Comments in Passing

Vol. II THE WODEHOUSE SOCIETY

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Those of us who knew of Plum's unhappy experience as an internee in WWII knew that he was cleared by British Intel in 1944, for we had read Malcolm Muggeridge's account of the clearance in "Encounter" in 1961, or in "The Most of Malcolm Muggeridge" in 1966. So the recent release of the official report, seven years after Sir Pelham's complete vindication by Queen Elizabeth II, comes as an anticlimax which adds nothing to that which was known and serves only to remind us that a grave injustice was done.

Each chapter is autonomous and may develop along lines acceptable to a majority of its members.

The distinguished panel of judges of the Great Insignia/Symbol/Device Contest, Archibald Gilpin, Lucius Pim, R.A., and Brancepeth Mulliner, noted London artists, reviewed all three entries. After careful deliberation they unanimously recommended that the contest be extended to June 30th. "At least till then," they cautioned. "But I promised! I said March 31st!!" "We know, OM, but we must exercise patience, you know." So be it, gentlemen.

WODEHOUSE EXHIBITS: (Accurate dates are shown where available; next CIP will pinpoint others)

Pierpont Morgan Library: 15 Oct., 1981-15 Jan., 1982; TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY: 2 Nov., thru 30 Nov., 1981; MECHANICS-MERCANTILE LIBRARY, San Francisco:

Sept-30 Oct., 1981; PARKSIDE BRANCH, SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY: thru October; SOUTHAMPTON COLLEGE LIBRARY, Southampton, L.I., NY: July (date uncertain). A series of musical
programs featuring Plum's lyrics will be presented in conjunction with the exhibit. DELAWARE VALLEY COLLEGE, Doylestown, PA: dates not confirmed. This exhibit will move to MELINDA COX LIBRARY, Doylestown, when completed at DVC. Herb Galewitz tells OM that a Wodehouse
Picnic at Remsenburg, L.I., NY, is scheduled for July. We expect more details. Note that
a letter from James Heineman, TWS, is attached. It should be useful in persuading other
Libraries to hold exhibits, however small. For this is the Wodehouse Centennial Year.

Annual dues have been set by the Advisory Committee at \$10.00 for U.S. and Canadian members. Because of higher postal rates (40c each  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz), dues for oversea members are higher: \$12.50. Those who join between 1 July and 31 December may pay half the annual rate. Husbands and wives at the same address may pay dues for one member only. Annual dues may flucuate each year, based on the cost of operation of the Society. An account has been opened for the Society at the Continental Bank, Doylestown, PA. Checks should be payable to The Wodehouse Society. A financial statement will be issued as of 31 December each year.

Plummies will be interested in a very readable book by Dr. Robert A. Hall, Jr., TWS, which is listed in both Jasen's and Connolly"s biographies of Sir Pelham: "The Comic Style of P. G. Wodehouse," Archon (Shoestring Press), 1944. Any book dealer can order it for you. It is a scholarly study which substantiates the belief of every true Plummy: that Plum was a true master of his craft.

Welcome to our new 22-member Montreal chapter! A pleasant surprise indeed!

Please let OM know of any items of general interest. AND let us make our Society worthy of Plum during this, his centennial year. For it is he whom we celebrate.

The Oldest Member