

entertainment

Holmes novel not 'elementary'

by Jim Williams

The West End Horror: A Posthumous Memoir of John H. Watson, M.D., as edited by Nicholas Meyer. Ballantine, \$1.75.

How do you describe Sherlock Holmes, that titanic literary figure who symbolized the Age of Reason as surely as King Arthur's knights represented that of Chivalry?

In such a touchy matter, it's best to stick to strict objective journalism. To most people, Sherlock Holmes is a fictional character by an English ophthalmologist, Arthur Conan Doyle. The character first appeared in 1887, in *A Study in Scarlet*.

books

But other reliable people allege that Holmes and his chronicler, Dr. Watson, actually existed. They say Watson recorded true events in his stories, changing names where necessary. Medical ethics required that he submit the stories for publication under the name of his literary agent and medical colleague, Dr. Doyle.

You can make your own deductions about that one. For now, let's classify Holmes with Arthur and Robin Hood, as people who *should* have existed whether they actually did or not. *The West End Horror* is a "new" Sherlock Holmes novel presented by Nicholas Meyer, whose bloodhound-like ability to sniff up Watson's lost manuscripts was previously shown in *The Seven Per Cent Solution*.

In this new book, Holmes and Watson scour London's

This week's television highlights...

Thursday, June 30

The Unfinished Child—A March of Dimes special on pre-natal care narrated by Patricia Neal. Ch. 10—6:30 p.m.

Thursday Night Special, "Salute to the Beatles" Ch. 7—11:30 p.m.

Friday, July 1

Hawaii—Movie of James Michener's best-selling novel starring Julie Andrews and Max Von Sydow. Ch. 10—7:00 p.m.

Solti Conducts Wagner—The Chicago Symphony Orchestra plays selections from Wagner, including the operas "Tannhauser" and "The Flying Dutchman." Ch. 12—8:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 2

Freedom Is—A patriotic fantasy about a boy and his dog who go back to 1776 where they meet Ben Franklin, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson. Ch. 10—6:30 p.m.

Fawlty Towers—A hilarious new six part series by the creators of Monty Python. Ch. 12—7:30 p.m.

At the Top—Jazz flutist Herbie Mann with Pat Rebillot and vocalist Cissy Houston. Ch. 12—9:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 3

Americas—Second in a series. Adventures from Elizabethan England pur into to settle the American east coast. Ch. 6—5:00 p.m.

60 Minutes—CBS news magazine. Ch. 10—6:00 p.m.
Great Performances—Leonard Bernstein and the New York Philharmonic perform in London. Ch.

Monday, July 4

Our Happiest Birthday—CBS relives the highlights of last years bicentennial celebration. Ch. 6 and 10—7:00 p.m.

ABC Monday Night Baseball—Ch. 7-7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, July 5

Andy Rooney Goes to Work—CBS news correspondent tours the nation to look at Americans at work. Ch. 6 and 10—8:00 p.m.

A Portrait of Jamie—a study of a young artist Jamie Wyeth produced by the Nebraska Educational Network and being aired nationally on PBS. Ch. 12—9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 6

Charlie's Angels—Farrah Fawcett-Majors looks foxy again. Ch. 7—9:00 p.m.

theater district for mysterious "Jack Point", who has carelessly left a letter opener in a theater critic. Holmes' only clue is a volume of Shakespeare, at least until the critic's mistress also falls afoul of a sharp instrument.

Then an unusual mugger drags Holmes and Watson into an alley for an involuntary but beneficial drink. But it's not until the victims' bodies disappear from the police morgue—along with the police surgeon examining them—that Holmes realizes that something far more serious than mere murder is going on. In a chilling and grisly climax, Holmes gets his man, but decides to let the killer escape police capture—and for good reason.

It's not easy to guess who dun it, but there aren't

really too many suspects. The Meyer novel features characters who indisputedly existed; Sigmund Freud in *The Seven Per Cent Solution*; George Bernard Shaw, Oscar Wilde, and Gilbert and Sullivan in *The West End Horror*. And real, famous people couldn't very well be the culprits—could they?

But this book isn't really a match-wits-with-the-author puzzle. The real pleasure is in the atmosphere, in watching things develop, in being along with Sherlock Holmes when the game's afoot.

If you can't resist saying "Elementary!" every time you pick up a magnifying glass, *The West End Horror* is a case worth neglecting your practice for.

Summer is for Recreation

And now, from today until July 15,
the recreation area in the Nebraska Union
will be open from 8:30 to 4:30 Monday
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