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CARL T. HARTMANN 4907 ALLISON DR. LANSING, MI. 48910

Vol. 12, No. 4 November, 1973

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

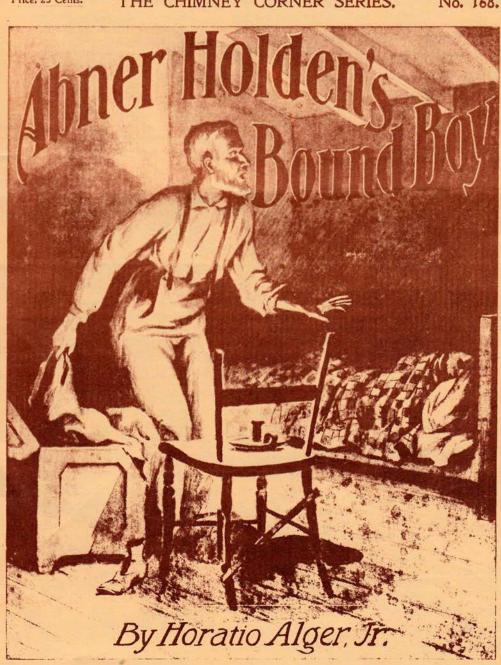


Founded 1961 by Forrest Campbell & Kenneth Butler

Price, 25 Cents.

THE CHIMNEY CORNER SERIES.

No. 168.



F. M. LUPTON, - PUBLISHER, - NEW YORK.

STORY ON PAGE 3

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS....

PF-144 Ralph Anderson 6914 W. 52nd. Place Mission, Ks. 66202 (Irene)

We are happy to welcome back to the HAS Ralph and Irene. Ralph, former publisher of the COLLECTORS NEWS is a Public Affairs Director for the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Glad to have you back.

PF-398 William R. B½uman 406 Palomino Lane P.O. Box 5219 Madison, Wisc. 53705 (Jan)

PF-399 Courtland Swift 28 Colin St. Yonkers, N.Y. 10701 T-50

Courtland is retired and in mainly interested in 1st editions. He learned of HAS thru Gardner.

PF-400 Raphael Could New City, N.Y. 10956

PF-401 L. LeRoy Rowland 1419 West Cherokee Enid, Ok. 73701 (Marthalene) T-6

As a hobby and business LeRoy operates a book and finder service by mail and learned about us from our ad in the BOOK REPORT. He is also interested in Fine china and glassware.

PF-402 Herman Viswat 128 N. Lauderdale Dr. Kalamazoo, Mi. 49007

Herman is a good neighbor and friend of Max Friedman PF-001. We hope to have more information on Herman in the next Newsboy.

PF-403 Dorothy Hinrichs
Box 221
Franklin Lakes, N.J. 07417

Miss Hinrichs is a new Alger fan and says "My father was a typical example of a boy who followed the Alger philosophy, with the expected results.

#### 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.

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The NEWSBOY, The official organ of thoration ALGER SOCIETY, is published muthly 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 addresses of our officers and members.

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Evelyn Grebel suggests that HAS members might be interested in "Works in Progress" (Selections from the best in books to be published in coming months.) Number 8 - \$1.95 paperback. The contents included nineteen books that were coming out this year, and the eighth one was Horatio Alger, Jr. from "Silas Snobden's Office Boy." It includes Chapters I - II - III - IV complete.

MAY 1974 0HIO

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ABNER HOLDEN'S BOUND BOY

by bob bennett

The discovery of this title in paper wrappers creates another book title to hunt for and at the same time becomes another mystery for Alger sleuths to solve.

The story, issued in paper wrappers as No. 168 of F.M. Lupton's, "The Chimney Corner Series", was originally serialized in the New York Weekly, Vol. 26, Nos. 21-30, April 6 thru June 8, 1871.

Its next appearance came in 1873 when A.K. Loring published the first book edition under the title of "Try and Trust; or, The Story of a Bound Boy." Porter & Coates used the same title in 1882 as did H.T. Coates, Burt, Winston, Donohue, Street & Smith, Hurst, Chatterton-Peck, New York Book Co., Consolidated Retailers, Superior, Federal and Whitman in later issues of the story.

Ogilvie, Street & Smith, Donohue and arior all released the story in paper-back form under the same title. However, prior to its appearance in the Lupton paperback, the title was again changed by the Aldine Publishing Company of London with their 1887 issue of the story under the title of "Trials and Adventures of Herbert Mason; or, Try and Trust." This was No. 7 of their Garfield Library Series. The Aldine firm repeated this title as No. 5 in their second series in 1901.

"Abner Holden's Bound Boy", is contained on pp. 1-75 of the 160 page book. It is followed by another Alger tale, "Helping Himself", on pp. 76-141. "The dancin'Party at Harrison's Cove" by Charles Egbert Craddock occupies pp. 142-148 followed by two incomplete stories, "When the Creek Ran Dry" by E. Crayton M'Cants (copyright, 1906 by F.M. Lupton), pp.149-152 and a story identified by the running heads as "The Tragedy of Santiago" is found on pp. 153-156. The final four pas contain advertisements of several Lacon series of books.

The 1906 copyright date of the M"Cant's story is a clue but also a mystery as to

the date of issue of the book. The Lupton address in the book ads is given as 23,25,27 City Hall Place, New York, the same address given on my "The Merchant's Crime", dated May 5, 1900. However, the index to "Book's in Print" for the year 1895-1900 gives the Lupton firm's address as 52 Duane St. and the 1900-05 edition of the same volume, lists the address as 52-58 Duane st. This is interesting because the 1905-10 edition indicates that the Lupton firm became the Federal Book Company but lists no address.

Checking the addresses on other Lupton items in my possession was no help. No. 193 of the Leisure Hour Library, dated June 2, 1888 list the Lupton address at 106 and 108 Reade St. "The Merchant's Crime", No. 201, dated July 28, 1888 gives the the address as 63 Murray St. and it appears as 72-76 Walker St. on the July 13, 1892 edition of "Ralph Raymond's Heir" in the paperback Bijou Series.

No. 168 is the lastes number I have discovered in the "Chimney Corner Series." I know of no other Alger titles in the series which primarily contained the works of popular contemporary authors of the day. Mrs. E.D.E.N. Southworth; Mary Jane Holmes; Charlotte Braeme; May Agnes Fleming; and Charles Garvice were among those authors who had several books in the series. It is likely that the Lupton firm was declining and no. 168 was among the last to be issued and as such was probably printed in small quantity.

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ILLINOIS COLLEGE RAMBLER MAY 11, 1973

"The Mary Wade Seybold Prize for the best research paper went to James (Jack) Bales for his paper entitled, "A Critical History of American Literature, 1850-1900."

"THE STUDENT LIBRARY Awards were: lst. prize, specialized Library, James (Jack) Bales for his "Horatio Alger" collection..."

(Jack is HAS Vice-President)



NOTES FROM RALPH

Every time I get my copy of NEWSBOY -- and it's invariable the first piece of mail to get my attention (the bills can wait 'till later) -- I'm impressed with it's truly fabulous contents: news of new Alger discoveries, scholarly studies on Horatio, his works and his times; listings of Alger books being offered by members (a real blessing to longtime members, but especially so to newer ones, many of whom are just starting the enjoyment of building their collections); as well as occasional feature articles by various members.

It is this last-mentioned category which I wish we had more of! There's nothing that more gladdens our Editor's heart than having at hand a bunch of sure fire articles of interest to all of us. And there's no doubt in my mind but that virtually every member can provide every one of us with a wealth of his or her own Alger adventures. We all enjoy seeing our name in print, and here's a chance to get published, your own stories on how you tracked down an elusive title, how you got some fellow-collector friends to join HAS, some tall Alger tales or even a sad one on how "Timothy" or "The Disagreeable Woman" slipped through your fingers. How about sitting down this evening and dashing off an article for NEWSBOY? It's something every member can do; something that will inform or help or amuse all who read it.

I recently got together with Jerry Friedland and also had the pleasure of meeting for the first time new member Cortland (Babe) Swift) Jerry has made some great acquisitions lately and Babe is assiduously building what promises to be a most impressive Alger collection. Jerry and Babe live near each other and they'll be going off together on some Alger-hunting expeditions.

Recently I spent a week in London, a trip made all the more pleasant by a visit with our new Honorary Member, Herbert R. Mayes. More on this in the upcoming special Mayes issue of NEWSBOY, about which our Editor will soon have an important announcement.

Horatio's next birthday, January 13, 1974, has been set as the date for publication by Doubleday of CAST UPON THE BREAKERS, the first time that great Alger story will appear as a book. I wrote the Foreword, and I understand the publisher is planning a vigorous advertising and publicity campaign to give this book a first class send-off. This, like SILAS SNOBDEN'S OFFICE BOY, is the brainchild of Bill Henderson, who has organized and edited the project. Look for more on this in the next issue of NEWSBOY.



V.P. REPORT by Jack Bales

In my previous column I said that I would give an anecdote about Horatio Alger, Jr., that is not too widely known. The following is from one of my Alger reference books, Our Crowd;

A story of the Great Jewish Familes of New York, by Stephen Birmingham I believe.

The story is not one that is too complimentary towards Horatio, but it is interesting just the same. In preface to the story, as many Alger collector know, Alger was a tutor to the sons of Joseph Seligman, one of the most renowned residents of New York City. The following story is what Birmingham wrote of what occurred when Alger was a guest in the Seligman's house:

To educate his five boys, Joseph hit upon a dazzlingly American idea. He hired the creator of the great American boy here, Horatio Alger, to live in his house and tutor his sons. James five boys were invited to sit in on the Alger classes, where it was hoped they would all acquire the red-blooded standards of "Tattered Tom", "Rägged Dick" and Alger's other newsboy to riched heroes.

The experiment was not entirely a success.

Alger may have been able to invent boy heroes, but he was far from one himself. He was a timid sweet-tempered little man who, in his nonteaching hours, preacticed his ballet steps. He was easily cowed, and his customary cry of alarm was "Oh, Lordy-me!" Ten lively Seligman boys was clearly too much for him, and he was forever having to rush to Babet or James's wife, Rosa, for assistance. Once, when hs cried out for help, the boys jumped on him, tied him up, and locked him in a trunk in the attic. They refuto let him out until he promised not to tell their mother.

Con't on page 5

#### VP - Con't from page 4

The schoolroom was on the top floor of the Selligman's brownstone, and, as Alger scended the stairs the boys stood on an pper landing with lighted candles, aiming drops of hot was at the top of his small bald head. But Alger, who had a classic inferiority complex, was endlessly forfiving. After lessons, such as they were, he liked to play billiards with the boys. He was extremely nearsighted, and when it was his turn at the cue, the boys substituted red apples for the red balls. Alger never caught on, and, as each new apple was demolished with his cur, would cry, "Oh, Lordy-me, I've broken another ball! I don't know my own strength!"

But Alger had his compensations. J. & W. Seligman & Co. opened an account in his name, took his literary royalties and invested them for him, and made his a wealthy man. He remained a friend of the Seligmans and, long after the boys were grown, was a regular guest at Sunday Dinner, where the practical jokes continued.

There was one favorite. Joseph's married daughter, Helene and her husband lived th her parents. After dinner one of her others would steer Mr. Alger into the library and into a sofa next to Helene. There he would artfully drape one of Mr. Alger's tiny arms around Helene's rather ample waist while another brother ran from the room shouting, "Mr. Alger is trying to seduce Helene!" Helene's husband would then rush into the room brandishing a bread knife, crying, "Seducer!" The first three times this happened. Horatio Alger fell to the floor in a dead faint. Perhaps he did teach the boys to be Americans after all." \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

### LOOK & WAIT

By JACK R. Schorr

I was in a thrift store some time back, and found a cheap reprint of an Alger book. As I paid for the book the lady that took my money said, "Oh, an Alger. You should see my father's collection. He has hundreds of Algers." I said I would be glad to see his collection, could I come by. She suddenly became very guarded and said doesn't want to trade or sell any. I will fine, I only want to see them and talk about Algers sometime. I left my phone number and extracted a promise that maybe he would call. Months went by and

I had forgotten all about the incident until I got a call one night from this gentleman's saughter. She said, "Mr. Schorr, you probably won't remember me, etc., but my father is 80 and eccentric and so lonesome that it would do him good to talk to someone who has some of the same interests he has." She gave me his address and I told her I would be over in the morning. So over I went carrying a copy of Mr. Gardner's book on Alger and several duplicates, just in case. I wouldn't take them in, leave them in the car.

When I rang the bell, evidently the gentleman had been standing there, because he jumped out like a Jack-in-the-box and said, "I don't want anything," and slammed the door. Very hostile, to say the least. I didn't know what to do. but I decided that this old fellow was watching me behind the curtains on the door window, so I held up Gardner's book and sure enough he opened the door and said, "What do you want?" I explained I was an Alger collector and his daughter thought it would be fun if we met. I thought he was going to close the door again, but instead he closed the door and came out and talked. He said he wasn't interested in trading or selling. He had Gardner's book, so we spent about forty minutes talking and finally he asked me in to see his collection, with a repeated admonition that he had none to sell and trade. All his books he bought. He said trading was a nuisance.

I finally saw his collection and it was remarkable in that is was very selective and all books were in remarkable condidtion. I thought mine were good, but his were really something. He had the largest run of Winston Library Editions I had ever seen. ' A whole long shelf of them and every one bright and new looking. He had about 30 Lorings and these were nice with very little evidence of even shelf wear. He had about 25 or 30 of the Winston editions with the colored plates. I counted 15 in dust jackets. On his Lorings he had wiped them with white vasoline and buffed them with soft cloth. I am going to try this myself on books with dark/black covers. He must have had all the Burts 1st editions and other Burt delux Algers. I didn't count them, but there were two shelved full. These struck a chord with me, for I like them, especially in condition like that. We talked about books. especially Algers. He promised to have his daughter drive him over to see mine. He said that he had 25 of the Alger books he had as a boy. These were "one owner books" and he had them 65 years or so. So many collectors like myself have lost these boyhood books in transit of the years, and have started re-acquiring years later. I asked him is I could write an article about his collection and he agreed to it with a promise of no

Con't on page #6

#### NEWSBOY HAS. THE BOOK MART OFFERED BY: W. H. McIntosh P.O. Box 385 Georgetown, Mass. 01830 1st. edition "Seeking His Fortune" Very good condition. Price \$375.00 or highest bid by Decmeber 15, 1973. \*\*\*\*\*\*\* 7.50 -Dean Dunham Caldwell -Tom Temple's Career Burt Deluxe G 8.00 Andy Grant's Pluck Mershon 3.00 4.00 Strong & Steady Mershon The Erie Train Boy 4.00 Consol. Ret. G -Ned Newton 12.00 S & S ? Walter Griffith S & S 12.00 ? Adventured of a S & S Amer. Boy's Lib. G 12.00 Telegraph Boy -Falling in with G & D 6.00 Fortune VG 12.00 G & D -Young Captain Jack ZJoe, the Hotel Boy ZJoe, the Hotel Boy VG 12.00 G & D G & D F 6.00 G & D VG 12.00 -Randy of the River HT Coates 1st. Ed. soiled Lester's Luck -cover, dark with age, good & tight 20.00 8.00 -Ben Bruce Burt Deluxe 8.00 Wan, the Newsboy Burt Deluxe G Burt Deluxe G 8.00 The Errand Boy Burt Deluxe 8.00 Dan, The Newsboy Burt Home G 7.50 Fony, the Hero Fom, the Bootblack Burt Home 6.00 G Jom, the Bootblack S & S tight-soiled 9.00 OFFERED BY: Keith Barnes 4346 18th. St. Dorr, Mich. 49323 \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* OFFERED BY RALPH R. KEENEY 214 E. 13th. St. The Dalles, Oregon 97058 The Young Explorer Winston 4.50 2.50 Bob Burton Donohue VG In A New World Donohue 2.00 Struggling Upward 2.00 Donohue VG Walter Sherwood's Probation Hurst G 4.00

Risen From The Ranks Hurst

The Young Explorer Donohue

Donohue

Donohue

Donohue

Donohue

Strive & Succeed

The Telegraph Boy

The Young Outlaw

Jack's Ward

Fry and Trust

G

G

VG

VG

VG

G

w/d/j

Hurst(taped spine)G

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Mark, the Match Boy Winston Lib. G 8.00 Ragged Dick Winston Lib. Mint 10.00 Fame & Fortune P & C G 9.00 Dom Thatcher's Fortune Burt G 3.50 Frain Boy Burt G 3.75 *****  *****  *****  *****  *****  ****	8.00 7.50 6.00	OFFERED BY Edwin Gross 529 Carolina Charleston, W	St.	****	*****	
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	4.00					

ection, outstanding in condition, which is something you don't see every day. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Change of Address:

Forrest Campbell 500 Morphy Fairhope, Alabama 36532

## Alger Buff Shows Off Collection

By Pat Wright Assistant Editor

With nostalgia in full swing, and even today's long haired freaks slicking their hair down to imitate the "greasey" look of the 50's, harkening back to what is remembered as the uncomplicated "good old days" is not only accepted, it's "in."

And probably one of the innest people in the area is a man who has far surpassed most of the nostalgia freaks by really returning to the 50's — the 1850's, when a ministry student began what was to become one of the most prolific literary careers on record.

Horatio Alger Jr. who became a minister like his father after graduating from the Harvard Divinity School, has fascinated Gilbert K. Westgard II of Des Plaines since he read his first Alger book at the age of 11.

Westgard, who at 30 is actually too young to remember the Alger heyday which occurred around the turn of the century, is thoroughly engrossed in what could be called a hobby (if a hobby can be totally contained in one very crowded room).

With nine seven-foot bookshelves lining the walls of what was intended to be the dining room of his apartment, and two smaller shelves forming an island in the middle of the room, plus assorted Alger memorabilia decorating adjacent walls, Westgard has succeeded in creating a small museum to his own book collection and to his main interest — Alger.

Although his book collection totals approximately 3,000 titles, Westgard has an equally impressive total of works by Alger missing only a handful of the 130 full length novels and the 220 short stories credited to the writer.

In addition to the books themselves, many of them original editions, and one of them autographed by Alger, Westgard maintains several files and folders containing background about Alger's life and times.

A charter member of the Horatio Alger Society which is dedicated to preserving the memory and ideals of the author, Westgard wrote a book in 1964 containing Alger's poetry called "Alger Street."

On one of his book finding expeditions, Westgard casually mentioned to the book dealer that he had several poems written by Alger. A gentleman who overheard the conversation happened to be a publisher as well as an

Alger fan, and he asked Westgard if he would be interested in having them published.

This incident is only one of many Westgard has encountered in his neverending search for Alger treasures. Even though he may already have a first edition of an Alger book, this does not prevent him from purchasing a duplicate copy in the hope he may trade it to someone for whatever his own collection is lacking

Most of his Alger books were bargains, according to Westgard, especially when he was beginning his collection as a young teenager. After reading Tom Swift and the Rover Boys, Westgard began to buy copies feeling "If a book is worth reading it is worth owning."

Surprisingly Westgard's first grade teacher at Roosevelt School in Park Ridge "thought I would never learn to read, but two other teachers, Judith Thompson and Hazel McMartin, who have since retired, were very patient with me. I owe them quite a bit," he said.

After his Tom Swift stage, and at the suggestion of an understanding adult, Westgard discovered Alger, and the hunt started.

"I've always been fascinated by children's literature, particularly Alger's works because the hero or heroine strives and succeeds by struggling on his own," he said.

However, according to Westgard, Alger's heroes are often known to marry the boss's daughter as a shortcut for all that hard work.

Alger's heroes are usually young orphaned boys who work at menial tasks in a big city before they work or wed their way to fortune.

Although Westgard's wife, Helen, does not share his enthusiasm for what she calls his "baby books," she tolerates his collection and even accompanies him to the Horatio Alger Society convention each year.

While there, according to Mrs. Westgard, she and other wives of the members, gather to commiserate with each other over their husbands' obsessions.

In less than 16 years, sometimes through his contacts in the society. Westgard has organized a startling amount of books and paraphernalia reflecting the intensity of his fascination with Alger.

In addition to the four shelves containing Alger's works the library holds six shelves of books providing background of New York and the era when Alger wrote his books.

Westgard is currently indexing Alger's works by subject and specific items, such as streets and objects which may recur in several different works. He is also typing a microfilm copy of one of Alger's short stories.

And, as with any true collector, Westgard is constantly on the lookout for any first edition copies of an Alger book to upgrade his already dense collection.

But along the way to achieving his awesome collection of Alger's works, Westgard has managed to accumulate numerous volumes on such diverse subjects as American presidents, medicine, history, entertainers, funeral directing, Africa, World War II and Adolph Hitler.

Africa, World War II and Adolph Hitler.

In addition to a vast collection of boys books, two other treasured pieces of literature are noticeable on the shelves. Two Better Little Books in the Tom Swift series, "Tom Swift and the Giant Telescope," and "Tom Swift and the Magnetic Silencer" hold a halowed place among the other standard sized books in the series. The two Better Little Books containing cartoon-like illustrations are valued at \$40 each by Westgard.

In his small but weighty library where the sunlight from the two windows is completely blocked by the towering bookshelves, Westgard has crammed two complete shelves with the books written by world traveler and broadcaster Lowell Thomas.

These books are all autographed because Westgard had the opportunity to meet Thomas, and after being told of the growing collection, Thomas offered to sign each of them.

There were so many to autograph, according to Westgard, that Thomas confessed he'd forgotten he'd written some of them.

Other autographed copies in Westgard's collection include a 15 cent autographed copy of "Mr. President" containing excerpts from the diaries and papers of Harry S. Truman which Westgard found during one of his journeys to a bookstore.

Another bargain uncovered by him was an autographed copy of Richard Nixon's "Six Crises." Mr. Nixon had just been defeated in his race for governor of California in 1962, and as Westgard termed it. "The bookdealer considered him a has-been." so the book only cost \$1. According to Westgard autographed copies of the President's books are quite rare.

During his quest for books and auto-

graphs. Westgard has met many notables such as comedian Milton Berle and cocket scientist Wernher von Braun.

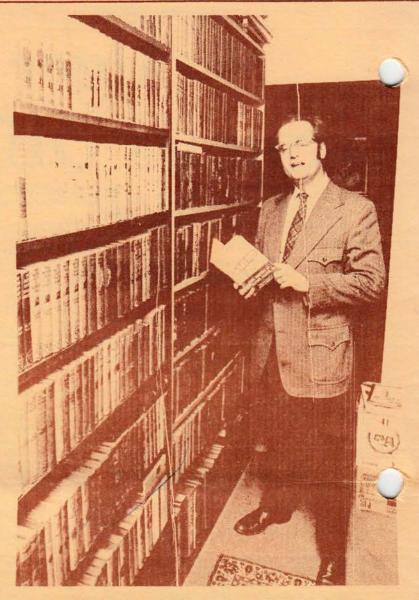
He estimates the total hours he has spen? acquiring the books must run into the tens of thousands, and to the often asked question of whether he has read each book. Westgard replies. "almost every one."

The value of the entire collection is considerable, but difficult to estimate, according to Westgard, since some of his books and the experiences he went through to get them are impossible to assess

For anyone who has known the thrill of finding that first edition of Horatio Alger's "\$500 Check" complete with an inscription from the author, the inability to put a dollar value on it is understandable.



Horatio Alger Jr.



"And then I wrote" . . . is what Westgard seems to be saying as he points out a book he authored called "Alger Street" containing Alger's poems which was published in 1964.



Mr. Bradford S. Chase 6 Sandpiper Road Enfield, Conn. 06082