



- LATE EDITION -

SERIES OF TRAGIC ACCIDENTS SHOCKS CITY

DOCKWORKERS KILLED IN KINGSPORT!

Two dockworkers were brutally slain in Kingsport on Wednesday night behind the Rope and Anchor tavern. According to the Kingsport Police Department, the proprietor of the tavern, Jonas Rigg, discovered the bodies of Lee Sullivan and James Pitch Thursday morning.

Rigg could not be reached for comment. Lieutenant Jerome Pearson would only admit, "Sullivan and Pitch were both killed. The investigation is ongoing. We can share no further information at this time." However, confidential sources within the department inform the *Gazette* that both men were torn apart. The source called the site "sickening," and compared it to an attack by a large animal.

"I am as shocked and horrified at this news as everyone else from our city," said Kingsport mayor Mayme Banks. "You can be assured this office and our brave officers will not rest until we have uncovered the truth of these horrifying killings. Extra police patrols have also been scheduled, and the Miskatonic Sheriff's Department has sent deputies to assist."

When asked if Kingsport would bring in additional aid from Arkham or the surrounding communities, Mayor Banks refused to comment.



Kingsport Mourns Lives Lost to Baffling Ill Fortune

No Answers for the Bereft

Five tragic deaths by misadventure in the space of barely a week have left Kingsport reeling. While police assure citizens there is no evidence of foul play and no connection between the victims, the sheer number of deaths and the terrible ill fortune attendant on each of them has left the bereaved desperate for answers... and has set the tongues of gossips wagging.

A Banker Crushed

Benjamin Bender, the manager of the First Bank of Arkham's Kingsport branch, was the first to meet his end. A pillar of Kingsport's community, Mr. Bender was well-known for cutting a dashing, fashionably attired figure in his appearances around town. Last Monday afternoon, he was walking along the docks when tragedy overtook him. A cargo crane's rope snapped as it was transferring a load of steel to the freighter

Mariana Star. A full ton of steel crashed to the dock with an impact whose echoes resounded for miles. Mr. Bender was killed instantly and in gruesome fashion. Sailors and dockworkers rushed to give aid, and it is reported that no fewer than three of them fainted when the remains of the unfortunate were at last uncovered.

The reason for Mr. Bender's visit to the docks is unknown, although friends and colleagues acquainted with his habits have stated that they had never known him to frequent this—*Cont'd on page 2*

PUBLIC SERVICE ADVERTISING

BE ALERT ON THE PIERS

RECENT DISAPPEARANCES HAVE PROMPTED LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO GENTLY YET FIRMLY REMIND RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS TO EXERCISE DUE CAUTION WHEN WALKING ON THE PIERS. THE AREA IS PRONE TO STRONG CROSSWINDS, WHICH CAN BLOW THE UNWARY INTO THE WATER. THE UNFORTUNATES WOULD THEN BE CAUGHT BY THE RIPTIDES AND SWEEPED OUT TO SEA.

BE SAFE

PUBLIC SERVICE ADVERTISING

KINGSPORT MOURNS LIVES LOST TO BAF- FLING ILL FORTUNE CONT'D FROM PAGE 1—

area before. At the time of his death, Mr. Bender had been renting a room in Central Hill, a neighborhood in which he had long been a resident.

The incident is still under investigation. The crew of the *Mariana Star* maintain that there was nothing wrong with the rope prior to the tragedy.

A Signal Failure

Two days after the death of Benjamin Bender, an even more improbable accident befell Able Seaman Eliza Kellerman, who had been renting a room above the Rope & Anchor, and was due to ship out next week aboard the cargo steamer *Providence Dreamer*. Her long experience at sea, where she has confronted and surmounted many dangers, could not save her from the appalling coincidence of mechanical failures that spelled her doom.

On Wednesday evening, Able Seaman Kellerman was crossing the Railhead. Hearing-impaired, she was not aware of the train rushing toward to Railhead. An alert signal should have provided her with a visual warning, but it was not triggered. The locomotive's engineer did pull the train's whistle, but the whistle did not sound. Able Seaman Kellerman was oblivious to her danger until it was too late. Miss Irene Hadsworth of South Shore witnessed her death to considerable distress and remains too distraught to speak to this reporter.

The simultaneous failure of two devices whose consistent functioning is vital to the safety of our town's citizens will doubtless remain the subject of considerable consternation for some time to come. The investigation continues, but authorities are at a loss to explain the malfunctions. Both the alert signal and the train whistle have performed ad-

mirably in testing since the tragedy.

Lethal Conflagration in the Artist's Colony

On Thursday night, a terrible fire took the life of painter Allesia Wanderlei. A newcomer to Kingsport from the warm climes of Brazil, Miss Wanderlei was in the process of making a name for herself as an artist of considerable skill, admittedly deployed in the service of controversial subject matter (see sidebar).

Miss Wanderlei had retired for the night with fire broke out in her apartment building. The other artists living with her in this bohemian estab-

lishment escaped unscathed, although they now find themselves homeless. Unfortunately for Miss Wanderlei, the blaze appears to have ignited in her quarters, dooming her to a frightful end.

"This is devastating," said Pierre Bachelard, one of Miss Wanderlei's roommates. "We have not only lost a dear friend with important talent, but all her work, too. There were hundreds of her paintings in there. All gone. I can't believe it."

The cause of the fire is under investigation. While no conclusions have been reached, the question has been raised as to whether solvents and other flammable materials might have been carelessly left lying around. This has been vigorously denied by Miss Wanderlei's friends.

According to Mr. Bachelard, "Allessia was not religious ex-

cept when it came to her craft and her equipment. She was meticulous when it came to cleaning and storage."

A Family's Grief

Saturday afternoon saw the tragic death of the youngest victim of this terrible series of accidents, 13-year-old William Thomas Astor. The son of one of the most important families in Central Hill, and a student of Eben Hall, William was visiting the Fuller Aquarium with his family when the incident occurred.

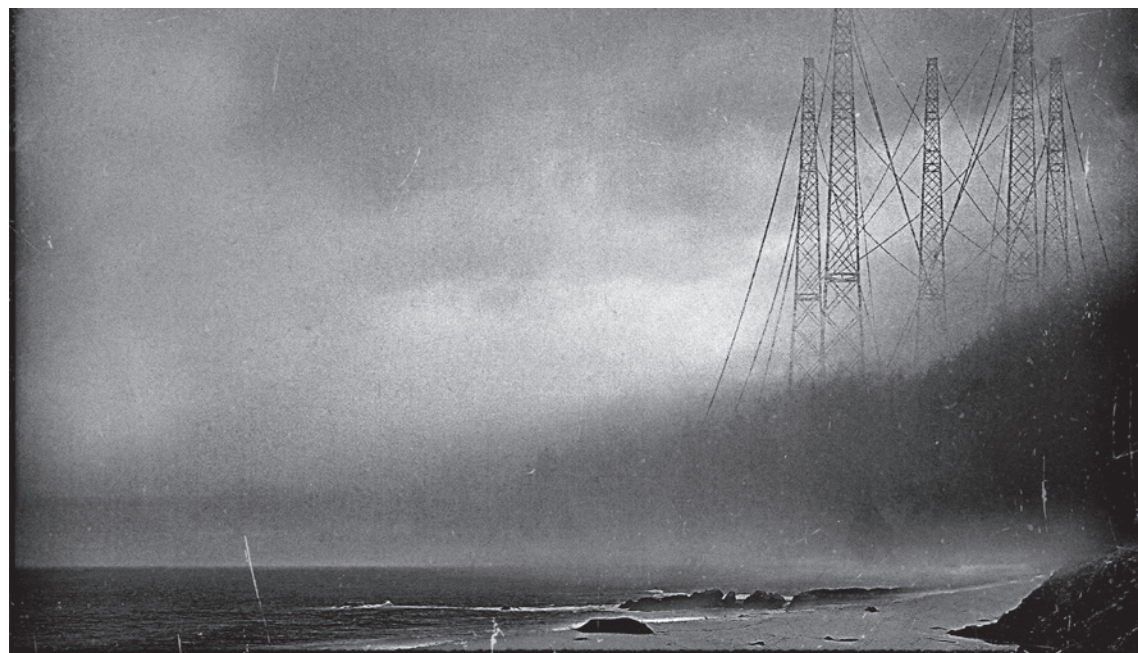
The Fuller Aquarium's hands-on exhibit has long been the source of delight and instruction for visitors, especially its younger ones. By far the most popular sea creature for the youngsters is Malakai the Octopus. Countless little hands have touched Malakai's

pulpy mass without harm.

Such was not to be the case on this day. When young William reached out to pet the octopus, the creature snaked a tentacle around his wrist and pulled. The boy wailed in fright, inconsolable even though the octopus held him for a mere instant. The damage, however, had been done, but not because of the frightening reaction of Malakai. Indeed, had the octopus remained completely immobile, the result would have been the same. The merest touch would have proved fatal.

Less than a minute after contact with the octopus, young William collapsed into convulsions and passed away before the arrival of medical assistance. His death has been attributed to an allergic reaction, though his parents maintain he has never shown any signs of whatever of allergies.

While no connection exists between any of these victims of misadventure, the unlikelihood of each tragedy and sheer number of them over such a short period of time has many people asking questions without answers, searching for meaning where none exists.



EDITORIAL

Does Kingsport Need a Wireless Station?

No reader of this paper need be reminded that the saga of the Kingsport wireless station's construction is as long as it is frustrating. The project is far behind schedule with costs soaring beyond what had been budgeted. It is only natural that us citizens question whether it should be completed at all — quite the subject of considerable contention! The following published letters bear ample testament to this fact, and they are but a small sampling of the correspondence your editors have received on the matter.

This paper is no friend of needless expenditure, but it

is firmly of the opinion that the station must be completed. To stop now would be a confirmed waste. Redoubled commitment, however, will bring us to the desired end, one which would link Kingsport to the rest of the world, to the furtherance of trade and the general enrichment of all.

I believe in the future of our good town. The wireless station represents that future. If we give up on the station, what will we tell our children as the world passes us by? That we lacked the ambition to see our work through? What sort of message would that pass on?

—Irina Aguirre, Central Hill

It is time to say "enough!" Never mind the enormous

cost the wireless station project has already incurred. Are we to become slaves to the machine? Have not the horrors of the Great War shown us the cost of unfettered progress? We have lived well without the wireless and will continue to do so.

—Timothy Rhodes, South Shore

There has been much said about the economic benefits that will attend the completion of the wireless station. But let us not forget that it will allow families to communicate quickly with relatives at a distance. When grandmother is ailing in another city, you need to know immediately, not whenever the post arrives.

—Georgiana Underwood, Kingsport Head

REWARD TO CATCH BIRD MUTILATOR Ornithologist Demands Justice

Wildlife Deputy DeSalle yesterday offered a \$10 reward to anyone who succeeds in providing evidence that will help put a stop to the rash of bird killings plaguing Kingsport Head.

"It's heartbreaking and enraging," said Deputy DeSalle. "I've been finding the birds everywhere. Someone has been killing them and carving signs into their bodies. I have no idea what these markings mean, and I don't care to. All I know is that it's disgusting and wrong."

The deputy went on to explain that stopping the perpetrator(s) is growing urgent.

"In the next few weeks, the migration season will get underway," he said. "There are some truly rare and beautiful birds who stop in Kingsport Head during that time. They must be protected. We can't let hooliganism destroy one of Kingsport's natural treasures."



GOING ON IN Kingsport Society



CONTROVERSIAL ARTIST EXHIBITS NEW WORK

*Sublime or Demonic?
The Debate Rages!
Last Unveiling
at 2pm Today*

Residents of Kingsport who frequent the South Shore boardwalk have had much occasion to become familiar with the paintings by the local artist who goes by the single name of Alterri. This name has been gathering renown or infamy, depending on one's perspective, with each new spine-chilling (or thrilling) work, and the opinions either in favor or against this artist's intriguing surreal style are sure to become even more vehement with today's unveiling.

Established and distinguished society reporter Evie Luckland revealed the extent that Alterri's work impacted Kingsport's society in our past weekend edition, but a recap is necessary: fainting ladies, aghast gentlemen, and lost innocence filled the South Shore boardwalk.

Crowds have only grown around Alterri's gallery tent since. Some denounce the artist as a Kingsport local, although many swear the artist was born and raised on our stunning coastline. Many of those calling for a ban on such work refuse to look upon the paintings at all, explaining that they fear to damage their immortal souls. However,

others have shown great support for the artist, praising the art as masterpieces of a new era.

Renowned and inquisitive society reporter Evie Luckland has had an advance look at the latest canvas prior to its unveiling this afternoon and warns that no viewer will be able to look upon it without experiencing emotions of an intense, and perhaps unwanted, nature.

The gallery will be open to the public at 2pm this afternoon.

Kingsport police have stated that they will have a presence on the boardwalk, as the crowds are expected to be unruly.

SOCIALITE THROWS CHARITY BALL

Ms. Abigail Neiman, a well-known philanthropist, is hosting a dance and fundraiser at her home in Providence, Rhode Island. Ms. Neiman informs the *Gazette* that tickets are \$25, and all proceeds go to the New England Orphan's Fund. It is sure to be the event of the season.

CONGREGATIONAL HOSPITAL EXPANDED!

The Congregational Hospital is just now nearing the end of an expansive five-year modernization plan to renovate and update the facility. All thanks to the illustrious support of Central Hill's elderly and wealthy Kingsport families, this hospital now provides the best care in New England, outside of Boston and Providence.

ALTERRI ASSOCIATION?

A possible shadow has fallen on the esteemed Woodward Family from Central Hill, who typically host Kingsport's lavish affairs throughout the year. A confidential source states one of

the family's elderly dogs was seen willingly entering the gallery tent of controversial artist known only as Alterri. Where was the Woodward matriarch who dotingly attends her canine?

YARN-SPINNING CONTEST WINNER ANNOUNCED

The annual St. Erasmus' Yarn-Spinning contest has concluded, and this year's winner is Josephine Ng. Attendees pronounced the event a great success, being thrilled with a day of wild, entertaining stories, energetically told.

Mrs. Ng's winning yarn deliciously chilled her audience. She told of a lighthouse keeper who noticed that when the beam swept over the reflected light of the full moon, the sea became a sheet of solid glass stretching to the horizon.

At last, one night, he stopped the lighthouse mechanism, freezing the beam in place. To the astonishment of his assistant, he then walked out along the lighted path across the water. Just as he arrived at the horizon, the gears lurched into motion, and a huge figure rose from the sea to claim the keeper.

A tale fittingly told at midnight!

By Evie Luckland

EDGE STUDIO

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THE ROLEPLAYING GAME

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Untold adventures in misty Kingsport—available now in all good hobby stores.

ARKHAM HORROR
THE ROLEPLAYING GAME

ADVENTURES
—KINGSPORT MYSTERIES—

Why, yes, you shall go to the ball—
Let Pickman's "Pick" for You!

Impeccable design for the Cream of Kingsport Society

PICKMAN'S
Picks

High Fashion for Ladies & Gentlemen's Tailoring.
Make-Up & Masks for balls, masquerade and "special" occasions.
Rare & Exotic Furs to bedeck your beloved.



Missing Man Returns!

Kingsport fishermen hauled Edward Sayre, a local resident missing for seven years, from the ocean off Marbletooth Island early this week.

One of the fishers, Gregory Christoffersen, recounted the event, "We caught sight [of] something floating in the water, and [Daniel] Mattersen [one of the other sailors] said it looked like a body – we used a net to haul it in, and sure as the risin' sun it was a man, alive, pale, but breathin'. We flipped him around and I knew his face – Eddie [Sayre]."

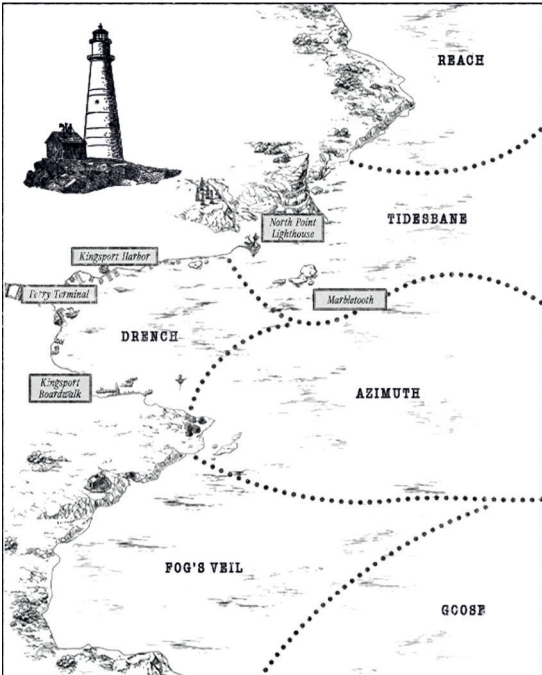
Sayre and his personal fishing boat went missing seven years ago after taking his vessel out one morning. No trace of him or his ship was ever recovered, but local rumors pointed to the infamous Marbletooth, a small island off the coast of Kingsport that longtime residents claim is cursed. Over the years, numerous disappearances have been attributed to a malevolence that haunts the island, though authorities have either declined to comment about these cases or dismissed it as superstition.

After a brief medical examination at Congregational Hos-

pital, Sayre was discharged to his grateful parents, Clarence Sayre and his wife Edith. Eddie also returns to his son, Leonard Sayre, who was only nine years old when his father disappeared. According to city records, Leonard has since been raised by his grandparents.

Dr. Laura Kerrigan conducted the initial evaluation of Sayre and noted that he is, "likely experiencing a prolonged state of shock." Though Dr. Kerrigan refused to speculate on the specifics of Sayre's condition or its causes, those present when the trawler docked are reported to have said that Sayre looked physically gaunt and mentally absent. One resident of St. Erasmus's Home for Mariners, Abraham Cohen, stated, "He [Eddie Sayre] had a look of a man that has seen the ugliness of war. His eyes looked outward, but he saw something none of the rest of us could."

Since being discharged, Sayre and his family have refused to speak publicly or give interviews. Kingsport authorities and Mayor Mayme Banks have also declined to comment on the peculiar nature of Sayre's return.



Shipping Forecast



OVERALL: misty, rainy, unseasonal warmth; wind southerly, strong, veering and becoming squally.

SEAS: Rough with hidden tides.

FURTHER OUTLOOK: Tumultuous, best avoided.

CLASSIFIEDS & WANTED

THE KINGSPORT ANNUAL SHELL SHOW hosted by the Kingsport Seashell Association is this weekend! Come one, come all to the pier for this all day event to see the strangest shells found on Kingsport's shores. Big! Beautiful! Unusual!

WANTED: EXPERIENCED, QUALIFIED Divers for important salvage work in waters off Marbletooth. \$5 a day for exciting opportunity to assist in search for the wreck of Elizabethan era three-master *Star of Anne*. Contact Eben Hall School for complete details and to provide credentials. No treasure hunters!

LIT'S NOODLE PARLOR offering the best Chinese food in Kingsport. Ask about our lunch special. Open late every day. Located in South Shore.

DO YOU HAVE SPARE LIZARDS? Excess reptiles may be rehomed at The Lady's Sanctuary. All scales welcome.

LOST TAROT DECK. Unusual major arcana, ten of swords marked by red-brown stain. If found, please burn.

THE FULLER AQUARIUM introduces all ages to the wonders of the sea! Fun and educational! Now featuring Malakai, the amazing octopus!

FOUND ON KINGSPORT HEAD: Porcelain doll. Victorian style, red dress, missing left hand, holding spindle with right. Answers to "Molly."

FOR SALE: issues of popular pulp magazine *Tales from Nevermore*. Well-read but well-cared for. Remarkable tales, but have only increased my nightmares. Ask for Wendell Texas at the Artists' Colony.

ARKHAM HORROR
INVESTIGATORS
GAMEBOOKS

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KINGSPORT
METAMORPHOSIS

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CHOOSE YOUR PATH
DECIDE YOUR FATE

The latest thrilling
adventure gamebook from
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KINGSPORT BOAT HIRE

—KINGSPORT HARBOR—

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SAFE PASSAGE GUARANTEED

Make an Octo-Pal
with Malakai!!

AT
THE FULLER
AQUARIUM

KINGSPORT'S PREMIER
FAMILY ATTRACTION

"HE HOLDS ON TIGHT AND WON'T LET GO!" — KINGSPORT TOURIST BOARD