

CANON QUEERIES

Ralph Edwards

1. Were all Watson's manuscripts written in pen and not in pencil?
2. What do "incoherent" and "entirely inadequate" signify?
3. What could have been the Colonel's defense of his brother's memory?
4. Who might have maligned the memory of the late Professor Moriarty?
5. Didn't Watson stop by at 221B from time to time?
6. Did Holmes ever write (not wire) to Watson at any other time?
7. Do Nimes and Narbonne have any particular significance?
8. Why air-guns and not, say, gun shots?
9. Did Holmes not carry matches?
10. Why go to the Continent, away from English law? Why did Holmes invite Watson?
11. When did a quiet fashion of living replace "Give me problems, give me work"?
12. When did chemical research give way to bees?
13. Was the Binomial Theorem worth the position at a university?
14. Did Moriarty limit himself to forgery, robbery and murder?
15. Does Holmes's description of Moriarty as one "who sits motionless who only plans and does little himself" agree with Moriarty's actions in this case?
16. What was the reason for the three day delay over a weekend?
17. Was Moriarty the sort to shoot or attack Holmes personally at 221B?
18. Would a one-horse van have been preferable?
19. Did Moriarty's attacks reflect finesse or merely organizational breadth?
20. What trusty messenger could Watson employ?
21. Would the unknown departure of a dangerous guest lessen Watson's danger?
22. Where did Holmes spend the evening? Where did the Italian priest obtain his luggage and belongings?
23. How competent were Moriarty's men in setting a fire in a room cluttered with newspapers and chemicals which caused no great harm?
24. Did Holmes expect Moriarty to wait for two days in Paris and then return to London to be arrested?
25. Was Moran part of the gang that the London police had secured?
26. Compare "over a thousand cases" with "the seventy odd cases...during the last eight years" (SPEC).
27. Why did Moriarty choose confrontation instead of ambush?
28. Which man walked in front of the other along the three-foot path, with sheer wall on one side and sheer drop on the other? Or did they walk side-by-side? If so, who walked next to the wall?
29. Was pigeonhole M in the fire-damaged rooms?