Row 1: Dad & Polly Evans; (3) Dad & Eileen Rogers; Dad & Russell Crosse
Row 2: (3) Daddie & Martha Brown; Dad & Margaret Brown; Daddie
Row 3: Louise Schermer; Mother & Tom Guinzberg; Arthur Schwartz; Dad; Mrs. Schwartz; Lewis Gaul
Alan Green; E. T. Levitt; Arthur Schwartz; Dorothy Fields; Dad; Dorothy Fields
Row 4: Equinox; Lewis; Dad; Mrs. Schwartz; Joan Grafton; Summer Blossom; Charles Van Ooze; I
Cousins: Marian Anderson, Marshall Bear, Cantara; Arthur Schwartz; Russell Crosse
Row 5: Daddie, Mrs. Schwartz, Marshall Bear, Cantara; John Hershey, Alan Green; Maggie; Cousins, father
John Hershey; Lynn Farnor; Peggy Murray
Row 6: Arthur Schwartz, Daddie, Mrs. Schwartz; Mother (3); Daddie (3)
TO CELEBRATE

REX STOUT

ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 75TH BIRTHDAY

DECEMBER 1, 1961

SARDI'S RESTAURANT
244 West 44th Street
New York, N.Y.
HOMMAGE À
REX STOUT
FROM

George Adams
Marian Anderson
Matilda and Egmont Arens
Frederica and Alvan Barach
Marshell Best
Swinner Blossom
Howard Breslin
Mary and John Brick
Margot and Eugene Brown
Martha Brown
Pearl S. Buck
Cipi and Will Burtin
Julia and Leo Cherne
Margaret Cousins
Ellen and Norman Cousins
Mildred H. Creen
Anna and Russel Crouse
Eleanor Cryan
Edna and Peter Calick
Basil Davenport
William Efinger
Polly and Mel Evans
Clifton Fadiman
Neil and Lynn Farinol
Margaret and John Farrow
Dorothy Fields
Marion and Joseph Fields
Orpheus H. Fisher
Father George B. Ford
Ruth and Irwin Friend
Ada Gabriel
Ruth and Lewis Gannett
Edith and Sam Grafton
Gladys and Alan Green
Thomas H. Gurtzberg
Eleanor Harris
Molly and Howard Haycraft
Peter Heggie
Barbara and John Hersey

Selma G. Hirsh
Ruth Jacobs
Elizabeth and Elloe Janeway
Joan Kahn
Betty Jane and Irwin Karp
Pat and Donald Klopfier
Howard Lindsay
Frances and Richard Lockridge
Florence and Fredric March
Barbara Stout Maroc
Peggy McNeilly
Robert Meekill
Merle Miller
Peggy and Nicholas Murray
James Nelson
Roland F. Pease, Jr.
Ann and George Petry
Jean and Charles Paletti
Margaret Leech Pettrel
Helen and Frederick Redefer
Dorothy and Richard Rodgers
Marjorie Kouslon
Sigrid Schultz
Mary and Arthur Schwartz
Frances and William Shiver
Luisa M. Silcox
Lee Arnold Spiegelman
Pola Stout
Rebecca Stout
Nora and Howard Taubman
Mary and Telford Taylor
Mills Ten Eyck, Jr.
Pauline Trigere
Charles Van Doren
Dorothy and Mark Van Doren
Irla Van Doren
Julio Werthein
Glenway Wescott
Julian Wolff

Lee Wright
COCKTAILS AND CANAPÉS

IN

The Belasco Room

☆

DINNER

TURTLE CONSOMMÉ
Prisoner's Base

CHEESE STRAWS
On the Wind

VEAL BERCY
Fer de Lance

RISOTTO
At Wolfe's Door

GREEN BEANS
In the Best Families

ROLLS
Full House

ZABAIONE ICE CREAM-CAKE
Trouble in Tripli-case

VIN MERSAULT
Before Midnight

LIQUEURS
Final Deduction
This fellow is the best of them all . .

From a marginal note made by Justice Holmes in one of Rex Stout's books
To: Speakers at Rex Stout Dinner

From: The Dinner Committee

Here is the line-up for the "Aspects of Rex" speeches to be delivered by the "minute-men."

M. C. Mr. Arthur Schwarz
Rex the Business Man Mr. Egmont Arens
Rex the Horticulturist Mr. Mel Evans
Rex the Cook Mrs. Dorothy Fields
Rex the Cabinet Maker Miss Marian Anderson
Rex the Baseball Fan Mr. Samuel Grafton
Rex and the Fight for Mr. Peter Cusick
Freedom Committee Alan Green
Rex and the Friends of
Democracy
Rex and the Writers War Board Mr. Russel Crouse
Rex and Freedom House Father Ford
Rex and the Society for the Mr. Mark Van Doren
Prevention of World War III
Rex and World Federalism Dr. Julian Wolff
Rex the Man of Many Meetings Mr. Norman Cousins
Rex the Pre-Mystery Novelist Mr. Clifton Fadiman (By recording)
Rex and the Baker Street Mr. Lewis Gannett
Irregulars
Rex the Mystery Novelist Dr. Julian Wolff
Rex, Husband and Father Mr. Samuel Grafton
Rex and the Authors League Mr. John Hersey

None of these speakers is to take more than a minute and a half except Mr. Hersey who has to cover more detail than the others and who has to include a special presentation in his remarks.

So that we may be assured of communication with each speaker, would you please drop me a postcard to the address below confirming receipt of this memo.

Gratefully,

Alan Green
120 East 52nd Street
New York 21, New York

AG/rs
JAMES THURBER

By Robert M. Coates

James Thurber, in his THE YEARS WITH ROSS, has described how, one day in 1927, he went up to the offices of the New Yorker to discuss, as he thought, the possible purchase of some pieces he had sent in to the magazine, and found himself instead -- and considerably to his dismay -- hired on the spot as its managing editor. That was Ross's way at the time. Similarly, I went up there a couple of years later, as I thought to discuss a couple of pieces I had sent in, hopefully; was interviewed by Thurber, and found myself taken on instead to work, along with Jim himself and E. B. White, on the department called "Talk Of The Town."

By then, to his relief, Jim had succeeded in getting himself demoted from his original exalted position. It was a job he had never wanted in the first place. From his earliest days, he had wanted to be a writer; nothing else would do, and a writer he remained pre-eminently, in spite of all his other accomplishments, to the end -- and about as dedicated a one as I have ever seen.

But he prided himself on his ability as a reporter, too. Before coming to the New Yorker, he had worked for a while on the old New York Evening Post, and before that, during his years abroad, on the Paris edition of the New York Herald. As a working newspaperman he had, by his own admission, his errant side. (He liked to tell of the time he was sent to cover a fire in Brooklyn, and came back to say that he hadn't been able to find it -- and would go on to describe the look on his city editor's face as he digested the announcement. "A four alarm fire," Jim quoted the poor man as saying, "and this fellow just can't find it!")

Talk Of The Town, however, or as we called it, more simply, Talk -- less hidebound, less "who -what -when -where -why" conscious than the dailies -- was just made for him, as he was made for it, and it is no more than simple fact to say that he "made" the department too, into its present image. He worked full time on it, I worked only part time. Andy White, more and more, as time went on, devoted himself to the writing of those more or less straight "editorial" paragraphs, impeccable in style, on the lead-off "Notes and Comment" page.

The department, then -- indeed, the whole magazine -- was in what could hardly be called with more reason its "formative" stage. I'm sure that Andy White would agree that it was Thurber, more than anyone else, who reached out, captured, and molded into reality Ross's inchoate dream of what Talk should be. It wasn't an easy task, I realize now. A good, crisp writing style, mingling the essayistic deceptively with the reportorial, was required, first of all. Jim had that. Unfailing good taste was needed too, for the air of casualness we affected could easily have been led off into mere whimsicality. (I still remember how depressed we used to be when would-be contributors would send in anecdotes or other items couched in a kind of pseudo-British, high-toned jargon: the very thing we were trying to avoid.) A respect for simple accuracy was needed too, for the same reason, as well as an instinct for the central interest in a given story.

Jim had these attributes, for despite his...
HOMAGE TO REX

On Friday, the first of December, about a hundred of Rex Stout's closest friends gathered in the private rooms of Sardi's for cocktails and dinner to celebrate his 75th birthday. Quite a few of those present were such Authors League notables as: Lindsay and Crouse, William Shirer, John Hersey, Richard Rodgers, Ann Petry, Arthur Schwartz, Merle Miller, Samuel Grafton, Glenway Wescott, Marjorie Roulston, Luise Hillis and such non-League notables as Marian Anderson, Norman Cousins, John Farrar, Donald Klopfer, Florence Eldridge, Margaret Pulitzer.

High spot of the evening was "The Aspects of Rex," a series of brief tributes by seventeen of Rex's friends, each one celebrating a single facet of Rex the Renaissance Man. The last speaker was John Hersey on Rex and the Authors League, at the end of which Hersey presented Rex, in the name of the League, with a suitably inscribed golden bowl.

Moss Hart's letter: Your loyalty to The Authors League, your endless giving of your time, and of yourself, your unfaltering willingness to stand up and fight for the things you believe in, are rare and admirable qualities. There is a sweetness of nature, too, dear Rex, that shines through the beard like a good deed in a naughty world.

Howard Dietz, read by Mr. Schwartz: Salute Rex Stout! Bewhiskered elf. Life looms ahead for this beginner. I would have read this toast myself, but I wasn't invited to the dinner.

Russel Crouse: Three score and 15 years ago, Mr. and Mrs. John Wallace Stout brought forth on this continent a new man child, conceived in Noblesville, Indiana, and dedicated to the proposition that he was equal to all men put together. Now we are engaged in a great celebration testing whether that man, or any other man so conceived and so dedicated, can endure forever (and at this point it looks as though he is going to). We are met tonight to commemorate a great battlefield, The Writers War Board, and to dedicate a portion of our memories to those who gave their Wednesday afternoons that that man might wave his beard and yell his head off -- but in a larger sense we cannot improve on those Wednesday afternoons -- when the Air Force asked us to get them bombardiers, and we got them so many that they didn't have enough pilots to fly them --.

Egmont Arens. To those who love him, the most important thing about Rex as a business man is that he stopped being a business man. -- Figuring (45 years ago) that bankers have a lot of loose money lying around, Rex and his brother think up a fantastic scheme, the indirect object of which is -- to get some of this loose money. They called it Educational Thrift. -- Then in a spirit of bravado, he announces that on a certain day, he will cleanse himself of bankerism forever, and go off dancing with the Muses. -- And he's been his lovable non-bankerish self ever since.

Norman Cousins. Rex and World Federalism: His interest in world government was not an abstract interest. The interest began in people. The need to have a planet that could be safe and fit for human habitation. -- I think we are learning, as you have been telling us, that the enemy is not just a totalitarian nation. The enemy is anarchy. The way out is law. You have believed in the full life, and you have confidence, not just in the survival of man, but in the survival of the free man. You believe that man can grow, can keep decisions in his own hands, and justify the gift of life. And I think we can do it, so help us Rex.

Father George B. Ford. Rex and Freedom House: I think we could say about Rex that he has been, in the United States of America, Mr. Freedom House itself. I know of no one in the United States who is more solidly dedicated to the principles, and their implications in the democratic society, than Rex Stout.

Mel Evans. Rex the Horticulturist: You've seen those vines that were a little over-affectionate, maybe? A window was blown out, Rex said it was a limb that hit it. I know what it was; it was one of those vines, reaching for a rabbit that was passing. -- Have you been there in iris time? -- We're privileged to be here to celebrate with a very --

Mark Van Doren's poem, read by Charles Van Doren: To Rex Stout, first and best president of the Society For the Prevention of World War III, founded, 1944. -- To Rex this toast. This altogether serious word, of how he hoped to stop World War the Third. And so far does, for it has not occurred. He thought of it before the second ended. The German fence, he said, would not be mended, till what was true was told, and what pretended--.
Dorothy Fields. Rex the Cook: Rex is what I would call a long order cook. -- Rex is down under a very cool tree, standing in front of a grill on which are placed a dozen chickens, with a hogshead of Kitchen Bouquet. -- He stands there and bastes for two hours. -- I hope that many golden summer days I can drive up that hill and be with Barbara, Rebecca, and Pola and Rex. And those chickens.

Cleveland Amory (wire): Even from Detroit we can see that at his three-quarters post it is still Rex first. First in roar, first in peace, and first in the hearts of all paid up League men.

Marian Anderson. Rex the Cabinetmaker: Knowing the man, you might expect that he would want to be just as exact in that as he is in his writing. Some of the things he has done have been so well done, that over the years they stand as straight, as beautiful, as dignified as the man himself. He is truly a master at whatever he attempts to do.

Sam Grafton. Rex the Baseball Fan: To Rex Stout baseball is a test of whether there is justice in the world. It is hardly necessary to say he is a Giant fan. -- However, as against the Yankees he will root for any National League team. He does so because he believes that right must triumph over might. To him the phrase "Damn Yankees" has a very special connotation. -- Yankee Stadium is to him an outpost of all those forces in the world which try by money-power, and brute muscle, to dominate oversensitive, freedom loving men, such as Willy Mays. -- I salute him as a man who knows that if you only keep them low and outside, democracy will triumph in this world.

Peter Cusick: Rex came in to the life of the Fight for Freedom Committee at the time it was terribly necessary for the people who were working in it to reach the public. We were politicians, business people, everything except writers. And Rex was very mad. He hated Mr. Hitler as much as anyone can an enemy. -- He made the issue of the war pos sible to understand. I think he contributed as much as any of the great men of that particular time.

Alan Green: Continuing the portrait of this our Renaissance Man, let us remember that the original Renaissance men -- were as well known for their enemies as for their friends. Nobody ever had enemies more worth fighting than you had, Rex. Back in the 130's and into the 140's you and Dr. L. M. Birkhead founded the Friends of Democracy. You and he were the brains and the bloods and the guts of an organization that exposed American fascists.

The Renaissance Man was handy with his sword, and you left some beautiful, and beautifully placed scars; and for this, too, we thank you and we bless you.

John Hersey. Rex and The Authors League: When all is said and done, Rex is a writer; and more, a writer is a writer. For he has given a treasure of his energy to his colleagues and his craft. More than any other writer, far longer, with greater faithfulness, and with more success, Rex has worked for the human condition of his fellow writers. He stands with the founders and the heroes in this work.

UNAUTHORIZED LIBRARY PHOTOCOPYING AND THE COPYRIGHT ACT

A joint committee, representing the American Library Association and other library associations, has established a policy on photocopying for the guidance of American libraries. The committee's report states:

"The Committee recommends that it be library policy to fill an order for a single photocopy of any published work or any part thereof."

The library position on photocopying represents, in principle, a grave threat to the rights of authors and publishers under the Copyright Act; and the threat is closer to becoming an actuality than many people realize.

It is now library policy (and for some time has been the practice of several libraries) to make and sell a copy of any book, or any part of a book, on anyone's order. There is no restriction on the number of copies that any library will make; the "single photocopy" limitation simply means that it will sell one copy to a customer. If it has orders from 10 customers, it will make 10 copies; if from 100 customers, 100 copies. Copies are made without the consent of the copyright owner (and presumably would be made over his objection, if he objected); and of course, without compensating him.

Such unauthorized copying of a copyrighted work, or any substantial portion of it, is clearly an infringement of the author's copyright -- which gives him the exclusive right to print, reprint, copy and sell his work. It is infringement whether one copy or a number of copies are made or sold; it is infringement whether the copying is done on a printing
Author Rex Stout, 75, Feted On Birthday at Sardi's

Authors, playwrights, theatrical producers and editors helped Rex Stout of Danbury celebrate his 75th birthday Friday night at Sardi's in New York City.

Mr. Stout has a long and very distinguished career as one of the nation's most popular writers of mystery stories.

In addition to his writing activities, in 1941 he was appointed chairman of the Writers' War Board by President Roosevelt and held office until 1946. He has also served many terms as president of the Authors' League. He has also been active in the Friends of Democracy and organizations devoted to the perpetuation of peace.

Mr. Stout is a prolific writer of the stories in which Nero Wolfe is the orchid-raising detective. These stories ran for years in serial form in Collier's magazine and are now appearing in the Saturday Evening Post.

At the birthday celebration many noted personalities gave short talks on aspects of Rex Stout's career, which were mostly along humorous lines. Dorothy Fields, formerly of Brewster, described Stout's "long-order-cook" abilities; Marian Anderson of Danbury sketched Stout's facility in cabinet-making; Samuel Grafton of Ridgefield described "Stout, the baseball strategist," John Hersey, author of "The Wall" and other books, told of Mr. Stout's "great battles" on the Writers' War Board.

Norman Cousins, editor of the Saturday Review, re-told of Stout's attempts to bring sanity to our use of nuclear power; Charles Van Doren of West Cornwall, read an original poem for the occasion which had been composed by his father Mark Van Doren; Lewis Gannett, of Roxbury, formerly editor of the Book Review Section of the Herald Tribune gave brief sketches of the many novels which have poured from the fertile brain of Mr. Stout.

A special silver plaque was presented to Mr. Stout by the Writers' Guild of America.

In addition to the above, among the area guests attending were: Mrs. Stout, William Efinger, Mr. and Mrs. Mel Evans, Orpheus S. Fisher, Mrs. Florence March, Miss Rebecca Stout, Mrs. Barbara Stout Maroc, Merle Miller, and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene J. Brown.
Writers Honor
Rex Stout, 75

More than 100 authors, playwrights, editors and others paid tribute to Rex Stout, mystery writer, last night on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday at a dinner in the Belasco Room of Sardi’s West.

Arthur Schwartz, composer, was master of ceremonies and introduced a group of speakers associated with Mr. Stout as a writer. Mr. Stout is a leading figure in the Authors Guild and Authors League of America, former chairman of the Writers War Board, and active in Freedom House, United Federalists and similar organizations.

Among the speakers were Russel Crouse, Dorothy Fields, Marian Anderson, Samuel Grafton, the Rev. George B. Ford, Norman Cousins, Lewis Gannett, Sumner Blossom and John Hersey. Mr. Hersey presented an inscribed golden bowl to Mr. Stout.
Happy Birthday, Rex!

We enthusiastically join your world of friends in celebrating this, your 75th birthday. We warmly salute your rich contributions to the enjoyment of readers everywhere.

We gratefully acknowledge your long years of service to America's writers, in whose interests and for whose freedoms you have so stoutly labored.

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