

newsboy



GUEST EDITOR
Carl T. Hartmann
4907 Allison Dr.
Lansing, Mi. 48910

Vol. 10, No. 4
November, 1971

Founded 1961 by Forrest Campbell & Kenneth Butler

ALGER ON TV

A highly complimentary letter from Peter Minasian, Producer of the highly popular PAUL BENZEAQUIN SHOW (9:00 a.m. daily over Station WNAC-TV) is among the prized possessions of George C. Clarke, PF-264. He spoke on the Alger Revival and the Junior Alger Movement.

The letter recommends to Dick Cavett that Clarke be invited to appear on his hour, a coast-to-coast hookup!

It reads as follows: "Dick Cavett - During the eight and one half months tenure of the Paul Benzequin show at WNAZ-TV Boston, we have never enjoyed a more entertaining portion than with George C. Clarke. Introduced to us by Barry Wayne Saltzman, a friend, Mr. Clarke is an expert on Horatio Alger, Jr."

"In fact his entire life has been modeled by Alger's prose with many years spent in service to the Horatio Alger clubs throughout the world.

"He is an old man with a razor sharp mind that functions in contradiction with the weary limbs his body carries each day. Mr. Clarke's mission is very simply stated - to use Alger's philosophies to guide today's youth to their own personal shan gri las."

"Dick Cavett could do one of the most interesting quickies he has ever attempted."

"He, Clarke, has facts about Algers that will simply destroy everyone. Just give him a try."

HAS CONVENTION

V.P. Bob Bennett has announced the following tentative schedule for the HAS Convention May, 12, 13, & 14, 1972.

Registration will start Friday evening with a Board of Directors meeting around 9:00 p.m. Most of Saturday will be spent trading and selling Algers with a map of the surrounding area showing all the Antique shops and Second hand

stores. Saturday evening will be the annual banquet and business meeting. Sunday morning we will breakfast together before leaving for home.

Headquarters will be the Holiday Inn in Mt. Pleasant. Registration fee of \$5.00 includes the Saturday night banquet. We have reserved a number of rooms at a special rate so make your plans now!!!!!!

HISTORICAL MEANDERINGS

The Horatio Alger Society Scrapbook has now passed the 180 page mark due to the latest generous donation from a Society member. In a letter to me, he said, "I would much rather the items I have appear in a general Society scrapbook for all members, including future members, to see and enjoy, than reposing in my own private files, unseen and forgotten."

In my search for literary quotations that will be placed underneath Alger articles or photographs, I came across a beautiful one that will undoubtedly remain my favorite. On the Scrapbook page I placed a large photograph of Society members at the 1966 Alger Memorial Service (the same picture is in the Newsboy Photo Supplement of the same year). Below and to the left of this photograph I placed a much smaller and solitary view of Alger's tombstone, and to the right of this photograph are the words by Edith Wharton, from With the Tide: Theodore Roosevelt. "Somewhere I read, in an old book whose name / Is gone from me, I read that when the days / of a man are counted and his business done, / There comes up the shore at evening, with the tide, / To the place where he sits, a boat -- / And in the boat, from the place where he sits, he sees, / Dim in the dusk, dim and yet so familiar, / The faces of his friends long dead; and knows / They come for him, brought in upon the tide, / To take him where men go at set of day."

Jack Bales, PF-258

PAY YOUR DUES NOW



16/100 ARTIST UNIFORM LIMITED EDITION DAN, THE NEWSBOY, FOR H. ALGER SOCIETY PARTICULAR FRIEND STUDY C. 1890 W-1971

100 copies of the above picture of DAN THE NEWSBOY have been donated to the HAS by PF-315, Dale E. Thomas. The picture is 11" x 14" printed on heavy grained paper and is ideal for framing. Each one is numbered and dated. First come, first serve.

You may obtain a copy by writing to The Horatio Alger Society, 4907 Allison Dr., Lansing, Mi. 48910. Please make checks payable to The Horatio Alger Society. The cost is only \$5.00 prepaid.

We appreciate the time and trouble Dale has taken to make these available to HAS members, so order yours now.

ROSTER TIME

Only members with dues paid will be listed. If you have any corrections let your Secretary know now. All dues and corrections must be in by Dec. 15, 1971.

THE BOOK MART

THESE ARE ALL BOUND VOLUMNS OF ARGOSY

Vol. 7 No Covers or Spine	<u>\$500; or Jacob Marlowe's Secret</u> - Alger - Complete <u>Tom Brace; Who He Was and How He Fared</u> - Arthur Lee Putnam - Complete	\$20.00
Vol. 9 Good Good	<u>Silas Suobden's Office Boy</u> - Arthur Lee Putnam - Complete <u>The Odds Against Him</u> - Alger - (last 5 issues) <u>The Erie Train Boy</u> - Alger - Complete	\$55.00
Vol. 13 Good	<u>A Debt of Honor</u> - Alger - Complete	\$15.00
Vol. 14 Good	<u>A.D.T. 79</u> - Arthur Lee Putnam - Complete <u>Jed the Poorhouse Boy</u> - Alger - Complete	\$35.00
Vol. 15 Good	<u>Ben Bruce</u> - Arthur Lee Putnam - (first 11 Issues) <u>Chester Rand</u> - Alger - Complete	\$25.00
Vol. 16 Good	<u>Ben Bruce</u> - Arthur Lee Putnam - (last 3 Issues) with Vol. 15, makes Ben Bruce Complete. <u>Victor Vaue</u> - Alger - Complete <u>Cast Upon the Breakers</u> - Arthur Lee Putnam - Complete	\$42.50

Mr. Ernest P. Sanford
9724 Admiralty Drive
Silver Spring, Md. 20910

Clock - Con't from page 2

"Yes, father," replied Melvin, sullenly.

"Now, cousin Billy," began Cyrus in an over-friendly voice after Melvin was out of hearing distance, "is it true what they are saying about the old clock?" Cyrus was smiling now, and more attentive.

"I don't know; what are they saying?"

"Oh," began Cyrus, guardedly, "That the clock was the hiding place of the Baldwin wealth --which was unreported when his estate was settled. Do you believe that, cousin Billy?"

"No I don't; first off, I loaned Grand'ther Baldwin a thousand dollars afore I left town thirty year ago at the legal rate of interest, with no time limit when it should be repaid, and since he's dead, then I have a legal claim agin his estate, or his heirs for that amount, plus the interest."

"Oh," replied Cyrus, crestfallen, "you say that you loaned a thousand dollars to, er, this man Baldwin?"

"That's right."

"And because of your destitution, you are here to collect?" added Cyrus, mopping his brow.

"Well, that's one way o' puttin' it; leastways, I'm a lookin' for the one who has legal possession of the clock," replied Billy B cautiously.

Cyrus looked somewhat relieved. The loan of a thousand dollars plus the interest for thirty years would be a staggering amount for the Baldwin's to face. What seemed to be his misfortune in not acquiring the clock was turning out to be his good fortune. "You say you intend to file your claim with the legal possessor of the clock?"

"That's right, but you haven't told me who this legal owner of the clock might be; do you own it, cousin Cyrus?"

"No, I do not," replied Cyrus, "the widow Baldwin and her son have the legal possession of it," he added, trying hard to stifle a chuckle. (to be concluded) (copyright, Forrest Campbell, 1971)

Ralph-from page 2
festivities already being arranged by our Vice President, Bob Bennett (a member of the C.M.U. faculty), aided by Executive Secretary Carl Hartmann. As Central Michigan is, geographically, probably more readily accessible to more members than almost any other location in the United States, it is expected that we'll probably enjoy the biggest turnout in all the years since our happy annual meetings were inaugurated back in 1965.

As anyone who's attended in the past (and we've got a number of members who've never missed a single convention) can tell you, it's a chance to spend a few days talking and swapping Algers with the greatest bunch in the world. Antique

dealers, booksellers and second-hand stores for miles around are always alerted long in advance to prepare for our Alger invasion and they're invariably ready for us with all sorts of goodies.

Accommodations (including motel, meals, banquet, etc.) are always top quality at low-budget prices, and the whole wonderful weekend is RATED "G". In other words, it's full-family entertainment at it's best! As a matter of fact, in addition to bringing along your whole family, why not make it an extra-special vacation by taking a few extra days to enjoy a relaxing Springtime jaunt through the lovely Michigan countryside and lakes region?

For those of us who have attended past Alger conventions, it's always a wonderful reunion with friends we may not otherwise get a chance to see as often as we'd like. For those who will attend for the first time this will be a great opportunity to meet, person-to-person, with Particular Friends with whom we've been corresponding.

In future issues of The Newsboy you'll be kept up to date on convention plans as they develop. But for the moment, make note of these important dates: May 12, 13 and 14 -- and start planning now to join us for all the fun at Mt. Pleasant!

1845 at Illinois College in Jacksonville), I have often wondered if Alger ever wrote about any in his books. In Sam's Chance he refers to the "Alpha Zeta Society," but makes no mention of a literary aspect.

Con't on page 4

THREE ASPECTS OF
RISEN FROM THE RANKS

by Jack Bales, PF-258

When reading books I often take note of any quirk or peculiarity in the author's style of writing that strikes me as somewhat unusual. Or, if he writes about something uncommon that interests me, I also try to remember it.

An Alger book that lies in this vein is Risen from the Ranks, which is quite unique in several ways.

Chapter Five is headed by the title "A Young F. F. B." A few months ago Forrest Campbell and I tried to figure this out, but neither of us could think of the abbreviation's meaning, though it was quite easily determined that the three letters referred to the young snob of the story. At the 1971 convention I brought it to the attention of those attending, and the best answer that we could come up with was "Fitzgerald Fletcher of Boston." This however, does not make the title grammatically correct, as it would read, "A Young Fitzgerald Fletcher of Boston." However, if the "A" were dropped off, the heading would be quite comprehensible.

Though practically decadent today, literary societies flourished in Alger's time. As a member of one of the very few that are still remaining in the United States (Phi Alpha Literary Society, founded in

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 Americans.

OFFICERS

JUDSON S. BERRY	PRESIDENT
LEO (BOB) BENNETT	V-PRESIDENT
DAN FULLER	TREASURER
CARL T. HARTMANN	SECRETARY
KENNETH B. BUTLER	DIRECTOR
RALPH GARDNER	DIRECTOR
FORREST CAMPBELL	DIRECTOR

The NEWSBOY, the official organ of the Horatio Alger Society is published monthly except January & July and is distributed free to Society members. Membership fee for any twelve month period is \$5.

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.

GRAND'THER BALDWIN'S CLOCK

(An Alger type short story in four parts written in the Alger style by Forrest Campbell, and suggested by Alger's poem, GRAND'THER BALDWIN'S THANKSGIVING, which was written about a century ago.) The story opened with Ben Baldwin, a great-grandson, making plans with his widowed mother to dispose of, by auction, their home and its contents except for the mysterious clock, a silent ornamental heirloom which they hope to keep in the family out of respect for Grand'ther Baldwin. Cyrus Miller, already a wealthy man, and owner of the only mill in the village, is a disgruntled relative by marriage to cousin Bertha Baldwin, and he has called at the Baldwin home in advance of the sale, seeking to acquire by fair means or foul the coveted Grand'ther Baldwin clock. Unable to acquire the clock after several attempts to wheedle it from the widow and her son Ben, with whom he refused to deal, he leaves in a huff. The scene changes to his home where we find his son Melvin, idly standing in their yard surveying the premises with watch-dog percision.

Part Three

An elderly man, short in stature with a peg-leg, and otherwise obviously a man of the sea, due to his attire including his headgear, and a sea-bag thrown over his shoulder had been approaching the Miller home; then having reached the gate, he stopped. Melvin, in his best aristocratic form, threatened him.

"Here, you loafer! Just move along. We don't allow beggars to loiter around our premises!"

The man of the sea made no attempt to "move along" as commanded by the young aristocrat, but in a calm, polite, and controlled voice he inquired:

"Be your mother home, sonny boy?"

"What if she is? That's no concern of yours," replied Melvin, "just move along, will you?"

"I've come a long way," explained the old man, "to see my cousin Bertha, and I've been told that I might find her here..."

"My mother your cousin? You must be crazy, you loafer; just you move along. My mother is a lady. Do you mean to insult her?"

"If your mother is my cousin," returned the old man, venting his feelings, "then she is a lady, sure," pausing, and looking Melvin in the eye, continued, "however, if you are her son, then I am confused."

"What do you mean?" replied Melvin, quickly, surprised at the old man's bold effrontery, then added with some new spirit, seeing his father approaching, "I am a gentleman's son, and he's coming right now," pointing down the path, "So you'd just better move along!"

Melvin did not know quite how to take the old man's last statement. In his own mind was some question of his mother's qualifications as a lady of high rank, since she was a Baldwin before her marriage, but he was of the opinion that the name of Miller commanded high respect from all who crossed his path. Cyrus stopped in front of them, and Melvin's face registered disappointment, since the old man held his ground.

"Father," he began, "this old beggar claims to be related to mother. Shall I sic ol' Hickory on 'im?"

Cyrus carefully scrutinized the old man, willing to believe what he had just heard, but hoping there must be some mistake, he extended his arm holding Melvin in check, and addressed the old man: "Is this true?"

"I have only made an inquiry, sir; allow me to introduce myself. I am Billy B Baldwin, a cousin of Bertha Baldwin, whom I understand is now Mrs. Miller, --your wife?"

"If this is true, what do you want of us?" inquired Cyrus, guardedly, suspecting that the man was seeking charity.

"This was my home -- I've been away some thirty years -- and I thought I might be welcome at the home of a relative --if I could find any."

"Do you have any identification," asked Cyrus, hoping that somehow this claim of relationship could be denied.

Cousin Billy B, for this was his name, paused to refresh his memory, then pointing to the stenciled name on his sea-bag, replied, "That seems to be all I have; perhaps cousin Bertha can identify me."

Cyrus, hoping to avert this possibility, added quickly, "She isn't home just

now; tell me, are you destitute? Why don't you go back to your hotel, and she will call on you, --perhaps tomorrow, --if she can arrange it."

"To answer your first question," began Billy, "all my worldly possessions can be accounted for in my sea-bag. I am not stopping at the hotel. As I said, I had hoped to find a relative..."

Cyrus had heard quite enough, and suddenly remembered the widow Baldwin, then interrupted the old man.

"If you claim to be a cousin of my wife, Bertha, a former Baldwin girl, then you must also be a cousin to Ben Baldwin whose home is on the other side of town --"

"But, I understood that he was dead?"

"That is right, but his widow and son still occupy the old Baldwin home." Cyrus thought it unnecessary to inform the old man that they were about to lose the old homestead.

"Is this true? questioned Billy B, then added, "--does the old clock still remain in their home?"

Cyrus hesitated, "What do you know about the old clock?" he inquired with renewed interest in the old man.

"Oh, I just remembered it, that's all," responded Billy B, guardedly.

"On second thought," began Cyrus, "I'll get you a room at the hotel for tonight. I don't think the widow can make room for you. Tell me, --what did you say your name was?"

"Billy B Baldwin."

"Yes, of course, Billy, --Melvin, go and tie up ol' Hickory," noting Melvin's hesitation, he added, "now, Melvin, --at once!"

Con't on page #3

A NOTE FROM RALPH

Although we're just getting into Autumn -- and there's a long, cold Winter (of fruitful Alger-collecting for all, I hope) ahead of us, I'm already eagerly looking forward to our 1972 Alger Convention. It's a very pleasant prospect to warm the cold months to come!

I know that our big annual meeting is usually announced in The Newsboy sometime around the beginning of the new year, but it's my feeling that the sooner we start planning to attend, well -- then, that many more of us will be able to work our schedules out to be there.

Next year's event will take place over the weekend of Friday through Sunday, May 12, 13 and 14. The place selected last May at Sioux Falls is beautiful Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, with the scholarly environs of the Central Michigan University campus as the setting for the full program of fun and

Con't on page 3

P O T P O U R R I

ANNIVERSARIES

First, I would like to acknowledge your beautiful birthday card I received last month, and then take this opportunity to express my personal birthday greetings to those of you, on record, who are celebrating yours this month.

It was just ten years (a decade) ago, when two Alger collectors, Kenneth B. Butler and Forrest Campbell, met for the first time in the latter's home in Kalamazoo, Michigan on Thanksgiving Day.

The two Alger collectors had previously heard of each other, however, they lived some 300 miles apart. At the first convenient opportunity one made contact with the other to explore the possibility of exchanging duplicate Alger titles which they needed. I must add that Mr. Butler had, by far, a more complete collection than I, and I, therefore, profited more by this contact than did Mr. Butler.

It was at this meeting that Mr. Butler posed the question: "Do you suppose that there might be a need for an organization whereby such collectors, or friends of Horatio Alger, could make contact with one another?" The result of this question and this meeting is a part of our early history and may be reviewed in the early issues of our publication, Newsboy, which began with the July 1962 issue.

PARTIC'LAR FRIENDS

This expression was used, on occasions, by Alger in some of his stories, for example it appeared five times in the story of Ragged Dick. This expression, purely for the identification of our subscribers and eventually members, was proposed by the editor in the December 1964 newsletter and adopted as such in the January 1965 issue, with PF-108 having that distinction, and been assigned ever after, purely on an identification basis. Prior to that, supporters of our newsletter was assigned a number without a prefix letter purely on a first come first served basis. In August, 1963 No. 73 was the first full-fledged "Subscriber" to have the prefix letter "S" before the number.

This means of identification has been preserved and it continues simply by conversion from "Subscribers" of the newsletter to Partic'lar Friend "members" of our Society.

The first partic'lar friend to pass was Paul J. Schmidt, PF-056, on November 12, 1964, but was not announced until the February 1965 issue of our newsletter. He was announced as a new member in the February 1965 newsletter.

The first major step in the advancement of our newsletter came with the adornment of a printed, page one, format which was supplied by co-founder Kenneth B. Butler. The second major advancement came when printed, return address envelopes were supplied by our present guest-editor, Carl T. Hartmann, PF-102 in March 1965. The first major step in our membership progress came when we broke the continental barrier and announced the membership of David B. Carlson, PF-064 of Alaska!

A FAMILIAR SETTING

When Horatio was preparing the manuscript for the story of Frank's Campaign, which was published in the year 1864, his home address, when he was at home, was in South Natick, Massachusetts and I am convinced that he had this area in mind when he described the surroundings in chapters XV and XVI. Max Goldberg, and those who have visited there, I am sure will agree with me. It was my pleasure to visit the area on several occasions with Max as my escort. The actual communities of Natick, South Natick, and Wellsley, compare favorably with the fictitious settings of North Rosville, Rosville, and Wellington as described in the story. The tavern mentioned in the story could very well be the old "Bailey Inn" which actually existed, but since demolished. I am also certain that the "old village church" and the "small triangular common" still exist. All of this will be available to you when you next attend one of our annual Memorial Services on or near the anniversary of Horatio's death, July 18th, at Glenwood Cemetery, South Natick, Massachusetts. (Copyright, Forrest Campbell, 1971)

Risen - From page #3
Chapter Nine of Risen from the Ranks is headed by the title "The Clionian Society" (note the omission of the word "literary"), with the following sentences being from Chapter Thirteen. "Fitzgerald Fletcher did not vote for him. Indeed, he expressed it as his opinion that it was a shame to elect a 'printer's devil' secretary of the society.

'Why is it?' said Oscar.
'Printing is a department of literature, and the Clionian is a literary society, isn't it?'

'Of course it is a literary society, but a printer's devil is not literary.'

Also in the book, the hero of the story, Harry Walton, gives a declamation, which is a work of oratory that is still a standard part of a literary meeting. And in Chapter Twenty-three, Alger wrote, "It must be premised that Fitz was vain of his reading and declamation." (Readings and essays are also literary pieces that exist in a literary meeting.)

Thirdly, when reading Risen from the Ranks, I noticed immediately that there was not one iota of luck in the story!! Harry Walton "found himself at nineteen, the editor of an old-established paper," became a member of the New Hampshire Legislature at twenty-one, and was elected to Congress at the age of twenty eight.

Critics who often say that Alger's heroes succeeded by "luck not pluck," should read this book, as Alger makes a partic'lar point of noting that Harry had to hire his younger brother to help him, as "our hero found himself overburdened with work." (No luck of Frank Merriwell-ish qualities there).

The story, in my opinion, has risen from the ranks of the ordinary Alger stories. The hero is one that stands out in a person's mind, and as Ragged Dick is the Alger Hero most remembered in the New York City stories, so should Harry Walton be remembered in the books that feature a small village as a setting.

history; Tropical fish-keeping and collecting and skin diving for tropical fish; Sherlock Homes-iana. George says: "My interest in Alger's works and Alger lore and in collecting the old books, is only just beginning as a result of the existence of HAS."

We are happy to welcome all our new members.

A woman's place is in the home and the modern husband expects her to go there immediately after work.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS....

PF-333 Gilbert R. Weldy
5850 Capri Lane
Morton Grove, Ill. 60053
(Dorothy) T-36

Gilbert is a High School Principal and has golfing, reading, spectator sports and collecting James Whitcomb Riley books as hobbies beside Alger.

Dorothy, his wife, is interested in antiques and he now browses with her on the lookout for Alger's.

PF-334 Dr. Leslie I. Poste
4222 Lakeville Rd.
Geneseo, N.Y. 14454
(Virginia L.) T-65

Dr. Poste is a professor of Library & Information Science at State University College of Arts & Science, Geneseo N.Y. His interest is general "With the Alger material I've acquired this past

year I feel I must learn all I can about Alger."

PF-335 T.C. Dickerson, Jr.
316 Fifty Sixth St.
Newport News, Virginia 23607
(Marguerite) T-40

"T.C." also has a general interest in Alger. He is kept busy collecting Henty, Porter, Richmond, J.C. Lincoln and others. "T.C." is a retired engineer.

PF-336 George R. Greiff
200 Heaton Park Dr.
Decatur, Georgia, 30030
(Frances)

George is a Journalism professor (former newspaper reporter and editor) His other hobbies include Aeronautical