



"Age cannot wither nor custom stale the felicity of Mr. W's style." .....NY Herald-Tribune.

All members are reminded that October Fifteenth is the anniversary of Plum's birth. What date could be more appropriate for that ingathering of local members at some nice, quiet restaurant, or that long-postponed chapter meeting and dinner? Or, if you are an Isolated Plummy, a special dinner with family and friends? It has been suggested as a consideration for future planners of TWS conventions that they be held as close to October Fifteenth as possible.

Tom Markunas, TWS, tells us that the October or November issue of Golf Digest Magazine will carry a feature article on the Fourth Annual P. C. Wodehouse Club Face Open Golf Classic. Watch for it.....

Members at The Gathering voted to send flowers to Lady Ethel. She sent this letter:

"I was overwhelmed by the beautiful flowers which arrived today. How kind of you all to think of me. It is heart-warming. Many, many thanks. With love and best wishes. Sincerely, Ethel W."

Has any one tracked down Plum's pseudonymous writing (Pelham Grenville, J. Plum, C. P. West, P. Brook-Haven, for example)? Such a study would add a new dimension to any Wodehouse collection, methinks.

"To make an apt answer is a joy to a man." Proverbs XIII.18.

Thus, our Q & A Department:

Q. Plum often used the phrase "The scales fell from his eyes." Are "scales" a covering of the eyes, either physically or morally, and does this phrase first occur in Acts IX.18, as Brewers Dictionary of Phrase and Fable contends? /s/ Inquisitive.

A. Dear Inquisitive: Yes. OM

Having examined the first issue of The PGW BOOKMART, OM is favorably impressed with this new service to our members. A full description of this swapping-selling-searching service was given on p.4, May Membership List. It meets the many requests we have had for PLUM LINES to provide a similar service, an impossibility with our present mom and pop administrative resources.

Ms. Geraldine Beare, Woking, Surrey, England, has prepared an Index to Strand Magazine, 1891 thru 1950. It will be published in November by Greenwood Press, 88 Post Road West (P. O. Box 5007), Westport, CT 06881, USA. For those members who have more than two or three copies of Strand, the \$75.00 price may not be a deterrent. (Incidentally, OM hasn't determined whether Ms should, or shouldn't, be followed by a period, as it is not an abbreviation. What thinkest thou?)

We are enclosing as a supplement to this issue of PL the first of two papers by Dr. Robert A. Hall, Jr., TWS, professor-emeritus at Cornell University. This is a sample of the writing we hope to encourage in a proposed Journal of the Wodehouse Society (that is not a firm title). Bob is chairing a committee to study the feasibility of such a periodical.

Last Christmas Doug Stow, president of our San Francisco Chapter, thoughtfully gave his wife (Margaret) a present which he had wanted as far back as he can remember: a printing press! He now proposes to publish attractive pamphlets in a chapbook format, dealing with Wodehouse lore. His initial project (I should have said their initial project) will be an ABCdary based on Plum's characters and places. You know the sort of thing: "A is for Agatha/Deadliest aunt/Some one may like her/But ol' Bertie can't." He solicits entries, and will provide one free copy to each successful entrant.

PLUM LINES

The future of The Wodehouse Society, its long-range stability, growth, and usefulness, depends on the strengthening of local chapters to a point where they may assume responsibility for their own members and, on a rotating basis, provide leadership within their respective national branches. Mom & Pop administration has obvious limitations. Let OM have your thoughts on this.

OM  
The Oldest Member

HERE FOLLOWS INFORMATION USUALLY CONTAINED IN A SUPPLEMENT TO THE MEMBERSHIP LIST but which is given here because we aren't issuing a suppl to the ML this time for various and sundry reasons.....

HELP WANTED:

Can any Plummy tell OM where these valuable members have moved? Mail to them has been returned.....Ms Sarah Cohen.....Paul G. Wodehouse.....Mr/Mrs Chris Keane....  
....Nancy Geffken.....Vera Jelinek.....

Brief Biography:

Beatrice (Bee) and Bill Welmers (he is Dr. Welmers, professor-emeritus at UCLA (University of California at Los Angeles) have this to say for themselves:

They read many of Plum's magazine stories in the 1920's and 1930's, but their conscious addiction began in 1946 when friends sent them, in Africa, Joy in the Morning, their only new book for four years. Serious PCW reading and collecting began in 1956, and now they are only four titles short of a complete collection (about half are first editions) of different titles, identical titles with significantly different contents, and anthologies...a total of 160 volumes. Bill has just retired after 22 years as professor of Linguistics and African Languages at UCLA. Their three children share their enthusiasm for PCW. Bill and Bee plan to move to northern Arkansas in the near future.

How about YOU? How else can we get to know our fellow members? How did YOU first become a devotee of Wodehouse? What do you do for a livelihood? As a hobby? Are you a collector of Wodehouse? Of other authors? Tell us all.....