

Jan 86 #1 The most important news from the annual dinner was Julian Wolff's announcement that he was retiring from the leadership of The Baker Street Irregulars (having held the job longer than anyone else, Julian said, he decided to be the first to get out alive), and that he was handing over the reins to Thomas L. Stix, Jr. And Tom's first official act, as the new Wiggins of the BSI, was his announcement that Julian will continue as our Commissionaire Emeritus. Tom's address is 34 Pierson Avenue, Norwood, NJ 07648.

Nancy Pond (daughter of Walter Pond) was The Woman, honored at the BSI pre-dinner cocktail party and by The Women at dinner at the National Arts Club. The BSI dinner featured the traditional agenda, including Philip R. Brogdon's fine toast to Sherlock Holmes as Watson's, and our, best friend. John Bennett Shaw displayed, explained, and defended a life mask of Sherlock Holmes, apparently taken by M. Oscar Meunier, and Isaac Asimov doubled as tenor and baritone in a Canonical parody of Gilbert and Sullivan (Holmes was a much better musician than Sullivan, said Asimov, who then demonstrated his conclusions by singing some of Gilbert's songs set to different music chosen by Holmes).

Irregular Shillings were awarded to Eric Beckman (Stapleton), David L. Hammer (Major-General Stoner), Joseph Fink (The Martyrdom of Man), John Constable (The Crooked Man), Robert E. Robinson (The Hansom Cab), Gordon R. Speck (Colonel James Barclay), Bob Bisio (Shinwell Johnson), Richard B. Shull (An Actor and a Rare One), Barton A. Eberman (The Hound of the Baskervilles), James P. Suszynski (The Dying Detective), Don Werby (Old Abrahams), C. Paul Martin (Dr. Leslie Armstrong), Andrew Malec (The Strange Old Book Collector), and Steven Rothman (The Valley of Fear). And Two-Shilling Awards were given to Chris Steinbrunner, Henry T. Folsom, John B. Koelle, Edward F. Clark, William P. Schweickert, Philip A. Shreffler, and Theodore G. Schulz.

Other Friday events were The Martha Hudson Breakfast at the Algonquin, The William Gillette Luncheon at the Old Homestead, Otto Penzler's open house at The Mysterious Bookshop, The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes at Keen's, the post-dinners gathering at Keen's, and the post-Keen's gathering at the Notre Dame suite at the Royalton. The ASH dinner agenda included Sherry Rose-Bond's poetic history of the Adventuresses, a slide show by Helen E. Heinrich, and a new Sherlockian performance by The Friends of Bogie's.

Saturday's events included Julian and Eleanor Wolff's reception at the Grolier Club (on Julian's 81st birthday), and a Sherlockian invasion of Bogie's (enlivened by an attempted robbery in the parking lot across the street). On Sunday south-bound travelers dined in Philadelphia with The Master's Class at the Franklin Inn Club, where Daniel S. Knight assembled a group of devoted Savoyards for some authentic Victorian musicalities.

Press coverage was liberal, starting with the N.Y. Times on Jan. 5 (an appreciative article by BSI Karl E. Meyer), continuing with the N.Y. Post on Jan. 10 (a long article by Marilyn Stasio with a sidebar by Chris Steinbrunner), and ending with the Washington Post on Jan. 11 (an article filed from their New York bureau with quotes from Christian Steinbrunner, Andrew Peck, Jon Welenberg, and others).

Jan 86 #2 THE BOZZ CHRONICLES is an intriguing bi-monthly from Epic Comics, with Bozz being an extremely alien time traveler in London in the latter half of the 19th century. Nothing S'ian in the 1st issue (Dec. 1985), but Bozz appears in a deerstalker and cloak in the 2nd issue (Feb. 1986), and Jerry Margolin has been informed by someone in the field that a future issue will be more S'ian. Marvel Comics Group, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016; \$1.50 an issue.

Those Hare-Krishna look-alikes in the Egyptian temple in "Young Sherlock Holmes" were Hare Krishnas, according to an item in the Dec. 1985 issue of Mademoiselle. "Their peanut-butter cookies were quite tasty," according to

Nicholas Rowe. And Alan Cox noted that director Levinson "had to keep telling them to scowl. Hare Krishnas have the most peaceful expression I've ever seen." Confirmation in the Young Sherlock Holmes Official Souvenir Magazine (\$2.95 at bookshops), with plot synopsis, photographs, design sketches, etc.; published by Ira Friedman, Inc., 10 Columbus Circle #1300, New York, NY 10019. There is also YOUNG SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE STORYBOOK, adapted by Peter Lerangis (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1985; \$7.95), with lots of color photos. And an album of the soundtrack music (MCA-6159; \$7.98) (there's also a cassette, of course). And the film is featured in Scholastic Scope (Nov. 29, 1985); \$2.25 for the teachers' edition; 730 Broadway, New York, NY 10003.

The Armchair Detective (winter 1986) has William A. S. Sarjeant's six-page report on "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes in Minnesota" (John Bennett Shaw told the gathering that "Sherlock" was the trade-name of a type of chastity belt), and Louis Phillips' "The President on Baker Street" (a one-page summary, uncredited, of Edgar W. Smith's A BAKER STREET FOLIO).

The Promised Valley Playhouse in Salt Lake City had a new production of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" from Oct. 17 to Nov. 9, 1985, and the program had a full-color S'ian cover illo; Ron De Waal has extra copies (no charge), and his address is: The Libraries, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523.

Aljean Harmetz's long article on Michael D. Eisner ("The Man Re-animating Disney") in the N.Y. Times Magazine (Dec. 29, 1985) includes a large color illo from "Basil of Baker Street" (due for release this summer).

Sherlockian philatelists can put last year's Sinclair Lewis stamp and this year's Jack London stamp on the same album page. In 1910 Lewis proposed to London a series of stories about the World Police, to be unified by a central character, the Man of the World Police. "He need not--should not, and, with you writing, would not--be in the least like Sherlock Holmes, but Holmes offers suggestions, nevertheless," Lewis wrote. Cited from THE MAN FROM MAIN STREET: A SINCLAIR LEWIS READER (New York: Random House, 1953, p. 124) by Robert L. Coard in his article "Sinclair Lewis, Max Gottlieb, and Sherlock Holmes" (Modern Fiction Studies, autumn 1985, p. 565-571), at hand from Robert F. Fleissner.

Avon has reissued EARTHMAN'S BURDEN, by Poul Anderson and Gordon R. Dickson (D5795a) with a new cover (189 p., \$2.95); their "Adventure of the Misplaced Hound" is still one of the best SF/SH items in print.

Jan 86 #3 Paulette Greene (140 Princeton Road, Rockville Centre, NY 11570) offers THE LAST CASE OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, a new pastiche by Trevor H. Hall ("Dr. Hall pieces together the puzzle of Ivy Johnson Bull's life with the assistance of Sherlock Holmes's only son, Dr. S. J. H. M. V. Holmes-Adler, F.R.S."); \$31.50 postpaid.

"I'm not interested in money," said Gaby Goldscheider to a reporter from The Times (Nov. 30, 1985) in a discussion of her new Sherlock Holmes Book Club of Great Britain (32 Hornton Street, Kensington W8). The article is on "Keeping the Books in Profit" in the paper's "Family Money" section, and discusses the investment value of S'ian. The club is open from Thursday to Saturday, sometimes Sunday, with coffee served, but only by appointment (01-937-7311).

For those who have not yet visited all of the places visited by Sherlock Holmes, the Smithsonian Resident Associates Travel Program offers two guided tours of Tibet, in June and September, with stops in Shannan, Gyantze, Xigaze, and Lhasa. There was no Baedeker's Handbook for Tibet in the 1890s, but if there had been it surely would have included a warning note similar to the Smithsonian's: "In addition to an ambitious travel program in each city, you will be traveling great distances over rugged terrain at high altitudes and through undeveloped areas with few amenities.

This is an exciting opportunity for Associates fully prepared to meet the challenges of a rugged environment."

It is unlikely that SH's articles and monographs were actually written as scientific papers, but he certainly agreed with the advice ("be exacting and unemotional") offered by Michael J. Katz in *ELEMENTS OF THE SCIENTIFIC PAPER* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1985; 130 p., \$20.00 cloth, \$6.95 paper); Katz's "step-by-step guide for students and professionals" uses appropriate Canonical quotations as headings for three chapters.

General Gordon is no longer considered to be the unmitigated hero that he was when his portrait was newly framed by Watson, and we're a year late, since the centenary of Gordon's death at Khartoum was celebrated on Jan. 26, 1985, but ... Jack Kerr reports Denis Judd's article on "Gordon of Khartoum: The Making of an Imperial Martyr" in the Jan. 1985 issue of *History Today*. Another article was "The Enigma of Chinese Gordon" by Donovan Fitzpatrick, in *MD* (Nov. 1985). It would appear, from the lack of any citation by Ron De Waal, that there has never been a S'ian article about Gordon (an opportunity, obviously, for the militarists in our ranks). If you'd like to see the last letter Gordon ever wrote, it's in the May 1892 issue of *The Strand Magazine*, in the "Illustrated Interview" with Lord Wolseley.

There's a discount edition of *A STUDY IN SCARLET: A SHERLOCK HOLMES MURDER DOSSIER* (London: Peerage Books, 1985; \$7.98); printed as a book, without the wedding ring and other clues found in the first edition. Also *SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE COMPLETE ILLUSTRATED SHORT STORIES* (London: Chancellor Press, 1985; 986 p., \$7.99); all the short stories, with some but not all of the illustrations from the Strand. The books are reported so far only in Coles bookshops in the U.S.; Peerage Books and Chancellor Press have the same London address as Octopus Books (perhaps an appropriate name).

Jan 86 #4 who wrote the first short story ever published in *Punch*?

"Young Sherlock Holmes" opened in Australia on Dec. 19, with mildly enthusiastic reviews, and two weeks later was being advertised as "Young Sherlock Holmes: The Pyramid of Fear". And one review included Alan Cox's description of how his hallucination scene was filmed, with the reviewer's comment, "previous screen Watsons have endured many things in the course of their relationship with Holmes, but lying stretched out on a studio floor being attacked by puppet pastries has not been one of them." All this from Derham Groves, who happily announces that he and Ping are now proud parents of son Huey, born on Dec. 30.

"You can depend on a woman for anything except constancy. Not that I disapprove of women, except when they attempt to function like domestic animals. When they stick to the vocations for which they are best adapted, such as chicanery, sophistry, self-advertisement, cajolery, mystification, and incubation, they are sometimes superb creatures." (Nero Wolfe, quoted by Ken Darby in his *Lakeside Talk* at the Bohemian Grove in July 1983.)

Barbara Iris Ulan (aka A Tangled Skein) offers a made-to-order first edition for dyed-in-the-wool S'ians: a hand-loomed V-neck pullover vest emblazoned with a portrait of SH, with background mouse-colored (light grey to tan, dependent on the breed) and motif in scarlet, priced at \$45 to \$75 according to size. For an illustrated flier with full details, send a #10 SASE to Barbara at 165 East 35th Street #10-I, New York, NY 10016.

The final official definite formal announcement from PBS' "Mystery!" is that "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" will air beginning Feb. 6. The cases, in order, will be "Gree", "Resi", "Norw", "Copp", "RedH", and "Fina".

The first short story published in *Punch* appeared in the Jan. 3, 1900, issue: "The Debut of Bimbashi Joyce" by Arthur Conan Doyle. I've not seen this noted before; credit the back of the dust jacket for T. S. Blakeney's

SHERLOCK HOLMES: FACT OR FICTION?

"A Genuine Monster" is the title of Edward R. Ricciuti's article in the Jan. 1986 issue of Audubon about *Cyanea capillata* (with mention of the Canonical "Lion's Mane"). Reported by Richard G. Smith, who also notes a suggestion in Glamour (Jan. 1986): "Burrow into a fluffy comforter (buy one for less at a January white sale) and brave the spine-tingling chill of a Sherlock Holmes mystery. January 6 is the famous sleuth's birthday."

Filming for the \$18 million movie of Umberto Eco's "The Name of the Rose" has ended on location at a 12th century monastery near Frankfurt, and the company is moving to Rome, according to Time (Jan. 6, 1986). William of Baskerville is played by Sean Connery. F. Murray Abraham (of "Chariots of Fire") also has a role, according to earlier reports.

I occasionally see reports, or reports of reports, that the Abbey National Building Society has moved away from Baker Street (to Brighton, among other places. Not to worry -- on Oct. 7, 1985, Jeremy Brett (as Sherlock Holmes) unveiled a bronze plaque honoring the detective at 221B Baker Street, where Abbey still maintains its head offices.

Jan 86 #5 "Autumn in Baker Street" is scheduled for Oct. 11-12, 1986, at Bear Mountain, N.Y., combining "scholarship with friendship, emotion with reason, and explication with participation." A flier is available from Bob Thomalen, 69 Glen Road, Eastchester, NY 10709.

Reported by John Bennett Shaw: THE READER'S ANTHOLOGY, edited by Robert R. Potter, with a dramatization of "Sherlock Holmes and the Speckled Band" by Alice Delman (with illustrations, notes, and a Teacher's Resource Manual); Globe Book Co., 50 West 23rd Street, New York, NY 10010. Also (same publisher): THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (D650a) in a new (1984) edition with illustrations by Nat Glattauer. THE SHOPS AND INNS OF LONDON, including The Sherlock Holmes, in a 655-piece jigsaw puzzle, 18 by 25 in., \$10.00, available from Adam York, Hanover, PA 17331.

The Hounds of the Baskerville (sic) are celebrating the Vincent Starrett Centennial Year during 1986; if you'd like to be on their mailing list, write to Robert J. Mangler, 103 Broadway, Wilmette, IL 60091.

"The matter seems to me to be of such importance that I grudge every day that passes without something having been done to bring it to realization," wrote Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in a letter published in The Times (Mar. 11, 1913). The "matter" was the Channel Tunnel, which he supported for many years, and in another letter in The Times (Dec. 9, 1922) he suggested that "in money alone it is impossible to compute how much was wasted by our insane policy of obstructing the boring of the tunnel in pre-war days."

Wally Conger advises fans of the 1984 movie "The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai" that The Banzai Institute (c/o Twentieth Century-Fox, Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213) offers free membership in the official Buckaroo Banzai Fan Club: The Blue Blaze Irregulars.

Ron De Waal reports an interesting pairing of epigraphs in Irving Wallace's THE SEVENTH SECRET (New York: E. P. Dutton, 1986): "Though a good deal is too strange to be believed, nothing is too strange to have happened" (Thomas Hardy) and "When you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth" (Sir Arthur Conan Doyle).

Also reported by Ron De Waal: THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES. THE MEMOIRS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, illustrated by Ian Beck (London: Octopus Books, 1985; 348 p., \$5.98 at B. Dalton); with THE CELEBRATED CASES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES as half-title. THE WORKS OF SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE, frontispiece by Modeste Stein (London: Longmeadow Press, 1985; xxiv+808 p., \$14.95 at Waldenbooks); almost the same as the earlier Avenel Books edition (Stud through Bruc), with an additional Introduction by Patricia Horan. And a

large deerstalker and magnifying glass on a 4-page pamphlet on SURVIVING SEC SCRUTINY: SECURITIES PRACTICE, from Callaghan & Co., 3201 Old Glenview Road, Wilmette, IL 60091.

Ferret Fantasy (27 Beechcroft Road, London SW17 7BX, England), losing some storage facilities, is offering some publications at half price, including MY EVENING WITH SHERLOCK HOLMES (a 1981 collection of early parodies compiled by Richard Lancelyn Green and John Gibson); \$12.50 per copy postpaid for orders of five or more copies, deadline Mar. 1, 1986.

Jan 86 #6 John Hawkesworth has earned acclaim for a long list of television series, from "Upstairs, Downstairs" through "Danger UXB" and "The Flame Trees of Thika" to "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" -- but his first major success, for which he won a Screenwriters Guild Award, was his work on series of Conan Doyle series broadcast by BBC-2 in 1967.

THE ADVENTURE OF THE SMILING JUDGE, a new pastiche by Mary Fantina "from the papers of Sherlock Holmes," has Holmes describing Watson's successful solution of a case during the Great Hiatus; the 19-page pamphlet is \$3.00 postpaid from the May Press, 32 Old Army Road, Bernardsville, NJ 07924.

"The overall look of the picture, the feeling that you have about the film's visuals--that's the function of a production designer," explains Norman Reynolds in an interview in Starlog (Feb. 1986) Reynolds was the production designer for "Young Sherlock Holmes," and he certainly did a fine job. "we built quite a big set on the backlot, which was cobbled streets and period buildings. I looked for London locations, but it has become very difficult now. Many buildings have been demolished, and there's very little in the way of cobbles left. And if you do find a piece of cobbled street, there are yellow lines and parking meters and venetian blinds and modern drapes and TV aerials. So, finally, we built a section of London that worked for the film." The school was another challenge: "we couldn't find a public school that had everything we wanted, so we went to Eton for some scenes, and to Belvoir Castle for others. We also used Radley College in Oxford, Radcliffe Camera and Brasenose College in Oxford --all integrated into one, as the same school. And it works, too--it has the best of all those places."

A new, and more detailed, flier at hand for "A weekend in Toronto with Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Sherlock Holmes" on June 19-22, 1986. Write to The Bootmakers of Toronto, 225 Carlton Street, Toronto, Ont. M5A 2L2, Canada.

"Upstairs, Downstairs" fans will welcome the news that fourteen episodes are available on videocassette (\$43.90 each postpaid) from Corinth Video, 410 East 62nd Street, New York, NY 10021 (800-221-4720).

"Lord Mountbatten: The Last Viceroy" has started on PBS-TV, with two Sherlockian actors in the cast: Nicol Williamson as Mountbatten, and Ian Richardson as Nehru.

The facsimile of Marvin P. Epstein's manuscript of THE ADVENTURE OF THE PRIORY SCHOOL is at hand, introduced and signed by Len Deighton, and well produced and highly recommended (90 p., \$48.95 postpaid from Pepper & Stern, Box 2711, Santa Barbara, CA 93120). Not only is the book the closest most of us will get to owning a manuscript, it's also a fine way to see how a story is written (and rewritten). And there are several places where new light will be shed on identifications of people and places.

I believe that all of you have now received a copy of my seasonal souvenir ("ICH HABE DIE EHRE IHNEN DOKTOR MORS VORZUSTELLEN!"), either at the birthday festivities in New York or enclosed with this mailing. If I've missed anyone, let me know.

Feb 86 #1 Anthony Boucher's THE CASE OF THE BAKER STREET IRREGULARS

(D5834a) has been reprinted in paperback (New York: Carroll & Graf, 1986; 252 p., \$3.95), with Otto Penzler's intro from the 1980 Gregg Press edition; a fine book, and recommended.

It's not S'ian, as far as I know, but fans of Dorothy L. Sayers may be interested in THE LORD PETER WIMSEY COMPANION, by Stephan P. Clark; \$49.95 postpaid from The Mysterious Bookshop (129 West 56th Street, New York, NY 10019), according to a review in Playboy (Apr. 1986).

I've had one request for an address for the Culture Press, publisher of Robert T. Weidaw's THE CHRONOLOGION (Dec 85 #2). A careful examination of John Harris' reviews of "Christmas Books" in the Atlantic (Dec. 1985) suggests that all of the books are ghosts.

Bantam has issued a "Win a Mystery weekend!" booklet to promote their computer game SHERLOCK HOLMES IN "ANOTHER BOW" (you don't need a computer or their game to solve the mystery). Available, according to Bantam, at all stores that carry the game, and but not directly from Bantam Books (the store also gets a prize if you win).

Reported by John Bennett Shaw: the current catalog from Scholastic Inc. (Box 7502, Jefferson City, MO 65102), with (new) THE RED-HEADED LEAGUE AND OTHER MYSTERY PLAYS, including "RedH" (D4383b) and "Bery" (D4353b), and (old) THE ADVENTURE OF THE SPECKLED BAND AND OTHER PLAYS (D4450b); \$2.95 each. Also mention of ACD in SCOPE ENGLISH ANTHOLOGIES on p. 32.

The Newcastle Mint (6512 Belgrave, Garden Grove, CA 92645) has announced "The Sherlock Holmes 100 Year Commemorative Art Medal Collection" 72 art medals, 3 cm. in diameter, minted in pure gold on fine pewter (\$20.00 each) or in pure silver (\$30.00 each) to be issued monthly beginning in March, in an edition strictly limited to 1,500 numbered sets, with a subscription deadline of Feb. 15, 1986. The announcement was received Jan. 31, along with a letter offering additional brochures and saying that they will be happy to extend the Feb. 15 deadline, so I assume that there's still plenty of time for people to sign up for this \$1,440.00 (or \$2,160.00) collection.

Sherry-Rose Bond and Scott Bond reported on their trip to Manchester and the Granada studio "In Search of Sherlock Holmes" in a long article in the Feb. 1986 issue of Applause (KHYY-TV, 2300 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103).

Forecast by St. Martin's Press in June: THE QUALLSFORD INHERITANCE: A MEMOIR OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, FROM THE PAPERS OF EDWARD PORTER JONES, HIS LATE ASSISTANT, by Lloyd Biggle, Jr. (256 p., \$15.95).

Daniel Thomas' MAD HATTER SUMMER, which I heartily recommend (BSJ June 1985 and BSM spring 1985), has been discounted at \$2.95 in the Feb.-Mar. 1986 bargain-books catalog from Edward R. Hamilton.

Newton M. Williams died on Jan. 28, and it's a sad loss indeed. He was a good friend to The Occupants of the Empty House and to many others, and an enthusiastic Sherlockian.

Feb 86 #2 Sound Track Album Retailers (Box 7, Quarryville, PA 17568) is closing out FAMOUS DETECTIVE HOLMES (Muramatsu ANL 1018), the Japanese soundtrack from a cartoon from the studio that did "The Adventure of Sherlock Hound" (that was on HBO in Nov. 1983); \$16.95 plus shipping, and they take plastic.

Jack Kerr (216 Laurel Building, King & Frazer Roads, Malvern, PA 19355) offers free photocopies of reviews of "Young Sherlock Holmes" from the Wall Street Journal (Dec. 5, 1985) and Time Magazine (Dec. 9, 1985).

Dr. Steven Wagner, owner of the "Life Mask of Sherlock Holmes" displayed and discussed at the 1986 BSI annual dinner, has been persuaded to have

copies made from the original (which has been identified as the work of M. Oscar Meunier of Grenoble); copies of the moulage, with a detailed description, will cost \$40.00 including UPS delivery, and orders may be placed with John Bennett Shaw, 1917 Fort Union Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87501.

waldenbooks is selling "Bearlock Holmes" (the 10-in. Sherlockian teddy bear) at \$19.95 (plus \$2.50 shipping if by mail); they take plastic. waldenbooks, attn: Marketing-Mystery Club, Box 1084, Stamford, CT 06904.

The British broadcast of the second Granada series generated some comment in the press. Nancy Banks-Smith, in the Guardian, noted that we (and Watson) have only Holmes' word for Moriarty being "anything but a perfectly respectable professor kind to dumb students and meticulous in his tax returns." Holmes, however, "is clearly off his head," she writes, and wonders how many innocent lives must have been saved by Watson's habit of abandoning his patients at a word from Holmes. Watson "seems to use his head solely to stop his ears banging together," she concludes. John Naughton, in The Listener, suggested in one review that "David Burke as Watson continued to be as useful as a hatstand in a Turkish bath," and in another that "whether one likes it or not, however, Mr. Brett's rendition of the character has now reached the point where it might almost be called an interpretation, and enshrined in American PhD dissertations. In contrast, David Burke's portrayal of Watson as a well-intentioned pair of short planks laid end to end, though hilarious, has been much more conventional."

Frank Langella is returning to the role of Sherlock Holmes, according to an item in the N.Y. Times (Jan. 31, 1986), in "Sherlock's Last Case" forecast for Broadway in October. The 1974 Charles Marowitz play (D4468b) was revised for production in Los Angeles in 1984. Langella will be remembered as a fine Holmes in the 1981 HBO telecast of Gillette's "Sherlock Holmes". The BSI birthday festivities in 1979 included a Thursday-night theater party for "The Crucifer of Blood" -- if Langella's play is a success, perhaps some energetic New Yorker will make similar arrangements for 1987.

"Young Sherlock Holmes" received one Oscar nomination, for best visual effects. Also nominated in that category were "Cocoon" and "Return to Oz". The film is reported to have cost \$16 million, \$1 million under budget. And Toronto Star film reviewer Ron Base had a sarcastic suggestion for a sequel: Sherlock Holmes goes back to the future, encounters a cute little alien creature, and defeats an evil shark.

Feb 86 #3 The Granada series earned considerable praise for its fidelity to the Canon, even though some liberties were taken (such as the early introduction of Watson in "The Crooked Man"). But the changes rung on "The Greek Interpreter" were a thorough disappointment.

Paula Salo's THE SHERLOCK HOLMES MOTHER GOOSE, illustrated by Larry Marty (Burbank: Sherlock in L.A. Press, 1985; 26 p., \$10.00) contains Canonical matches for 16 short nursery rhymes (including one that begins, "Hickory, Dickory, Doc./Your brother's watch was in hock."); available from the publisher (2712 Scott Road, Burbank, CA 91504).

Ron De Waal reports that B. Dalton has the \$7.98 discount edition of the Simon Goodenough murder dossier of A STUDY IN SCARLET published in book form (Jan 86 #3).

Thanks to Al Rosenblatt for a correction: F. Murray Abraham, forecast in the film of "The Name of the Rose" (Jan 86 #4), won his Oscar in "Amadeus" (not "Chariots of Fire").

Gideon Hill reports being told by a Disney publicist that the studio is concerned by the poor box-office performance of "Young Sherlock Holmes" and has decided to change the title of "Basil of Baker Street" to something "less Sherlockian."

The spring 1986 catalog from Historical Products (Box 220, Cambridge, MA 02238) includes the usual assortment of T-shirts, sweatshirts, tote bags, etc., all available with their Steele portrait of Holmes or their Canonical quotation ("I abhor the dull routine of existence. I crave for mental exaltation.") And their calendar notes the Canonical event that occurred on Apr. 27, 1890.

Sherlock Holmes was on television in the U.S.S.R. in 1985, not in the Granada series, but rather in a Soviet series (presumably "Priklyucheniya Sherloka Kholm'sa i Doktora Vatsona", the series that was launched from Lenfilms Studios in Leningrad in 1979). The series is well produced, according to a report in the London Daily Star (July 23, 1985), except for errors such as "the occasional glimpse through the Baker Street chimney pots of the grand, soaring architecture of the Winter Palace, once the home of the Tzars of all Russia and the spot where the Russian Revolution got under way with a vengeance."

"I don't know if you share my growing conviction that Conan Doyle was not a dog man," Nancy Banks-Smith wrote in the Guardian (Aug. 26, 1985). "A dog has only to raise its handsome head in Doyle to have its brains blown out. The Hound of the Baskervilles (as large as a small lioness) got five barrels in the flank from Holmes. The mastiff in The Copper Beeches (as large as a calf) was as affable a dog as ever wagged its tail ingratiatingly at a cameraman (straight between the ears) and what about Watson's bull pup? When he first met Holmes Watson mentioned he owned a bull pup (size unspecified) because these things can be accounted a flaw in a fellow lodger. 'Oh, that's all right,' said Holmes 'with a merry laugh.' Ha Ha indeed. Do we ever see hair or hide of that dog again? We do not. Undoubtedly it fell victim to Holmes's reckless target practice in Baker Street."

Feb 86 #4 Michael Cox, producer of the Granada series, responded to Nancy Banks-Smith's query, in a letter to the Guardian (Aug. 29), suggesting that she has "reopened one of the great Sherlockian mysteries: what became of Watson's bull-pup?" Cox notes Jack Tracy's statement that "To keep a bull-pup, in Anglo-Indian slang, means to have fits of quick temper." But there are no bull-pups in Partridge to support this view, according to Cox, "so Holmes remains suspected of foul play." The Anglo-Indian (actually army) slang was identified by Jacques Barzun (D1547b).

New "interactive fiction" computer games mentioned in the Feb. 1986 issue of American Libraries, from Codewriter (5605 West Howard, Niles, IL 60648): CASEBOOK OF HEMLOCK SOAMES 1 & 2 and CASEBOOK OF HEMLOCK SOAMES 3 & 4 (both for Atari), and SHERLOCK HOLMES RETURNS (for Commodore); \$19.95 each.

Len Lawson (1206 Notre Dame Court, Livermore, CA 94550) is using his Corona (IBM PC compatible) and dBASE III to compile a data base of SH and ACD periodical appearances, and wonders if there are others doing similar work. Is there a Sherlock Holmes bulletin board? Is anyone interested in one?

I have found a source for BOZZ CHRONICLES #1, the comic book mentioned earlier (Jan 86 #2), and other comics as well, at reasonable prices: Mindbridge Ltd., 4351 Ebenezer Road, Baltimore, MD 21236.

Gerald Weissmann's "The Game Is Afoot, or Holmes and Watson at Bellevue" (Discover, Mar. 1986) at hand from Ely Liebow. "William Goldring told a group of us that perhaps we could learn as much about clinical medicine from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle as from Cabot and Adams (our somber textbook of physical diagnosis)," Weissmann writes of his student days. And he notes that the Holmes legend is based on the premise that diagnostic skills can be taught: "Watson's slow progress over time is painful, but inevitable. He's the true patron saint of the medical student."

"Young Sherlock Holmes" screenwriter Chris Columbus interviewed Billy Wilder for American Film (Mar. 1986). Discussing "The Private Life of

Sherlock Holmes", Wilder said, "I should have been more daring, but unfortunately, the son of Conan Doyle was there. I had wanted to make Holmes a homosexual. . . That's why he is on dope, you know. Look, we have been freed now from the Green Office of the Johnson Office or that stupid thing. In many respects, it's terrifying, because now any idiot and any pornographer can do anything. But for the ones who are a little bit discriminating, who do it delicately, a grand new thing is opened. But that was after Private Life. Just the saddest thing about [the film] is that it was a waste of a year and a half of my life."

More info on the schoolbooks reported (Jan 86 #5) from the Globe Book Co. (50 West 23rd Street, New York, NY 10010). THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES is a revised 3rd ed. of D650a, with new illos but without the radio adaptation of "Lion" (\$5.83). THE WORLD ANTHOLOGY, edited by Robert R. Potter and Roger G. Goodman, has Olive J. Morley's dramatization of "Seco" (\$16.78, with student's workbook at \$2.94 and teacher's resource manual at \$2.50). THE READER'S ANTHOLOGY, edited by Robert R. Potter, has Alice Delman's dramatization of "Spec" (same prices). Shipping extra, and you can call 800-221-7994.

Feb 86 #5 A tantalizingly incomplete report from a non-Sherlockian that "Young Sherlock Holmes" has appeared with a different title raises the possibility that Paramount has test-marketed the film with a new title that might have more appeal to movie audiences. Does anyone have more information on this?

Jim Duval reports that the Quality Paperback Book Club (Camp Hill, PA 17012) is offering members a \$7.85 set of two 10-ounce ceramic mugs with portraits of Sigmund Freud and Sherlock Holmes (the Gersten caricatures).

Jorge Luis Borges' poem "Sherlock Holmes" (translated by Richard Outram) is in Descant #51 (winter 1985-86); this is the magazine's mystery issue, at \$12.00 (P.O. Box 314, Station P, Toronto, Ont. M5S 2S8, Canada).

THE SHERLOCK HOLMES ABC BOOK, by Andy and Bill Paton, with a Foreword by Bob Coghill (Toronto: Simon & Pierre, 1985; 64 p., \$9.95 Canadian); prepared for young readers by young authors (the Patons are teenagers), with canonical artwork and relevant discussion for each letter of the alphabet (from "Adler" to "Zoo"), and nicely done.

Bernie O'Heir reports that the "Young Sherlock Holmes" one-sheet is available for \$8.00 (plus \$2.50 shipping) from Movie Poster Service, Box 517, Canton, OK 73724.

"An Afternoon with Sherlock Holmes and Conan Doyle" is scheduled for Mar. 22 at WSU in Dayton, Ohio. Details available from Dr. A. E. Rodin, Wright State University Medical School, Box 927, Dayton, OH 45401.

Chris Redmond (125 Lincoln Road #1101, Waterloo, Ont. N2J 2N9, Canada) offers copies of THE TALE OF COPPERELLA, a well-executed 8-page pamphlet ("wherein are related the adventures of a sweet young lady, and also the doings of a noted detective") issued in Oct. 1985; \$2.00 (U.S.) postpaid.

Does anyone have Microsoft Windows? This is one of the new "alternative operating environments," and it displays a series of icons at the bottom of the monitor to indicate which applications programs are memory-resident utilities; one of the icons is a Sherlockian silhouette, according to an illo in the Feb. 25, 1986, issue of PC Magazine, but I have no idea what it indicates. For those who don't "talk tekkie," there's some new computer software that uses a little picture of Sherlock Holmes to show you that it can do something, but I don't yet know what.

Barbara J. Raheb (P.O. Box "O", Tarzana, CA 91356) is offering the complete set of her CHRONICLES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (45 miniature volumes) in a 1740 Chippendale wood cabinet, at \$525.00.

And a flier at hand from Peter E. Melonas (Baker Street Enterprises, 1726A Sycamore Square Mall, Memphis, TN 38134) offering his S'ian posters.

If you're going to be in Chicago this spring, Ely M. Liebow will be presiding over one of the Lyceum Seminars at the Newberry Library, giving ten weekly lectures on "The Fiction of Arthur Conan Doyle" beginning on Mar. 25.

Feb 86 #6 Hascom Publishers (Box 1396, Provo, UT 84603) has sent a flier offering THE SECRET CONAN DOYLE CORRESPONDENCE, by Leslie Vernet Harper, at \$6.95 pre-publication (it's scheduled for Apr. 15); Arthur Conan Doyle, Jacques Futrelle, Nellie Bly, Emma Goldman, and Teddy Roosevelt trying to prevent the assassination of Arthur Balfour.

I don't know how many newspapers have special Valentine's Day "personal" sections, but they're worth checking. Norman Davis reports an "I.A. Forever. S.H." in the Chicago Sun-Times this year (and occasionally) in past years. And the Washington Post usually has one to Irene Adler with a thoroughly non-S'ian message in a non-Canonical code.

And a hearty raspberry to Vincent Price's script-writer for claiming (in the introduction to Granada's "The Copper Beeches") that William Gillette introduced the Holmesian calabash. There's no evidence for this, photographic or otherwise; Gillette used a curved wooden pipe.

Forecast for April: SON OF HOLMES, by John T. Lescroart (New York: Donald I. Fine, 223 p., \$15.95; bon vivant Auguste Lupa, the son of Sherlock Holmes and an opera star, makes his detecting debut in France in world war I. According to the publisher's publicity, the author attended a Martha Hudson dinner in Arlington, Mass., fifteen years ago, "and never recovered from the experience."

A new saleslist/newsletter at hand from Carol Brener (Murder Ink, 271 West 87th Street, New York, NY 10024), reporting that Daniel Stashower's THE ADVENTURE OF THE ECTOPLASMIC MAN is one of the nominees for the Mystery Writers of America's Edgar for best first novel by an American (their awards dinner is May 9 in New York). She offers LETTERS TO SHERLOCK HOLMES, edited by Richard Lancelyn Green (highlights of correspondence to Holmes), at \$6.00 (this is a Penguin paperback which I've not yet seen), and forecasts (March) DELL BOOK OF QUIZZES & PUZZLES FOR LITERATURE LOVERS, by Lane & Bartlett ("an Anglophile's Eden" with a Holmes section), at \$7.00, and (May) Michael Hardwick's SHERLOCK HOLMES: MY LIFE AND CRIMES at \$9.00 (presumably a trade paperback), and (June) Stashower's ECTOPLASMIC MAN in paperback at \$3.50, and (July) paperback reprints of John Dickson Carr's NINE WRONG ANSWERS at \$3.50 and Anthony Boucher's NINE TIMES NINE (not in De Waal, but it has many S'ian references) at \$5.00.

The March issue of Dial has a nice color photo of Holmes and Moriarty on location in Switzerland for the Granada version of "The Final Problem".

Wally Conger reports that a videocassette of the 1937 film "Silver Blaze" is available at \$19.95 at Waldenbooks and B. Dalton (and from Kartes Video Communications, 10 East 106th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46280).

Mycroft's Isolated Companions are planning their Ninth Annual 125th Birthday Bash for Sherlock Holmes in Cleveland on May 17, 1986. Additional information available from Dwight J. McDonald, 1711 Cypress Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44109.

There are now 80 people on the info-sheets mailing list. And why not, suggests Norman Davis: Sherlockians invented "trivial pursuit."

Mar 86 #1 A bibliographic query. Please check your older copies of A STUDY IN SCARLET. I am trying to find copies published by

ward, Lock & Co. (in any binding) in which the publishing history (after the title page) ends with a 1901 printing of the Third Edition. If you have such a copy, please send me a photocopy of the publishing history, and of page xvii. Eventually this will help sort out the Souvenir Edition of A STUDY IN SCARLET. And maybe I can figure out the other three titles in the Souvenir Edition before the end of the century.

Simon & Schuster Video has finally announced their videocassettes of the Granada series, with three cases (SCAN, SPEC, and BLUE) to be issued on Mar. 26 at \$39.95 each.

The Jan.-Feb. 1986 issue of the Metropolitan Toronto Library Board News celebrates the founding of The Bootmakers of Toronto ("now the largest active Sherlock Holmes society meeting regularly in North America") and the Library's acquisition of the rare pamphlet with Conan Doyle's speech to the Edinburgh Burns Club in 1901. If you'd like to see 1971's beardless Cam Hollyer, the MTLB address is 789 Yonge Street, Toronto M2W 2G8, Canada.

Reported by John Stephenson: "The Case of the New Pipe Smoker" (a small S'ian pamphlet), at Walgreen's or other pipe stores handling Dr. Grabow pipes. Video Classics (Box 10069, Burbank, CA 91505) is offering 18 of the 1954 Ronald Howard TV programs (and some other S'ian items) at \$9.99 each. "Splash Briefs" (Regal Way, Faringdon, Oxfordshire SN7 7BX, England) with a S'ian figure gazing through a magnifying glass, captioned "It's got to be here somewhere" (nylon, one size fits all, L1.35).

Movie Poster Service (Box 517, Canton, OK 73724), who offered (Feb 86 #5) the one-sheet for "Young Sherlock Holmes", write that they have older material and ask for want lists.

The Feb. 1986 issue of Nutshell News has an article on one-inch-scale dolls (including SH) made by Debbie Olsen (Nostalgia by the Inch, 4205 36th Avenue Drive West, Bradenton, FL 33505); send a #10 SASE for her flier.

Reported from Toronto: WHATEVER HAPPENED TO LADY CHATTERLY'S LOVER?, by Martin Levin (Kansas City: Andrews, McMeel & Perker, 1985), with a page on what really happened after the Reichenbach battle ("the Norton divorce was a messy cause celebre..."). THE BENIGN HUMORISTS, by Richard S. Carlson (Archon Books, 1975), with discussion of Wodehouse and Conan Doyle in the chapter on "Benign Humor and Escape Literature".

The first issue (Feb. 1986) of The Agony Column has appeared, with Bill Rabe's perceptive response to complaints from Canonical purists that "Young Sherlock Holmes" can't be any good because we know that Holmes and Watson first met at St. Bart's: how did Holmes greet Watson at St. Bart's? "How are you? You have been to Afghanistan, I perceive." Not an opening gambit with a stranger, Bill suggests. The Agony Column (8 pp.) will be published quarterly at \$5.00 a year; W. T. Rabe, 909 Prospect, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. And The Old Soldiers of Baker Street of the Two Saults (Old SOB'S) will meet on May 26-29 at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island ("the Miami Beach of the north," Bill once claimed).

Mar 86 #2 "Many historical references to the origins of forensic science, even to ancient times, exist in the vast literature of humanity. It was not, however, until Sir Arthur Conan Doyle with intriguing foreshadowing suggested the use of scientific crime detection methods, through his fictional character Sherlock Holmes, that modern forensic science began its development. Holmes applied principles of serology, fingerprinting, firearm identification, and questioned document examination long before these techniques and their utilization were to be recognized and accepted in modern investigation." Yale H. Caplan, in his editorial on "Justice in the Forensic Sciences" in the Journal of Forensic Sciences (Jan. 1986).

John T. Lescroart's SON OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (New York: Donald I. Fine, 1986;

233 p., \$15.95) is S'ian only in its occasional references to the parentage and inherited abilities of the protagonist: Auguste Lupa. He is a large man, partial to yellow shirts, beer, and gourmet meals, and this tale of war-time espionage and murder in France in 1915 is more a tribute to the Neronian Canon than to ours.

Reported by John Bennett Shaw: a long article, with color illos, on "Young Sherlock Holmes" in *American Cinematographer*, Mar. 1986 (ASC Holding Corp., 1782 North Orange Drive, Hollywood, CA 90028; \$2.95). A S'ian story by J. N. Williamson in *Espionage Magazine*, Apr. 1986 (Box 1184, Teaneck, NJ 07666; \$2.50). Minor S'ian refs in James L. Swauger's *PETROGLYPHS OF OHIO* (Athens: Ohio University Press, 1984). A series of "Soundscape" audio cassette/slide programs (including one on "Sherlock Holmes: The Legend and the Stories") from Heritage International (3 Richard Court, Alston Road, Barnet, Herts. EN5 4EZ, England); L12.00 plus L5.50 shipping.

New sales list at hand from Ilene Fauer (US 2, 563 Clinton Road, Paramus, NJ 07652) with S'ian aprons, baseball cards (no, not the one featuring John Bennett Shaw), and much more.

Ray Milland, who died on Mar. 10, was once scheduled to direct and star in a movie about Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. "The Mystery Man" was to be the next picture at Republic, Louella O. Parsons announced in March 1955. Based on an original story by Marty Rackin, the film was to deal with ACD's early life as a medical student and to emphasize his interest in the spirit world rather than his family life.

LETTERS TO SHERLOCK HOLMES, edited by Richard Lancelyn Green (Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1985; 235 p., \$6.95); a representative selection from Holmes' mail (still about 700 letters a year to 221B Baker Street), and while many are prosaic requests for autographs and photographs, the variety of the correspondence (and correspondents) is fascinating.

I'm still exploring the six (or perhaps seven) variants of the Heritage Club set of the Sherlock Holmes stories. Does anyone have the Heritage Club prospectuses offering the 35th and 36th series?

Andy Jaysnovitch (6 Dana Estates Drive, Parlin, NJ 08859) now offers four videocassettes, each with four programs from the 1954 Ronald Howard series (\$29.95 per cassette plus \$3.00 shipping); send for his flier.

Mar 86 #3 Trevor H. Hall's *THE LAST CASE OF SHERLOCK HOLMES* at hand: a 50-page monograph combining his interest in the haunting of Borley Rectory ("the most haunted house in England," according to the late Harry Price) and in Sherlock Holmes, Hall discusses Holmes' attitudes toward marriage and women and uses a pastiche format (Dr. Holmes-Adler, the Cambridge scientist, is Holmes' son) to present new information about Ivy Johnson Bull, the wife of the Rector of Borley. \$31.50 postpaid from Paulette Greene, 140 Princeton Road, Rockville Centre, NY 11570.

Reported by Brian MacDonald: *SHERLOCK HOLMES: SELECTED STORIES* (D736a) in a new edition from Avenel Book (\$3.95 at Waldenbooks). A S'ian cartoon on the back cover of *MAD'S AL JAFFEE FREAKS OUT* (Warner, \$2.95). *HOPPOPOTAMUS PLAYS DETECTIVE* (Wuzzles Collector Series #5); a stuffed wuzzle with a small laminated booklet showing Hoppopotamus in S'ian costume. And a deerstalkered fox in the closing credits of the TV show "Crazy Like a Fox".

Forecast in Britain: Alan Arnold's novelization *YOUNG SHERLOCK HOLMES* (Grafton Books, L1.95). *YOUNG SHERLOCK HOLMES STORY BOOK* (Grafton Books, L2.95). Terrance Dicks' *THE DISAPPEARING DIPLOMAT* (Blackie, L6.50) and reissues of Dicks' *THE MISSING MASTERPIECE* (D5267b) and *THE CINEMA SWINDLE* (same). Simon Goodenough's dossier of *THE VALLEY OF FEAR* (Webb & Bower, L9.95). Robert Bloch's *NIGHT OF THE RIPPER* (Robert Hale, L9.95). Allen Sharp's "choose-your-own-plot" *SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE MEYRINGEN PAPERS* (Cambridge University Press, L1.95). And in progress: Peter's Haining's

history of Sherlock Holmes on television.

And there are some British editions already in print: SHERLOCK HOLMES THROUGH TIME AND SPACE, edited by Asimov/Greenberg/Waugh (Severn House, L8.95); Ellery Queen's QUEEN'S QUORUM (Greenhill, L15.00); Dilys Winn's MURDER INK (Souvenir, L10.95); and ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S YOUR SHARE OF FEAR with August Derleth's "The Adventure of the Intarsia Box" (Severn House, L8.95).

Reported by Jerry Margolin: S'ian cover and dramatization "The Red-Headed Club" in Scholastic Sprint (Jan. 10, 1986); 730 Broadway, New York, NY 10003; \$1.00. A deerstalkered teddy-bear alien in Escape to the Stars #4 (1985); a small-press comic published by Visionary Graphics, Box 4760, College Station, TX 77844; \$1.25.

LETTERS TO THE PRESS, by Arthur Conan Doyle, edited by John Michael Gibson and Richard Lancelyn Green (Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1986; 377 p., \$19.95); the third in the series (the others being UNCOLLECTED STORIES and ESSAYS ON PHOTOGRAPHY), and not yet published in Britain. It's a fine selection of ACD's letters to newspapers and magazines, running the gamut of topics from well-known (Edalji, Slater, spiritualism, politics) to the less-known (baseball, censorship, speed traps).

Dick Lesh reports that on Mar. 8 his PBS station broadcast a one-hour show "The Many Faces of Sherlock Holmes" (hosted by Christopher Lee). The program was produced by Avery Productions (they also do "The Golden Years of Television"). At least one PBS station (Washington) has decided not to buy the program from the network ("quality not up to our standards"). Has the program aired anywhere else other than Fort Collins?

Mar 86 #4 Reported by Jack Kerr: Publishers Central Bureau (One Champion Avenue, Avenel, NJ 07131) is now offering the 12 records of the soundtracks of the Rathbone Universal films at \$3.98 each (or all 12 for \$36.00); obviously little demand, now that the VCR is so prevalent.

Plan ahead. John Bennett Shaw ("our favorite all-round Sherlockian," according to Senex Junior) will return to Stanford University for a week of Holmesian fun and games, Aug 16-23, 1987.

And when should we commemorate the birth of Sherlock Holmes? Stanley MacKenzie, interviewed in London by UPI, notes that spring 1986 is the real centenary, because A STUDY IN SCARLET was written in March and April 1886.

Jerry Margolin reports that the latest word from Disney is that July 25 will be the release date for "The Great Mouse Detective" (that's their new non-Sherlockian title for "Basil of Baker Street").

"American criticism today is like telephoning long distance and having someone under the age of five answer the phone," Gregory McDonald said last year at a crime writers' luncheon in New York. The quote is in the first issue of Mysterious News (Feb. 1986), a 16-page magazine to be issued five times a year (and available to direct-mail customers of The Mysterious Press, 129 West 56th Street, New York, NY 10019); non-S'ian, well produced, and informative.

Reported by Jon Lellenberg: G. Cabrera Infante's HOLY SMOKE (New York: Harper & Row, 1986; 329 p., \$16.95); a compendium of cigar lore and literature, according to the review in the N.Y. Times (Feb. 7, 1986), with discussion of Holmes' monograph on the difference between various types of cigar ash.

The Longman's "Heritage of Literature" series includes the nine volumes of the Canon and THE LOST WORLD, added to their list in 1979 and 1980 in a uniform paperback format, and still in print in England at L1.00 to L1.95 a volume. The S'ian volumes are reprints of the Murray/Cape edition, without

the Introductions but with two new general introductions and back-of-the-book notes.

"Young Sherlock Holmes" was nominated for an Oscar for best visual effects, but "Cocoon" was the winner in that category.

Reported by Ron De Waal: DETECTIVES A TO Z, edited by Frank D. McSherry, Jr., Martin Greenberg, and Charles G. Waugh (New York: Bonanza Books, 1985; \$7.95); contents include "Copp".

ROUND THE FIRE MYSTERIES (London: Greenhill Books, 1985; 207 pp.; L7.95) is a facsimile reprint (except for the title) of ROUND THE FIRE STORIES (with "The Man with the watches" and "The Lost Special").

Bruce Williamson's "The Year in Movies" in Playboy (May 1986) includes mention of Nicholas Rowe ("best young Spielberg"), but unless I missed it, they never reviewed the film -- which has opened in Britain as "Young Sherlock Holmes and the Pyramid of Fear".

Apr 86 #1 A new series of "Active Books" audiocassettes includes SHERLOCK HOLMES, with an Introduction and four stories (Scan, RedH, Iden, and Musg) ably read by William Barker. The two-cassette package costs \$9.95, from Dercum Press, Box 1425, West Chester, PA 19380.

A few copies of the scarlet "Silver Blaze Necktie" are still available for \$11.95 postpaid, from Thomas L. Stix, Jr., 34 Pierson Avenue, Norwood, NJ 07648. And a reminder that the Silver Blaze at Belmont will be held on Sept. 12; write to Tom if you'd like to receive the announcement.

ACD's signature is not uncommon, on books or short notes, but letters with significant content are seldom available. One such letter, non-S'ian, is nevertheless of interest: writing to Harry Houdini in the spring of 1920, ACD suggests that Houdini's astonishing escapes from sealed containers are achieved by dematerialization ("my reason tells me that you have this wonderful power, for these is no alternative"). The three-page letter, quoted at length (though not entirely correctly) by Ernst and Carrington in HOUDINI AND CONAN DOYLE (D2106b, p. 99), is being offered in a mail auction closing on Dec. 1, by Gregory B. Edmonds, Box 2741, Columbia, SC 29202.

John Ruyle (521 Vincente Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707) is celebrating the 15th anniversary of the first appearance of the great Turlock Loams with a new Crow's Foot Edition of THE ADVENTURE OF THE FIVE BUFFALO CHIPS (D5154b), revised and with a new Preface; \$28.50 cloth, \$13.50 paper.

Correction (thanks to Mendax Major): the report on the 1987 festivities planned at Stanford (Mar 86 #4) came from Senex Senior, not Senex Junior. There is as yet no confirmation of the rumor that the Stanford agenda will include a lubricious discussion by MM and SS of the Sherlockian references in the poetry of Petrarch.

"Come to the Parker House in Boston for the auction of a rare Sherlockian document. But be careful! Death has the highest bid!" That's the promo for the "Murder by the Letter" weekend scheduled by Bogie's Murderous Mystery Tours on June 27-29. Details available from Stevens Travel Management, 432 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016 (800-223-1028).

Everything has a S'ian connection, people suggest . . . "By the Sword Divided" now on PBS' "Masterpiece Theatre" is adapted from a novel by Mollie Hardwick.

Planning has begun for a "Final Problem" tour from England to Switzerland in late April and early May of 1987, with Scott Bond and Sherry Rose-Bond as escorts. Details available from Trade Winds Travel, 21 South 5th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106.

THE CONTENTS OF A LUMBER-ROOM: A CATALOGUE OF THE SHERLOCK HOLMES COLLECTION (City of Westminster: Department of Leisure Services, 1986; 95 p., L7.00 postpaid from the Marylebone Library, Marylebone Road, London NW1 5PS, England). The collection at Marylebone, the only public collection in Britain, was housed in a solitary bookcase 20 years ago, but in recent years it has expanded considerably; Catherine Cooke's introduction discusses both the Abbey House exhibition and the collection itself.

Apr 86 #2 Ted Schulz reports that the Video Classics series of \$9.99 cassettes of the 1954 Ronald Howard series (Mar 86 #1) has two programs on each of the 18 cassettes; thus 36 of the 39 programs are available. For compulsive completists, "Christmas Pudding" (D5532a) is available on one of the Andy Jaysnovich cassettes, but I have no record of anyone offering "Texas Cowgirl" (D5513a) and "Violent Suitor" (D5534a). Video Classics is at Box 10069, Burbank, CA 91505; Andy Jaysnovich is at 6 Dana Estates Drive, Parlin, NJ 08859.

Reported by John Stephenson: British paperback reprints (from W. H. Allen) of John Gardner's THE RETURN OF MORIARTY and THE REVENGE OF MORIARTY. Also: VOICES 1870-1914, by Peter Vansittart (New York: Avon Books), with a section of quotes from ACD and SH. Also that Rick's Movie Graphics (1105 North Main Street #3E, Gainesville, FL 32601) sells the press kit for "Young Sherlock Holmes" (with 18 stills) for \$25.00.

Forecast by Roger Johnson from England: BRIGADE: THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF INSPECTOR LESTRADE, by M. J. Trow (Macmillan, May, L8.50); a sequel to THE ADVENTURES OF INSPECTOR LESTRADE. And filming in progress on "The Abbot's Cry" with Peter Cushing and John Mills, a Tyburn Films sequel to "The Masks of Death" (1984 on British television).

Rick Hacker (Box 634, Beverly Hills, CA 90213) offers a sepia-photograph poster (8.5 x 11 in.) showing SH smoking a calabash while reading THE ULTIMATE PIPE BOOK; \$7.50 postpaid.

Forecast for May: a trade paperback edition of Michael Hardwick's SHERLOCK HOLMES: MY LIFE AND CRIMES (New York: Henry Holt & Co.; 208 p., \$8.95). And a trade paperback of Robert Bloch's THE NIGHT OF THE RIPPER from Doubleday, with a cameo appearance by ACD.

Bouchercon XVII will be held at the Sheraton Inner Harbor in Baltimore on Oct. 10-12, with Donald E. Westlake as guest of honor. Regular membership costs \$25.00 (higher after July 1), and supporting membership costs \$10.00 (you can upgrade to regular if you want to attend). Bouchercon XVII is being run by Gail Larson, The Butler Did It, 10449A Green Mountain Circle, Columbia, MD 21044.

The acting script for Charles Marowitz's play "Sherlock's Last Case" (due on Broadway this fall with Frank Langella as Holmes) is available from Dramatists Play Service (440 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016) for \$3.35. Also available (same price): Dennis Rosa's "Sherlock Holmes and the Curse of the Sign of Four" (D4521b) and F. Andrew Leslie's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" (D4481b). Book-rate postage is 95c per order.

Add Paul B. Smedegaard to your list of Sherlockian politicians. In his first try for public office, he won election to the city council in Racine, Wis., this month. "I felt all along it would be a very close election," the new alderman said of his 487-to-430 victory.

A second set of programs from Agatha Christie's "Partners in Crime" starts on "Mystery!" on PBS-TV on May 1, and "The Case of the Missing Lady" will air on May 15. This is the most S'ian of the published stories.

Apr 86 #3 There's a large-print edition of ELLERY QUEEN'S LOST LADIES (the collection includes Robert L. Fish's "The Adventure of the Disappearance of Whistler's Mother"); 512 p., \$15.95 from the publisher:

John Curley & Associates, Box 37, South Yarmouth, MA 02664.

Jim Duval reports that the Gibson/Green UNCOLLECTED STORIES BY ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE is discounted at \$4.98 (plus \$2.95 postage) by Publishers Central Bureau (Dept. 410, One Champion Avenue, Avenel, NJ 07001; a fine book, with many seldom-seen stories by ACD, and a number identified for the first time as having been written by him.

M. A. Dabritz, whose 3" bronze statue of Holmes sold out quickly in 1980, now offers a pair of figures (Holmes with magnifying glass examining a walking stick, and Watson with bowler hat and Gladstone bag) as a \$95.00 set on a cherrywood base that can hold a Cross pen and pencil set (\$29.00 extra); shipping is \$4.50. Additional details from A Cast of Characters, 1631 S.E. Main Street, Portland, OR 97214.

The Midwest Chapter of the Mystery Writers of America, noting that 1986 is the 100th anniversary of the birth of Vincent Starrett (winner of the MWA's Grand Master Award), and that his grave in Chicago is unmarked, is raising funds to provide a marker for the grave. Contributions to the Starrett Memorial Fund are welcome, and checks may be sent to MWA Midwest, Box 8, Techy, IL 60082.

Gideon Hill reports that the Apr. 15 episode of the TV game show "The \$25,000 Pyramid" had a category "Holmes Sweet Holmes" with instructions to name items in a Sherlock Holmes movie; the list consisted of pipe, London, butler, laboratory, clue, Watson, and mansion. They've used the category before, according to my notes, with a somewhat different list. And here's my own question for S'ian cinemaphiles: of the 12 Rathbone-Bruce films in the Universal series, how many have a laboratory? and how many have a butler?

The April issue of The Agony Column at hand from W. T. Rabe (909 Prospect, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783) with much of interest, including Bill's warning that "subscriptions of those who fail to contribute over a three-year period will be discontinued and refunded pro-rata." And news of David L. Hammer's new Gasogene Press, announcing plans to publish FOR THE SAKE OF THE GAME, the sequel to his THE GAME IS AFOOT; "it seems important, says Dave, "that there be a Sherlockian press which will be publishing rather than reprinting."

A bit of Hollywood gossip (from Forbes, Apr. 28): Sidney Ganis, who worked for George Lucas, has moved to Paramount as marketing chief. Paramount "prays it hit bottom last Christmas when both major holiday releases bombed. One, 'Young Sherlock Holmes,' a Steven Spielberg presentation, had seemed particularly promising. But knowledgeable observers say it wasn't marketed properly--many Americans thought it was a foreign film."

There is a new pair of hand-painted wall plaques, of Holmes and Watson, from Bossom in England. \$35.00 each postpaid from R. Jack Davis (Davis and Son, Long Leaf Mall, Wilmington, NC 28403).

Apr 86 #4 "He is the King of Bohemia, and he reigns over a world of red herrings and black eyes, trench coats and shallow graves, and butlers who did it and maidens who won't," according to Jerry Schmetterer, in an article about Otto Penzler in the Mar. 1986 issue of On the Avenue. What would do if he found himself in Sussex one day and met Sherlock Holmes? "I would ask him to autograph a first edition of The Hound of the Baskervilles." Nominees and winners of awards from the Mystery Writers of America will be honored at Otto's MWA Open House Party at the Mysterious Bookshop (129 West 56th Street in New York) on May 10 from 11:00 to 7:00, with many authors on hand to autograph their books.

Mike Shayne Mystery Magazine ceased publication with the August 1985 issue, according to Edward D. Hoch's column in the spring 1986 issue of The Armchair Detective; if you didn't notice, it was probably because the

magazine had no proper distribution in recent years, but it did publish occasional S'ian items.

And on p. 214 of the new TAD, Louis Phillips quotes a story from THE PROPERTY BASKET, the autobiography of the English actor Robert Speaight: "Only a few years ago I was one of a rather large dinner-party in Minneapolis. We sat at different tables, and when the meal was over a tall and rather melancholy figure came over to me from the other side of the room. He was a very distinguished physicist who had won the Nobel Prize for the discovery of Cortisone. 'Do you see anything odd in my appearance?' he asked. He seemed to be impeccably and conventionally dressed, and I replied that I could see nothing odd about him at all. 'My tie,' he persisted. I looked closer and discerned what might have been the emblems of a hat and a pipe woven into the silk. 'The Sherlock Holmes Society,' he went on. 'I have made all my important scientific discoveries by applying the methods of Sherlock Holmes.'"

Reported by Ron De Waal: a new edition (New York: Bell Publishing Co., 1986; 160 p., \$3.98 at B. Dalton) of Ruth Lake Tepper's THE SHERLOCK HOLMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE BOOK (D3929b). Large-print editions of THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES and THE MEMOIRS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES from North Books, Box 337, Peace Dale, RI 02883; \$18.00 each in cloth, or \$14.00 in paper.

It was Philip S. Hench who was wearing the Sherlock Holmes Society of London's tie; he won the Nobel Prize for Physiology and Medicine in 1950. And it's his Sherlockian collection that is now at the Wilson Library at the University of Minnesota.

If you don't have Bill Blackbeard's SHERLOCK HOLMES IN AMERICA (and you ought to), it's available for \$14.75 postpaid from Chris Voigt, 2600 East Main Street, Lot 33, Merrill, WI 54452.

"The Piltdown Problem Solved", by Charles S. Blinderman, presents yet another explanation of the Piltdown Hoax, in the Feb.-Mar. 1986 issue of the Journal of Irreproducible Results (Box 234, Chicago Heights, IL 60411; \$1.50) (or \$5.90 a year for 5 issues). The JIR (the official organ of the Society for Basic Irreproducible Research) has been described as "the funniest thing to happen to science since Archimedes ran naked through the streets of Syracuse."

May 86 #1 Rex Stout's DEATH TIMES THREE (New York: Bantam Books, 1985; 213 p., \$3.50) presents three previously uncollected Nero Wolfe novellas, with an introduction by John J. McAleer (one of the stories is published for the first time, an event which McAleer suggests "is on a par only with the discovery of an eightieth Sherlock Holmes story").

The S'ian references in part 4 and part 6 of "Charters & Caldicott" on "Mystery!" on PBS-TV are also in the novelization by Stella Bingham (New York: Penguin Books, 1986; 180 p., \$3.95).

There's a paperback reprint of Daniel Stashower's Holmes-and-Houdini pastiche THE ADVENTURE OF THE ECTOPLASMIC MAN (New York: Penguin Books, 1986; 203 p., \$3.50).

New to me (at a local charity book sale) and possibly still in print: TANTALIZING LOCKED ROOM MYSTERIES, edited by Asimov/Waugh/Greenberg (New York: Walker and Co., 1982; 303 p.); contents include "Spec".

Wally Conger reports an article in the Los Angeles Times (Apr. 20) on Frank Langella's plans for "Sherlock's Last Case" on Broadway this fall. Staging the play will cost \$850,000, according to Langella, and "it's hard to ask people to come up with thousands of dollars that they could lose in 24 hours. But already we've got two-thirds of the money."

Reported: discussion of SH in one of the essays in Anthony Burgess' BUT DO

BLONDES PREFER GENTLEMEN?: HOMAGE TO QUERT YUIOP AND OTHER WRITINGS (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1986; 589 p., \$24.95).

Reported by John Stephenson: a paperback reprint of John Dickson Carr's THE NINE WRONG ANSWERS (D5849a) from Ingram in June. And a computer game "Baker Street Detective" (for Apple and Commodore 64) at \$9.95 from Artworx Software Co., 150 North Main Street, Fairport, NY 14450.

"Young Sherlock Holmes: The Pyramid of Fear" went into general release in Britain on Mar. 14, receiving mixed reviews. The other major release in that week was a new movie starring John Cleese, and it was that movie that received major attention from most reviewers.

Reported by Jerry Margolin: a paperback reprint of William Kotzwinkle's TROUBLE IN BUGLAND (Boston: David R. Godine, 1986; \$9.95); for those who didn't get the 1983 first edition, it's a collection of S'ian mysteries featuring Inspector Mantis and Doctor Hopper, with imaginative illos by Joe Servello.

Reported: THE DANCING MEN, by Duncan Kyle (Collins, 1986); a mystery novel with no S'ian connection except the title.

Thimbles have become the fourth leading world-wide collectible this century, according to Thimble News. And Francesca China makes two thimbles honoring Holmes and Watson, imported by Heirloom Editions, 25100 South Normandie Avenue, Harbor City, CA 90710. Their wholesale price is \$11.00 each (minimum order \$100.00), or they will be happy to tell you who your local Heirloom Editions retailer is.

May 86 #2 "Detektivgeschichten" is a weekly television series broadcast by ZDF in Germany, and on Feb. 22 the program was a Kulturdokumentation uber den Meisterdetektiv Sherlock Holmes," showing the 1985 Hoboken workshop, John Bennett Shaw and his collection, London and a meeting of The Sherlock Holmes Society of London, the Reichenbach and some British Sherlockians re-enacting the battle, and the nearby "Moriarty" pub.

ALIMENTARY ALERT! The Fourth Irregular Quinquennial Holmesian Dinner will be held at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y., on May 16, 1987. More information will be available, eventually, from Albert M. Rosenblatt, Box 221B, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569; write to him to ask to be put on his mailing list for a formal announcement. By the time you read this, it is possible that no rooms will be available at the Beekman Arms in Rhinebeck (914-876-7077). An acceptable alternative is the new Montgomery Inn at 67 Montgomery Street, Rhinebeck, NY 12572 (914-876-3311).

THE QUALLSFORD INHERITANCE: A MEMOIR OF SHERLOCK HOLMES FROM THE PAPERS OF EDWARD PORTER JONES, HIS LATE ASSISTANT, by Lloyd Biggle, Jr. (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1986; 246 p., \$15.95); a new pastiche, and a fine one. A member of the original Baker Street irregulars until he was 16 years old, Jones asked Holmes to be taken on as an apprentice detective, and by 1900 had become a valued assistant; this is Jones' story, of a case that brought him and Holmes to the Romney Marshes, fraught with mystery and danger. Holmes is thoroughly credible, the mystery appropriate, and the book well written.

"The Great Mouse Detective" opens nationwide on July 2, according to Walt Disney Pictures. "The mysterious kidnapping of a master toymaker sets into motion the most entertaining comic caper of all time as the great mouse detective Basil matches wits with his old rival, the villainous Professor Ratigan." Vincent Price provides the voice for the criminal genius ("a character whose large ego is matched only by his aptitude for crime, Ratigan is embarrassed by his rodent origins and prefers to think of himself as a large mouse rather than the rat he actually is"). The studio publicity notes that "a new story was meticulously crafted using the characters from Eve Titus' popular children's book, Basil of Baker Street," but the 38-page

pressbook carefully avoids mention of S*****k H*****s. The voice of Basil is provided by the British actor Barrie Ingham, who played Dr. John Thornkyke in "The Moabite Cipher" in the television series "The Rivals of Sherlock Holmes" broadcast in Britain in 1971 and in the U.S. in 1972 (that credit is not mentioned in the pressbook, of course). Music by Henry Mancini, with three songs: "The World's Greatest Criminal Mind" (an upbeat music-hall melody in which Ratigan's thugs salute their infamous leader while cavorting merrily in a spirited parody of a Busby Berkeley number), "Goodbye, So Soon" (a sardonic ballad in which Vincent Price demonstrates a fine vocal range while describing the longstanding relationship between the two rivals), and "Let Me Be Good to You" (written and sung by Melissa Manchester, a zesty number in delivered in high style by a chanteuse in a sleazy river-front pub where Basil and Dawson go in search of Ratigan). And . . . at the very end of the long list of credits, well after the "breakdown and inbetween artists" and "ink & paint supervisors," there is a list of "additional voice talents" that includes Basil Rathbone (Sherlock Holmes) and Laurie Main (Watson).

May 86 #3 The twelfth (and final) episode in The Adventures of Turlock Loams is A SCANDAL IN BULIMIA, fresh from the Pequod Press and priced at \$28.50 (cloth) or \$13.50 (paper) postpaid from John Ruyle, 521 Vincente Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707. "The shrewd detective once again uncovers a monstrous scheme by his elusive nemesis Coroner Sandals, the John Bennett Shaw of crime."

"Harlan Ellison's Watching" in the July 1986 issue of Fantasy & Science Fiction is a long essay on "Young Sherlock Holmes", which Ellison describes as "109 minutes of just simply awful, lamebrained and inept crapola from the team that brought you Gremlins." Ellison also has some kind things to say about the Sacred Writings ("the adventures we read over and over from our first thrilling exposure to the canon till that final rereading of 'The Adventure of the Retired Colourman' moments before we go to meet Sir Arthur in person on the other side"), and will continue his discussion in his column in the Aug. 1986 issue of F&SF.

Reported: a going-out-of-business sale by Sherlockian Enterprises (Frank A. Hoffmann, 734 Richmond Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14222), closing out his stock of T shirts, calendars, brass plaques, leather items, and such.

Martin Gabel died on May 22. He played Moriarty in the 1964 musical "Baker Street" (D5166a).

BAKER STREET DETECTIVE, by David Fogel, is a new computer adventure game from Artworx Software Co., 150 North Main Stret, Fairport, NY 14450 (\$9.95 for Apple or Commodore 64). "You are Sherlock Holmes, the world's greatest detective, and you have just been presented with two new mysteries to solve. In the case of A Wasted Witness, Inspector Lastrade asks you to investigate the mysterious death of the government's star witness during an extortion trial. In the Scourge of the Executioner, you try to find a link between the murder of a bank president, and a bank robber who wears an executioner's hood."

SHERLOCK HOLMES'S LONDON: FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF LONDON'S MASTER DETECTIVE, by Tsukasa Kobayashi, Akane Higashiyama, and Masaharu Uemura (San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1986; 128 p., \$14.95). This is the American edition of A PICTORIAL RECORD OF SHERLOCK HOLMES'S LONDON, published in Japan in 1984 and reported with considerable enthusiasm here recently. "S'ians who fail to acquire this volume will inevitably be exposed as lacking both sense and sensibility" (BSJ, Dec. 1986).

Vilhjalmur Stefansson, one of five Arctic explorers honored by a set of commemorative stamps issued on May 28, was a friend and admirer of ACD. "In his home Conan Doyle is not merely a sturdier Watson and a kinder Holmes," Stefansson wrote (D2051b). "He is also a gentler Sir Nigel and a mellow blend of all the host of his nobler characters."

Robert Burchfield has finished editing the four-volume, 5,750-page Oxford English Dictionary Supplement, and one of the new entries under "wonder" is "wonder-woman," cited from the example "A wonder-woman in every way." The citation is credited to A. Conan Doyle and appears in the Canon. Who was the wonder-woman?

Jun 86 #1 HOLY SMOKE, by G. Cabrera Infante (New York: Harper & Row, 1985; 329 p., \$16.95), is a fascinating, humorous, and expert discussion of the history of cigars (and cigarettes and pipes), with occasional references to the Canon.

"Violet de Merville, young, rich, beautiful, accomplished, a wonder-woman in every way," was the description given by Sir James Damery (Illu), and now found in the Oxford English Dictionary Supplement.

Recommended by Dick Lesh: THE UNIFORMS OF THE WORLD'S GREAT ARMIES: 1700 TO THE PRESENT, edited by I. T. Schick, with many British Victorian uniforms in full color (item #20659); originally \$24.50, discounted to \$2.95 (plus \$3.00 shipping per order) from Edward R. Hamilton, Falls Village, CT 06031.

Reported from Britain by Roger Johnson: Granada's "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" (seven programs with Jeremy Brett and Edward Hardwicke) will be broadcast beginning in July. Baskerville's is a new restaurant, with extensively S'ian decor, in Alsopp Place, near the London Planetarium. Published: SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE MEIRINGEN PAPERS, by Allen W. Sharp, a choose-your-own adventure in the "Storytrail" series (Cambridge University Press, L1.25); SHERLOCK HOLMES AT THE 1902 FIFTH TEST, by Stanley Shaw, a paperback reprint of his cricket pastiche (Star, L1.95). Forecast: MICHAEL HARDWICK'S COMPLETE NEW GUIDE TO SHERLOCK HOLMES (Weidenfeld & Nicholson); a revised edition of THE SHERLOCK HOLMES COMPANION. And a heavily illustrated centenary volume by A. J. Eyles (John Murray).

The latest issue of Communication at hand from The Pleasant Places of Florida, with the latest offers from Baker Street Emporium, including all 13 of the Granada "Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" on 3 VHS cassettes at \$20.00 (value for money indeed). Write to The Reverend Dr. Benton Wood, 4408 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach, FL 33510.

Arion Press (460 Bryant Street, San Francisco, CA 94107) has announced their next limited edition: Raymond Chandler's THE BIG SLEEP, at \$425. Copies of THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES are still available (at \$300), or you can wait for the trade edition (\$16.50) announced for fall 1986 by North Point Press.

LAST LAUGHS, edited by Gregory McDonald (New York: Mysterious Press, 1986; \$16.95); the MWA annual, with Edward D. Hoch's "The Most Dangerous Man" (D4992b).

BUT DO BLONDES PREFER GENTLEMEN? HOMAGE TO QWERT YUIOP AND OTHER WRITINGS, by Anthony Burgess (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1986; 608 p., \$24.95), is a massive collection of his literate essays and book reviews, including his review of Owen Dudley Edwards' THE QUEST FOR SHERLOCK HOLMES.

Vilhjalmur Stefansson, honored by a commemorative stamp issued on May 28, was a friend and admirer of ACD. "In his home Conan Doyle is not merely a sturdier Watson and a kinder Holmes . . . he is also a gentler Sir Nigel and a mellow blend of all the host of his nobler characters." (D2051b).

Jun 86 #2 Sherlock Holmes Security Inc. was one of the 17 companies in Florida and Alabama seized by the government on May 30 in a federal undercover drug bust targeted against a \$1 billion cocaine ring that imported nearly four tons of the drug into the U.S. in the past four

years. The company, where much of the planning for the operation occurred, was owned by Henry Edsel Holmes, who was one of 30 people arrested and charged with violations of the "drug kingpin" statute.

Gasogene Press (Box 1041, Dubuque, IA 52004) will publish FOR THE SAKE OF THE GAME: BEING A FURTHER STUDY OF THE ENGLAND OF SHERLOCK HOLMES in July at \$22.95 (plus \$2.00 shipping); this is the second volume of David L. Hammer's researches. Gasogene (which is David L. Hammer) will reprint his first volume, THE GAME IS AFOOT, in 1986, and has also scheduled two books by Michael Harrison: LONDON BY GASLIGHT (reprint) and SHERLOCKIAN MEMORIES (new).

I suspect this won't be much help to fanatic collectors, but: Smucker's Plush Toy Offer (Box 935, Medina, OH 44258) offers a 14-inch Disney's The Great Mouse Detective "Basil" Plush Toy in return for \$12.95 and front labels from two 18-ounce jars of Smucker's jams/jellies/preserves and a special coupon that was included in a newspaper insert here, with a deadline of Aug. 31. It is of course possible that the toy will also appear in toy stores.

CASES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES is a new black-and-white comic book published by Renegade Press (3908 East 4th Street, Long Beach, CA 90814). The first issue (May 1986) has the full text of "Bery" copiously illustrated by Dan Day, who has used Rathbone and Bruce as his models but often seems more concerned with art than with accuracy. Six issues are planned, with the second devoted to "Danc" and then new stories. Cover price is \$1.70, or you can order direct (\$2.00, or \$7.00 for a six-issue subscription).

Tom Dunn (20-37 120th Street, College Point, NY 11356) is publishing a second printing of Book I of The Pipe Smoker's Ephemeris, at \$50.00. Book I is a fully indexed, 541-page, cloth-bound reprint of the first 15 years (spring 1965 through autumn 1979) of TPSE, Tom's massive irregular newsletter for The Universal Coterie of Pipe Smokers, whose ranks include many S'ians who over the years have indulged in much S'ian commentary. TPSE is a true labor of love, mailed free for the asking to anyone who expresses an interest (financial contributions welcome, but not required).

The Candy Cruncher is a small pamphlet for children, with text by Anna L. Carlson and illustrations by Diana Wynne showing "Candy Cruncher" in S'ian garb while pursuing his quarry (\$1.95 from PMG International, 1104 Summit Avenue #100-B, Plano, TX 75074).

Reported by Brian MacDonald: a computer named Sherlock in OPERATION SHERLOCK #1: THE A.1. GANG, by Bruce Coville (Signet paperback, \$2.25). Holmes Mouse and Watson Mouse in four "Adams Wood" mysteries by Stewart Cowley (Derrydale Books/Crown, \$2.00 each); the titles are WHO STOLE THE MIRROR, WHO SPILLED THE PAINT, WHO STOLE THE PRIZE, and WHO ATE THE CAKE. And THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (Collier paperback, \$4.95) with a new cover illo by Richard Ross.

Jun 86 #3 The Bettmann Archive is offering portraits of 65 historical personalities, including Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, printed from original negatives. The portraits cost \$45.00 each (plus \$6.95 shipping), and their illustrated brochure costs \$1.00. Bettmann Originals, 136 East 57th Street, Dept 1B, New York, NY 10022.

John Bennett Shaw will hold two Sherlock Holmes workshops next year: July 24-26 at William & Mary College in Virginia, and Aug. 16-23 at Stanford University in California. Write to Ray Betzner (124 Wickre Street, Williamsburg, VA 23185) to join the mailing list for the July event.

A few minor items: a deerstalker as a clue in the cover-quiz on "famous doctors" (Games, June 1986); a S'ian reference in one panel of a parody on "Moon-Fighting" (Mad, July 1986); a S'ian panel in "The Last of the Hollywood 'B' Movies" (Giant History of Cracked, Oct. 1986).

Reported by John Stephenson: DETECTIVE ARTHUR SEE-A-WORD PUZZLES (Western Publishing Co., \$1.29); Detective Arthur in S'ian costume, in a Golden Book for children.

Holmes and Watson appear on the box containing the LONDON MURDER MYSTERY GAME (Buffalo: Tuco, 1985; \$10.00), a role-playing party game for four to eight players, but not among the actual characters, which include Shanda Lear, Onda Mayke, Philip de Glass, and Vic Tim.

"The alarm clock beside Bisker's bed called him to his daily life at half-past five... Striking a match, he lit the hurricane lamp standing on the wooden kerosene case beside the bed. Then he took up one of two pipes, in the bowl of which had been compressed the dried 'dottles' taken during the previous day from the other pipe. Bisker was a connoisseur in the art of nicotine poisoning, and he favoured an extra-strong dose before rising in the mornings, to be followed with mere ordinary doses during the day. To avoid wasting time, the special dose was loaded into the pipe overnight." Discovered by Evelyn Herzog in Arthur Upfield's THE DEVIL'S FOOTSTEPS (a 1946 Napoleon Bonaparte mystery).

Jorge Luis Borges died on June 14. His translation "La Liga de los Cabezas Rojas" was first published in 1943, and reprinted in the July 1947 issue of the BSJ, and his poem "Sherlock Holmes" was published in the winter 1985-86 issue of Descant.

THE ADVENTURE OF THE ECTOPLASMIC MAN, by Daniel Stashower, was nominated for the Mystery Writers of America's Edgar for best first novel, but the winner in that category was WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS, by Jonathan Kellerman.

The musical "Baker Street" is seldom seen, but it will run Aug. 12-31 at the Berea Summer Theatre at Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio. Mrs. Hudson's Lodgers are planning a theatre party on Aug. 16; details available from Tom Stetak, 15529 Diagonal Road, La Grange, OH 44050.

More plans for next year: The Sherlock Holmes Society of London will make a "Pilgrimage to Switzerland" from Apr. 30 to May 9, 1987; details available from Cdr. G. S. Stavert, 3 Outram Road, Southsea, Hants. PO5 1QP, England.

Jun 86 #4 There are, of course, still a few months in 1987 without any already-announced S'ian activity, but I'm sure there will be more in store. So far: BSI annual dinner in New York (Jan. 9), SHSOL excursion to Switzerland (Apr. 30-May 9), CIA dinner in Hyde Park (May 16), JBS at William & Mary (July 24-26), JBS at Stanford (Aug. 16-23).

The next chapbook from The Pleasant Places of Florida will include Duane Damon's new pastiche "The Adventure of the Wolf's Head Stick" and an excerpt from David Kahn's book THE CODEBREAKERS; \$2.00 postpaid prepublication (July 4) and then \$2.50, from Ben Wood, 4408 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach, FL 33510.

The latest sales list from Video Specialists International (182 Jackson Street, Dallas, PA 18612) includes two VCR cassettes filled with long-unavailable items ranging from "Sherlock Holmes Baffled" (1900) and "The Mystery of the Leaping Fish" (1916) to "The Singular Case of the Plural Green Mustache" (1964) and "The Celebrated Archives of Mr. Sherlock Holmes" (1970).

Atlanta is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the publication of GONE WITH THE WIND, and one article notes that while author Margaret Mitchell didn't get involved in the casting battles which were waged over the movie, she did have a favorite for the role of Rhett Butler: Basil Rathbone. "Frankly, my dear Watson . . ."

Reported by Bob Thomalen: an "inside joke" in the film "Back to School", in

which Rodney Dangerfield, having decided to get a college degree, argues with his business professor, saying, "Now look, Sherlock . . ." The joke is that the business professor is played by Paxton Whitehead, who played Sherlock Holmes on stage in "The Crucifer of Blood" (1978).

Nigel Stock died on June 22 in London. In 1983 Nicholas Utechin called him "the best Dr. Watson of his generation in the media," and the praise was well-deserved. He played Watson in two BBC television series (with Douglas Wilmer in 1964-65 and Peter Cushing in 1968), on four phonograph records (with Robert Hardy in 1970-71), and in his one-man tour in "221B" (1983). He also recorded readings from the Canon for BBC radio in 1969 and 1976-77.

And more news from Britain, reported by Roger Johnson: SHERLOCK HOLMES MEETS ANNIE OAKLEY, a new pastiche by Stanley Shaw (W. H. Allen, L9.95); his SHERLOCK HOLMES AT THE 1901 FIFTH TEST MATCH appeared in 1985. THE TELEVISION SHERLOCK HOLMES, by Peter Haining (W. H. Allen, L14.95, in Aug.); heavily illustrated in color and black-and-white. And THE SHERLOCK-IAN, the quarterly journal edited by Kelvin I. Jones, will debut in Aug.

Baskerville Holmes, the forward for the Memphis State basketball team, has been drafted. By Milwaukee, in the second round of the NBA draft. For those who tuned in late, it is reported that his mother has liked the 1939 Rathbone film, and saw it again not long before he was born.

Reported by Russ Geoffrey: 221B BAKER STREET, another computer adventure game (Atari, Commodore, Apple); \$29.95 from Intellicreations, 19808 Nordhoff Place, Chatsworth, CA 91311.

Jul 86 #1 If you've been wondering why PBS-TV hasn't shown reruns of "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes", it may be that they paid for only one airing. The series started on USA cable on June 27.

Flier at hand for The Silver Blaze at Belmont on Sept. 12. This will be the 35th running of the race, and Dorothy and Tom Stix will be handing over the reins to their successors at the end of the festivities. Details from Thomas L. Stix, Jr., 34 Pierson Avenue, Norwood, NJ 07648.

"He shows quite remarkable talent in planning the capture of mice, little birds, and insects," Violet Hunter said of Edward Rucastle (Copp). In 1985 Britain issued a set of five stamps honoring the centenary of the Royal Entomological Society of London. Three of the stamps show insects mentioned in the Canon; can you identify the contexts?

Add another event to next year's calendar: Sherlockon II, at the Marriott Hotel in Torrance, Calif., on Mar. 13-15, 1987, sponsored by The Blustering Gale(s) from the South-west. Details from Sherlockon II, Box 1226, Lawndale, CA 90260.

Rumored: a new publisher for the Solar Pons pastiches by Basil Copper: reissues of the four volumes published by Pinnacle, plus two volumes that died with Pinnacle.

TV Guide (July 5) reports on plans for "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" as a TV-movie/pilot on CBS. "It seems that back in the old days, the evil Moriarty tricked Holmes into ingesting bubonic plague bacteria--whereupon Holmes had his companion Dr. Watson freeze and hide him in Watson's country home until a cure could be found. Cut to the present: Watson's American great-granddaughter discovers the detective and thaws him out." This has been in the works since 1981, when it was reported as written and produced by Bob Shane (in consultation with Michael Hodel, Sean Wright, and Nancy Senter) and the Aaron Spelling organization for an ABC-TV movie-of-the-week; later that year the project was

suspended when, according to Hodel, Spelling demanded more changes in the second draft than Shayne was prepared to make. And (from a later press report) Kevin Connor ("North and South II") will direct, with shooting to start on July 21, for broadcast next season.

"Victorian Pleasures: Food, Fun, and Games" will be the theme of the next conference of the Northeast Victorian Studies Association, on May 1-3, 1987, at Wheaton College in Norton, Mass. Details available from Earl E. Stevens, Dept. of English, Rhode Island College, Providence, RI 02908. They have also issued a call for papers, which should be sent to Prof. Judith Wilt, Dept. of English, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167.

Forecast: WELCOME TO AMERICA, MR. SHERLOCK HOLMES: ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE'S 1894 LECTURE TOUR, by Christopher Redmond, due this fall from Simon & Pierre (P.O. Box 280, Adelaide Street Postal Station, Toronto, Ont. M5C 2J4, Canada); write to the publisher to enroll on their mailing list.

Jul 86 #2 Forecast: a series of ten DANGER MOUSE books from Little, Brown and Co. in October, at \$3.95 each. They are also offering a life-sized Danger Mouse costume to stores planning in-house appearances and autographings, and posters and badges. The books are a spin-off from the British 10-minute cartoon series, first broadcast in Britain in 1981 and showing here on the Nickelodeon cable channel. "Dangermouse, the world's greatest detective, and his faithful assistant, Penfold, the world's most obvious coward, operate from a letterbox on Baker Street, helping their boss, Colonel K, solves crises that range from exploding custard that is taking over the world to a weather machine run amok."

MORE WHO'S WHO ON SESAME STREET (Racine: Western Publishing Co., c1982, 99c) is a new coloring book, with one page devoted to Sherlock Hemlock.

Add Tim Pigott-Smith to the short list of actors who have portrayed both Holmes and Watson. He played Holmes in a BBC Radio 4 broadcast of "Vall" on May 24. And he played Watson in the Royal Shakespeare Company's revival of Gillette's "Sherlock Holmes". How many others on that short list can you identify?

Pause for a moment to consider how many books have been written and published, and how many subjects there might be that have never been dignified by such treatment. However short the list might be, the count is now reduced by one. Encountered in a recent dealer's catalog: THE MUCK MANUAL: FOR THE USE OF FARMERS. A PRACTICAL TREATISE ON THE CHEMICAL PROPERTIES, MANAGEMENT, AND APPLICATION OF MANURES, by Frederick Falkner (London: John Murray, 1846); a new edition, with a glossary of chemical terms, and an index.

SHERLOCK HOLMES THROUGH TIME AND SPACE, edited by Isaac Asimov, Martin Harry Greenberg, and Charles G. Waugh, first published in 1984, is now available in a trade paperback (New York: Bluejay Books, 1985; 355 p., \$8.95); a fine anthology of S'ian tales from the fields of fantasy and science fiction.

THE YOUNG DETECTIVE'S HANDBOOK, by William Vivian Butler (Boston: Atlantic Monthly Press, 1981; 144 p., \$4.95); with S'ian references in text and illustrations.

Flier at hand from Mostly Mysteries (225 Carlton Street, Toronto, Ont. M5A 2L2, Canada), offering the original artwork for one of Gus Mager's 1924-25 "Sherlocko" cartoon strips, at \$1,500.

"PLEASE GIVE THE YARD A CALL, WATSON." presents Gar Donnelson's exploration of the use of the telephone in the Canon. The well-illustration pamphlet (10 p., \$2.50 postpaid) is available from its author, at 430 Steinway Road, Lincoln, NE 68505.

James C. Cleary's THE BUTLER OF HURLSTONE: A COMPARISON OF SOURCES, first published in the Sept. 1982 issue of Prescott's Press and now expanded and annotated, presents some startling (and occasionally scandalous) discoveries in the personal journals of Richard Brunton (16 p., \$4.95 postpaid from the author, at 28 Pengilly Drive, New Rochelle, NY 10804).

Jul 86 #3 "Sherlock Holmes I read now with the same pleasure as I did then, and am contently finding myself in good company. T. S. Eliot once told me that he thought The Speckled Band one of the great short stories in the English language, and as I recalled to him the classic opening chapters of The Hound of the Baskervilles his slow, his slightly sepulchral, voice completed the quotation: 'Mr. Holmes, they were the foot-steps of a gigantic hound.'" From THE PROPERTY BASKET, by Robert Speaight (Collins and Harwill Press, 1970), quoted by Louis Phillips in the summer 1986 issue of The Armchair Detective.

The same issue of TAD has "A Conversation with John Gardner" by Joseph E. Bitowf, in which Gardner comments on his Moriarty series. \$20.00 a year; 129 West 56th Street, New York, NY 10019.

William Passen (1955). Donald McDonough (1976). David Pearce (1977). Three Investitured members of The Baker Street Irregulars, without known addresses. Can anyone offer help, or a clue?

Nessiteras rhombopteryx, perhaps the most famous of Scotland's tourist attractions, and its counterpart Belua aquatica champlainsiensis in Lake Champlain, have been the targets for much research, but it should be noted that there is a Loch Ness Monster, assembled in the loch and abandoned there when it sank during filming of "The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes" in 1969. "Nessie's Movie Double" is one of the chapters in a new book by Joseph W. Zarzynski, who suggests that "possibly one day Sherlock Holmes devotees in their ever-active quest for Sherlock Holmes memorabilia, may launch an expedition to locate and retrieve Billy Wilder's creation. MONSTER WRECKS OF LOCH NESS AND LAKE CHAMPLAIN (111 p., \$9.95 postpaid), is available from M-Z Information, Box 2129, Wilton, NY 12866.

"I'm hoping to have one more stab at Holmes," Peter Cushing said in a recent interview. "Now he's very old and tottering around with his bees. But it's a good script. If I can only stagger through Holmes--he never stops talking and moves with such speed. I thought, 'Oh, crikey. Roller skates please, props.'" He's referring to "The Abbot's Cry" (the sequel to the 1984 British television film "The Masks of Death"), and the new film will also have Rex Harrison, Nanette Newman, Patrick McGoohan, and Trevor Howard ("None of us are in the first flush of youth," Cushing noted).

According to a newspaper report forwarded by Jerry Margolin, not long after the title of the film "Basil of Baker Street" was changed, "some little imp posted a memo on the Disney animation department's bulletin board, with the department chief's name affixed, announcing the renaming of all the studio's animated classics in the mundane style of the latest film. 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs' became 'Seven Little Men Help a Girl', 'Alice in Wonderland' became 'The Girl in the Imaginary World', and 'The Wooden Boy Who Became Real' was the improved version of, well you get the idea. Studio execs were not amused, but then studio execs are the kind of people who come up with titles like 'The Great Mouse Detective'."

Chris Redmond (125 Lincoln Road #1101, Waterloo, Ont. N2J 2N9, Canada) has extra copies of several issues of BAKER STREET PAGES (D4187a and D4188a), 50c each or offered in trade; if your run is incomplete, write to him.

Jul 86 #4 "I'm going on the premise that he is not the Sherlock Holmes, but almost an identical personality in today's world, only instead of sparks of intuition he uses scientific means to solve his cases." That's Richard Matheson's description of "The Evidence Never Lies", a TV pilot for Lorimar about the work of Prof. Leon MacDonald, "the country's

greatest criminalist."

The "Mystery Classics" series of Hear-a-Book audio cassettes includes 35 of the tales, read with enthusiasm and style by Hugh A. Rose or Leonard Sloane. The cassettes cost \$4.95 (no shipping charge for readers of the BSJ), and a list of titles is available from Westlake House, 31220 LaBaya Drive #110, Westlake, CA 91362.

There's a press report that a distributor is "dusting off" the 1954 Ronald Howard series, pasting the episodes into TV movies for next season.

Credit Rich Koelle for discovering the accompanying article in the Philadelphia Inquirer. And credit Jack Koelle for identifying the Canonical connection, quoting the London Standard (in Sign): "The prompt and energetic action of the officers of the law shows the great advantage on such occasions of a single vigorous and masterful mind."

More news on the grand gourmet S'ian dinner at the Culinary Institute of America on May 16, 1987. Rooms at the Beekman Arms (914-876-7077) are being filled quickly. The dinner will be black tie, and the price \$50.00 a person. Checks payable to Albert M. Rosenblatt, whose address is Box 221B, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569.

Reported by Ron De Waal: "The Adventure of the Mnemonic Norwegian" by Robert W. Hahn, in Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine, Sept. 1986. "Mickey Mouse and the Seven Ghosts" in Walt Disney's Mickey Mouse #219 (Oct.) and #220 (Nov. 1986). THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES, with an afterword by Frederick Busch (New York: New American Library, 1986; 251 p.); Signet Classic paperback.

ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S A MYSTERY BY THE TALE (anthology #22, fall 1986, \$3.50) has a reprint of Penelope Wallace's "The World According to Uncle Albert". The story begins, "My uncle was mad about Sherlock Holmes," and continues, "I'd once pointed out to him that there were other crime writers. It was like telling a religious bigot that there were other churches."

Flier at hand for "Autumn in Baker Street" at Bear Mountain on Oct. 11-12. Philip Brogdon will be one of the speakers, lecturing on "A Look at Black Detectives, with an Emphasis on Practitioners of the Sherlockian-Deductive Method, Including a Look at Individual Detectives who Are Prohibited from Using the Sherlockian Method, Either Because of Personality Conflict or for Other Reasons." Write to Robert E. Thomalen, 69 Glen Road, Eastchester, NY 10709.

Jul 86 #5 More on the new version of the 1954 "Sherlock Holmes" series with Ronald Howard, reported by Marsha Pollak from an ad in Variety: "a major host will recreate the spirit of Baker Street" and the series will be re-released, partly in color, in 90-minute and two-hour formats, in the fall of 1987. Whitehall Productions, Ltd., distributed by R. T. Donnelly Enterprises, 21588 Rambla Vista Drive, Malibu, CA 90265.

Marsha also spotted an item about Rupert Holmes, who wrote the music and script for the musical "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" (which won five Tony awards). Rupert Holmes is really David Goldstein, "a man who loves to drink Rupert Knickerbocker beer and an avid fan of ace sleuth Sherlock Holmes," according to the Dallas Times Herald (June 3, 1986).

"You mean these Baker Street societies and all that. Grown men being silly. I can't say that I've had time to read any of the stories. When I do get time for reading, which isn't often, I prefer an improving book."

That's the reply of Miss Lemon, secretary to Hercule Poirot in HICKORY DICKORY DOCK, when asked if she is acquainted with THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES. And that, in turn, is from "Some Canonical Traces in the Detective Works of Agatha Christie", by David McGowan, in the summer 1986 issue of The Sherlock Holmes Journal, which also contains Jessica McMahon's interview with Edward Hardwicke, Jeremy Brett's new Watson.

Fantomas, described by his latest publisher as a character so sinister that he makes Professor Moriarty look like a common shoplifter, created a sensation when he first appeared in France in 1911, launching a series of sequels and films that were highly popular and that are now almost totally unknown. An English translation of FANTOMAS, the first of the series written by Marcel Allain and Pierre Souvestre, has been reprinted (New York: William Morrow and Co., 1986; 324 p., \$17.95), offering an introduction to one of the true criminals in literature. There is nothing S'ian about the book (Inspector Juve is intelligent and tenacious, but Fantomas always escapes), but the novel is a stylish presentation of a long-forgotten era.

"The Great Mouse Detective" is an enjoyable film -- favorable reviews so far from the N.Y. Times and the Washington Post, as well as from a few smaller papers -- and it ranked #9 on the Associated Press list of the ten top-grossing films for the weekend of July 4-6 with an estimated gross of \$3.2 million, and #10 for the weekend of July 11-13, with an estimated gross of \$3.4 million. For comparison, "Karate Kid Part II" was #1 both weekends with grosses of \$6.3 and \$6.7 million. For the weekend of July 18-20, "Aliens" led the list, with a gross of \$10.0 million, and "The Great Mouse Detective" didn't make the top ten.

Tyke Niver reports that the Military Collectors Guild (906 South Main Street, St. Charles, MO 63301) offers a number of items for Canonical militarists, including John S. Farmer's THE REGIMENTAL RECORDS OF THE BRITISH ARMY (\$18.95) and a regimental badge for the Fifth Northumberland Fusiliers (\$15.00). And J. Blades & Co. (Box 503, Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA 93921) offers a good selection of regimental neckties (not to be worn when traveling in the British Isles, of course, as "we would not want to be responsible for any unsuspecting American being branded a bounder and a cad by an outraged, but otherwise civil, Briton").

Jul 86 #6 The Hounds of the Baskerville (sic) have confirmed some of their plans for the commemoration of the Vincent Starrett centennial: an exhibit of Starrett books and papers at the Cultural Center of the Chicago Public Library in October, with reading from Starrett's works on the afternoon of Oct. 24; a symposium on Starrett as writer, newspaperman, and Sherlockian, at the Newberry Library on the afternoon of Oct. 25; and a dedication of a memorial to Starrett at Graceland Cemetery on Oct. 26. Contact: Robert J. Mangler, 103 Broadway, Wilmette, IL 60091.

The answer to the philatelic challenge: "I, my old housekeeper, and my bees have the estate all to ourselves," Holmes wrote (Lion). The buff-tailed bumble bee (*Bombus terrestris*), one of Britain's commonest bumble bees, undoubtedly was one of the inhabitants of Holmes' retirement estate in Sussex; the Canon also includes mention of bee-farming (Seco) and bee culture (Last), but these are, perhaps, more likely to refer to honey bees than to bumble bees. Britain's largest beetle, the stag beetle (*Lucanus cervus*), is a prime target for collectors; "He was pinned like a beetle on a card," was Stanley Hopkins' description of Peter Carey (Blac). And old Sherman said of his slow-worm that "It keeps the beetles down." (Sign) with two different references to beetles in the recorded cases, it is of course appropriate that there are two different beetles in the set; the seven-spotted lady bird (*Coccinella septempunctata*) is also a beetle.

And another philatelic item: The British film industry was honored with a set of five stamps issued in 1985, and two of the stamps show actors who not only appeared in S'ian plays, but also may have played the same part.

Charles Chaplin, shown in a photograph by Lord Snowden, was Billy in touring productions of William Gillette's "Sherlock Holmes" from 1903 to 1906, and with Gillette himself in "The Painful Predicament of Sherlock Holmes" in London in 1905. David Niven, photographed by Cornel Lucas, is far less famous as a S'ian actor, but he wrote in his autobiography THE MOON IS A BALLOON (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1972) that during his final term at Sandhurst he "found time to produce a couple of concerts and to play the juvenile lead in The Speckled Band."

THE HOUNDS OF THE VATICAN; OR, HOLMES'S LAST BOW, by G. Randolph Holms (New York: Vantage Press, 1986; 130 p., \$10.95) reveals what the world's greatest consulting detective has been doing since he solved the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in Edmund Aubrey's SHERLOCK HOLMES IN DALLAS; the story involves malevolent Freemasonry, echoes of the film "Murder by Decree", a conspiracy against both church and state, and the eventual destruction of world order. G. Randolph Holms is a pseudonym, concealing the identities of three "international merchant bankers" who use an Elizabethan (II, not I) Holmes to present their own views on the catastrophe which civilization now faces.

Reported: SHERLOCK'S LOGIC, by William Neblett (University Press of America, 1986; 290 p., \$26.50 cloth, \$11.25 paper); SH's grandson attempts to solve a murder mystery in the first third of the book, with the rest devoted to an exposition of elementary logic.

Aug 86 #1 Walt Disney's Mickey Mouse (and three other Disney comic book titles) are now issued by Gladstone Publishing (Box 2206, Scottsdale, AZ 85252); I've been told that Gold Key went bankrupt, causing a six-year drought that has only now ended. "Mickey Mouse and the Seven Ghosts" is in Mickey Mouse #219 (Oct.), #220 (Nov.), and #221 (Dec.). The story is a rerun of the daily strips that began on Aug. 7, 1936; Mickey, Goofy, and Donald are the Acme Detective Agency, with Goofy deerstalkered and calabashed.

THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES, with an Afterword by Frederick Busch (New York: New American Library, 1986; 251 p., \$2.25); Signet Classic edition of "the only full-length Holmes novel," according to the back-jacket blurb.

Reported: "Sherlock Holmes Meets Dracula" (a new comedy with Tony Randall as Holmes and Sid Caesar as the Count) is now being filmed on location in Transylvania.

The second annual Sherlock Holmes dinner at the Dickens Inn in Philadelphia will be held on Sept. 21, 1986. Details available from Gideon D. Hill, 1810 South Rittenhouse Square #207, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

And another report on "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" planned for CBS-TV: Sherlock Holmes (frozen and revived) will be played by British stage star Michael Pennington, and Jane Watson by Margaret Collins (who was on "Foley Square").

Reported by Andrew Jay Peck. The Granada series "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" will be broadcast by PBS on "Mystery!" beginning on Feb. 5, 1987. And Paramount has released a videocassette (\$24.95) of the 1970 film "The Molly Maguires" (non-Sherlockian, but of course with strong echos of "The Valley of Fear").

John E. Stephenson reports that the Holmes and Watson ceramic thimbles, made by Francesca China and imported by Heirloom Editions, are available from Sherlock's Home, 5614 East Second Street, Long Beach, CA 90803; \$22.98 each or \$42.00 for the pair, plus \$1.75 shipping.

ADVENTURING IN ENGLAND WITH DOCTOR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE: ENCOUNTERS WITH

SHERLOCK HOLMES, DISCIPLES AND MEDICINE, by Alvin E. Rodin and Jack D. Key (Beavercreek: KeyRod Literary Enterprises, 1986; 121 p., \$13.50 postpaid from the publisher, 3041 Maginn Drive, Beavercreek, OH 45385); a journal of Rodin's second trip to England, furthering his crusade to rescue Conan Doyle's medical reputation from the widely-held belief that he was a failed physician who turned to literature.

Advertised: THE RED-HEADED LEAGUE, with illustrations by Sidney Paget, the second in a series of miniature editions from The Press of Arden Park (861 Los Molinos Way, Sacramento, CA 95864); \$35.00. A SCANDAL IN BOHEMIA, issued in 1984, was nicely done.

Reported: Basil Rathbone's autobiography IN AND OUT OF CHARACTER (D5092a), reprinted by Buccaneer Books (Box 168, Cutchogue, NY 11935); price not known.

Aug 86 #2 "Holmes is still a master at deduction, but he has yet to master the culture and technology of the 1980s," according to a CBS-TV press release forwarded by Ted Schulz. "Holmes is thrown by (and sometimes into) everything from swimming pools to airplanes to disposable." That's "The Return of Sherlock Holmes," again, and don't ask what it is that's supposed to be disposable. The film-for-TV stars Michael Pennington and Margaret Colin, supported by Lila Kaye, Barry Morse, and Connie Booth. Connie Booth played Mrs. Hudson and Francine Moriarty in "The Strange Case of the End of Civilisation as We Know It" (1977), and Barry Morse played Holmes on the Canadian television program "Magic Shadows" (1975).

Bill Barton reports that his role-playing game CTHULHU BY GASLIGHT has been published by Chaosium Inc. (Box 6302, Albany, CA 94706; \$22.00 postpaid), and that it has a scenario "The Yorkshire Horrors" that is based on Baring-Gould's suggestion that Holmes was involved in a case there in 1896.

BRIGADE: FURTHER ADVENTURES OF INSPECTOR LESTRADE, by M. J. Trow (London: Macmillan, 1986; 219 p., L8.50); a sequel to THE ADVENTURES OF INSPECTOR LESTRADE (1985, with an American edition as THE SUPREME ADVENTURE OF INSPECTOR LESTRADE). The basic premise is that Lestrade was much maligned in the Canon, and he once again demonstrates his expertise at detection, disguise, and amorous dalliance; the humor is broad and occasionally slapstick, with a cast of cameo characters that extends from Kaiser Wilhelm to an infant Basil Rathbone.

Television viewers may remember a 1985 "60 Minutes" report on BBC Radio, and mention of the fact that one of the buildings occupied by the BBC is the old Langham Hotel ("where Sherlock Holmes once met Moriarty," according to Morley Safer). Roger Johnson now cites a report in the London Standard that the BBC, having failed to demolish the Langham Hotel, is now preparing to sell that venerable edifice. There are three mentions of the Langham in the Canon, and you can look them up in Tracy's ENCYCLOPAEDIA SHERLOCKIANA.

The latest news from Rhinebeck is that the Beekman Arms is now fully booked for the weekend of May 16, 1987. Other motels and inns in Rhinebeck and Hyde Park are listed in the flier that will be mailed to those who send in reservations for the C.I.A. dinner (black tie, \$50.00 a person, checks to Albert M. Rosenblatt, Box 221B, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569). Al judiciously warns that the dinner will surely be over-subscribed, and that reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. He also recommends a re-reading of A STUDY IN SCARLET, and reports that an excellent description of the Third Quinquennial Sherlock Holmes Alimentary Festival will be found in Beverly Wolov's review in the Sept. 1982 issue of the BSJ.

Albert and Julia Rosenblatt's THE SHERLOCK HOLMES CROSSWORD (reviewed BSJ, Mar. 1986) is not, as I had heard, out of print; copies in wrappers are still available at \$4.00 (from the Norwegian Explorers, 1473 Fulham Street, Saint Paul, MN 55108), and it's a fine book.

The Arion Press \$300 limited edition of THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES (reviewed BSJ, Dec. 1985) has been reprinted in a trade edition at \$16.50. The new edition is a smaller book (reduced about 20%), and the publisher is North Point Press, 850 Talbot Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94706.

Aug 86 #3 "My God!" cried John Nieminski, "What a blind beetle I have been!" And so did Hall Pycroft (Stoc), adding a third beetle reference to last month's list. John also wonders if David Niven played some other part in "The Speckled Band" than Billy, who, certainly a juvenile, and a lead of sorts, was surely too young for even a young Niven. John suggests that the play might have been adapted from ACD's version, with Niven playing the cheetah or the baboon, in roles beefed up for the occasion. Perhaps, but there's another possibility: Niven in drag in the role of Enid Stonor, given the exclusion of the fair sex from the ranks at Sandhurst. After all, there's a precedent, what with Holmes appearing in drag in "The Mazarin Stone".

And on to this month's philatelic item: a portrait (by A. Ramsey) of George III, King of Great Britain and Ireland (1760-1820), issued this year in the Australian Bicentennial series. It was Holmes who said (Nobl) that "I am one of those who believe that the folly of a monarch and the blundering of a minister in far-gone years will not prevent our children from being some day citizens of the same world-wide country under a flag which shall be a quartering of the Union Jack with the Stars and Stripes." The monarch was George III. I don't know of a stamp honoring the blundering minister.

The [Lowell, Mass.] Sunday Sun has been running the comic strip "Walt Disney's Treasury of Classic Tales: The Great Mouse Detective" and by July 13 (the first strip I've seen), Ratigan was making his balcony appearance with the robot Queen.

Chris Caswell, who is Sherlock's Home (5614 East 2nd Street, Long Beach, CA 90803) confirms that he stocks the Holmes & Watson thimbles (Aug 86 #1), as well as S'ian chess sets, and reports that he is expecting a shipment of S'ian spoons and pipe-holders. Write for his catalog.

And back to the world of comic books. Cases of Sherlock Holmes #2 (July 1986) has "Danc" illustrated by Dan Day (who provides barely veiled but firm buttocks on Elsie Cubitt); the next issue will have a pastiche (The Vourdalak) by Gordon Derry. The Bozz Chronicles #1 was marginally S'ian, and non-S'ian in #2-5. If your home town is sufficiently civilized to have a shop specializing in comic books, I recommend a visit, if only to browse titles such as "Boris the Bear Slaughters the Teenage Radioactive Black Belt Mutant Ninja Critters".

Seen in a discount bookstore: A STUDY IN SCARLET: A SHERLOCK HOLMES MYSTERY (adapted by Nigel Flynn) and THE SIGN OF FOUR: A SHERLOCK HOLMES MYSTERY (adapted by Richard Widdows), with illustrations from the Burbank Films (Peter O'Toole as the voice of Holmes) animations (New York: Gallery Books, 1985; 56 p., \$3.98 each). There were four animations, so "Houn" and "Vall" may be along eventually.

Also discounted (at \$2.98): THE LUNATIC FRINGE, by William L. DeAndrea (New York: M. Evans and Co., 1980); a well-written mystery, with one minor reference to the Canon.

Aug 86 #4 Copies of THE FOURTH CAB (D887b) and THE BEST OF THE CABS (a 1980 selection from the three earlier anthologies) are still available (\$7.50 each postpaid) from J. Devereux deGozzaldi, 79 Frankland Road, Hopkinton, MA 01748; both books contain fine contributions by members of The Speckled Band of Boston.

Lenny Picker reports that Frank Langella wants Denholm Elliott as Watson in this fall's Broadway production of "Sherlock's Last Case". "Now on-screen with 'A Room with a View'" (according to the newspaper item), Elliott was Stapleton in the 1978 Cooke-Moore film "The Hound of the Baskervilles" and Dr. Mortimer in the 1983 Richardson-Churchill TV film of "The Hound of the Baskervilles".

Nominations have been announced for the Bouchercon XVII "Anthony" awards, with "Young Sherlock Holmes" one of five candidates for "best movie" -- the others are "Blood Simple", "Fletch", "Jagged Edge", and "Witness". There is a new address for Bouchercon XVII (The Butler Did It, 2020 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218) and the convention is Oct. 10-12.

Reported: references to ACD, SH, and the Hound in Ray Bradbury's new novel MURDER IS A LONELY BUSINESS (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, \$15.95).

Stanley Mackenzie (64 Bassett Road, London, W.10, England) has celebrated the centenary of the publication of the first Sherlock Holmes story with a splendid commemorative postcard that shows D. H. Friston's frontispiece, a photograph of ACD, and (in full and glorious color) the cover of Beeton's Christmas Annual; the cost of the cards (postpaid by surface mail) is \$6.00 for ten, \$48.00 for 100, and \$84.00 for 200.

Aug 86 #5 There is very little published information on The Sherlock Holmes Society (the predecessor of The Sherlock Holmes Society of London), one interesting exception being Maurice Campbell's address to the SHSOL on Jan. 5, 1967, which was reprinted in the SHJ (D4528a). The SHS held its first dinner on June 6, 1934, and Dick Sheppard, then a Canon of St. Paul's was elected President. "He was chosen because of his services in persuading Conan Doyle to resume the publication of Holmes' Adventures on an I Zingari cricket tour. The persuasion, I was told, took the form of sitting on Doyle as he lay on a sofa after lunch until the promise had been given."

"To test a trivial theory that none of the many millions who bought, borrowed, or otherwise acquired the number-one international best-seller of the early eighties had ever actually read it in its entirety, I spoke with some people to whom that book is presumably dearest--namely, those who were spending \$20 million to film it." That's the lead in Robert Katz's article in American Film, Sept. 1986, on "The Name of the Rose" -- although Katz,

who was on location in Italy when the monastery was torched, didn't get to interview too many of the people working on the film.

Reported by John Bennett Shaw: SAM THE DETECTIVE AND THE ALEF BET MYSTERY, a beginning Hebrew reader written and illustrated by Amye Rosenberg (New York: Behrman House, 1980); with Sam being a Sherlockian bear.

A helpful reader has supplied leads for two of the three "missing" members of the BSI, but I'm still trying to find William Passen (1955). I also need leads for Terry Belanger (1968), Berth Lindfors (1968), Russell L. Merritt (1960), and Peter A. Ruber (1964), who aren't where we thought they were. Please let me know if you have any helpful hints.

Andy Peck has sent an item from the May 1986 issue of Manhattan Inc., with a report on Michael King of King World (the television syndicators, who distribute "Wheel of Fortune" and "Jeopardy!"). "We bought the Basil Rathbone Sherlock Holmes movies and 'The Guns of Will Sonnet' and 'Branded' for \$5 million from Leo Gutman," King told the interviewer.

Bret Harte, author of the parody "The Stolen Cigar Case" (D5920a), will be honored on the \$5.00 stamp to be issued in 1987 in the Great Americans Series. William D. Jenkins has discussed some Canonical echoes of Harte's work (D2583a).

Reported by Ron De Waal: THE BOOK OF THE SLEUTH: FOURTEEN CLASSIC TALES OF MYSTERY & SUSPENSE, edited by Alan K. Russell (Poole: New Orchards, 1986; 380 p., \$7.98 at Waldenbooks); contents include "Spec" and "Prio". And four "Basil of Baker Street" items (Racine: Western Publishing Co., 1986): DISNEY'S THE GREAT MOUSE DETECTIVE (Golden Look-Look Books, 24 p., \$1.50); DTGMD: BASIL'S GREAT ESCAPES (Golden Look-Look Book, 24 p., \$1.50); DTGMD: A COLOR AND ACTIVITY BOOK (Golden Book, 60 p., \$0.99); DTGMD: A COLORING BOOK (Golden Book, 60 p., \$0.99).

Can anyone supply a mailing address for Different Worlds Magazine? I've had a report that the July-Aug. 1986 issue has an article on Solar Pons, and the Library of Congress doesn't have an address for the magazine.

Aug 86 #6 Oh to be in England, now that April's here . . . if it's April 1911, when the Strand published an interesting advertisement:

Sep 86 #1 It's a rising market for Conan Doyle manuscripts. "The autograph of Conan Doyle's uncollected story 'A Regimental Scandal' just made its lower estimate of £4,000 to a private buyer," according to a press report on an auction at Christie's on May 29. You can read the story in UNCOLLECTED STORIES, the collection edited by John Michael Gibson and Richard Lancelyn Green.

Reported by James O. Duval: THE DELL BOOK OF QUIZZES AND PUZZLES FOR LITERATURE LOVERS: CROSSWORDS, NAME GAMES, QUIZZES, AND WORD SEARCH PUZZLES TO CHALLENGE AND DELIGHT ADMIRERS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, THE BRONTE SISTERS, SHERLOCK HOLMES AND JANE AUSTEN, by Maggie Lane and Nigel Bartlett (Dell, 1986, \$6.95), with a S'ian section by Bartlett.

If you've never been to the New York bookshop Murder Ink, you can see Carol Brener (and her cat Clouseau) on the cover of the Nov. 1986 issue of EQMM.

"Lite Reading" is the head on the N.Y. Times comments on a Workman cassette tape that will dispense "Ten Classics in Ten Minutes" -- and the Times has responded by offering a whole library in one minute. One of the books in their library is THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES, summarized by the Times as: "Dog scares heir, heir hires Holmes, detective meets dog, heir spared, Watson tells all, o'er moor and fen." (And that's considerably longer than their summary of Toynbee's THE STUDY OF HISTORY: "what rises, falls.")

T. S. Eliot's enthusiasm for Sherlock Holmes is well known (see Jul 86 #3) (and BSJ, Sept. 1985, p. 188, and the many items bibliographed by Ron De Waal); he was honored by this year's "literary arts" commemorative, issued on Sept. 26.

Granada's "Return of Sherlock Holmes" was widely reviewed in the British press, with reports of plans for a fourth series to be filmed in 1987, with six more stories (for a total of 26). Brett's feelings toward Holmes have changed, according to one interview: "He used to complain that the role was turning him into a recluse, but these days, to his surprise, he enjoys playing him." "I now want to do all the stories," Brett said, "there are 34 more! I couldn't have imagined that a year ago." In another interview Brett explained that the series "has proved so popular in America that Sherlock Holmes societies have been formed." "I went to a convention

in the U.S. and was the only one dressed normally," he added, "all the men and women were wearing deerstalkers and smoking pipes. It is a great cult over there."

"William Gillette: A Connecticut Yankee and the American Stage" was shown to The Red Circle on Aug. 29, and it's a splendid production. The 30-minute documentary includes an appreciative narration, a long interview with Helen Hayes, an impersonation of the actor (by Garrett Walters), and Gillette himself (in the Fox Movietone interview filmed at Seventh Sister). Available on videocassette (\$50.00 postpaid) from Connecticut Heritage Productions, 46 Bretton Road, Middletown, CT 06457.

Reported: Sherlock Hemlock in "The Mysterious Stranger" in THE SESAME STREET TREASURY, VOLUME 2, in supermarkets and such.

Sep 86 #2 The SHSOL Christmas card (see BSJ, Sept. 1986, p. 189 for the photograph of the Brixton Road) will cost \$7.00 for a packet of ten, postpaid by airmail; checks (payable to The Sherlock Holmes Society of London) can be sent to Capt. W. R. Michell, The Old Crown Inn, Lopen, South Petherton, Somerset TA13 5JX, England.

Bill Goodrich has supplied a swarm of beetles to add to the three noted earlier: "what a blind beetle I have been" (Prio), "I was such a blind beetle" (Card), the "beetle-ridden, mouldy old coffin of a Chin China coaster" (Glor), a "beetling crag" (Stud), and a "beetling forehead" (Houn). Bill's "reference guide" to the 1960 Doubleday edition of the Canon (revised from the earlier appearance in BSM #1-24) will be published by Gasogene Press.

GREENWICH KILLING TIME, by Kinky Friedman (New York: William Morrow/Beech Tree Books, 1986; 196 p., \$13.95); a new murder mystery, with a number of minor S'ian allusions.

Forecast: SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE CASE OF THE RALEIGH LEGACY, a pastiche by L. B. Greenwood, from Atheneum in Nov. (192 p., \$12.95). POTBOILERS: THREE BLACK COMEDIES (including SHERLOCK'S LAST CASE, by Charles Marowitz), from Marion Boyars Publishers in Sept. (192 p., \$18.00 cloth, \$9.95 paper). ELEMENTARY, MY DEAR WATSON: THE SHERLOCK HOLMES CENTENARY, by Graham Noun, from Salem House in Dec. (\$19.95). THE HISTORICAL ROMANCES, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, a two-volume set from New Orchard/Sterling, on the discount tables.

A new (and revised) Crows Foot Edition of THE ADVENTURE OF THE SOLEDAD CYCLIST (D5162b) been published by John Ruyle (Pequod Press, 521 Vincente Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707); \$28.50 (cloth) or \$13.50 (paper).

The Canon is now widely available in Britain, and in a variety of formats. World International Publishing has issued six of the stories (BOSC, FIVE, COPP, REDH, SPEC, and SILV) in individual volumes with attractive covers and appropriate interior illustrations, priced at 75p each.

Lenny Picker reports that he was told by a Lorimar Pictures executive that the Peter Cushing TV film "The Masks of Death" will be broadcast here before the end of the year.

THE MYTHOLOGY OF THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES, by Kelvin I. Jones, first published in the Sept. 1982 issue of Wheelwrightings, has been reissued as a separate 12-pp. pamphlet (\$5.50 postpaid from the author, 18 Ross Street, Rochester, Kent. ME1 2DF, England). Kelvin's plans for a continuation of the series include THE GEOGRAPHY OF THE HOUND and THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THE HOUND. He is also editing the magazine THE SHERLOCKIAN, with the first issue announced for October.

And here's a bibliographic discovery: P. J. Pirages (Box 504, McMinnville, OR 97128) offers the first 48 numbers of The Strand Magazine, in single

issues (for \$3,500). One number marked "Special Reprint", two others "Second Edition", and one "Third Edition". I have never seen a copy of the Strand with such markings.

Sep 86 #3 "Many of the skills portrayed by the fictional character Sherlock Holmes and the skills used by the early American scouts and trappers can be developed by the modern investigator," Colorado private investigator Nelson K. Jennett told more than 100 delegates from 17 countries at the 61st annual convention of the World Association of Detectives this month in Singapore. He recommended "reading the scene as Sherlock Holmes would, being on the lookout for the small traces of physical evidence which were overlooked by the criminal and often overlooked even by the seasoned investigators."

The 35th running of The Silver Blaze, at Belmont on Sept. 12, was a fine occasion, with record attendance (more than 80). Richard A. Wein received an Investiture ("Silver Blaze") from Julian Wolff, and Dorothy Stix received a Queen Victoria medal from Julian in recognition of all the work she has done in making arrangements for the race. Stephen L. Stix and Richard A. Wein will be in charge of The Silver Blaze in future years.

SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE MASQUERADE MURDERS, by Frank Thomas (Los Angeles: Medallion Books, 1986; 250 p., \$2.95); murder and financial chicanery, investigated by an energetic Holmes and a sharp-shooting Watson.

The seven stories in Granada's new series "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" are: Empt, Prio, Seco, Musg, Abbe, Twis, and SixN. At least five of the stories have been broadcast in Canada; I've seen some of them, and the high quality of the series continues. Edward Hardwicke is fine as Watson, though I think David Burke was a bit better (a stronger actor); on the other hand, Hardwicke didn't have all that much to do on the programs I've seen so far. Granada, having already announced plans to do a fourth series with six more stories, now hopes to start filming in October on a two-hour version of "The Sign of Four".

"Clue: Movies, Murder, and Mystery!" was a one-hour special on CBS-TV on Sept. 17, with a number of S'ian bits and pieces, but there wasn't anything special about this uninspired collage of clips, stills, and dull comment by Martin Mull. But the "Read More About It" public service announcement that followed the program did have Mickey Spillane recommending THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MYSTERY & DETECTION, by Chris Steinbrunner and Otto Penzler.

If anyone encounters The Crowborough Edition with the signed limitation page missing from Vol. 1, the page was recently offered for \$100 by Tollett and Harman (175 West 75th Street, New York, NY 10023). God help us. It's bad enough when someone removes a signature or inscription from a book in order to paste it into an autograph album, but some sort of special torment should be reserved for anyone responsible for felony libricide.

Older items reported by John Bennett Shaw: THE FIRESIDE BOOK OF CARDS, edited by Jacoby and Morehead (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1957), with the text of "Empt" in the section on whist. A SECOND COMPANION TO MURDER, by Spencer Shaw (New York: Knopf, 1962), with a chapter on Oscar Slater and several pages on Conan Doyle.

"Young Sherlock Holmes" has been issued on videocassette by Paramount Home Video (\$79.95).

Sep 86 #4 An 8-page "Profile: Arthur Conan Doyle" by Mike Ashley, and ACD's "Lot No. 249" are in the winter 1986 issue of Night Cry (Montcalm Publishing Co., 800 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017; \$2.95).

Reported by Ron De Waal: THE VICTORIAN SHORT STORY: DEVELOPMENT AND TRIUMPH OF A LITERARY GENRE, by Harold Orel (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986; 213 p., \$29.95); with 3 pages on the SH stories and a Paget illo.

MANNEN PA KLIPPAN, by H. Paul Jeffers (Hoganas: Bra Deckare, 1986; 230 p.); a Swedish translation of MURDER MOST IRREGULAR.

THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO SHERLOCK HOLMES, by Michael Hardwick (London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1986; 255 p., L12.95); similar in approach to Hardwick's THE SHERLOCK HOLMES COMPANION, but with greater emphasis upon the stories (and a better introduction to the Canon). Forecast by St. Martin's Press in 1987.

THE SHERLOCK HOLMES LETTERS, edited by Richard Lancelyn Green (London: Secker & Warburg, 1986; 266 p, L14.95); a spectacular collection, beginning with the 1887 reviews of A STUDY IN SCARLET and continuing with a fine selection of letters, articles, and comment published in newspapers and magazines, and with the usual perceptive commentary by Green. Forecast by the University of Iowa Press in 1987.

The Six Napoleons have published the first issue of THE PLUM IN THE PUDDING (the scion's 40th anniversary seemed a decent occasion on which to publish a magazine), edited by Stephen J. Cribari (Mercantile Bank Building #612, 2 Hopkins Plaza, Baltimore, MD 21201); well designed and typeset, with three good articles; \$3.00 postpaid (or \$5.00 a year for at least two issues).

There's still time to take advantage of "a unique opportunity in the heart of London's West End" (according to an advertisement in the Wall Street Journal on Sept. 12), purchase of "an island site of 1.65 acres to include the former Langham Hotel" (Aug 86 #2). The offer is freehold, for sale by tender, and the closing date is Nov. 28. Contact Richard Ellis, Berkeley Square House, London W1X 6AN, England.

"The Name of the Rose" is off and running, in limited distribution. The good news: it's an enjoyable film, with splendid atmosphere and fine acting by Sean Connery and Christian Slater (in the Holmes and Watson roles). The bad news: there have been many deletions (after all, the film is only two hours and fifteen minutes long), and a few changes, and all those who have been hoping that seeing the movie would allow them to pretend to have read the book, won't be able to get by with that subterfuge. Reported to have cost \$20 million, the film will not, I think, be a box office success; they have kept all the sex (but of course there wasn't much of that in the book) and they have left out a lot of the violence. They have also left out some of the Sherlockian material.

Reviews so far have been luke-warm, with each reviewer finding something to praise as well as something to complain about. "As always, Connery makes a decent detective," wrote Rita Kemply in her review in the Washington Post, "but he lacks the eccentric authority of a Basil Rathbone or Sidney Toler's mystical Charlie Chan. Forgive me father, but I don't care who dunit."

Oct 86 #1 THE BUTLER DID IT, SINGING is a two-act "musical spoof" based on Tim Kelly's 1977 play "THE BUTLER DID IT" (D4453b), with book by Tim Kelly, music by Arne Christiansen, and lyrics by Ole Kittleson; the musical retains the character Peter Flimsey ("he's in the Sherlock Holmes school), but it's a fringe item. Baker's Plays, 100 Chauncy Street, Boston, MA 02111; \$4.05 postpaid.

THE QUALLSFORD INHERITANCE: A MEMOIR OF SHERLOCK HOLMES FROM THE PAPERS OF EDWARD PORTER JONES, HIS LATE ASSISTANT, by Lloyd Biggle, Jr., paragraphed earlier (May 86 #2) includes a statement that: "The characters of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson are based on the creations of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Obviously, this book was not written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Further, it has not been sponsored or authorized by the estate or heirs of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle or by any person or

company licensed by them." The book was scheduled for publication on June 30, but was delayed until last month, when an apologetic advertisement was published in the Sept. 5 issue of Publishers Weekly.

Reported: BASIL OF BAKER STREET, by Eve Titus (Pocket Books/Archway, \$2.50); a movie tie-in with Disney artwork on the cover. THE FOURTH MAD DECLASSIFIED PAPERS ON SPY VS. SPY, by Prohias (Warner); with a S'ian panel in "The Model Detective".

221 "A" Baker Street Associates (Box 351453, Los Angeles, CA 90035) has announced a two-record set with two of the 1945 Rathbone radio broadcasts ("The Unfortunate Tobacconist" and "The Paradol Chamber") at \$27.50 post-paid (with a \$2.50 rebate to members of Sherlockian societies after Mar. 15, 1987, if you order before that date). There has been a mailing to scions, and you can write to the company for more information.

Reported by John Bennett Shaw: THE SESAME STREET TREASURY in supermarkets, with Sherlock Hemlock in Vol. II, and on the endpapers in all volumes. Sherlock Hemlock also in Sesame Street Magazine, Oct. 1986.

It has taken much longer than I thought it would, but the personal-computer world now has a calendar program that is useful to Sherlockians. There are many programs around that will tell you the day of the week for any date in the 20th century, but they won't work for the 19th century because the programmers couldn't quite handle the fact that 1900 wasn't a leap year. Now there is POP-CAL, an elegant little pop-up calendar that will handle everything from Jan. 1583 to Dec. 9999. The program was published in PC Magazine (Oct. 14), and can be downloaded from PC-IRS (212-696-0360).

My thanks to those who have sent addresses or leads for those missing members of the BSI -- and the list of those who are still missing is now much shorter: Bernth Lindfors (1968), William Passen (1955), and Peter A. Ruber (1964).

Oct 86 #2 Reported by Jackie Geyer: the (British) Catalpa Press series by Rodney Engen on "The Artist and the Critic" includes RICHARD DOYLE as its second title, with more than 150 illustrations (including some in color); "attention is given to his relationship with the rest of his gifted artistic family, including his nephew, Arthur Conan Doyle," according to the flier from Books of Wonder (132 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10011), and the book costs \$49.95.

Gideon Hill reports that animation cels from "The Great Mouse Detective" are available (\$185.00 each) from Pam Martin (Cel-ebration, 45 Salem Lane, Little Silver, NJ 07739). And that there was a six-part "With Crime in Mind" series in the British Medical Journal in 1980 on six crime writers who use medical details in their stories, with occasional S'ian references; photocopies available from Gideon (1810 South Rittenhouse Square #207, Philadelphia, PA 19103) in return for a 66c SASE.

Playhouse Video (part of CBS/Fox) has issued videocassettes of Rathbone's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" and "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" at \$29.98. The films have long been available from other companies, but since these are Fox issues they have presumably been struck from the master negatives or prints (which is not necessarily the case with cassettes from other companies).

For those who collect non-S'ian books that use the titles of SH stories, there's THE DANCING MEN, by Duncan Kyle (New York: Holt, 1986; 256 p., \$16.95); it's a political thriller. Can anyone name another book in this category? In the "close, but no cigar" category, there are THE CRIMSON CIRCLE, by Edgar Wallace (1922); THE SCARLET CIRCLE, by Jonathan Stagge (1943); WISTERIA COTTAGE, by Robert M. Coates (1948); COPPER BEECH, by

Ariadne Thompson; and THE DANCING MAN, by P. M. Hubbard (1971).

Forecast: THE ANNOTATED SHERLOCK HOLMES, edited by William S. Baring-Gould (from Clarkson N. Potter in Dec., one vol. in a slipcase, \$55.00).

The 1987 birthday festivities will include a reception on Saturday, Jan. 10, from 3:00 to 5:00 pm, at 24 Fifth Avenue. The reception will be open to all Sherlockians and their friends, and will honor Julian and Eleanor Wolff. Open bar, with hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, and tickets cost \$20.00 a person until Dec. 15 (\$25.00 a person thereafter and at the door). Your check, payable to The Baker Street Irregulars, should be sent to Robert E. Thomalen, 69 Glen Road, Eastchester, NY 10709.

Reported by Jerry Margolin: IT'S A MYSTERY, CHARLIE BROWN and THE GREAT MOUSE DETECTIVE (book-and-cassette sets, \$5.98 each) and FREDDIE THE DETECTIVE (record album with Walter R. Brooks' Freddie the pig on the cover, \$9.98), from Victor Hotho & Co., Box 9738, Fort Worth, TX 76107.

MYSTERY READER'S WALKING GUIDE: LONDON, by Alzina Stone Dale and Barbara Sloan Hendershott (Lincolnwood: Passport Books, 1987; 294 p., \$16.95); there are other detectives, and while SH is not neglected, he is only one of many whose associations with London addresses and buildings are noted in the eleven walks in this guide for those who would also like to follow in the footsteps of such as Alleyne, Grotte, Halley, Poirot, and Wimsey.

Oct 86 #3 Frank Thomas' pastiche SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE MASQUERADE MURDERS (Sep 86 #2) is not available in book stores, but Medallion Books (5455 Wilshire Boulevard #1700, Los Angeles, CA 90036) has kindly offered to send a copy of the book, without charge, to S'ians who are not members of Medallion's book club.

Bouchercon XVII in Baltimore was enjoyable, and there were more than 400 people there (considerably more than we had in Washington in 1980). The Friday night entertainment was "Stage Fright" -- presented by "The Sherlock Holmes of Thought" (aka Michael Elliott, aka Elliott M. Black of the Hounds of the Baskerville) -- mentalism and magic with a S'ian theme. The only other S'ian item of any significance was the Saturday evening panel on "Castles in the Air" -- a discussion of television by a panel that included Bob Shayne, who screened a short videotape segment from a rough cut of the new CBS television film "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" -- Sherlock Holmes, having been revived in London and visited Boston, is in a hotel disco bar in Seattle (where he fails to understand a bar girl's proposition) -- Holmes then returns to his room, where he is confronted by an unfriendly FBI agent (whose karate is more than a match for Holmes' jujitsu), and the FBI agent is then murdered in the hallway by a mysterious stranger (who neglects to murder Holmes and bathrobed Jane Watson). Shayne told me that the program will air this spring, and if CBS has any sense, they won't give critics an advance screening. Bouchercon XVIII will be in Minneapolis, masterminded by Steve Stilwell and Becky Reineke (write to Box 2747, Loop Station, Minneapolis, MN 55402, to enroll on their mailing list) and Bouchercon XIX will probably be in Los Angeles (San Diego was competing, but only Los Angeles had a con suite with free drinks).

Gayle Lange Puhl's line of S'ian jewelry, displayed and sold at the 1986 workshop in Toronto, is available by mail, and a price list is offered by Reighard Pottery, 32 West Main Street, Evansville, WI 53536.

Two people have quoted the report on the report of the reprint edition of Basil Rathbone's IN AND OUT OF CHARACTER (Aug 86 #1), but have announced the book as published rather than reported. Having received no reply to my query to Buccaneer Books, I can only note that this would not be the first time that a reported Buccaneer edition has not been published, and suggest that people note my use of the word "reported" -- I have no objection if others quote from these carefully anonymous info sheets, but it's better if you're accurate. Later: Mel Ruiz reports that he has heard from Buccaneer

that the book is not yet ready.

THE MYSTERY AND SUSPENSE ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR 1987, compiled by Basil Santoine (Pittstown: Main Street Press, 1986; \$7.95), has many references to Sherlock Holmes and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Gideon Hill reports that Peter Cushing's "The Masks of Death" was broadcast on Prism cable in June 1986. It's also now available on videocassette, at \$59.95, from Karl-Lorimar Home Video (17942 Cowan Avenue, Irvine, CA 92714) or your local video store.

Gideon also reports that an hour of the polyphonic motets of Lassus was broadcast on Oct. 19 by Minnesota Public Radio.

Oct 86 #4 A bibliographic query on the first printing of THE OMNIBUS OF CRIME, edited by Dorothy L. Sayers (New York: Payson & Clarke Ltd., 1929) [D182a]: I have seen copies with the list of other books by Sayers on page [2] positioned toward the top of the page, or toward the bottom. Is either variant a first issue? I have also seen copies of the dust jacket with and without "Read em and Creep! Christopher Morley" over-printed in white. Is either variant a first issue?

A. Payn (80 Osborne Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM11 1HE, England) has sculpted an attractive Sherlockian chess set, cast in antiqued polyester resin (Holmes/king and bobby/pawn are shown at left). Cost: L45.00 postpaid, with payment by international money order.

WALK, DON'T DIE: HOW TO STAY FIT, TRIM AND HEALTHY WITHOUT KILLING YOURSELF, by Fred A. Stutman of The Sons of the Copper Beeches, includes a report on "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jangled Jogger" (\$18.95 cloth or \$9.95 paper, from Medical Manor Books, 3501 Newbery Road, Philadelphia, PA 19154).

"Elementary, my dear Watson," said Sherlock Holmes. Not in the Canon, as all true S'ians know. But: where did Sherlock Holmes first utter that famous phrase? One possibility is the William Gillette play "Sherlock Holmes", but not in any of the versions of the script published during Gillette's lifetime. The phrase does appear (in Act II, Scene 2, on page 53) in the Royal Shakespeare Company acting edition published by Samuel French in 1976, but that version was revised for the RSC production, and it is likely that the phrase was inserted for the revival, because by then everyone knew that Holmes said it. So: who was the first Holmes to say, "Elementary, my dear Watson"?

The Pleasant Places of Florida have issued a small 1987 calendar (three months per page, with S'ian illos, and a list of red-letter days at the end); \$2.50 postpaid from Ben Wood, 4408 Gulf Drive, Holmes Beach, FL 33510. This will likely be the only 1987 S'ian calendar.

If you would like to live in the "real" Baskerville Hall, you now have two opportunities, according to an article in the Oct. 16, 1986, issue of the London Standard. Brook Manor, the home of the infamous Richard Cabell, has been put up for sale for L150,000. And if you prefer Hayford Hall (see Howard Brody's article in the Dec. 1979 issue of the BSJ), it's available for L300,000.

"I'll tell you what art is," Arthur Conan Doyle wrote to Robert Barr in 1894. "It is to do that which you set out to do. Start to make a man laugh, and make him laugh, and that's art." From a collection of 21

autograph letters offered (for \$5000) by David L. Holmes (230 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102).

Oct 86 #5 "Admirers of the exploits of the great detective Sherlock Holmes and his colleague Dr. Watson will particularly enjoy a visit to the Sherlock Holmes pub in Northumberland Avenue since Sir Arthur Conan Doyle lived in the fine 18th century building and wrote many of his stories there." That's one of the stops on "The London Pub-a-round," an evening entertainment offered by The Britainshrinkers (10 Queen Street, Mayfair, London W1, England), from a brochure forwarded by Ted Schulz.

THE SECRET CONAN DOYLE CORRESPONDENCE, edited by Leslie Vernet Harper [a pseudonym of Charles Youngblood] (Provo: Hascom Publishers, 1986; 212 pp., \$11.95 postpaid from the publisher, Box 1396, Provo, UT 84603). Both mystery novel and exposition of the Mormon faith, based on the journals and correspondence of Samuel Harper, a British detective forced into exile in the U.S. because of his knowledge of the identity of Jack the Ripper. Harper's later adventures involved Jacques Futrelle, Nellie Bly, "Red Emma" Goldman, and Arthur Balfour, and a meeting with Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, an old friend with whom Harper has long corresponded on a "Dear Arthur" and "Dear Sam" basis, and with whom Harper has had lengthy conversations at the Diogenes Club.

Steven T. Doyle (3209 East 10th Street #8C, Bloomington, IN 47401) reports that he is editing The Sherlock Holmes Review, a new quarterly (\$8 a year), and is soliciting material for the first issue, due Dec. 1986/Jan. 1987.

Pamela Granovetter and Karen Thomas McCallum have compiled A SHOPPING LIST OF MYSTERY CLASSICS (including, of course, all nine volumes of the Canon), with a listing of specialist dealers; the 96-page booklet allows users to mark titles as read, wanted, and owned, and is available for \$5.35 postpaid from The Copperfield Press, 306 West 11th Street, New York, NY 10014.

Brochure at hand for the "Final Problem Tour" (Apr. 22-May 9, 1987) to England and Switzerland, escorted by Scott and Sherry Rose Bond (contact Trade Winds Travel, 21 South 5th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106).

ATTENTA: there will be Sherlockian articles in Fortune (Nov. 24) and in Smithsonian (December); both magazines should be on the newstands by mid-November.

Reported by Ron De Waal: ALFRED HITCHCOCK: TALES OF TERROR, edited by Eleanor Sullivan (New York: Galahad Books, 1986; \$8.99); contents include August Derleth's "The China Cottage".

One of the more unusual formats for the Canon is intended for travelers: short stories printed on single sheets of paper, folded map-style to pocket size. There are three volumes available, with twelve stories in each volume, and one of the stories is "The Red-Headed League". A flier is available from Tales for Travellers, 333 Randolph Street, Napa, CA 94559.

A couple of minor children's items in a series of "Who Did It Sticker Mysteries" (with an owl in S'ian costume as series logo) from Scholastic Inc. (730 Broadway, New York, NY 10003): THE GREAT EGG MYSTERY, by Margaret Hartelius, has Dilly Duck in S'ian costume, and THE HIDE-AND-SEEK MYSTERY, by Judy Waltham, has only the series logo; \$2.95 each.

Oct 86 #6 Two new videocassettes, reported by Maureen Green: MISTER MAGOO ...MAN OF MYSTERY (including "Sherlock Holmes" with Magoo as Watson), from Paramount Home Video; and WHEN LONDON WALKED IN TERROR (vol. 1 of "Leonard Nimoy Goes in Search of...", with "In Search of...Sherlock Holmes"), from U.S.A. Home Video.

New catalog at hand from Historical Products (Box 220, Cambridge, MA 02238) with the usual T-shirts, sweatshirts, totebags, aprons, and cloth calendars

featuring historical personalities (including a Steele portrait of SH) and interesting quotations (ditto).

Roger Johnson reports a new edition (expanded and revised) of Alexander Kelly's JACK THE RIPPER: A BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE (D2251b); available for £7.95 from Elaine Dunncliffe, AALSED Publications Officer, Woodhall Library, Cole Green Lane, Welwyn Garden City, Herts., England.

"Holmes for the Holidays" at hand from US 2 (563 Clinton Road, Paramus, NJ 07652); a new sales list of S'iana, including holiday cards, stuffed bears, aprons, buttons, notepads, baseball cards, and much else.

Anthony Boucher's NINE TIMES NINE, a Sister Ursula and locked-room mystery (with many S'ian references) first published in 1940 (as by H. H. Holmes), has been reissued in paperback (New York: International Polygonics, 1986; 255 p., \$4.95).

The advertisement below is from the Oct. 1901 issue of the American edition of The Strand Magazine. Can you identify the source of the Conan Doyle quotation?

Nov 86 #1 "Holmes is the triumph of Victorian postivism in his cerebral performances," suggests Stefano Tani," but is at the same time decadent in his habits, even, finally, his intellectual habits, since he contrasts markedly with the gentle and essentially intelligent humanist Watson." Tani's THE DOOMED DETECTIVE: THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE DETECTIVE NOVEL TO POSTMODERN AMERICAN AND ITALIAN FICTION (Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1984; 183 p., \$18.95) concentrates on the development of the "anti-detective novel," with discussion of Umberto Eco's THE NAME OF THE ROSE as an important example of the genre.

"The Sherlock Holmes" is open for business at 1650 Bourbon Street in Edmonton, Alberta -- it's a division of Tippling House Limited, so one can assume drinks are available, but I don't know about dinner.

Reported by Jack Kerr: minor S'ian references (p. 177, 265) in CORONER AT LARGE, by T. Noguchi (Pocket Books).

SAM THE DETECTIVE AND THE ALEF BET MYSTERY, by Amye Rosenberg (New York: Behrman House, 1980; 64 p., \$3.95), features an imaginative S'ian bear

assisting children in learning Hebrew; you can order from the publisher at 235 Watchung Avenue, West Orange, NJ 07052.

John Nieminski has responded to my query (Oct 86 #2) about non-S'ian books with S'ian titles, with some additional titles listed in Allen J. Hubin's CRIME FICTION, 1749-1980: A COMPREHENSIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY (Garland, 1984) (a book without which, John suggests, no self-respecting mystery fan or S'ian trivialist should be): A CASE OF IDENTITY, by Leonard Brain (Hale, 1970); A CASE OF IDENTITY, by Richard Marsh (U.S. title of THE TWICKENHAM PEERAGE, Methuen, 1902); THE CROOKED MAN, by Shelley Smith [pseud. of Nancy H. Bodington] (Harper, 1952, American title of MAN ALONE, Collins, 1952); THE EMPTY HOUSE, by Michael Gilbert (Hodder, 1978; Harper, 1979); THE EMPTY HOUSE, by Francis Grierson (Butterworth, 1933; Appleton, 1934); THE EMPTY HOUSE, by Irina Karlova (Hurst, 1944); THE VALLEY OF FEAR, by John Creasey (Long, 1943); THE VALLEY OF FEAR, by Robin Gar (Millifont, 1935); THE VALLEY OF FEAR, by Francis Addington Symonds (Amalgamated Press, 1921); and THE YELLOW FACE, by William Murray Graydon (Amalgamated Press, 1921). And there is the Ellery Queen short story "The Three Students" (Playboy, 1971, and EQMM, Nov. 1973). The two books from Amalgamated Press, John notes, feature Sexton Blake, the Baker Street detective.

VIDEOTAPER ALERT! "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" (with Michael Pennington as Sherlock Holmes and Margaret Colin as Jane Watson) will be broadcast by CBS-TV on Sunday, Dec. 28, from 9:00 to 11:00 pm.

Avram Davidson's pastiche "The Singular Incident of the Dog on the Beach" is in Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine, Dec. 1986.

"Sherlock Holmes and the Red-Headed League" is a new musical adaptation performed by Theatreworks/USA (131 West 86th Street, New York, NY 10024; 202-595-7500), and scheduled for their theater in New York Jan. 24-Feb. 1, 1987. And at Lisner Auditorium in Washington on Mar. 10, 1987, and at the Bardavon 1869 Opera House in Poughkeepsie on Mar. 22, 1987. And they'll be happy to accept bookings elsewhere.

Nov 86 #2 SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE CASE OF THE RALEIGH LEGACY, by L. B. Greenwood (New York: Atheneum, 1986; 184 p., \$13.95); a welcome exception to the general rule that most S'ian pastiches are at best only poor imitations of the recorded cases.

Reported by Lenny Picker: Batman and Robin and Sherlock Holmes scheduled in Detective Comics #572 (the 50th anniversary issue of the comic).

"In Search of Sherlock Holmes" is one of the London walks described in a booklet sponsored by the Wimpy Food chain. A free copy of "Wimpy Walks" is available from the British Tourist Authority, 40 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019. For those who don't speak British, "Wimpy" is a British trade name for a hamburger.

The S'ian "Wimpy Walk" ends in Northumberland Street at The Sherlock Holmes, "where it is said a certain Mr. Conan Doyle resided for a time in an hotel on the very same site." There is a similar statement in the flier for "The London Pub-a-round" (Oct 86 #5). A faithful reader (who is an expert on Conan Doyle's various residences) has asked me to refrain from reporting such statements without noting that there is no evidence that Conan Doyle lived or resided in Northumberland Street.

"William Gillette: A Connecticut Yankee and the American Stage" (the fine 30-minute documentary paraphrased Sep 86 #1) is available on videocassette (\$50.00 postpaid) and on 16mm film (\$600.00 purchase and \$50.00 rental) from Connecticut Heritage Productions, 46 Bretton Road, Middletown, CT 06457.

Flier at hand from Frank A. Hoffmann (734 Richmond Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14222) announcing his Sherlock Holmes Calendar for 1987 (Sherlockian Ladies

Edition) at \$9.00 postpaid. The flier also includes items from Phase 2 of his Sherlockian Enterprises close-out sale.

A postscript to my report (Oct 86 #3) on Bouchercon XVII: "Young Sherlock Holmes" (one of the nominees for best movie in the "Anthony" awards) did not win ("Witness" was the first choice in the fan voting). But the Private Eye Writers of America have their own "Shamus" awards, and the vote for best first P.I. novel went to Wayne Warga's *HARDCOVER*, which has minor S'ian allusions.

THE HISTORICAL NOVELS (Poole: New Orchard Editions, 1986; 1112+1176 p., \$19.95) (distributed here by Sterling Publishing Co.) is a welcome reprint of the two-volume collection published by John Murray in 1931 and 1932. Contents: THE WHITE COMPANY, SIR NIGEL, THE EXPLOITS OF BRIGADIER GERARD, ADVENTURES OF GERARD, MICAH CLARKE, THE REFUGEES, RODNEY STONE, and Lady Doyle's 1931 preface.

British news from Roger Johnson: production on "The Abbot's Cry" (the BBC's second Peter Cushing TV film) has been postponed until March because John Mills (Dr. Watson) is appearing in a West End play. Granada will begin production on "The Sign of Four" in January or February, and a fourth series of short stories (including "Wisteria Lodge" and probably "Silver Blaze") is planned for 1987-88.

Nov 86 #3 Some paperback reprints from Britain: SHERLOCK HOLMES AT THE 1902 FIFTH TEST, by Stanley Shaw (London: W. H. Allen/Star Book, 1986; 160 p., L1.95). TEN YEARS BEYOND BAKER STREET, by Cay Van Ash (London: Futura, 1985; 436 p., L2.50. THE RETURN OF MORIARTY, by John Gardner (London: W. H. Allen/Star Book, 1983; 383 p., L2.50. THE REVENGE OF MORIARTY, by John Gardner (London: W. H. Allen/Star Book, 1984; 306 p., L2.25. And a hardcover British edition: SHERLOCK HOLMES THROUGH TIME AND SPACE, edited by Isaac Asimov, Martin Harry Greenberg, and Charles G. Waugh (London: Severn House, 1985; 355 p., L9.95).

I have seen a videocassette of "The Masks of Death" (the BBC's first Peter Cushing TV film), and I think it rates a passing grade. Holmes and Watson versus the Germans, just before The Great War, with Anne Baxter as Irene Adler, and Ray Milland and Gordon Jackson in supporting roles.

Danger Mouse (the world's number one crime fighter) and his faithful assistant Penfold first appeared in 1981 in a British television cartoon series created by Brian Cosgrove and Mark Hall; the series can also be seen here on cable television (Nickelodeon), and Little, Brown and Co. have issued a series of children's picture books, paperbacks, and lift-the-flap books featuring the intrepid mouse and his hamster friend, who live in a secret hideaway beneath an ordinary London mailbox on Baker Street.

Thanks to eagle-eyed Wilfrid de Freitas for spotting an announcement in the personal columns of The Times (Oct. 29): "CHALLENGER - Pterosaurs sighted Matto Grosso - Expedition departs Oct 30. Room for two more guns - Summerlee." And a second announcement (Nov. 3): "STEPHEN - I thought I could trust your discretion. Yet there it is in print in Room Too More Guns: the intriguing history of the Personal Columns of The Times published for all to see. I'll never speak to you again. M." One might suspect that the two announcements are a subtle advertisement for a new book, which will surely be of interest to those who share Sherlock Holmes' enthusiasm for the agony columns.

Also an advertisement in the Nov. 2 issue of The Sunday Times: "SHERLOCK Holmes lived nearby this Edwardian 3 bed gnd flr flt close Baker St. 116 yrs L130.000."

Reported by Ron De Waal: Sherlock Hemlock in THE CASE OF THE MISSING DUCKIE (Racine: Western Publishing Co., 1980; 24 p.). And the same story in SESAME STREET STORY LAND: A SELECTION OF FAVORITE SESAME STREET STORIES

(New York: Western Publishing Co., 1986; \$12.95).

In the current catalog from Fearon Teacher Aids (David S. Lake Publishers, 19 Davis Drive, Belmont, CA 94022): I.M.A. BOOKSNOOP'S AMAZING, ASTOUNDING, ASTONISHING LIBRARY SKILLS KIT, by Elaine Prizzi and Jeanne Hoffman (128 p., \$10.95), with S'ian cover art. MINDSTRETCHERS: LEVEL TWO: WHO DONE IT?, by Pat Carr and Steve Tracy (\$1.95) also has S'ian artwork.

SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE'S CELEBRATED CASES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (London: Octopus Books, 1986; 318 p., L6.95) contains 18 stories, each with one of Sidney Paget's illos from The Strand Magazine; the book also has 12 new full-color illos by the modern British artist Graham Ward.

Nov 86 #4 A while back I mentioned (Feb 86 #1) The Newcastle Mint's offer of "The Sherlock Holmes 100 Year Commemorative Art Medal Collection" limited to 1,500 numbered sets and consisting of 72 art medals to be issued monthly in pure gold on fine pewter (\$20.00 each) or in pure silver (\$30.00 each). According to the latest issue of the Grimpen Mire Gazette, delivery actually did start in mid-March, dispelling the suspicion of many that no one would be silly enough to order the set.

Raymond L. Holly's article "The Bee-Farmer and the Priest: Sherlock Holmes and Father Brown" appeared in the Aug. 1986 issue of Telicom (Journal of the International Society for Philosophical Enquiry); copies available (\$2.00 postpaid) from Bob Birch, Box 2364, Falls Church, VA 22042.

You may have noticed the recent press reports about Jeffrey Archer, the deputy chairman of the Conservative Party in Britain, who resigned when a newspaper caught him paying off a prostitute ("we know no spectacle so ridiculous as the British public in one of its periodic fits of morality," Thomas Macaulay once suggested). Jeffrey Archer is also a novelist, and was reported to have been hired by Steven Spielberg (or Paramount) to translate Chris Columbus' script for "Young Sherlock Holmes" into British.

The weekend celebration of Sherlock Holmes' birthday seems to have stabilized, since there are no new events that I know about. But there are, as usual, many items on the agenda.

Friday begins with the Martha Hudson Breakfast at 9:00 at the Hotel Algonquin, at 59 West 44th Street; no reservations required. Then the William Gillette Luncheon at 12:00 at the Old Homestead, at 56 Ninth Avenue (Lisa McGaw, 15 Willow Terrace Apartments, Chapel Hill, NC 27514). And then the dinners for The Baker Street Irregulars at 24 Fifth Avenue, and for The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes at the Club 1407 Restaurant, at 1407 Broadway (Evelyn A. Herzog, 235 West 15th Street #4B, New York, NY 10011).

Otto Penzler's annual open house at The Mysterious Bookshop (129 West 56th Street) is also on Friday, from 11:00 to 6:00; S'ians and their guests are most welcome, and there is as usual the possibility of S'ian authors on hand to sign their books.

On Saturday there will be a reception, honoring Julian and Eleanor Wolff and open to all S'ians and their friends, from 3:00 to 5:00 pm, at 24 Fifth Avenue. Open bar, with hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, and tickets cost \$20.00 a person until Dec. 15 (\$25.00 a person thereafter and at the door). Checks, payable to The Baker Street Irregulars, should be sent to Robert E. Thomalen, 69 Glen Road, Eastchester, NY 10709. And, although the gathering is not formally scheduled, it is likely that a many Sherlockians will dine on Saturday evening at Bogie's (249 West 26th Street).

On Sunday, southbound travelers (and others) are welcome at the annual dinner of The Master's Class at the Franklin Inn Club in Philadelphia (Victoria M. Robinson, 299B Summit House, 1450 West Chester Pike, West

Chester, PA 19382).

Nov 86 #5 THE EVIDENCE NEVER LIES: THE CASEBOOK OF A MODERN SHERLOCK HOLMES, by Alfred Allan Lewis (New York: Dell, 1987; 258 p., \$7.95), describes the career and some of the important cases of criminalist Herbert Leon MacDonell, a modern specialist in bloodstain evidence, fingerprint identification, and firearms identification and ballistics; his expertise in interpreting evidence has served his clients well.

Reported by Brad Keefauver: THE BEST OF TREK #11, edited by Walter Irwin and G. B. Love (Signet paperback), with Patricia Dunn's "A Problem of Identity: Was Holmes a Vulcan?"

It occurs to me to suggest that there are still a few months in 1987 that do not yet have a S'ian event of international or national significance, in case anyone wants to plan one.

Jan. 6: Sherlock Holmes Society of London centenary dinner, in London.

Jan. 9: Baker Street Irregulars annual dinner, and The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes dinner, in New York.

Mar. 13-15: Sherlockon II: A Second Holmes-Coming, in Torrance (Sherlockon, Box 1226, Lawndale, CA 90260).

Mar. 14: The Relationship Between Arthur Conan Doyle and Sherlock Holmes: A Centennial Symposium, at Wright State University (Dr. Alvin E. Rodin, Wright State University School of Medicine, Box 927, Dayton, OH 45401).

May 16: Holmes Centennial Dinner at the Culinary Institute of America, in Hyde Park.

Apr. 22-May 9: "Final Problem" Tour from England to Switzerland (Trade Winds Travel, 21 South 5th Street, Philadelphia, PA 10106).

Apr. 30-May 9: Sherlock Holmes Society of London Pilgrimage to Switzerland (Cdr. G. S. Stavert, 3 Outram Road, Southsea, Hants. PO5 1QP, England).

July 24-26: John Bennett Shaw workshop, at the College of William & Mary (Ray Betzner, 2906 Richard Pace South, Williamsburg, VA 23185).

Aug. 16-23: John Bennett Shaw workshop, at Stanford University (Theodore G. Schulz, 17 Mount Lassen Drive, San Rafael, CA 94903).

Sept. 12-22: a medical history conference based in London, directed by Alvin E. Rodin, with emphasis on Conan Doyle and Sherlock Holmes (Nicholas Dewey, BCM, Box Dewey, London, WC1N 3XX, England).

Sept. 19-20: Autumn in Baker Street, at Bear Mountain (Robert E. Thomalen, 69 Glen Road, Eastchester, NY 10709).

Sept. (date uncertain): The Silver Blaze, at Belmont (Richard A. Wein, 65 Briarwood Lane, Plainview, NY 11803).

Nov 86 #6 Peter Cushing's AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY (London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1986; 157 p., \$9.95) gives only passing mention to his various appearances as Sherlock Holmes, but it is an entertaining account of the actor's life and career.

Thanks to Paul Merz for an advance warning: Gary Larson's newspaper cartoon "The Far Side" will be Sherlockian on Dec. 5.

Discovered by Richard Wein: THE WORLD'S 72 TOUGHEST GOLF HOLES, by Tom

Hepburn and Selwyn Jacobson (Los Angeles: Price/Stern/Sloan, 1984; \$19.95 at B. Dalton); one of the selections is The Morialta Golf Club's 5th hole (dubbed "Sheer Luck"), with an appropriately S'ian description.

SHERLOCK HOLMES: A CENTENARY CELEBRATION, by Allen Eyles (London: John Murray, 1986; 144 p., £10.95) (New York: Harper & Row, 1986; 144 p., \$22.50); a survey of "the first hundred years of the Sherlock Holmes phenomenon," with spectacular illustrations: full-color reproductions of eight of Steele's covers for Collier's, some of the more artistic covers from later issues of the Strand, theater posters and lobby cards, and stills from films and television, plus much more material in black and white.

In case you didn't do the arithmetic, £10.95 at the current conversion rate (\$1.42) is \$15.55 (and that's 69% of \$22.50). Twenty years ago if a book was published simultaneously in Britain and the U.S., the British edition was about 60% cheaper; then things evened out, but now the discount seems to be back.

For the completist S'ian philatelist, the USPS has re-engraved the 1983 1c coil stamp showing an 1880s omnibus (BSJ, Dec. 1983, p. 248). The new and slightly different version will be shipped to post offices in December.

Reported by Andrew Jay Peck: SHERLOCK HOLMES SAVED GOLF, a second S'ian golf book by Bob Jones (Box 582, Pebble Beach, CA 93953; \$12.00 postpaid).

Marilyn Wellemeier's article on "Pursuing a Mysterious Passion" in the Nov. 24 issue of Fortune discussed passionate mystery collectors, and included mention (and a photograph) of Tyke Niver, as well as an address for queries about joining S'ian societies. So far there have been twelve requests.

Sotheby's auction in London on Dec. 18 will include a "group of papers relating to Conan Doyle," including "a letter by the literary agent A.S. Watt, to Lady Doyle, detailing tangled negotiations with MGM for the filming of Sherlock Holmes stories (1937)." First I've heard of MGM considering a series.

Tyke Niver reports a catalog of regimental and old school ties available from Ben Silver Neckties Limited (149 King Street, Charleston, SC 29401), including the tie for Edinburgh University at \$28.00 (in case you'd like to wear ACD's old school tie).

"I went out to Charing Cross, to see Major-general Harrison hanged, drawn, and quartered; which was done there, he looking as cheerful as any man could do in that condition." Samuel Pepys, in his Diary.

Dec 86 #1 "Even as a small child I dreamed of going on faraway expeditions to collect insects and other animals. This book set my imagination on fire, and I was thereafter a nesiophile, a lover of islands, the concrete symbols of new worlds awaiting exploration. The compulsion was one of the mental factors that led me in later years to develop (with Robert H. MacArthur) the theory of island biogeography, which has become an influential part of ecology." The book is THE LOST WORLD, cited by Edward O. Wilson in THE HARVARD GUIDE TO INFLUENTIAL BOOKS: 113 DISTINGUISHED HARVARD PROFESSORS DISCUSS THE BOOKS THAT HAVE HELPED TO SHAPE THEIR THINKING, edited by C. Maury Devine, Claudia M. Dissel, and Kim D. Parrish (New York: Harper & Row, 1986; 300 p., \$18.95).

ATTENTA: on Dec. 3 I was informed by the Hotel Royalton that they are not accepting reservations for the birthday weekend, because the hotel will be closed at the end of 1986, for total renovation. They may be open in early January, I was told, "but don't count on it." Those who have already made reservations at the Royalton may or may not have received a later warning from the hotel. Verbum sap., as the saying goes.

All is not lost, however. Mary Ellen Rich, of The Adventuresses of

Sherlock Holmes, works for Stevens Travel (212-696-4300 or 800-223-1028), and she is arranging for alternate accommodations for Sherlockians who don't want to take a chance at the Royalton.

Spotted by Betty Pierce: Jeremy Brett, in the Henry Fonda film of "War and Peace" (cast as Nicholas, an officer in red uniform and funny wig).

Reported by Chris Caswell, from Disneyland, on the recently renovated Mr. Toad ride, in the window of a London building: Sherlock Holmes' profile. Watch for it near the end of the ride, Chris warns.

Chris also notes that regardless of the quality of the recent TV show "Clue: Movies, Murder, and Mystery!" (Sept. 17 on CBS-TV), the program was filmed to a large extent in his bookshop Sherlock's Home, even showing their British facade and awning.

Videocassettes reported by Paul Martin from Video Yesteryear (Box C, Sandy Hook, CT 06482): "The Copper Beeches" (1912) and "The Man with the Twisted Lip" (1922), both silent with music score, correct projection speed; and "The Triumph of Sherlock Holmes" (1935).

"The Return of Sherlock Holmes" (scheduled by CBS-TV for Dec. 28) was, as you now know, a non-return. CBS announced early in December that the show was being preempted by the two-hour pilot for "Outlaws" (a new series that will start on Jan. 3). The latest news is that "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" will air on Jan. 10, at 9:00 pm.

Lenny Picker (119 81st Avenue, Kew Gardens, NY 11415) lacks only one of the Jeremy Brett programs ("Fina"), and would appreciate hearing from anyone who can lend an off-the-air tape of the show for copying.

Lenny also reports that a new collection of Basil Copper's Solar Pons pastiches is scheduled next year from Academy Chicago Publishers.

Dec 86 #2 Reported by Ron De Waal: THE GREAT MOUSE DETECTIVE (New York: Random House, 1986; 42 p., \$5.95); Disney's Wonderful World of Reading #55. THE ART OF MYSTERY & DETECTIVE STORIES, by Peter Haining (Secaucus: Chartwell Books, 174 p., \$9.98); a reissue of MYSTERY! (D708b). THE VICTORIAN SHORT STORY: DEVELOPMENT & TRIUMPH OF A LITERARY GENRE, by Harold Orel (Cambridge University Press); with Paget's battle at the Reichenbach on the cover, and discussion ("By the 1890s, when Arthur Conan Doyle began his Sherlock Holmes stories in The Strand, the Victorian short story had become a commercially lucrative art-form, and probably the most popular literary product of the late Victorian age.") THE CELEBRATED CASES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (Minneapolis: Amaranth Press, 1986; xxiv+808 p., \$12.95 at B. Dalton); foreword by Donald Flanell Friedman, and the public-domain stories (Stud through Bruce).

221B BAKER ST.: A GRAPHICS MYSTERY ADVENTURE (Chatsworth: Datasoft/Intelli-Creations, 1986; \$29.95); a computer game (with 30 cases), based on the board game (D3957b). A second casebook, with 30 more cases and a second disk, costs \$14.95. Commodore 64/128 and Apple II versions are available now, and an Atari version is due next month; an IBM version (graphics card required) is expected in the spring. At your neighborhood software shop, or from IntelliCreations, 19808 Nordhoff Place, Chatsworth, CA 91311.

The Nov. 1986 issue of Mysterious News at hand from The Mysterious Press, 129 West 56th Street, New York, NY 10019; 16 pages of articles by and about their authors and their books, and a subscription is free for the asking.

SHERLOCKIAN POEMS ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS, by John Ruyle (521 Vincente Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707), is the latest Pequod pressing, with 16 poems (old and new); "owing to the omission of smut, prices are the same as for our other books of poetry" (\$30.00 cloth, and \$15.00 paper).

Reported by Roger Johnson (and confirmed by Andy Peck): a colorized version of "Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon" on videocassette at \$29.95 from Hal Roach Studios (their address is 1600 North Fairfax Avenue, Hollywood, CA 90046).

THE ANNOTATED SHERLOCK HOLMES, edited by William S. Baring-Gould (New York: Clarkson N. Potter, 1986; 1,536 p., \$55.00); a new one-volume edition, sturdily bound and boxed ("It is the nearest thing to a complete encyclopaedia of Sherlockiana that we have," Julian Wolff suggested in the BSJ when the "Annotated" was first published 20 years ago, and the description is still thoroughly correct).

Richard R. Rutter's article "'There Shall Be No Monthly Meetings': An Introduction to the Baker Street Irregulars" ran in the Oct. 1986 issue of Imprint (The Publication of the Associates of the Stanford University Libraries); \$7.50 postpaid (checks payable to Stanford University) from Imprint, C. H. Green Library, Stanford, CA 94305.

Presumably you have all seen Fred Strebeigh's article "To his modern fans, Sherlock is still worth a close look" in Smithsonian (Dec. 1986). Some of its readers' letters will be published in the Feb. 1987 issue. And the article will be digested and reprinted in Reader's Digest (Mar. 1987).

Dec 86 #3 I continue to receive enquiries from the press about what Sherlockians plan to do to celebrate the centennial of the publication of the first Sherlock Holmes story. Please let me know if you hear of events that weren't on the list in the November information sheets.

There's a "Sherlock Holmes Pub" music box (hand-made in England), six inches high, with a Reuge Swiss Musical Movement (that plays "There is a tavern in the town"), priced at \$78.50 (shipping extra). Illustrated flier available from Precious Little (Helen Wesson, 1003 North Vail Street, Alexandria, VA 22304).

The Edgar Wallace Society is as devoted to its hero as we are to ours, and has just published issue #72 of its newsletter "The Crimson Circle" (£6.00 a year for membership and subscription, and the editor is John A. Hogan, 7 Devonshire Close, Amersham, Bucks. HP6 5JG, England).

And The August Derleth Society is celebrating the end of its tenth year of celebrating the many-faceted literary career of the creator of Solar Pons. Membership, including their quarterly newsletter, costs \$5.00 a year (to Frank Attix, 3333 Westview Drive, Madison, WI 53713).

"Her face appeared in a picture frame in a Baker Street set for a TV series, identified as none other than Irene Adler, always 'the woman' for Sherlock Holmes," according to an interview with Vincent Price in the Washington Post. That's Vincent Price's wife, Coral Browne, and I assume that her picture was used in the Boston set for Price's introduction, rather than in the Manchester set for the 221B interior.

SHERLOCK CHICK'S FIRST CASE, by Robert Quackenbush (New York: Parents Magazine Press, 1986); a new children's book.

Another 1987 tour, reported by Mel Ruiz: Connoisseur Tours present "a unique trip for Sherlock Holmes buffs through the districts in England where the world's most remarkable detective pursued his remarkable career, with John T. Morse, professor of physiology at Berkeley and noted Sherlock Holmes scholar," July 23-Aug. 4. Flier from Directions Unlimited, 344 Main Street, Mount Kisco, NY 10549.

Mel also reports that Buccaneer Books reports that their edition of Basil Rathbone's IN AND OUT OF CHARACTER has "no available date set." The book was published in 1962, so the first term of copyright extends through 1990 (in case they're waiting for the book to go into the public domain).

"BITTE RUFEN SIE SCOTLAND YARD AN, WATSON" is the German edition of Gar Donnelson's monograph on Canonical telephones and telephoning. \$2.95 postpaid from Gar Donnelson, 430 Steinway Road, Lincoln, NE 68505.

More comic books. The Renegade Press CASES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES #4 (Nov 86) has "SixN" (and the next issue will have "Engr"). DETECTIVE COMICS #572 (Mar 87) celebrates the 50th anniversary of the magazine, with a story about Sherlock Holmes. Gladstone's WALT DISNEY'S MICKEY MOUSE #224 (Mar 87) and #225 (Apr 87) has a deerstalkered Dippy (later known as Goofy) in a reprint of "The Crazy Crime Wave" from the 1933 daily strips.

Dec 86 #4 There aren't many Sherlockian stamps on the U.S. schedule for 1987, but Jan. 26 is the issue date for the commemorative honoring the 150th anniversary of Michigan statehood. The stamp shows a white pine, the official Michigan state tree. And there's a Canonical reference to the lumber camps of Michigan . . .

There will be a "Sherlock Holmes Mystery weekend" in Bridgeport, Conn., Feb. 13-15, 1987, with the mystery and other entertainment devised by Murder by Invitation (a firm with which Bob Thomalen is involved in various roles and disguises); details from the Bridgeport Hilton Hotel, 1070 Main Street, Bridgeport, CT 06604.

Richard G. Smith reports an announcement in the Dec.-Jan. 1987 issue of British Heritage, of a planned special section on SH (presumably in the Feb.-Mar. 1987 issue).

Reported from England by Roger Johnson: ROOM TWO MORE GUNS, by Stephen Winkworth (Allen & Unwin, L10.95); a history of the personal columns in The Times ("of marginal but considerable S'ian interest," according to Roger). There have been major improvements at the Sherlock Holmes Hotel in Baker Street: the frontage and ground floor have been completely altered, with new S'ian decorations (including the inverness and deerstalker now worn by the commissioner), and handsome bronze busts and figurines on sale. And Leslie Bricusse (who wrote "Pickwick") is reported to have written a SH musical, to feature Robert Powell as Holmes and William Rushton as Watson.

Someone will receive a pleasant Christmas present: the manuscript of "The Adventure of the Mazarin Diamond" [that's the original title] went to auction at Christie's in New York on Dec. 19, with an estimated price of \$20,000-25,000. The 19-page manuscript was first reported in 1970, when it was auctioned at Sotheby's in London for L400 to Lew David Feldman, who sold it in 1972 to Miss Melissa Kalt (from whom it has now gone to auction at Christie's). And (later) I have been informed that the manuscript sold for \$45,000 to Mark Hime, the California dealer/collector.

The winter 1986 issue of The Sherlock Holmes Journal at hand, with news of plans for a Sherlock Holmes Museum, including a reconstruction of the sitting-room at 221B Baker Street, at Meiringen in Switzerland. Part of the museum should be open in time for the spring 1987 tour by the SHSOL.

The SHJ also reports that were 10.4 million viewers tuned in when the Granada version of "The Empty House" was broadcast in the U.K. in July (that's 18.2 percent of the 57 million people in the U.K.). In this country the weekly Nielsen ratings measure TV households (87.4 million); in the third week of December, 35.1 percent watched "The Cosby Show" (#1) and 19.1 percent watched "Highway to Heaven" (#20).

A pleasant discovery by Jerry Margolin: Gallery Lainzberg, the leading specialist in animation cels. They offer production cels (actually used in the film) from "The Great Mouse Detective" (\$195.00) and limited-edition cels by Chuck Jones of Sherlock Daffy and Watson Porky (\$295.00 each), and a full-color catalog is available; their address is 200 Guaranty Building, 3rd Avenue and 3rd Street SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401.

