

THE PLEASANT PLACES OF FLORIDA

Corresponding Scion Society of the Baker Street Irregulars

Office of the Recorder Box

Hdgrs. Holmes Beach

General Communication #8, June 1973

To Our Member Irregulars and Auxiliants:

Saul Becker	Paul Gunning	Edw. J. Morgan	L.F. Satterlee
Miss Wanda Butts	Rebecca L. Hall	Marvin Norton	Dr. Marcello Truzzi
Dr. R.B. De Wall	Carl E. Hirsch	A. Jay Peck	Miss Rose Vogel
Miss Janet Dust	Leslie Marshall	Tom Reesor	

Due to the phenomenal growth of our Scion, the wealth of material upon which to report, and the slowness of the mails (perhaps not altogether the fault of the postal medium) it becomes necessary to revise our method, from the beginning (March '72), of sending, 'round robin fashion, a master copy of the Communication with attachments. In fact C.#7 put in transit 73 days ago has not yet made its rounds, reaching the Recorder.

Therefore believing it will meet with everyone's approval we are sending a copy of this Communication to each member. We shall give in more detail the extraordinary items of interest newly before us, then where a member wishes to see the document itself it will be sent direct, to be returned in due course to the Recorder, for forwarding to some other member who wishes to see it.

It will be noted that for sake of saving space (this Communic. for the first time, may run to two pages) addresses have been omitted, as it is believed that except for our new members we are all familiar with each others location.

First, let us record a hearty welcome to said new members: Mr. L.F. Satterlee Melbourne, Fla., introduced by Sol Becker, who speaks of his long interest in Sherlockiana; Mr. Edward J. Morgan, St. Petersburg, rare book specialist and color photographer; Dr. R.B. De Wall, Librarian at the Colorado State University; Dr. Marcello Truzzi, sociologist, New College, Sarasota.

1. In #7, members were requested to suggest a date for our first annual meeting. Tom Reesor was good enough to check into accommodations etc. at a leading hostelry in Holmes Beach, with satisfactory results. However, there seems to be some feeling it may be best to wait for cooler weather, but the matter tops our agenda.

2. The Miami Times-Union did not startle us with a headline June 5 "Holmes Tops For Solving Crimes." The story had reference to Holmes County's ability in that respect. However, with such a name obviously it would emulate the Founder of the Science of Deduction.

3. We have received the sales list of Luther Norris, 3844 Watseks Ave. Culver City, Cal. 90230. Of the 466 offerings of "Mystery & Detection Fiction" 26 are listed as "Sherlockiana." Might be good to get on his mailing list.

4. Auxiliant Butts submits the advertisement of one John Getz, an exterminator in Atlanta, Ga., wherein a figure in typical Holmesian attire is saying "Getz Gets Them".

5. Paul Gunning clips from a Miami paper a picture of what probably is the first woman regaled in a deerstalker and, well-known cape who is informing her little charge, at a library, that Holmes was "the greatest detective of them all" as they examine an account of one of the 60 Cases.
6. Mr. Morgan offers for our interest what probably is on epf the rarest, not to say hilarious, pastiches in book form (pub. in '58) entitled "Basil (the Mouse) of Baker Street", ever coming to our attention. We hesitate to confide this rare work to the mails, but have had the first chapter copied out for those applying for it.
7. The BSJ's March report of the issuance of our Communications has brought a number of requests for #7. We zeroxed and supplied.
8. Among the most mirthful of cartoons of the Nemesis of Crime and his associate is brought to our attention by Auxiliant Hall, herself a successful artist. Gahan Wilson "Fondly Relates Some Little Known Misadventures (sic) of the Great Detective." In one, the Master interjects "What's hardly necessary" as Watson hangs up a THINK sign at 221-B. In another, Watson recoils as Holmes suddenly appears as a midget in typical attire. "You are a master of disguise!"
9. Receipt is acknowledged of two issues of the "Sherlockian Meddler," occasional publication of the "Non-Canonical Calabashes," S.H. Society of Los Angeles.
10. No telling where next "The Benefactor of the Race," (vide Watson) will be portrayed. A delicate pink folder extolling and offering "Vivian Woodward's Cosmetics" portrays you know who as a pulchritudinous young lady fitted out in the headgear you've seen before, plus the proverbial magnifying glass.
11. The popular "Sandford & Son" program (NBC) has father puzzled over a reference to Holmes, and believing it refers to a "housing development," a gag, with which we are somewhat familiar.
12. A new mystery program, "Barnaby Jones," (CBS) starring Buddy Ebsen of soap opera fame, has him written up in a weekly TV+ Radio Dial listing as being invited to join the London "Sherlock Holmes Society." Of course, the deerstocker is his trademark.
13. As the Famed Tracker is still at work segregating the Queen Bee at his farm in Bumbleton-Super-Mare, Sussex, we cannot say that he would "turn over in his grave" at reading the London dispatch, appearing worldwide, headed "Unrest at Scotland Yard," but undoubtedly he would send to Yards Lest-rade, Gregson, et al, for an explanation of charges against them.
14. Report of an unknown medical work by Dr. Watson, or possibly a forebear. The title page gives a date 1760, perhaps a misprint. The book elaborates a cure for fever which centers on "swallowing a spider." We hesitate to give further gruesome medical details.
15. A most important book by our new member Dr. Marcello Truzzi, New College, "The Humanities as Sociology," (Merrill, N.Y., '73) from which is extracted "Sherlock Holmes: Applied Social Psychologist." Appended to it are notes re Sherlockians' views on the Publisher's Agent, and the saga.
16. "The Giant Rat of Sumatra," a pastiche of approx. 6,000 significant words by one Jeremy Johnson, on a subject little known.
17. "The Immortal Memory of Sherlock Holmes," by Peter Brown, appearing only in the English edition of the Reader's Digest for Dec. '72. It presents in most cogent terms "The Most Extraordinary Case of the World's Greatest Detective."

(see over)

18. A broadside announcing an "Unprecedented Event." "The Posthumous Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes." Considering the menage at Humbleton- Super-Mare, Sussex, this flyer, widely circulated among the uninitiated, seems slightly out of order to say the least. We are investigating what may turn out to be a hoax, or even a libel.
19. A recent Reader's Digest article "Bob Pelouquin: Jet Age Super Sleuth." The remarkable detecting of the Howard Hughes' alleged autobiography, is shown in relation to what the Master might have done.
20. Extract from TV Guide, March '73, "In recent years many TV stations have come to realize that certain old movies never lose their appeal. There are twelve Sherlock Holmes' with Rathbone and Nigel Bruce which have a world-wide following which never tires seeing them."
21. The Holmes' saga appeals even to children. The puppets in "Sesame Street" on TV April 7 wore the headgear affected by you know who.
22. A popular stamp column in the leading philatelic journal STAMPS is entitled "Old Sleuth" and highlighted by the Master in typical pose.
23. Wherein one of our founding members, Tom Reesor, proposer of our Scion's name, for one thing, presents evidence that the Master must have been Islamic. For, he informed his faithful Boswell that during the great hiatus (The Empty House, q.v.) he "looked in at Mecca." Only Moslems were permitted entrance. Others sneaking in at once executed.

Your Recorder,

