

THE FIRST CONANICAL TOAST

To "the Woman"—Pola (Mrs. Rex) Stout

by Thomas M. McDade

Delivered at the Annual Dinner of
The Baker Street Irregulars, 7 January 1966

I give you The Woman of Sherlock's own day,
Irene Adler the beauty, capricious and gay.
An adventuress who, being so hard to please,
Had Bohemian King and Holmes on their knees.
Since Royal Heart was too faint and sleuth was too
She fled from them both—and now we know why! [shy,

For here is The Woman, our toast for today,
Pola the beautiful, witty and gay.

She barely remembers how ill they once used her
Now that she reigns, Supreme in all Brewster.
She has found the one king who could equal her art,
That Bohemian Rex who so well did his part,
That we now toast "Fair lady, won by Stout heart!"

