



Newsboy

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NEW YORK - NOW AND THEN

In the Book Section of the current February READER'S DIGEST, you will find an up to date description of the city in the adventures of a New York City detective. His beat in the 16th Precinct includes "Times Square" and "The Great White Way" between 42nd and 52nd St., just south of Central Park.

Although much of the city's street system, including the 16th Precinct and Central Park, was already laid out and in use in Horatio Alger's day, the heart of the city was five or six miles south, around City Hall. City Hall Park and the neighboring Bowery was the preferred setting for the Horatio Alger stories.

New York is in a state of continuous change. The old city must make way for the new. It was so, even in Alger's day.

HOW TO READ ALGER...AND ENJOY IT

The Alger story setting, in and around City Hall Park, is delightful and refreshing, compared to New York of today.

If you do not have an old street map of lower New York, or old post cards, try to visualize it from what you have at your disposal. City Hall Park is triangular in shape like the letter V. It would be helpful to draw your own diagram and start from this point. Tilt the V a little to the right until the left side is perpendicular. This is Broadway. The right side is now known as Park Row. Portions of this street were known as Chatham Street in the Alger settings.

The top of the V (when closed) is Chambers St. City Hall, built in 1812 and still exists, sets in the northern portion of the V and faces south. To the right of the V is the approach to the Brooklyn Bridge, but bear in mind that it was not opened until 1883. In the lower portion of the V was located the old Post Office, but also bear in mind that it was not completed until 1875. It no longer exists. Facing on the west side of Broadway between Vesey and Barclay near the lower portion of the V, was the Astor House. It no longer exists. Printing House Square was across from the park on the right. The loft of the "Sun" Bldg., on this Square was one of the locations of the popular Newsboys' Lodging House.

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PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

REGIONAL DIRECTOR APPOINTMENT --- I am happy to announce the appointment of Dr. David J. Thompson, of Salinas, California, as our Regional Director for the Pacific Coast Region. Under his guidance will be the states of California, Washington, Oregon, Hawaii, and Alaska. Dr. Thompson, PF-112 has been a member for the past two years. At last report he had 108 titles in his collection, a remarkable achievement, reflecting his interest in Alger since boyhood.

His acceptance of this post completes an interesting brother team ... an Alger story in itself. His brother, Keith H. Thompson, of Bellport, Long Island, being the new Regional Director of the eastern Allegheny Region. Both boys read Algers in their father's library, began collecting them early. Dr. Thompson is in a unique position to build interest on the west coast, where we already have several members.

CANADA --- Your president is hoping that we can build additional membership in Canada. Wouldn't it be nice if we could make our neighbor to the north a 12th Horatio Alger region, and build membership in the Maple Leaf country. This would give our movement an international flavor. Algers were distributed and read in Canada, as well as here.

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP --- Last month we wrote a letter to the postal authority designated in charge of commemorative stamps, in which we outlined the significant contribution of Horatio Alger and tried to describe the unique nostalgic flavor of such a stamp, as well as its historical significance in 1968. So far no reply, but we are hopeful. The mills of the gods grind slowly. We can picture such a stamp clearly, and believe it could be a definite boon to our movement. No news is good news? (EDITOR'S NOTE: A prompt reply has been received, but contained little encouragement)

NEWSBOY provides a forum for Alger collectors and enthusiasts. Use it. Use the book mart to offer your surplus titles. There is no charge. Engage in correspondence with the new members as announced. Write the editor your views on the hobby.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO)

NEW MEMBERS REPORTED

PF-143 Mr. John J. Mc Connell T-000  
25½ Montague Street,  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

PF-144 Mr. Ralph W. Anderson T-010  
807 - 12th Street,  
Grundy Center, Iowa 50638

PF- Mr. Willard D. Thompson T-000  
835 So. West 14th,  
Portland, Oregon 97205

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Mc Connell's introduction was presented in advance on page 3 of the January Issue.

Anderson comes to us by way of Jack Row and further remarks will be found in his column in this issue. Ralph is the (new) owner, editor and publisher of Collectors News. This Journal is not new to many of us, however, Ralph has just recently taken it over. In addition to Jack's remarks, Ralph is President of the Iowa State University Alumni Assn. Member of the Board of Governors of the Iowa State University Foundation. Formerly on the Economics Staff at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. Director of The Farmers Savings Bank, Grundy Center. Past Pres., Grundy Center Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club; and has served as trustee and elder of the First Presbyterian Church, Grundy Center. Jack adds in today's mail that his article has been presented for publication and will appear in the March issue of Collectors News, and due to its length, may be continued in the April Issue. Jack says that all members listed in the new membership roster will receive a complimentary copy.

Willard Thompson's application has been approved, and his PF number will be given in the next issue. To the best of our knowledge he is not a relative of Keith and David. Willard is a book dealer, and is interested in resale and research. His interests include other juvenile authors, such as Mayne Reid.

Items too late to be included in the membership roster are: Edward Golden, PF-116, 9 Park Place, Noroton Hts, Conn., 06823 and Edward Mattson, PF-067, 700 Platinum Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland, 21221. We hope they will also receive a complimentary copy of Collectors News. C. Calvin Noell, PF-082, has 35 titles and his wife's name is Virginia, Zip code is corrected to 49005. Ernest Sanford, PF-032 is now in the 100 class with 102 titles. We acknowledge a long, and interesting letter from Dan Fuller, PF-142. He adds that when he is home, he lives in South Dakota. He didn't read Alger at home, but is now extremely interested on the subject. He is doing some research and may do a paper if scholastic time will permit.

Write him your observations regarding Alger's writings, plots, heroes, editions, —anything Alger. It is sure to be of interest to our growing band of followers. And spread the word to your friends. We are finding avid members in the colleges, professors and teachers, newspaper men, American literature students, retired people. The women too, are avid fans of our hero. Tell your acquaintances about the Society; the word, as it spreads, will seek out others who have the interest but who do not presently know of us, nor we of them.

MEMBERSHIP PLAQUE ---Some of us are working on the design of a membership token for display in home or office, to augment our present membership card. We hope to have something to show you at the Milwaukee Event in May. Such a display piece should augment pride in our organization, help to spread knowledge of us, and provide an additional attraction to the prospective new member.

SEEKING FELLOW HOBBYISTS --- The Society is running brief notices in several of the antique and hobby publications, making known the existence of the Horatio Alger Society. Each news story that appears in print brings letters from Alger collectors, asking about us. We know that "out there" are hundreds of Alger enthusiasts, not yet heard from. The more we find, the sooner we can sponsor area get-togethers. Those, in turn, will add to the value and zest of our membership.

BOOKS FOR LIBRARIES --- This activity has been de-activated for the time being for lack of interest. Not for lack of interest on the part of libraries, we emphasize, for we have letters proving otherwise. One day, perhaps, a volunteer will come forth to spark this program into being, placing a few Algers in school and community libraries all over the land for reference by those interested in American literature, and for re-reading by the millions who remember Alger fondly.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER --- Completed at last and provided without charge by WAYSIDE PRESS in gratitude for the way Society members have received the Gardner book. Mailing of the roster is going forward. Many did not report names of spouses or number of titles. Even before the ink was dry, membership developments was rendering it incomplete. At midyear a supplement will be distributed, bringing it up to date. All new members signed will receive one.

RESEARCH --- Why not pick a topic about Alger stories, characters, etc., do research on it, and write it up for Editor Forrest Campbell for appearance in the NEWSBOY? You will enjoy the study, our members will profit by it, and the literature of Alger thus widened will prove an added magnet to new members.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE)

BOOK MART

PF-020 Milton R. Salls, Herkimer Home, R3 Little Falls, New York 13365 offers:

- E 4MAD, G 12MAD, E 17H&C, E 19HTC,
- F 19P&C, F 20P&C, E 21ALB, E 21H&C,
- E 26JCW.

PF-032 Ernest P. Sanford, 9724 Admiralty Drive, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 Offers:

- E 28MAD, G 35ALB, G 44H&C, G 48H&C,
- G 81ALB, G126H&C, G135H&C, F14OH&C,
- E145CPC, G147MAD, F155ALB, F165FBC,\*
- G185ALB, G188JCW.

\* (oddy) Title page & Contents -- S&S

PF-142 Dan Fuller, 1118 Catalpa Circle, Madison, Wisconsin 53713 Offers:

- G 30H&C (attention of PF-128)

For the attention of members who have formerly done business with the CHICAGO BOOK MART. It is now under new management. I have been informed that the new proprietor is: LAVADA E. SIEBERT, BOX 319, Park Forest, Illinois 60466.

The new 1966 World Almanac now lists all zip code numbers. Our Society has been invited to be listed in the 1967 Issue under ASSOCIATIONS & SOCIETIES, which is found this year on page 689.

Max Friedman, PF-001, has uncovered two copies (1882-1883) of CHATTERBOX, a bound volume published by ESTES & LAURIAT, 301 Washington Street, Boston. In the contents is an anonymous story entitled, WINNING HIS WAY. It is possible, but unlikely that it was written by Alger. Perhaps another case of cashing in on the Alger bandwagon with similar title and style.

Complete sets (chapter 11 being reprinted) of THE YOUNG POSTMASTER are now available in limited supply. Chapters 12, 13, 14, & 15 will soon be exhausted, and will require a reprint job. I have saved the other stencils.

Jack Row informs me that he has PHIL, THE FIDDLER in 10 different editions. Are there more? He wants them all. He is also trying for a complete set of the small size Hurst editions.

When announcing number of titles in your collection, you may count any and all title variations.

Of all the 44 newsletters published so far, I think this is the best Issue, but then, I say that every month. A fresh newsletter makes the last one uninteresting and obsolete. News from an unexpected source is always interesting. The next Issue may be better yet... if you will cooperate. Thanks for your past cooperation. Your participation is appreciated.

NEWSBOY PLAQUE --- Nominations of Candidates for this annual Horatio Alger Society Award\* are now being invited from our members by Jack Row, PF-101, Clarion, Iowa, chairman of the awards committee. The award is given to the writer whose published work the past year best contributed to build appreciation of the contributions of Horatio Alger Jr., to American life and literature. Award to be made in person, where possible, at the Society's annual convention. If you wish to suggest a nominee, and we hope you will, send the name along with your supporting reasons before March 15th, to Jack Row at above address. (EDITOR'S NOTE: The 1964 NEWSBOY PLAQUE was awarded to Ralph Gardner for his published book, HORATIO ALGER, or THE AMERICAN HERO ERA. This award was announced in the January 1965 issue of the NEWSBOY, on the occasion of an Anniversary of Horatio Alger's birthday)

OUR HERO --- Earlier, the interesting idea was advanced that Horatio Alger may have been the first to use the expression, "our hero," in referring to the principal character of a story. This aroused in your president, the interesting challenge to determine in which story Alger himself first used the expression. This research remained in the mind as a "someday" project, until, reading a newly acquired copy of "Dan the Detective" he noted the expression. This didn't help a great deal, since this story was not published until 1884.

Thus, the place to start would be in Alger's very first story, "Frank's Campaign," published in 1864. The searcher did not have long to search. There the familiar saying was noted, popping out on page 12 (of the Burt edition). Now, will those of our members who read other early juvenile authors, keep this in mind and take note if any other used the term in a story published prior to 1864? If not, our claim has credibility.

....Ken Butler

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EDITOR'S NOTE: There are also the many short stories written by Alger prior to his first published book-length stories.

PF-140 Carlyle Strickland writes: "I have just recently purchased nine Alger books which at least gives me a start. I am looking forward to an interesting association with the Society." (unquote). In addition to his meritorious academic standings, and memberships in various college associations, I note that he has earned an enviable athletic standing also. He was twice honored as college low hurdle champion. Basket ball captain, in 1961 & 1962, and received honorable mention in NAIA All America, 1962. (EDITOR'S NOTE: I'll bet he can ride a high-wheeler too. Gilbert, you may be asked to defend your 1965 title).

MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THE MILWAUKEE EVENT, MAY 20-21 & 22nd.

HOW TO READ ALGER: continued -

Nassau street parallels Broadway on the right and terminates at Printing House Square. Centre street begins on the opposite side of this Square and parallels Broadway in a northerly direction. Spruce street begins at this Square and ends at Gold street just south of Brooklyn Bridge. Fulton street begins at North River, crosses Broadway one block south of the Astor House, and ends at East River. The Fulton Street Market and Ferry are located at the East River terminal. Bowery street and section can be reached by going up Chatham (Park Row) just a few blocks beyond the bridge entrance. In the Bowery section is located such familiar places as Baxter street famous for its clothing merchants, Mott and Pell streets as the low-rent tenement district, and Mulberry street noted for its street hucksters and where merchants display their wares out of doors. Let your imagination run rampant. The streets are teeming with people. The streets are the playground for the small children.

This then, in general was the small world of Horatio Alger, and the boys he loved. Many times the boys preferred an "oyster stew" supper and a night at Tony Pastor's or the Barnum museum, rather than spend the night at the lodging house. In such instances they would take refuge in an entrance way or a packing box in an alley, and occasionally spent the night on the Fulton Ferry. On rare occasions they ventured as far as Fifth Avenue, and even on to Central Park, but this was not their world. They did not belong here. Some of the boys had a constant fear of being sent to Blackwell's Island, (also known as Welfare Island) which is located in East River opposite Central Park. It was perhaps the desire of many of these street boys to rise above it all and "get a place" at A.T. Stewart's, and to dream of being able to dress well enough to dine at Delmonico's without being thrown out. It was extremely difficult for them to rise above their station in life and "get a place" due to their appearance, lack of education, and a sponsor. Then Horatio Alger came upon the scene. He recognized the hopelessness of their situations. He pondered, studied, offered advice, encouragement and eventually put his ideas into actual practice.

Now, with this background, I think you are ready to read Alger for the second time. (it is my third). In doing research for my proposed Alger-type play, THE BOY FROM THE BOWERY, I am fortunate in having a treasure of reference books, such as: King's Handbook, (1892); Valentine's Manual, (1923); Shackleton's Book of New York, (1917) New York State Manual, (1887); old post cards and folders, old maps and street guides, and last but not least THE WORLD ALMANAC. I also studied the biographies of John Jacob Astor, A.T. Stewart, and Hetty Green.

If you are fortunate in having the complete set of the RAGGED DICK series, I suggest you begin with the story Ragged Dick and read them in the order written. You will find a treasure of historical references, and armed with your map of the small world of Horatio Alger, you will begin to feel at home. You will in spirit be with them as they cross the hustle and bustle of Broadway and enter City Hall Park. Can you imagine the danger in crossing Broadway in 1868? I cannot. But, the way Alger describes it, it must have been so. You will stand nearby and listen as "our hero" blacks the boots of a gentleman, or a city bred dude. You will be able to trace their footsteps as they walk up Nassau and turn into Spruce. You will be able to sense the kindly spirit of Frank Whitney as Dick escorts him on a tour of the city. And feel the pangs of hunger when Dick "stands treat" to Johnny Nolan.

It is not surprising that the story of "Ragged Dick" was proclaimed a best seller in its day. Alger has left us a legacy in historical knowledge as well as a formula for success and a moral. In the story of Ragged Dick I find three references to the term "Partic'lar Friend", Chapters 6, 12, and 18. In a sequel story, "Mark, the Match Boy" Chapter 26 (conclusion) there is an example of Alger's moral lesson in Dick's own words. Dick was unwilling to accept a reward of a thousand dollars for saving the life of a child, but the donor insisted. Dick says, "Then, I will keep it as a charity fund, and whenever I have an opportunity of helping along a boy who is struggling upward as I once had to struggle, I will do it."

It was from this moral lesson, that I was inspired to create and establish our Ragged Dick Fund. Unfortunately, the name alone is not self explanatory, and in general the purpose of the Fund is not understood by the uninformed public. For this reason, the name of the fund may be changed. Although I created the fund, your membership dues are maintaining it. Therefore, you have the right to defend it, or suggest an alternate name for it. If it must be changed, I would strongly favor a name closely associated with Ragged Dick, and I propose for your serious consideration, THE PARTIC'LAR FRIEND FUND.

John Jacob Astor, the son of a butcher, was born in Germany in 1763; came to New York at the age of twenty; got his start in learning the fur trading business, and at his death in 1848 he was worth twenty five million. Between 1830 and 1832 he built the Astor House, a nine story structure "then the largest and most elegant hotel in the country". Astor was a shrewd man in money matters. Once solicited in a charity drive, he gave fifty dollars. The solicitor was disappointed and said. "We did hope for more, Mr. Astor. Your son gave us a hundred dollars." Astor answered, "My son has a rich father. Mine was very poor."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE)

## HOW TO READ ALGER: continued -

Astor had been dead for 20 years when Alger became nationally famous in 1868, however, the hotel and his wealth was still controlled by his family. In 1853 when the Reverend Charles Loring Brace was soliciting funds to organize the Children's Aid Society, Mrs. William B. Astor gave the largest single donation of fifty dollars. (Reference: "Boss Tweed" authored by Dennis T. Lynch, Chapter 14; this chapter has a wealth of historical references pertaining to conditions just prior to Alger).

A.T. Stewart (another emigrant...from the old sod), 1802-1876, is a good example of Alger's theory of Strive and Succeed. Armed with energy, courage, and a small inheritance, he opened a little mercantile store at 283 Broadway. His business principles, and eventually his formula for success were, honesty, fairness, and cash on delivery. As his business increased, he moved to a second location, and still a third, all on Broadway, near City Hall Park. Mr. Stewart had already achieved success when Alger took up residence in New York. His wealth was even greater than Astor's. At one time Stewart employed 470 clerks and 200 cash boys. He paid them well and rewarded them periodically according to their ability. "Getting a place" as a cash boy was the dream of many of Alger's characters, and no doubt inspired him to write the story "Frank Fowler, the Cash Boy."

Hetty Green's life span, 1824-1916, closely paralleled that of Alger's. Although he made no reference to her, she was a person to be reckoned with, and admired in some respects, even though she was labeled a miser. Henrietta Howland Robinson was born in Massachusetts and one of the heirs of two Howland fortunes. She received one million dollars outright, but the bulk of her inheritance was put in trust. Due to the legal tangle of her affairs, she formed a dislike for lawyers and refused to employ their services. She married Edward H. Green and she bore two children, Edward and Hettie. The daughter eventually married Matthew Astor Wilks, a grandson of John Jacob Astor. Hetty Green parleyed her one million dollars into a tremendous fortune and left it to her children. Her own inheritance still tied up in trust at the time of her death was eventually divided among 1,478 relatives.

Alger wrote of misers in several of his stories. It is obvious that he did not write from personal experience, for he was something of a philanthropist. It is possible that Hettie Green provided background material for his characterization of the Miser. We, the heirs of Horatio Alger, have been richly rewarded with the legacy he left us...his stories.

One of the staff of WORLD ALMANAC, informs me that a suitable marker has been placed on the former site of the original Astor House. This prompts me to consider the possibilities of placing a monument or suitable marker in City Hall Park in memory of Horatio Alger. The centennial year of his national fame is only two years away. Such a project, perhaps could be worked out jointly with the New York Historical Society. If you have any thoughts on the subject, please contact our president, so that we might pursue it. Wouldn't it be nice if we could hold our annual gathering in 1968 in New York for the occasion.

A prospective member from Kalamazoo, has suggested that local Society members should hold regular monthly meetings. The suggestion has wonderful possibilities. A question arises pertaining to minimum membership requirements. Kalamazoo has three, and on the verge of having five. What would we call such local groups? I think Chapter would be a natural. The first local group to meet minimum requirements could be designated as Chapter No. 1, etc.

The members present at the 1965 Mendota Affair authorized ten monthly issues of our newsletter in each fiscal year. Two monthly issues would be eliminated. Which two would you prefer? I propose the January Issue, due to the holidays, and July, due to the summer vacation schedules. Let us have your opinions.

In addition to the regulars who will be expected to attend the MILWAUKEE EVENT, some new members are making definite plans. The first to inform us of their intention is Mr. & Mrs. Irving Poznan, PF-135. Please let us know of your plans. We would like to add your name to this list.

I would like to see a bootblack stand set up at our Sands Motel Headquarters, for the purpose of souvenir photographs. Wouldn't you like such a souvenir to take back home with you? We could also sell special editions of the NEWSBOY, to the public, also pencils and match books with our Society name inscribed for publicity purposes.

Our President has sent out a questionnaire in the form of a survey of interest to prospective members. One such response is quoted. Others will follow from time to time.

"It is America's loss that we do not have more men like Alger, who taught the younger generation thrift, honesty, and hard work as a means of success in life, rather than the sometimes questionable short cuts toward this goal today."  
....Mrs. Eddie Wehling, Steele City, Neb.

FLY YOUR FLAG TWICE THIS MONTH... ONCE FOR LINCOLN, AND AGAIN FOR WASHINGTON.  
...AND FLY, IF YOU MUST, TO MILWAUKEE!!  
YOU'LL BE GLAD IF YOU DO, SORRY IF YOU DON'T.

## REGIONAL REPORTINGS

## GREAT LAKES REGION - HARTMANN'S HEMISPHERE

Last October my wife (Jean) the four boys and I took a trip east. Our destination was Cape Cod. We started early on a Saturday morning going by way of Canada, hoping to find some English editions of Alger. No luck; in fact our trip was a dead loss as far as Algers were concerned. We did pick up some very desirable J.C. Lincolns later in the trip.

Traveling as "shunpikers", it took us six days to get to Cape Cod. The boys enjoyed all the historical landmarks, and of course Jean and I enjoyed all the antique shops, book stores and second hand shops. The people we met were very nice, and it makes one wonder where the term "cold easterner" comes from. At one book store the owner didn't want to take our travelers' checks for the books we bought, not because he didn't trust us, but because he was afraid we would run out of money. He wanted us to take the books we bought and send him a check when we got home; even offered to cash a personal check for any amount we wanted and would hold it until he heard from us. Really, we didn't look that poor; he was just an exceptionally nice man.

The high point of our trip was the personally conducted tour of Natick by Max and Ida Goldberg. We spent all day with them visiting all the spots of interest in and around Natick. Their antique shop is fascinating and Max's collection of Oriental art is worth a trip in itself. At the museum in (south) Natick we saw Alger's rocking chair and watch. Jean found a map from 1771 which showed the location of her great, great, great, great, grandfather's farm. We located the area and the pond is still there and still known as Hammond's pond; and the old cow path is now a winding boulevard through Newton, Mass. Max and Ida are perfect hosts. We ended the day with a very delicious turkey dinner, and over coffee we talked Alger. Max is a fountain of information on Alger.

As I said before, our Alger finds were nil; (except for one prize object which Max gave me). My Alger collection has stood still for quite a while now. I guess I'm sort of odd, but I don't like to buy Algers by mail. I must feel, see and smell a book before I buy it. Except for a few volumes given to me by friends, all my Algers were handled and seen before I bought. To have a collection just for the sake of collecting leaves me cold. The hunt, digging for the rare find (even a Donohue of one I don't have) is the greatest thrill to me. Walking into a book store, looking over the shelves, finding a title I need, then I'm in my glory. Or going to an old farmhouse or an old attic, following up a lead, perhaps a second hand store - this to me is collecting.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT COLUMN)

Anybody with enough money can have a complete collection of Algers just by advertising, but I have more time than money so hunting I go.

....Carl Hartmann, PF-102, T-80  
(EDITOR'S NOTE: I subscribe wholeheartedly to Carl's philosophy, yet some of us are more fortunate than others, and have bagged duplicates as a result of their hunt, and graciously offer them in the BOOK MART, for members who also enjoy the hunt but have not the time)

## OBITER DICTA ABOUT THE PRAIRIE ANGON

With the recent acquisition of "Adventures OF A Telegraph Boy", I now have 119 titles. Hope to soon arrive at 121 as I have just ordered "Julius" and "Odds Against Him".

Just heard from T.H. Chrischilles, PF-138 of Algona, Iowa. "Chris" says that he is recovering nicely from his recent illness and is back in harness. He has now established a stock of Algers in their local library and had a very nice Alger write-up in the Algona newspaper. Good work, Chris -- we need people who get things done in the Horatio Alger Society.

Is anyone familiar with an old magazine called "Pluck and Luck", 'Complete Stories of Adventure' ? I recently obtained #302 March 16, 1904. The beautiful color cover picture is right out of Alger's Tom The Bootblack! It pictures a young bootblack on the streets of New York, and the story is titled, "From The Street; or, The Fortunes of a Bootblack", by N.S. Wood, the Young American Actor. It's obvious that many authors capitalized on Alger's popularity and style. Another example, with Alger's typical alliteration is, "Toil And Trust", by Balfour. Still another, which I picked up recently is, "The Boy Broker", by Munsey.

A warm welcome to Ralph W. Anderson, PF-144, of Grundy Center, Iowa. Ralph publishes The Iowa Farm Bureau Spokesman and several other publications, including Collectors News, which should be of special interest to Alger Buffs. Ralph became interested in doing a feature on Alger in Collectors News even before he mailed in his application and before ordering Gardner's book.

Mused while compiling material for this pending feature (to appear in March) that I need a magic carpet to transport Ken Butler, Forrest Campbell, Ralph Gardner, et al, (and others) to Grundy Center so that justice could be done to "Our Hero". I'm hoping at least to have the benefit of Ken Butler's presence for a day or two of writing and advice. We are counting on the feature for additional publicity, and attract new applicants for membership.

May, and Milwaukee will be here before you know it. Keep working on new members and start making plans to attend the Milwaukee Event. -30-

Jack W. Row, PF-101 T-119

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