



Sherlock Holmes

C O L L E C T I O N S



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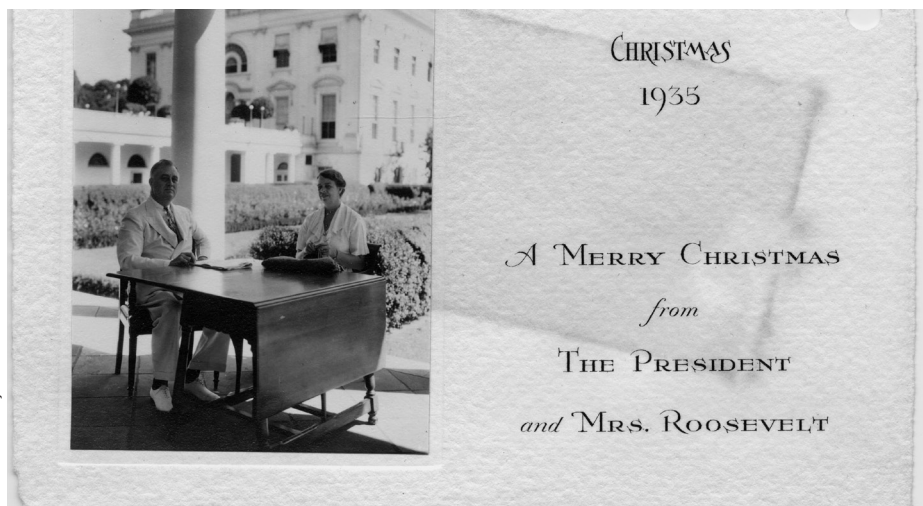
"Your merits should be publicly recognized" (STUD)

Merry Christmas from the Sherlock Holmes Collections

In her 2000 book *Merry Christmas*, Karal Ann Marling wrote that the first Christmas card was produced in 1843, the same year that Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* was published. The idea of sending Christmas greetings as a printed card instead of a handwritten letter was suggested by Sir Henry Cole, the founder and first director of London's Victoria and Albert Museum. Artist John Calcott Horsley drew the lithograph, which was hand-colored, and sold approximately 1000 copies, despite criticism of the drawing, which included a child drinking wine.

According to the Greeting Card Association (<http://www.greetingcard.org/AbouttheIndustry/tabid/58/Default.aspx>) sales figures have increased from that initial 1000. They report that "More than 2 billion boxed and individual Christmas cards were sold in the U.S. last year" and that there are "more than 3,000 greeting card publishers in the United States." This is just within the United States.

The cards held in the Sherlock Holmes Collections are but a miniscule percentage of that total, but an interesting representation. As Mr. Holmes stated in "The Adventure of the Noble Bachelor," the cards have "the charm of variety." Some are mass produced, some produced in a small run and others, hand drawn. They are held from a number of donors including Howard Haycraft, John Bennett Shaw and Frederic Dorr Steele. We've decided to feature a small sampling of these cards.



Scan Courtesy of the Sherlock Holmes Collections

1935 Christmas Card from Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt to the Haycrafts

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100

YEARS AGO

Among the items held in the Sherlock Holmes Collections is small volume titled *In Other Words* written by Franklin P. Adams. Published in 1912 by Doubleday, Page & Company, the book is inscribed "To Old Freddy Steele from his affectionately F.P.A. November 1912" and is from the personal collection of the noted Sherlockian illustrator Fred-eric Dorr Steele.

Franklin Leopold Adams was born in Chicago, Illinois on November 15, 1881 (he would change his middle name to Pierce in 1894). A good student, he learned much at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, attended the rigorous Armour Scientific Academy, frequented Chicago's theatres and vaudeville houses, and read the newspaper with his family, particularly the works of Finley Peter Dunne (noted humorist and the subject of our 100 Years Ago column in the September 2003 issue of this newsletter) and his character, the Chicago Irish bartender Mr. Dooley. Upon his graduation in 1899, he entered the University of Michigan but left after only one year when his family's financial situation deteriorated. In order to help with his family's finances, he took a position with the Transatlantic Insurance Company, where he stayed for three years. If he had remained an insurance agent, we might never have heard of him, but it was in early 1901 that he tried to sell insurance to newspaper writer George Ade, the famous newspaper writer, author of humorous fables and playwright. Greatly influenced by him, Frank vowed to become a writer.

In 1903 he went to work for the *Chicago Journal*, writing a column on weather and the humorous "A Little About Everything." The following year, he left Chicago for New York City to marry a "generously endowed showgirl" (F.P.A., Ashley). During his nine-year career as a columnist with a byline at the *New York Evening Mail* he wrote *Baseball's Sad Lexi-*



John Kieran, Wendell Wilkie, Christopher Morley and Franklin P. Adams

Scan courtesy of Hazelbaker & Lellenberg, Inc.

con in 1910. It is a one stanza poem, as Wikipedia notes, that is "also known as 'Tinker to Evers to Chance' after its refrain...[written] from the point of view of a New York Giants fan seeing the talented Chicago Cubs infield of shortstop Joe Tinker, second baseman Johnny Evers and first baseman Frank Chance complete a double play." He turned his talents to writing a musical play, co-authoring the unsuccessful "Lo" with O. Henry in 1909.

In 1914 he moved to the *New York Tribune* where he retitled his column "The Conning Tower." World War I interrupted his career; he served in the U.S. Army and wrote for *Stars and Stripes*, with "Harold Ross, Alexander Woollcott and other literary lights of the 1920s," but finished the war in the U.S. Army Intelligence Division. He returned to the *New York Tribune* and continued with that paper when it merged with the *New York Herald* in 1931 to become the *New York Herald Tribune*. His biographer Sally Ashley wrote that by 1920, "F.P.A.'s unique fame soared" and that if he "recommended a book, people bought the book. If he recommended a show, you went to see the show." He had become a household word. During the 1920s and early 1930s he was a member of the Algonquin Round Table, and many of those literary notables contributed to his column "The Conning Tower," including "such writers as Edna St. Vincent Millay, Dorothy Parker, George S. Kaufman, Moss Hart, Edna Ferber and Deems Taylor. Having

one's work published in the 'Conning Tower' was enough to launch a career, as in the case of Dorothy Parker and James Thurber. Parker quipped, 'He raised me from a couplet.'" She also dedicated her 1936 *Not So Deep as a Well* to Adams. Ring Lardner and Eugene O'Neill also wrote for the column. He was divorced in 1924, and he quickly married his second wife. He settled into a happy life, became a father for the first time at 45, and lived close to his friends Sinclair Lewis and Dorothy Thompson.

Adams moved to the *New York Post* where he worked from 1937 until 1941. As his writing career waned, his friend Dorothy Thompson helped him find a spot on a new radio show. On May 17, 1938 "Information Please" debuted with book critic Clifton Fadiman (a protégé of Christopher Morley at the Book of the Month Club) as the moderator and Adams, John Kieran and Oscar Levant as regular panelists. It soon became one of the most popular programs on the air with guest panelists such as Christopher Morley and Rex Stout. Adams specialized in questions about poetry and Gilbert & Sullivan. Celebrities, authors, politicians and sports figures were frequent guests on the show; Adams claimed many of them as friends. In 1940, he and his wife Esther spent election night at Hyde Park with the Roosevelts.

Adams began exhibiting early symptoms of what would later be diagnosed as Alzheimer's disease in the mid to late

Continued on page 8

50

YEARS AGO

Sherlock Holmes, Esq., and John H. Watson, M.D.: An Encyclopedia of Their Affairs by Orlando Park was published by Northwestern University Press in 1962. This was the first Sherlockian encyclopedia and according to DeWaal, "An extremely useful guide to the towns, estates, railroad stations, persons, and objects in the Canon. It attributes each reference (Abbas Parva to Zoo) to the proper story. Twenty pages are devoted to Holmes and ten to Watson." Between 1962 and 1994 it has appeared in six separate forms. *The Sherlock Holmes Encyclopedia: A Complete Guide to the People, Towns, Streets, Estates, Railway Stations, Objects – In Fact, Everything* by Orlando Park, A Citadel Press Book, published by Carol Publishing Group was its final edition.

We now have many other Sherlockian encyclopedias as well as annotated editions of the Canon, and in our modern digital age with Wikipedia and Kindle hypertext it seems quaintly old fashioned. The story of this work and its author is interesting.

Dr. Orlando Park, BSI ("The Final Problem," 1967) was born on October 13, 1901 in Elizabethtown, KY and died on September 23, 1969 in Evanston, IL. He earned his PhD from the University of Chicago and was a professor and chairman of Biology at Northwestern University. He retired after 35 years. Author of the 1949 textbook *Principles of Animal Ecology*, Dr. Park was an expert in the field, serving as President of the Ecological Society of America. He was an honorary curator of the Chicago Academy of Sciences, where he also performed Dixieland Jazz playing the piano in a group called the Academic Cats.

Dr. Park, in the Preface, reports that in 1932 he read *The Hound of the Baskervilles* and then reread the Canon taking notes. In 1952 he began a systematic analysis intended to answer questions and stimulate curiosity. Vincent Starrett helped with the manuscript. In Dr.

Park's conclusion, "My labor will have its best results if it stimulates others to read and re-read the adventures of Holmes and Watson and enjoy them. To do otherwise were to miss a measure of happiness."

Manfred Engelmann, in his resolution of respect after Park's death, wrote "Thus it is with regret that we mark the passing from our scene of Orlando Park, prolific author, inspired teacher, jazz pianist, Baker Street Irregular, and world-renowned Entomologist and Ecologist."

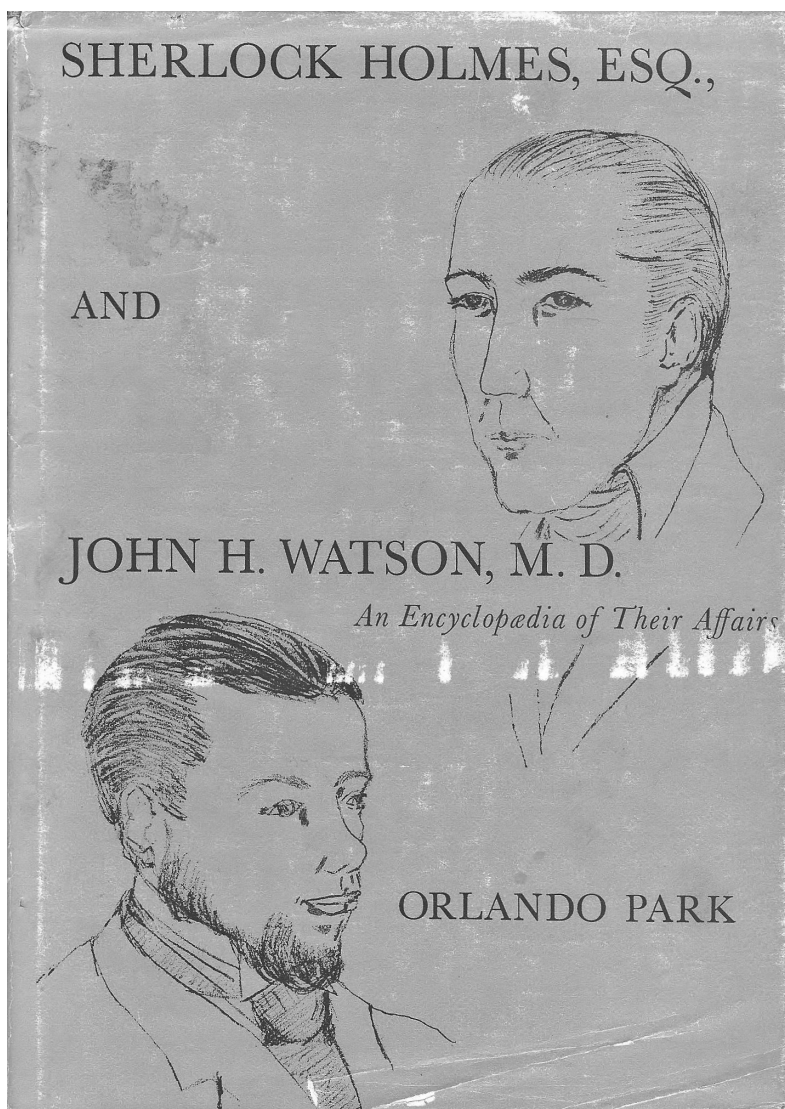
The Sherlock Holmes Collections has a number of copies of this book. One has a blue dustjacket, as shown in the accompanying photo, and contains a note written on Northwestern

University Press letterhead. It states that it "takes pleasure in sending you

this book. We shall appreciate receiving a copy of any notice you may give it. Park – Sherlock Holmes & John H. Watson. Pub. Date – 31 Dec. 1962 Price - \$8.00 until 21 December 1962 \$10 thereafter." This copy has Bill Rabe's bookplate. In the back is glued a copy of Bill Rabe's article titled "All About Holmes and Dr. Watson" with a sketch of Holmes by FDS. "This latest publication has been produced after 30 years of research by an entomologist who is bugs on Sherlock Holmes." Also held is the 1962 edition with a yellow dustjacket and John Bennett Shaw's bookplate.

In 2012 Wessex Press issued *Starrett Speaks: The Lost Recordings*. The fifth item is "Book Beat" wherein Robert Cromie interviews Vincent Starrett and Orlando Park. ♥

Richard J. Sveum, MD, BSI



Sherlock Holmes, Esq., and John H. Watson, M.D.: An Encyclopedia of Their Affairs

Photo courtesy of the Sherlock Holmes Collections

From the President

Thank you to all our members who have renewed for 2013. Your continued support means that we continue to grow and conserve the materials in the Sherlock Holmes Collections.

Our Annual Membership Meeting of the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections will take place on August 9, 2013 in conjunction with the next Minnesota conference. "Sherlock Holmes: Through Time and Place" will be from August 9 to 11, 2013, co-sponsored by the Norwegian Explor-

ers of Minnesota, the University of Minnesota Libraries and the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections. Mark your calendars and we hope you will be able to attend. I can promise two interesting exhibits of material from the Sherlock Holmes Collections. ♡

Richard J. Sveum, MD, BSI

Acquisitions

Cliff Goldfarb, BSI donated copies of two magazines which contain interesting articles that he authored. The *Journal of Olympic History*, Volume 20 Number 1, 2012 contains "Arthur Conan Doyle and the Dorando

Affair" in which Cliff writes of his belief that Conan Doyle did not help Olympic runner Dorando Pietri cross the finish line during the 1908 London games. The Summer 2012 issue of *Finest Hour*, *The Journal of Winston Churchill*, has Cliff's article "Winston Churchill and Arthur Conan Doyle."

Recently received newsletters include *Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press*, *The Camden House Journal*, *The Passengers' Log*, *The Serpentine Muse*, *The Moor*, *The District Messenger*, *The Foolscap Document*, *Ineffable Twaddle* and *The Scotland Yards News-Gazette*. ♡

The 20 Most Impressive University Special Collections

The Online Education Database features a page with "The 20 Most Impressive University Special Collections." The preface indicates:

"Easily one of the neatest perks of campus life for the particularly inquisitive, studious, or proudly nerdy involves perusing the school's special collections. Most tend to involve some combination of rare books and manuscripts as well as information about school, local, and maybe state history. Even smaller collections always harbor some amazing, insightful gems. But some schools score big time, with archives bursting with veritable treasures and groundbreaking finds. This doesn't invalidate the inherent worth of the more modest special collections out there, obviously. All the same, though ... some out there can only be described with "wow"s,"

The page doesn't indicate if the collections, including those at Dublin's Trinity College, Cambridge University, Oxford University and Duke University to name a few, are cited in any particular order. But listed at Number 8 is Special Collections and Rare Books at the University of Minnesota. They note:

African-American literature, Sherlock Holmes, and LGBTQIA history scholars should take a trek up Minneapolis way for impressive assemblages of important, integral research. Thanks to the Archie Givens, Sr. Collection, anyone looking to study the Harlem Renaissance, Black Arts, and other African-American writerly movements enjoy access to over 80,000 books, manuscripts, plays, short stories, essays, literary criticism, and plenty more. And the Jean-Nickolaus Tretter Collection in Gay, Lesbian,

Bisexual, and Transgender Studies pays homage to one of history's most marginalized demographics through one of the world's most massive archives dedicated to chronicling its achievements and breakthroughs. Curiously enough for an American school, University of Minnesota actually possesses the world's largest collection of Sherlock Holmes and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle memorabilia, with over 60,000 entries. Other special collections cover Northwestern architecture, literature of the Upper Midwest, and performing arts.

<http://oedb.org/library/beginning-online-learning/the-20-most-impressive-university-special-collections> ♡

Musings

I recently read *The Sherlock Holmes Miscellany* by Roger Johnson and Jean Upton and thoroughly enjoyed it. I was particularly pleased to see, under the Heading “The Major Collections,” a section devoted to John Bennett Shaw, which detailed Shaw’s collecting habits and decision to donate his collection to the University of Minnesota. Roger and Jean ended the section by noting the passing of John in 1994 and his wife Dorothy in 1999, “but their memory and friendship lives on in the Sherlock Holmes Collections.”

We’d like to post a correction to our September 2012 lead article. In the first paragraph, Don Yates wrote “I have just read Christopher Morley’s essay, ‘The Baker Street Irregulars,’ which first appeared in *The New Yorker* over seventy-five years ago (December 29, 1934) and was later included under the heading of ‘Shouts and Murmurs V’ in Morley’s *Long, Long Ago* (New York: Macmillan, 1943).” Two sharp-eyed readers, Peter Blau and Steve Rothman to be specific, both reported that it was Alexander Woolcott, not Christopher Morley, who wrote *The New Yorker* article. Don wanted to thank his two friends for pointing out the misattribution.

Our lead story focuses on the numerous and varied Christmas cards held by the Sherlock Holmes Collections. As I researched the subject, I learned that

artist John Calcott Horsley drew the first commercial card. I’ll admit to being not only a collector of all things Sherlockian but of Christmas items as well. As I write this, we just finished putting up our Dept. 56 Dickens Village, a collection of small, detailed lighted houses which I have collected (my husband Mike has used the terms obsessive and hoarder about this) for a long time. One of the houses is J. Horsley Christmas Cards so his name lives on not only for his artwork but for the lighted Christmas house which bears his name.

In our September issue we decided to forego the usual 100 Years Ago column so that we could allot more space to the article by Don Yates. In this issue, we’ve got not only one but two 100 Years Ago pieces. I’d like to thank Dana Richards for his article about a book held in the Collections, Christina Sinclair Bremner’s *Divorce and Morality* which features Arthur Conan Doyle’s introduction. Dana is the author of the 2010 *Conan Doyle and the Divorce Law Reform Union* printed by Priory Press.

Our second 100 Years Ago covers the book *In Other Words*. Adams was an interesting man and a friend of Frederic Dorr Steele. His book also contains a few Christmas poems, although they seem to be written in the “grumpy old man” style.

Dick has covered Orlando Park and his book *Sherlock Holmes, Esq., and John H. Watson, M.D.: An Encyclopedia of Their Affairs*. Park was not only a well-known Sherlockian but a world-class entomologist and ecologist who specialized in beetles. His talents extended to a knowledge of jazz, and as his obituary noted, “Lil Hardin, the future Mrs. [Louis] Armstrong, took some time between shows” to teach Park some piano techniques. His efforts produced one of the earliest reference books to the Canon, after Christopher Morley’s in 1944 and J. Finley Christ’s in 1947. Jon Lellenberg also noted that “Latter-day criticism of Orlando Park’s encyclopedia, notably by the not entirely disinterested Jack Tracy, overlooked how much easier it was to compile a truly comprehensive one after William S. Baring-Gould’s *Annotated Sherlock Holmes* than it had been before then, when Park compiled and published his. We were all very glad to have it for quite a long time.” Dick has also contributed his From the President column and Tim Johnson has updated us on what’s going on with the Sherlock Holmes Collections.

Our lead article celebrates Christmas cards, and in honor of that and all of the special holidays at this time of year, we’d all like to wish you Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanzaa and a Happy New Year. ♥

Julie McKuras, ASH, BSI

An Update from the Collections

The fall semester and Mr. Holmes have kept us busy on a number of fronts. At the end of September we shared the Holmes Collections with members of the University of Minnesota Women’s Club, Friends of the Libraries, the Loft Literary Center (in a new experience — “speed dating” the collections at Andersen Library), and Parents’ Weekend. In October we welcomed faculty and doctoral researchers in extended stays as they worked on various projects, the Norwegian Explorers as we heard of adven-

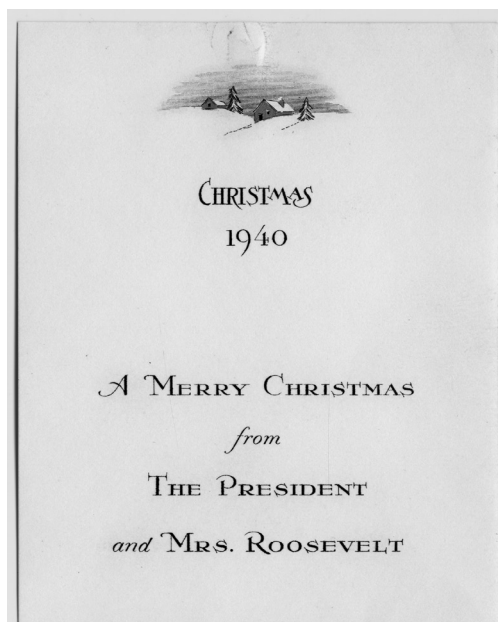
tures in Switzerland, and the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections board in a regular quarterly meeting. As the calendar moved into November we enjoyed the company of English students from Normandale Community College, Law Library staff members in their regular staff event “Lunch and Learn,” and just before Thanksgiving break undergraduates and graduate students from the University of St. Thomas. The schedule looks just as busy in the weeks and months ahead with author Larry Millett and an event at the University of St. Thomas, three

classes for the College of Continuing Education, and one for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Somewhere in the midst of all this I’ll probably make a pilgrimage to New York (and hope to see many of you there). Thank you for your continued support of the Collections and in our ability to be “out and about” with Mr. Holmes for so many different audiences. Best wishes for the Holidays and New Year! ♥

Tim Johnson

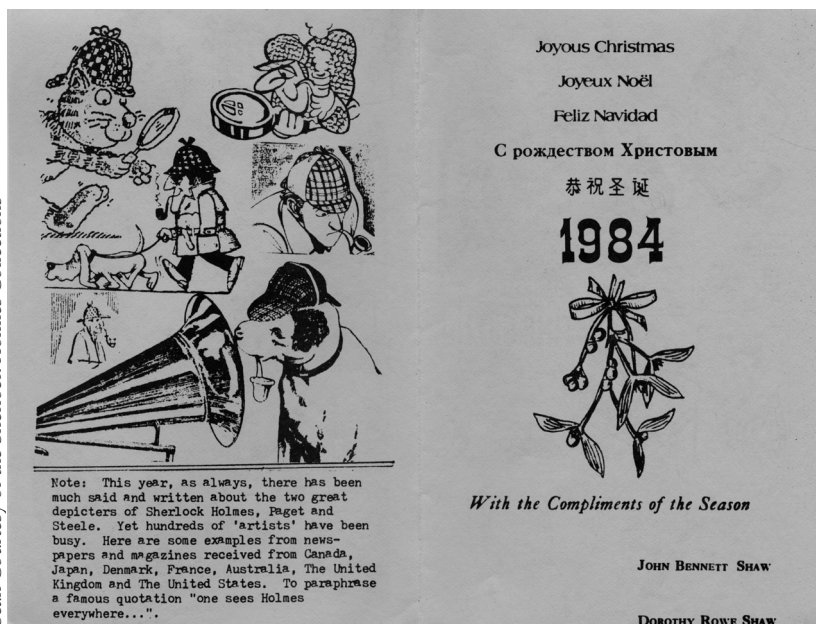
Merry Christmas *Continued from Page 1*

Scan Courtesy of the Sherlock Holmes Collections



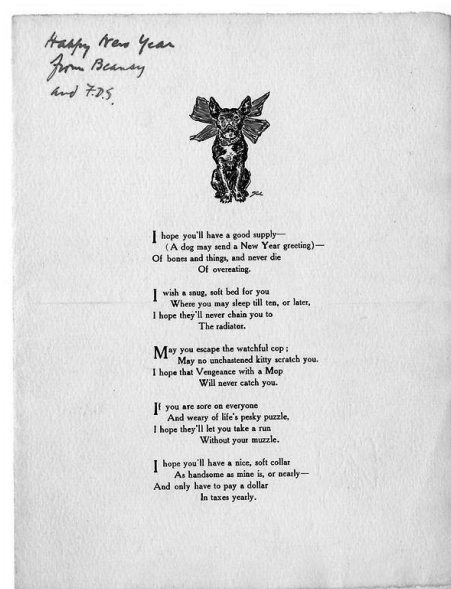
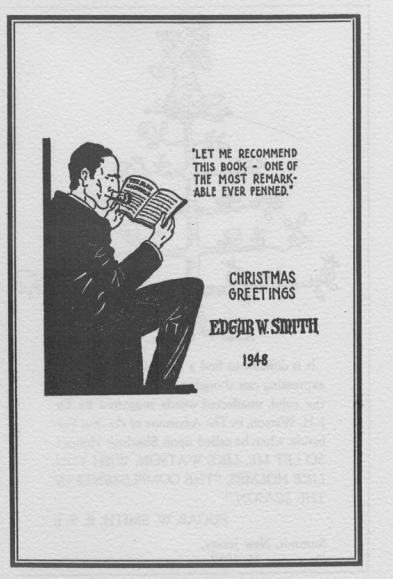
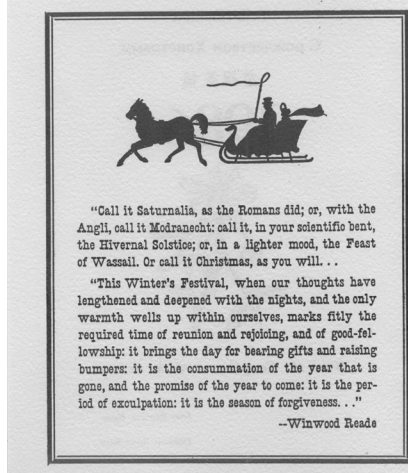
1940 Christmas card from President and Mrs. Roosevelt to the Haycrafts

Scan Courtesy of the Sherlock Holmes Collections



The 1984 Christmas Card from John and Dorothy Shaw

A lagniappe in the collecting of things Sherlockian is ephemera such as personalized Holmesian Holiday Greeting Cards. Edgar W. Smith (1894-1960) issued a number of these. I have reproduced three, two are slightly reduced. The one below is dated 1955.



Frederic Dorr Steele's Christmas Card

Realizing that not everyone celebrates Christmas, I looked for information to see if any Sherlockian cards or pastiches which celebrate Hanukkah were in the Holmes Collections. Noted Sherlockian Peter Blau referred me to Philip K. Jones, who kindly responded to my inquiry about pastiches and wrote "My database lists more than 9,600 items of Sherlockian fiction, but none of the

items I have entered contain a cross-reference to Hanukkah... I would hesitate to say that there are NO Sherlockian tales involving Hanukkah. If you do, sure as hell, three will pop up the next day." Peter Blau added "I also don't recall any cards for Kwanzaa or Aid el-Fitr, two other holidays that the postal service also now issues stamps for in addition to Hanukkah

and Christmas." So it appears that the field is ripe for both pastiches and cards for the Holiday of Lights. And we hope that when those cards are produced, someone will donate copies to the Sherlock Holmes Collections. ~

Julie McKuras, ASH, BSI

100 Years Ago

By Dana Richards, BSI

In 1912 Arthur Conan Doyle wrote a lengthy introduction to *Divorce and Morality*, by Christina Sinclair Bremner (Palmer, 1912).

Most are not aware of his involvement in the Divorce Reform movement. Even Sherlockians are surprised that he was involved for 12 years; perhaps because only five of his many biographers devote even one page to it.

Why did he get involved? ACD's attitude towards Divorce Reform was simply expressed by him in several speeches: "The foundation of national life is not the family. It is the happy family. And that, with our obsolete divorce law, is what we haven't got." His involvement in the movement does not appear to have been precipitated by anything other than his chivalrous nature and sense of fair play.

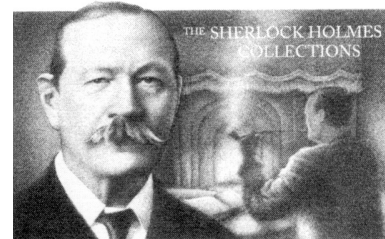
It is difficult today to grasp the state of marriage and divorce in Victorian England. Even though an 1857 law took power from the church, the church's views colored everything. Divorce, which required Parliamentary involvement, was available only to the rich and was rare (only 494 in all of England in 1900). Instead, the laws allowed for "judicial separation" which did not permit remarriage. So a poor wife with an abusive husband had three choices: stay in the relationship, live apart and unsupported, or unwed cohabitation (which amongst the poor became the most common arrangement.) The rich women, because the laws for divorce favored the man (e.g., she could not use adultery as grounds) would be in a similar bind.

The 1857 reform led to so much grief that the very institution of marriage was in danger. Several efforts at reform sprung up. In 1903 John Francis Stanley (Bertrand Russell's older brother) organized the Society for Promoting Reform in the Marriage and Divorce Laws of England. Soon thereafter Thomas Hardy and others formed another group called the Divorce Law Reform Association. In 1906 they merged and were called the Divorce Law Reform Union. Hardy was keen to include the well-known and well-connected, so that actions would follow words. He had become a friend of ACD and approached him.

The goals of the society resonated with ACD's sense of justice, and by 1909, he was the President of the Union. Those goals included adding desertion, lunacy, and long prison terms to the list of grounds for divorce, securing equal treatment of women under the law, and allowing local jurisdictions to be involved to reduce the cost.

One of his first actions as President was to write a pamphlet, as he often did when he supported a cause. His *Divorce Law Reform* (1909) was the third occasional pamphlet published by the Union. There does not appear to be a copy in any library!

Green and Gibson, in their landmark ACD bibliography, admit to not having seen it. Adrian Conan Doyle must have had a copy since it is shown in the lavish Centenary he produced about his father. Pierre Nordon, who worked with Adrian, quotes from it (though half that quote was cut in the English translation). Green and Gibson assert that the text of the pamphlet was incorporated into the introduction to Bremner's book (which is the motivation for this article). ♪



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

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100 Years Ago *Continued from Page 2*

1940s. He briefly appeared on "Information Please" during a short run on television, but his declining health was noticeable. After his divorce from his second wife he moved into the Players Club, where he had been a member for years, and subsisted on a stipend from his friend Harold Ross and *The New Yorker*. He spent the last five years of his life in a nursing home until his death on March 23, 1960.

He was a prolific writer whose *In Other Words* had several Christmas poems. Aptly named were "Christmas Cards, Being the Songs of an Old Scrooge."

And how did he know "Old Freddy Steele"? Their years of membership at the Players Club overlap and was probably their point of intersection. Steele and Adams sometimes contributed to the same magazines as well.

During his newspaper career, as noted on the anniversary of his 1960 death on the site "Today in Literature," FPA – as Adams was known – was the "quintessential gentleman-journalist, ready to deflate the latest fad or most earnest issue with a quip or a couplet" and as was noted in his "own poems were parodies, often aimed at reducing the fleeting fad

by way of the canonized classic." Sally Ashley wrote "The obscurity of his once famous name demonstrated the fleeting nature of reputation, the inexorability of time and loss. Yet much of the work by people F.P.A. discovered and nurtured remains." 🐾

Julie McKuras, ASH, BSI

References: The Poemhunter.com – The World's Poetry Archive
http://www.poemhunter.com/i/ebooks/pdf/franklin_p_adams_2012_3.pdf

Ashley, Sally. F.P.A., *The Life and Times of Franklin Pierce Adams*, 1986, New York, Beaufort Books.

Remembrances

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

In Honor Of

Phil Bergem
Lynne Day
Vinnie and Flavia Brosnan
Julie McKuras
Katy Morgan
Dr. Victoria Risko
Sherlockian Friends
Richard Sveum
Bishop Turner High School Faculty
Gerald Wachs
Donald Yates

From

Steve Stilwell
Jeffory Hart
William Vande Water
Joseph Eckrich
Stella J. Herzig
Billy Fields
Sandy Kozinn
Robert Katz
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In Memory Of

Wallace Armstrong
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Showsaku Mashimo

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

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