



The Pleasant Places of Florida



(Vide "The Five Orange Pips")

32

A Corresponding Scion Society of the BAKER STREET IRREGULARS



12th Night Reflections

..... On St. George's Day (April 23), a fine gathering of the faithful was held at HOLMES Beach, Headquarters of the Pleasant Places of Florida. After a careful examination of various displays, a delicious luncheon (served from the kitchen of Mrs. Hudson) was enjoyed. Canonical Toasts were proffered with special intention & recollection of Leslie Marshall, our late mentor. All eagerly sought the "Queen's Shilling" during the period of recall & ratiocination....

..... A Memorial Fund in the name of Leslie Marshall was established. Bill Ward, Tom Mitchell & Caroline Everett form a committee to design a plaque to be awarded each year for the Best Monograph submitted for the "LESLIE MARSHALL MEMORIAL AWARD" sponsored by the P.P. of F. By the

by, those wishing to contribute to the Memorial Fund may do so to the Recorder..... A new round-robin pastiche has been started - "The Singular Adventure of the Solitary Balloonist". It will be published in a month or so. A member of the 4th Estate (Bradenton Herald) is doing a feature on the P.P. of F. generally, and Dr. Wood (the Recorder) specifically.....

..... From Luther Norris has come a copy of "Sherlockian Quotations", compiled by Bruce Beaman - complete & attractively presented - get it!.....

..... Ron DeWaal (5020 Hogan Dr., Ft. Collins, Colo. 80521) has put together a complete Directory of Sherlock Holmes Societies, extant & extinct, here & abroad..... Harold Niver informs us that new cases for the game, "221-B Baker Street" are available for \$3 - Gammon Games, 2861 La Cresta Ave., Anaheim, California 92806.....

.... Mike Kean sent on the menu of the "Master's Class" Commemorative Dinner held January 9, 1977 - truly a Canonical Cuisine!.....

..... "The Men of Tor" also met on St. George's Day at the "Bee & Thistle" in Old Lyme, Connecticut. I'll bet we had better weather!.....

.... Kevin John reports that a new Scion Society - "The Country of the Saints" has been formed in Brigham City, Utah. He tells us to check the 1977 Spring/Summer Wards catalog, p.865, for a pleasant surprise.....

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Copies of the 2nd Annual Gathering of the PP of F (a veritable collector's item) are available for postage. Also Communications #29 through #32.... Copies of our round-robin pastiches (The 2nd Stein, The Lost G's, and The Foreign Cabman) may be obtained from the Recorder for \$1⁰⁰ postpaid.....



Communication #32.

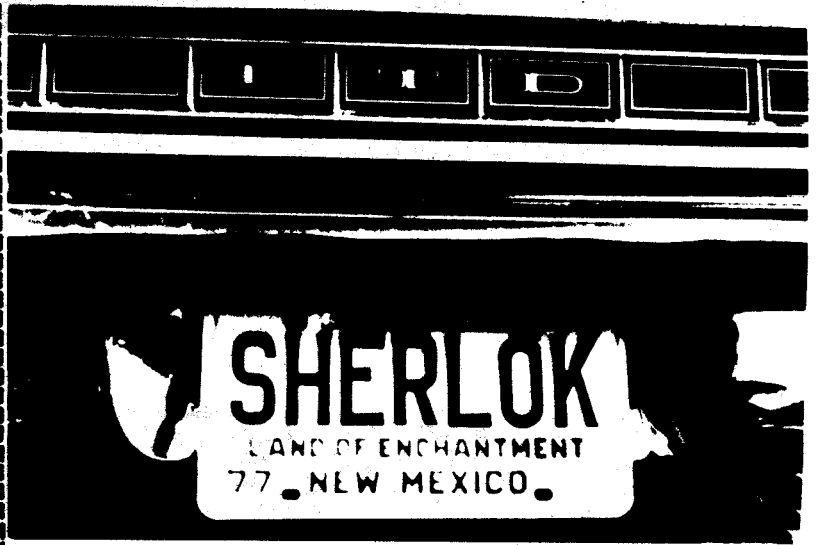
May 16, 1977*

Published irregularly by the
PLEASANT PLACES of FLORIDA

A Corresponding Scion Society
of the BAKER ST. IRREGULARS

Direct correspondence to:
Dr. Benton Wood, Recorder

*(Note: It was a mere 76 years ago on this date that Headmaster, Dr. Thorneycroft Huxtable, of the Priory School, made his startling appearance.)



Sent in by John Bennett Shaw.



4. IN SHERLOCK HOLMES STORIES

Example: scientific deduction

"R I R X R T E F H K !"

V H P F E U S T

M F Z R H U E H R R E

J I W R U

V G U A W G U R U

Q G S I G T G U E

Y H S O R U U S H

X S H G F H E K

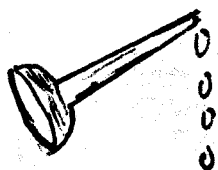
Y R F - U S W Y O S A U

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Agony Column

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



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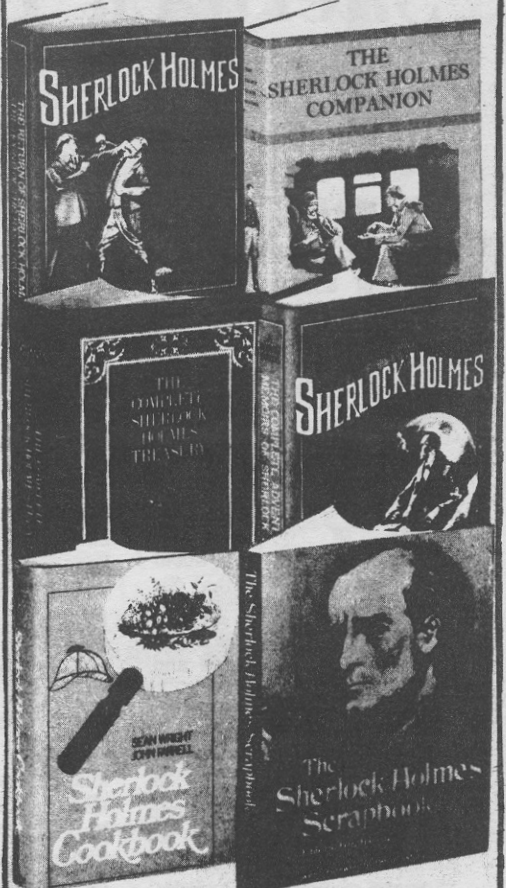
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+++++
 + I am interested in hearing from others of +
 + their arguments that Sherlock Holmes did +
 + indeed retire from active pursuit of his +
 + art to a bee farm in Sussex. Prefer writ- +
 + ten arguments or sources. Write to: Bill +
 + Ward, +
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(Agony Column continued on p.4)

Sherlock Holmes



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'The Society Of Solitary Cyclists'

Sherlock Holmes Fans Form Club Network

By RICK VAN SANT

CINCINNATI (UPI) — On a recent cold and dreary night, members of "The Society of Solitary Cyclists" gathered for some mind-stirring discussion and discourse on their singular object of affection — Sherlock Holmes.

"The Society of Solitary Cyclists" takes its name from the short story, "The Adventure of the Solitary Cyclist," one of 60 tales about the London detective that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle penned in longhand, an obvious labor of love, in the late 1890s and early 1900s.

Thanks to Doyle's brilliant writing, Holmes remains the most famous detective in fiction. In fact, Doyle managed to make Holmes so lifelike that members of the "Society of Solitary Cyclists" and 100 similar clubs around the world take great delight in picturing Holmes as a real person.

So, it was not surprising when guest speaker Paul Herbert began his presentation with the tongue-in-cheek complaint that the local library had placed its Sherlock Holmes collection in the "fictional mystery" department.

"Of course," acknowledged Herbert, "the popular myth continues that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle made up these accounts. That myth is propagated by the powerful estate of Doyle.

"We know, of course," Herbert continued in serious tones, "that Holmes lived and that Dr. John H. Watson actually authored the accounts of Holmes' detective work. Doyle appears to have been a literary agent who managed to get Watson's work published."



As Herbert spoke, a young man entered in a deerstalker hat, the double-billed cap that has become the symbol of Holmes. The group was a mixed lot — men in business suits, long-haired young women, young men in jeans. Even the editor of the Cincinnati Post was on hand.

Herbert, who teaches social studies to seventh graders when he isn't re-reading his Holmes, has an insatiable "Sherlockian" appetite. In the past two years, for example, he has traveled to Cleveland, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Chicago, Rochester, Toronto and New York City to participate in Holmes-related activities.

Herbert told local club members of the widespread interest in Holmes. "Thousands of letters come in every year to 221 B Baker St. (Holmes' London address)," Herbert said. "Many of the letters ask advice on solving mysteries.

"Franklin D. Roosevelt was a member of the Baker Street Irregulars (a New York City-based Holmes club) and once wrote to see if Holmes might have some American ancestry.

"A bibliography shows more than 6,000 items were published about Holmes before 1973. A new bibliography being prepared will have another 6,000 items.

"The 'Holmes National Archives' is in Santa Fe, N.M., where John Shaw has collected 98 per cent of all the English material ever

"AGONY COLUMN" (Cont. from page 3.)

FOR SALE - One (1) copy of the 1977 Sherlock Holmes Calendar compiled by Sean Wright, published by Drake. Over six months good use left - contains a plethora of most interesting information. The first Jefferson \$2 bill to reach me will be sent said item postpaid and post haste. Request from the Recorder.

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X missing a good bet.
X X X X X X X X X X X X X



Whose was it?
His who is gone,
Who shall have it?
He who will come.
What was the month?
The sixth from the first.
Where was the sun?
Over the oak.
Where was the shadow?
Under the elm.
How was it stepped?
North by ten and by ten,
East by five and by five,
South by two and by two,
West by one and by one,
and so under.
What shall we give for it?
All that is ours.
Why should we give it?
For the sake of the Trust.

published on Holmes. He even throws a birthday party for Professor Moriarty (Holmes' most feared enemy) every Halloween in nearby Moriarty, N.M.

"A Holmes club in New Jersey is named 'The Five Orange Pips' on behalf of a Holmes story, and membership is limited to five

persons. Each member delivers a scholarly paper on Holmes each year.

"The Baker Street Irregulars in New York is a male-only club. Their annual meeting was once picketed by female fans of Holmes, who later started a women-only club, 'The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes.'"