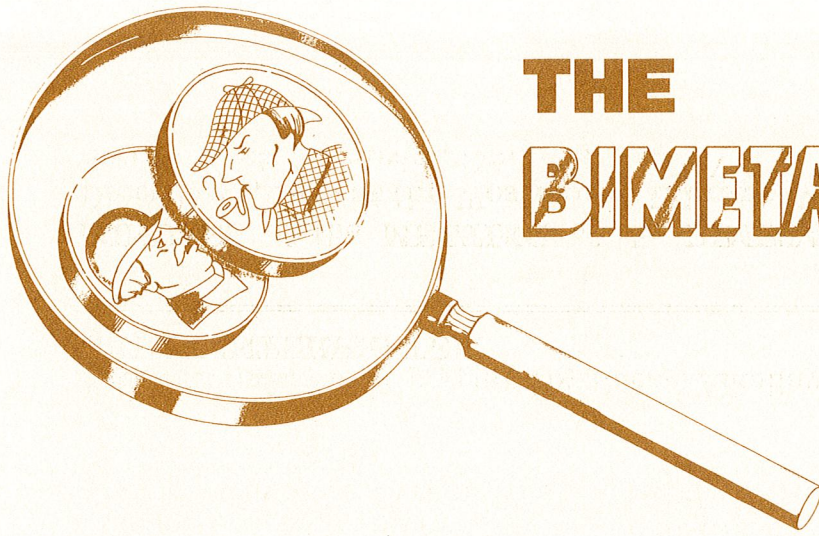


7 DEC 99



# THE BIMETALLIC QUESTION

Box 883 Stock Exchange Tower  
Montreal, Canada H4Z 1K2

The **next meeting** of the **BIMETALLIC QUESTION** will be held on **Wednesday, February 2, 2000 at 6:30 p.m. at the 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 Rachel Alkallay based on **THE ADVENTURE OF THE GREEK INTERPRETER.**

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**MINUTES** of the **MEETING** of the **BIMETALLIC QUESTION** held on Tuesday, December 7, 1999 at the **Westmount Library (Westmount Library) 4574 Sherbrooke Street West, Montréal, Québec.**

**Present:** Rachel Alkallay, Stanley Baker, Claude Campbell, Patrick Campbell, David Dowse, Mary Finnegan, Jesse Gryn, Edward Kelly, Linda Huntoon, Simon Petzold, Charles Purdon, Peter Reiner, Colin Semel, Sandy Tabori, Lise Winer

**Apologies:** Johanne King, Peter Nash

**Guests:** Richard Aboud, Bernie Brodtkin, Jeff Tessler, Karin Winkler

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## **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Our Sovereign, David Dowse, extended a warm welcome to members and guests alike, and informed us that a new arrangement has been reached with the Westmount Library; we will have access to the Westmount Room for the coming year. Consensus was a mixture of enthusiasm and relief that we have found a semi-permanent location. Arrangements are still to be finalized with the library concerning a permanent resting place for our archives. Wilfrid de Freitas will update us at the next meeting.

Patrick Campbell thanked Stanley Baker and Simon Petzold for placing an advert in the *Westmount Examiner* concerning our new location.







### **BUSINESS ARISING**

Colin Semel thanked the minute-taker for acknowledging his presence at the August meeting.

Patrick gave an update on the Bimetallic Colloquium and the organizing committee's progress. The date has been confirmed for June 2-4, 200 and the unofficial cost will be approximately \$195 (CAN) for the complete package. One more meeting is scheduled with McGill to tie up the loose ends.

Charles Purdon is conferring with the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association for the colloquium's banquet and Johanne King is investigating the possibilities with the Mount St. Stephen's Club. Details on all the comings and goings, and hopefully the colloquium brochure will be ready for distribution, at our annual dinner in January.

### **BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

David went over details for the January 22nd dinner at Au Vieux Port in Old Montréal at 7:00 p.m. We are indeed fortunate to have, once again, as our after-dinner speaker, Dr. Joseph Schwarcz, Ph.D. "Dr. Joe" is presently the Director of the Office for Chemistry and Society at McGill University. Dr. Schwarcz' topic will be "Science and Medicine in the Age of Sherlock Holmes."

Edward Kelly spoke up at this point and asked if any dramatic presentation or a mystery format had been considered for either the January dinner or the colloquium banquet in June. An original work might be best suited for such events.

A lively discussion ensued listing the pros and cons of such an undertaking; for a play or skit to be presented, a solid commitment from volunteers willing to spend rehearsal time to make it a success wherever it was stage. A few hands went up which belong to Edward, Colin, David and Rachel Alkallay. We look forward to hearing about their progress at the next meeting.

### **VARIA**

Charles reported that the location of our previous target shooting will be reopening in late March/early April. It looks good for the continuation of the *Colonel Sebastian Moran Shooting Match*. (Please note that no live targets are used.)

David backtracked at this point, and apologized to our guests for not giving them the opportunity to introduce themselves to members and vice versa.

Richard Aboud, Bernie Brodtkin and Karin Winkler were all invited by Stanley Baker, which naturally prompted the christening of the group as "Baker's Regulars." Karin mentioned that she had been a devotee to the SH stories as a child, and took this opportunity to meet others as interested as she. Richard had just made a major career/life change and is pursuing a writing career.

Jeff Tessler, an invitee of Mary Finnegan, decided it was time "to get out of the house." He has a keen interest in mysteries. Jeff works with the disabled and visually impaired and offered some very different suggestions for a planned outing or two such as a visit to and







participation in some activity at the school where he teaches. Jeff also asked about borrowing audio tapes from our archives. Claude Campbell will mail him a list of our collection.

Simon reported that Peter Nash is quite ill and was unable to attend. Simon was asked to extend our wishes for a speedy recovery to Peter.

Colin passed around the *Reader's Digest Edition of The Greatest Detective Stories*, which includes "The Man with the Twisted Lip."

Rachel conveyed Geoff Ewing's regards and he hopes to see some of us at the colloquium in June.

Bernie Brodtkin brought along a new book by Adrian Conan Doyle and John Dickson Carr entitled "Exploits of Sherlock Holmes" (Gramercy Books, Random House, NY); an article from the New York Times on "Unravelling Sherlock Holmes;" and a list of Sherlockian websites now available.

David remarked that even Loto Québec was getting into the mystery game with a new instant (scratchie) lottery ticket features Dick Tracey, SH, Columbo and James Bond.

It was reported, for those interested in attending the annual dinner in London UK this year, that the cost would be £43 / \$94 US. Compared to these prices, our banquet appears quite reasonable (\$32 CAN).

### **QUIZ**

Stanley presented the quiz on THE DYING DETECTIVE. Answers were clear and Stanley provided few concessions to the regular requests for the much sought after ½ point credit. Results were as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> Rachel (34.25 pts.), 2<sup>nd</sup> Colin (25 pts.) and tied for 3<sup>rd</sup> Jesse Gryn and Lise Winer (18 pts. each). Prizes were awarded to the four winners: Millennium champagne; a video tape of *The Bruce Partington Plans*, and 2 bottles of formosa corruption!! Rachel's pick for the next quiz will be THE ADVENTURE OF THE GREEK INTERPRETER.

The question of how to become a member was raised. David quickly explained that each guest is permitted to attend two meetings and receive the minutes *gratis* of these meetings, but if they wish to continue, they must join as an official member.

A choppy reading of the final scene of the *Tides of the Wight* was read.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was closed at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Claude Campbell

/cac



