

Elmhurst Public Library 125 S. Prospect Ave. • Elmhurst, IL 60126-3298 phone (630) 279-8696 • fax (630) 516-1364 www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org

Edith Gavin Portrait

This document came from a binder of notable Elmhurst, IL citizens that was kept by librarians for many years. No further information came from.

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number of openings for new participants.

Pre-registration may be accomplished or additional information secured by contacting Joe Fullan, of 16-W-122 Timberview dr., Oak Brook, Do Galla 201

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ngs for new partici- Donated To Library A portrait of the late Mrs. Edithy of Florburg

A portrait of the late Mrs. Edith Gavin, painted by nationally known artist Mrs. Eleanor King Hookham,

Fans, Will Meet At Library

Was Sherlock Holmes mixed up in voodoo? What was Dr. Watson's secret vice? Why didn't Holmes marry? Or did he?

If you have wondered about such questions — or if you wish you'd wondered — join the growing number of Holmes fans at the Elmhurst public library at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19.

The speaker will be Robert W. Hahn, member and past-president of Hugo's Companions, the Chicago chapter of the Baker Street Irregulars. Currently editor of the society's newsletter, Hahn also holds the unique office of Baskerville Herald, a position created especially for him. Chicagoans know him as the originator of the annual.Sherlock Holmes birthday party, and as guest 'on various radio and television programs. The library program will include a review of recent books published on '. Holmes, notably the best-selling Seven Per Cent Solution. If there is enough interest, Mr. Hahn has expressed a willingness to plan other programs through the winter for interested mystery fans.

Whether you are a native or a newcomer to the fog-shrouded world of Holmes, Hahn's audio-visual presentation will be a fascinating journey into the Victorian Age.

Admission to the program is free.

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of Elmhurst, was recently presented to the Elmhurst public Hbrary.

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The library board had commissioned Mrs. Hookham to paint the portrait in memory of Mrs. Gavin, who started and developed the library's picture file housed in the young people's room.

Mrs. Gavin donated much of her time to this project in the years before her death in 1970.

Mrs. Hookham's extremely lifelike portrait is on display for public viewing in the library's Gavin Room. This room was furnished by Mrs. Gavin and named in memory of her daughter when the addition to the library was built. The Gavin room houses the library's collections of recordings and 8 mm films.

Mrs. Hookham is listed in "Who's Who in America" and has had showings of her work throughout the United States and in Paris.

Explaining how she achieved such a close likeness of Mrs. Gavin, a woman she met only once, Mrs. Hookham said, "Her kindness and unassuming nature were qualities I recalled from memory of my one visit with her. I tried to capture these on canvas through her facial expression.

"The bone structure of her face and the formation of her features 1 achieved after examining newspaper photographs of her. Also, many of the library employes who had worked with Mrs. Gavin recalled such things as her favorite print dress and the style in which she wore her hair."

The Elmhurst public library is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. Puso 7-19-74



"You never know what people will ask for next," said Mrs. Steve Gavin, 380 Argyle av., Elmhurst She referred to the pictures she clips and mounts for use by patrons of the Elmhurst public library.

The picture collection, which has been built up by Mrs. Gavin during the past six years to hundreds of clippings, is used mostly by school children and their teachers.

It includes photographs and paintings on most of the countries of the world, all kinds of insects and animals, period costumes, and "most any subject."

"I'm guided in what I save by what people ask for—but you never know what that's going to be next," Mrs. Gavin said.

Working on a purely voluntary basis, she spends from noon to 6 p.m. at the library every day that it is open. So far she has filled three filing cabinets with mounted pictures and has three more filing cabinets of unmounted ones.

actives and has three hole hing cabinets of unmounted ones. How did she get started on this unusual "hobby"? Mrs. Gavin, who has lived in Elmhurst since 1920, explained that she's always saved pictures and has many in her attic. But, when she called Ruth Strand, librarian, six years ago and asked if there were anything she could do, she had no idea that "I'd be doing just what I like to do."

- She has just one small request to make of residents. Anyone who is moving and would like to get rid of old books or magazines—or anyone who would like to clean such shooks or magazines out of the attic—has been asked to donate them to the library.

Mrs. Gavin explained that she would like to have them since many pictures in the older publications have not been duplicated since and are impossible to find anywhere else.

Very few libraries the size of the Elmhurst one have picture files, and if it weren't for the hundreds of hours of work that Mrs. Gavin has donated to the library, Elmhurst probably wouldn't have one ither.