Sherlock Holmes



"Your merits should be publicly recognized" (STUD)

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Linus Blankets the Elmer L. Andersen Library

ummer 2003 found the streets of Saint Paul Minnesota graced with ninety differently designed statues of Linus Van Pelt, the thumb-sucking, blanket-carrying philosopher from the "PEANUTS" comic strip. One of those, the Linus statue attired as Sherlock Holmes and carrying the title "Seeking Philanthropy My Dear Watson," made the trip across the Mississippi River from Saint Paul to Minneapolis late last fall and now resides in the foyer of the Elmer L. Andersen Library. It is a gift from the F. R. Bigelow Foundation and was given in memory of Ronald M. Hubbs. In effect, the statue is a tribute to a remarkable cartoonist, donated by a remarkable philanthropic organization in honor of an outstanding businessman, philanthropist and Sherlockian.

The remarkable cartoonist was Charles M. Schulz, creator and artist of the strip for fifty years, who was born in Minneapolis in 1922 and grew up in Saint Paul. Beginning in 2000 the city began a five-year tribute to the late artist with a number of creatively designed statues of Snoopy. The following summers found Charlie Brown and Lucy (Linus's older sister) adorning the streets of Minnesota's capital city, and the choice of Linus for 2003 was unanimously approved by the Schulz family. The statues are a fitting format for what Schulz strived



Jamie Hubbs, Linus Van Pelt and Margaret Hubbs

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hoto by Julie McKuras

YEARS A G O

Newton Deane, whose article "The Story of Bradshaw" appeared in the February, 1904 Strand Magazine, asked his readers "What should we without 'Bradshaw'?" Bradshaw's General Railway and Steam Navigation Guide was "essentially a British institution, like the Times, football, Punch, and cricket." John Bennett Shaw's copy of this issue of The Strand Magazine is held in The Sherlock Holmes Collections.

Sherlock Holmes "worked in an era when railways were the universal means of travel by land." (Walsh, 40) What would he have done without Bradshaw's? He couldn't have uttered "Just look up the trains in Bradshaw" as he did to Watson in "The Copper Beeches" and Watson couldn't have proposed the guide as the potential source of the coded message in "The Valley of Fear." And if Dr. Watson could cite Bradshaw's directly in two of the stories, and undoubtedly referenced it untold times, so could Arthur Whitaker in "The Man Who Was Wanted."

Holmes and Watson are certainly two of the most famous among the uncounted numbers who found Bradshaw's General Railway and Steam Navigation Guide an indispensable volume in their libraries. In an era of industrial revolution, "the coming of the railways made communication easier and as the railway network grew so did the need for some organisation to be imposed on the rapid increase of black lines that criss-crossed the country. Then out of this chaos came Bradshaw's Railway Timetables." (Barber, website http://www.johnbarber.com/bradshaw.html) Until that time the only guide available was for the Grand Junction Railway, and as

Deane wrote, it "took the singular form of a large pewter medal, which the traveler could carry in his pocket."

The founder of this invaluable travel tool was George Bradshaw, who was born July 29, 1801 in Pendleton, Salford, England. He was schooled by a Swedenborgian minister but became a Quaker at an early age. After an apprenticeship with engraver J. Beale, his family moved to Belfast in 1820 and Bradshaw began work as a printer and engraver but returned to Salford in 1821 in search of work. By 1827 he turned his attention to maps, and his first published work was a map of his native Lancashire. This was followed by "Bradshaw's Maps of Inland Navigation" in 1830. Bradshaw was acutely aware that rail travel was rapidly becoming popular. In 1838 he produced Bradshaw's Railway Map and in October the following year Bradshaw's Railway Time Tables, and Assistant to Railway Travel. George Bradshaw married in 1839.

The railway companies were generally uncooperative with Bradshaw and his attempts to obtain timetables and train fares. Management felt that "their trains would have to run punctually" (Robertshaw, 103) to the times printed in the guide. Despite this, with the assistance of his newly acquired London agent Mr. Adams, on New Year's Day 1840 the 38-page Bradshaw's Railway Companion was published. The following year they renamed the publication Bradshaw's Monthly Railway Guide. The publication eventually covered every railway track in the country.

Rail travel was made more economical for the masses by an 1844 Legislative Act that forced at least one train every weekday to be at a fare ordinary people could afford. In 1847 Bradshaw's Continental Guide became available. "Jules Verne was one of many authors who found the attraction of Bradshaw irrestible. As Phileas Fogg sets out from Charing Cross on his epic eighty days around the world, what was he carrying: 'Under his arm might have been observed a red-bound copy of

Bradshaws Continental Rail and Steam Transport and General Guide, with its timetable showing the arrival and departure of steamers and railways'." (Barber, website)

Bradshaw visited Norway in August 1853 where he succumbed to Asiatic cholera. He was buried in the cemetery adjoining the cathedral of Christiana.

Publication of the continental guide was suspended in 1914, and the guide finally disappeared in 1939. "Owing to its sheer size, Bradshaw gained a reputation for impenetrability, echoed by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle who has Sherlock Holmes commenting that: 'the vocabulary of Bradshaw is nervous and terse, but limited. The selection of words would hardly lend itself to the sending of a general message. (Valley of Fear)." (Barber, website)

Number 1521, the last Bradshaw British Railways was printed in June 1961. "Another national institution has gone," commented Wilfrid Robertshaw, but in February 1904 when Dean wrote his article in The Strand Magazine, Bradshaw's was a travel necessity. Deane notes that "one curious circumstance in the early history of 'Bradshaw'...Its founder appears to have been ashamed of its vouth for when the fortieth number had been attained we find, in September, 1844, a sudden jump to number 146. Did those missing hundred numbers ever afterwards disturb the pious Quaker's rest?"

Julie McKuras, ASH, BSI

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YEARS AGO

About 50 years ago, Dr. Edward J. Van Liere was faced with one of the great challenges of his life: saving the West Virginia University School of Medicine. Van Liere had been dean of the medical school for almost 20 years by this time and had already pulled off a major revitalization in the 1930s. Now the task was more daunting: not only did the curriculum need to be enhanced, but he would also have to build a modern medical school in a state that was perpetually strapped for cash.

In the midst of it all, he somehow managed to find time to write about Sherlock Holmes in an article published in the April 1954 issue of the Baker Street Journal. "Doctor Watson and Nervous Maladies" strolls through the Holmes tales, pausing here and there to point out a nervous tic or case of brain fever. Van Liere concluded by noting that Holmes and Watson enjoyed generally excellent mental health. "(O)ur heroes never faltered, but maintained a calm demeanor and dispatched neatly and efficiently the task before them."

Perhaps Van Liere took comfort from their example. The record shows he oversaw establishment of both a new curriculum and needed medical center. Van Liere was born in the canonical year of 1895. He would later recall that as a boy in Kenosha, Wisconsin, he became enthralled

with Holmes during his first reading of the recently published book, "The Hound of the Baskervilles." "After that," he said, "I read every Holmes book I could find."

He earned a bachelor's degree in biology and a master's degree in physiology from the University of Wisconsin. In 1920, he received his medical degree at Harvard and soon accepted the invitation to join the small but promising WVU medical school faculty in 1921 as chair and professor of physiology. The relationship between Van Liere and WVU would continue for the next 58 years. In addition to his work as a leading administrator at the medical school, Van Liere was a world-recognized expert on the serious consequences of oxygen deprivation to the brain. He produced two major books and 99 scholarly articles on the topic.

But Van Liere was also building a scholarly bank of work about Sherlock Holmes. His first published canonical piece was "Dr. Watson and the Weather," which appeared in the November 1945, issue of The Quarterly of the Phi Beta Pi Medical Fraternity, and was reprinted in The Baker Street Journal in 1948. This article sets the standard for the two dozen Holmesian pieces he would publish over the next 30 years. Carefully, rationally, Van Liere plucks out the allusions to the weather scattered through the Canon, remarking on the way in which they set the stage for Holmes' deductions.

Drawing on his broad range of medical knowledge and experience, Van Liere eventually analyzed the Canon in terms of biology, zoology, anatomy, chemistry, endocrinology, genetics, cardiology, and physiology. He looked

at Watson's use of brandy as a "universal specific," the credibility of curare poisoning in "A Study in Scarlet" and "The Adventures of the Sussex Vampire," and their close ally, Dr. Arthur Conan Doyle. Van Liere was an active member of the Scion of the Four in Morgantown, W.Va., for many years. In 1965, his contributions to the Sherlockian world were recognized by another doctor, Julian Wolff, who initiated Van Liere into the Baker Street Irregulars with the investiture "The Priory School." Van Liere died on September 5, 1979 of a heart attack, at the age of 83, after having given long and dedicated service to his profession, his university, and to Sherlock Holmes devotees.

Of all his Holmes articles, the most creative deals with the stubborn issue of Watson's war wound. Van Liere theorized that Watson was wounded in the shoulder, and that the bullet induced an obstruction which slowed blood to the brain, producing confusion and inexplicable pains in the good doctor's leg. In 1978, while a student at WVU's School of Journalism, I asked him about the credibility of this theory. "I think you have to give the novelist a certain latitude," Van Liere said with a smile. "After all, some things that happen are stranger than fiction." Or, as Sherlock Holmes once said, "Life is infinitely stranger than anything which the mind of man could invent."

(Note: Dr. Van Liere collected many of his commentaries in A Doctor Enjoys Sherlock Holmes, New York: Vantage Press, 1959.) ◆

Ray Betzner, BSI

Acquisitions

eter Blau kept the Sherlock Holmes Collections up to date with the donation of his recent copy of Notes from the Spermacetti Press.

David N. Haugen, on behalf of The Sound of the Baskervilles, donated two copies of the group's Beaten's Christmas Annual for 2003. In addition to recipes and essays, the

volume includes reminiscences of Frank Darlington, a member who passed away last year.

Joe Eckrich donated a Turkish language paperback edition of Serlok Holmes Yoldaki Ceset published in Ankara.

Fred Levin donated The Sherlock Holmes Book of Magic, a collection of tricks based upon the Canonical stories. The book was created and compiled by Jeff Brown in 2000.

Sue and Ben Vizoskie donated the latest issues of Foolscap Document, the newsletter of The Three Garridebs, as well as the information regarding the upcoming meetings of the group.

Using the Collections

Susan Diamond, BSI ("The Great Mogul") toured the Sherlock Holmes Collections during a recent trip to Minneapolis. Susan had previously



From the President

hope that all Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections are planning to attend "A River by It: Holmes and Doyle in Minnesota," cosponsored by The Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota and The Arthur Conan Doyle Society. The conference will be held in the Elmer L. Andersen Library from June 11-13, 2004. The conference committee has planned an exciting program examining the life of Arthur Conan Doyle and his creation Sherlock Holmes as well as his influence on literature and literary societies.

The Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections will host an Opening Reception for the exhibit on Friday June 11, 2004 from 4:30 to 5 P.M., with tours of the library available. At 5 P.M. we will convene our Annual Membership Meeting. The meeting will include a short business meeting and vote, along with the curator's State of the Collections Address.

We are thankful for all our Friends and look forward to seeing you at the membership meeting and conference. With your help we will make The Sherlock Holmes Collections a World Center for research and study of all things Sherlockian. 🖝

Richard J. Sveum, M.D., BSI

Musings

ummer 2004 will find the streets of St. Paul bustling with people who want to see the fifth and final set of statues honoring Charles M. Schulz. The statues, titled "Doghouse Days of Summer," will feature Snoopy reclining atop his doghouse along with his friend Woodstock. We hope that a large number of people will also make their way to the Elmer L. Andersen Library to visit 2003's Linus, whose new residence is a tribute to a long story that began with the fateful phone call from my husband, who works for Ecolab: "You won't believe what's in front of my building." We are all grateful for the generosity of the St. Paul Foundation and the F. R. Bigelow Foundation, who made sure that Linus had a good home and that he will remain an accessible friendly face to all who enter the library while serving as a lasting tribute to both Charles M. Schulz and Ronald M. Hubbs. My thanks go to Christy Vitek and Paul Verret of the Saint

Paul Foundation for their generosity with the statue and with their time.

Ray Betzner has written about Dr. Edward Van Liere, an accomplished man whom Ray had the opportunity to interview in 1978. Ray gave a toast to "An Old Irregular" Edward Van Liere at the 2004 Baker Street Irregulars dinner. The Collections hold copies of Van Liere's Sherlockian books originally from the libraries of John Bennett Shaw and Bill Rabe, with several bearing the inscription "With the Author's Compliments, Edward I. Van Liere." In the addendum to his booklet Sherlock Holmes and the Portugese Man-of-War Van Liere wrote, "Let us not resort to quibbling. In these days of high tension living with worry and worry over world affairs, Sir Arthur's stories of Sherlock Holmes come, indeed, as a welcome and refreshing relief." That 1952 note is as true today as when it was written. Our thanks go to Ray for sharing his memories of Dr. Van Liere, who Ray described as

"truly a product of an age that has long since faded away." Our 100 Years Ago column focuses on another product of a by-gone age. George Bradshaw made rail travel a much easier process and inevitably helped Holmes and Watson to bring criminals outside of London to justice.

The Sherlock Holmes Collections were privileged to have two interesting women tour the facility. Susan Diamond and Laurie King were enthusiastic about the tours, and it was a pleasure to have the opportunity to show them the Collections.

We're getting ready for our June 11 -13 "A River Runs by It" conference and The Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections meeting that will accompany it. We hope that many of the readers of this newsletter will have a chance to attend the conference and view the accompanying exhibit.

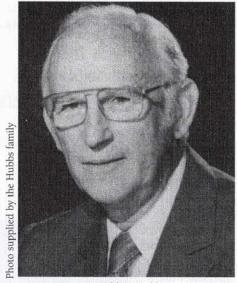
Julie McKuras, ASH, BSI

Linus... Continued from Page 1

for; as the "only child of devoted parents, neither of whom had gone further in school than the third grade, Schulz linked the happy unsophistication of his childhood home with the ideal of a dignified, ordinary life that he forever after tried to return to." (Charles M. Schulz museum website, http://www.schulzmuseum.org/schulz bio.htm)

Minnesota based TivoliToo Design and Sculpting Studio, which specializes in 3-D concepts, designed the basic Snoopy, Charlie Brown, Lucy and Linus statues. Local artists may propose three differently designed and attired potential statue plans per year based on the model figure, and the various sponsoring groups select the final choices from those submitted. Unveiled at the beginning of each summer, the characters attract visitors to Saint Paul from around the country and around the world. In a city perhaps better known for its Winter Carnival and ice sculptures, summer finds the downtown streets busy with children and adults making the grand tour of the city to find all of the statues and armed with maps from the Snoopy Dog House Information Center.

In 2002 artist Shane Anderson, who had three Charlie Browns and one Lucy selected in 2001 and 2002, submitted a design with Lucy attired as Sherlock Holmes. Although his Lucy as Holmes plan wasn't chosen for that year, Shane tried his Holmes theme again in 2003 with Linus. His plan was selected by The Saint Paul Foundation, an organization which has played an active role in many major community initiatives during its 60-year history by working in partnership with individuals, families, businesses and organizations to match donor interests to local community needs. The statue was given the appropriate title "Seeking Philanthropy My Dear Watson." Shane and his father Chuck added the sculpted accessories and clothing. The statue was placed in Saint Paul on Ecolab Plaza and immediately began to receive attention that came



Ronald M. Hubbs

in every form - from visitors who took pictures of Linus to children who climbed up and hugged him.

The remarkable philanthropic organization is The F. R. Bigelow Foundation, which was formed in 1946 as a philanthropic vehicle in honor of Frederic Russell Bigelow, the fourth president of the Saint Paul Fire and Marine Company, now known as the St. Paul Companies, Inc. The statue's sponsoring agent, The Saint Paul Foundation, was approached and an answer was quickly received from Paul A. Verret. Mr. Verret served as president of The Saint Paul Foundation for 28 years, is now president emeritus of the organization and is currently serving as the

Secretary of the F.R. Bigelow Foundation. In his note, Mr. Verret stated that a grant would be made for the statue and it would be given by the F. R. Bigelow Foundation "in memory of Ronald M. Hubbs who was both Chair of the F.R. Bigelow Foundation at one time and a leader in the Norwegian Explorers." On a Sherlockian note, Verret attended the Baker Street Irregulars dinner in 1982 with Ronald Hubbs.

The outstanding businessman, philanthropist and Sherlockian was Ronald M. Hubbs, who was born April 27, 1908 in Silverton, Oregon. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Oregon, joined the Saint Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company in 1936 as a special agent in Washington and Oregon, and worked in San Francisco from 1937-1941 as an agency superintendent. With the advent of World War II, he served in the Pentagon, North Africa and London with Military Intelligence and retired with the rank of Army Colonel and the Legion of Merit.

Hubbs and his wife Margaret moved to Saint Paul in 1948 where he began his new post as assistant to the president of Saint Paul Fire and Marine. He was named vice-president in 1952, executive vice-president in 1959 and president in 1963. During his tenure the Saint Paul Companies, Inc. was created as the holding company to the Saint Paul Fire and Marine. He retired as chairman of the board in 1977 but remained active in a number of areas. He campaigned in the area of adult literacy and was honored by the Saint Paul School District in 1994 with the new Ronald M. Hubbs Center for Lifelong Learning. In 1992 the new Minnesota History Center named the

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An Update from the Collections

his morning I was greeted by a blue sky and a weather forecast that predicted a high temperature of a comfortable seventy degrees. My hopeespecially for those readers who are attending our June conference "A River Runs By It: Holmes and Doyle in Minnesota"-is that we can welcome them with both pleasant weather and an enjoyable time. And, while we can't place any guarantees on the weather, I am very happy with how our conference plans have moved along. I am very excited about the conference and the chance we have to share in another Sherlockian experience, as well as the opportunity to spend time with so many people—our friends-who have an interest in the Collections here at Minnesota. So, to those who might read this while you are in Minneapolis, welcome! It is good to have you here! And to those who could not make it this time. please remember that we always look forward to your visit, whenever that might happen.

Now, having welcomed you, allow me a digression into the world of soap. Tomorrow the Libraries holds its last "First Fridays at Andersen Library" for the academic year, a series of monthly thematic presentations that provides an opportunity to share the riches of our collections with the public. Sometimes, we have a little fun with the theme. This is one of those times. May's theme is "Mish-Mash, Miscellaneous, Etc., —the Weird,

Bizarre, and Different." Our Holmesian representatives for this presentation are three pieces of soap, all from the collection of John Bennett Shaw. The first piece features a Sherlockian profile affixed to the face of a rather ordinary bar of soap. The second piece is a soap carving of the Great Detective done by an inmate in the Utah State Prison. The third piece is a head-and-shoulders bust of Holmes created by Neutrogena Dermatologics. What caught my attention, besides this unique treatment of soap, were the people behind each creative act: Helen Heinrich, ASH ("Lady Hilda Trelawney Hope"); Thomas Kane, the inmate who had an appreciation of Holmes from "the inside;" and Lloyd Cotsen, Ron Kulkin, and Mel Ader from Neutrogena. Some may think it silly to read so much into a bar of soap, but I think each piece is indicative of how deep the cultural icon of Holmes is embedded into our everyday lives, even in a bar of soap. So, we celebrate individual creativity and keep green (and clean) the memory of the Master.

Have a great summer as you read yourself through all those new books that have been piling up on the reading table, or as you dive back into the Canon. I, for one, am going to reread "The Adventure of the Red Circle." It is the only tale, as far as I can tell, that mentions soap.

Tim Johnson



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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Microfilm Reading Room in his honor as a result of his years of work with the Minnesota Historical Society. He was elected to the International Insurance Hall of Fame in 1995 and served on numerous boards in pursuit of his many civic and philanthropic interests. He was a Director Emeritus of The Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh Foundation and served on the Board from 1978 to 1995.

Despite his busy schedule, Mr. Hubbs found time to spend with the Master Detective. While stationed in London during the war he searched for the actual location of 221B Baker Street. When Dr. Philip S. Hench suggested that a plaque be placed at Reichenbach Falls to mark the final struggle between Holmes and Professor Moriarty, Hubbs served as the treasurer in the fund drive which culminated in the 1957 installation of the memorial. He was the author of "Holmes: The Potential Entrepreneur" in the Norwegian Explorers' 1978 Cultivating Sherlock Holmes. In 1960

he had the opportunity to meet Basil Rathbone in Saint Paul when the actor was touring in "J.B." Later that same year he met Lord Donegall and visited his home in London, where they discussed their common interests in jazz and Sherlockiana. The two continued an epistolary relationship until Lord Donegall's death. Hubbs was a member of The Sherlock Holmes Society of London and was listed in Bill Rabe's Who's Who and What's What.

When writing of "The Early Days of The Sherlock Holmes Collections" in the September 2000 issue of this newsletter, Andrew Malec noted that Mac McDiarmid's work to secure funding for cataloguing was aided by the equal involvement of "Ronald M. Hubbs whose wise counsel, personal integrity, and widely-respected recommendations were crucial factors in obtaining grants. Mac always acknowledged this, but Hubbs preferred to avoid the limelight even more than our Sigerson" (Mac

McDiarmid's title in The Norwegian Explorers). Hubbs died in November 1996 and is survived by his wife Margaret Stewart Jamie Hubbs, his son George, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

On a cold and snowy day this February, Mrs. Margaret Hubbs and her grandson Jamie Hubbs attended a luncheon held at the Campus Club at the University. After the luncheon and appropriate remarks by University Librarian Wendy Pradt-Lougee, the assembled group moved to the Andersen Library. Greeting them in the foyer was Linus. The dedication plaque on the base reads "Contributed Through the Gifts from The Saint Paul Foundation and The F.R. Bigelow Foundation in Memory of Ronald M. Hubbs." Mrs. Hubbs examined the statue, noting Linus' sweet smile, and said "Ron would have liked this."

Julie McKuras, ASH, BSI

Remembrances

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

IN MEMORY OF

Richard Lancelyn Green
Richard Lancelyn Green
Richard Lancelyn Green
Richard Lancelyn Green
Lucy Sommerfield
Lucy Sommerfield
"Those who keep green the memories..."

FROM

Philip Bergem
Vincent Brosnan
Susan Diamond and Allan Devitt
Mike and Julie McKuras
Brad Keefauver
Karen Murdock
Warren Randall, M.Bt.

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Mailing list corrections requested-

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