



The Pleasant Places of Florida

[Suggested in The Five Orange Pips]

A Corresponding Scion Society of The Baker Street Irregulars

+++++

12th Night Reflections

... As this penultimate Communication [see below] goes to press we are preparing for the **Fall Gathering** to be held in **HOLMES Beach**, Sat., Nov. 7th. **Kyle Richeson** [a lovely Georgia Peach] & **Stefanie Hawks** [the great s'ian artist] plan to be with us. All in all everything augers well for a great Gathering.... PPoff's recent **Mail Bid Sale** of Holmesian philatelic material was a great success. Although participation was modest [62 bidders], the bidding was lively and the Sale fetched a goodly sum for the benefit of the PPoff. **Phil Sherman** informs us of "A S.H. Centennial Weekend" in Baltimore (Nov.14-15). The program is ****!. For details, contact Phil

... Rec'd VOL.1, Nos. 1 & 2

of "The Twisted Lip", a most interesting computerized newsletter of The Midlothian Mendicants. Contact: **John Taylor**,

... As always, my special thanks to all who have corresponded with this Recorder since #90. I'm sorry space doesn't permit listing y'all. **Merci!**

DR. BEN WOOD TO RETIRE AS PPoff RECORDER

On 12th Night, 1988, Ben Wood will step down as Recorder of the PPoff Recorder after 11 years of service. He succeeded PPoff's founder, the late **Leslie Marshall** in 1976. **Communication #92** [he started with #29] will be the last under Ben's editorship. He will remain an active member of "The Pleasant Places", and, of course, continue, with full vigor, to fulfill his duties as **Chaplain of the Baker Street Irregulars**. It is hoped that at the Nov. 7th **Fall Gathering** the PPoffers will select a new Recorder. That selection will be announced in **Communication #92**, slated for Dec./Jan. publication.

"Come Watson, the game's afoot!"





Holmes Beach



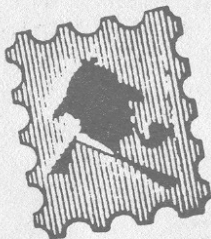
COMMUNICATION # 91

November 13, 1987*

Published Irregularly by **The Pleasant Places of Florida**, a Corresponding Scion Society of **The Baker Street Irregulars**. Please direct correspondence to the Recorder: **The Rev'd Dr. Benton Wood, BSI**; [redacted]

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+ [On this day in 1887, the Camberwell Poisoning Case took place. (FIVE)]



Philatelic Philandering

... or Stamping around with SHERLOCK HOLMES



Elementary!

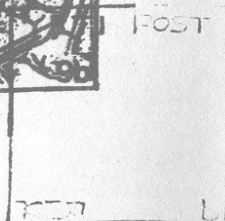
I have only recently read your 2 May edition in which Robert Boos refers to an apparent philatelic blunder in the Sherlock Holmes television programme. He considers it unlikely that mail inspected or received by Holmes in the late nineteenth century would bear a Penny Black stamp.

Penny Blacks were indeed replaced by Penny Reds in February 1841 — the black made cancellations difficult to see — however, one penny remained the basic letter rate up until the early 1920s and, strictly speaking, any Penny Black held and used during this period would have been valid for postage. As over 70

The most "intrestin" [I've been watchin' the new PBS Wimsey series] philatelic item of Holmesian interest to arrive by post was from Gordon Palmer [111 Apache Ave., 1000 Oaks, CA 91362]. Depicted below is his "Cinderella" YETI POST, commemorating Holmes' centennial. There are two more British stamp booklets w/Sherlockian covers. SPEC is due any day now, and FINA is due 1/88.

million Penny Blacks were printed it seems quite possible that Holmes should receive a portion of his mail bearing these stamps.

C.C.M. Pawson
Controller, Stamp Production and Marketing
The Post Office
London, England





From Mrs. Hudson's Kitchen 3



WHIM - WHAM

This tasty dish is an old English favorite, and the dutiful Martha 'Udson made it for very special occasions. Most suitable for 'High Tea', us colonists would find this 19th century treat a fine dessert. It is also best not to refer to the Calorie Chart for this one, Mayo!

- 2 cups heavy cream 2 tablespoons sherry Peel of 1 lemon grated
- 2 tablespoons confectioner's sugar 8 shortbread biscuits
- 3/4 cup raspberry, blackberry or other jelly [or sweet cookies]
- 1/2 cup candied orange peel, finely chopped

Mix the cream, sherry, sugar and lemon peel and whip until stiff. Spoon layers of whipped cream mixture, broken biscuits & jam into a glass bowl, ending with a layer of cream. Sprinkle the candied peel on top. Chill in the fridge until ready to serve. Yum! Yum!

Holmes predicted stalemate

This 'Sherlock' detected collapse

**STOCK
SLEUTH
HOLMES
SEES GAP**

Baker Street — Billed as "a musical adventure of Sherlock Holmes," this entertainment is based on stories of Arthur Conan Doyle.
At the Royalty Theatre, 405 Cleveland St., Clearwater; runs through Sept. 27; \$7 and \$8; 1-443-6647.



Sherlock Holmes drawn by Frederic Dorr Steele.

Watson still seeing ghosts

4

FAST 'N' FUN

S'IAN PUZZLES

QUOTATION PUZZLE #12.

Unscramble & fill in this Canonical Quotation using the letters below. The letters are, however, in their proper column. The four boxes in the lower right corner designate the source of the quote. Go get 'em!



	?																			
A	D	O	O	S	F	A	O	C	O	N	L	E	R	A	N	T	W	M	U	T
E		L	L	E	A	N		M	A	B	R	W	A		D		H	O	N	D
A		C	E	A				F		L		A	A							R



In *Murder in the Stacks*, Sherlock Holmes and his trusted aide Dr. John Watson teach library staff and users the hows and whys of preventive preservation.

The 15-minute videotape shows the ways that books are "murdered" by poor handling. The murder methods exposed by the detective include too-tight shelving, careless removal from the shelf, paper clips and rubber bands left between pages, and eating and drinking in the library.

The video was produced by Columbia University's Department of Libraries Conservation with a \$20,000 grant from the New York State Education Department. The shooting, using professional actors and crew, took place in mid-March in the Philosophy Reading Room of Columbia's Butler Library.

Libraries can purchase the video (VHS format only) for \$35 from Gifts and Exchange Department, 104 Butler Library, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027.

(AMERICAN LIBRARIES OCTOBER 1987)



"I know who is killing the books," declares Sherlock Holmes in Murder in the Stacks. "Everyone. . . The people who work in the library and the people who use the library. All the people who come in contact with books but fail to give sufficient thought to the consequences of their actions. That's the problem."



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Agony Column



SHERLOCK HOLMES THIMBLE.
Unravels the mystery in his distinctive style in pewter, hand painted. 1 1/2" h. Downs' Exclusive. England.
7176...\$19.95

Downs'

COLLECTORS SHOWCASE

2200 South 114th St., Dept. 1087
Milwaukee, WI 53227

YANKEE •
August '87

Will swap two cross-stitched Welcome signs for any hardback P. Atwood Taylor mystery books (her detective Asey Mayo was known as the Codfish Sherlock of Cape Cod). AU 545 CT

● Scion Society, anybody?

Sherlockians: Are there any people interested in forming a Scion Society here in Germany? If so, write:

—Scott M. Higgins
Uhlandweg 4
2880 Brake
West Germany

The Paragon

Tom Harvey Road
Westerly, Rhode Island 02891
(401) 596-0134 #3979 22.50

C. MASTER DETECTIVE SET. Here's everything a child needs to become an amazing Super Sleuth who unearths clues, identifies suspects, and solves crimes! Fun-packed box includes: real 110 camera for photos at 'the scene of the crime'; tools for lifting fingerprints off objects; secret messages and codes; fingerprinting kit; police kit for making composite pictures of suspects; and disguises.



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BUT, I SAY, HOLMES HOW DID YOU KNOW THIS WAS THE CONDO FOR YOU?



THE DETAILS, WATSON, THE DETAILS. OBVIOUSLY WHAT WE HAVE HERE IS AN ARCHITECT WHO SAVORS THE CRAFT.

FROM: NY TIMES MAGAZINE JULY 5, '87

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Today's Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Book jacket item
6 Super jet
9 Betel palm
14 Atelier article
15 Primate
16 Br. politician
17 Sherlock Holmes adventure
20 Colo. resort
21 Repasts
22 Throb
24 — Lanka
25 Rational
26 Knob
30 Political cartoonist
34 Prefix for pod or dent
35 Mayflower passenger
36 — of the ball

37 Sherlock

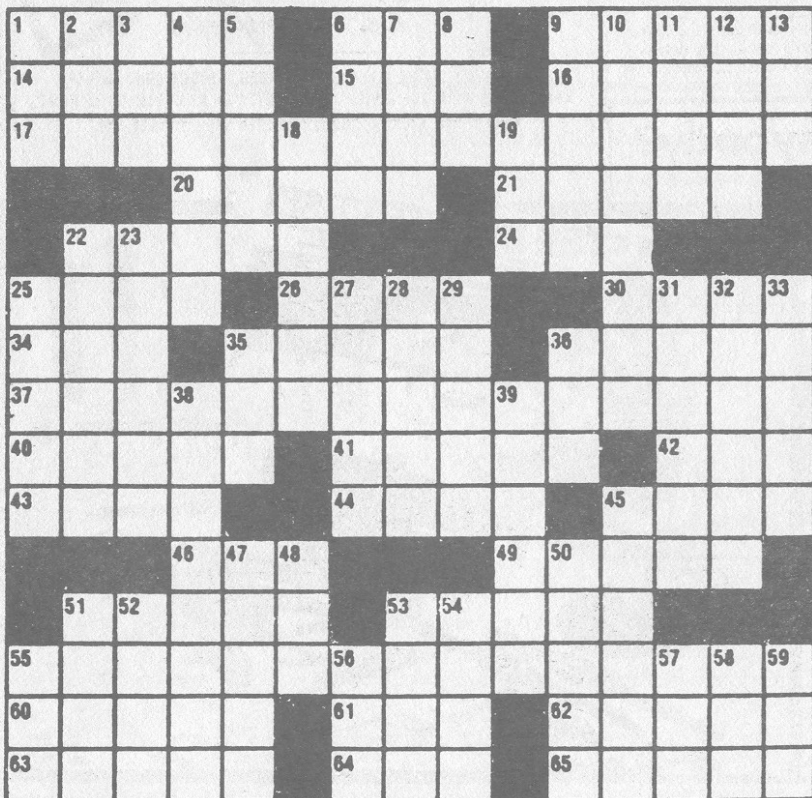
- Holmes adventure
40 Youthful years
41 Customary
42 Comparative ending sometimes
43 European
44 Encounter
45 Soviet river
46 Adherent: suff.
49 Commerce
51 Does in
53 Improvise
55 Sherlock Holmes adventure
60 Gift receiver
61 Movies slangily
62 Icy
63 Afr. villages
64 Black bird
65 Idyllic places

DOWN

- 1 — Lillie
2 Resinous substance
3 Country monogram
4 Used car deal
5 Hallow
6 Ump's call
7 Play with tops
8 A Kennedy
9 A Doubleday
10 Fee paid in advance
11 Morally wrong
12 Broadway hit
13 At all
18 For all to see
19 Printer's measures
22 Zoroastrian
23 Joiner
25 Photocopies
27 Abhorrence
28 Not bright

29 Follow

- 31 On the same side
32 Garment part
33 Tropical fish
35 Commercials
36 Fr. dance
38 Impartial
39 Steers
45 Collared
47 Caslon and others
48 Mariner's course: abbr.
50 Elevation
51 Loud noise
52 — Horne
53 Similar
54 561
55 Football scores: abbr.
56 Auditor
57 Brew
58 Author Anais
59 Dental deg.



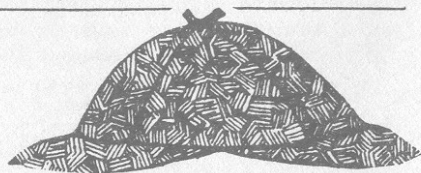
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

I know 1987 is the centennial of the publication of the first Sherlock Holmes adventure. Are there any plans in the works to celebrate the event?

Sherlock Holmes fans can enjoy several events this year, the 100th anniversary of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *A Study in Scarlet*. For example, seminars are being held at William & Mary College (July 24 to 26; to register, write to Ray Betzner, 2906 Richard Pace S., Williamsburg, Va. 23185) and at Stanford University (August 19 to 23; write to Bruce Parker, 1875 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto, Cal. 94301). The cost will be about \$100, plus dormitory lodging fees. Other events include the annual Silver Blaze race at the Belmont Park Race-track in Elmont, on Long Island, N.Y., on September 18 and the Autumn in Baker St. symposium at Bear Mountain, N.Y., September 19 to 20. On November 7, Los Angeles Sherlockians celebrate Guy Fawkes Day with the Gasht-ters' Ball.

For sleuthing abroad, there's a tour leaving July 24 for sights from the *Hound of the Baskervilles* and other Sherlock Holmes adventures (write to Sean Wright, 5542 Romaine St., Los Angeles, Cal. 90038). There's a September tour of London and nearby areas focusing on the author (write to Nicholas Dewey, BCM Box DEWEY, London WCIN 3XX, England). Most of these events aren't just for the centennial, but they keep the game afoot.

To find the group of Sherlockians nearest you, write to John Bennett Shaw, secretary of the Baker Street Irregulars, at 1917 Fort Union Dr., Santa Fe, N.M. 87501. Although you must be invited to join the Irregulars, the parent Sherlockian group, there are about 180 U.S. "scion" societies for enthusiasts. For \$12.50 you can subscribe to the *Baker Street Journal*, published quarterly by Fordham University Press, University Box L, Bronx, N.Y. 10458.



Sherlock's stylish solution

REVIEW

By David Patrick Stearns
USA TODAY (AUG 21, 1987)

(Continued from page 8.)

The centre of London and the East End (Jack the Ripper's territory) also feature in many of the stories ('The Man With The Twisted Lip' opens in a Limehouse opium den) and, although these too have changed, one can still imagine Holmes and Watson striding across Trafalgar Square or along Regent Street — both favourite places for Holmes to his innumerable despatch telegrams to clients or to Scotland Yard's Inspector Lestrade.

There are many businesses in London trading off of Holmes name. Baker Street has a 'Sherlock Holmes Hotel' with prints and photographs of the great man on the dining room walls, Baker Street Underground Station has a bar called 'Moriartys', named of course after Holmes' arch rival, and, on Northumberland Avenue, off Trafalgar Square, is the pub 'The Sherlock Holmes'. This is a must for all the Holmes fans. It not only serves excellent beer and food, but has been turned into a shrine to the Doyle stories. It has been decorated in period style and the walls have been almost literally covered with original covers of the books, cases containing deerstalker hats and meerschaun pipes and the whole paraphernalia of Holmesiana. The piece de resistance, however, is the Sherlock Holmes Museum upstairs, which is a complete replica of Holmes and Watson's Baker Street study. In detail it is perfect with every item mentioned in the stories included, and absolutely no expense spared. If the heart of Holmes London is Baker Street, then his spirit dwells in Northumberland Avenue.

(From: *TOURIST IN LONDON MAGAZINE* Feb.'87)

NEW YORK — In a world where Superman is turning introspective and James Bond is monogamous, it is almost inevitable that Sherlock Holmes would become a murder victim. But the real twist comes when audiences find out the identity of his murderer.

In Charles Marowitz's *Sherlock's Last Case*, which opened Thursday at the Nederlander Theater, a crime even the master dubs perfect is devised by a familiar character acting with unfamiliar viciousness.

The script, however, can't claim such perfection. Relying on insanity as motivation is a fairly creaky premise. But what keeps *Case* a light, utterly engaging thriller is strong characterizations in the script and even better ones onstage.

Holmes — this year celebrating the 100th anniversary of his appearance in print — has often seemed inhumanly intelligent. But here, he is sort of a Henry Higgins on drugs, fueling his colossal ego with liberal doses of opium and wine. He is imperious, arrogant and vain, but watching his intellect kick in offers the excitement of seeing a rocket lift off.

Frank Langella gives an outrageously stylized performance in the title role. Flapping his dressing gown like Dracula's cape, he combines virtuosic acting with his natural charisma for a memorably funny (though not always likable) Holmes. His finest moments, though, come in his portrayal of a cockney song-and-dance man impersonating Holmes. Everyone else pales in comparison, though Donal Donnelly manages a credible Watson despite the role's humorlessness.

David Jenkins' revolving set is handsome in a cluttered, Victorian way. But just as Holmes'

Sherlock Holmes: A Centenary Celebration

By Allen Eyles
Published by John Murray
(Publishers) Ltd
50 Albemarle Street
London W1X 4BD
Price £10.95

A fictional character like no other, this great detective deserves to have all the colourful details of his birth, life and times, not to mention the many movies, TV series, postal stamps and other off-beat souvenirs of his existence, gathered together in this fun 144-page hardback with lots of archive photographs, posters and drawings. Holmes is unique in that his famous profile is even depicted in a silhouette mural at Baker Street Underground Station, his correspondence is still answered at the building which now absorbs 221B Baker Street — his old house, a pub has a recreation of his study, and so on. The author, who also analyses the original stories, has enjoyed himself, and so will the reader.

(FROM: *IN BRITAIN*, JUNE '87)

COLOR SCHEMES ★☆

We've mixed up the colors in the titles of nine Sherlock Holmes cases below. How many can you restore? Only dyed-in-the-wool Holmes buffs will get them all.

- The *Silver-Headed* League
- The *Five Golden Pips*
- The *Adventure of the Yellow*
Carbuncle
- Blue* Blaze
- A Study in *Black*
- The *Adventure of Copper* Peter
- The *Red* Face
- The *Adventure of the Orange*
Beeches
- The *Adventure of the Scarlet*
Pince-nez

Adam Blyweiss
Philadelphia, PA

■ OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1987 GAMES

intellect soars above his ego, Langella breezes through the bric-a-brac via A.J. Antoon's clean, concise staging.

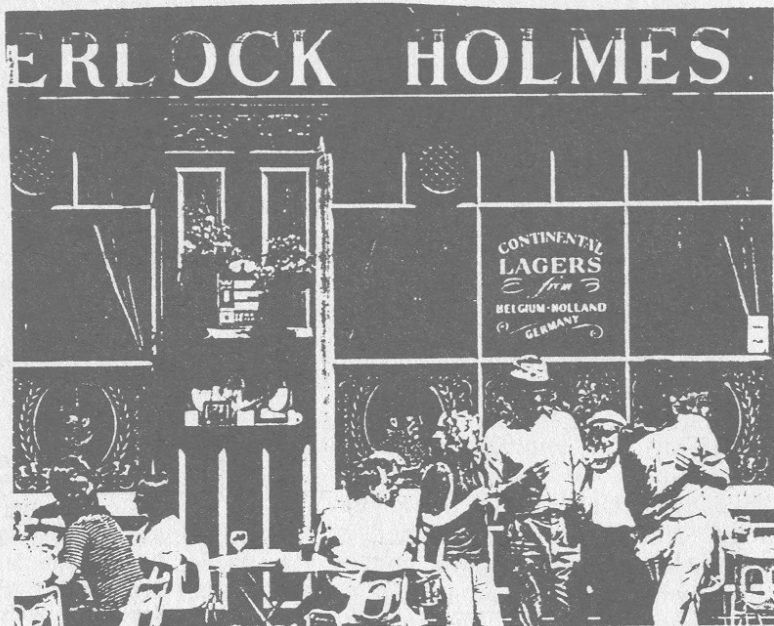
8) SHERLOCK HOLMES' LONDON

BY MICHAEL MAHONEY

The most famous address in London is Buckingham Palace; the second, No. 10 Downing Street and the third, probably 221b Baker Street. Now this is quite remarkable because 221b Baker Street has never in fact existed. It was the creation of one of the world's most successful and popular novelists, but one whose name, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, is less well known than that of his creation: the tenant of the Baker Street address, Sherlock Holmes.

The fact that 221b Baker Street never existed (when Doyle wrote the story the street's highest number was 92) has never deterred thousands of people from writing to the great detective, sometimes for advice, sometimes to commission him to solve their problems. The building that occupies the site, the head office of a Building Society, replies to them all, usually enclosing a 'signed photograph' of the man.

Baker Street is, of course, the heart of Holmes London. At the time of the stories it was slightly out of the heart of the city; a residential area with a bohemian ambience. Consequently it was just the spot for the vaguely bohemian, mildly eccentric detective to set up his lodgings. The fog reached it in those days, too. Rolling in from the Thames and covering London with a swirling, deadening blanket. Doyle often describes it drifting up past the gaslit windows of 221b at the start of another adventure. Nowadays, of course, Baker Street is one of London's main thoroughfares, full of department stores, shoppers and big red London buses. Some of its original character, however is still towards the Oxford Street end, where the architecture has been left largely untouched. Here one can easily imagine the clip-clop of the horses hooves and the scrape of the



Holmes' pub situated on Northumberland Ave. WC2.

wheel on the kerb as a mysterious client pulls up outside Holmes' door.

Many of Holmes adventures took place in the London suburbs. These have changed beyond all recognition, and do not compliment the Holmes scholar. One place that still gives great reward, however, is Hampstead, which has hardly changed at all since the turn of the century. Holmes and Watson visited Hampstead on four occasions, most notably is the short story 'Charles Augustus Milverton', where they keep a deadly midnight assignation with a blackmailer. Hampstead is real Holmes country — the atmosphere Victorian and the setting rich in melodramatic possibilities.

(Continued on Page 7.)



Sherlock and Miss Watson!

□ **SUPPOSE** Sherlock Holmes never died but was held in suspended animation, ready to be revived by Dr Watson's chirpy American great granddaughter? It happens in **THE RETURN OF SHERLOCK HOLMES** (1986, Cert PG, CBS/Fox Video, rental). Margaret Colin as Boston private eye Jane Watson whisks Michael Pennington's Holmes across the Atlantic to crack a murder-plus-robbery in this thriller with a difference.