



BOOK REVIEW

Burton Holmes Travelogues is subtitled *The Greatest Traveler of His Time, 1892–1952*. For 60 years Holmes spent part of the year traveling to exotic places and the rest of the year preparing and giving travel lectures. His travels and accrued knowledge were vast. Just as a sample, Holmes went to the newly rediscovered Inca site of Machu Picchu in Peru, visited construction of the Panama Canal, and witnessed an eruption of Italy's Mount Vesuvius.

In the early years he showed audiences black-and-white lantern slides, then hand-colored slides (many shown in this book), and later he moved on to newer photo technology, including motion pictures. Holmes invented the word *travelogue* in 1904 to describe his two-hour presentations. Hollywood stars were his friends and he has his own star on Hollywood Boulevard. His standard autograph was, "To travel is to possess the world."

Years later, starting in the 1970s, Genoa Caldwell, a photo specialist, rescued and worked to preserve the Burton Holmes archive of photos and films. Thanks to Caldwell, the book's editor, and to Taschen, the German publisher, we have this 12 ¼-inch by 10 ½-inch book. It is a beautiful tribute to Burton Holmes, in photos and his own words, and to the fascinating world of travel (2006; \$49.99).

—Dorothy Clendenin