



The Pleasant Places of Florida

(Suggested in The Five Orange Pips)

A Corresponding Scion Society of The Baker Street Irregulars

12th Night Reflections

24 PPoffers met for the Annual Fall Gathering Saturday, November 5th. Hosts George and Mary Edwards laid out an elegant spread of smoked turkey, with all the fixin's, topped off with English trifle. There were quizzes and conundrums proffered by George, and Bill Ward, and a limerick contest conducted by Mike Carroll, with prizes for the winners. The Queen was toasted along with a host of Holmesians personages, another Round/Robin Pastiche was started, and Sue Vail Webb displayed her 88% "Sherlock" (or Shirley). Marsha Pollak, our ASHy sort of a gal, informed all present of the advent of the "Scotland Yard Pub & Grill", featuring Shepherd's Pie, Bridie & Peas, and Scotch Eggs, which recently opened in the Town 'n' Country area of Tampa (6507 W. Waters).... Baker St. Merchants, Ltd., (21217 Washington Ave. #6, Walnut CA 91789) puts out some fine handcrafted S'ian jewelry.... The most interesting correspondence received was from Tanaka Kiyoshi ツァーロック・ホームズ an ardent Holmesian from Japan. He informs us that Sherlock Holmes is written in Japanese characters as appears here to the right. Many Sherlockian items quite suitable for holiday gifts are offered by I.R.MINATURES (Box 89, Burnt Hills, NY 12027), Baker Street Enterprises (Box 34357, Bartlett, TN 38184), and Baker Street Shirtmakers (281 Centennial Ave., Piscataway, NJ 08854) to name but a few. Catalogs can be secured from them direct.... A full set of 6 Sherlock Holmes cassettes (Gielgud & Richardson) for \$24.95(+3.50) from "The Mind's Eye", Box 6727, S.F., CA 94101.The most clever (and joyous) S'ian announcement came from Pattie Brunner who increased her family by 50%.... Most pleased to received word from Mike Bryan, PPoffer on temporary loan the Lone Star State where he is studying at the Dallas Theol. Seminary.As always, my thanks to all who corresponded and/or sent in items of Sherlockian interest: Mike Carroll, David Dunnett, Dan Farek, Stephanie Rapp, Prof. Arthur Axelrad, Gary Heiselberg, Stacy Sopko, Eric Rauchway, Pattie Brunner, Tom Dunn, Kyle Anita Richeson, Peter Blau, Phil Sherman, Caroline Everett, Mark Alberstat, Harold Niver, Courtney Anderson, Wanda Butts, John Bennett Shaw, and John Kalajian. Sorry If I inadvertently omitted anyone. Thank you one and all. ...PPoffer John Fought has recently started a Holmesian architectural company in Tampa. We wonder if all his houses will contain 17 steps to the 2nd floor - 1st, that is, in English terms?

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HAVE ONE
WITHOUT
THE
OTHER.**



The next get-together will probably be on or near 12th Night to celebrate the Master's 130th birthday. It will be an informal meeting of the "Diogenes Club". Organizers will put forth details in due course, I trust. This Recorder will be performing his duties as BSI Chaplain at the BSI Dinner in New York on January 6th.

What Sherlock is saying is that you shouldn't keep receiving the PPoff Communication without sending in your \$2.21b "Lubricant for the Wheels" for 1984.



Holmes
Beach



COMMUNICATION #67

NOVEMBER 15, 1983*

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Pleasant Places of Florida

A Corresponding Scion Society of

THE BAKER STREET IRREGULARS

Please direct correspondence to:

The Rev'd Dr. Benton Wood, BSI - Recorder

"Lubricant for the Wheels" - \$2.21 per annum.

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(* - On this day in 1894, Holmes said to Insp. Hopkins, "You are going to headquarters, no doubt." (Golden Pince-Nez)

Philatelic Philandering

... or "Stamping Around
with Sherlock Holmes"



Recently two philatelic items Holmesian interest came across this Recorder's desk. The first (depicted at left) was a copy of an Afghanistan

stamp which was in use at the time of the Battle of Maiwand - 1880. It carries the Islamic dating of "1295". It is violet in color, and in those days cancellation consisted of cutting or tearing a piece from the stamp. In 1880 the stamps were ungummed - the sender had to provide the adhesive.

The second item discovered was a picture postcard, in excellent condition, of Reichenbach Falls, Switzerland. It was posted July 24, 1907 and was addressed to a Mrs. Morris of Detroit.

The U.S. 10.9¢ Hansom Cab precancel stamp is rather common on the bulk mail these days. If, perchance, any reader of this column does not have a pair of the Hansom coil stamp - very, very Sherlockian, old chap - send this Recorder 2 regular 20¢ stamps and I'll send you a mint pair. Be sure to let me know if you want the precancel or the plain variety. Same goes for the 5.9¢ "Solitary" Cycle stamp.

Be sure to read the interesting article which appears on p.4 of this Communication. And if you are Sherlockian philatelic buff and do not have a copy of Arthur Pierce's "Was Sherlock Holmes a Stamp Collector?", I'll send you a xerox for \$1.50 - all proceeds go to the PPoff.

The Baker Street Irregular's most noted stamp expert is Herman "Pat" Herst, Jr.. He is a PPoff, and we were sorry to hear that he has been "under the weather". Get well soon, Pat!

From Mrs. Hudson's Kitchen



MARTHA'S MEAT STOCK

(This is the final recipe of the 3-part group: "Bubble and Squeak", "Wow-Wow Sauce", and now the old-fashioned English "Meat Stock". The other recipes appeared in #65 & #66)

2-3 lbs. meat bones	2 tblspoons parsley
3 sticks celery, sliced	1 carrot, sliced
2 medium-sized onions, stuck with 4 cloves	
½ teaspoon thyme	1 bayleaf
8 peppercorns	8 cups of water

Put all the ingredients in a large saucepan. Bring to a boil and skim off any scum. Cover and simmer over very low heat for two hours.

Strain the liquid into a bowl or jar. Allow the stock to cool & remove any fat before using. The stock should be refrigerated until needed. It should not be kept in the "fridge" for more than 3 to 4 days, but it can be frozen for up to 6 months. Makes 4½ cups.

Agony Column

(Readers are asked to submit items for this Column. Thank you.)

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY
SEPTEMBER 16, 1983

THE PRIVATE LIFE OF DR. WATSON

Michael Hardwick. Dutton. \$13.95 ISBN 0-525-24205-8
Undoubtedly there are Baker Street Irregulars out there for whom this novel will be required reading. For others, it is simply a long winded, unexciting narrative. Using accepted Sherlockian history, the author has reconstructed Watson's life in a fictional autobiography, from his youth to his marriage with Holmes. While this exercise is an interesting bit of literary mimicry—his Watson certainly sounds like Conan Doyle's—and interesting scholarship, it is short on adventure or mystery. For the most part, the book is built around a series of vignettes in which Watson describes his encounters with such characters as Henry Ward Beecher, William Gilbert of light opera fame and Sarah Bernhardt, revealing the facts of his life only hinted at in his adventures with Holmes. With few exceptions, these episodes plod along with merciless tedium. [October 31]



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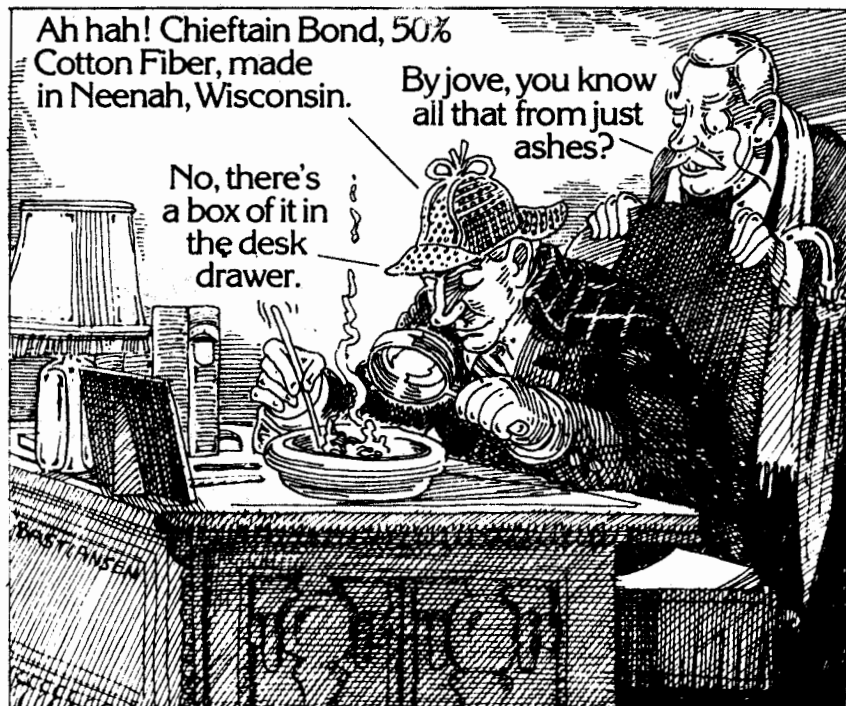
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Holmes Pounds Unheralded Foe

HOLMESIAN HEADLINES
FROM HERE + THERE ...

Moriarty: His dream
come true is shattered

Watson takes aim



TV DIAL St. Petersburg Times, Sunday, July 31, 1983

Sherlock revived

The Baker Street Irregulars will be delighted to learn Sherlock Holmes is being revived yet again, this time in a 13-part series for PBS with Jeremy Brett as the inimitable sleuth.

The series is being produced in Britain with David Burke as Dr. Watson and is being adapted for TV by John Hawkesworth of *Upstairs, Downstairs* fame.

The first seven of the series will be *The Solitary Cyclist*, *The Speckled Band*, *The Naval Treaty*, *A Scandal in Bohemia*, *The Dancing Men*, *The Crooked Man* and *The Blue Carbuncle*.

Holmes's Shot

Sherlock is
affectionate, enjoyable

Holmes' Korean connection
showed him better methods

Holmes Has No Trouble
Gillette Castle...
Holmes' Sweet Home!

Sarasotans Pulling For Holmes

Holmes leaves Vilas no clues

The Adventures of



Sherlock Ohms

The Case of the Filched Funds

"I'm sure I left it right here," the man said, looking for the hundredth time into a cluttered desk drawer. "Right here, in an envelope, hidden under these papers."

The famous detective Sherlock Ohms glanced at Dr. Wattson, who rolled his eyes. "Hidden," Wattson muttered to Ohms. "Hidden in an open desk drawer in the middle of an office." Ohms ignored him.

"How much money was in the envelope?" Ohms asked the man briskly. "And when was the last time you saw it?"

"Yesterday," the man said, still pawing through the drawer's clutter as if the money would suddenly reappear. "I collected from everyone in the office for a going-away present for Tom Keahn over there. There must have been more than

\$30. I was going out to buy the present this afternoon, but now . . ." He shook his head.

"Unfortunately, this is a rather common occurrence," Ohms told him. "People leave valuables in their desks, or the coffee fund money, or the money collected for a going-away present, and then leave the drawer open for anyone to get into. Even if it is hidden in a drawer, it takes a thief just a few seconds to check through a desk. Money or valuables should always be locked in a drawer or file cabinet until you need them."

"And be sure to keep the key on you, too," Wattson added.

"Well, I've sure learned my lesson this time, Mr. Ohms," the man said ruefully. "But I do have a confession to make."

Whodunit? Turn the page upside down for the answer.

We've all done it, on occasion. Been careless with our valuables, left money laying around. "I've had things taken out of my desk before," the man confessed, "and I still didn't think to lock this large of a sum of money away. It's really my own fault." Unfortunately, the thief can be a fellow employee, a visitor, or a stranger in the building. No matter what the circumstances, we still have to be careful. Remember, security is everyone's job!

"Impossible!" I exclaimed. "Not so fast, my dear Watson," said Holmes, settling back in his chair. "That our esteemed mentor, **Sir Arthur Conan Doyle**, could be an unscrupulous faker does stretch the bounds of belief. But let us consider the facts. You know, of course, of the 1912 Piltdown man, the 'fossil' that was purported to be the missing link between man and ape and was found to be an outrageous fraud some 40 years later. Now **John Hathaway Winslow**, an American scholar of apparent repute, has fingered Sir Arthur as the culprit. Writing in *Science* '83, he avers that our creator lived just eight miles from the Piltdown site and no doubt went there on scientific field trips. As a trained doctor—like yourself,

my dear fellow—he had the tools, the skills and probably the bones to forge those fossils. Why? Winslow points out that our friend had a bone to pick, if you will permit a small joke, with scientific authorities, who were skeptical about his enthusiasm for psychic research, ridiculing his spirit mediums and clairvoyants as mere fakes. So, Watson, our American accuser has proffered opportunity and motive. Therefore, it is not impossible, as you so hastily put it. On the other hand, I myself would scarcely take such circumstantial evidence to Inspector Lestrade. The answer, I must conclude, lies with Sir Arthur's bones, and I for one am quite content to let it remain there."

—By William Guest and Ben Spier

Irregular

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RICHARD FLETCHER

Will Holmes Be Motivated

Holmes will be seen live

Col. Moran surprised

Holmes to manage
local S&L branch

Sherlock Holmes' cases told with stamps

Arnie Matanky, a stamp collector and member of Hugo's Companions, a scion society of the Baker Street Irregulars, has created a philatelic exhibit combining his knowledge of

Unassorted Mixtures

By Denise McCarty

Sherlock Holmes and stamp collecting.

His exhibit consists of approximately 450 postage stamps depicting people, places and things mentioned in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's many adventures of Sherlock Holmes.

Matanky reports that some of the adventures are easy to complete.

The short story, "The Adventure of the Mazarin Stone" deals with Holmes' recovery of the crown diamond, the Mazarin stone.

Matanky chose the following stamps to illustrate the story: a Ghana 1959 4-penny stamp showing diamonds; a France 1971 45-centime stamp depicting a cardinal, nobleman and lawyer to represent Mazarin; a 1972 45-franc Senegal stamp depicting a lion being killed by a hunter (the count who stole the diamond used to shoot lions in Algeria);

A Belgium 1965 2-franc stamp commemorating a diamond exhibition; and an India 1977 2-rupee stamp honoring the centenary of the gramophone. (Holmes used a gramophone to fool the count and his accomplice into believing he was in another room playing the violin while he was really listening to their conversation.)

Matanky used only United States issues to tell *A Study in Scarlet*.

This full-length story in which Holmes and Dr. Watson are first introduced details how Holmes solved the murder of Enoch J. Drebber, an American in London.

The stamps featured on the *A Study in Scarlet* page include: the 1982 20¢ Dr. Mary Walker, army surgeon; 1982 10.9¢ Hansom Cab; 1976 13¢ Chemistry stamp showing a common chemical pipette;

The 1980 3.5¢ Violin coil; 1944 3¢ Steamship issue; 1982 20¢ Desert Plants; 1947 3¢ Utah commemorative; and 1948 3¢ California Gold Centennial stamp.

Like most of the stamps in his exhibit, these can be obtained cheaply.



This 1980 200-franc Comoro Islands stamp honors Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and his literary creation, Sherlock Holmes.

Matanky explains, "To encourage young collectors to specialize, I decided to include relatively common stamps each available for 10¢ or less."

He adds that he received many of the stamps by trading duplicates with collectors in other countries and that his major cost was for overseas postage.

Matanky also used three stamps depicting Sherlock Holmes (a Nicaragua 1972 2-cordoba airmail, Comoro Islands 1980 200-franc stamp and San Marino 1979 200-lira stamp) to complete those adventures that were difficult to find stamps for.

Matanky reports that he was about halfway through his project when he discovered that Henry Lauritzen, a member of the Baker Street Irregulars, had completed such a collection in 1981.

Lauritzen, who lives in Denmark, sent Matanky two copies of his booklet, "The Philatelic Holmes." Matanky adds that this booklet gave him much pleasure and guidance in pursuing his goal.

