

# Sherlock Holmes



"Your merits should be publicly recognized" (STUD)

# Contents

Cartographer Royal of the BSI

100 Years Ago

50 Years Ago

From the President

Acquisitions

An Update from the Collections

*Using the Collections* 

Season's Greetings from Julian Wolff, M.D.

> Sherlock Holmes and the Law

> > Musings 8

Remembrances

# Cartographer Royal of the BSI

By Jon Lellenberg, B.S.I.

have fallen in with Dr. Julian Wolff," wrote Edgar W. Smith to Vincent Starrett on March 7, 1940, "who made a couple of neat little maps of spots in the stories about a year ago, and he is doing a bang-up job with London, England, the Continent and the world — creations that will be well worth framing and hanging."

In this offhand way, Smith introduced the man who 20 years later would be his successor as Commissionaire of the Baker Street Irregulars and editor of the Baker Street Journal. Wolff, a short, balding New York physician born in 1905, was a specialist in work-related injuries, and a bibliophile, sports fan, clubman, and amateur cartographer

and herald. Wolff came to Smith's attention, we presume, after ordering a copy of his Appointment in Baker Street, published the year before. In any event, his mapmaking was added to Smith's next product, the Baker Street Gazetteer produced by Smith's indefatigable combing of the Canon for geographic citations.

By the end of the year Smith added Wolff to the BSI's ranks in which he himself, at that moment, was but the new and not yet wellknown Buttons. "I have added two names to the official membership list which I inherited from you," he told Christopher Morley on November 8, 1940, "H. W. Bell . . . and Dr. Julian Wolff, whose notable Sherlockian maps qualify him, I think, beyond any suspicion of a doubt for membership."

# An Irregular Quarterly of Sherlockiana Editor: JOHN M. LINSENMEYER



### THE BAKER STREET IRREGULARS **NEW YORK**

The cover of the December 1979 issue of The Baker Street Journal dedicated to Julian Wolff, drawing by Henry Lauritzen.

Continued on page 6

#### A G O YEARS

One hundred years ago, in July 1902, "The Bound of the Astorbilts," by Charlton Andrews, appeared in the pages of The Bookman. While not as memorable as the work it parodied, the story remarkably appeared within two months of publication of the finalé of The Hound of the Baskervilles in the May 1902 issue of the New York edition of the Strand Magazine. Beginning in July 1901, The Bookman editors had been among the first to trumpet the impending arrival of the serialized Hound of the Baskervilles, and, when installments appeared, they speculated publicly about possible solutions to the case, sparking numerous letters to the editors espousing alternative theories. The Bookman's editor also chimed in on the Fletcher Robinson-Conan Doyle co-authorship controversy, declaring in October 1901, after reading the opening chapters of The Hound of the Baskervilles in the previous month's Strand Magazine, that "Dr. Doyle's share of the collaboration was a very small one." Andrews echoed this view in his comic tale, his narrator concluding:

> As I gazed, from far out upon the moor there came the deep, unearthly baying of a gigantic hound. Weirdly it rose and fell in blood-curdling intensity until the inarticulate sound gradually shaped itself into this perfectly distinguishable wail: 'I wonder how much of it Robinson wrote?"

The Bookman, a magazine occasionally subtitled "A Review of Books and Life," was first published in 1895, when, the public believed, Sherlock Holmes had perished. Conceived as an American companion to the successful London Bookman, it was aimed at the general public as well as the book trade and originated the publication of "best seller" lists. At one point, H. L. Mencken termed it "the best literary monthly the U.S. has ever seen."

The Bookman's first Doylean tidbit appeared in the March 1895 issue, which briefly mentioned Dr. Arthur Conan Doyle as among the most highly-paid writers in England and the United States. Included in that elite company, according to literary agent A. P. Watt, were "Mr. Harte, Mr. Besant, Mr. Haggard, Anthony Hope, ...Annie Swan, Olive Schreiner, Mrs. Clifford, Mrs. Craigie, and Mrs. Harrison (Lucas Mallet), ...Mr. Kipling, ... Mr. Crockett, and Mr. Stanley Wyman.: Interestingly, among this group, only Harte, Kipling, Haggard, Hope, and Doyle remain familiar to the modern reader.

The magazine appeared continuously until March 1933, and during its run, as might be expected, the names of Arthur Conan Doyle and Sherlock Holmes made frequent appearances. These ranged from contemporary reviews of new works to parodies of Holmes, as well as playful speculations by dedicated "Sherlockians" (a term coined by Harry Thurston Peck, The Bookman's first editor) and several essays surveying the newly-founded field of mystery writing. ACD was interviewed several times by The Bookman and contributed a Spiritualist essay on "posthumous writing." Vincent Starrett wrote three pieces relating to Sherlock Holmes, including his article "The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes," which appeared in the December 1932 issue and was the centerpiece of Starrett's expanded book of the same title published the next year.

Although The Bookman was edited over its course by nine different editors, two were the major sources of the "Sherlockian" elements: Harry Thurston Peck and his "Junior Editor" Arthur Bartlett Maurice. As Maurice wrote in a December 1927 essay in The Bookman entitled "Forty Years of Sherlock": "In the matter of worldwide popularity never in the long history of fiction has there been a figure comparable to Sherlock Holmes." Predating Morley's Saturday Review and The Baker Street Journal by many years, The Bookman provided the first legitimate forum for serious and less-serious writing on the Canon and so played a significant part in stimulating that popularity in America.

Leslie S. Klinger, B.S.I.

Note: Sherlock Holmes and The Lost Treasures of The Bookman, edited by S. E. Dahlinger and Mr.Leslie S. Klinger, will be published by Calabash Press in January 2003. ◆

#### YEARS A G O

**ENGLAND** 

Dr. Julian Wolff's map of England from The Sherlockian Atlas

The year 1952 saw many Sherlockian publishing milestones, among them the inaugural issue of the Sherlock Holmes Journal, the Norwegian Explorers' anthology Sherlock Holmes: Master Detective (see the 50 Years Ago column in our previous issue), and The Sherlockian Atlas, by Julian Wolff, M.D. Dr. Wolff's atlas, which maps the known world as it relates to the Canon, was privately printed and limited to 400 copies. The Collections owns two copies, one of them inscribed "With Best Wishes and The Compliments of the Season, Julian Wolff" to Russell McLauchlin, and the second "The Rev. Anthony Morley, With Best Wishes, Julian Wolff, 15 Dec. 1956." The book includes thirteen black & white maps: London, England, Europe, The Island of Ufa (sic), The World, The Surrey Side, It Is Full of Old Houses, His Last Bow Window, United States, Dartmoor, Operation Reichenbach, Sherlock Holmes in Japan and The Apocrypha. The maps are clear and uncluttered, with only those place names mentioned or implied in the Canon identified, all in legible sans serif printing. Many of the maps have delightful small illustrations

such as pictographs of stories or coats of arms of Canonical personages along the borders. Expanses of ocean are dotted with illustrations of Canonical ships. Horizontal format maps in the atlas are reproduced at approximately 8" by 6?", and vertical format maps are reproduced at approximately 4?" by 7".

> Magico Magazine reprinted the atlas with a new introduction and other minor changes in 1983. It contained the same introduction by Wolff and a new introduction by Hugh Pentecost. The Collections holds two of this Magico edition, which had a brown cover. John Bennett Shaw owned one of these as well as the more limited edition with a beige leather cover. His copy carries the notation "of this edition one hundred and twenty-one copies

have been numbered and signed by Dr. Julian Wolff, B.S.I. and Hugh Pentecost. This is number 5."

Individually and collectively, Dr. Wolff's maps have appeared in other publications in addition to the 1952 Atlas. The five maps titled The World, Europe, England, London and The United States first saw the light of day as 5" by 4" reductions in Edgar W. Smith's Baker Street and Beyond, which was originally published by Smith's Pamphlet House in 1940. (Smith re-published Baker Street and Beyond: Together with Some Trifling Monographs in 1957 under the imprint of The Baker Street Irregulars, Inc.) The four maps titled It Is Full of Old Houses, His Last Bow Window, Operation Reichenbach and Dartmoor were first published in The Baker Street Journal (Old Series), under Smith's editorship, over the period 1946-49.

Lord Donegall, long-time editor of the Sherlock Holmes Journal, commissioned Dr. Wolff to produce color versions of the maps titled Europe, London, The World, England, Operation Reichenbach, United States (done with a uniform

background tint) and It Is Full of Old Houses, which Donegall sent out as 8" by 6-1/4" illustrations for his Christmas cards over the period 1961-67. Each card features "An Incomplete gazetteer" painstakingly compiled by Donegall that cross-references each named location on the map to the story and page in the Canon where the location is mentioned. Donegall also included the maps as plates to accompany a series of articles titled "Baker Street and Beyond" that he published over the same period in the short-lived magazine The New Strand and after its demise in the Sherlock Holmes Journal. The colored maps and accompanying gazetteers are reproduced in Baker Street and Beyond: Essays on Sherlock Holmes by Lord Donegall, published by Westminster Libraries and the Sherlock Holmes Society of London in 1993. (Note: Lord Donegall's Baker Street and Beyond has no connection with the Edgar W. Smith work of the same title mentioned above.)

The London map is probably the most familiar to Sherlockians, as an enlarged version of it was used for the end papers in William S. Baring-Gould's Annotated Sherlock Holmes, first published in 1967.

After Smith's death in 1960, Dr. Wolff took over the reins of the Baker Street Journal, but he did not reprint any of the maps during his long tenure as editor. However, all of the maps from the Atlas (in the black & white versions) were reprinted in the BSJ under the editorship of Dr. Wolff's successor, John M. Linsenmeyer, over the period 1979-1981.

Although 50 years have passed since its first publication, The Sherlockian Atlas still sets the standard for Canonical cartography. It stands as a monument to the ambition and careful work of its cartographer and as a model of Sherlockian scholarship.

John Bergquist

*Editor's Note – for more information* about Dr. Wolff, please see Jon Lellenberg's article on page one.

# From the President

n September 19, 2002 the Annual Membership Meeting of the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections was held in conjunction with the Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota. A reception and silent auction started the evening in the Elmer L. Andersen Library. The business meeting included reports from Board of Directors standing committees. The Finance Committee reported donations of \$18,074.97, expenses of \$20,300.00 and a balance of \$29,975.74. The E. W. McDiarmid Curator Endowment Fund has a balance of \$34,727.00 with pledges of \$154,000, which includes 55 new donations from the last appeal. The Sigerson Society, currently has seven memberships, which honors a bequest or pledge of at least \$10,000. The Nominating Committee presented a

slate and the membership approved with an unanimous vote the following Board: President Richard Sveum, Vice President John Bergquist, Secretary Julie McKuras, Treasurer Timothy Johnson, and members-at-large Lucy Brusic, Judy Ham, Michael McKuras, Pat Nelson and Steve Stilwell. It was also reported that the newsletter has experienced an increase in its circulation to 379.

Susan Dahlinger, the eminent Gillette scholar from New York City, addressed the membership about the Sherlock Holmes Collections from the viewpoint of a library user. Curator Timothy Johnson gave the State of the Collection address.

The meeting was then turned over to Norwegian Explorers President Julie McKuras. She explained the Explorers' yearlong celebration of the 100th

Anniversary of the setting for "The Illustrious Client," which began with the Red Throated League's presentation of Edith Meiser's radio drama on April 27, 2002 and included a guiz on the tale at the annual meeting.

Our guest speaker was Steven Doyle, B.S.I., member of The Illustrious Clients of Indianapolis, writer and publisher. He started with a slide show, a humorous look at his "extended" Doyle family, and then discussed his life as a Sherlockian publisher, from The Sherlock Holmes Review to Wessex Press and Gasogene Press.

I wish to thank the Friends members and everyone serving on the Board and our newsletter editor Julie McKuras. I hope everyone will consider a 2002 year end contribution to the University of Minnesota and the Sherlock Holmes Collections.

Richard J. Sveum, M.D., B.S.I.

# Acquistions

Meeting of the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections, Richard Caplan, M. D., B. S. I., donated an extensive file of Sherlockian materials collected over the years. Included in this donation were seminar brochures; a variety of journals including The Woods Runner and Canadian Holmes; materials pertaining to The Sir James Saunders Society, such as their annual recertification exams; newspaper and periodical articles including those published in medical journals; quizzes; Sherlockian booklets and Christmas cards.

t the September 19 Annual

Michael Kean, B.S.I., forwarded a copy of Arthur Porges Stately Homes and The Blunt Instrument. This 2002 edition is Volume 6 of the Pondicherry Press Monograph Series and is edited and introduced by Mr. Kean. The edition is limited to fifty copies, and copy number fifteen is inscribed to the Collections by the editor.

Hirayama Yuichi, B.S.I., Editor -In-Chief, donated Volume 12 of The Shoso-In Bulletin, International Series. This journal is edited by Mel Hughes.



Richard Caplan, M.D., B.S.I. and Timothy Johnson

# An Update from the Collections

t was my pleasure to report during the annual meeting of the Friends—and to echo that report here—that the "state of the collections" is very good. It has been a very busy autumn, but one that continues to reward us in our work. For this we are thankful.

The Hubbs Family cataloging project is now in its last month. By year's end, and concluding three years' work, we will have cataloged over 15,000 items in the Sherlock Holmes Collections. Those cataloging records are accessible to you through the University of Minnesota's online catalog, MNCAT (www.lib.umn.edu). We continue to be thankful to the Hubbs Family for their support of this project. MNCAT and our online version of The Universal Sherlock Holmes bibliography offer the Holmesian researcher some of the best research tools in the world.

This summer it was my privilege to address the Sub-Librarians of the American Library Association at the annual ALA conference in Atlanta, Georgia. My talk, "The Hound

Underground," gave me the opportunity to share the wonders of the Elmer L. Andersen Library and its underground storage caverns with this most illustrious group of librarians. While at the ALA conference, I also managed to snag a few posters and bookmarks from the Toronto Public Library that contain a Sherlockian theme and highlight the joint meeting of the Canadian and American library associations in Toronto next summer. If you're interested in one of these posters or bookmarks for your collection, please feel free to contact me.

In September the Andersen Library curators launched their second annual "First Fridays in Andersen" series. This series, designed to highlight collections and research activities in the Library, has been a success. September's offerings focused on traveler's accounts and included my presentation from the Holmes Collections on our guidebooks and walking tours of Sherlockian London.

Also this fall, I traveled to our Friend David Hammer, B.S.I., in Dubuque, Iowa and gathered the latest installment of his wonderful collection for transfer to Minneapolis. We continue to be thankful for David's continued support and interest in expanding the Hammer Collection. Finally, we are looking towards new projects that will enhance access to the Collections. One of the projects now in the planning and development stages and with the help of Adam Brusic—is an online inventory of our audio/visual materials, including the Paton Collection. Look for updates on this project in the future. Also, as part of our development campaign, we are looking at ways to establish "visiting scholars" funds that will allow us to provide some financial assistance to researchers interested in visiting our collections as part of their research projects.

At this time of the year it is natural for us to give thanks for our Friends. Not surprisingly, and because of your continued support, I find myself giving thanks throughout the year for your interest and support in the ongoing work of the Collections. Thank you for all that you do! May the New Year bring us new Friends and a continued sense of joy and pleasure in keeping forever green the memory of the Master.

Timothy Johnson

# Using the Collections

usan Dahlinger of New York paid a weeklong visit to the Twin Cities in September in order to pursue her research into the life and times of William Gillette. Among the many items she utilized were the Gillette notebooks that were donated to the Collections by Philip S. Hench, M.D.

While in Minneapolis to speak at the annual dinner of the Norwegian Explorers, Chicagoans Donald Izban, B.S.I., and his wife Patricia toured the Sherlock Holmes Collections. Don and Patricia are seen in the accompanying picture holding a letter that was written in 1988 by Don to John Bennett Shaw.



Donald and Patricia Izban

hoto by Julie Mckuras

# Cartographer... Continued from Page 1

Julian attended the annual dinner for the first time in January '41 — dubbed "cartographer royal of the BSI" in Smith's minutes — but it was at the 1942 dinner that he cemented his status in the BSI. At the '41 dinner, Rex Stout gave his notorious talk "Watson Was a Woman"; at the '42 dinner, Julian retorted with "That Was No Lady," endearing himself to his fellow Irregulars. He was away in the Army most of the war, but present in '44 to be one of the first to receive an Investiture, "The Red-Headed League." After the war, he resumed his practice, and became an assistant editor of the *Baker Street Journal* when it was created in 1946.

Julian retired from practice in 1955, in part to assist Smith with the BSI, making himself so helpful that when Smith died in 1960, Julian was the obvious choice as Smith's successor. As a result, Julian spent his retirement working harder than ever as Commissionaire, from 1961 to 1986, when he stepped down from office. Of the five men at the BSI's helm, Julian served the longest, conducted the most annual dinners, and awarded the most memberships; of the BSJ's nine editors, Julian edited the greatest number of issues — the Irregular for a quarter of a century.

Uneffusive in manner, he possessed an underlying warmth that balanced the outward reserve of a professional New Yorker of his generation. He liked people, and paid attention to newcomers. He quietly subsidized the annual dinner's cost to make it more affordable to all. He gave the BSI a public poise that avoided the labels of silliness or pomposity which a philistine Press might otherwise have tried to pin upon it. His wry sense of humor could transform a BSI dinner from solemnity to hilarity with just a few words.

In some ways he seemed an unlikely candidate for such a post. Never a loquacious personality like Morley or Smith, his customary reply to letters was a non-committal sentence or two on a postcard. But no Irregular letter went unanswered, no query from the secular world was ignored. He encouraged Sherlockian scholarship in countless ways. He never sought publicity for himself, but neither did he neglect any opportunity to advance Sherlock Holmes's public standing. While he seldom exercised his authority in society matters visibly, his innate dignity and Irregular credentials ensured that it was never questioned. The Irregulars' great regard for Julian Wolff rested upon an absolute confidence that the BSI's affairs were in the hands of an unreservedly devoted gentleman. His retirement from office in 1986 dismayed everyone, and his death four years later was greatly mourned as the end of a great era in the BSI's history. •

Editor's Note: for more information about Dr. Wolff's cartography, please see John Bergquist's article in 50 Years Ago.

# Using the Collections... Continued from Page 5

Trevor Raymond, the editor of *Canadian Holmes*, visited Minneapolis and took the opportunity to view the Sherlock Holmes Collections. Trevor enjoyed the variety of items he saw, and is pictured, along with his friend Will Strand, holding a copy of the last Czarina's personal edition of *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*.



Susan Dahlinger in the reading room of Special Collections and Rare Books.



Bob Hasebroock and Julie McKuras



Pat Ward, Julie McKuras (holding the clipping book of the wedding of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Jean Leckie) and Steve Doyle



Trevor Raymond and Will Strand, inspecting the Tauschnitz edition that belonged to the last Czarina

# Season's Greetings from Julian Wolff, M.D.

t is appropriate at this time of year to feature several of the holiday greeting cards that Dr. Wolff and his wife Eleanor sent to fellow Sherlockians. One of those featured was printed for the Wolffs, while the other was produced by The Sherlock Holmes Society of London, and sent "With the Compliments of the Season." ◆



This Christmas card produced by the Sherlock Holmes society of London.



With the Compliments of the Season from Eleanor and Julian Wolff, from their Christmas card which showed a map of the United States.



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

Mail editorial correspondence c/o:

Iulie McKuras 13512 Granada Ave. Apple Valley, MN 55124 952-431-1934 952-431-5965 Fax mike9750@aol.com

#### Editorial Board

John Bergquist, Timothy Johnson, Jon Lellenberg, Richard J. Sveum, M.D.

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# Sherlock Holmes and the Law

n opening reception for "Sherlock Holmes and the Law" was held on December 3, 2002 in the Arthur C. Pulling Rare Books Collection at the University of Minnesota Law Library. The souvenir booklet features a selective checklist titled Ex Libris Sherlock Holmes, A Recreation of Holmes's Law Library, 221B Baker Street."

Mary Rumsey, Foreign, Comparative and International Law Librarian, wrote the introduction and gave a short speech to those assembled. Thanking Tim Johnson for lending materials from the Collections for the display, Ms. Rumsey gave the group her own background as one interested in the Canon. Her father, a "thrifty man," bought one two-volume edition of the Doubleday Canon, giving Volume 1 to Mary and Volume 2 to her brother. When the time came for them to trade for reading purposes, a typical sibling interaction ensued. She held up the well-read books for all to see, and pointed out the dried bloodstain on the cover, a souvenir of the book trade. Ms. Rumsey went on to talk about Holmes, a man known as arrogant, impatient and sarcastic with those less gifted; qualities certainly familiar to lawyers.

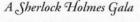
Her introductory piece ends with-

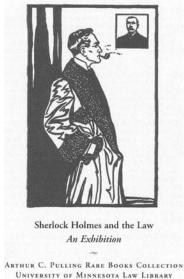
"Sherlock Holmes and the Law" displays works on law and crime that Holmes might have read and owned. In addition, the University of Minnesota Library has lent several fascinating pieces from the Sherlock Holmes Collections, the world's largest gathering of material related to Holmes and Sir Arthur. We invite you to wander among those works and imagine yourself in 221B Baker Street, with "the wind...howling outside" and warmth and good cheer within. If we must admit that Sherlock Holmes never lived, we can, at least, console ourselves that he will never die."

The brochure for "Sherlock Holmes and the Law." The brochure states "The University of Minnesota Law Library gratefully acknowledges the Harvard Law Library, whose exhibition 'Sherlock Holmes & the Law' (1988) and its accompanying brochure inspired our exhibition." The artwork is a 1943 illustration by

December 2002

Frederic Dorr Steele.





Iulie McKuras

# Musings

ou might notice a slight difference in this issue of the Friends' newsletter. Our usual practice is to highlight an item or donation to the Collections as the lead article, and that's how our planning for this issue began. However, when the decision was made to feature Dr. Julian Wolff's The Sherlockian Atlas as our 50 Years Ago article, we realized that the author himself deserved at least as much attention as his book. I would like to thank both Jon Lellenberg and John Bergquist for working together to produce a more complete picture of the man who made such an impact in the Sherlockian world and helped shape the future. We also have the good fortune to welcome a new writer to our ever-growing list of prominent Sherlockian contributors. Leslie Klinger, B.S.I., took time from his busy legal and writing efforts to give us the background of The Bookman. John Bennett Shaw had copies of articles in his notebooks, and it looks like we will all soon have the chance to have our own copy of these Sherlockian articles in the book that Les is co-editing with Susan Dahlinger. As ever, we have updates from Tim Johnson and Richard Sveum, and the good news that the state of the Collections is very good.

Steve Doyle, B.S.I., and Pat Ward of Indianapolis and Bob Hasebroock of Omaha were in the Twin Cities for the Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections. It was a good opportunity to give these three wandering Sherlockians a tour and let them personally see the Collections that they support.

In addition to giving tours of the Collections to Steve, Pat and Bob, I have had the opportunity this fall of giving tours to a number of other visiting Sherlockians. It is always a pleasure to see their reactions as we enter the vast underground caverns, then move to the Holmes Collections. At first glance, the room seems somewhat unimpressive but it soon becomes evident what a treasure trove it really is. It is kept cool and dark for archival reasons, and the storage method enables the maximum use of the available space. As the lights come on and we examine each aisle, we have the luxury of examining a book, perhaps inscribed by the author or bearing the bookplate of individuals like John Bennett Shaw, Vincent Starrett or Howard Haycraft, or an original illustration by Frederic Dorr Steele. We take the opportunity to see artifacts ranging from pillows to wallpaper to plaques to neckties. And of course everyone wants to the chance to experience the tactile sensation of holding an original Beeton's Christmas Annual.

If your plans bring you to our locale, I hope you will contact either the Sherlock Holmes Collections or me to schedule a tour. It is with your continued generosity with donations of books, journals, scion society materials, letters, and financial contributions that the Collections continue to grow. •

Julie McKuras, A.S.H., B.S.I.

# Remembrances

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

#### IN HONOR OF

The Hounds of the Internet, 10th Anniversary Julie McKuras Margaret Scott

#### IN MEMORY OF

9-11-01 Marlene Aig, A.S.H. Bob Kroska Gertrude Mahoney, A.S.H. Patricia Moran, A.S.H. John Henry Cardinal Newman Dr. George M. Schuster Thomas L. Stix Sr. and Jr. Caroline Smerk

#### **FROM**

Laura Kuhn Richard J. Sveum, M.D., B.S.I. Patricia J. Ward

#### **FROM**

Francine and Richard Kitts Warren Randall Charles Clifford Laura Kuhn Warren Randall Gerald M. Schnabel Carol J. Schuster Bill Vande Water, B.S.I. George M. Smerk

### For any inquiries contact:

Timothy J. Johnson, Curator 612-624-3552 or johns976@tc.umn.edu

#### **Sherlock Holmes Collections**

Suite 111, Elmer L. Andersen Library University of Minnesota 222 21st Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN 55455

Telephone: 612-624-7526 FAX: 612-626-9353

Timothy J. Johnson, Curator

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