

The next meeting of the BIMETALLIC QUESTION will held be on Wednesday, October 4, 2000 at 6:30 p.m. SHARP at the Westmount Library (Westmount Room), 4574 Sherbrooke Street West, Montréal, Québec. PLEASE PAY ATTENTION TO PARKING SIGNS!!!

The NEXT QUIZ will be prepared by Heather Wileman-Brown based on THE SPECKLED BAND.

MINUTES of the MEETING of the BIMETALLIC QUESTION held on Wednesday, August 2, 2000 at the Westmount Library (Westmount Library), 4574 Sherbrooke Street West, Montréal, Québec.

Present:

Rachel Alkallay, Paul Billette, Claude Campbell, Patrick Campbell, Wilfrid de Freitas,

David Dowse, Charles Purdon, Carole Rocklin, Heather Wileman-Brown, Karin Winkler

Guests:

Joey Stapleton, Kay Stapleton

CALL TO ORDER

David Dowse called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. He was glad to see so many members present as well as two new faces at the table; summer usual takes its toll on attendance. With a quick tour around the table, members and guests introduced themselves and their initial exposure to Sherlock Holmes and Conan Doyle. David also presented Karin Winkler with her official membership card from the Society.

SHOW/TELL

The evening progressed quickly to our next segment: Paul Billette had just returned from London and had made the obligatory pilgrimage to the Sherlock Holmes Pub and as well as an appointment (now required) with the proprietor to have a personal visit to the shrine upstairs, after which he indulged in the establishment's daily fair of fish 'n chips as well as the Sherlock Holmes lager. He also picked up a pleasant postcard from the Sherlock Holmes Museum in Baker Street.

A newspaper clipping from <u>The Gazette</u> (Monday, July 24/00) written by Brendan Kelly about a remake of *The Hound of the Baskervilles* presently filming in Montreal in the Westmount vicinity. Wilfrid de Freitas then read a press release he had received from Tax News Entertainment Enterprises on the new film. David Dowse's *good* friend was to have arranged for him to get access to the film shoot, but unfortunately it never came about, but another film is advertising for extras in Montréal so opportunity can knock twice.

Patrick Campbell mentioned the passing of Cameron Hollyer (June 4/00), and passed around a clipping from <u>The Globe and Mail</u> (Saturday, June 10/00) by Donn Downey on Cameron's background and Sherlockian expertise. A very good remembrance of Cameron.

Patrick also announced that the Highland Games will be held this weekend with Saturday's events taking place at Maxville, Ontario and Sunday's events in Verdun (grounds of the Douglas Hospital). If you venture there by local transit, use the de l'Église Metro stop.

Carole Rocklin mentioned a book that she had found to take a very different slant on Sherlock Holmes. The story has SH as a young man (and married!!) to a lovely young lady. Sacrilege!! She also passed around a cassette of a production of a mid-1940's original radio broadcast with Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce.

QUIZ

There was confusion on whether or not we were to have the same quiz as was used for the Colloquium. As Stanley Baker was not present, no quiz was presented. Heather Wileman-Brown will prepare our next quiz based on the story of *The Speckled Band*.

COLLOQUIUM

Patrick gave a quick review of the Second Bimetallic Colloquium in June. By all accounts, it was a success with more than enough participants to cover our expenses. Patrick's new book, <u>Holmes in the West Country</u>, was launched at the colloquium. He passed around some photographs sent by Dr. I.I. Mayba who was asking if anyone could identify the people in the snaps who were participants at the colloquium. Dr. Mayba also sent photographs of Edmonton, Alberta with Sherlockian themes.

Patrick also gave an overview review of the one-man play, "The Last Act," that ran just after the colloquium at the Centaur Theatre, for the benefit of those who did not see it. Heather and Patrick both agreed that it was fantastic and that Roger Llewellyn, the actor who portrayed all the characters, was a most interesting fellow to talk with after the performance.

David Dowse reported that Linda Huntoon has written up a review of the play, but unfortunately did not meet the submission deadline for it to be published in the next issue of *The Canadian Holmes*. David felt that the Montréal review should be the one published as the play made its Canadian debut here. Hopefully Linda's review will make the next issue, and we will also have the pleasure of having Linda read it at our next meeting.

VARIA

At 7:45 p.m., four of those present, promptly rose from there seats, made their excuses, and departed. Rachel Alkallay commented that this was fairly irregular and should be investigated. What connection was there between these four? And it was suspicious that the two Stapletons, newcomers to our ranks, left with two of our members. Perhaps a quick review of the *The Hound of the Baskervilles* should be in order, considering we are surrounded in Montréal by film crews remaking the story ... it all seems a little too obvious.

David brought along one of his daughter's books, <u>The Little Giant Book of Whodunits</u>, and tested our deduction skills with "A Theatrical Treat," "A Maid Made Discovery," "Bye Bye Bully," "The Locked Room," and "The Bad Samaritan." Short and sweet little puzzlers that we were able to solve quickly. A nice little diversion.

Paul graciously offered to bring the port if someone will located our "glass" glasses.

ADJOURNMENT

As our numbers were small, and as the summer schedule was not very abundant with Sherlockian activities, David brought the meeting to a close at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Claude Campbell Half-Sovereign