



# DR. WATSON'S NEGLECTED PATIENTS

## MEDICAL BULLETIN

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Our first issue of the Medical Bulletin is off to a very auspicious beginning, due to our upcoming dinner February 1 and the Sherlock Holmes Symposium scheduled at Colorado State University February 2 - 5, 1975.

This issue features the above mentioned events and covers other meetings that have been held and some that are planned. Hopefully future issues will contain more articles from our members and from other scion publications.

### FIRST DINNER SCHEDULED:

Our first dinner will be held on Saturday, February 1, 1975 at the Howard House Restaurant. This date is only a few days away so we ask your prompt attention to the attached flier. If you plan to attend please get your reservations and check in before Wednesday, January 29th. Please note reservations should be sent to Ron Dame. If you do not make reservations but later find you can make it, call Ron Dame for late reservations, up to Thursday evening.

The cost will be \$10.00 per person to include a complete dinner with wine, renowned guest speakers and a short film. A cocktail hour, cash bars, will proceed the dinner and the traditional toasts will be presented during dinner.

Our own Intern Ron De Waal, BSI, will be our Master of Ceremonies. Featured speakers will be: John Bennett Shaw, BSI, of the scion, "The Brothers Three of Moriarty", Sante Fe, New Mexico. Mr. Shaw is a world renowned Sherlockian authority and collector. A long time member of the Baker Street Irregulars (BSI), he is constantly in demand as a speaker and spends much of his time "on the road" making presentations to scion groups throughout North American and Europe. His talk "The Cult of Sherlock Holmes" will undoubtedly be informative and challenging.

Peter Blau, BSI, Black Peter of the scion, "The Red Circle", Washington D. C. Mr. Blau, a geologist, is a long time member of the Baker Street Irregulars (BSI), and is well established as a Holmesian expert. He is an authority on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and will therefore present a paper entitled "The Literary Agent". He will also show the only sound film ever made of Conan Doyle. This talk should prove to be of great interest in improving our understanding of the man who did so much to get Dr. Watson's writings into print.

Other interesting and well know figures should also be in attendance. To include: Robert Fish, BSI, author of the famous Schlock Homes books; Tom Schantz, editor and publisher of the Aspen Press which features Sherlockian parodies and pastiches; Samuel Rosenberg author of the recent book "Naked Is The Best Disguise"; Cameron Hollyer, curator of the Sherlock collection, Toronto Central Library, Toronto, Canada.

Ron De Waal's book "The World Bibliography of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson" has been released and Ron will have copies at the dinner. This book, heralded as the most comprehensive bibliography of Sherlockiana ever

assembled is selling for \$60.00. Ron has made special arrangements for a one time authors discount, so those of us who are interested can get the book for \$36.00 at the dinner. Ron will be happy to autograph copies.

Your Medical Board is most excited about this event and we are looking forward to a fine turnout. This affair is not restricted to members only, so come and bring your spouse, some one else's spouse, your girl friend or someone!

### SHERLOCK HOLMES SYMPOSIUM - FEBRUARY 2 - 5, 1975

As you know, Colorado State University has scheduled a symposium on Sherlock Holmes to be held at the university February 2nd through the 5th. This is a major event, featuring papers, panel discussions, films, dramatic readings and exhibits. There has only been one other such symposium on the Master Detective which was held at the Toronto Central Library, Toronto, Canada, in 1971.

The program includes morning, afternoon and evening activities thus making it easier to attend at least some of the scheduled events. A tentative schedule is attached, if you have any questions call Ron De Waal at the CSU Library, 491-5911. A final schedule will be mailed to you, by the Special Events Board of CSU, later this month.

### HOLMES AWAY FROM HOME: (Notes by Nancy Wynne)

On the night of December 5, 1974, Dr. Watson's Negelected Patients met at Bemis Library in Littleton. There were forty-two Patients in attendance. Just to prove how aptly our Society is named, two of our officers, our Chief Surgeon and our Transcriber, were absent due to -- you guessed it -- illness!

Ron De Waal entertained, amused, and intrigued us with an account of his trip to various Sherlockian sites in England and Continental Europe last summer. He also gave us an exciting preview of the upcoming Holmes Symposium at CSU scheduled for early February.

This was not nearly so unwieldy a group as last September's 150 plus, and so there were some opportunities for visiting, discussing, and getting to know each other better. Two discussion groups were planned: One, on January 8, to talk of Victorian England and how that era is reflected in the Holmes stories, to be hosted by the Liehe's; and one on February 27, to discuss "The Speckled Band", which will be held at Bemis Library. (More on this below.)

### A NIGHT IN VICTORIAN ENGLAND: (By Martha Liehe)

Was Sherlock Holmes a class conscious snob? This and many other questions were probed on Wednesday evening January 8, 1975. The meeting, on Victorian England, took place at Martha and Bill Liehe's (Pronounced Lee). The Liehe's had many of their own books on Sherlock Holmes and had brought in many others on England in the 1800's from the local library. Others present also brought quite a few interesting books including some old copies of the Strand magazine. The evening flew by with discussions on the use of drugs, transportation, and communications in that era. Coffee, Tea and two delicious cakes topped off the evening.

### "THE SEVEN PER CENT SOLUTION" -- TRUTH OR FICTION? (By Dr. W. P. Blake)

Ever since I read "The Seven Per Cent Solution" I have had the urge to express my thoughts about it. This book purports to be a newly discovered manuscript written by Dr. Watson which sheds new light on Sherlock Holmes' relationship with the villainous Professor Moriarty. I have nothing against the book as a novel, which is about some fictional character addicted to

cocain. I do not believe it is about the Master as it claims to be and I can't believe that Dr. Watson had anything to do with writing it. The following are my three reasons.

First -- This is a story about the addiction of a man to drug. One reason many of us feel so strongly about Sherlock is the fact that he is as near infallible as any man can be. His only foibles probably were his condescending attitude towards Dr. Watson and his errors in deduction only when he was hasty. He was always able to correct these by re-evaluating the question and then coming up with the correct answers. There is no way I could believe that he could ever become an addict to anything but criminal deduction. One of his many great attributes was the fact that he had complete control over himself. When he used cocaine it was to fight boredom or to train himself to be able to handle larger and more severe problems by being able to forget cocaine anytime he wanted.

Second -- I do not remember any place in the original works of Dr. Watson where Professor Moriarty "helped" Sherlock. I find it impossible to think that the Professor could ever show any compassion for or to help the Master in any way, shape or form. Professor Moriarty is not this type of person. It just goes against any previous information Dr. Watson has given us.

Third -- Dr. Watson was a great chronicler of the Master's exploits. He was a very ethical MD and always kept his work and writings on the highest plain. I can't feel that Watson would write about Holmes' parents and what was supposed to be their unsavory past. If it has been true, which I doubt, Watson would never have brought it out.

This is my case against the "Seven Per Cent Solution" as being a true story of Sherlock Holmes or a work of Dr. John Watson.

Remember that he is still alive and well, tending bees in Sussex, England.

#### A RETURN TO THE WORLD OF VICTORIAN ENGLAND

Another meeting on Victorian England is scheduled for Wednesday, February 12, 1975. Interested individuals are invited to attend at Daniel Daugherty's apartment, 600 So. Dayton, Bldg. 3, Apt. 102. Please call Don at 341-9429 if you plan to attend. If the last meeting on this topic is any criterion this meeting should be quite active and informative.

#### A CRITICAL EVALUATION: (By Mary Ake)

Various Neglected Patients will together examine some "Singular features . . . associated with the well known Surrey family of The Roylotts of Stoke Moran" on Thursday, the 27th of February, 7:30 PM, at Bemis Library (6014 So. Datura, Littleton, Colorado).

Readers of THE SPECKLED BAND may recall that this case, recorded by Dr. Watson in '83, was the favorite of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Despite the hazards to be encountered venturing forth through swirling fog (or snow?) your presence is requested, should you wish to follow the examination of the case from the outset. A re-reading of the SPECKLED BAND prior to the meeting is recommended.

#### THE ORDERLIES

As you know, we have established the title of Medical Orderly for any member who makes a monetary contribution to our treasury, over and above their dues payment. To date the following named members have earned this title:

Mary Ake	Ron Dame	Mary Holmes	Jerry Stevens
Jack Arthur	Margaret Grimes	Susan Retallak	Nancy Wynne
			Stephen Yon

## THE GROWTH OF A SCION

We are happy to announce that we have sixty eight paid members. A roster of members is attached. In addition we have addresses for eighty individuals who have indicated some interest in our society but have not yet become members. A copy of the mailing list is also attached.

We are sure some of you who have already paid dues will find your name on the mailing list rather than the membership roster. This is because you failed to send in the membership record form as we requested in our informational letter of 26 November, 1974. Please call any member of the Medical Board if you are paid and we'll publish a correction in the next Medical Bulletin.

Also we would appreciate a note or a call about any corrections to either the roster or mailing list with regard to: desired title i.e., Miss, Mrs. Ms.; incorrect spelling of name, address corrections particularly ZIP Codes and telephone numbers.

For those of you who are not paid members we hope you will join us. Please send in your check for \$3.00 payable to Dr. Watson's Neglected Patients, you will be paid through August, 1975. Spouses are always welcome at any of our events, however, we do encourage individual memberships, we can use the money. Include your full name, (Miss, Mrs., Ms. or what have you) address, ZIP and telephone number with your check.

Effective March 1st we will no longer make mailings to those individuals on the mailing list. Only paid members will be sent our release and publications. We regret this decision but stationery, reproduction and postage costs necessitate drastic measures. Please note the cost for this mailing to you! We are not closing our membership roles any interested person may join at any time, but why not now!

Subsequent to March 1st one of our Medical Bulletins will include an updated members roster. We also plan on a Sherlockian's list of publications and check lists on the Masters cases.

## THE BAKER STREET JOURNAL

Beginning with the March 1975 issue the Journal (BSJ) will be published by the Fordham University Press. The new prepaid subscription price will be \$10.00 (4 issues). We had hoped to have an announcement from the Fordham University Press to include a subscription form but have not received same. We will cover this in our next Medical Bulletin. We are sure that those of you who are familiar with this fine publication of The Baker Street Irregulars (BSI) will be pleased to learn that the present editor Julian Wolff, M.D. will continue in that capacity.

## WE SHALL MISS HER

Mary Holmes our Transcriber will not be able to join our festivities on the night of February 1st. Mary's doctor (a stand in for Dr. Watson) has scheduled her for surgery on January 27th, at the Swedish Hospital, Englewood. Your Medical Board regrets this situation, but not as much as Mary does, as she has been looking forward to the Annual Meeting. Because of Mary's temporary medical problem all correspondence, particularly reservations, should be sent to:

Lt.Col. M. R. Dame, 2310 Grape Avenue, Boulder, Colorado 80302

We all wish Mary a speedy recovery and we are looking forward to her return to her duties which she always performs with great dispatch and enthusiasm.