

JANUARY MEETING

The January meeting of the Radio Historical Association of Colorado will be held at the Southwest State Bank, 1380 federal Blvd., Denver, Co.. The meeting will begin at 7:30 pm on the 20th of January. The club normally meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

The RHAC meets monthly to discuss OTR and to generally have a good time. We hope to see you all there. Sometime we may even meet with some of our out of town friends. Should anyone need directions or have questions about the club, please contact one of the officers listed on the following page.

JOHN DUNNING'S OTR SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY - KNUS - 710 am - 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm SUNDAY

John's January selections of programs are dedicated to Freeman Gosden (Amos), and Jack Webb (Dragnet, Pat Novak For Hire, One Out of Seven and Pete Kelly's Blues.). These are two great and legendary OTR actors whom we shall all miss.

January 2 -	04-17-46	The Jack Webb Show	-	Baseball talk and other nonsense.
	05-05-50	Halls of Ivy	-	Theatrical Career
	12-29-44	Amos and Andy	-	New Years Eve
	INTERVIEW:	Larry LeSureur	-	New commentator
January 9 -	04-29-53	On Stage	-	Skin deep
	12-01-44	Amos and Andy	-	Fountain Pen Dealership
	01-31-52	Dragnet	-	The disappearance of Ralph Tabor
January 16-	05-17-45	We The People	-	Guest: Kate Smith and Irving Berlin.
	06-28-49	Pat Novak For Hire	-	The murder of Joe Denine
	12-08-44	Amos and Andy	-	Overnight Investment
January 23-	1949 synd	The Adventures of Micheal Shayne	-	The Case of the Perlioned Letter.
	1942	Sam at War	-	# 18 Gas Rationing
	03-13-46	One Out of Seven	-	The 3rd World War
	01-05-45	Amos and Andy	-	The Summons
January 30-	01-28-50	Escape	-	Posion
	11-27-49	NBC University Theatre	-	Point of No Return

SNOW, SNOW, SNOW

Due to circumstances beyond your editors control, this newsletter will reach you late. I have placed several calls to the Yukon, but Sargent Preston and King were to busy to help out.

I hope that everyone had a safe and prosperous Christmas and will have a fun filled New Years Eve. Hope to see you all next year !

John Callor - Editor



THE RAILROAD HOUR originated in Hollywood on Monday evening, Oct. 4, 1948. For seven months it ran as a 45 minute show, then changed to a 30 minute format, and finally moved to NBC where it remained for the rest of its nearly 6 year run. The final broadcast was June 21, 1954

The scripts were penned by Jean Holloway for the first season, but after its switch from ABC the team of Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee took over the scripting. Originally trained for the radio, they seem to have been at the right place at the right time: they were a member of the team which founded the Armed Forces Radio Service. By the time they joined THE RAILROAD HOUR they had collaborated on scores of dramatic scripts for the HALLMARK PLAYHOUSE and MY FAVORITE STORY among others. THE RAILROAD HOUR remained one of their favorite assignments. They called it their "dream show"

From the opening train whistle, bell, and escaping steam to the finale's "all aboard," the show had everything going for it.

In addition to Lawrence and Lee, it could boast of the famed Carmen Dragon Orchestra and the Norman Luboff Chorus. The announcer was Marvin Miller who appeared on countless radio and TV programs including one RAILROAD HOUR presentation in which he had a singing role: "The Cat and the Fiddle."

The baritone star of the entire series was Gordon MacRae. He had started his singing career at the New York World's Fair. Next came a five-dollar-a-week job at the Millpond Playhouse on Long Island where he met his future wife. While working as a page at NBC in New York to help him become more financially stable, he got the good break that landed him a singing job with Horace Heidt's band. Heidt is credited with helping Sheila and Gordon get married after some delay. Gordon then landed a part in a production of "Junior Miss," but for a time nothing

followed. After a stint in the Army, he landed a job on NBC's "Teentimes," and then a part in the Broadway show "Three to Make Ready." The appearance did bring him offers from Capitol Records and Warner Brothers, and he headed for Hollywood. Things were a bit lean for him there, but finally the offer came that he'd been waiting for: star billing on THE RAILROAD HOUR.

The early 45 minute broadcasts had large "name" casts, but when the program was reduced to a half hour format, the casts were reduced to the basics: Gordon and a female guest star.

Cast opposite MacRae were such "pop" singers as Ginny Simms, Doris Day, Dinah Shore, Frances Langford, Jo Stafford, Margaret Whiting, and Martha Tilton. Stars from opera included Rise Stevens, Dorothy Kirsten (a frequent guest), Eileen Farrell, Gladys Swarthout, Blanche Thebom, Mimi Benzell, and Patrice Munsel. A young Jane Powell was a frequent guest. Other notable guests included Eddie Cantor, Groucho Marx, Rudy Vallee, Margaret Truman (the President's daughter), and George Murphy. Most frequent co-stars were Lucille Norman and Dorothy Warenskjold, but Nadine Connor was also a frequent visitor.

Because of its short format and light approach, THE RAILROAD HOUR preferred musicals and operettas to operatic works. Although many shows were presented only once, a number were to become standards: "Brigadoon," "Apple Blossoms" (with Jeanette MacDonald the first time), "The Chocolate Soldier," "The Desert Song," "The Firefly," "The Great Waltz," "Irene," "The Merry Widow" (which tied with "Showboat" and "The Vagabond King" as the shows presented the most: 5 times each), "Rose Marie," "The Student Prince," "Sweethearts," and "The Red Mill." Films were represented by "Wizard of Oz," "Holiday Inn," "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," and "Around the World in 80 Days." Productions written especially for THE RAILROAD HOUR included "Casey at the Bat," "Rip Van Winkle," "The Man Without a Country," "Roaring Camp," and "Springtime in Paris."

As popular as THE RAILROAD HOUR was, it could not compete with the novelty of TV. Within a year even THE CHICAGO THEATER was to disappear, and later network radio came to an end.

RETURN WITH US NOW is the official publication of the Radio Historical Association of Colorado. The club was founded for the enjoyment and preservation of an entertaining and educational art form... radio. Shows are shared by the members by means of a quality reference library and a reel to reel tape rental library of OTR programs in excellent sound. Both services are available to all members at a nominal fee.

The cost of a membership is \$ 15.00 per year, and this allows the member to use the clubs resources.

The club is always looking for any donations of taped shows or disc transcriptions of OTR programs.

For further information about the club or to order from the clubs resources, please contact one of the following:

PRESIDENT:	John Lloyd	2667 E. 99th Ave., Thornton, CO 80229	451-7890
VICE PRESIDENT:	John Adams	2811 S. Valentia St., Denver, CO 80231	755-9185
TREASURER:	John Migrala	7213 Roxbury Pl., Littleton, CO 80123	979-0755
SECRETARY:	Reid Hansen	1205 Carr, Lakewood, CO 80215	232-8068
BLANK TAPE SALES:	Dave Tysver	841-5910 ***** Barrett Benson	422-6442
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	John Callor	9265 Pierce St., Westminster, CO 80020	422-4639
TAPELIBRARIAN:	John Migrala		
REFERENCE LIBRARIAN:	John Callor		

RHAC CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year the RHAC returned to the Heritage Square Opera House for our annual Christmas get together. The dinner was filling as well as tasty. After the dinner came a fun filled spoof of a melodrama called "The Streets of New York". Although the play was probably written to be a serious endeavor, the actors of the Opera House just seemed to take every word literally and made fun of the whole thing. After the play came a vaudeville style revue with many one liners and a host of Christmas songs. All were well performed.

I'm sure that I speak for everyone that attended had a good time. For those that could not make it, we hope to see you next year !

WHO GETS THE MYSTERY TAPES ?

From: John Migrala

Attention: Whoever gave him money for 2 tapes at the November meeting.

At the November meeting, someone gave John Migrala \$2.50 for an order of 2 reels from the tape library. Due to the busy atmosphere at the meeting John did not write down the name of 1 person who ordered the 2 tapes. So, if you gave John an order for 2 tapes and did not receive your order, don't blame the post office. To claim your tapes contact:

John Migrala 7213 Roxbury Place Littleton, Co. 80123 979-0755

RENEWALS

The following people have renewed their memberships for another fun filled year with the RHAC:

Dave Clow
Janet Braden

1160 Shady Glen Dr.
449 W. 4th St.

Santa Maria, CA 93455
Loveland, CO 80537

'Amos' dies, joins 'Andy' as legend

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Freeman Gosden, who created the role of Amos on radio's long-running "Amos 'n Andy" comedy show and played the part for 32 years, died Friday of cardiac arrest. He was 83.

Gosden died at UCLA Medical Center, according to hospital spokesman Al Hicks.

Gosden and Charles Correll, both of whom were white, portrayed the title characters on the program, which was set in Harlem. It was based on the activities of George Stevens, a scheming character who was always looking for a way to make a fast buck.



Gosden

Correll died in 1972.

Amos was a cab driver who narrated the episodes, while Andy was a gullible member of the Mystic Knights of the Sea Lodge who was continually duped by Stevens.

Gosden played not only Amos in the radio version, but Kingfish, Lightnin', Brother Crawford, Flukey Harris and Frederick Montgomery Gwindell.

Gosden and Correll got their start performing in minstrel shows in the South and joined forces in Durham, N.C., in 1919. The next year, they did their first broadcast from New Orleans.

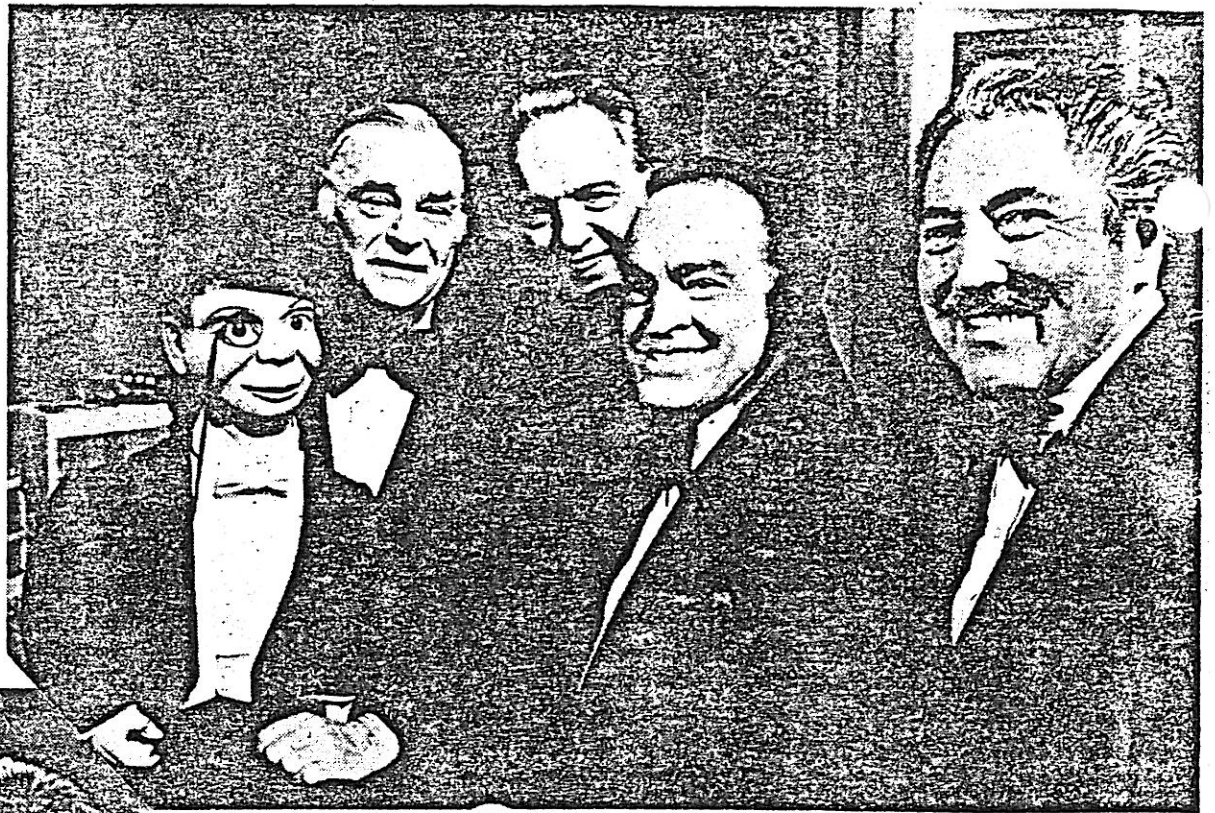
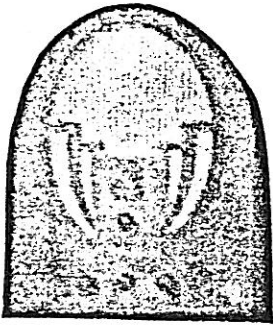
In 1926, they began the "Sam 'n Henry" series, gaining prominence over WGN radio in Chicago. The nation first heard "Amos 'n Andy" in 1927 over radio station WMAQ in Chicago and it later was broadcast nationally over the NBC radio network.

"Amos 'n Andy" went off the air in November of 1960.

"They just couldn't afford our show any more," Gosden said a few months later. "We were the last of the big name shows to go."

Questions

- 1—We know that the popular Jack Armstrong attended Hudson High, but what product served as the long-time sponsor of *Jack Armstrong, The All-American Boy*?
- 2—With what program would you most closely associate Major Bowes?
- 3—*Young Dr. Malone* was one of numerous radio soap operas. What was Dr. Malone's first name on that program?
- 4—Steve Wilson was the editor of the *Illustrated Press* on what radio adventure program?
- 5—Can you name the quizmaster on *The Kollege of Musical Knowledge*?
- 6—On what radio quiz show would you have heard the expression, "I have a lady in the balcony"?
- 7—Margot Lane, Commissioner Weston and Shrevie were characters for what mystery-drama?
- 8—*The Great Gildersleeve* was an extremely popular program. What was the name of Throckmorton P. Gildersleeve's nephew on that show?
- 9—Do you recall the character name of radio's *The Timid Soul*?
- 10—Who conducted the orchestra on *The Voice of Firestone*?



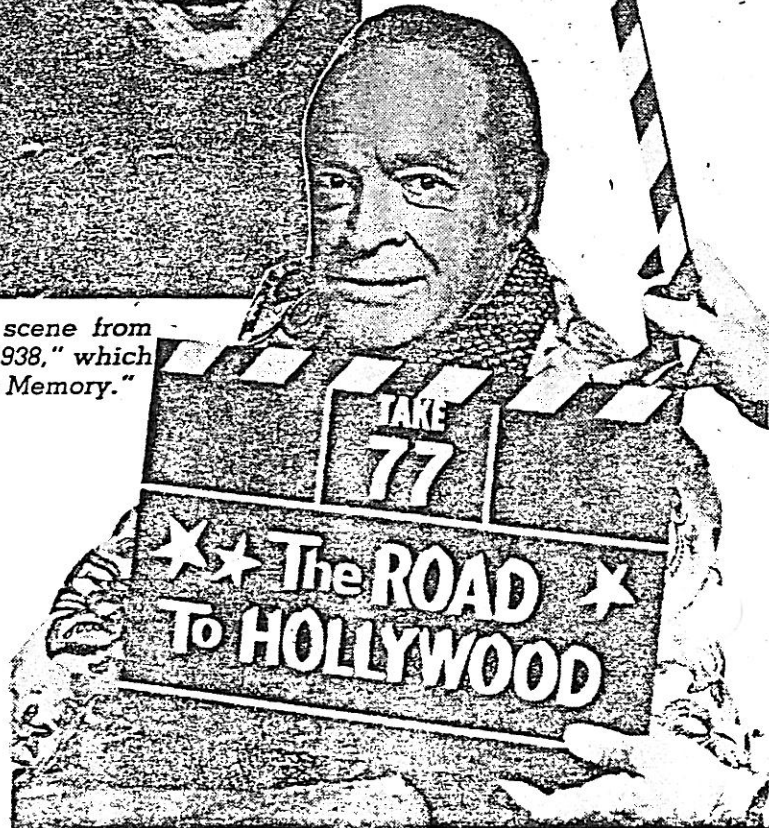
Edgar Bergen (with Charlie McCarthy), Bob Crosby and Hal Peary, creator of the Great Gildersleeve, all shown with Bob Hope.

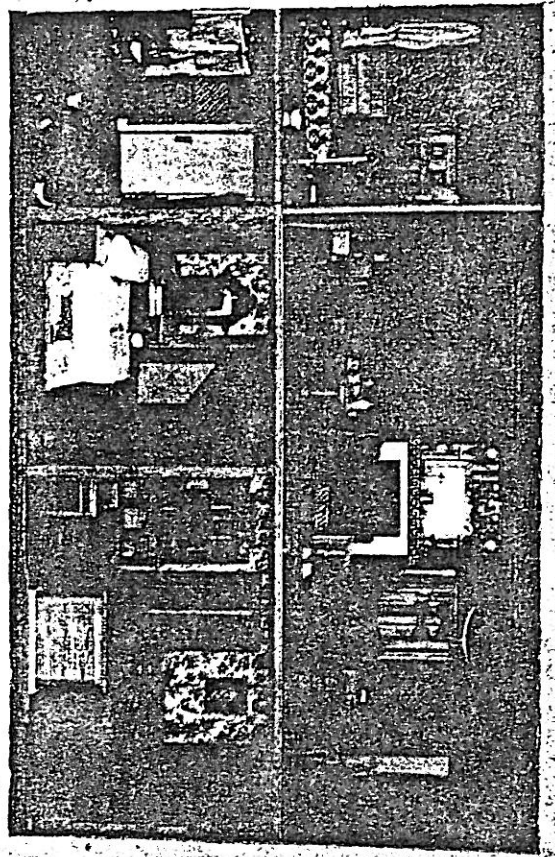


Bob Hope and the late Shirley Ross in a scene from Hope's first picture, "The Big Broadcast of 1938," which introduced his theme song, "Thanks For The Memory."

'Thanks for the Memory'

TV DIAL—Oct. 23, 1977





PHOTOS BY FRED RICK

Scaling Down Sherlock's Legendary Home

Dorothy Rowe Shaw's recreation of 221B Baker Street is guaranteed to pass the famous detective's inspection

by Doug Domeier



Dorothy Shaw decided that a miniature recreation of 221B Baker Street would be the perfect Christmas gift for her husband. The only problem was that she knew nothing about miniatures.

If Sherlock Holmes inspected Dorothy Rowe Shaw's painstaking recreation of his 221B Baker Street residence, he would undoubtedly bend over the two-story miniature, pipe in hand, eyes alert and inquisitive, and say, "There's my correspondence, kept correctly," noting his jackknife plunged into the wooden mantle, his letters stabbed in layers over the handle.

Or he might call to his companion, "Watson, the steps are perfect," and the portly Dr. Watson would join the detective in counting 17 carpeted hallway steps, placed so that the tall Holmes avoids hitting his head on the overhanging ceiling.

"Your volin's on the Mrs. Shaw, in her home in

Sania Fe, New Mexico, could indeed tell Holmes how this project began six years ago, why she determined to build what is today probably the most thorough and accurate miniature in existence of the famous residence in London.

"I was trying to find Christmas gifts for my husband," she explains. He is John Bennett Shaw, nationally-known authority on Holmes and owner of the largest collection of Holmes material in the world.

"I thought of a miniature room," his wife continues. She decided to do the entire Baker Street house, laid out her plans on cardboard and realized, "I knew nothing, nothing, about miniatures."

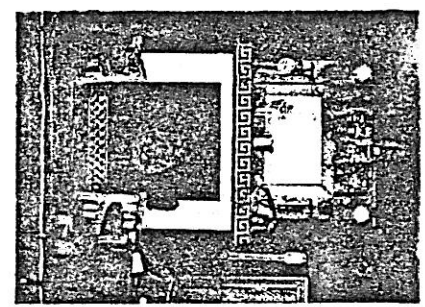
A native of New York State who has lived in Sania Fe for eleven years, Dorothy re-membered seeing miniatures at Sania Fe's Museum of International Folk Art. She found out who had made them and contacted the creator, Lorcheta Fry.

"I went to see her and we became friends," Dorothy recalls. "One day she came by with the first issue of *Miniature Collector*. That was my first experience with a miniature magazine."

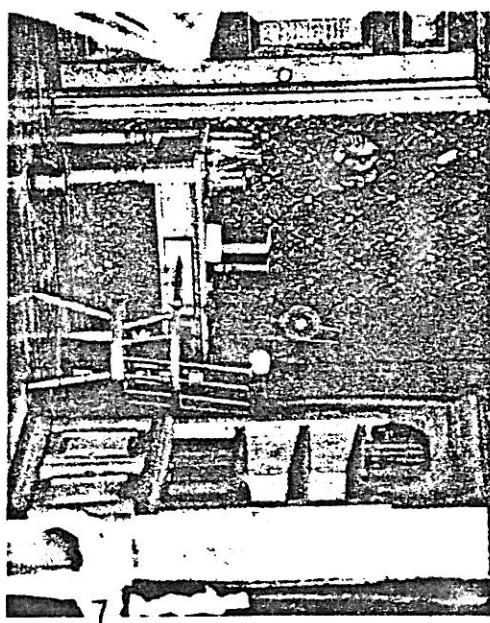
The miniature consists of seven rooms: the downstairs quarters of Mrs. Hudson, the housekeeper (including sitting room, bedroom, kitchen and bath), the upstairs sitting room of Holmes, his bedroom, and Dr. Watson's bedroom.

While Mrs. Hudson's rooms could be created with a certain freedom, Holmes' sitting room posed the biggest challenge because it's described in Doyle's stories and known to Holmes buffs (called "Sherlockians") throughout the world.

"Every Sherlockian who



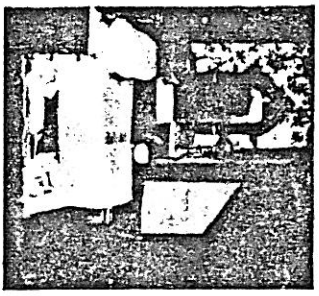
Opposite page, Holmes' second floor sitting room, Watson's adjacent bedroom and Mrs. Hudson's downstairs sitting room, bedroom and kitchen. At left, the sitting room fireplace, the scene of many an "elementary" revelation. The wicker chairs that flank the fireplace are only temporary; a Sherlockian doctor is crafting more authentic versions out of copper.



visits us looks at the miniature," Dorothy says. "They all check the stairs; there must be 17 steps." Although she had the number right (she has read and enjoyed many Holmes stories), she had to change the position of the stairway so Holmes wouldn't hit his head on the ceiling.

"The most difficult piece was the sofa in the sitting room," Dorothy recalls. "When I bought it, it had gold velvet but, according to the Holmes stories, had to be horsehide. Since it was well-made, it took me almost 40 hours to dismantle and re-assemble it."

Thirty percent of the hundreds of items in the mini-



Center photo, a detail from Holmes' sitting room; bottom photo, Mrs. Hudson's bedroom. The staircase, visible through the bedroom door, was one of Dorothy's first projects. The 17 steps had to be repositioned so Holmes would not bump his famous head on the low ceiling.

ature are hand-made, all on the one-inch to one-foot scale. Dorothy wrote her catalogues from numerous miniature dealers, and occasionally enjoys the generosity of Sherlockians who are also miniaturists.

Dorothy's work schedule to date totals approximately 42 months and involves an enormous financial investment whose receipts she hasn't added yet (one chan-delier alone cost \$60).

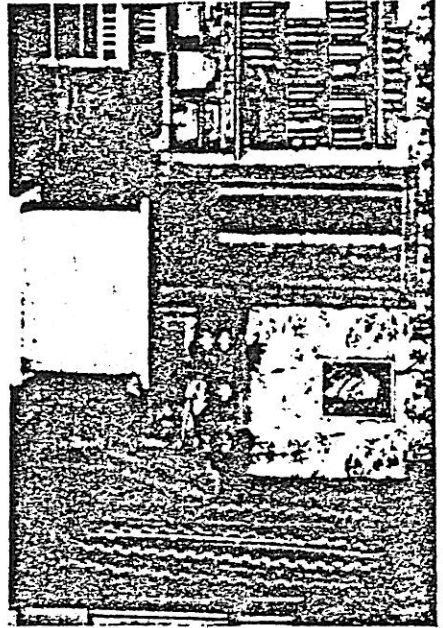
But the many quiet hours produced beguiling results: the Holmes sitting room, with fried eggs waiting on a circular table, is fascinating both for Sherlockians and those who know little of the violin-playing detective. A microscope lies on the desk, while the mantle boasts binoculars, magnifying glass, tobacco jar and pipe. A preserved, bottled snake is discreetly out of the Holmes story. "The Speckled Band."

A sidebar holds a tray with wine glasses and an apparatus the two bachelors used to put fizz in drinks. On one wall bullet marks spell the initials 'V.R.' for Victoria Regina. "Holmes shot the letters into the wall," Dorothy explains. And a copy of the *Illustrated London News* is laid on the table to be read with breakfast.

Dr. Watson's adjacent bedroom is cozy with its green flopped wallpaper. A Roman helmet on the bureau is a souvenir from his travels in military service.

"Some of the things, like their books, I'll never be able to get," Dorothy laments. "No bookmaker is going to print these in miniature (to conform to books mentioned in Doyle's stories) because almost no one but me would buy them!"

Downstairs, however, in



Little is known about the housekeeper's quarters, so Dorothy had more control over the furnishings. Her response to the controversy over whether or not the house had a bathroom was to include one in Mrs. Hudson's apartment; it's located off of the kitchen. The green tree wallpaper pattern in Mrs. Hudson's sitting room, above, is duplicated in wine on the walls of her bedroom next door.

Mrs. Hudson's sitting room, are numerous miniature volumes which include *Don Quixote*, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, and several of the Holmes works. The housekeeper's warm kitchen includes an old-fashioned stove with pots and pans, a half-full cookie jar and two mice waiting eagerly on the floor.

Two sides of the house are open (visible through plexiglass) and the gaslights and chandelier in the structure can be lighted electrically.

Still to be finished is Holmes' bedroom; Dorothy also hopes to put trees and a sidewalk outside 221. "I think you always update a miniature," she says. "And everything was so cluttered in their sitting room—I really haven't got enough clutter."

She visited miniature shops whenever she and her husband travelled, and saw the renovated 221B in London. But pictures helped her the most, chiefly those of a life-size recreation exhibited at the 1951 Festival of Britain.

Her husband's extensive library was also a major resource.

The project has been on display at St. John's College in Santa Fe and at a Santa Fe miniature show. Future displays are possible but involve laboriously packing and unpacking each item separately.

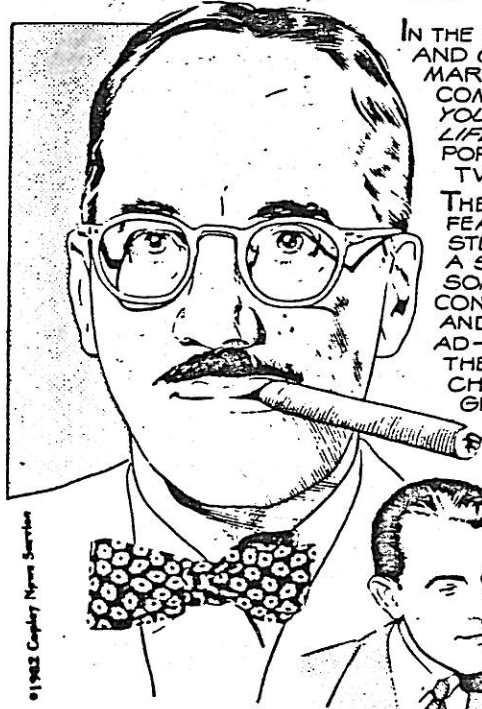
Dorothy has become a committed miniaturist—she founded the Lilliput Society of Santa Fe (20 members meet monthly) and started two other miniatures, a Southwestern library and another Victorian room. "I've begun making and carving furniture, too," she reports. There is a national group of Sherlock Holmes miniaturists, she notes, but apparently few people have done Holmes' entire house.

Now that it's almost finished, where are its famous residents? Dorothy has decided against adding figures of Holmes and Watson. "When people visit the miniature, Holmes and Watson are out on a case." 4

RETURN WITH US TO...

by Bill Owen
Don Howard

You Bet Your Life



IN THE 1960s THE ONE AND ONLY GROUCHO MARX AND HIS COMEDY-QUIZ YOU BET YOUR LIFE WERE MOST POPULAR ON THE TV SCREEN.

THE HIT SHOW FEATURED A TOY STUFFED DUCK, A SECRET WORD, SOME WACKY CONTESTANTS, AND ENDLESS AD-LIBBING BY THE CIGAR-CHOMPING GROUCHO.

FOR 15 YEARS GEORGE FENNEMAN WAS THE SHOW'S ANNOUNCER WHO ROLLED WITH GROUCHO'S VERBAL PUNCHES.

Answers

- 1—Wheaties broadcast in 1927
- 2—The Original Amateur Hour (first broadcast in 1927)
- 3—Jerry Big Town (Wilson was played at various times by Edward G. Robinson, Edward Pawley and Walter Greaza)
- 5—Kay Kyser Dr. IQ, a show that traveled around the country and originated from a different city each week. Lew Valentine served as Dr. IQ.
- 7—The Shadow (The Shadow, of course, gained the hypnotic power to cloud men's minds when he was on a trip to the Orient)
- 8—Leroy Forrester (Hal Peary and Willard Waterman held the title role at various times)
- 9—Casper Milquetoast, portrayed by Billy Lynn, based on the H. T. Webster comic strip
- 10—Howard Barlow conducted the orchestra on the program which was first heard in 1928

<u>REEL 291</u>		<u>NEW ADVENTURES OF MICHAEL SHAYNE</u>	1200'
1L	-49	Case Of Toulani's Tears	
	-49	Case Of The Bloodstained Pearls	
2L	-49	Case Of The Hunted Bride	
	-49	The Model Murderer	
1R	-49	The Generous Killer	
	-49	The Pursuit Of Death	
2R	-49	The Phantom Gun	
	-49	The Hate That Killed	
<u>REEL 292</u>		<u>DAMON RUNYON THEATRE</u>	1200'
1L	-49	Hold 'Em Yale	
	-49	Dancing Dan's Christmas	
2L	-49	Breach Of Promise	
	-49	Broadway Complex	
1R	-49	Bloodhounds Of Broadway	
	-49	The Lily Of St. Pierre	
2R	-49	The Big Umbrella	
	-49	Baseball Hattie	
<u>REEL 293</u>		<u>ESCAPE</u>	1200'
1L	10-22-49	Night In Havana	
	5-18-47	The Fourth Man	
2L	2-19-49	Orient Express	
	3-26-49	The Adaptive Ultimate	
1R	10-22-47	The Fall Of The House Of Usher	
	3-13-49	A Shipment Of Mute Fate	
2R	3-24-50	Danger At Matacumbe	
	4-7-50	The Ambassador Of Poker	
<u>REEL 294</u>		<u>INFORMATION PLEASE</u>	1200'
1L	7-5-38	Guest: Oscar Levant	
	9-27-38	Guest: Basil Rathbone	
2L	6-20-39	Guest: John Gunther, Gracie Allen	
	11-15-40	Guest: Oscar Levant, Fred Allen	
1R	1-24-41	Guest: Boris Karloff, Lewis E. Lawes	
	10-17-41	Guest: Fred Allen	
2R	2-20-42	Guest: John Carradine, Boris Karloff	
	9-18-42	Guest: Orson Welles, Christopher Morley	
<u>REEL 295</u>		<u>THE WHISTLER</u>	1200'
1L	9-20-42	Fog	
	9-5-42	House Of Greed	
2L	10-18-42	Malice	
	10-11-42	Death Comes At Midnight	
1R	10-4-42	The Urge To Kill	
	11-22-42	The Other Woman	
2R	10-25-42	The Alibi	
	11-15-42	Apparition	

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