

Murder Victims (cont.)

Wednesday, April 20: Robert Pate (age 18).

Robert made the mistake of letting the entire village of Gage know that he was going to enlist in the Army. As he bicycled out of town in the morning heading toward Floyd, the killer clotheslined him and took his bound body to an abandoned farm near the lodge. After nightfall, Robert became the latest victim. His remains are in a well-camouflaged shallow grave on the farm. Because it was known that he was leaving Floyd County, he is not yet missed. His bicycle might eventually be found in the weed-choked field of the farm where he died.

Friday, April 22: Daniel, Marka, and Stephen Moses (ages 38, 27, and 8).

The Moses family were enjoying a family outing near Willis. Having travelled from Richmond, they were touring the state in a brand new Model T, taking time to camp in fields and at roadsides. Daniel was an avid hunter and former Marine Corps gunnery sergeant. His wife, Marka, was also fond of the outdoors and the couple was exposing their son, Stephen, to the wonders of nature. The killer bludgeoned them as they slept.

Emboldened by the full moon and the various occult implications associated with it, the killer carried out this risky attack within sight of an occupied farmhouse. There were no witnesses, but the killer failed to take the Model T from the crime scene. Only the unconscious bodies were removed. When an attempt was made to recover the Model T, a barking dog scared the killer away.

The Moses family was soon butchered and buried in the general vicinity of Gage. The Model T has been impounded by the sheriff's department who is still investigating the case. It has not reached the attention of newspapers.

Sunday, April 24: Kevin Hill (age 15).

Kevin was snatched away from his father's turkey farm south of Gage as he was doing some pre-dawn chores. His parents, Norman and Jean Hill, are frantic, but some local gossips have suggested Kevin simply ran away. The killer dumps his weighted corpse in the Little River the next evening. It is Kevin's body that washes onto the riverbank and is discovered on April 28.

Wednesday, April 27: Elliot and Cheryl-Anne Hartley (ages 29 and 25).

The Hartleys were en-route to the Grandview Lodge for a planned two week vacation. The killer feigned an accident on the road in the early morning hours and when they stopped to help, he/she had them. After finishing with them, the killer pushed their Model T into a ravine to make it look as if they suffered an accident. Any decent pathologist will realize that they were murdered and that "accident injuries" were inflicted post-mortem. Their "accident" has not yet been discovered.

to illuminate a totally ineffective map. The pilot managed to bring his aircraft to a safe landing in a pasture near Rocky-mount. The incident is, of course, unrelated to events in the scenario, but might be connected with the February 9 article in the PCs' imaginations.

Player Aid #5: FLOYD COUPLE MISSING. This page two article appears in the April 13, 1921 edition. It briefly documents the disappearance of John and Elizabeth Kiel (see page xx).

The Reporter

Joseph Woerth is a reporter for the Floyd Republic and arrives in Gage on the morning of the 29th. His job is to do a story on the body found the previous day and to see if other local affairs are newsworthy.

Joseph is one of two staff writers working for the Republic. The job pays comparatively little so he supplements his earnings as a free lance novelist. He has written several dime novels of little or no literary merit. As a reporter, he is poor and is of limited talent. He is inquisitive and perceptive enough to be able to properly sound out a story, but he will never enjoy any real success in the profession. Joseph's presence in the scenario is nothing more than a distraction. He will interview local residents and will visit the lodge for the same purpose. At the Keeper's discretion, he might be present at the lodge when the

revenant's attack.

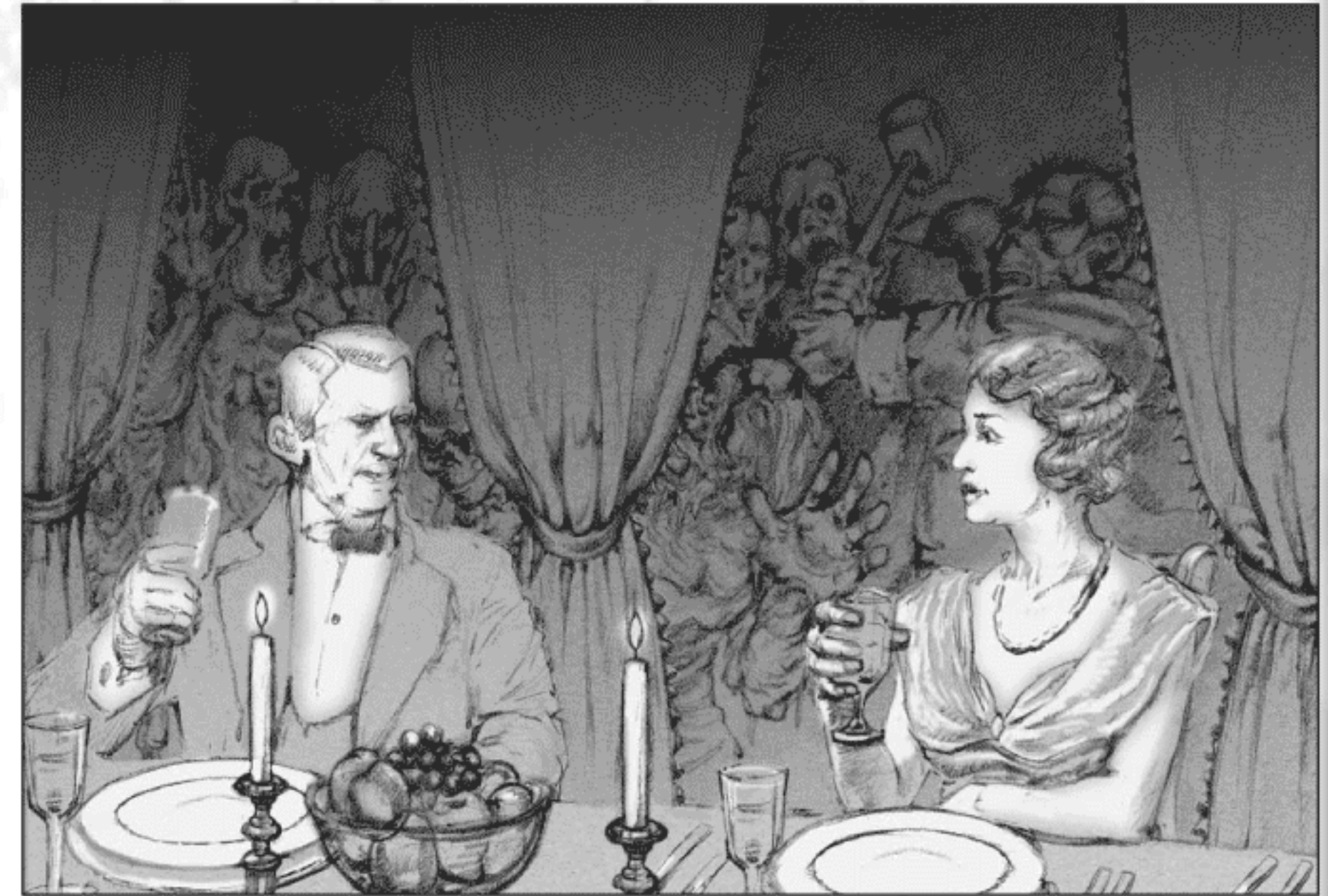
Not surprisingly, he can be quite a nuisance. If he believes the investigators are up to something worth reporting, he might try to shadow them. This might restrict the investigators if they intend to do anything illegal or that they want kept secret. It is not easy to reason with him once he believes he is pursuing a good lead. Simply asking him to go away won't work. Bribery will also fail and a bribe attempt might be reported in an article submitted to his editor, Mervyn Welles. Welles is also the newspaper's owner.

One way of getting Joseph off their backs is to visit or telephone the offices of the Republic in Floyd. An eloquent complaint about his conduct made by a well-dressed and seemingly prominent or affluent individual will impress Mr. Welles as long as a Persuade roll succeeds. In such a circumstance, he will recall his errant reporter to Floyd.

Failing this, Mervyn Welles is one of the few people in the scenario who can be bribed. The Republic is not making money and is in danger of going bankrupt. A reasonably substantial bribe (\$20.00) could convince Mr. Welles to assign Joseph to cover the third annual tulip festival in Willis.

The Town Drunk

Caleb Hacker is a veteran of the Great War who returned from France a broken and shattered man. He was horribly



Caption

Saturday, April 30: The Calm Before the Storm

disfigured by wounds and is mentally unbalanced. Were it not for the fact that he has alibis for the times most of people have disappeared, he would be a likely candidate for accusations.

Caleb survives off of handouts and odd jobs. What little money he makes is spent on liquor purchased from illegal sources in Floyd. Though he was once able to buy booze in Gage, no one here is willing to contribute to his decrepit condition any longer. He returns to Gage periodically because he knows he can get a free meal and make money shoveling stables and cleaning barns.

On the 29th, he returns, having walked from Floyd. For the duration of the scenario, he is a babbling idiot who neglects himself and talks incessantly about the "impending doom." He subconsciously senses the disruption in the area's psychic energies. If approached by the investigators, he may alarm one of them by grabbing him or her and screaming nonsense. He will inflict no harm and if struck or shoved away, will run away howling like a banshee. At dawn on May 1, he will return to his normal pathetic state.

The morning and afternoon of the 30th are the final hours before the evening's scheduled assault. The day should be run in a free form manner based on plans and actions from previous days. Dreams and other unusual phenomena experienced overnight may be discussed and acted on. Joseph Woerth might put in an appearance and may, at the Keeper's discretion, loiter at the lodge long enough to be caught up in the catastrophe to follow. Some investigators may make some tentative defensive preparations or may investigate possible suspects in their midst. Some might even doggedly pursue sporting activities and social events in defiance of the strange events surrounding them.

One possibility the Keeper may face is that some of the investigators may choose to go camping. This is rather foolhardy if they have learned about the disappearances. To herd them back into the area of the lodge, inclement weather including powerful wind gusts may turn a pleasurable night out camping into a mild nightmare. Most reasonable campers would return to the lodge and wait until the weather clears. The weather does clear, but the revenants use it as a means of approaching the house with stealth.

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