

# newsboy



Monthly Newsletter of  
the HORATIO ALGER  
SOCIETY. The World's  
Only Publication Devoted  
to That Wonderful  
World of Horatio Alger.



GUEST EDITOR  
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Founded 1961 by Forrest Campbell & Kenneth Butler

## THE BIG ALGER QUESTION

by Ralph D. Gardner

I suppose the big question pops up every time two Alger fans get together. I know it comes up at every one of our Alger Society conventions. It came up last Spring when Bob Bennet was in New York; a little before that when Bill Chase dropped in from the West Coast. It took up a good part of the evening when I was joined at dinner by Steve Press and Max Goldberg. On these occasions and a dozen others, we always ask each other: "REALLY, WHICH ALGER WAS THE MOST DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO FIND?"

After having discussed this with Partic'lar Friends I-don't-know-how-many-times, I just recently sat down to figure out which Alger WAS the most difficult for ME to add to my collection.

Now, I've been collecting Horatio's works for close to forty years ('though at the beginning I don't believe I considered myself a collector) so my searchings cover a good number of trials and triumphs. If I had to say which there were more of, I'm afraid I'd have to say 'trials', because, like every one of you, I almost always showed up at the shop just after "another fellow came in and bought about fifty of them for a nickel apiece". Or I got my check in the mail too late - someone else got there first. Or somebody who read my

ad in a publication wrote to assure me that they had seen "Timothy" or "Seeking His Fortune" at a junk shop a week ago but couldn't find it when they went back to get it for me.

But, lest we forget about 'triumphs' I mentioned above, before getting bogged down in all my 'trials', let me assure you that there certainly have been triumphs and although never as many as the trials - I guess that's life - there have been enough in my Alger adventures to keep me happily and optimistically collecting all these decades.

Which brings me back to the point: Which was the most difficult Alger for me to find?

Strangely, it wasn't "Timothy Crumps's Ward," although I'd been collecting for twenty-five or thirty years before I finally latched on to it. Heck, I must have been collecting Algers for more than twenty years before I even HEARD of Tim! But it wasn't the most difficult. Rather, I think, there must have been a group - four or five - real toughies that caused me quite a few sleepless nights waiting for the mail - often to wind up in disappointment. Try, try again.

I can no longer recall which was the first of these precious few to be placed upon my shelf, but I definitely recall the last. This was a real first edition of "Fame and Fortune". I was really starting to think

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HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY

To further the philosophy of Horatio Alger Jr. and to encourage the spirit of Strive and Succeed that for half a century guided Alger's undaunted heroes - lads whose struggles epitomized the Great American Dream and flamed hero ideals in countless millions of young Americans.

OFFICERS

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| JUDSON S. BERRY   | PRESIDENT      |
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The NEWSBOY, the official organ of the Horatio Alger Society is published monthly except January and July, and is distributed free to Society members. Membership fee for any twelve month period is \$5.00

NEWSBOY recognizes Ralph D. Gardner's HORATIO ALGER, or the American Hero Era, published by Wayside Press, 1964, as the leading authority on the subject.

Please use membership roster for mailing address of our officers.

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Notes From Members

L. GARLAND SCOTT, PF-250 has now retired and is spending lots of time rereading his collection of Algers.

DALE E. THOMAS PF-315 now has 105 original titles and 17 reprint titles with 12 1st editions. Dale has many books to sell and trade. Drop him a card and he will send you his list.

\* \* \* \* \*

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

PF-185 E. GARNET FAY  
Apt. 2805  
70 W. Burton Place  
Chicago, Ill. 60610

RALPH GARDNER reports that on May 20, 1971, at Plandome Book Auctions, N.Y. a copy of the 1867 Student & School-mate (bound volume) containing the full serialization of "Ragged Dick" sold for \$65. This, to Ralph's knowledge is the highest auction price yet paid for this item.

Also, on May 18, 1971, at the Parke-Bernet Auction a copy of "Do & Dare" - first edition with a small presentation inscription brought \$120.

\* \* \* \* \*

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

PF-320 KEITH C. ALLEN  
Central Michigan University  
Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858  
(Nan) T-43

Keith is a Professor at Central Michigan University working with VP Bob Bennet on Off Campus Education. Keith is our fifth member from Mt.PI.

PF-321 ALVIN E. SUKUT  
5101 West 37th St.  
Sioux Falls, S.D. 57106  
T-2

Alvin is a printer by vocation and a bottle collector (Algers also now) by avocation. Alvin joined with us at the Sioux Falls Convention.

We are happy to welcome our new members and if you have a moment drop them a line of welcome.

\* \* \* \* \*

PLEA FROM THE HISTORIAN

By Jack Bales PF-258

As newly appointed Historian of HAS, I will need the cooperation of everybody in order to make this venture a SUCCESS. Therefore, I ask EVERYONE to send ANYTHING that they have relating to either the Society or to Alger to me. If everybody helps the scrapbooks will really look nice, so PLEASE - whatever you have - SEND. You may rest assured that everything will be handled with the utmost care. All pictures should have the event and date on the back, so they can be adequately labeled.

Thank you VERY much!



"LUCK AND PUCK" AWARD

EDWARD LEVY PF-004 - for his long and unswerving interest in the Society. Not only is he a pioneer member, but he served as its first chairman before its incorporation, he has brought many new members into the Society, organized and conducted our first Eastern Convention in New Haven in 1966, has given many Alger books and story papers to historical libraries, and conducted an Alger symposium at Brandeis University in 1966. In short, he has extended the Society's influence for many years and has earned this tribute.

GARDNER LECTURES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

In mid-May, Ralph Gardner visited the campus of the University of Wyoming at Laramie to deliver a series of two Horatio Alger lectures. (This was a return engagement for Gardner, who lectured there a few years ago.) With an undergraduate group he discussed the various literary aspects of the author's career; then at a graduate school seminar, he described economic effects of Alger influence upon the generations of his readers.

Thanks to the kindness of a number of Alger Society members, the University not only had on hand a good variety of Alger titles for the young men and women to study prior to the Gardner lectures, but they have begun a permanent Horatio Alger collection to serve present and future classes of their American Studies Program. A sampling of these books, along with Gardner's "Horatio Alger; or, The American Hero Era" were on prominent display in the library's exhibition showcases during his visit.

Gardner's hosts during his stay at Laramie were Dr. Gene M. Gressley, Director of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Division at the University Library, and Dr. Herbert R. Dieterich, Professor of the American Studies program. Both are Alger enthusiasts:

Gardner at U. of Wyoming (con't.)

NEWSBOY

Dr. Gressley is making a personal project of assembling, for the University, one of the best Alger collections of its type. Dr. Dieterich proudly displays on his own bookshelves a number of Alger's that his father owned and enjoyed as a child and which the professor now prizes.

Gardner, who has given a number of his own volumes to the U. of Wyo. Library, wishes to take this opportunity to thank other Alger Society members for their generosity. He again reminds that whatever Alger's our readers can spare are needed and will be greatly appreciated and put to good use by the University. Condition doesn't matter - the library does a fine rebinding job, just so the text is all there. All who have any Alger books they can give should send them directly to:

Dr. Gene M. Gressley  
The Library  
University of Wyoming  
Laramie, Wyoming, 82070

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MINUTES OF THE 7th ANNUAL CONVENTION of the Horatio Alger Society, held on May 14, 15, 16, 1971, at Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Registration and the Board of Directors meeting took place at the home of our host, Judson Berry.

After the minutes of the 1970 Revere meeting and the 1970 Mendota meeting were read, new business was attended to.

A report by George Clarke was read concerning the allocation of funds for the Jr. Alger Club. The following motion was made, seconded, and was passed unanimously: "That the board authorizes George Clarke to proceed with the Jr. Alger Club in a self-sufficient manner. Each Alger Society member that sponsors a Jr. Alger Club boy shall pay \$2.00 for each Jr. member. \$1.00 to be used for the HAS treasury in order to finance the membership Directory, and the other \$1 to be used for regional development."



# H.A.S. THE BOOK MART

Horatio Alger or the American Hero Era, By Ralph Gardner. Autographed \$9.50 each postpaid. Order from

Judson Berry  
3801 W. 41st Street  
Sioux Falls, S.D. 57100

Judson has just a few copies left and we believe these are the last new ones available.

Alger Omnibus - 4 books in one-- Ragged Dick, Jed the Poorhouse Boy, Struggled Upward and Phil the Fiddler...excellent condition... Bonanza Publication...Price \$10.

Irv Poznan  
107 Timka Drive  
Ballwin, MO. 63011

**Edwin M. Gross**  
529 Carolina Street  
Charleston, W. Va. 25311

## HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY Member PF-283

Postage paid all the following at \$2.00 each:

SLOW AND SURE - Burt  
THE ERIE TRAIN BOY - Hurst  
GRIT THE YOUNG BOATMAN - Donohue  
STRONG AND STEADY - Donohue  
MAKING HIS WAY - Goldsmith  
JED, THE POORHOUSE BOY - Burt  
TELEGRAPH BOY - Donohue  
LUKE WALTON - DONOHUE  
SINK OR SWIM - Winston  
YOUNG OUTLAW - Mershon  
BRAVE AND BOLD - Hurst  
ADRIFT IN NEW YORK - Goldsmith  
BOB BURTON - World Syn.  
IN A NEW WORLD - Superior  
RISEN FROM THE RANKS - Hurst  
These are in Good to Fair Condition and if not satisfied can be returned.

The following offered by  
Sophia Papapanu  
141 Sedgwick Road  
Syracuse, N.Y. 13203

A complete run of Argosy (excluding two issues--Nos.496 & 497) beginning with No. 488, 4-9-92 & ending with #567, 10-14-93. Cost per copy \$2 except for the run, "Cast Upon the Breakers" - these 13 issues are \$3 each.

Adrift in New York - \$35.00  
(The two supplements of Comfort Magazine--May & June 1902).

The following offered by  
Mrs. Rohema Walter, PF-160  
1307 Greenbush  
LaFayette, Ind. 47904

CROWN JEWELS or GEMS OF LITERATURE, ART & MUSIC, L.P. Miller & Co., 1887, 1888 = J.R. Jones extra good condition \$25.00

RISEN FROM THE RANKS, Hurst & Co. good condition 2.00  
IN A NEW WORLD, Donohue G 2.00  
STRUGGLING UPWARD, Whitman G2.00  
BOUND TO RISE, Burt, G 2.00  
(cont'd next col.)

For Sale - by Herb L. Risteen, Box 161, Baraboo, Wisconsin 53913. Terms: Cash, no return. Add fifteen cents per copy for postage and handling. Subject to prior sale.

A COUSIN'S CONSPIRACY	NYB	VG	\$1.75
BERNARD BROOKS ADVENTURES	HURST	G	7.50
BEN'S NUGGET	JCW	VG	4.00
BOUND TO RISE	JCW	G	2.00
BRAVE AND BOLD	PAPERBACK	E	1.25
CHARLIE CODMAN'S CRUISE	JCW	G	2.00
CHESTER RAND	JCW	F+	1.50
DIGGING FOR GOLD	JCW	G	2.50
DO AND DARE	PAPERBACK	E	1.25
ERRAND BOY	BURT	VG	4.50
FALLING IN WITH FORTUNE	G & D	VG	8.50
HELPING HIMSELF	JCW	VG	2.50
JACOB MARLOWE'S SECRET	BURT	G	4.00
JOE'S LUCK	BURT	G	2.00
LESTER'S LUCK	JCW	VG	4.50
MAKING HIS WAY	BURT	VG	2.50
PAUL PRESCOTT'S CHARGE	JCW	G	2.50
PAUL THE PEDDLER	BURT	E	3.00
PHIL THE FIDDLER	JCW (lib. ed.)	G	3.50
RAGGED DICK	JCW	F	2.00
RAGGED DICK	JCW	VG	4.50
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RALPH RAYMOND'S HEIR	BURT	VG	2.50
SHIFTING FOR HIMSELF	HURST	VG	2.00
SLOW AND SURE	HURST	VG	2.00
SLOW AND SURE	HURST	FINE	3.00
RISEN FROM THE RANKS	BURT	G	2.00
RUBERT'S AMBITION	JCW	VG	4.50
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TOM TEMPLE'S CAREER	BURT	E	4.50
TOM TURNER'S LEGACY	BURT	G	3.50
WAIT AND HOPE	HURST	FINE	3.50
YOUNG BANK MESSENGER	JCW *deluxe	VG	5.50
STRIVE AND SUCCEED	JCW	G	2.00
STRIVE AND SUCCEED	BURT	VG	2.50

offered by Walter (cont'd.)

BOUND TO RISE, Donohue XG	\$ 2.00
MARK MASON VICTORY, Donohue cover needs fixing	2.00
THE ERIE GRAIN BOY, Superior good cond.	2.00
PAUL THE PEDDLER, Superior needs to be glued	2.00
GRIT THE YOUNG BOATMAN, info. pg is missing, story complete	2.00
JULIUS THE STREET BOY, Superior needs glue	2.00
JOE'S LUCK, Superior, Fair	2.00
ANDY GRANT'S PLUCK, Superior ext. good	2.00
DRIVEN FROM HOME, Hurst	2.00
HELPING HIMSELF, Superior needs glue	2.00
ANDY GORDON, N.Y. Book Co., 1909, needs glue	2.00
STRONG & STEADY, Donohue needs glue	2.00
STRIVE AND SUCCEED, N.Y. Book Co., 1908 Xgood Con.	2.00
TRY AND TRUST, N.Y. Book Co XGood Con., 1908	2.00
ADRIFT IN NEW YORK, The World Pub. Co. XGood Cond.	2.00
FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS, Hurst, Xgood Cond	5.00

### SOURCES FOR "THE JUVENILES OF NEW YORK CITY"

Asbury, Herbert. The Gangs of New York.  
Brace, Charles Loring. The Dangerous Classes of New York

NEXT: THE DRAFT RIOTS of 1863

### NEW YORK CITY DURING THE TIME

#### OF HORATIO ALGER, JR. by Jack Bales THE JUVENILES OF NEW YORK CITY

Vice in New York also touched upon the juveniles of the city. By 1870, numerous juvenile gangsters prowled the streets of New York. Many of these delinquents were taught by adult gangsters to pick pockets and to steal items of value from people, all the while disguising their intentions by posing as bootblacks or newsboys.

Some well-known adult street gangs would each have their own juvenile gang to help them. Two examples of these boy groups were the "Forty Little Thieves" and the "Little Dead Rabbits," whose members would try to imitate their elders as much as possible.

Some of these juvenile criminals grew up and joined adult street gangs, thus remaining with their life of crime.

These juvenile gangsters frequently received as much publicity as their adult counterparts. Once, a half dozen youths in rowboats saw three boys in a small boat on the East River. They robbed and beat the three, threw them into the water, and then sailed the boat up the river, where a junkman paid a few dollars for it.

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Luckily, the three boys safely swam to shore. In another instance, two juveniles had a knife fight over the affections of a young girl. While many armed boys watched, one of the two was killed. Then, all the boys started to fight, with the battle ending in a juvenile gang war, in which over 50 youths participated.

Eventually, the criminal aspect of juvenile street gangs was eliminated. This was due to the influence that welfare agencies had, police effectiveness in breaking up the gangs, and to the improvements in the educational system which allowed the managing of tenement children.

An establishment that helped the boys was the, "Newsboys Lodging-house", opened in 1854 as the first Lodging-house created especially for street boys. In the building, youths could receive supper for four cents, obtain a bed for six cents and eat a free breakfast the next morning. Later a night-school was formed in the building, in which the boys were able to learn how to read and write.

The "Children's Aid Society" also helped boys. It furnished schools for them and provided the boys with Lodging-houses in which to live.

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One of the most frequently mentioned juvenile gangsters in Horatio Alger's books was Micky Maguire, who appeared in Ragged Dick and in other books in the Ragged Dick Series. In the former volume Alger wrote: "Among the down-town bootblacks was one hailing from the Five Points, a stout, red-haired, freckled-faced boy of fourteen, bearing the name of Micky Maguire. This boy, by his boldness and recklessness, as well as by his personal strength, which was considerable, had acquired an ascendancy among his fellow profesionas, and had a gang of subservient followers, whom he led on to acts of ruffianism, not unfrequently terminating in a month or two at Blackwell's Island."

Horatio Alger spent a great deal of time at the Newsboys Lodging-house, and consequently wrote much about it. In Ben, The Luggage Boy, HE WROTE: "After supper, he went out into the street once more, and walked about for some time. until he began to feel tired, when he turned his steps towards the Newsboys' Lodge. This institution occupied at that time the two upper stories of the building at the corner of Nassau and Fulton Streets. On the first floor was the office of the 'Daily Sun'. The entrance to the Lodge was on Fulton Street."

SOURCES: see pg. 4

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR ALGER HEROES?

By PF-318 - Evelyn M. Grebel

Find the names of some of the boys you have enjoyed reading about in Horatio Alger books. The names are spelled out in this puzzle, and read across, backwards, up and down and vertical. You may not jump a letter, but one can be used more than once, as shown in the illustration. Pen a line around the names as you find them, and cross them off your list. Lots of your old friends are here. Only the last names are given here as you are to find and fill in the given name. How often did Alger use the same first name for his boys? This list tells you - in part. ....(and often the last name, too.) Can you name the books?

P H I L I P T O N Y D E N O J  
A E R U F U S A D L B N A D A  
U R E K W R E N J (E O J) D Y S  
L B X E J D A M A S B E L D P  
H E C T O R T N C T W R A N E  
A R I C H A R D K E R R R A R  
T T B H N N E W C R E Y E R K  
S N F A E R P A I S V R G N R  
E A T R D E U L D U I R B O A  
N R W L E B R T D I L A C S M  
R G E I J T R E B L O H D L O  
E C H E S T E R L U K E R E Y  
S M O T R E B O R J R A I N S  
G I L B E R T O M F C B E N V

- |                 |                 |                            |                              |                   |  |                 |   |   |                  |   |                 |  |  |                 |                                    |  |               |  |                   |   |               |                  |   |  |  |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------|---|---|------------------|---|-----------------|--|--|-----------------|------------------------------------|--|---------------|--|-------------------|---|---------------|------------------|---|--|--|
| 1. ---- Oakley  | 2. ---- Gray    | 3. ---- or<br>----- Hunter | 4. --- Bodley<br>----- Mason | 5. ---- Taylor    | 6. ---- Coverdale<br>----- Raymond<br>----- Frost<br>----- Rushton<br>----- Rudd | 8. ---- Rollins | 9. ---- Carter<br>----- Carr<br>----- Mason         | 10. --- Gilman  | 11. --- Mordaunt | 12. ---- Burke<br>----- Grant<br>----- Gordon | 13. ---- Fenton | 14. --- Stanton<br>----- Logan<br>----- Brandon<br>----- Barclay<br>----- Bradford<br>----- Bruce<br>----- Baker | 15. ---- Colburn   | 16. ---- Barton | 17. ---- Drummond<br>----- Harding | 18. ---- Blue  | 19. ---- Ray  | 20. --- Dunham                           | 21. ---- Crawford | 22. ---- Frost<br>----- Hunter<br>----- Kavanagh<br>----- Fowler<br>----- Hardy | 23. ---- Lane | 24. ---- Grayson | 25. ---- Vane<br>----- Walton<br>----- Morris<br>----- Gilbert<br>----- Raymond |  |  |
| 26. ---- Roscoe | 27. ---- Brooks | 28. --- Burton             | 29. ---- Rand                | 30. ---- Thompson | 31. ---- Rushton   | 32. --- Barker  | 33. ---- Conrad<br>----- Sherwood<br>----- Griffith | 34. --- Brace<br>----- Gray<br>----- Nelson<br>----- Thatcher<br>----- Turner<br>----- Temple<br>----- Newton | 35. --- Newton   | 36. ---- Horton                               | 37. ---- Conrad | 38. ---- Walton<br>----- Larkin  | 39. ---- Prescott<br>----- Hoffman<br>----- Parton<br>----- Palmer | 40. ---- Rugg   | 41. ---- Winter                    | 42. ---- Manning<br>----- Mason<br>----- Stanton<br>----- Manton | 43. ---- Kent | 44. ---- or<br>----- Brent<br>----- Gray | 45. ---- Codman   |   |               |                  |   |  |  |

Watch for the solution in next months NEWSBOY.



We will have more pictures in the August NEWSBOY. Pictured on page 8: Fr. D. Thomas, R. Gardner, K. Butler, D. Butler, B. Row. Sr. M. Thomas, B. Bennett, B. Robinson, B. Langlois, L. Langlois, Tr. J. Bales, Mrs. Rogers, C. Hartmann. Standing at the top by himself is our President, Judson Berry.

Pictured at right: Ken Butler, Jack Bales, Judson Berry, Paul House and Norman Hanson.



By JACK BALES, PF-258

Due to transportation difficulties, Dan Fuller could not attend the convention, so the financial report was read by our Secretary, Carl Hartmann. At the moment we have \$86.45 in cash in our treasury, but have outstanding bills of \$170.44. Money will be saved this year as the Strive & Succeed and Newsboy awards were not given at this convention. Furthermore, the Memorial Service at Alger's grave will not be held this year.

We now have 8 libraries subscribing to the Newsboy, with the New York Public Library recently buying \$18.50 worth of back issues.

At convention time, we have 156 members.

Vice President Bob Bennett has been working on a new "Alger Title Price List," that shows the current values for Horatio Alger's books. It was decided that Kenneth Butler will reproduce these in pocket size. \$2.00 a copy for all H.A.S. members, and \$5.00 a piece for all non-members.

Carl Hartmann stated that he will print up a history of the Horatio Alger Society and insert it with prospective members' Newsboy & application blank.

Jack Bales was appointed Historian of the Horatio Alger Society. His job will be to keep a scrapbook of all items relating to the Society, such as newspaper clippings, pictures of conventions, etc. He will also keep another scrapbook of all things relating to Alger himself. Both books will be on display at all conventions.

The Annual Meeting of the Horatio Alger Society was held at the Park Ridge National Bank in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. It was determined by Unanimous vote that the Society would retain the same officers as last year.

The subject of next year's convention was brought up, and Vice President Bob Bennett announced that he would hold it in Mt. Pleasant, Mich., with the specific date being arranged at some future time.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Bales, PF-258

Convention Secretary

Nineteen people were at the 1971 convention in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. These were: JACK BALES, BOB BENNETT, JUDSON BERRY, KENNETH and DORIS BUTLER, FRANK and SARA EISENBERG, RALPH GARDNER, NORMAN HANSON, CARL HARTMANN, PAUL HOUSE, LES and BERTIE LANGLOIS, BETTE ROBINSON, JACK and BETH ROW, AL SUKUT (a new member who joined at the convention), and DALE and MARY ELLEN THOMAS.

Registration and a general "get-together" took place on the afternoon of May 14. Old friends met once again and new people had a chance to make the acquaintances of other Alger bibliophiles. Three of these Alger "experts" were Carl Hartmann, Paul House, and Les Langlois, who have never missed a convention yet!!

Book sales took place in the early evening after the board meeting, and Judson Berry, our host for the convention, provided a delicious meal for everyone. Plaudits also go to Mrs. Mary Naser, who prepared the magnificent fruit salad, and to Mrs. Pearl Corning, who helped prepare the food in the kitchen.

Saturday morning found everyone at the Pettigrew Museum, which was specially opened for our visit. In the building, which was partially composed of old petrified rock, we saw many ancient artifacts dealing with early South Dakota history, as well as numerous antiques.

After going to the many antique shops in the area, noon found everyone back at Judson's for lunch. Later that day, the Annual Meeting of the Horatio Alger Society was held at the Park Ridge National Bank. Ralph Gardner furnished a little levity for the occasion with his contest on Horatio Alger. He had a map of New York City enlarged, with various numbers, from 1-17, plotted on it. These numbers corresponded to places that existed in Alger's time, which were mentioned on a separate piece of paper. The object was to take the name, and state an occasion out of one of Alger's books where it came from. For example, number 11 was "Barnum's Museum," and one could say,

Continued on page 8



## THE ALGER BULLY

by Forrest Campbell

The Alger bully characterization was as important to the Alger style of writing as that of the hero of any particular story, yet he was never popular, nor a favorite among Alger's young readers. Mr. Alger made use of this strategy to make it clear to his young readers that there is a recognizable difference between doing right and wrong-doing. Being a minister with a desire to teach according to his own convictions, and preferring to direct his messages to young people, he made use of the power of the written word to make his point.

The Alger bully was most always of the same age as the hero of the story, and a close rival in sporting events, scholastic achievements, as well as a rival at social events for the attentions of a fair young lady; but he always had the advantage in the field of finance, being the son of a wealthy man; and he claimed the rank of a gentleman for himself due to his mother's status in local social affairs.

Mr. Alger did add some variety to the "make-up" of the bully which depended a lot upon his parental background & the environment of his home life in taking into account his abnormal conduct. Also the extent of his father's wealth and the influence of his high-toned mother were important factors to be considered in the overall make-up of his character.

In some cases the bully had no parents to guide him or support him and he became a vagrant or a vagabond of the street and his very existence depended upon his ability to evade the law in his life of crime.

At any rate, the temperment of the bully seems to be flexible according to the needs in the text of the story, or to assist the author in illustrating the point he is trying to make.

There seems to be at least three variations portrayed in the Alger descriptions: 1, the arrogant young aristocrat; 2, the cowardly brute, & 3, the ignorant and unprincipled street boy. I shall try to illustrate all three from actual stories.

Sam Sturgis, the arrogant young aristocrat may be found in the story of The Young Explorer. He seeks the con-

sent of his father to hire Ben as his personal servant. Quote: "I want a boy to follow me round and do just what I bid him." After obtaining his father's consent he presents his proposal to Ben, which included the task of blacking his boots each morning.

Ben replies, "You'd want to black your boots?"

"Yes."

"Well, I might agree to that on one condition."

"What is that?"

"That you would black mine."

"What do you mean?" demanded Sam, his face flushing angrily.

"Just what I say."

"Do you mean to insult me?"

"Not a bit; any more than you mean to insult me."

And Sam replies a bit later:

"I never heard of such impudence. I never was so repaid for kindness before... You may starve for all me; it's ridiculous for a poor boy to put on such airs."

Needless to say, in spite of all his insults, he was unable to demean the dignity of Ben. The Alger bully may also identify himself with his arrogance, his troublesome and provoking manners and his offensive attitude, but the true bully in my opinion is the one portrayed in the story of Wait & Win where Victor Drummond attempts to molest a humpbacked boy, but is ordered to stop by command of Jack Drummond, who, unknown to either, happen to be cousins. Here are some of the remarks which passed between them:

"Do you know who I am?"

"I don't know who you are, but I know what you are."

"What am I?"

"You are a contemptible bully."

Then of course there is Micky Maguire in the story of Ragged Dick, who claimed the Five Points as his place of abode, except for the time he spent on the island. When successful in evading the "cops" he was the leader of a gang of vagrant street-boys and of course could not be trusted. He preferred to steal rather than earn his living by any honorable means and was a natural enemy to Ragged Dick or any other street boy who tried to lead a respectable life.



that I would never get it and until I made a trip to the Library of Congress to see the real thing for myself, I wondered if such a volume still existed. But there it was. Over the years I'd say I owned at least seven or eight Loring non-first editions of "Fame and Fortune," most of which I ordered after they'd been offered as firsts. So there alone we have seven or eight disappointments! But finally I arranged a swap and the REAL THING arrived. It was a happy day.

Other very difficult Alger first editions for me to acquire were "The Young Boatman," and "Wait and Win." Add to this the first of "Robert Coverdale's Struggle" (for which I paid just about as much as the whole rest of my Alger collection cost - or nearly so, it seems) and the Ogilvie edition of "Tom the Bootblack" which - up to the time I found it - most collectors and knowledgeable bookmen were willing to bet never existed.

Then there's my adventure of finding a copy of "The \$500 Check" with Porter & Coates imprinted on the spine. But that's another story, and we'll leave it for another time.

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1971 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS  
(continued)

"Where Paul the Peddler took his mother and brother." All contestants received pocket, leather encased notepads, with mechanical pencils included. Many thanks, Ralph!!

Our annual banquet took place at 6:30 that evening at the Normandy Restaurant in Sioux Falls. After dinner, Hall Guthrie of Sioux Falls showed some old-time movies for the enjoyment of everyone, and Luck and Puck award was given. This year the plaque was awarded in absentia to ED LEVY, for his untiring devotion to the Horatio Alger Society.  
C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S, Ed -  
We know you deserve it!!

On Sunday morning we were all back at Judson's house again for the farewell breakfast. Jud was about to cook the eggs, when all the ladies came in, took one look at him, and hustled him out of the kitchen so THEY could take over. Besides eggs, toast was served and Jack Row committed himself creditably as "toastmaster." Great going, Jack!!

But as fast as the women were to get into the kitchen to make the breakfast, they were equally as fast in getting out when it came time to wash the dishes. They left Bob Bennett to wash them all, and Carl Hartmann and Jack Bales to dry each one of them while the ladies all relaxed. Oh well, such is life, I guess!

But all in all, it was a wonderful convention. You people who don't come to these events don't realize the significance of such occasions. Warm and lifelong friendships are formed during these visits, and the memories that one has of a convention are enough to last him all his life. So please come to the next one -- you will never forget it!



Convention group at Pettigrew Museum. (See page 5.)