'abord pensé prendre sa propre vie. Mais en a conclu que le frisson serait trop court, ou, selon ses propres mots : « la jouissance de contempler le visage qui meurt serait absente ». Knapp a été la dernière personne vue avec le chauffeur de taxi avant qu'on retrouve le corps de Panella à demi-enterré dans les ruines du vieil hôpital de Camp Mills, sur Hempstead Plains. Selon le capitaine McCahill, cinq témoins ont reconnu Knapp, parmi des photographies, comme étant l'homme qui avait revendu le taxi de Panella. à la Knickerboker Auto Sales Company, se faisant passer lui-même pour le chauffeur de taxi. Knapp aurait présenté vendredi la licence de taxi de Panella et le permis d'exercer de son employeur, pour négocier la vente à 1000 dollars. On lui a dit de revenir lundi pour un prix convenu de 900 dollars. La signature au nom de Panella pour retirer le chèque à la Pacific Bank a été identifiée comme celle de Knapp.

YEAR'S BIGGEST RAIN FAILS TO COOL CITY

**Sudden Downpour Forms Big
Lakes in Brooklyn Streets and
Stops Many Cars.**

ONE DEATH DUE TO HEAT

**An Aged Man, Prostrated, Falls on
the Street and Fractures His
Skull.**

The city and suburbs were drenched yesterday by the heaviest rainstorm of the year, when 2.39 inches fell between 1:10 and 3:55 P. M. The three-hour downpour gave temporary relief from the intense humidity that permeated the atmosphere during the forenoon, but as soon as the skies cleared the humidity arose again until it was hovering near 90. At 10 o'clock in the morning it had reached the peak of 91. The highest temperature recorded during the day was after the rainstorm, when the mercury mounted to 79 degrees.

Despite the intensity of the rain, virtually no damage was reported in Manhattan and the Bronx, though streets and cellars were flooded in parts of Brooklyn.

There was one death due indirectly to the heat yesterday. Falling to the pavement when he was prostrated, Alexander Weinstein, 69 years old, of 1201 Elder Avenue, the Bronx, suffered a fractured skull and died in Fordham Hospital.

In various sections of Brooklyn the storm was almost a cloudburst. The tremendous volume of water found the sewers in some places entirely inadequate, and it backed up.

At Flatbush Avenue and Clarendon Road the water formed a pool several feet deep and extending several blocks. At 2:45 P. M. the Brooklyn City Railroad Company found it necessary to reroute the cars of the Flatbush Avenue line because of the impossibility of passing the flooded section.

In Bayonne, N. J., trolley and bus service was hampered.

CITY WARNED TO END GARBAGE DUMPING; SILZER COMPLAINS

Acting War Secretary Writes
Mayor Hylan, Reporting Beaches
Ruined, Health Menaced.

WILL WITHDRAW PERMIT

He Vetoes Suggestion to Take
Refuse Further Seaward and
Urges Haste on Incinerators.

CITY DECLARED POWERLESS

Commissioner Taylor Says Nothing
Else Can Be Done Just Now,
and Denies Refuse Is City's.

Special to The New York Times.
WASHINGTON, July 10.—New York must cease dumping its garbage at sea. A warning to this effect has been sent to Mayor Hylan by Colonel Dwight F. Davis, Acting Secretary of War, as a result of a complaint made to the department by Governor Silzer of New Jersey.

The New Jersey Governor asserts that the refuse washed up on the beaches of that State has almost destroyed the resorts for bathing purposes, and created a condition detrimental to health. His complaint suggested that the difficulty might be overcome by requiring the New York authorities to send the garbage much further out to sea, but the War Department has come to the conclusion that the sea dumping must cease altogether, "as soon as possible."

This decision was reached by the War Department after it had also received a report on the garbage-dumping situation from Captain John C. Fremont of the navy, who is supervisor of New York Harbor.

In a previous effort to cure the situation complained of, the point of dumping New York City garbage some time ago was placed further seaward than was at first required, and it now is twenty-two miles from Seabright, the nearest point on the Jersey coast, and fourteen miles from High Island Beach, Long Island. Captain Fremont stated in his report that he was taking steps to minimize and obviate the nuisance, but that it would take some time. He believes the conditions complained of by Governor Silzer are caused by more than the dumping of New York garbage at sea, and this point was emphasized by Acting Secretary Davis in a letter to Governor Silzer, when he informed the latter that "there is reason to think that the city is not wholly to blame."

SCOPES JURY CHOSEN WITH DRAMATIC SPEED AFTER PRAYER OPENS PICTURESQUE TRIAL; STATE FIGHTS TESTIMONY BY SCIENTISTS

Who's Who and What's What in Scopes Trial

Plaintiff—The People of the State of Tennessee through their legal officers, who have the aid of volunteer outside counsel.

Defendant—John Thomas Scopes, 24 years old, native of Paducah, Ky., teacher of biology in the Rhea County High School at Dayton.

The Charge—That Scopes taught his pupils that man descended from a lower order of animals, in violation of a State statute forbidding such teaching.

Penalty—A fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 for each offense.

Counsel for Prosecution—William Jennings Bryan, ex-Presidential candidate and ex-Secretary of State; General Ben McKenzie, ex-District Attorney of Dayton; J. Gordon McKenzie, his son; Sue and Herbert Hicks, young Dayton lawyers; E. C. Stewart, Circuit Attorney General; Walter White, Superintendent of Schools and County Prosecutor; W. C. Haggard, Dayton attorney; William Jennings Bryan Jr.

Counsel for Defense—Clarence Darrow of Chicago, noted criminal lawyer; John L. Neal, Knoxville, former acting Dean of the University of Tennessee Law School; Dudley Field Malone, New York attorney.

The Jury—W. F. Robertson, tenant farmer; J. W. Dagley, farmer; James Riles, farmer; W. J. Taylor, farmer; R. L. Gentry, farmer and teacher; J. R. Thompson, farm owner (retired); W. D. Smith, farmer; W. J. Day, retired farmer; James Goodrich, shipping clerk; J. S. Wright, farmer; J. H. Bowman, farmer; R. L. West, farmer.

Trial before Judge J. T. Raulston of Winchester, Tenn., Judge of the Eleventh Tennessee Circuit, in Rhea County Court House, Dayton.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, That it shall be unlawful for any teacher in any of the universities, normals and all other public schools of the State which are supported in whole or in part by the public school funds of the State, to teach any theory that denies the story of the Divine creation of man as taught in the Bible, and to teach instead that man has descended from a lower order of animals. * * *

Be it further enacted, That any teacher found guilty of the violation of this act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. * * *

Be it further enacted, That this act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

FARMERS WILL TRY TEACHER

Jury Includes Ten, a
Schoolmaster and a
Shipping Clerk.

ONE IS UNABLE TO READ

None Believes in Evolution, but
Darrow Says He Did Not Ex-
pect to Find Any Who Did.

NEW INDICTMENT IS VOTED

Grand Jurors Act, Because of
Legal Technicality. After
Genesis is Read to Them.

Special to The New York Times.
DAYTON, Tenn., July 10.—The jury of twelve men who will try John Thomas Scopes for the teaching of evolution was chosen within a few hours at the opening of the trial today and the question of admitting the testimony of scientists and biblical scholars was brought dramatically to the front. The defense contends that there are competent witnesses for both sides and the prosecution announces that he will fight the admission of such evidence to the utmost.

Before the selection of the trial jury, a Grand Jury was sworn in and Mr. Scopes was reindicted, the Judge explaining that the indictment returned on May 3 was considered of doubtful legality because of an oversight in issuing time before the summons to the Grand Jury and the meeting of the Grand Jury. On the trial jury are ten farmers, a schoolteacher with a flowing gray mustache and a shipping clerk. All of them profess their ability to decide whether Mr. Scopes unlawfully taught evolution and to give him a fair trial.

Jury Is Quickly Selected.
The selection of the jury was made a perfunctory proceeding, even Judge Raulston expressing himself as surprised at the speed with which it was obtained, for it was evident that the defense felt they might as well take any one who was offered. The State did not even go through the formality of questioning more than three or four of the entire twelve men.

The attitude of the defense was shown when Attorney General A. T. Stewart, youthful despite his title, objected to Clarence Darrow, for the defense, challenging a juror for cause because he believed in evolution. Mr. Stewart said that if the defense could do that, the State could challenge any one who did believe in it.

"If you can find any one around here who believes in evolution you are welcome to challenge him," declared Mr. Darrow.

After the jury was obtained the court was adjourned till 9 o'clock Monday morning, and then will be fought out the question of whether the defense can call scientists and theologians to prove that evolution does not conflict with religion, or, rather, that a belief in evolution is not necessarily incompatible with Christianity.

Mr. Stewart's announcement that the State would oppose the introduction of "any testimony on evolution and the Bible came as a surprise to those who had talked with William Jennings Bryan or have heard him speak since he arrived in Dayton. Mr. Bryan had a com-

EUROPE IS AMAZED BY THE SCOPES CASE

British and Continental Press
Report the Proceedings and
Comment on its Significance.

NOTED SCIENTISTS PROTEST

Lloyd George and Theologians
Are Also Quoted in Condem-
nation of Tennessee Law.

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Special Cable to The New York Times.

LONDON, July 10.—The Scopes trial at Dayton, Tenn., is attracting the widest attention of the British press, scientists and public men. At the published opinion strongly condemns the prosecution of the school teacher or expresses amazement that an American State should attempt to prevent the teaching of the known facts of evolution.

Lloyd George adds his opinion to the long list of British commentaries on the Dayton trial. In a special article to be published in The Sunday News the former Premier, according to The Chronicle, asserts the Dayton problem could never arise in Great Britain.

"With us the question of teaching Darwinism in the schools has never arisen," he says, "and it seems incredible to us that it ever could arise, but old belief or non-belief in the Darwinian theory bids fair to become the test of civility in America. With us the question has been set whether scientific or pseudo-scientific commentaries on religious histories should be taught in schools."

CRANKS AND FREAKS FLOCK TO DAYTON

Strange Creeds and Theories
Are Preached and Sung Within
Shadows of the Court House.

CROWDS FAIL TO SHOW UP

Visitors for the Opening Day of
the Scopes Trial Are Mostly
Tennessee Mountaineers.

Special to The New York Times.

DAYTON, Tenn., July 10.—Tennessee came to Dayton today in overall, gingham and black to attend the trial of John Thomas Scopes for the teaching of evolution. The Tennesseeans—and nearly all the visitors were Tennesseeans—came from mountain farms near Dayton, where work, usually begun at daylight, had been deserted so that gaunt, tanned, toil-worn men and women and shy children might be in the Rhea County Court House by 9 o'clock to see William Jennings Bryan's "duel to the death" with "the enemies of the Bible."

The expected horde of visitors from distant points had not materialized—at least not yet. Those who did come today came in small automobiles, built high because of the rocky mountain roads. They came in wagons fitted with settees and chairs and drawn by mule-legged horses and small-legged mules. Some came on foot. All were sober-faced, tight-lipped, expressionless, for they were to witness, it seemed to them, a "battle for the Lord."

They overflowed the crowded court-

up noon - read paper & Weir
Tales - breakfast - write
JULY, 1925
letters for SH - read - out w

SUN. SH in open car to Tropic
5 Park - walk around to
back down Flatbush Ave. - Chi
restaurant in Times Plaza -
via State St - read & retire

up noon - tucked room - wrote led

MON.
6 SH - dinner - more
writing - out for groceries -
read & retire. LOC III

up early - Layne call briefly to find g
SH go out - write all day - dinner

TUES. SH return - write more
7 - read & retire

up early - sweep room - write -
read Aubrey book - out with SH
Guinea & Boudville - groceries
dinner - write more - start for

WED.
8 meeting at Sonny's - with
Leeds, Kirk, Layne, Sonny
SHPL present. show new suit -
get Leeds material. Ly. 1.00 a -
subway home & retire.

THUR. up early - read & write

9 Tales - left - out with SH
walk Prop. Pl. Flatbush - dinner
cafeteria - walk back - 2.59 - park
read again - walk home - 3.00 -
give all time - read & retire

FRI.
10 up early - read - left - re
Errands - out with SH to do
are Panthe People - walk around
Bldg H. - return, read, & retire

SAT.
11 up early - read - Sonny telepho

to P.O. & Library - dinner - dinner
show at Sonny's - bid ad ready
return & retire.

Table of Wages by the Month.

\$18	19	20	25	30	35	40	60
.60	.63	.67	.83	1.00	1.17	1.33	2.00
.69	.73	.77	.96	1.15	1.35	1.54	2.31
1.38	1.46	1.54	1.92	2.31	2.69	3.08	4.62
2.08	2.19	2.31	2.88	3.46	4.04	4.62	6.92
2.77	2.92	3.08	3.85	4.62	5.38	6.15	9.23
3.46	3.65	3.85	4.81	5.77	6.73	7.69	11.54
4.15	4.38	4.62	5.77	6.92	8.08	9.23	13.85
4.85	5.12	5.38	6.73	8.08	9.42	10.77	16.15
5.54	5.85	6.15	7.69	9.23	10.77	12.31	18.46
6.23	6.58	6.92	8.65	10.38	12.12	13.85	20.77
6.92	7.31	7.69	9.62	11.54	13.46	15.38	23.08
7.62	8.04	8.46	10.58	12.69	14.81	16.92	25.38
8.31	8.77	9.23	11.54	13.85	16.15	18.46	27.69
9.00	9.50	10.00	12.50	15.00	17.50	20.00	30.00
9.69	10.23	10.77	13.46	16.15	18.85	21.54	32.31
10.38	10.96	11.54	14.42	17.31	20.19	23.08	34.62
11.08	11.69	12.31	15.38	18.46	21.54	24.62	36.92
11.77	12.42	13.08	16.35	19.62	22.88	26.15	39.23
12.46	13.15	13.85	17.31	20.77	24.23	27.69	41.54
13.15	13.88	14.62	18.27	21.92	25.58	29.23	43.85
13.85	14.62	15.38	19.23	23.08	26.92	30.77	46.15
14.54	15.35	16.15	20.19	24.23	28.27	32.31	48.46
15.23	16.08	16.92	21.15	25.38	29.62	33.85	50.77
15.92	16.81	17.69	22.12	26.54	30.96	35.38	53.08
16.62	17.54	18.46	23.08	27.69	32.31	36.92	55.38
17.31	18.27	19.23	24.04	28.85	33.65	38.46	57.69
18.00	19.00	20.00	25.00	30.00	35.00	40.00	60.00

Table of Wages by the Week.

\$3	3 1/2	4	4 1/2	5	12	15	20
.43	.50	.57	.64	.71	1.71	2.14	2.56
.13	.15	.17	.19	.21	.50	.63	.83
.25	.29	.33	.38	.42	1.00	1.25	1.67
.38	.44	.50	.56	.63	1.50	1.88	2.50
.50	.58	.67	.75	.83	2.00	2.50	3.33
.75	.88	1.00	1.13	1.25	3.00	3.75	5.00
1.00	1.17	1.33	1.50	1.67	4.00	5.00	6.67
1.25	1.46	1.67	1.88	2.08	5.00	6.25	8.33
1.50	1.75	2.00	2.25	2.50	6.00	7.50	10.00
1.75	2.04	2.33	2.63	2.92	7.00	8.75	11.67
2.00	2.33	2.67	3.00	3.33	8.00	10.00	13.33
2.25	2.63	3.00	3.38	3.75	9.00	11.25	15.00
2.50	2.92	3.33	3.75	4.17	10.00	12.50	16.67
2.75	3.21	3.67	4.13	4.58	11.00	13.75	18.33
3.00	3.50	4.00	4.50	5.00	12.00	15.00	20.00

These tables are on the basis of 26 working days to the month and 6 working days to the week. The one day in italics at top of tables is on the basis of 30 working days to the month and 7 working days to the week.