

# THE HORATIO ALGER



"World's only publication devoted to Horatio Alger"

# Newsboy

Vol. 5 No. 8

April 1967

This newsletter published monthly except July and January for Society members.

Incorporated 1965 (Non-profit)

5868 Heath  
Kalamazoo, Michigan  
49002

Pres: Kenneth Butler; Ph: Res. 2269 Off. 2116; 1325 Burlington Rd. Mendota, Ill. 61342  
Vice Pres: Jack W. Row; Ph: 515-532-3731; P.O. Box No. 101, Clarion, Iowa 50525  
Editor: Forrest Campbell; Ph: 616-349-4155 Membership fee \$5 (twelve month basis)

## PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

IT IS BALLOTING TIME. With this issue of Newsboy is enclosed a nominating committee's slate for our officers and directors for the 1967-68 year. Society by-laws presently call for selection of a slate by a nominating committee, and submission for approval to the entire membership. Previously the nominations were approved by ballot at the annual meeting.

Ralph Gardner, Irving Poznan, and Ralph Anderson were named to comprise this committee, with Gardner as chairman. Their deliberations are appreciated, since many qualified persons have to be considered, along with geographical representation, plus a climate for working together to accomplish successfully the many tasks and responsibilities.

So, to make the selection of our leaders democratic and complete, won't each of you remove this ballot, vote, and mail in to the name and address indicated on the ballot. Please do this now. Note the deadline for balloting. The candidates named have agreed to accept and to serve, if elected. Spaces on the ballot are included for nomination of write-ins, if you have other preferences and have knowledge that the write-in would serve if elected.

OUR EXCITING and most promising Des Moines Session draws ever nearer. Next month should see our finest and best-attended annual convention yet. Jack Row and his committee have certainly planned painstakingly. You have only to look over the program of tours, discussions, displays, and informal get-togethers --- to see that it's got everything a meeting should have, including free time.

Jack has a committee of experienced and professional publicists and newsmen who are going to make sure that the state of Iowa knows about this meeting. Some of this doubtless will also receive national publicity.

The information that Jack has been sending out about what Des Moines has to offer, makes one wish he could spend a week just touring the Hawkeye state. Not the least of our reason for meeting is to take care of important Society business. We want as many of you as possible to take part in these vital discussions that

will mold the future growth and influence of the organization, and thus of the author that all of us revere and honor.

Jack is entitled to know soon how many of you will attend, so that he can complete proper arrangements. Return his questionnaire right away, whether you plan to attend the meeting or not.

THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE Sunday Magazine Section recently followed up its Horatio Alger story with another, this time in full color, describing the colorful and gaudy dime novels. Also featured was the Frank Merriwell series. His stories were characterized as "the greatest of them all." Frank was an active he-boy, all right, whose personal athletic prowess threw fear into the hearts of all of Yale's rivals. For well-balanced, all-around adventures of boys I will still take Alger's heroes. I have the feeling, though, that all these wonderful publicity features on the heroes and the stories of yesterday, help immensely in building a new audience for our own favorites from the pen of Horatio Alger. It is all to the good.

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP --- At the Milwaukee meeting our H.A.S. membership was reported as 98. The operating budget for the current year was based on an estimated net gain of 30 in total membership. I can now give you a report as of March 25 on this phase of our activity. We are now 122 members strong.

As a result of billing the membership for renewals we lost ten members through non-response. Two dropped membership by letter and two were lost through death. We have registered 38 new members during the year thus far. This results in a present net gain of 24 members. In the remaining weeks of the year we need only six new members, therefore, to attain our original objective.

WHADDY'E KNOW? Your president is now an "Honorary Secretary of State" of the State of Montana. Frank Murray, Montana Secretary of State, sent me a plaque with the state seal and inscribed to me. He stated he is interested in unusual organizations and in the Horatio Alger idea.

The honor is really a tribute to the Society. I shall frame the certificate  
(Continued on page two)

PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS: (continued)

and place it with other personal memorabilia, accepting it as another mark of the growing recognition of our favorite author.

I am pleased, also, with the attention given our hero at the New York Antiques Show. There was a display of Alger material, with credit to the Society, to Ed Mattson and Orval Bachus. The official printed program reproduced a Ragged Dick frontispiece. Your Partic'lar Friend,  
KEN BUTLER, President.

\*\*\*\*\*

Madison, Wisconsin

...I was amazed at how many people.... all had the same idea that I did (only sooner). For the past year, a friend of mine who is a graduate student in music and I have been blocking out a proposed musical comedy based on Horatio Alger. We have discontinued same in deference to the competition.

By the way, one of my colleagues in the English department here pointed out a recent scholarly article suggesting that Nathanael West's A Cool Million (which is a cynical, biting, ironic, satire on the American Dream), was in fact a direct attack on the Horatio Alger story. The article contains lengthy quotations from Andy Grant's Pluck. I have not seen the article, and it is probably unfavorable to our hero, but at least it shows that the influence of Alger was great in scope and continues to evoke reactions of many kinds.... Your partic'lar friend,  
Dan Fuller, (142)

\*\*\*\*\*

HARLAN MILLER RECALLS CHILDHOOD MEMORIES  
in — "WHEN HORATIO ALGER TAMED US"

On long summer afternoons during vacation from school -- 4th grade through 8th -- we always played worky-up on the vacant lot next to Herford Davisson's house. Then, exhausted from running bases and chasing long erratic grounders, we relaxed on Sid Cahoon's big front porch and read Alger books.

Our opinion now, 30 or 40 years later, or maybe even 50 in some cases, is that Alger did more to tame and civilize us than Dad's big thick shaving strop. We were impressed by the rewards which inevitably followed the good behavior of the Alger heroes. They usually married the boss's daughter (after saving her life when their carriage horses ran away) and eventually became executive vice-president of the big business when the boss devoted more and more time to Florida and fishing.

We lived in Iowa, the greatest of all farm states, so some of us read "From Farm to Fortune", or "Nat Nason's Strange Experience." Sid's dad owned a 320 acre farm, when the land cost only \$50 an acre. It sells for \$450 an acre now. But we

liked also titles like "Paul the Peddler" or "Paddle Your Own Canoe." There was a river in our town and we often paddled a rented canoe.

On some afternoons we'd read several Alger books with scarcely an interval between. Each of us brought a stack, and we'd swap and lend. The plots made it plain that America's streets were still paved with gold. All you needed to do was to go to the big town and peddle papers on the street, or shine shoes, or get a job as errand boy. In a short time you were putting on a clean shirt several times a week, and the Boss entrusted you with a key to the office.

Ah, those wondrous long summer afternoons. Have we read a good book lately? I think Alger's innocent stories should be on the reading lists in grade and even high schools. I think the Library should carry them conspicuously on the shelves for children. Perhaps they might be re-written with a little more sophistication, though this might seem sinful to the real Alger aficionados.

My friend and tennis partner Jack Row has I think some (148) different titles, and I suspect he makes money in his Alger collecting. And Pauline Millen, the book expert, seems to regard Alger as a reliable article of commerce.

What manly little fellows those Alger heroes were! Inevitably they made an excellent impression on the elderly millionaire they always met on the ferry boats from Weehawken and Staten Island. And they were always well-groomed and clean, even when they slept in doorways or in old piano boxes in the alleys of their great dream city.

I doubt that any of us ever read more than 20 or 30 Alger books. We didn't even know that, as Row tells me, Mr. Alger and his imitators wrote ten times that many. We bought ours for 15¢ or two for a quarter, second hand, at Fike & Fike's used-book store on 4th Street, where they later built the Princess Theater, the building that's now occupied by Moose Hall.

Some American publisher might make a killing printing some of those corny titles, 3 or 4 of them in one volume, illustrated. And it might be a better way to fight delinquency than whatever isn't being done effectively nowadays.

I marvel that the paper-back magnates don't have a look at the possibilities. We aren't so different from the boys of 1910; we aren't really so much more sophisticated. Some of the books the New York Times spotlights for children in its editions of the Book Review for juveniles aren't nearly as persuasive as the Algers. I have my doubts occasionally about Dr. Seuss and his "Cat in the Hat." A small child in the year 1967 is fully equal to the Alger books we read when we were 9 or ten. (Harlan Miller, Des Moines, Iowa)

NEW MEMBERS REPORTED

- PF-201 Mr. John P. Quail T-000  
1111 Pineacre  
Bettendorf, Iowa 52722
- PF-202 Mr. Ray E. Sutfin T-000  
614 Edwin Avenue,  
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49001
- PF-203 Mrs. Ann Marie Wiegman T-042  
246 West Neck Road,  
Huntington, New York 11743

\*\*\*\*\*

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

John, and his wife Judy, are acquaintances of Kenneth Butler. John shares Ken's interest in the antique car hobby. He is an investment banker in near-by Davenport, Iowa. With other associates, John is having a book published on old-time railroad locomotives. They own a railroad club car, and use it to attend football games, world fairs, etc. John's current interest in Alger is nostalgic, however, he owns and has read with great interest, Gardner's book on Horatio Alger.

Ray is a personal friend of mine, now retired from the local Fire Department, and a charter member of a local organization to which we both belong. Ray's interest in Alger is nostalgic, having read many of the stories when a boy at home. His sister Vera, having just recently learned of our Society, presented him with this gift membership as a belated birthday present. Ray's birthday was on January 8th.

Ann Marie heard of us through Don Wallace, PF-017 (inactive). Ann is a native of St Paul and heard of Don on a recent visit. She was introduced to the Alger books when she was but ten years old, by her mother. Ann and her husband have four children, and now they read the Alger stories, with some question, however, "if life was really like that in the old days." Ann is a Girl Scout leader, and likes to bowl. Her current interest in Alger besides finding more books, is to learn more about the author. Ann's birthday is April 9th, and if you act quickly you can get her birthday card to her on time.

\*\*\*\*\*

BIRTHDAYS (to May 15th)

- PF-203 Mrs. Ann Marie Wiegman April 9
- PF-053 Mr. Ralph D. Gardner April 16
- PF-112 Dr. David J. Thompson April 17
- PF-008 Mr. Max Goldberg May 1
- Mrs. Rachel Campbell May 10

If your birthday occurs between May 15th, and June 15th, be sure to notify us. If this department fails for lack of response, it will be discontinued with the June issue of the newsletter.

\*\*\*\*\*

DES MOINES SESSION - MAY 18, 19, & 20th., with headquarters at the Howard Johnson's Motel, 2525 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa

PF-000 (Forrest Campbell) offers:

- F 28HTC, G 44H&C, G 48H&C, G 76ALB,  
F 81ALB, G 83MAD, G139H&C, P148JCW,  
G150H&C, F190JCW.

PF-152 (John E. Edwards) offers:

G136AKL

John says terms can be arranged on this one.

PF-137 (Leo Moore) offers:

- E 19HTC, E 25ALB, E 25P&C, E 25HTC,  
E 28P&C, E 77AKL, G 81P&C, G 83P&C,  
G106HTC, E121P&C, E122P&C, G122P&C,  
E123P&C, G125AKL, G128AKL, G128HTC,  
E132HTC, E133HTC, G135P&C, G135P&C,  
G137P&C, G137P&C, E140P&C, G142HTC,  
E145P&C, E145HTC, E147P&C, E160ALB,  
E165ALB, G168P&C, E178HTC, E185P&C,  
E185HTC.

Leo will trade for certain titles of the Clarence Young "Racer Boys" series. He also has other Alger titles in lesser quality.

This service is free to members. The books you list need not be your own. Only books offered will be listed. Inquiries as to price must be made with the member who offers the title.

WE URGE YOU TO BUY FROM, AND SELL TO PARTICIPULAR FRIEND COLLECTORS AND DEALERS WHEN POSSIBLE TO DO SO. THANK YOU.

\*\*\*\*\*

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q. #12 Define a deluxe edition.

A. In my opinion the book need not be a first edition, but often is. The book will probably have hard cloth bound covers, but the big difference is between the covers. The paper should be of good durable quality, beginning with fancy designed end papers; with one or more illustrations; title page with copyright notation on reverse side. Dedication page. And often a "Table of Contents" is included. A preface page and a page listing other titles by the same author. All, or any combination of these might be identified as a deluxe edition. (000)

Q. #13 Is the manuscript known as Seeking His Fortune, a book length story?

A. No. Actually it is a dialogue for a play, in short story length. This manuscript is included in a bound book which is identified by the same name, however, the contents include other short manuscripts in dialogue form supposedly written by his sister, Olive Augusta (Gusti). See Gardner's book, pages 458-59 for the titles of other dialogues included. (000)

Q. 14 Was "Stick to your Bush" written by Alger?  
(continued on page four)

## QUESTIONS &amp; ANSWERS (#14 continued)

A. No, probably not. This answer was a long time in coming. This question originated with a statement by Sen. Everett M. Dirksen, (Illinois), that he remembered one story in particular (Stick to your Bush). This statement was published in our newsletter three different times: June, 1964, page 2; September, 1966, page 5; and again in December, 1966, page 3.

I now can establish the fact that there is such a short story, but it is not credited to Alger. It may be found in a volume entitled Character Sketches, written by the Rev. George A. Lofton (baptist) and published in 1898. In my opinion the "sketches" are nothing more than short sermonettes. "Stick to your Bush" is the second in a long list of such character sketches. There is little doubt but what this is the manuscript the Honorable Senator had in mind.

## NEWS DEPARTMENT

Max Goldberg writes that Ida (his wife) fell on the ice in January and in addition to shoulder bruises, she injured a nerve which is slow in recovery. She is still under doctor's care and it is necessary that they must cancel their plans to attend the Des Moines Session. Our sympathy is extended to our good friend Ida.

Max Adds: "Your writing of City Hall and the Thalia Theatre has struck a nostalgic note. When I was a young boy, we lived in Christie Street near Grand. My father and the actor Adler, owned the Grand Street Theatre. After a while we moved to West Street, and to save 5¢ car fare, I would walk home from school in Christie Street to West Street through the Bowery and often look at the Thalia Theatre to see what was playing there."

Recently an 80 year old gentleman visited Max to discuss Alger. He stated that his wife Olive (now deceased) was an Alger from Maine. And that he had (at home) a letter written during the Civil War by a Lt. Edwin Alger. The old gentleman was curious to learn if his wife was related to Horatio. (E.N. I have supplied Max with photostatic copies of the New England Register wherein it pertains to the "Alger Family of Maine", and the knowledge that one Edwin Alger authored at least one Juvenile book, which was published by G&D in 1930. It will be interesting to learn if Max can shed new light in this direction)

Irv Poznan reports that he has just recovered from a serious eye infection. "I couldn't read my Alger books for nearly 3 weeks" he said. Irv and Thelma will attend our Des Moines Session. Irv wants your nomination for the "worst villain" in the Alger stories. His choice is Curtis "aring in the story Adrift In New York. Guilty! says Irv.

A few weeks ago Steve, one of our four boys, picked up a book at a second hand store - "Davey Logan - Intern". Steve read the book and enjoyed it very much and is now looking for more by the same author, Henry Felsen. Now this name sounded familiar to me as it should. He turned out to be a new H.A.S. member, PF-190. Our boys have enjoyed books written by another H.A.S. member, Herb Risteen, PF-104. I've met Herb but haven't had the pleasure of meeting Henry. It was quite a thrill to my boys to know that their Dad knows the author of their favorite books.

This summer we hope to have another member picnic in Michigan, a one day affair and of course you are all invited. We will have more about this with dates in a later issue of the Newsboy.

The Antique Show in Lansing this year was a great success as far as Alger was concerned. At least half of the dealers had Alger books - priced from 50¢ to \$5. I did manage to buy two; one a first edition. The revival of interest in Alger among dealers, according to the dealers, is largely due to Ralph Anderson's stories in his paper, "The Collector's News."

Once again Alger has hit the ads. Canadian Lord Calvert whiskey heads its new ad: "The Canadian Horatio Alger". It seems Alger is still synonymous with success even after 70 years.

I have a copy of "Ben The Luggage Boy" with Coats on the spine and John C. Winston Co. on the title page. Does anyone have an explanation? (PF-102)  
\*\*\*\*\*  
(E.N. Winston bought out Coats, and probably inherited a supply of covers as well as the manuscript plates. One of Henry Felsen's stories "The Curly Haired Kid" was adapted for television, and was recently seen on the Bob Hope Chrysler Theatre, starring Don Knotts and Arthur Godfrey)

Jack Row say the Winston edition of Ragged Dick which was exhibited on the Today Show recently, could have been his, since he sold an identical copy to a former active Society member.

Max Goldberg reported that his daughter visited the New York Antique Show and saw the Alger display.

The current publicity originating from a N.Y.C. Distributor for a Canadian Distiller has come to my attention from 3 different Society members. It would seem to me that the American Distributor displayed poor judgement in associating Alger's good name with alcoholic beverages. It is a well known fact that Alger never touched the stuff, and the heroes he created, followed in his footsteps. While it may be true that the name of Alger is synonymous with success, he achieved fame even though he chose sarsaparilla, and not hard liquor.

EDITORIAL ERUPTIONS

## A REVIEW OF ALGER'S BIOGRAPHERS

Through the medium of Ralph Gardner, we have learned of a fresh viewpoint on Alger's biographers and numerous other commentaries.

The article, WHO WAS HORATIO? THE ALGER MYTH AND AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP, was written by Prof. John Seelye, formerly of University of California (Davis), now, Dept. of English and the Library, Univ. of Conn., Storrs, Conn.

His article appeared in the winter 1965 edition of American Quarterly, which was released early in 1966. Not being a subscriber, we are sorry that we did not learn of it sooner, however, Prof. Seelye graciously and promptly mailed us a copy upon our request, not knowing whether he would receive bouquets or brickbats in return.

His review is an honest report, giving credit where credit was due, offering criticism where he felt it was needed and sums up with an opinion of his own. The biographers he reviewed which was obviously a result of a thorough study, included: Herbert R. Mayes, (1928); Frank Gruber, (1961); John Tebbel, (1963); and Ralph D. Gardner, (1964).

In reviewing the Mayes biography, Prof. Seelye notes that Mayes drew heavily upon Alger's "diary." "Despite the claptrap style, Mayes' book was accepted without question as authoritative...Malcolm Cowley suggested that the diary had never existed, and that much of Mayes' book was fiction. Mayes,...did not answer Cowley's charge, and the diary has not yet come to light. ...Norman Holland...drew upon Mayes' book to abstract "an emotional cripple whose growth was twisted by the steady application of moral pressures in childhood."

In reviewing Gruber, Prof. Seelye says that he "took the trouble to examine easily available evidence, and discovered that Mayes' account was 'studded with.... a vast number of factual errors and flights of the imagination'."

"Gruber's book, unfortunately, was privately printed....It is not surprising then, that when Rychard Fink wrote his Introduction to a paperback reprint.... he relied entirely on Mayes' biography for the details of Alger's life, thus perpetuating the hoax. It was only in 1963 that Gruber's account began to have an effect....Robert Falk examined the pattern of Alger's fiction closely, and noted the relevance of Alger's 'luck & pluck' formula to the terms of the Protestant Ethic, pointing out the misconceptions that most people have about Alger's message: 'Back of these adventurous accounts of youthful success lay an earlier and more genuine tradition of protestant piety and a less aggressive

spirit of business enterprise than Alger's critics have been willing to recognize.... For the Alger hero success is the ultimate reward, but it is not the result of the benevolence of struggle and competition. Instead, he lives in virtue and obedience, pursuing his humble calling with resignation and hope until divine providence in the guise of a wealthy banker or philanthropist rewards him for his faith."

In reviewing Tebbel (a scholar with credentials), "Tebbel says of Mayes that 'it is a tribute to the research he did... to note that it can hardly be improved upon nearly four decades later. The primary sources of Alger material are meager, indeed, but Mr. Mayes appears to have examined all of them, and no new original material has turned up in the intervening decades'." "As reprehensible as Tebbel's unquestioning acceptance of Mayes' dubious authority is the extent to which his own account is based upon the others."

In reviewing Gardner, Prof. Seelye says, "Gardner, like Gruber an Alger collector, is an amateur scholar, and allowed himself the creative license which a more academic mind would have avoided: 'Some situations...were dramatized and dialogue created, but always within the framework of existing facts'." "Unlike Mayes, he did not invent episodes out of whole cloth....."

However we may regard such techniques of amplification, if we consider the state of affairs into which Gardner's book was introduced, we must admit that his approach was particularly unfortunate. Equally unfortunate was his decision to leave out any apparatus of footnotes or location of sources. But the worst mistake which Gardner made was to note that 'critics finding this treatment of the subject to be highly sympathetic are reminded it is done by an unabashedly enthusiastic admirer of the author', an admission which left him open to the charge of 'white-wash'."

..."reviewers, comparing...Tebbel to Gardner...did not hesitate to discredit the latter. Ignorant of the facts of Alger's life, impressed perhaps by Tebbel's credentials, put off by Gardner's lack of them, these reviewers took style for content and gave Tebbel's rehash of Mayes' debunking biography full credit as truth."

"It is to Gardner's credit that he picks no quarrel with Mayes...Perhaps one of the chief accomplishments of Gardner's account is his evocation of life in the Alger household."

In summing up, Prof. Seelye says, "Alger seems never to have aspired beyond the narrow range of his talents...To read Gardner's sympathetic treatment of that life is in some measure to recapture its essence, but to really experience it, one must return to Alger's wonderful world of virtue rewarded." (E.N. Read the entire review at your Public Library). (000)

THE VICE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Spring has sprung, and May and convention time approaches. Make your plans early — it's later than you think. In fact, it's so late that I'm ready to admit to the definition of middle age I saw recently: "middle age is when you look forward to a dull evening."

Just put on another Horatio Alger program — in Waterloo, this time. Talked about 40 minutes and answered questions for members of the "Spokesman's Club" there. It's a luncheon club with 25 members who are all heads of businesses such as John Deere Waterloo Works, Rath Packing Company, Titus Mfg. Corp., Hinson Mfg. Co., and others. A large display of common Alger, first editions, dime novels and story papers were viewed with interest by all. Members range in age to 87!

After reading some of the dialogues in "Seeking His Fortune" I'm convinced that the writer (Alger or his sister) must have been influenced by a hill-billy fresh out of the hills. You have to read it slowly in order to get the meaning — and it would be difficult to understand at all if it were given verbally.

I read recently that the greatest volume of Alger books was sold from 1900 to 1920 after Alger's death. I would venture to say that the decline in sales after 1920 could be attributed to the change in the times, the advent of the telephone, electricity, automobiles, Tom Swift and the Rover Boys.

In case you are not old enough to remember — and you won't remember unless you are at least 75 years old — perhaps you'd like to know what life was like in 1900. (E.N. The writer is well under the suggested age of 75)

There were 13,000 automobiles in the U.S. The people numbered 76 million and had a national debt of one billion dollars. Dress hems swept the sidewalks. The average father earned \$9.60 a week. School was not mandatory and children of 8 and 9 earned \$2 a week for a 10-hour day in factories. Women wore two-piece suits with a couple of petticoats, a camisole and a corset underneath.

People were afraid of their own ignorance and avoided doctors, dentists and college professors. The courts and the press favored the rich. A good steak cost up to 15¢ a pound, and the butcher tossed in a handful of frankfurters free.

There were no broad highways across the nation. A man in New York could not telephone a friend in San Francisco. Horses were everywhere — in cities, suburbs and farms. Most people were in bed by 9:30 P.M. Kerosene lamps came

down from the ceiling on chains and glass portieres tinkled in the breeze. Sink faucets were made of brass and had to be polished. A sturdy two-story house ran to \$1,500.

Any woman who understood anything about "sex" was loose. Beer was 5¢ a schooner. Good whiskey was 10¢ a shot. In saloons the lunch was free and consisted of pickled pigs knuckles, sauerkraut, cheese and jellied tongue. A smart pair of high button shoes went for \$2. and \$2.50.

Every properly dressed man wore a vest with a gold chain stretched across it. Cigarettes were for fops and hoodlums; men smoked cigars. And in winter, the best amusement was a vaudeville theater.

And last — but not least — NO INCOME TAX! Is it any wonder that an Alger hero thought he was on top of the world when he landed a job in a counting-house for three or four dollars a week?

Getting back to our own generation, Alger books of the World and Saalfield cardboard cover variety were still plentiful in dime stores when I lived in Cleveland, Ohio in the 1930's. Perhaps this was so because they were published in Cleveland and Akron.

CONVENTION NOTE: If you are driving to Des Moines be sure to bring some of your books and Alger material with you for display in your room at Howard Johnson's. It's fun to have your collection admired — and to admire the items other people have, too. Also don't forget to bring books you have for sale, for our "bourse" table session. Perhaps if we have some rare items for sale, an auction can be arranged. SEE YOU IN DES MOINES MAY 18, 19, 20. (Jack Row)

\*\*\*\*\*

All Iowa members especially those of us in Des Moines are delighted that the National Society is holding its annual meeting here.

My home bookshop is just nine short blocks from the Howard Johnson's Motel, 2525 Grand Avenue, convention headquarters. While I specialize in Iowa and Midwestern out of print material, the house is full with items of general interest, historical, the West, Indians, etc. Alger stock is low right now but I hope to pick up a few good titles before the meeting.

I hope all those attending the convention can find time to come over for a visit while in Des Moines. They will be most welcome. Of course, I will be at the meetings.

(Mrs. Pauline Millen, PF-122)

\*\*\*\*\*

(E.N. Jack Row plans to send you soon additional information on the DES MOINES SESSION, consisting of our program, agenda, Reservation and Registration cards, etc. Remember, we may move east in 1968. Don't miss this one. DON'T LET US DOWN — BE IN TOWN!)

H.A.S. EXTRAS:

A few weeks ago Steve, one of our four boys, picked up a book at a second hand book store - "Davey Logan - Intern". Steve read the book and enjoyed it very much and is now looking for more by the same author, Henry Felsen. Now this name sounded familiar to me as it should. He turned out to be a new HAS member # PF190. Our boys have enjoyed books written by another HAS member Herb Risteen PF104. I've met Herb but haven't had the pleasure of meeting Henry. It was quite a thrill to my boys to know that their Dad knows the author of their favorite books.

This summer we hope to have another member picnic in Michigan, a one day affair and of course you are all invited. We will have more about this with dates in a later issue of THE NEWSBOY.

The Antique Show in Lansing this year was a great success as far as Alger was concerned. At least half of the dealers had Alger books - prices from .50¢ to \$5.00. I did manage to buy two, one a first edition. The revival of interest in Alger among dealers, according to the dealers, is largely due to Ralph Anderson's stories in his paper, "The Collector's News".



The above is a picture of Forest and Rachel Campbell with the Alger quilt Rachel made for Forest. Every year Rachel adds new items such as the convention dates. I'm sure the quilt will be on display at Des Moines.

Once again Alger has hit the ads. Canadian Lord Calvert whiskey heads its new ad: "The Canadian Horatio Alger". It seems Alger is still synonymous with success even after 70 years.

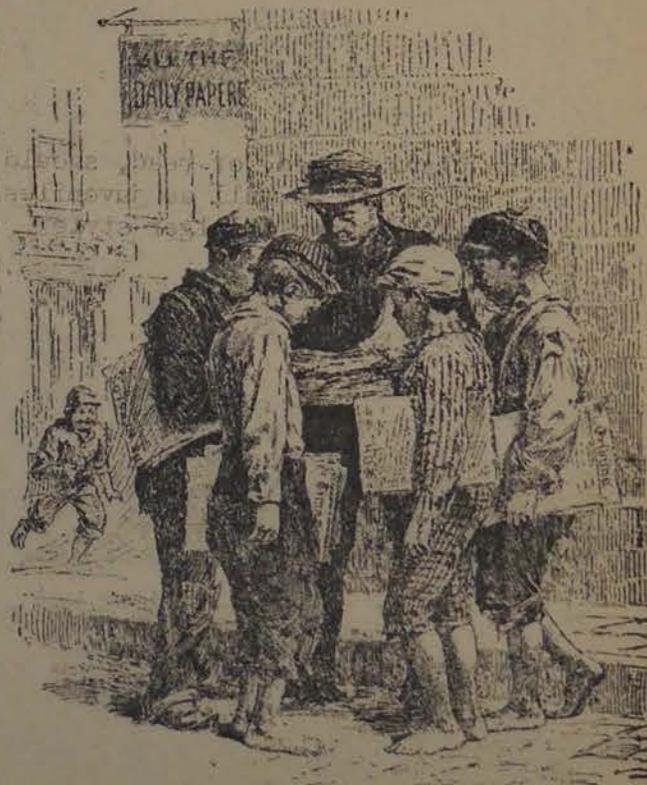
I have a copy of "Ben The Luggage Boy" with Coats on the spine out John C. Winston Co. on the Title page. Does anybody have an explanation?



THE WASH-ROOM IN THE NEWSBOY'S LOADING HOUSE JUST BEFORE SEARCH TIME.



A GROUP OF BOOTBLACKS.



GETTING POINTS FROM THE LAST EDITION.

The Above pictures were taken from "Darkness & Daylight in New York". Carl Hartmann FF 102.

