

THE PLEASANT PLACES OF FLORIDA (Vide - "The Five Orange Pips")

Corresponding Scion Society of the Baker Street Irregulars, New York

Office of the Recorder:

- Headquarters Holmes Beach, Fla.

General Communication #22, November, '75

1. Although this item of news will be familiar to those attending our semi-annual meeting Nov. 8, several resident members could not be present, while distance did not make it possible for non-resident members to attend. At that, the Marvin Morton's made it all the way from Rockledge, Fla., and were presented post-suro with the Queen's Shilling. However, 94% of the area members arriving by 2:30 p.m., Sat., enjoyed what the Recorder set down as a good lunch and interesting program, it receiving a memorable start when Rev. Dr. Benton Wood sonorously repeated the Sherlock Holmes Prayer, to be followed by a moment of silent meditation as we "stood on the terrace" in tribute to the former Gasogene-cum Tantalus Rex Stout, notable Sherlockian Scholar, propounder of the theory that "Dr Watson was a Woman," and famed author of the Nero Wolfe mysteries. A new and saturationally indoctrinated member, Charles Carroll, then obliged with one of ~~his~~'s favorite violin presentations, the Baccarole, although his violin rested at home rather than on his knees (a habit of the Master) and was rendered by a faithful tape recording. There followed a report on the 'Round Robin Pastiche as composed by members Butts, Gunning, Dr. and Mrs Mitchell and Tom Reesor. A fine piece of work. Dr. Wood undertook to zerox it and distribute among the members. Also, it will be submitted to the Baker Street Journal. Brief and telling talks were then given by Members Fough, Mitchell, Morgan, Reesor. Finally a short Quiz made it clear how well posted our membership is in the Canon. The Recorder having reported a slight deficit budget, Member Reesor suggested that another 'Round Robin Pastiche be started on its way entitled "The Case of the Lost ~~Star~~ (that's ~~his~~'s stirling)" Mention might be made that preliminary to the meeting the arriving members surveyed an Exhibition Table which displayed 42 items - everything from Snoopy a la Holmes (we forgave the sacrilege) to jig-saw puzzles, 18 new title books, Mr Holmes' diploma presented by Colorado State University - paintings, drawings; the Holmes' Calendar - 365 illustrated incidents (extraordinary), tea shirt - illustrated, bumper stickers. The specialty makers, like publishers, really are on the bandwagon of the Holmes' "revival."
2. List of titles of Sherlockian books available at Paperback Booksmith in Gateway Mall, St Petersburg. Member Fough, of the staff, will help you with your selection.
3. List of Canonical material in the St Petersburg Public Library, especially zeroxed by Reference Librarian and Scion member Miss Caroline Everett; 49 titles. List available from Recorder. A labor of love, indeed.
4. Bookman and Member Morgan reported Publishers Central Bureau listing Sherlockian books and records in its Chris. Gift Catal., and the Christmas Book Chat, doing likewise. Ask him for details, if desired. Similarly, Dr Wood sends in the Deerskin Trading post, offering Deerstalkers, while another catalog from the PCB lists the "Complete" Holmes for \$3.98. Their address is 1 Champion Ave. Avenel, N.J., 07131.
4. Unusually the St.P Independent published an item in its ~~Scene~~ Action Sept. 27 asking for "Information on the BSI." Inquirer got what he wanted, and joined with us - Tom Takach; (b) Palm Beach Post 10/3 had lengthy review of local theater presentation of the "Hound"; (c) U.S. Gov. Prtng. Office distrib forms for applying for its Occupational Outdoor Quarterly, illustrated by fantasized you-know-who; (d) Two newspaper's Bridge sections detailing games between "Holmes and Watson,"; (e) lengthy piece in "Fantasy and Science Fiction" entitled "Venus, Mars and Baker Street,"; (f) N.Y. Times dissertates on "pipe smoking" introducing Mr Holmes as among the famous addicted thereto; (g.) 44 2x4 cards of "evidence" compiled by Member Bryan (or was it Mr. Ward, or Mr. Schatell?) Remarkable. (h) "Playboy" full page cartoon depicting the Nemesis of Crime and his associate.
6. Although our Scion's only by-law is that there shall be no by-laws, we try to keep to the unwritten rule that not having heard from a member in any respects for three months, it will be assumed he or she is no longer interested.

Res. Marshall
Recorder

Post Scriptum

7. Member DeWaal's wonderful ^{World} "Bibliography of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson" now is resident at Recorder's Office. Postage \$1.00. (May retain 2 wks.)
8. The definitive "Annotated Sherlock Holmes" back home with Member Reesor. Postage \$1 May retain 2 wks., 2.
9. Extraordinary announcement: "The New 221-B Tobacco Mixture - Balanced Blend, With illus. of Handsome Cab, Thereat." Doesn't have mailing privileges. Will be on view at next Members' Meeting. Presented by Member Siegrist.