

Sherlock Holmes



"Your merits should be publicly recognized" (STUD)

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Howard Haycraft and the Detective Story

WILLIAM VANDE WATER, B.S.I.

he University of Minnesota is inseparably linked to the detective story. No, not by the Sherlock Holmes Collections, although that reinforces the link. Nor by Dr. Philip Hench, whose collection formed the base of the current Sherlockian holdings. In fact, even without the Sherlock Holmes Collections (horrible thought), the connection would remain.

The link was forged in the late 1930's, when a graduate of the University of Minnesota walked into the New York Public Library and asked for a book on the history and technique of the detective story. To his surprise, the librarian told him there was no such volume. To our delight, he proceeded to write one.

Murder for Pleasure: The Life and Times of the Detective Story was published to rave reviews in 1941. As you might suspect, Holmes looms large in the book. It would be hard to write such a history in which he did not. Just as hard as it would be to write a history of the genre without mentioning the name of the Minnesotan turned New Yorker, Howard Haycraft.

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Howard Haycraft, B.S.I. Toasting "the best and wisest man" February 3, 1957

shoto compliments of William Vande Water, B.S.1

EARS AGO

1899 was a busy year for John Kendrick Bangs (1862-1922). In fact, the entire decade was his as an editor with wide influences on comic journalism. Bangs was the central figure in American humor of the period. His brilliance was evident in his many contributions to magazines. The articles were then collected into best selling books. Bangs was the editor of Harper's Weekly 1893 when The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes was serialized. Arthur Conan Doyle visited Bangs at his home in Yonkers, New York in October, 1894. He hosted a lecture by Conan Doyle at the Yonkers Lawn Tennis Club and they played golf at the St. Andrew's Club in Yonkers. His biography John Kendrick Bangs, Humorist of the Nineties was written by his son, Francis Hyde Bangs, and published by Alfred A. Knopf in 1941.

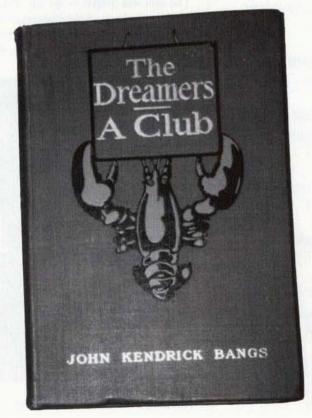
A House-Boat on the Styx (Harper & Brothers, New York, 1896) started his tales of the Associated Shades. The first American book containing a Holmes parody was The Pursuit of the House-Boat: Being Some Further Account of the Diverse Doings of the Associated Shades, under the Leadership of Sherlock Holmes, Esq. (Harper & Brothers, New York, 1897). The book is dedicated to A. Conan Doyle, Esq., "With the author's sincerest regards and thanks for the untimely demise of his great detective which made these things possible."

On April 1, 1899 Harper's Bazaar published Bang's "The Mystery of Pinkham's Diamond Stud". It was included in The Dreamers, A Club, by John Kendrick Bangs and featured illustrations by Edward Penfield (Harper & Brothers, New York, 1899). The Sherlock Holmes Collections has Dr. Philip Hench's copy with signed inscription by Bangs, Frederick W. Skiff's bookplate and Vincent Starrett's ownership signature dated 1947. The book is bound in brown cloth with gold gilt lettering and a red lobster on the cover. The Collections also has John Bennett Shaw's The Dreamers, A Club (Freeport NY, Books for Libraries Press, 1969) and Otto Penzler's The Mysterious Sherlock Holmes #2 The Mystery of Pinkham's Diamond Stud, published separately for the first time by The Mysterious Bookshop, 1999.

On September 2, 1899 Harper's Weekly published "Sherlock Holmes Again" by John Kendrick Bangs. It appeared in book form as the ninth chapter in The Enchanted Type-Writer (Harper & Brothers, New York, 1899), by Bangs and illustrated by Peter Newell. The story has Sherlock Holmes as a deceased detective in Hades. Sherlock Holmes Again was also published by The Mysterious Bookshop in 1999 as the Mysterious Sherlock Holmes #8.

John Kendrick Bangs was a prolific writer. His other writings that included Sherlockian material were R. Holmes & Co., (1906), Potted Fiction (1908), and Shylock Homes: His Posthumous Memoirs, which was edited and introduced by Jon L. Lellenberg (The Dispatch-Box Press, Arlington VA, 1973). According to Mr. Lellenberg, this was a 1903 newspaper series of Sherlock Holmes parodies that had not been collected in book form at the time. In 1944, Ellery Oueen included one of them in his the Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes. But that is another story.

Richard J. Sveum, M. D.



shoto by Julie McKuras

EARS A G O

For those who have "the collection mania in its most acute form" (ILLU), it may be said that they "hear of Sherlock everywhere". (GREE). John Bennett Shaw was this type of collector. Two anthologies from Shaw's collection, both published in 1949, feature The Adventure of Silver Blaze.

The Horse-Lovers' Anthology was edited by Shirley Faulkner-Horne, and published by H. F. & G. Witherby Ltd. Of London. Faulkner-Horne was born in Grantham in Great Britain in 1919, and specialized in writing horse stories. Among her works were Parachute Silk, Green Trails, White Poles, Mexican Saddle, Bred in the Bone, Pat and Her Polo Pony, Riding for Children, and Riding with the Kindles. Shaw's copy of The Horse-Lovers' Anthology carries his bookplate and the typed note " 'Silver Blaze' pp. 248-278", and the stamped "Gaby Goldscheider Antiquarian Books". The dust jacket note indicates that the contents include "...the short stories of such masters as Conan Doyle, whose missing racehorse sets Sherlock Holmes an intriguing problem...". Among the other contributors to the anthology were Charles Dickens, Rudyard Kipling, Nancy Mitford, Sir Walter Scott, and Winston Churchill. The acknowledgements cite Mr. Adrian Conan Doyle for Silver Blaze, and George Newnes Ltd. for the illustrations by Sidney Paget from The Last Adventures of Sherlock Holmes.

Thurston Macauley was born in Ohio in 1901. He was an author and journalist, working for The Baltimore Sun, The New York Evening Sun, The New York Herald, and The New York Times. Unlike Faulkner-Horne, he didn't limit his writing to horse stories. His first

book, Donn Byrne, Bard of Armagh, was published in 1929. 1931's The Festive Board, A Literary Feast is described as an enjoyable anthology of gastronomic writings. In 1949, Ziff-Davis Publishing Company of Chicago and New York published The Great Horse Omnibus, From Homer to Hemingway. This 462 page book also carries Shaw's bookplate and the typed note "contains SILVER BLAZE pages 59-87". The introduction to the anthology was written by Bing Crosby. His first paragraph states:

"Some months ago I was importuned by Mr. Bob Hope to write a foreword to Mr. Macauley's equine anthology. In fact. Mr. Hope, with his usual bland assurance, had told Mr. Macauley that I was happy, even eager, to do so. Why Mr. Hope should delegate this interesting chore to me, rather than assume it himself, is something that eludes me, for anyone who has ever unwittingly auditioned his hokey half hour on the radio knows that he has long been a self-appointed 'flack' for all my turf activities."

Crosby goes on to indicate that the list of contributors "reads like a compendium of all the literary lions of the past five centuries". In addition to Conan Doyle, other authors in the anthology include John Steinbeck, William Saroyan, John O'Hara, Sir Walter Scott, and Washington Irving. Macauley published his last book in 1985. The Constant Companion is an anthology of dog stories from writers such as John Steinbeck, James Thurber, Charles Dickens, and Lord Byron. It contains a ten-page excerpt from Conan Doyle's The Hound of the Baskervilles.

The Great Horse Omnibus wasn't the first time that Bing Crosby and Sherlock Holmes appeared together in the same publication. The May 1, 1944 Life magazine selected Going My Way, starring Bing Crosby, as the movie of the week. Pages 69-72 feature pictures

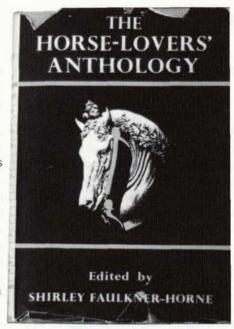


photo by Julie McKuras

from the film. The article "Sherlock Holmes, the great detective takes a new lease on life" is on pages 77-82. The story notes the publication of three new books about Holmes: Profile by Gaslight, The Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes, and Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson. Illustrations from the Canon as well as photos of actors William Gillette, John Barrymore, and Basil Rathbone, and Sherlockians Christopher Morley, Rex Stout, Belden Wigglesworth, Frederic Dannay and Edith Meiser are included.

Besides the two horse anthologies published in 1949, what else was happening in horse racing that year? A horse named Capot came close to winning the Triple Crown in horse racing in 1949. Jockey T. Atkinson (of the Atkinson family mentioned in "A Scandal in Bohemia'?) rode Capot to first place finishes at the Preakness and Belmont Stakes, and second at the Kentucky Derby. The winner of the Derby was Ponder, ridden by a jockey named Brooks (could he be related to one of the 50 criminals with a reason to kill Holmes in "The Bruce-Partington Plans'?) It seems that we "hear of Sherlock everywhere".

Iulie McKuras

From the President

he Second Annual Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections Membership Meeting occurred on Wednesday, August 4, 1999. The festivities started with a reception and members had a chance to view the Arthur Kleiner Collection of Silent Film Music exhibit as well as four cases of treasures from the Sherlock Holmes Collections.

The Business Meeting started with a brief history of the Sherlock Holmes Collections and the Friends organization. The standing committees each gave a report. The Membership Committee noted 310 current members. It was again suggested that an annual gift of at least ten dollars be required for membership. The Finance report stated revenue of \$8,859.05 and expenses of \$8,666.76 with a fund balance of \$14,719.39. All money is held by the University Foundation in the John Bennett Shaw Fund.

Inez Bergquist gave the Development Committee report. The Friends of the Library, the University of Minnesota Group, is planning a dedication of the new Elmer L. Andersen Library sometime in April, 2000. Julie McKuras, the new editor of this newsletter, reported on the Editorial Board. The Nominating Committee presented the slate of candidate and the membership approved for officers: President Richard Sveum, VP Ruth Berman, Secretary Julie McKuras, and Treasurer Timothy Johnson. The Friends Board for next year will include Inez Bergquist, Judy Hedin, Jamie Hubbs, Allen Mackler, E. W. McDiarmid and Bruce Southworth. Curator Timothy Johnson then gave the State of the Collection report.

The highlight of the meeting was Timothy Johnson's presentation of the Heritage Society Award to David L. Hammer, B. S. I. Mr. Hammer then addressed the group with comments about Sherlockian publishing. The meeting ended with our now traditional Fund Raising Auction. We collected nearly \$600 for a framed poster, four books and a specially signed copy of the Edith Meiser pamphlet.

I want to thank everyone who attended and helped us say goodbye to the Wilson Library. This next year will be a challenge with the move, but with your financial and material assistance we can be the World Center for the Study of Sherlock Holmes. •

> Richard J. Sveum, M.D. Sveum001@tc.umn.edu

Acquisitions

ohn Bennett Shaw, Will Crakes, Anthony Morley, Philip Hench, Bill Rabe, Norman Schatell, and David Hammer: these are some of the well known individuals who have donated a wealth of material to the Sherlock Holmes Collections. Their spirit of generosity continues with the contributions of individuals and organizations who are working to ensure that the University of Minnesota's Sherlock Holmes Collections remains the largest collection of all things Sherlockian.

Bert Coules has donated a CD-ROM with the BBC Holmes scripts. Coules is a freelance writer with a lengthy association with the BBC. On October 9, 1989, the BBC Radio Drama Department recorded the first of the

Sherlock Holmes mysteries with Clive Merrison and Michael Williams starring as Holmes and Watson. Over a period of almost nine years, they recorded the 56 short stories and 4 novels in order of book publication, the first time that the entire Canon had been taped with the same two actors. Tapes of the broadcast are available for purchase. Mr. Coules homepage is

http://freespace.virgin.net/bert.coules.

Larry Millett donated a revised manuscript of Sherlock Holmes and the Rune Stone Mystery, which will be published in October of this year. Millett is the author of Sherlock Holmes and the Red Demon and Sherlock Holmes and the Ice Palace Murders. The paperback copy of Sherlock Holmes and the Ice Palace Murders will also be printed in October.

The Madison Repertory Theatre in Madison, Wisconsin recently donated two posters, an audience guide, program, stills, a sample ticket and other materials from their presentation of "Sherlock's Last Case".

George Hubbs donated a Russian translation of seventeen short stories and The Hound of the Baskervilles. The hardcover book was published in Tashkent, Uzbekistan in 1991.

Fred Anderson donated photographs of the 1999 Hugo's Companions 50th Anniversary Dinner in Chicago.

Julie McKuras

An Update from the Collections

am not one for blowing my own horn. Chalk up such a constitution to Scandinavian genetics or that nebulous set of character traits known as "Minnesota Nice." So it was (and is) with some sense of reserve that I acquiesced to our Editor's request that I say a few more words about my appointment to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress by the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

It was, indeed, a pleasant surprise when I received a telephone call in the late spring from a staff member (and old friend) asking me to consider this appointment. And it did not take long to make such a consideration and to give an affirmative reply. I have always enjoyed my visits to Washington. As an infant and young boy I visited as a tourist on family vacations. (There is a picture of me as a toddler, somewhere in a family scrapbook, sitting on a picnic blanket in the vicinity of the White House.) As a college student I visited to learn specifically about our nation's attitudes and actions toward South Africa (while at the same time touring the Air & Space Museum, the National Gallery and enjoying a pre-Broadway presentation of "Annie".) In more recent days I have come to lobby legislators for library issues, talk with colleagues about preservation and archival matters, and to visit friends and relatives - some of whom work on "the Hill." Those later visits have been punctuated with long walks through Arlington National Cemetery (one of my favorite places in Washington) or spending quiet moments finding a friend or relative's name on the Vietnam Memorial. It is a place both for action and reflection.

I hope to be both reflective and active as I work on the Advisory Committee. Much of the Committee's work has been involved with making some of the early and historic documents of Congress available to the general public, especially school-age children. Wonderful facsimiles of Congressional documents have

been reproduced and combined with curricular materials to help teachers make the records of Congress accessible and understandable to young students. In the process, they learn about how Congress works, how laws are passed, and how people and issues meet in a democratic process. It is, in a way, another form of "blowing one's horn", of proclaiming and sharing what is good and worthwhile in the life given to us as a gift.

And while my trips to Washington will now focus on the records of Congress, I hope to have the opportunity to meet with the many Sherlockians who live in that part of the country, to listen, reflect and act on the suggestions and ideas they might have for developing our Collections and to engage - when the moment seems right - in a little more horn blowing about the wonder and riches of our Collections in Minnesota.

Timothy Johnson

Musings

s Bruce Southworth stated in the June, 1999 issue of this newsletter, this year has been exciting and busy for the Sherlock Holmes Collections. I would like to add that it has also been extremely gratifying. Not only have the Collections continued to prosper with donations and acquisitions, but we have also seen an increase in the Friends membership and a growing interest in this newsletter. I would like to personally thank some of the individuals who have devoted so much time and effort to making our newsletter successful; Jon Lellenberg, Peter Blau, Bill Vande Water, Steven Rothman Andrew Malec and William Seil for their articles and advice: Bruce Southworth for his two and onehalf years as Editor; Timothy Johnson for his commitment to the Collections; and Richard Sveum, M. D., President of

the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections, for his energy and leadership of the organization

Editors of newsletters and journals can attest that it is hard work, but tremendously enjoyable. It has been our own adventure to wander among the treasures of the Collections, deciding what to feature in each issue and the connections that item or person may have with others. We have been fortunate to have guest contributors, and we plan on continuing with more guest writers. With this issue, we begin the practice of mailing the newsletter in an envelope, with the hope that it will be better protected.

We hope that you will enjoy the article on Howard Haycraft by guest contributor William Vande Water. Richard Sveum has written his column, "From the President", with an overview of the

August 4, 1999 2nd Annual Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections meeting. For the first time in this newsletter, he has also written the 100 Years Ago column, featuring works by John Kendrick Bangs.

The June, 1999 newsletter featured an article about Anthony Morley, and the donation of his father, Felix Morley's, books. Jon Lellenberg, B. S. I., historian for the organization, read the article with interest and has provided additional information that reinforces how truly remarkable the Morley Brothers were. He noted that Felix Morley earned his Ph.D. at the Brookings Institution in Washington D. C. while director there, was a nationally broadcast radio news commentator on CBS's "Three Star Final" program in the late 40's, was president of the American Enterprise Institution in continued on page 6

Musings Continued from Page 5

the 50's, and penned his autobiography, For the Record. The youngest Morley brother, Frank, was an editor at a series of UK and US publishing companies, including Faber & Faber in London, where he reportedly shared an office with T. S. Eliot. While there, he commissioned S. C. Roberts to write Dr. Watson, which led to the founding of the first Sherlock Holmes Society in Britain. He was present at its founding meeting, and conveyed greetings from the BSI which had held its "first formal meeting"

the night before in New York on June 5, 1934. He authored many books and was a director of the BSI, Inc.

We are also proud to note that Timothy Johnson, Curator of Special Collections and Rare Books, has been appointed to the eleven-member Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Members of this committee include the Archivist of the U.S., The House and Senate Historians, the Secretary of the

Senate, the Clerk of the House of Representatives and six appointed members. The Committee reviews the management and preservation of the records of Congress and reports and advises the Congress and Archivist of the U.S. on management and preservation. His term of appointment is two years. Congratulations to Tim, and to the Committee for recognizing his talents.

Julie McKuras

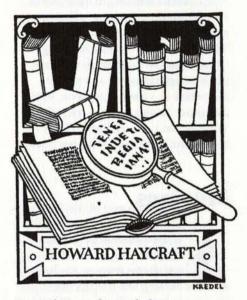
Howard Haycraft and the Detective Story Continued from Page 1

Haycraft's connection to Holmes is equally strong. He read his first Holmes book at the age of ten. The first book to bear his name was a collection of Holmes stories: The Boys Book of Sherlock Holmes, published in 1936. The chapter on Holmes in Murder for Pleasure brought an unheard-of letter of praise from the publishers copy reader, who said it brought tears to her eyes. That same article became the critical chapter "The Profile Emerges" in Edgar W. Smith's 1944 BSI anthology Profile by Gaslight. Haycraft's later anthology of writings about the mystery and detective story genre was titled The Art of the Mystery Story, published in 1946.

He attended his first B.S.I. dinner in 1940, the year that also saw the first attendance of Edgar Smith. He was invested as The Devils Foot in 1950, and received his Two-Shilling Award in 1972. (Along the way he picked up two MWA Edgar Awards, a remarkable tribute to a man who never wrote a word of fiction.) In 1957 he had an important role in the CBS Odyssey TV show on The Baker Street Irregulars, giving the final toast to the Best and Wisest Man.

There is one other literary link between Haycraft and Holmes. In the Rathbone/Bruce film "House of Fear". Holmes scans a bunch of books on the shelves, titles that include Murder as a Fine Art, Murder in the Cellar, etc. He takes the former from the shelves, but right next to it we can clearly see Murder for Pleasure. I wonder if this was a conscious tribute to one of the best and wisest men ever to hold a shilling.

An added personal note: as an identifier of the B.S.I. and MWA dinner pictures, I owe an additional vote of thanks to Haycraft. Two of the first books he edited for H. W. Wilson were Twentieth Century Authors, in 1942 and an updated version in 1955. Both are full of photographs. H. W. Wilson, under his vice presidency and presidency also published Current Biography, which also contains many pictures of early Sherlockians and writers. Sherlockians will be interested in the premature "obituary" of Christopher Morley which Haycraft allowed to be printed in the first edition of Twentieth Century Authors. The perpetrator of this accurate spoof was Morley himself.



Howard Haycraft's Bookplate

Treasures, Tales and Tea

hursday, July 8, 1999 was the date of the presentation "Treasures, Tales and Tea". The flyer for the event notes that "The University Library's treasures - its rare books, special collections, archives, and manuscript collections - will soon be relocating to their new home in the Minnesota Library Access Center. As a way for Friends to get better acquainted with these extraordinary collections before the move, the curators have enthusiastically agreed to share treasures and tales and from their collections."

Tom Shaughnessy, University Librarian, opened the program with a brief introduction. Curator of Special Collections and Rare Books Timothy Johnson gave a brief history of Special Collections. In the 1920's, University Librarian Frank Walter, who was a collector of books on humor, was described as having "books scattered across his office like autumn leaves." In a fireproof room, there was a small safe for the "crown jewels" of the university's holdings. Supporters of the library came to appreciate the special care given to important materials held there, and this became the basis for the Special Collections at the University.

Johnson stated that after one year in

his position as Curator, he has come to believe that it makes "perfect sense" to have the University of Minnesota as home to the Sherlock Holmes Collections. His presentation and display, he stated, could only begin to scratch the surface of the holdings within the Collections. Some of the items he presented were Al Hirshfeld's drawing of Nigel Bruce and Basil Rathbone as Holmes and Watson; Dr. E. W. "Mac" McDiarmid's copy of the 1902 1st edition of The Hound of the Baskervilles; Dr. Philip Hench's bound editions of The Strand; John Bennett Shaw's copy of Pitman's Shorthand Weekly: John Bennett Shaw's 1st edition of Basil of Baker Street and stuffed toy; Sherlock Jack in the Box, and the Czarina of Russia's Tauschnitz editions.

As a last note, Johnson reminded the audience that in 1933, when the books of the late Czar and Czarina were sold, an unknown agent purchased the lot in order to obtain the books on humor. Frances Crane, reporter for The New Yorker, obtained the Czarina's Tauschnitz editions, which she later sold to John Bennett Shaw. There has been no record of the identity of the original agent, with his focus on humor, but Johnson feels the mystery may possibly



The Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections is a quarterly newsletter published by the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections which seek to promote the activities, interests and needs of the Special Collections and Rare Books Department, University of Minnesota Libraries.

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Editorial Board Bruce Southworth, Dr. Richard Sveum, Timothy Johnson

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lead to Frank Walter, former University Librarian. Although "Circumstantial evidence is a very tricky thing" (BOSC), Johnson hopes that his future investigation into the matter may answer the 66 year old mystery. •

Julie McKuras

About the Haycraft Collection

n March, 1971, former Curator of Special Collections Austin McLean corresponded with Howard Haycraft regarding the eventual disposition of Mr. Haycraft's collection, indicating that it would be a welcome addition to the holdings at the University of Minnesota, as it was an "important collection in mystery literature." Haycraft began his donations to the University that same year with Volumes 1-57 of the Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine, as well as miscellaneous mystery and science fiction magazines and a monetary gift to be used for development of his collection.

In 1988, seven boxes of Haycraft's papers were sent to the Library. The papers were described by McLean, in a January 25, 1988 letter, as showing "the great care and effort you have taken with every publication, whether book or article, and this no doubt accounts for their great success with readers...I was not surprised to find interesting letters from such writers as Agatha Christie, Erle Stanley Gardner, Raymond Chandler, Frederic Dannay, and many other notables, but I was not prepared to find personal letters to you from Eleanor Roosevelt." The correspondence with Mrs. Roosevelt was from 1933-1944. She wrote to thank Haycraft for his annual Christmas letters and the inscribed copies of his books he sent upon publication. Included in the correspondence are the White House Christmas cards, some

of which feature a photograph of President and Mrs. Roosevelt.

Howard Haycraft died on November 12, 1991. The following year, fifteen boxes of books were forwarded to the Library by Mrs. Howard Haycraft. Steven Stilwell, a prominent Minneapolis book dealer and proprietor of Once Upon a Crime Mystery Bookstore, wrote that "The Haycraft Collection contains much that is unique including working copies of his books with his notes, inscribed and signed copies of other books in the field and much associational material. It is a fine resource for future scholars."

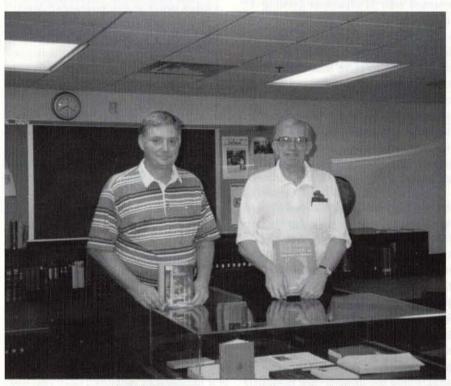
Julie McKuras

Using the Sherlock Holmes Collections

he August 4, 1999 annual meeting of the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections gave two visiting Sherlockians an opportunity to tour the collections and view the exhibit mounted for the meeting. Paul Smedagaard, B. S. I,

("The Randall Gang") of Racine, Wisconsin, and Ed Christenson of Oshkosh, Wisconsin enjoyed the tour given them by Timothy Johnson, Curator of Special Collections.

Iulie McKuras



Ed Christensen

Paul Smedagaard, B.S.I.

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Timothy J. Johnson, Curator

Mailing list corrections requested-

Because of the high cost of returned newsletters, we would appreciate being informed of changes of address or other corrections.

Remembrances

In supporting the Sherlock Holmes Collections, many donors have made contributions either in honor or in memory of special persons.

IN HONOR OF

Austin McLean Bruce E. Southworth, B.S.I.

IN MEMORY OF

Robert Hahn, B.S.I. Robert Hahn, B.S.I. Malcolm Payne Tom Stix, Jr. Dr. Watson Victoria Weber

FROM

Carole and C. Paul Martin, M.D., B.S.I. Showsaku Mashimo

FROM

Dennis France Showsaku Mashimo David Rush Bruce D. Aikin Stanton Berg Thomas Galbo