50 Years Ago...Continued from Page 7

References
1910 Federal Census
1920 Federal Census
1930 Federal Census
The Greek Interpreters of Lansing website
http://www.cem.msu.edu/~reusch/SHolmes/gi-hit.htm

Ed in this newsletter. As Holmes said to Watson, “somewhere a clue, a strange sentence, a curious observa-
tion...” (LADY) may help us learn more about Page Heldenbrand. My thanks to Don Yates, Jon Lellenberg
and Charles Press for their assistance.

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

In Honor Of
Louis and Eileen Gottwald
Charles and Margaret Henry
Sandy Koizz
C. Paul Martin, M.D.
Julie McKuras
Julie McKuras
Max McKuras
Austin McLean
Gari-Anne Patzwald
Audrey Rubin's quick recovery

In Memory Of
Susan Beasley
Richard Lancelyn Green
Richard Lancelyn Green
Richard Lancelyn Green
Raymond “Vic” and Joyce Holly
S. Allen Mackler
S. Allen Mackler
E. W. McDermid
E. W. McDermid
Robert Patrick
Mary Schultz
Philip Sherman
Paul Smedegaard
Paul Smedegaard
Paul Smedegaard
Paul Smedegaard
Jan Stauber
Francine Swift
Francine Swift
Newt and Lilian Williams
Dr. Benson Wood

Julie McKuras, ASH, BSI

Donations
With our December issue of this newsletter, we send out a remittance envelope for annual contributions. However, several people have asked recently where to send donations if they don’t have the envelope, or want to make a special contribution. Donations should be forwarded to: Sherlock Holmes Collections – University of Minnesota Libraries
CM 3854
PO Box 70870
St. Paul MN 55170-3854

Checks should be made payable to the University of Minnesota Foundation. Gifts may also be charged to VISA, Discover, American Express, and Mastercard. Please indicate your account number, expiration date of the card and include your signature.

You may note that the donation is given in honor or memory of someone and note their name, and if there is a person to be informed, their address. Also, you may indicate if you want to direct your donation to a particular fund. You may choose the E. W. McDermid Curator Fund for the Sherlock Holmes Collections, the John Bennett Shaw Sherlock Holmes Fund, or the Hench Sherlock Holmes Acquisitions Fund

For any inquiries contact:
Timothy J. Johnson, Curator
612-626-3552 or johnst976@tc.umn.edu

Sherlock Solo
By Timothy Johnson and Gary Thaden, with contributions from Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections

Sherlock Solo: An Original Presentation by the Master Detective, written and performed by Victor L. Cahn, opened on January 10, 2008 at Theatre Row’s Kirk Theatre in New York City. Since this was the 80th Birthday Weekend, a number of interested Sherlockians were in the audience that evening. For several of those attendees, their interest didn’t end with the conclusion of the performance.

Timothy Johnson — “When I first found my seat and saw the sparse set, I was a little apprehensive of what was in store. But it turned out to be just right. It was an intimate setting, perfect in my mind for what followed. The staging was that of a small lecture
in May of 1908 The Flag was published by The Daily Mail for the Union Jack Club. Included in this anthology was Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's contribution of "The Grey Dress — Unpublished Dialogue from A Duet.

The Sherlock Holmes Collections has Dr. Philip S. Henshaw's copy of The Flag. It is unique, as it was bound by W.H. Smith and Son, 186 Strand, London, in full calf, with gift extras and top edge gilt. A London book dealer's note dated August 17, 1959 has its price listed as £1/1/-. This book raises several interesting questions. What is the Union Jack Club? When did Doyle write this unpublished dialogue from A Duet? How did it end up in The Flag and where else was it published?

The Union Jack Club still exists as a residential London club for members of the British Armed Services. Ethel McCaul, a Royal Red Cross nurse who served in field hospitals during the Boer War, got the idea of a club to help servicemen and their families. Funds were raised in 1904 and the cornerstone was laid by The Prince of Wales. In July 1904 the club was opened officially by King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra at Waterloo Road.

We know that Conan Doyle had several connections to the Union Jack Club, even before the publication of The Flag. His 1902 pamphlet, The War in South Africa: Its Cause and Conduct raised money for several causes including the Union Jack Club. That pamphlet and the publicity campaign were thought to be primarily responsible for his knighthood. He wrote his mother in 1902 that he 'spoke for the Union Jack Club (for soldiers & sailors in London). Afterwards Lord Strathcona gave 1000 pounds and said my speech had made him do so.' In February 1903 he attended a gala evening and donated 100 pounds for a Lady Conan Doyle Dinner.

In another fundraising drive for the Union Jack Club, Sir Arthur Edward Ward invited famous authors and distinguished artists to make contributions for a publication, and Major H. F. Trippel edited The Flag. In an editorial it was claimed that The Flag was published for no expense. The works of authors and artists, and the engraving and paper were generously donated. The one shilling price went entirely to the club. It appeared on Empire Day and was on sale throughout the empire, distributed as free carriage by several great steamship companies.

A Duet With Occasional Chorus was written in 1898 and published in 1899. In the recently published A Conan Doyle: A Life in Letters we learn that in a 1908 letter to his mother Conan Doyle lists his work for 1907-1908 as "a very busy year to include, 'two Duet sketches, one Sherlock Holmes (a long one), The Pot of Caviare 'The Silver Mirror' and a good deal of writing, no little reading and tinkering of plays.' One of those Duet sketches was 'The Grey Dress' which was printed in The Flag. Jack Tracy published a Conan Doyle Centennial Series with A Duet appearing in 1990. Peter E. Blau wrote an afterword in October 1983. Blau explained that two additional chapters were added and the chapter 'A Thundercloud' was edited in the 1990th edition. In 1983, it was not known if the two chapters were written in 1898 or ten years later in 1908. Blau speculated that they could have been omitted from the first edition but was tempted to suggest that at the time of Doyle's marriage to Jean Leckie he had turned to the book again.

Smith, Eder and Company published the Tenth Edition Newly Revised on April 26, 1910. It included two added chapters, 'The Grey Dress' and 'A Discord.' It is easy now to speculate that Doyle wrote this Sherlockian new chapter and married and invited to contribute to The Flag writes a scene of husband and wife selecting a book, and Doyle in his new chapter, insight, perhaps autobiographical, then using the dialogue to add to a favorite work for his new publisher. The bound manuscripts for A Duet was auctioned by Christie's in London in 2003. A review of the manuscript indicates that the two chapters were not included in the bound manuscript which was presented as a gift to Jean Leckie.

In a February 1902 letter by Doyle to his mother he wrote, 'is it not strange how fate works. There is no question that had it not been for my dear Jean I should have gone to India this year. In that case I could not have done this, which is the greatest public work of my life -- one which is enough to justify my whole life. This alone is enough to show that this is a high & heaven-sent thing, this love of ours, since such high things have sprung directly from us. First the Duet and then this Pamplette have come strait from our union, while there is no line which it has interfered with. Arts & Sciences & all which it has ever prevented me from doing. From our union, while there is no line which it has ever prevented me from doing.'

Doyle was able to finally marry Jean Leckie on September 18, 1907. He wrote in A Duet in 1898, "Deep down in my soul I knew that I should marry you." 100 years ago, in 1908, he was finally settled in Windlesham with the second Lady Conan Doyle.

When I attended my first BSI dinner on January 9, 1900, I brought along the 1st S&H edition of the Doubleday Compiler that my mother had given me when I graduated from junior high school in January 1904, and during that time I circulated among the (ultimately) modest number of folks present and asked if they would sign the book’s end papers. Everyone did. So just now I took that volume down from my Holmes bookcase and checked. The first person whose name appears is: Basil Davenport H&W Starr Page Heldenbrand. And some of the others names to be found on that page: Edgar W Smith, Thomas McDade, Rex Stout, Lew D. Feldman, Ernest Zinder, and Howard Hayscraft.

If you know anything about Heldenbrand, please contact me at the address listed on that page: Yates W. Smith, Thomas McDade, Rex Stout, Lew D. Feldman, Ernest Zinder, and Howard Hayscraft.

It would take only a paragraph to summarize the personal and professional facts, even if unwilling, that are known about Heldenbrand, as compared to the people I contacted. We have his writings as his legacy, but it seems more should be known about the "doyen-doyen Old Irregular," this very young man in the Navy uniform. We can Google, and we can Google the federal census and other genealogy sites, but Heldenbrand remains a mystery of a mystery. The Greek Interpreters would certainly like to know more about the man who helped start their society. The "Old Irregulars" are gone now, and it is only with effort and cooperation that we can hope to learn more about many of these people who helped to shape our common interest.
Sherlock Solo... Continued from Page 1

hall, but like any good lecture, I was drawn into the telling of a tale, with side-bars here and digressions there, but always back to the main event of the evening, the telling of a tale for which the world (until that point) had not yet been ready. Here was a believable Holmes, someone competent with a violin and knowledgeable of music, whose stature and bearing made it possible to suspend any doubts that I was spending an evening with the Master Holmes's dramatic abilities were evident as he switched between the various characters of his tale, as he moved with ease to various spots on stage, and as he gave us another insight into his life. What we saw was a full-bodied Holmes, with glimpses of at least some of the facets of a life we have come to appreciate, on both page and stage.

Andrew Peck, BSI — “It was incredible that he could remember 90 or so minutes of dialogue. The idea of Holmes in retirement telling an audience about one of his cases was an interesting way to present the play.”

Jerry Wach, BSI — “Not knowing what to expect I was pleasantly surprised when early in the presentation he was factually accurate. After his discussion, I realized he had done his homework and was very pleased. So often we hear from actors who don’t know anything about their subject.”

Timothy Johnson — “Victor Cahn was extremely gracious in accepting my request; there was never a hint of ‘no’ in his answer. Just the opposite. Less than a month after the script arrived, complete with autograph, an additional sheet of credits, and a delightful cover letter. It is just the kind of item that Shaw would have treasured as a unique addition to his collection. For me, it was a testament to our continuing desire to carry on Shaw’s collecting legacy, full of the joy and pleasure that comes with collecting, and appreciative of the many people, like Victor L. Cahn, who give such collecting a personal and pleasurable twist.”

Author and Actor Victor Cahn received his AB from Columbia, and his MA and PhD from New York University. In a letter regarding his donation, Cahn wrote “I’ve always been a Holmes fan, and when I was a boy read the entire canon. It’s been many years since I’ve done more than view the television shows, but I do remember one thing very clearly: I did not want to let the character go, so I turned out this piece (in 2006). The premiere was the presentation that you would perform the script before a few friends locally, but the NY production, Jan 10-3 Feb 2008, was the first production.

Cahn has written a number of plays, including several which were produced off-Broadway. They include Fit to Kill, Roses in December, Embraceable Me, and Sheephead/Bottom of the Ninth. He is also the author of Beyond Absurdity: The Plays of Tom Stoppard, Gender and Power in the Plays of Harold Pinter, Shakespeare the Playwright, A Companion to the Complete Tragedies, Histories, Comedies and Romances, and The Plays of Shakespeare, A Thematic Guide.

Y E A R S A G O

Fifty years ago, Baker Street Irregular Page Heldenbrand published a small booklet titled “Holy Days from the Sacred Writings,” subtitled “a pocket reminder for the devout Sherlockian.” It listed the Canonical occurrences on the appropriate dates of the month throughout the year. The booklet was published by Applestone Towers Letter Press, New York, on the occasion of the 27th of December, with “Compliments of the Season” expressed to the readers. The Sherlock Holmes Collections holds John Bennett Shaw’s copy. Heldenbrand short closing note reads:

These fixed points in our unchanging Sherlockian age may be disputed by the heretical chronologist who flous the basic dictum: when you have eliminated the improbable, whatever remains, however impossible, must be the truth.

What do we know about Page Heldenbrand, he who had such disdain for the heretical chronologist? The answer we know very little, and should know more.

His father, Howard Van West Heldenbrand, was born in Rock County, Wisconsin on May 16, 1888, and his family moved to Ohio where Page’s grandfather Howard F. Heldenbrand worked in the hotel business. Sometime between 1910 and 1915 they relocated from Ohio to Ann Arbor Michigan where Howard W. worked at the Hotel Whitney. By 1920, Howard W. was a hotel proprietor and Howard V. a hotel clerk in Pontiac, Michigan.

Bill Babets 1961 San Who 5-6-5 Who 5-6-5-5-5 What has a short listing for Page Heldenbrand, which indicates he was born in 1927. The census records his father Howard W. as a butler and manager living in Pontiac, Michigan with his wife, Margaret, and two-year-old son Howard P., whom we know as Page.

We don’t know anything else about him until 1945. Jon Lellenberg’s Irregular Proceedings of the Mid Forties notes that Two Baker Street Abnormoms: The Strange Case of Colonel Moran was published in 1945 for the Sherlock Holmes Society of Akron. It was written by Clifton Andrews and Page Heldenbrand and dedicated to W. E. W. Smith as a “piece of lagniappe for the BSI Dinner” as a favor to Clifton R. Andrews and a corresponding member of Andrew’s Akron, Ohio, scion eighteen-year-old Page Heldenbrand, a student at Michigan State. Both authors were present at the January 3, 1945 BSI Dinner.

The website for the Greek Interpreters of East Lansing, Michigan provides the history of their scion and Heldenbrand role in the formation it states:

On Monday, April 15, 1945, a full-dozen students and the professor of their English literature class at Michigan State College in East Lansing, MI took the momentous step of forming the first “taxo-society,” or offshoot of the Baker Street Irregulars of New York, in the U.S.— and the first academically based scion. Prof. Robert P. Adams had been a member of the Scandalous Bohemians of Akron and assigned The Adventurers of Sherlock Holmes to his class— one of the students, Page Heldenbrand, likewise being a Scandalous Bohemian. The first report of the new scion society in the Baker Street Journal (Vol. 1, No. 3, Oct, September, 1946) described both these heady beginnings and a subsequent state of hibernation. The group met between April and June, 1945, but the fall semester found Prof. Adams on leave to pursue research off campus, “Chief Interpreter” Heldenbrand had graduated and enlisted in the Navy (Editor’s Note: If Heldenbrand graduated from Michigan State in 1946, he would have been only 19 at the time). The main fruit of those early meetings was a Sherlockian pastiche, “The Singular Affair of Mr. Philip Folk,” which was duly published by the brewery, “by the Greek Interpreters of East Lansing, compiled by Page Heldenbrand,” in the Baker Street Journal of March, 1947.

The pastiche draws heavily on events of the just-finished World War.

Heldenbrand was also present at the January 11, 1946 BSI Dinner. The dinner photo, reproduced in Jon Lellenberg’s Irregular Proceedings of the Mid Forties, shows Heldenbrand posing in his U.S. Navy uniform. While serving in the Navy, Heldenbrand wrote a letter to The Honorable Harry S. Truman on June 24, 1946. The letter is part of the transcriptions of “The Scandalous Bohemians” which lists Heldenbrand as a member under the category Partypuns Comics, along with Christopher M., St. Thomas, Vincent Stumet, and Anthony Boucher. Heldenbrand lists his return address as the University Research (CBY-42), c/o Flint Post Office, New York, New York. He begins his letter by stating:

“I have been burning myself for failing to pay my irregular complements while you were aboard in April — on the anniversary of the Sherlock Holmes gins encounter with Dr. Gregory Foyt of Stote Mor.” The letter concludes with “Your letter accept- ing congratulations by mail, “in appreciation of the Baker Street Irregulars at real our January meeting in the Murray Hill hotel, and your statement to the effect that you had read all of the Sherlock Holmes novels before you were twelve years old was regarded as distinctly singular — and certainly novel — since the last of the Sherlockian novels was not published until 1915. It was remarked that either you were perhaps guilty of a slight fakirs past, or else that you were somewhat younger than is generally believed.” He signed his letter, “With best Irregular regards, I am Yours very respectfully, Partychronicles (H. P. Heldenbrand 9/3/1946)

This letter is now held in the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum in Independence, Missouri.

Two journal issues in 1948 indicate he had returned to Michigan. Volume 3, number 1 notes “Since his discharge from the Navy, he has resided in Pontiac, Michigan” and number 3 describes him as “the Pontiac constable.”

Continued on page 7
Acquisitions

Olm Bjughaug donated a recording of the late Ely Liebow discussing Dr. Joe Hill. The recording was done for the University of the Air broadcast on April 8, 2007, on Wisconsin Public Radio.

Len Haffenden, the editor of the newsletter of The Stormy Pearls off £C., contributed back issues of The Pen and Pencil and has added The Sherlock Holmes Collections to their mailing list. He also sent copies of a few words from our publishing arm, Hansom Press Ltd., plus a few other oddities.

Jens Sylven Jensen donated a large number of items from his native Denmark. Included in the donation were the manuscripts, both in Danish and English, of ‘Baker Street — Once Again’ as well as several other of his writings. The Sherlock Holmes Kihlen Danmark is well represented as the The

Musings

Im Johnson and Gary Thaden have compiled our lead article about the autographed script of Sherlock Sol: An Original Presentation by the Master Detective, which was written and performed by Victor Cahn. It was an enjoyable evening for the attendees. In their times, “I am opportunity to continue to grow the collection, to add something new.” Our thanks to those Friends who contributed their reactions to the play and to Cahn for donating the signed script.

From the President

I hope that everyone has either sent in their 2008 Friends membership donation, or will do so soon. In the last Friends newsletter mailing you received a letter and a remittance envelope. If you have any questions or concerns please let me know. I was in the audience for Victor L. Cabris Sherlock Sol in January. I am especially proud that he was able to donate the unpublished manuscript to the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota. I only wish that every theatrical production using the Sherlock Holmes character would consider helping us preserve the ephemeral items: scripts, posters, tickets, advertising, reviews and sound or video recordings.

I received an email from Dr. Robert Katz who had read Michael Kean’s article about the Master Class Archives being donated to The Sherlock Holmes Collections. He reported that his Sherlockian career had started with that same society. Bob Katz then sent me some items that he wanted to donate to the collection. I am always moved by the generosity of Sherlockians who want to see The Sherlock Holmes Collections grow and become the World Center for the study of Sherlock Holmes.

Thanks to everyone for their monetary and material donations to The Sherlock Holmes Collections. He and is a collection of the writings of the members of The Five Orange Pips. Vizlly na Baker Street, the recently published Czech translation of Master in Baker Street, has been added to the Sherlock Holmes Collections. Jon Lellenberg, who edited the book along with Martin Greenberg and Daniel Stashower, donated this 2007 translation. The book was originally published in 2001.

The Norwegian Explorers contributed the recent booklist published in recognition of their 60th anniversary. It was edited and compiled by Gary Thaden, president of the Explorers, and Jacki Miesner.

In addition, recent issues of Scuttlebut from the Sporrenmølle, the February The Police Gazette, Communication No. 279, The District Mewong and The Whaling News have been added to the Collections.

One of those rounds has been the rather interesting project of updating Ronald B. De Wolfe’s material Sherlock Holmes bibliography, in the form of what we call, in shorthand, The Supplement. I’ve noted in the introduction to this work, now posted on our website at http://special.lib.unm.edu/zahns/holmes html in both the portable document format (PDF), that this bibliographic work is in progress, does not claim to be exhaustive in content, that new works are continually discovered and added, and that readers and researchers are invited to suggest additional content. I have worked on this project for at least a year and there’s still much to do. I’ve been aided by Peter Blau, Les Klinger, Fred Levin, Don Hobbs, and others of you who have sent in suggested items for inclusion. Randall Stock and Gary Thaden offered helpful suggestions on improving the structure and form of the bibliography. It has been a joyful, collaborative effort. Thank you for the assistance you’ve offered.

Generally speaking, I update the bibliography every month, adding about two hundred periodical citations and another hundred monograph citations. All told, there are now about 6,100 citations covering the periods 1891 to the present. The bibliography is organized both alphabetically by author and by subject headings. A gradual effort is being made to bring the bibliographic entry into conformity with the organizational structure of De Waal’s original work, using his subject structure. Also, since last August, I’ve posted monthly updates on the website so that researchers and interested parties can see, at a glance, what has been added each month. As of January, these updates include both book and periodical article additions. One major difference between the original bibliography and this supplement is that I’ve tried to capture the ‘passing references’ to Doyle and Holmes as well as the core materials. One might argue whether or not this is a worthy addition, but I’ve found it very interesting to see how the Master and the Literary Agent “pop up” in the general literature of our times. And I believe this will be of some use in future research. It provides evidence of how Holmes as a cultural icon is deeply embedded in the word and thought of modern times.

The bibliography continues to expand. At the moment, and with the help of Don Hobbs’s “Galactic Sherlock Holmes” bibliography of non-English translations of the Canon (and OCLC’s WorldCat), more and more foreign material is being added. The Chinese material alone will probably occupy most of a coming month’s addition. On top of that, I am contemplating creating another volume, with a separate listing of audio-visual material. I have already identified over a thousand entries, which are sitting in my database awaiting editing. Also, I have a large stack of materials provided by Karen Murdock on the icon societies that will occupy some of my time. And I continue to work my way through past issues of Scuttlebut from the Sporrenmølle to make sure I’m not missing anything (I’m now up to 1999). No doubt, other material will come my way in the near future that will be suitable for incorporation into the bibliography. I am also trying to go back and read (or skim) as much of the core material as possible, in order to provide a more complete impact of the article or book listed. This is a little more time consuming, but provides any number of pleasurable hours on the bus to and from work, or at home near the fire. I invite you to look at, and to use, this bibliographic supplement in your research and writing. And I’m always open to suggestions on how it might be improved.

When I’ve not been playing around with the Supplement, I’ve enjoyed getting out and about (or planning such gatherings in the future) and meeting with fellow travelers (or those with an interest in Holmes and the Collections). My time at the Birthday Festivities in New York, always a high-light of the year, was very enjoyable. This year seemed somewhat special, with the chance to have some longer, extended conversations with many of you, be it in the lobby of the Algonquin or over a meal. Thank you for your contributions to the work of the Sherlock Holmes Collections and our work. Before we know it, Spring will be here!

Finally, my continued thanks for the many gifts you continue to give to the Collections and our associated funds and endowments. Your giving brings us closer to our goal of an endowed curator’s position and sustains the ongoing work of the Collections. May you find joy in the remaining clear cold days of Winter and in the expectations of Spring.

Tim Johnson

An Update from the Collections

In summer it is a favourite resort of the people, but in winter it is desolate enough.” (VALL)

The land of ten thousand lakes has been added to the Sherlock Holmes Collections. He has been added to the Spermacetti Press, the February The Police Gazette, Communication No. 279, The District Mewong and The Whaling News have been added to the Collections.

Richard J. Steurm, MD, BSI

Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections
Acquisitions

Olaf Berggreen donated a recording of the late Ely Liebow discussing Dr. Joe Bell. The recording was done for the University of the Air broadcast on April 8, 2007, on Wisconsin Public Radio.

Len Halldén, the editor of the newsletter of The Stormy Petrels of E.C., contributed back issues of The Petrel Flyer and has added The Sherlock Holmes Collections to their mailing list. He also sent copies of a few works from our publishing arm, Hamson Press Ltd., plus a few other odd items.

Jens Byk-Jensen donated a large number of items from his native Denmark. Included in the donation were the manuscripts, both in Danish and English, of Baker Street — Once Again as well as several other of his writings. The Sherlock Holmes Kbhavn Danmark is well represented as are The Cambrian Friends of Baker Street. A newspaper article featuring Jens and his interest in Holmes was also contributed. As the Danes say, Det var dejligt.

Bob Katz recently sent his certificate for "The Master Class, of Philadelphia" to the Holmes Collections. The certificate was signed on January 6, 1939, by the editors of this science fiction society.

Hugo Koch continues his practice of forwarding copies of his latest writings to the Holmes Collections. The Real "Man with the Twisted Lip" Francis Thompson was added to his previous donations. This booklet is subtitled “Some Observations Upon the Extra-Canonical Source and Model for TWs with remarks upon “The Hound of Heaven” and “… A hound of hell.”" Emory Lee contributed a copy of The Best of the Pips. The volume was published in 1995.

and is a collection of the writings of the members of The Five Orange Pips. Valentyn na Baker Street, the recently published Czech translation of Master in Baker Street, has been added to the Sherlock Holmes Collections. Jon Lellenberg, who edited the book along with Martin Greenberg and Daniel Staufer, donated this 2007 translation. The book was originally published in 2001.

The Norwegian Explorers contributed the recent booklet published in recognition of their 60th anniversary. It was edited and compiled by Gary Thaden, president of the Explorers, and Julie McKuras.

In addition, recent issues of Sletternett from the Spormaceti Press, the February The Police Gazette, Communication No. 279, The District Messenger and The Whaling News have been added to the collections.

One of those rounds has been the rather interesting project of updating Ronald B. De Weerd's material Sherlock Holmes bibliography, in the form of what we call, in shorthand, The Supplement. I've noted in the introduction to this work, now posted on our website at http://special.lib.umn.edu/rare/holmes_Supplement.html, that this bibliographic work is in progress, does not claim to be exhaustive in content, that new works are continually discovered and added, and that readers and researchers are invited to suggest additional content. I have worked on this project for at least a year and there's still much to add. I've been aided by Peter Blau, Les Klinger, Fred Levin, Don Hobbs, and by you, the people who have sent in suggested items for inclusion. Randall Stock and Gary Thaden offered helpful suggestions on improving the structure and form of the bibliography. It has been a joyous, collaborative effort. Thank you for the assistance you've offered.

I'm also trying to go back and read (or skim) as much of the core material as possible, in order to provide an update of the article or book listed. This is a little more time consuming, but provides any number of pleasurable hours on the bus to and from work, or at home near the fire. I invite you to look at, and use, this bibliographic supplement in your research and writing. And I'm always open to suggestions on how it might be improved.

Finally, my continued thanks for the many gifts you continue to give to the Collections and to the Sherlock Holmes icon is deeply embedded in the word and thought of modern times.

The bibliography continues to expand. At the moment, and with the help of Don Hobbs's Galactic Sherlock Holmes bibliography of non-English translations of the Canon (and OCLC's WorldCat), more and more foreign material is being added. The Chinese material alone will probably occupy most of a coming month's addition. On top of that, I am contemplating creating another volume, with a separate listing of audio-visual material. I have already identified over a thousand entries, which are sitting in my database. I can see, at a glance, what has been added and what might be improved.

I continue to work my way through the bulk of the Sherlock Holmes Collections and it is a challenge to have some University women about the Algonquin or over a meal. Thank you for the...
hall, but like any good lecture, I was drawn into the telling of a tale, with side-bar here and digressions there, but always back to the main event of the evening, the telling of a tale for which the world (until that point) had not yet been ready. Here was a believable Holmes, someone competent with a violin and knowledgeable of music, whose stature and bearing made it possible to suspend any doubts that I was spending an evening with the Master Holmes’ dramatic abilities were evident as he switched between the various characters of his tale, as he moved with ease to various spots on stage, and as he gave us another insight into his life. What we saw was a full-bodied Holmes, with glimpses of at least some of the facets of a life we have come to appreciate, on both page and stage.

Andrew Peck, BSI — “It was incredible that he could remember 90 or so minutes of dialog. The idea of Holmes in retirement telling an audience about one of his cases was an interesting way to present the play.”

Jerry Wach, BSI — “Not knowing what to expect I was pleasantly surprised when early in the presentation he was factually accurate in his discussion. I realized he had done his homework and was very pleased. So often we hear from actors who don’t know anything about their subject.”

Timothy Johnson — “Victor Cahn was extremely gracious in accepting my request; there was never a hint of ‘no’ in his answer. Just the opposite. Less than a month after the script arrived, complete with autograph, an additional sheet of credits, and a delightful cover letter. It is just the kind of item that Shaw would have treasured as a unique addition to his collection. For me, it was a testament to our continuing desire to carry on Shaw’s collecting legacy, full of the joy and pleasure that comes with collecting, and appreciative of the many people, like Victor L. Cahn, who give such collecting a personal and pleasurable twist.”

Author and Actor Victor Cahn received his AB from Columbia, and his MA and PhD from New York University. In a letter regarding his donation, Cahn wrote “I’ve always been a Holmes fan, and when I was a boy read the entire Canon, then reread it over the years. When I had a chance to portray Holmes in a script called The West End Horror, based upon the novel by Nicholas Meyer, I had such a good time that I didn’t want to let the character go, so I turned out this piece (in 2008). The premiere was the presentation that you could perform the script before a few friends locally, but the NY production, Jan 10–Feb 3 2008, was the first production.

Cahn has written a number of plays, including several which were produced off-Broadway. They include Fit to Kill, Roses in December, Embraceable Me, and Shepheard/Bottom of the Ninth. He is also the author of Beyond Abstraction: The Plays of Tom Stoppard, Gender and Power in the Plays of Harold Pinter, Shakespeare the Playwright, A Companion to the Complete Tragedies, Histories, Comedies and Romances, and The Plays of Shakespeare, A Thematic Guide.

Timothy Johnson — “Victor Cahn was extremely gracious in accepting my request; there was never a hint of ‘no’ in his answer. Just the opposite. Less than a month after the script arrived, complete with autograph, an additional sheet of credits, and a delightful cover letter. It is just the kind of item that Shaw would have treasured as a unique addition to his collection. For me, it was a testament to our continuing desire to carry on Shaw’s collecting legacy, full of the joy and pleasure that comes with collecting, and appreciative of the many people, like Victor L. Cahn, who give such collecting a personal and pleasurable twist.”

Author and Actor Victor Cahn received his AB from Columbia, and his MA and PhD from New York University. In a letter regarding his donation, Cahn wrote “I’ve always been a Holmes fan, and when I was a boy read the entire Canon, then reread it over the years. When I had a chance to portray Holmes in a script called The West End Horror, based upon the novel by Nicholas Meyer, I had such a good time that I didn’t want to let the character go, so I turned out this piece (in 2008). The premiere was the presentation that you could perform the script before a few friends locally, but the NY production, Jan 10–Feb 3 2008, was the first production.

Cahn has written a number of plays, including several which were produced off-Broadway. They include Fit to Kill, Roses in December, Embraceable Me, and Shepheard/Bottom of the Ninth. He is also the author of Beyond Abstraction: The Plays of Tom Stoppard, Gender and Power in the Plays of Harold Pinter, Shakespeare the Playwright, A Companion to the Complete Tragedies, Histories, Comedies and Romances, and The Plays of Shakespeare, A Thematic Guide.

We don’t know anything else about him until 1945. Jon Lellenberg’s Irregular Proceedings of the Mid Forties notes that Two Baker Street Astonishments: The Strange Case of Colonel Moran was published in 1945 for the Sherlock Holmes Society of Akron. It was written by Clifton Andrews and Page Heldenbrand. Page forwarded a copy of Smith as a “piece of knapsack for the BSI Dinner” as a favor to Clifton R. Andrew — and a corresponding member of Andrews, Akron, O. synon society, eighteen-year-old Page Heldenbrand, a student at Michigan State. “Both authors were present at the January 5, 1945 BSI Dinner.

The website for the Greek Interpreters of East Lansing, Michigan provides the history of their scion and Heldenbrand role in the formation. It states:

On Monday, April 15, 1945, a full–dozen students and the professor of their English literature class at Michigan State College in East Lansing, MI took the momentous step of forming the fifth “saxony” society, or offshoot of the Baker Street Irregulars of New York, in the U.S. — and the first academically based sax. Prof. Robert P. Adams had been a member of the Scandalous Bohemians of Akron and assigned The Admirers of Sherlock Holmes to his class — one of the students, Page Heldenbrand, likewise being a Scandalous Bohemian. The first report of the new scion society in the Baker Street Journal (Vol 1, No. 3 (Oct, September, 1946) described both these heady beginnings and a subsequent state of hibernation. The group met between April and June, 1945, but the fall semester found Prof. Adams on leave to pursue research off campus, “Chief Interpreter” Heldenbrand had graduated and enlisted in the Navy (Editor’s Note: If Heldenbrand graduated from Michigan in 1946, he would have been only 19 at the time.) The main fruit of those early meetings was a Sherlockian pastiche, “The Singular Affair of Mr. Philip Fox,” which was duly published with the byline, “by the Greek Interpreters of East Lansing, compiled by Page Heldenbrand” in the Baker Street Journal of March, 1947.

The pastiche draws heavily on events of the just-finished World War. Heldenbrand was also present at the January 11, 1946 BSI Dinner. The dinner photo, reproduced in Jon Lellenberg’s Irregular Proceedings of the Mid Forties shows Professor P. J. Bennett and a gentleman in his U.S. Navy uniform. While serving in the Navy, Heldenbrand wrote a letter to The Horatio Salter, S. T. Truman on June 24, 1945. The letter is part of the manuscript of “The Scandalous Bohemians” which lists Heldenbrand as a member under the category Parapsych Cimino, along with Chrisman Morley, M. Ph. Wooton, Vincent Starrett, and Anthony Boucher. Heldenbrand lists his return address as the University Research (V-92), c/o Flex Post Office, New York, New York. He begins his letter by stating, “I have been baring myself for failing to pay my irregular compliments while you were abroad in April – on the announcement, incidentally, of Sherlock Holmes’ grim encounter with Dr. Cremey’s body of Stokoe Moran.”

The letter concludes with “Your letter accepting Bowman’s bow was peremptory. The Baker Street Irregulars was real in our January meeting in the Murray Hill hotel, and your statement to the effect that you had read all of the Sherlock Holmes novels before you were twelve years old was regarded as distinctly singular – and certainly novel – since the last of the Sherlockian novels was not published until 1915. It was remarked that either you were perhaps guilty of a slight faux pas, or else that you were somewhat younger than is generally believed.” He signed his letter, “With best Irregular regards, I am Yours very respectfully, Page Heldenbrand (H. P. Heldenbrand SENIOR).”

This letter is now held in the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum in Independence, Missouri.

Two Journal issues in 1948 indicate he had returned to Michigan. Volume 3, number 3 notes “Since his discharge from the Navy, he has resided in Pontiac, Michigan.” and number 4 describes him as the Pontiac correspondent. Continued on page 7.
In May of 1908 the Flag was published by The Daily Mail for the Union Jack Club. Included in this anthology was Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s contribution of “The Grey Dress—Unpublished Dialogue from a Duet.” The Sherlock Holmes Collections has Dr. Philip S. Hench’s copy of The Flag. It is unique, as it was bound by W.H. Smith and Son, 186 Strand, London, in full calf, with gilt edges and top edge gilt. A London book dealer’s note dated August 17, 1959 has its price listed as £11. This book raises several interesting questions. What is the Union Jack Club? When did Doyle write this unpublished dialogue from A Duet? How did it end up in The Flag and where else was it published? The Union Jack Club still exists as a residential London club for members of the British Armed Services. Ethel McCauley, a Royal Red Cross nurse who served in field hospitals during the Boer War, got the idea of a club to help servicemen and their families. Funds were raised and in 1904 the cornerstone was laid on a plot at 91 Waterloo Road. The Flag was published in 1899. In the recently published Unpublished Dialogue from A Duet by Arthur Conan Doyle, a Life in Letters we learn that in a 1908 letter to his mother Conan Doyle lists his work for the year: “Two Duet sketches, one Sherlock Holmes (a long play), The Pot of Caviare [sic] The Silver Mirror and a good deal of playing.” One of those Duet sketches was “The Grey Dress” which was printed in The Flag.

Jack Tracy published a Conan Doyle Centennial Series with A Duet appearing in 1990. Peter E. Blau wrote the afterword in October 1983. Blau explained that there were two additional chapters added and the chapter “A Thundercloud” was edited in the 5oth edition. In 1983, it was not known if the two chapters were written in 1898 or ten years later in 1908. Blau speculated that they could have been omitted from the first edition but was tempted to suggest that at the time of Doyle’s marriage to Jean Leckie he had turned to the book again.

Smith, Elder and Company published the Tenth Edition Revised on April 26, 1910. It included two added chapters, “The Grey Dress” and “A Discord.” It is easy now to speculate that Doyle wrote these Duet sketches, newly married and invited to contribute to The Flag writes a scene of husband and wife selecting a new home, and insight, perhaps autobiographical, then using the dialogue to add to a favorite work for his new publisher. The bound manuscript for A Duet was auctioned by Christie’s in London in 2003. A review of the manuscript indicates that the two chapters were not included in the bound manuscript which was presented as a gift to Jean Leckie.

In a February 1902 letter by Doyle to his mother he wrote, “Is it not surprising how fate works? There is no question that it had not been for my dear [Jean] I should have gone to India this year. In that case I could not have done this, which is the greatest public work of my life—one which is enough to justify the life I have led. This alone is enough to show that this is a high and heaven-sent thing, this love of ours, such high things have sprung directly from us. First the Duet and then this Pamphlet have come straight from our union, while there is no line which is not tinged with the memory of it. It was, my soul and its emotions.” Doyle was able to finally marry Jean Leckie on September 18, 1907. As he wrote in a Duet in 1899, “Deep down in my soul I knew that I should marry you.” 100 years ago, in 1908, he was finally settled in Windlesham with the second Lady Conan Doyle.

References

Richard J. Swemax, MD, BSI

Arthur Conan Cona A Duet with an Occasional Gossip (Gaslight Publications 1900)


Green and Gibson, A Bibliography of A Conan Doyle (Hudson House 1990) http://www.ucyl.co.uk

50 Years Ago…Continued from Page 3

It would appear that sometime after 1948 he moved to New York City. In 1954, he published Heldenbrand’s Christmas Perennial. It was published by the Appleton Press, Letter Press New York and carries his forward written from New York. The copy held in the Sherlock Holmes Doyle collection is a note he wrote to follow Mitchell R. McLauchlin. He wrote “To Russ—It’s no Alfred Street but I don’t get no royalties, nice— Merry Christmas, Page.”

He continued his Sherlockian writings with the publication of “The Adventures of the Dead Detective” which was included in the 1959 Leaves from the Copper Beeches, and his activities with fellow Sherlockians at a number of the BSI dinners and Gillette luncheons of the 1950s and early 1960s. The March 1961 Baker Street Journal notes that “The Irregular song, by James Montgomery, was played by Page Heldenbrand . . . at the BSI dinner.”

A letter written by Heldenbrand to Russell McLauchlin in June 1962 carries a return address sticker for “The Family Circle, Inc., 25 W 65th St., New York 36 N.Y.” Its possible that he was working for the magazine in a copyediting position at that time. Three years later, the December 1965 Baker Street Journal carried his “Stand with me here upon the terrace . . . noting that “Heldenbrand was ‘no longer with us, and although he was comparatively young, we have lost a dear old friend.’” There is no date of death listed for him. Two Baker Street Journals carry his photo in issues Heldenbrand published after his death. The September 1967 issue has a photo taken at the rehearsal of “The Adventures of the Black Baron” television program starring Basil Rathbone. The September 1968 issue contains a photo of the 1952 William Gillette Luncheon, with Heldenbrand in attendance.

One of the people contacted in an effort to learn more about Heldenbrand was Don Yates BSI. Don played an important role in the Greek Interpreters of East Lansing, bringing it back from the brink of Reichenbach in 1960 and directing its activities from that year until his retirement from the University of Minnesota in 2003. A review of the manuscript indicates that the two chapters were not included in the bound manuscript which was presented as a gift to Jean Leckie. His membership and activities with The Amateur Mercurian Society of Detroit are also recorded.

They are also recorded. The University of Minnesota is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Educator. It would take only a paragraph to summarize the personal and professional facts, even if unsettled, that are known about Heldenbrand. It would go to the people I contacted. We have his writings as his legacy, but it seems more should be known about the “dopey-olde Old Irregular,” this very young man in the Navy uniform. We can Google, and we can check the federal census and other genealogy sites, but Heldenbrand remains the last clue of a mystery. The Greek Interpreters would certainly like to know more about the man who helped start their society. The “Old Irregulars” are gone now and it is only with effort and cooperation that we can hope to learn more about many of these people who helped to shape our current interest. If you know anything about Heldenbrand, please contact me at the contact address listed.

Continued on page 8
ed in this newsletter. As Holmes said to Watson, “…somewhere a clue, a strange sentence, a curious observa-…” (LADY) may help us learn more about Page Heldenbrand. My thanks to Don Yates, Jon Lellenberg and Charles Press for their assistance.

Remembrances

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

In Honor Of
Louis and Eileen Gottwald
Charles and Margaret Henry
Sandy Kozin
C. Paul Martin, M.D.
Julie McKuras
Julie McKuras
Max McKuras
Austin McLean
Gary-Ann Pitzwald
Audrey Rubin’s quick recovery

In Memory Of
Susan Beasley
Richard Lancelyn Green
Richard Lancelyn Green
Raymond “Vic” and Joy Holly
S. Allen Mackler
S. Allen Mackler
E. W. McDiarmid
E. W. McDiarmid
Robert Patrick
Mary Schultz
Philip Sherman
Paul Smedegaard
Paul Smedegaard
Paul Smedegaard
Paul Smedegaard
Jan Stauber
Francine Swift
Francine Swift
Newt and Lilian Williams
Dr. Benson Wood

References
1910 Federal Census
1920 Federal Census
1930 Federal Census
The Greek Interpreter of Lening website
http://www.cem.msu.edu/~reusch/SHolmes/3854.htm

Donations

With our December issue of this newsletter, we send out a remittance envelope for annual contributions. However, several people have asked recently where to send donations if they don’t have the envelope, or want to make a special contribution. Donations should be forwarded to: Sherlock Holmes Collections — University of Minnesota Libraries
CM 3854
PO Box 70870
St. Paul MN 55170-3854

Checks should be made payable to the University of Minnesota Foundation. Gifts may also be charged to VISA, Discover, American Express, and Mastercard. Please indicate your account number, expiration date of the card and include your signature.

You may note that the donation is given in honor or memory of someone and note their name, and if there is a person to be informed, their address.

Also, you may indicate if you want to direct your donation to a particular fund. You may choose the E. W. McDiarmid Curator Fund for the Sherlock Holmes Collections, the John Bennett Shaw Sherlock Holmes Fund, or the Rench Sherlock Holmes Acquisitions Fund.

For any inquiries contact:
Timothy J. Johnson, Curator
612-624-3552 or
johns976@tc.umn.edu

Sherlock Solo

By Timothy Johnson and Gary Thaden, with contributions from Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections

Sherlock Solo: An Original Presentation by the Master Detective, written and performed by Victor L. Cahn, opened on January 10, 2008 at Theatre Row’s Kirk Theatre in New York City. Since this was the BSI Birthday Weekend, a number of interested Sherlockians were in the audience that evening. For several of those attendees, their interest didn’t end with the conclusion of the performance.

Timothy Johnson — “When I first found my seat and saw the sparse set, I was a little apprehensive of what was in store. But it turned out to be just right. It was an intimate setting, perfect in my mind for what followed. The staging was that of a small lecture hall in the style of a small lecture hall in the style of a small lecture hall. And it was a turn on, a turn on for the audience. And it was a turn on, a turn on for the audience.

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)

“Your merits should be publicly recognized” (STUD)