

up late - Lovecraft call - dinner
John's - subway to 110th St - Explore
SUN. darktown - up 7th & 10th
22 Lenox - Subway to Times Sq.
news stands - Automat
return & read - night late

1925-2025

UN AN AVEC HOWARD PHILLIPS LOVECRAFT

320 | 22 NOVEMBRE 1925

« Deux artères principales traversent le quartier. La Septième Avenue, la rue la plus large de Harlem, avec des îlots au centre, s'étend du nord-ouest jusqu'à la 155e rue ouest, et est l'une des principales lignes de bus traversant Harlem et menant à Washington Heights. Cette avenue est bordée d'immeubles d'habitation, de magasins, de salons de beauté, de restaurants et de bars. Lenox Avenue, un pâté de maisons plus à l'est, est généralement considérée comme le boulevard principal de Harlem. C'est une avenue large et délabrée, bordée de boutiques bon marché, de bars, de cafétérias, de salles de billard et de « gin mills ». Cette avenue se caractérise par ses stands de restauration mobiles qui apparaissent l'après-midi et en début de soirée. Ils sont généralement tenus par des hommes et des femmes âgés et servent du pop-corn, des patates douces cuites au four, des cacahuètes, de la confiture, des saucisses et d'autres friandises populaires. La plupart de ces chariots sont vieux et branlants, et les aliments sont réchauffés au-dessus de lampes à pétrole.

« La 125e rue, artère routière transversale essentielle menant directement à l'entrée du pont Triborough (voir page 390) sur la 2e avenue, est la principale artère commerciale de Harlem. Bien que des Noirs vivent le long des rues au nord et au sud de celle-ci, la 125e rue ouest n'est pas principalement un centre noir ; les résidents blancs de Morningside Heights et de Manhattanville l'utilisent comme centre commercial depuis des années. Deux hôtels de la 125e rue, le THERESA, sur la Septième Avenue, et le TRIBORO, sur la Cinquième Avenue, ont toujours une direction et une clientèle blanches. De la Troisième Avenue à St. Nicholas Avenue, on trouve de nombreux magasins, cinémas, agences immobilières, banques et restaurants, dont la grande majorité appartient à des Blancs et est gérée par eux. Le fait qu'aucun Noir ne soit employé dans ces commerces a toujours été mal perçu par les habitants de Harlem, qui constituent la majorité de la clientèle. En 1935, un incident survenu dans l'un de ces magasins a dégénéré en une émeute aux proportions alarmantes. Ces dernières années, les piquets de grève et les pressions

exercées par les syndicats et les groupes de citoyens ont contraint les grands magasins de la 125e rue à employer du personnel noir.

« Dans ce quartier, de nombreuses organisations fraternelles et politiques défilent et manifestent, et c'est ici que les Noirs se rassemblent lorsqu'il y a une occasion de faire la fête : une victoire de Joe Louis sur le ring remplit les rues. En été, les trottoirs sont bondés de flâneurs et de promeneurs ; les chômeurs installent des chaises sur le trottoir et des boîtes de biscuits pour jouer aux dames. Sur Lenox Avenue, des orateurs improvisés attirent chaque soir des foules avec des discours sur tous les sujets, de l'occultisme au communisme, l'un des orateurs étant inévitablement un disciple de Marcus Garvey, leader du mouvement « Back to Africa » (Retour en Afrique), aujourd'hui exilé en Angleterre.

« SMALL'S PARADISE, 2294J/2 Seventh Avenue, l'une des trois boîtes de nuit qui ont fait la renommée de Harlem dans les années 1920, est toujours en activité sur la Septième Avenue ; parmi les deux autres, Connie's Inn et le Cotton Club, la première a fermé ses portes et la seconde se trouve désormais à Times Square. Small's, sous le nom de Black Venus, a été décrit dans Nigger Heaven, un roman très lu de Carl Van Vechten, le premier romancier blanc à avoir découvert le « Hot Harlem ». À quelques pâtés de maisons de Small's se trouvent deux autres boîtes de nuit très fréquentées qui proposent régulièrement des spectacles avec des artistes noirs : le PLANTATION CLUB, 644 Lenox Avenue, et le YEAH MAN, 2350 Seventh Avenue ; ainsi que deux des restaurants les plus connus de Harlem, le MONTEREY, 2339 Seventh Avenue, et le LITTLE GRAY SHOP, 2465 Seventh Avenue.

« La question de l'emploi des Noirs dans les institutions fréquentées par les Noirs fait l'objet d'une longue controverse au HARLEM HOSPITAL, situé au 136th Street et Lenox Avenue, un hôpital municipal de 365 lits. Bien que des Noirs aient été ajoutés au personnel médical de temps à autre, la majorité du personnel est blanche ; un seul poste de direction, celui de directeur chirurgical, est occupé par un Noir.

« Fondé en 1887, l'hôpital dispose d'une école de formation pour les infirmières noires. À un pâté de maisons de l'hôpital, sur la Cinquième Avenue entre la 136e et la 137e rue, se trouve le CENTRAL HARLEM HEALTH CENTER, un lieu d'une importance vitale pour cette ville dans la ville.

« Le centre se consacre principalement à la médecine préventive, en mettant l'accent sur les soins aux enfants et le dépistage des maladies transmissibles. Seul établissement de ce type pour les 250 000 habitants du quartier, le centre est un bâtiment de trois étages en brique et en pierre de style colonial géorgien. Il a été inauguré en 1937, pour un coût de 270 000 dollars, financé par des prêts du gouvernement fédéral.

« La confession religieuse la plus populaire à Harlem est le baptême, et Harlem possède la plus grande église de cette confession au monde, noire ou blanche : l'ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH, située au 132 West 138th Street. Fondée en 1808, c'est la plus grande, la plus ancienne et la plus influente des églises noires.

Harlem et la Lenox Avenue, extrait du WPA Guide to New York City, 1932, et l'exploration que mènent ce dimanche Lovecraft et Loveman.



Lenox Avenue, Harlem, 1925.

[1925, dimanche 22 novembre]

Up late — Loveman call — dinner John's — subway to 110th St. — explore downtown — up 7th & down Lenox — subway to Times Sq. news stands — Automat — return & read — retire late.

Levé tard. Loveman passe. On déjeune chez John's. Métro jusqu'à 110ème rue, explorations centre ville. Remontés jusqu'à la 7ème, puis Lenox. Métro jusqu'à Times Square. Rayon nouveauté de leur librairie. Diner à l'Automat. Retour et lu. Couché tard.

L'amour masqué, bref roman posthume de Balzac, n'est certes pas une adjonction pivot à la *Comédie humaine* (même si s'y confirment quelques figures récurrentes, le désir d'enfant, et la Martinique dans le contexte colonial) mais c'est au moins un bon argument de vente. Une fois de plus déplorer la lettre manquante : pas souvent (même si c'est la troisième fois au moins cette année) que Lovecraft se risque dans Harlem, la ville noire, ou bien c'est Loveman qui l'y entraîne ? En tout cas nous aussi l'occasion de découvrir ambiances et mouvement dans la Lenox Avenue. Et, entre le Johns et l'Automat, les deux poètes ne rentreront pas affamés !

Les fluctuations des prix dans la commercialisation des oranges sont principalement dues à des facteurs économiques et non aux tarifs de fret, selon une étude récemment réalisée par le Bureau of Hallway Economics sur l'effet des tarifs de fret sur les prix pour les producteurs, les grossistes et les consommateurs. L'étude couvre la période allant de juillet 1924 à avril 1925 et s'appuie sur les rapports des producteurs et des acheteurs. Elle montre que les expéditeurs de Floride commercialisent moins de produits que ceux de Californie sur certains des grands marchés de l'Est, bien que la distance de transport soit considérablement moindre. Depuis 1918, les expéditions d'oranges en provenance de Californie ont augmenté de 177 %, et celles en provenance de Floride de 158 %. Les expéditions en provenance de Californie seraient réparties de manière plus uniforme que celles en provenance de Floride. Les mouvements les plus importants de fruits californiens ont eu lieu au cours des quatre mois compris entre mars et juin de la saison dernière et ont représenté 46 % du total annuel. Les expéditions de Floride se sont limitées à pratiquement neuf mois de l'année, 84 % de ses expéditions ayant eu lieu entre novembre et mars inclus. Environ la moitié des expéditions d'oranges vers cette ville proviennent de Californie et un peu moins de la moitié de Floride. À Buffalo, près des trois quarts des expéditions d'oranges proviennent de Californie et environ un quart de Floride. À Boston, Indianapolis, Cleveland et Columbus, moins de la moitié proviennent de Floride et le reste de Californie. À Philadelphie, Providence, Memphis, Teri0v et Newark, dans le New Jersey, environ les deux tiers proviennent de Floride et le reste de la côte Pacifique. À Washington, Louisville, Cincinnati, La Nouvelle-Orléans et Baltimore, pratiquement

les trois quarts des oranges consommées sont cultivées en Floride. Les villes situées sur le Mississippi ou à l'ouest de celui-ci dépendent en grande partie ou entièrement de l'approvisionnement en oranges de Californie.

CALIFORNIA ORANGES SOLD HEAVILY HERE

Less Than Half of City's Supply Comes From Florida—Freight Rates Not Main Factor.

Price fluctuations in the marketing of oranges are due principally to economic factors and not to freight rates, according to a study just completed by the Bureau of Railway Economics on the effect of freight rates on prices for the grower, wholesaler and the consumer.

The study covers the period from July, 1924, to April, 1925, and is based on reports from growers and buyers. It shows that Florida shippers market less of their product in some of the large Eastern markets than do California shippers, although the length of haul is considerably less. Orange shipments from California since 1918 have increased 177 per cent. and from Florida 158 per cent.

Shipments from California, it is said, are more evenly distributed than those from Florida. The heaviest movements of California fruit were in the four months from March to June, inclusive, in the past season and amounted to 46 per cent. of the year's total. Florida shipments were confined to practically nine months of the year, 84 per cent. of its shipments being from November to March inclusive.

About one-half of the orange shipments to this city come from California and slightly less than one-half from Florida. In Buffalo, nearly three-fourths of the orange shipments come from California and about one-fourth from Florida. In Boston, Indianapolis, Cleveland and Columbus less than one-half come from Florida and the rest from California.

In Philadelphia, Providence, Memphis, Terre Haute, and Newark, N. J., about two-thirds come from Florida and the remainder from the Pacific Coast. In Washington, Louisville, Cincinnati, New Orleans and Baltimore practically three-fourths of the oranges consumed are grown in Florida. Cities on the Mississippi, or west of it, depend largely or entirely on the California orange supply.

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N. Y. T.-H-22-25

Turn Back the Clock 150 Years

to

NOVEMBER—1775 These Things Were Happening

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 	2 <small>The British Garrison at St. John's, New Brunswick, under General Montagu.</small>	3 	4 DRUMS <small>Everybody is making it.</small>	5 	6 DRUMS <small>At a German abbey.</small>	7
8 DRUMS <small>General Greene Arnold, with General Gates, had been sent to Boston to defend the city by the lack of men.</small>	9 DRUMS <small>General Greene Arnold, with General Gates, had been sent to Boston to defend the city by the lack of men.</small>	10 DRUMS <small>General Greene Arnold, with General Gates, had been sent to Boston to defend the city by the lack of men.</small>	11 	12 <small>General Greene Arnold, with General Gates, had been sent to Boston to defend the city by the lack of men.</small>	13 <small>The American Congress has passed a resolution for the protection of slaves.</small>	14 DRUMS <small>A stirring scene of rebellion.</small>
15 	16 	17 	18 DRUMS <small>At first, for which John III is used.</small>	19 	20 DRUMS <small>"A drum for John."</small>	21
22 <small>Gallée de l'Orangerie, Paris, now known as the Louvre, was sold to the French Government by the English, who had been exiled from France.</small>	23 	24 	25 <small>The Continental Congress has passed a resolution to declare independence from Great Britain.</small>	26 DRUMS <small>"A drum for John."</small>	27 	28 DRUMS <small>Everybody likes this book.</small>
29 <small>"Drums," by James Boyd, is the greatest novel of the American Revolution. It has been awaiting publication for 150 years. The 13th printing is now on sale at all bookstores.</small>	30 					

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THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW, NOVEMBER 22, 1925

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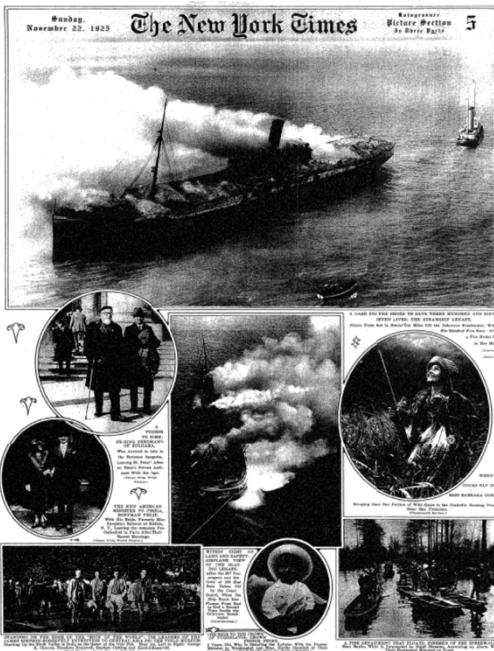
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