



THE HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

NEWSBOY

Horatio Alger Jr.

1832 – 1899



A magazine devoted to the study of Horatio Alger, Jr., his life, works, and influence on the culture of America.

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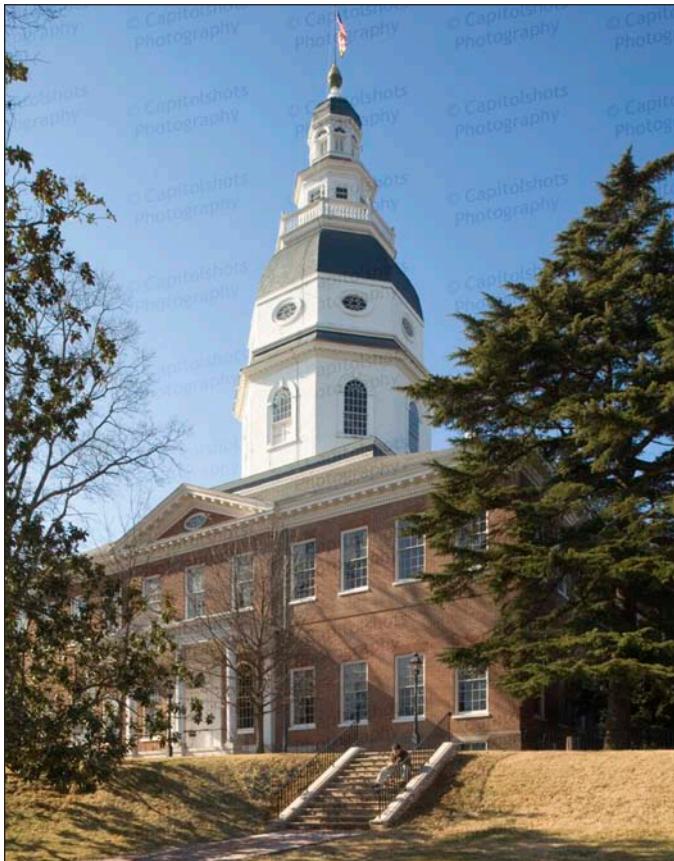
2014 convention preview

‘Adrift in Annapolis’

- *Convention preview article*
- *Registration form*
- *Schedule of events*
- *Hotel information*

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The Maryland State House, oldest active state house in the United States, was the national capitol building in 1783-84 when Annapolis briefly was the seat of the fledgling U.S. government.



From ‘Snow Lodge’ to *The Island Camp*

-- See Page 8

President's column

Spring is for conventions!

Dig out from the snow, avoid the rain, and plan for a wonderful spring. We have news about the Horatio Alger Society website and the convention.

Website enhancements

Congratulations to Bob Eastlack (PF-557) for his excellent idea of adding the category "first hard-cover editions" to the Works section of the website. He supplied screenshots, too! This will make it easier for collectors and scholars to see the difference between the real first edition (typically in a paper wrapper) and the first edition of that title issued with boards. Thanks as well to webmaster Bob Huber (PF-843) for putting this content up rapidly. As a bonus, we also have a new link to Jennifer White's excellent site about girls' series books: www.series-books.com/. There's a load of information here, and she's put up a link to our site.

Membership renewals

Our editor, Bill Gowen, inserts membership renewal envelopes in *Newsboy* when it's your month to renew. Yes, you can renew at the standard rate of \$25, or the senior rate of \$20. But why do that? The best thing for the Horatio Alger Society (and ultimately, you) is to renew at the "Sustaining member" rate of \$50. It's only a little extra money, but it goes a long way. Also, it shows other members that you really care about H.A.S. Give it a thought. You can, of course, insert a check in your membership dues envelope, but *you can also renew online* via PayPal — and PayPal takes credit cards. Visit www.horatioalgersociety.net/203_membership.html.

The convention, of course!

H.A.S. Convention 2014, "Adrift in Annapolis," is set for May 1-4. On Page 3, you'll find a first-class article by host Dick Hoffman (PF-570) about the historic city of Annapolis, with details about the hotel (Hampton Inn & Suites on Womack Drive). A registration form and schedule of events are enclosed with this issue.

As well you know, our convention is the Society's major event of the year, and the consignment and donation auction already has a nice selection of books lined up. Please attend if you can!

Your Partic'lar Friend,
Barry Schoenborn (PF-1087)
552 Brock Road
Nevada City, CA 95959
E-mail: barry@wvswrite.com

HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY

To further the philosophy of Horatio Alger, Jr. and to encourage the spirit of Strive & Succeed that for half a century guided Alger's undaunted heroes. Our members conduct research and provide scholarship on the life of Horatio Alger, Jr., his works and influence on the culture of America. The Horatio Alger Society embraces collectors and enthusiasts of all juvenile literature, including boys' and girls' series, pulps and dime novels.

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Newsboy, the official newsletter of the Horatio Alger Society, is published bi-monthly (six issues per year). Membership fee for any 12-month period is \$25 (\$20 for seniors), with single issues of *Newsboy* \$4.00. Please make remittance payable to the Horatio Alger Society.

Membership applications, renewals, changes of address and other correspondence should be sent to **Horatio Alger Society, 1004 School St., Shelbyville, IN 46176**.

Newsboy is indexed in the Modern Language Association's International Bibliography. You are invited to visit the Horatio Alger Society's official Internet site at www.horatioalgersociety.net.

Newsboy ad rates: Full page, \$32.00; one-half page, \$17.00; one-quarter page, \$9.00; per column inch (1 inch deep by approx. 3 1/2 inches wide), \$2.00. Send ads, with check payable to **Horatio Alger Society**, 1004 School St., Shelbyville, IN 46176. These rates apply to all want ads, along with ads offering non-Alger books for sale. However, it is the policy of the Horatio Alger Society to promote the exchange of Alger books and related Alger materials by providing space **free of charge** to our members for the **sale only** of such material. Send advertisements or "Letters to the Editor" to *Newsboy* editor William R. Gowen (PF-706) at 23726 N. Overhill Dr., Lake Zurich, IL 60047. E-mail: hasnewsboy@aol.com

2014 convention preview

‘Adrift in Annapolis’

By Richard B. Hoffman (PF-570)

It's now time to make your reservations to attend this year's annual convention of the Horatio Alger Society—"Adrift in Annapolis," which runs from Thursday, May 1, to Sunday, May 4, 2014. The double attraction of a delightful setting—Annapolis—and an exciting convention makes this an occasion not to miss! Annapolis is a compact, charming city right on Chesapeake Bay, suffused with a nautical air and 18th century surroundings.

If this is your first time in Annapolis, you'll be experiencing an intoxicating mélange of sailing, 18th century atmosphere, great Chesapeake seafood, the oldest state capitol building still in use, and, of course, the U.S. Naval Academy. Attractions of Annapolis for visitors

and Alger fans range from the Maryland Avenue antique store row to the City Dock, where boat owners parade their craft down the channel known to the locals as "Ego Alley" right up to the old market square at the head of the harbor, as well as shops and museums of all kinds.

Adjacent to the state capitol, which is open to visitors, is St. John's College, famous for its curriculum featuring the Great Books of Western Civilization.

Adding to the appeal of the city are the many pleasant restaurants featuring the wide range of preparations of the Chesapeake blue crab, and a host of stores, supply houses, and watering holes serving and frequented by sailors—both professional and recreational, along with the naval academy's midshipmen. The central area is perfect for walking, and when you drive, you will find yourself passing picture-postcard views from bridges

over the many small waterways running through the area, as well as the Severn River.

You can tour the U.S. Naval Academy merely by showing your ID to walk onto the grounds, but if there is sufficient interest shown during registration, we'll arrange a special tour for Saturday afternoon. Places to visit on the Naval Academy grounds include the Naval Acad-

emy Museum; the chapel, location of the crypt of John Paul Jones ("Father of the United States Navy") and the world's largest college dormitory, Bancroft Hall.

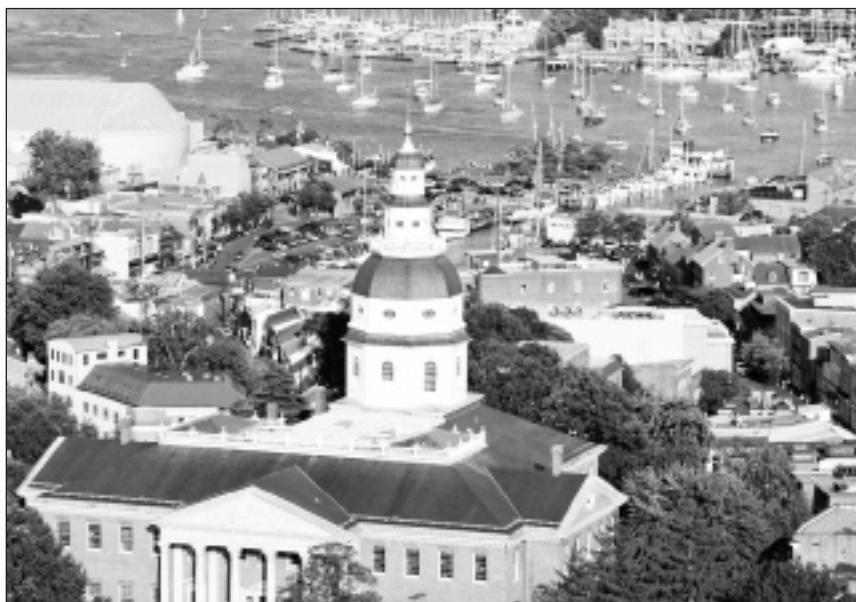
Historical sites within Annapolis begin with the State House and the nearby William Paca House and Gardens and other 18th century buildings right in the central area. Paca was a signer of the Declaration of Independence

and his spacious home and gardens have been restored to the way they looked in the 1700s.

Annapolis was also one of a number of Eastern cities to be—briefly—the capital of the United States during the 1780s as our nation moved from gaining independence to drafting and ratifying the Constitution. So history abounds, but so do a wide range of old and new shops, from those practicing traditional crafts to extensive shopping malls.

The convention hotel is the Hampton Inn and Suites, 124 Womack Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401, (410) 571-0200. We'll have a complimentary breakfast available there each morning and free WiFi in the rooms. Make your room reservations soon because there is a limited block of rooms set aside for us at \$119 per night.

Our room block will expire on April 1, 2014, or when—
(Continued on Page 7)



Annapolis, the historic capital of Maryland and home of the United States Naval Academy, will host the H.A.S. convention May 1-4.

Editor's notebook

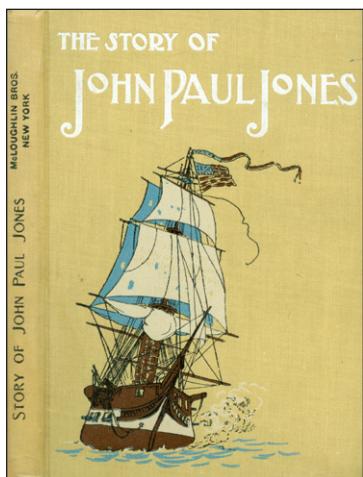
The 2014 Horatio Alger Society convention is barely three months away, and by now I hope you've read host Dick Hoffman's preview article beginning on Page 3. "Adrift in Annapolis" promises to be an unforgettable experience for everyone, and I hope this historic city will prove to be a magnet not only for our regular attendees, but for those Partic'lar Friends who live within reasonable travel distance who want to attend their first convention.

Annapolis, of course, is the location of the United States Naval Academy, and I'm hopeful many of you will choose to accept our host's offer to arrange a special tour of the Academy grounds on Saturday afternoon. You will not be disappointed; the USNA occupies a rather small,

compact campus, with everything within easy walking distance. In the March-April *Newsboy*, I'll give details on things to see there, having had the pleasure to spend time at the Academy on several occasions over the years.

I will note one important U.S. Naval Academy place not to be missed. On the lower level of the chapel is the crypt of John Paul Jones, the "Father of the United States Navy," who as a commodore led his ship, the 42-gun *Bon Homme Richard*, to a legendary victory over the 50-gun British frigate *Serapis* during the Revolutionary War. Guarded at all times by a Marine sentry, Jones' raised marble sarcophagus is the centerpiece of the crypt, which is open to the public.

You can learn all about John Paul Jones' career and exploits on Wikipedia or other websites, or you can opt to read about him in books written for the juvenile audience. One of my favorites is *The Story of John Paul Jones* (McLoughlin Brothers, 1906) by renowned author of Boy Scout fiction Percy K. Fitzhugh, the first title in his **Young Folks Colonial Library** series of six volumes. This book is only 63 pages long, so you can read it in just 15 or 20 minutes while enjoying a hot cup of coffee



Strive and Succeed Award

The following Partic'lar Friends made donations to the **Strive and Succeed Award** fund in calendar year 2013, in addition to the list in the November-December *Newsboy*. Also, we recognize five additional H.A.S. sustaining members, below:

John Fogarty (PF-1022)
Robert George (PF-489)
Robert M. Petitto (PF-1086)
William Stone (PF-1113)
Maybelle Yarington (PF-1084)
David Yarington (PF-1050)

Sustaining members:

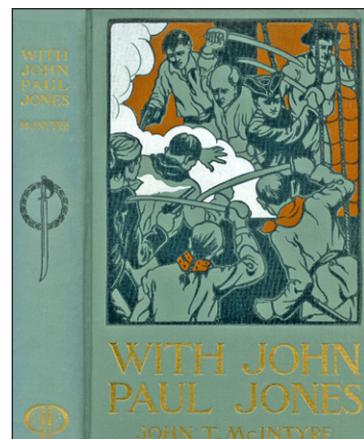
Bradford S. Chase (PF-412)
Robert George (PF-489)
Robert M. Petitto (PF-1086)
Maybelle Yarington (PF-1084)
David Yarington (PF-1050)

on one of our present cold Arctic mornings.

There are several other John Paul Jones books aimed at young readers that are of interest. Molly Elliot Seawell's 163-page *Paul Jones* was published in 1893 by D. Appleton and Company as part of its **Young Heroes of Our Navy** series. The author fictionalizes this account of Jones' life by adding dialog, but still maintains the accurate historical record.

The same method of literary construction is used by author John T. McIntyre for *With John Paul Jones* (Penn Publishing Co., 1906) and the book concludes with the famous 1779 sea battle that sealed Commo-dore Jones' legend. A healthy 358 pages, *With John Paul Jones* keeps the reader at peak interest throughout. It contains seven illustrations by Clyde O. Deland.

The U.S. Naval Academy is most worthy of a visit while attending the convention on May 1-4. I urge you to write "yes" in the designated spot on the enclosed convention registration form to take this Saturday afternoon walking tour.



Horatio Alger interviews Jerry Friedland (PF-376)



Editor's note: On the 115th anniversary of Horatio Alger's death and his 182nd birth year (he was born Jan. 13, 1832), Horatio Alger returns to earth to interview H.A.S. members regarding their Alger collections. This is the eleventh in a series written by an anonymous author posing as Horatio Alger.

H.A.: Hello is this Jerry Friedland?

J.F.: It is he.

H.A.: Great. This is Horatio Alger calling. How are you today?

J.F.: Oh, I'm pretty good. How are you?

H.A.: I'm just fine for a 182-year-old man. I understand you've been collecting my books for some time.

J.F.: I sure have. I'm almost one hundred years younger than you now.

H.A.: Well, congratulations. How did you get started collecting my books?

J.F.: Well, when I was about 13 years old, about 1945, I was living in New York City and I would take the subway down to 4th Avenue between 14th Street and 4th with my friend, Bill. There must have been 16 book stores on both sides of 4th Avenue. I'd go into those stores and buy your books. One of the first books I bought was *Tattered Tom*, not a first edition, but a Loring which I still have.

H.A.: Wasn't that the only book I wrote about a girl?

J.F.: There was *Helen Ford*!

H.A.: You got me there, Jerry. My memory isn't what it used to be — dear Helen Ford, my goodness. So you've been collecting my books for almost 70 years?

J.F.: Yes, I have, seriously since about 1972 when I was about 40 years old. I started collecting first editions and alternate titles. I collect periodicals as well, published before your books were published in hard cover. I have approximately 60 of those, the original appearances of your books in print.

H.A.: That's wonderful. How many books do you have?

J.F.: I guess I have about 150 books and 95 first editions. Of course, this is my second time around collecting your books. My first collection was acquired by the Alger depository at Northern Illinois University near Chicago.

H.A.: I've heard about that.

J.F.: When I started collecting again, I acquired many of Ralph Gardner's books. So that's my second collection of first editions.

H.A.: What's your favorite book?

J.F.: I have a lot of favorite books. I like some of the early stories like *Ragged Dick*, *Rufus and Rose*, *Ben*, *The Luggage Boy* and *Rough and Ready*. They are just a few. I think the



Longtime Alger collector and former H.A.S. president Jerry Friedland, left, and the late Ralph Gardner (PF-053) during one of the many annual conventions the two Partic'lar Friends attended over the years.

first Alger book I had was one published by Crown called *Struggling Upward* and other works with a nice dust jacket. I still have it; There were other titles in the appendix. Someone embellished that list. I think his name was Russell Crouse. He invented some titles that never existed.

H.A.: No kidding? How dare he! How dare he! Where do you get my books now?

J.F.: Your books were readily available in the thirties. It's very difficult to find them today. Once in a while we find good books at the Alger convention auction.

H.A.: I'll have to go to one of those sometime.

J.F.: You really should. They're a lot of fun. About seven years ago, a half hour from my house, I found a rare reprint of *Seeking His fortune*. I do believe the reprint is rarer than the first edition.

H.A.: My goodness!

J.F.: Yes, we're still talking about that. I was fortunate enough to get it at a very reasonable price — *Seeking His fortune*.

H.A.: Any unusual items in your collection?

J.F.: Looking at my collection from where I'm sitting right now, I have several unusual variant copies of first editions. I have

(Continued on Page 6)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Bill:

Shortly after I received my copy of the November-December **Newsboy**, in my article "Collecting Fez Editions" I discovered that I made a couple of mistakes on Page 15 of the key. You will notice there are listed two Blank Cover 3.09. Obviously, *The Train Boy* should be 3.08.

The other mistake was in showing 12 titles as being published in the Gold/Tulip A&B listings. Only 11 titles were printed in those categories, with *Mark Mason's Victory* and *A Debt of Honor* being the two titles not included in the Burt Publications ad. The first edition of *Ben Bruce* (listed at Gold/Tulip A.01) was not printed until Gold/Tulip C with the 52-58 Duane Street address and having the Books for Boys sub headline ad.

Anyone interested in a corrected copy of this Excel file feel free to ask and I will gladly forward it to you, or you can mark your copies of **Newsboy** with these changes.

I hope you and all our members enjoyed a happy and safe holiday season.

Bob Eastlack (PF-557)
2014 Walnut St.
Lebanon, PA 17042 - 5781

Dear Bill:

In addition to my article in this issue, "From 'Snow Lodge' to *The Island Camp*," which begins with references to Christmas gifts, some other Edward Stratemeyer stories have a more direct connection. Three of the 26 Newark **Sunday Call** newspaper stories were timed and themed with the holiday season.

One of the stories, "Jimmie's Reward" (23 Dec. 1894) was included in our book *Holiday Stories for Boys* (available in paperback at www.lulupress.com).

If we do another volume, we can include the other two, "Davy's Christmas" (20 Dec. 1891) and "Christmas on Gladley Farm" (20 Dec. 1896). I gathered copies of those during my June visit to Newark Public Library on the Saturday before the Dime Novel Conference at Villanova University.

I extracted the cover, introduction, ads, and "Jimmie's Reward" pages from *Holiday Stories for Boys* and made a PDF available for people who are interested in reading it. Go to keeline.com/Holiday_Stories_for_Boys.pdf

I think you will find that the story has some elements in common with Alger stories. Feel free to pass this message to others whom you think would be interested in it for the Stratemeyer or Alger connections.

Sincerely,
James D. Keeline (PF-898)
5707 Spartan Drive
San Diego, CA 92115

Horatio Alger interviews Jerry Friedland (PF-376)

(Continued from Page 5)

one book with a double end paper — two sets of end papers.

H.A.: Do you have a daytime job or are you retired?

J.F.: I'm a trial attorney.

H.A.: Wow!

J.F.: I just finished a four-hour trial.

H.A.: You're still going strong at 81 years old, eh?

J.F.: I turned 81 last year — almost a hundred years younger than you.

H.A.: Who is your favorite character in my books?

J.F.: I don't know; I have several ... Rufus, Dick, and Ben are probably in a three-way tie for my favorite.

H.A.: Any questions for me?

J.F.: I'm wondering if any of your lost stories will ever turn up? We don't know if they exist. It would be interesting if any turn up. Look at all the books that have turned up over the years we didn't know existed. Carl Cantab. Wasn't he a pseudonym? How about him?

H.A.: We'll find out one day, won't we? It's been a pleasure talking to you Jerry.

J.F.: My pleasure. I wish you could come to one of our conventions. How about this year in Annapolis? It would be nice if you showed up.

H.A.: Well, you never know.

MEMBERSHIP

New member

Ronald Bott (PF-1127)

52 Flower Lane

Ellsworth, ME 04605

E-mail: rbott52@myfairpoint.net

In addition to reading Horatio Alger books, Ron enjoys woodcrafting. He was referred to the Society by Dave Yarington (PF-1050).

Change of Address

Jennifer Greeley (PF-1110)

6816 25th Ave.

Kenosha, WI 53143

E-mail: orangegoldfish@me.com

'Adrift in Annapolis'

(Continued from Page 3)

ever the room block is filled, so make your reservations early (now!) at the Hampton Inn & Suites Annapolis. Call the hotel directly by phone at (410) 571-0200, and be sure to mention the Horatio Alger Society to get the special convention rate. You may also use the special link Hampton Inn has set up on the Internet: hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/groups/personalized/A/ANDMDHX-HAS-20140501/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG. The hotel is making available the special rate from Tuesday, April 30 through Wednesday, May 7 for those who want to spend more time in this delightful area. Make your reservation by phone if you want to arrive early or stay late.

The Hampton Inn is located just north of the congested downtown Annapolis area, off a main thoroughfare, Riva Rd., which is right off both U.S. Route 50, the main highway between Washington, D.C. and the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and Interstate 97, which runs directly down from Baltimore. There's free parking at the hotel, so bring your car, as we will be having dinners at two nearby restaurants within short driving distance: Friday at Mike's Crabhouse on the South River, and the annual Saturday night banquet at Galway Bay Irish Pub on the Maryland Avenue antiques row, right by the State House.

The convention program is rapidly approaching completion, and it will feature the auction of the Bill Russell collection as well as talks by Ed Mattson (PF-067) on the right way to repair valuable books, Brad Chase (PF-412) introducing his newly-finished volume on the Hurst miniatures, and Bill Gowen (PF-706) on Jack Bechdolt, one of the 20th century's most versatile authors of books for young people.

As mentioned above, we'll have a complimentary continental breakfast at the hotel, but if you're up early and drive into downtown (probably the best time of day for easy auto access), you'll find breakfast places that the locals and state legislators frequent — Chick and Ruth's, conveniently located on Main Street and the slightly more upscale (and uptown) Miss Shirley's, a branch of a well-known Baltimore breakfast-and-lunch specialty spot.

The closest airport — 22 miles away — is Baltimore-Washington International (known in the area and on your luggage tag and ticket as BWI), from which there is shuttle and taxi service, as well as car rental. Because BWI is served by Southwest Airlines, fares there tend to be priced lower than to and from the two Washington airports — Dulles (IAD) and Reagan National (DCA) — both farther away but accessible. Amtrak also has



The Galway Bay Irish Pub, featured on the Food Network's "Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives" in 2012, will be the site of the annual H.A.S. banquet on May 3.

a stop at BWI Airport, on the busy Northeast Corridor rail route.

If you are able to spend more time in the area, Annapolis offers a host of activities. It of course is "America's Sailing Capital," for those seeking to get out on the water, and there are many water tours as well as sailboats for rent. In the downtown area there are museums and historic homes galore to visit: in addition to the State House and the Paca House and Gardens, there are both the Annapolis Maritime Museum and the Historic Annapolis Museum, other historic homes and churches, and tearooms and taverns dating to the 1700s such as the Reynolds and Middleton Taverns, both of which are still serving victuals and libations.

If you decide to make an extended trip to the region, both Washington and Baltimore, with their many fabulous museums and historic sites, are each less than an hour's highway ride away, approximately 32 miles to Washington and 26 miles to Baltimore's Inner Harbor.

In the March-April Newsboy, we'll describe in more detail many of the historic places to visit and enjoy while attending the convention.

From ‘Snow Lodge’ to *The Island Camp*

Edward Stratemeyer adapts his own material in creating one of his most sought-after books

By James D. Keeline (PF-898)

Edward Stratemeyer was an immensely prolific and influential writer of juveniles. Not only were at least 160 of his stories published as books, he also founded the Stratemeyer Syndicate in 1905 that ultimately produced some 1,400 volumes before it was sold to Simon & Schuster in 1985. Among his personal writings are many works for story papers, dime novels, and even newspapers. Only some of those were published as books.

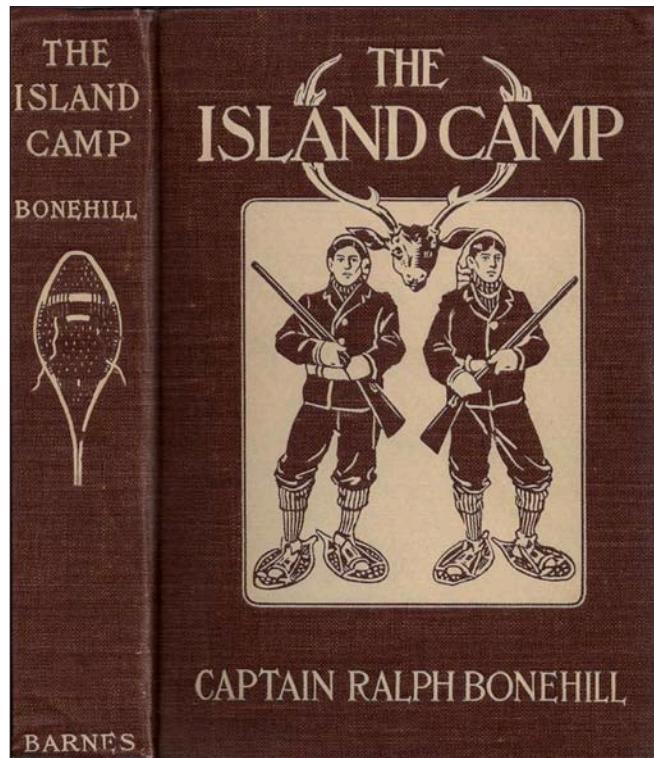
Stratemeyer also mentioned Christmas in many of his stories, especially volumes in the *Rover Boys Series*. In his own letters he makes some mention of the exchange of gifts and the gathering of family for the holiday. When he wrote to Olive Augusta Cheney upon the occasion of the passing of her brother, Horatio Alger, Jr., in 1899, he stated:

I do not know what the boys of America will do now that one of the best of their entertainers has laid down his pen forever. Writers there are by the score, but I know of no one who could, or can, tell a story exactly as your brother would tell it, with its direct force, dry and sly humor, and its intense interest in small things. When a boy myself my two favorite writers were Horatio Alger, Jr. and “Oliver Optic,” and I have still in my library “Paul the Peddler” and similar volumes which I received on Christmas or on a birthday, with boundless delight.

Edward Stratemeyer to Olive Augusta Cheney,
Aug. 17, 1899.

Paul the Peddler was published by A.K. Loring in 1871. The Preface is dated Oct. 25, 1871. At Christmas of that year Edward was nine years old and could well have received one of those original copies.

As is well known, Stratemeyer was proud to have written books as the favorite authors from his youth, “Oliver Optic” and Horatio Alger, Jr. He wrote one volume as “Optic” and 11 as Alger. Although the idea had been proposed by Alger, it was not acted upon by Stratemeyer until the above letter was sent. It was followed by letters whereby Mrs. Cheney would offer plays, partial manuscripts, and serials to Edward to be worked into publishable form.



CAPTAIN RALPH BONEHILL

BARNES

Several people have observed that Stratemeyer didn’t like to let any of his material lay idle, if he could avoid it. Hence, short stories he wrote for the *Sunday Call* newspaper of Newark, New Jersey, were reprinted, often with new titles and pen names, and cut down to suit whatever length he needed for his story paper, *Bright Days*. In *Holiday Stories for Boys*, a collection of these newspaper short stories, I included two examples of the *Sunday Call* story and the revised story for *Bright Days* so that the reader can see what changes were made.

After 1900, Stratemeyer stopped selling stories to the *Sunday Call*. The newspaper existed for many more years but likely its interest in that sort of fiction had waned. Stratemeyer was now producing stories for older readers, including romances and detective stories beginning in the late 1890s. He wrote a cluster of stories in 1903 and 1904 and two of those were sold to Street & Smith for their new pulp magazine called *The Popular Magazine*, and two others were sold to the Sunday edition of *The Evening News* of Newark called *The Sunday News*. The stories serialized for this newspaper were “The Round-Top Oil Well” and “The Fight for a Franchise.”

Stratemeyer had become more interested in career stories as a hook for his plots for older readers with light romance themes. He had already produced some regular



First page of Chapter 1 of Edward Stratemeyer's "Snow Lodge," which made its debut in the December 1903 issue of *The Popular Magazine*.

boys' stories like "Camera Bob" (better known as *Bob the Photographer* as by "Arthur M. Winfield" in book form) and *Joe the Surveyor*.

He also wrote *Two Young Lumbermen* for publication in 1903 as the first book in the **Great American Industries Series** with tacit promises for more books in the future to cover other business lines, including building a railroad line. In the last few pages of *Lumbermen*, one of the boys expresses an interest in that line of work.

Hence, when one of the stories written for **The Popular Magazine** was called "Building the Line: A Railroad Story," it seemed reasonable that this might prove to be the nucleus from which the second volume in the **Great American Industries Series** might be written. However, for some reason that did not occur, and *Two Young Lumbermen* remained the lone title in that "series."

But isn't it likely that Stratemeyer would use such a 31,000-word serial as the basis for a 30 to 35-chapter book? As shown by the title of this article, Stratemeyer had recently expanded a 16-chapter story for **The Popular Magazine** (December 1903-January 1904) to 30 chapters for publication in book form as *The Island Camp* when it

was issued later in 1904 by A.S. Barnes of New York.

It was a fairly warm September 1903 when Stratemeyer retired to his upstairs home office at 203 North Sixth Street in the Roseville section of Newark to write "Snow Lodge," a winter's tale set around Christmas and early January. A writer soon learns that publishers need to have timely stories in hand well before the projected publication date, even if this means writing it in a season when it is harder to imagine the timing of the story.

According to an historical weather archive (weather-warehouse.com), there was some rain but no snow in September 1903, including September 9-19, when Stratemeyer recorded in his *Literary Account Books* that he worked on this story:

No. 199. "Snow Lodge." Shorthunting serial, written Sept. 9-19, 1903. Serial right sold to Street & Smith for new magazine. Pub. in Popular Magazine, 2 & 3. (See No. 211). \$200.00.

The highest temperature in the month was 89°F and the low of the month was 39°F, well above freezing. Also important, the coldest high temperature for any day in September 1903 was 52°F. Indeed, in the midst of the time when he was writing this story, a hurricane formed on September 12 and dissipated on September 17. It made landfall near Atlantic City with winds of up to 100 miles per hour and headed inland to Pennsylvania. More than 35 people died and the storm totaled \$8 million in damage in 1903 dollars (\$194 million in 2013).

"Snow Lodge" was a boys' tale with the limited type of romantic interest found in a typical Stratemeyer series book volume. In it, three boys, including two brothers born about a year apart, receive some winter gifts for Christmas, including ice skates, a camera, and a couple rifles. There is an early scene with an ice boat that is in a near accident. The boys arrange to go with an old hunter in search of game from a cabin on an island. In typical Stratemeyer style, a subplot concerns a piece of real estate withheld from the brothers' parents by an unscrupulous man. The family could make a claim on the property if certain papers could be located.

"Snow Lodge" was 16 chapters in 47 two-column pages of two issues of Street & Smith's **The Popular Magazine** (Dec. 1903-Jan. 1904). It had no illustrations. On the title page, Stratemeyer is listed as the author of *With Washington in the West* (1901), the **Old Glory Series** (1898-1901), and **Ship and Shore Series** (1894-1900).

"Snow Lodge" becomes a book

During the early years of the 20th Century, Stratemeyer was communicating with several publishers who were interested in issuing books by him. Some of these began

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From 'Snow Lodge' to *The Island Camp*

(Continued from Page 9)

long business relationships with him while others had only brief ones or none at all. One such publisher was A.S. Barnes of New York, which was more comfortable issuing sports nonfiction books.

Much of Stratemeyer's communications with that firm were with its president, Henry Burr Barnes (1845-1911), son of founder Alfred Smith Barnes (1817-88). Stratemeyer also corresponded with (James) Ripley (Wellman) Hitchcock (1857-1918), the vice president and general manager. Hitchcock previously was literary adviser for D. Appleton & Co. and served as a director of Harper & Brothers following his time with A.S. Barnes (1902-06). Hitchcock also served as art critic of the *New York Tribune*.

As his first project for A.S. Barnes, Stratemeyer expanded "Snow Lodge" from 16 chapters to 30 chapters to form the book titled *The Island Camp; or, The Young Hunters of Lakeport*. Bound in brown cloth with a \$1.25 retail price, the book was advertised in **The Publishers' Weekly** on Nov. 5, 1904 as "The First Volume in Captain Bonehill's Outdoor Series." It had this separate entry in Edward Stratemeyer's *Literary Account Books*:

No. 211. "The Island Camp." Story lengthened from "Snow Lodge" (see No. 199). Sold to A.S. Barnes & Co. under "Bonehill" nom-de-plume, on 10% royalty basis. (Renamed "Gun Club Boys of Lakeport" by Lothrop, Lee & Shepard).

The second volume published in the **Outdoor Series** was *The Winning Run; or, The Baseball Boys of Lakeport*, advertised in **The Dial** on Sept. 16, 1905, and which had the following entry in the *Literary Account Books*:

No. 216. "The Winning Run." A baseball book written Feb. 1905 for A.S. Barnes & Co. on contract and royalty. Renamed "Baseball Boys of Lakeport."

There was apparently some interest in continuing the **Outdoor Series** with a third Bonehill title in 1906, but the connection was missed when the publisher was away from the office. The person Stratemeyer spoke with was taken aback by an apparent change in policy whereby manuscripts would be accepted only upon approval rather than a contract ordering a story and promising to publish it ahead of time.

Nov. 5, 1904 [No. 1710] *The Publishers' Weekly.* 1055

These are Popular Juvenile Books

CAMP LIFE AND SPORT
THE ISLAND CAMP
Or, The Young Hunters of Lakeport. By Captain RALPH BONEHILL.

Boys who are after a feast of books will do well not to miss this one, which begins a series that will keep youthful readers on their toes until they read the entire set of books that is promised."—*Staten Courier.*

"This story of camping and hunting will appeal to every healthy American boy."—*Chicago Evening Post.*

The First Volume in Captain Bonehill's Outdoor Series.
12mo, cloth. Illustrated. \$1.25.

"EXCITING, FASCINATING."
—*Chicago Evening Post.*

RUNNING THE RIVER
A Story of Adventure and Success. By GEORGE CARY EGGLESTON, author of "A Captain in the Ranks," "The Bale Marked Circle X," etc.

"No better boys' book has ever been written."—*Newark Advertiser.*

"Exciting, fascinating"—*Chicago Evening Post.*
"A story any healthy young American will enjoy."—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

"The adventures of the characters are accompanied by fascinating sketches of actual life and historic happenings."—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*
12mo, cloth. Illustrated. \$1.50.

FROM "THE ISLAND CAMP," BY CAPTAIN RALPH BONEHILL.
A. S. Barnes & Co.

THE EAST AND WEST SERIES
"Interesting, exciting, wholesome, thoroughly American."

NEW FORTUNES
How Molly and Her Brother Came to Boulder Gulch
By MABEL EARLE

"Interesting and wholesome!"—*The Outlook.*
"The brave young heroine is the best sort of American girl."—*New York Tribune.*

THE ARK OF 1803
Pioneer Boys Afloat on the Mississippi
By C. A. STEPHENS

"Delight and instruction."—*Boston Herald.*
"A spirited narrative and graphic picture."—*Congregationalist.*

THE THREE PRISONERS
A Story of Adventure By W. H. SHELTON
A True Romance of the Great War

THE SEARCH
A Story of the Old Frontier By E. P. WEAVER
From London to the Wilderness; or, A Rescue
from the Red Men
Each 12mo, cloth. Illustrated. \$1.25

LIVES OF GREAT WRITERS SERIES
With an introduction by HAMILTON WEIGHT MARIE

IN THE DAYS OF CHAUCER. By TUDOR JENKS. Small 12mo. Illustrated. \$1.00 net.
IN THE DAYS OF SHAKESPEARE. By TUDOR JENKS. Small 12mo. Illustrated. \$1.00 net. In press.
(Others in preparation.)

OUR NEW AUTUMN BULLETIN ON APPLICATION
A. S. BARNES & CO., Publishers, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York




Advertisement in **The Publishers' Weekly** announcing the release by A.S. Barnes of *The Island Camp*.

Stratemeyer wrote to Ripley Hitchcock as follows:

Since our last conversation I have been over twice to see you but you were not in. Yesterday I saw your Mr. Henry [Barnes] and had a talk with him regarding the books we thought to get out.

This conversation was rather a revelation to me, and as a result I am afraid it will be impossible for either me or the Syndicate I represent to supply you with any MSS. I thought it was understood that if we went ahead at all the MSS. would be ordered under contract, but Mr. Henry informed me that under no circumstances would he make a contract with anybody until after he had read a MS. For the past eight years I have written nothing excepting on order, and the Syndicate puts out nothing excepting on order. As you must know, even

if Mr. Henry does not, fully two-thirds of the books published are written on order — that is, authors and publishers talk it over and agree what shall be written. Only a short while ago the "Ladies Home Journal" and "Saturday Evening Post" admitted that fully seventy-five per cent of their published matter was "written to order" for them. For myself and for the Syndicate I can get all the work we wish to fill, guaranteed, and so it is not at all necessary for us to write stories and then submit them for consideration. I supposed that you wished to strengthen your juvenile line and as you had treated me fairly in the past I wanted to do what I could for you, even though there was not much money in it. So far, the two stories you have on your list have not paid me nearly as well as the other "Bonehill" books, nor as well as the Syndicate books, so, it seems to me, I would be running a risk on new works rather than a publisher. Under the above circumstances, will you kindly return to me the outlines submitted to you, so that I can use them elsewhere — outlines for the "Bonehill" book and the two Syndicate books.

It is possible that you can get the authors of recognized success to submit MSS. to you for consideration, but I doubt it. I have been closely connected with leading publishers for the past twelve years and the few MSS. [that] I have seen floating around in that way were usually penned by those who had a quarrel with a previous publisher and were left somewhat "stranded" in consequence.

Yours truly,
Edward Stratemeyer

— *Stratemeyer to A.S. Barnes & Co., Oct. 2, 1906.*

Apparently, Henry Barnes had just returned when Stratemeyer's letter was received, based on this reply that reinforced the publisher's position:

I find your letter of the 2nd inst. on my return from Southampton, and in accordance therewith return the memoranda which you left with me in regard to the new Bonehill book and the two Syndicate books.

It was my expectation that the books would be made and delivered, subject to final approval; in other words, that the books must be accepted by us before publication. I see no reason why they should not be perfectly acceptable, judging from your long experience in making juvenile books, but we have a principle which prevents our agreeing to accept a book in advance.

Regretting that you do not see your way clear to carry out the plan on these terms, and hoping that you will revise your decision, I remain,

Yours very truly, Henry B. Barnes
— *Henry B. Barnes*
of A.S. Barnes & Co., Oct. 3, 1906

A couple days later, Stratemeyer replied to this and declined to write another story for them:

Yours of two days ago to hand and contents noted. I thank you for what you say about my personal work on books, but, I cannot at present see my way clear to write anything on speculation, as it were.

When I was over to see you and I had about six weeks leeway before starting on other contracts and thought I could get you out that "Bonehill" and have my Syndicate get out the other book. But since that time I have taken up another story, and gone ahead in other ways, so my time will be filled for some months to come. At present I have five of my own MSS. ordered ahead, and I also have fourteen books from the Syndicate listed, to be written by six other authors — so you can realize what there is to do. I do not allow myself to hurry on a book, nor do I allow any carelessness on the part of those working for the Syndicate. All of us [are] doing our level best to bring out the most readable and most salable books ever issued for young people, and I think our sales are proving that we are giving people what they want.

Regretting that we cannot "get together" at present, and hoping the situation may change at some future time, I remain,

Yours truly,
Edward Stratemeyer
— *Stratemeyer to Henry B. Barnes*
of A.S. Barnes & Co., Oct. 5, 1906.

Ownership of printing plates

The above situation, a problem with copyrights, and generally poor sales led Stratemeyer to offer to buy back the plates and publishing rights for the Barnes volumes. At that time he was obtaining the plates from several of his smaller publishers who issued books but did not sell very many copies of them. He also began to commission plates for new books. Those he would lease to publishers by receiving an additional royalty of 2.5 per cent per copy sold. Thus, a Lothrop, Lee & Shepard book normally receiving 10 per cent would now earn 12.5 per cent.

His experience as an amateur printer as a teen in the 1870s and knowledge of printing and publishing techniques allowed him to communicate with the plate makers. He was particular about selecting good typefaces and keeping the layout and overall appearance of his pages similar. He even specified that his plates be stored in well-marked wooden boxes closed by screws, not nails, so they could be used several times as needed over the life of the books.

Among the plates Stratemeyer bought back at this
(Continued on Page 12)

From 'Snow Lodge' to *The Island Camp*

(Continued from Page 11)

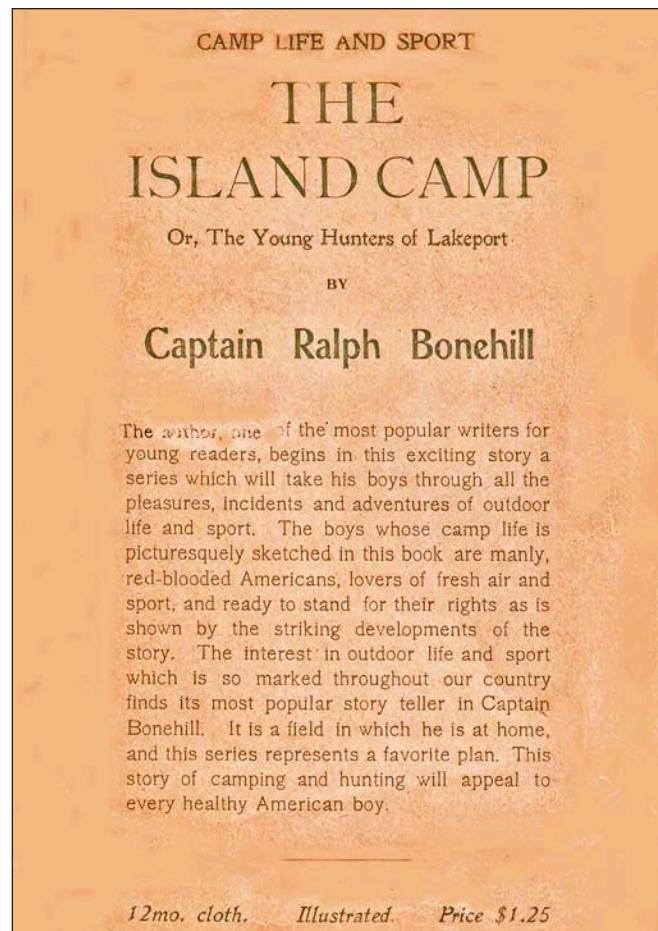
time were two books from publisher A. Wessels, *Bob the Photographer* (1902) by "Arthur M. Winfield" and *Lost in the Land of Ice* (1902) by "Capt. Ralph Bonehill." In January 1905 he bought the plates for \$200 and gave up \$50-\$75 in royalties due. The publisher also had 250 bound books and 1,000 sets of sheets for the two titles. Stratemeyer initially offered those plates and publishing rights to A.S. Barnes since they were pleased with *The Island Camp* and were ordering the second book. The royalty statement for the sales through the end of the year had not been received on Jan. 31, 1905 when he made this offer. While Barnes did not take up the offer, he did bring those two books to William Stitt, Jr., the publisher who had taken over the Mershon plates, including the Rover Boys, in February 1905.

Meanwhile, Stratemeyer was going back and forth with Dana Estes, publisher of the **Mexican War Series** under the "Bonehill" name that had sold poorly. He made offers to sell the copyrights for \$500 or to buy the plates and their publishing interest in the three books for \$350. By contract, Stratemeyer was to receive \$100 per year on the three Mexican War books as a guarantee. Estes was balking at this figure even though it represented a sale of only 500 copies of the three books. They could not come to terms and Stratemeyer let the original agreement stand. However, by Feb. 28, 1905, the royalty statement and guarantee had not been received even though it was a month late at this point.

Sales from Dana Estes continued to be minimal on the three Mexican War books through 1906. The royalty statement and check received on Feb. 23, 1907 for July through December 1906 was just \$29.50 for the three books. Stratemeyer offered \$100 per set of plates, illustrations, and cover dies. This figure was down from the \$400 he offered on Sept. 20, 1906:

In looking over my royalty accounts I find I have as yet heard nothing from you concerning the royalty on the "Mexican War Series," for the six months ending August 1st, this year. Kindly let me hear from you.

As the books have probably not done any better than last season I again ask if you do not care to sell the plates. I do not see why a publisher should care to keep plates when he cannot sell the books. If the plates are in good condition I am willing to give you



The front panel of the extremely scarce dust jacket for *The Island Camp*, published by A.S. Barnes.

\$400 for the set of the three volumes, with cover dies and illustrations.

Yours truly,
Edward Stratemeyer

—Stratemeyer to Dana Estes & Co., Sept. 20, 1906.

Stratemeyer and Estes finally came to terms on the Mexican War books in December 1908 for \$300 for the sets of plates. He then took them to Warren F. Gregory of Lothrop, Lee & Shepard of Boston, to be published under his own name in 1909.

This followed Stratemeyer's ongoing wrangling with A.S. Barnes to buy the plates and publishing interest for the two "Bonehill" volumes, *The Island Camp* and *The Winning Run*, and ultimately bring them to LL&S to become the first volumes in the **Lakeport Series** under his own name as *The Gun Club Boys of Lakeport* and *The Baseball Boys of Lakeport* for publication in 1908.

By February 1906 the royalty report for the second half of 1905 had proven so disappointing that Stratemeyer and Barnes agreed to drop the price to 60 cents and sell

as many copies as they could. This was considered a "popular" price, similar to the retail figure used for the Rover Boys books:

As promised yesterday I hereby give you written permission to issue the two books, "The Island Camp" and "The Winning Run," at any price you please not lower than sixty cents retail.

In making this concession I earnestly hope that you will push the volumes all you possibly can. I see that Harpers have reduced all their leading juveniles to sixty cents, so possibly it will pay you to do the same.

If you wish to increase the line and are willing to meet us as other publishers do, the Stratemeyer Syndicate will be pleased to furnish books under several names that are well known and have the selling powers. Some of the very best juvenile authors now contribute to the syndicate.

Yours truly,
Edward Stratemeyer
— *Stratemeyer to A.S. Barnes & Co., Feb. 1, 1906.*

According to royalty statements from A.S. Barnes, the sales of *The Island Camp* and *The Winning Run*, though never robust, fell from 144 copies (combined) for the July-December 1905 period to a paltry 36 copies sold from January to June 1907, the latter returning a measly \$4.50 royalty payment to Stratemeyer. By Sept. 6, 1907, total sales for the two books had been a disappointing 1,528, including at least 1,200 for *The Island Camp*.

On Feb. 11, 1907, Stratemeyer had to remind Barnes to provide statement and check for the two books. He also wrote that if they were disappointed in the books that he would buy the plates and take them to another publisher. After receiving the small payment, he offered \$100 each for the plates, illustrations, and cover dies.

By the end of February they had expressed a willingness to do so and Stratemeyer made a proposal to Cupples & Leon, a publisher that began handling books from his new Stratemeyer Syndicate (founded in 1905) in 1906. When he named the asking price for the plates, they replied that it was too high and new plates could be made for similar figures.

In early March, Stratemeyer again wrote to Barnes:

Yours of Feb. 25th duly to hand, and I have been giving the matter of purchasing the plates of your two "Bonehill" books consideration.

I really believe you are asking a little too much for these plates. One publisher has told me that he can make new plates for almost the price you are asking for these old ones, and he would much prefer to make new plates for new books.

Another thing, it seems a large price for plates

of which you have sold, in books, only 360 copies in two years, an average of only 130 copies on each book — 65 per year! [arithmetic error, 180 per year, average 90 per title per year] It seems to me if I had plates and could no better I would be glad to sell them at \$100 per set.

The best I can offer you at present is \$250 for the two sets of plates, cover dies, copyrights, etc., and I will take them at once, for cash, at that figure. Then, if you wish, you can keep the copies on hand, 472, and sell them without royalty, or I will take them at your figure, 20 cents each. I think you can sell these copies without much trouble for 30 to 35 cents each — the regular price on the 60-cent "Bonehill" books.

If you wish to accept my offer kindly let me hear from you inside of a week or ten days. And if you accept kindly send me three copies of each book.

Yours truly,
Edward Stratemeyer
— *Stratemeyer to A.S. Barnes & Co., March 4, 1907.*

When Cupples & Leon did not take up the series, Stratemeyer approached Lothrop, Lee & Shepard. The two volumes would begin a **Lakeport Series** with new titles and be published under Stratemeyer's own name instead of the "Capt. Ralph Bonehill" pseudonym used for the A.S. Barnes books.

Meanwhile, Stratemeyer continued to negotiate with Barnes on the plates:

Yours at hand containing statement of sales and payment on "Winning Run" and "Island Camp."

The returns are so very small that I feel I must again ask if you do not wish to sell me the plates of these books and a reasonable price. Of one book you have sold only 16 copies and the other only 20 copies in six months. This is practically no sale at all — certainly you are not pushing the books as was originally agreed. I gave you two good, talking tales and I hate to see them "go dead" in this fashion.

If you care to consider an offer of \$200 for the two sets of plates, etc. let me know. If you will take this I will allow you to sell what stock you have on hand without the payment of further royalties. If, however, you do not wish to sell the plates and terminate our contract then I must insist upon it that you push the books as originally agreed by your Mr. Hitchcock, so that I can get some fair return out of them — failing in which I shall feel compelled to take steps to have the contract broken.

Yours truly,
Edward Stratemeyer
— *Stratemeyer to Henry B. Barnes
of A.S. Barnes & Co., Sept. 6, 1907.*

(Continued on Page 14)

From 'Snow Lodge' to *The Island Camp*

(Continued from Page 13)

Yours of Sept. 10th to hand and contents noted. In reply I would say that I am willing to accept your offer to buy the plates, cover dies, illustrations, etc. of the two books, "Winning Run" and "Island Camp" at the price you name, two hundred and fifty dollars, and will send you check as soon as I receive bill of sale and transfer of copyrights.

Regarding sheets and bound stock, however, I would prefer that you dispose of the same, and will give you permission to do so without paying me any royalty.

Awaiting your reply, I remain,

Yours truly,
 Edward Stratemeyer
*— Stratemeyer to Henry B. Barnes
 of A.S. Barnes & Co., Sept. 12, 1907.*

With this I mail my check to pay for plates, etc. on the two "Bonehill" books. Kindly send me receipt, and if you have not yet transferred the copyrights to me, kindly have it done in the near future.

Will send shipping directions for plates later.

Have not yet heard from you in answer to mine of the Sept. 26, in which I stated my publishers would take the sheets at 12 cents and bound stock at 20 cents. Kindly let me know about this and send exact amount of each, and I will send shipping directions.

Yours truly,
 Edward Stratemeyer

P.S. In former letter I also asked for three copies of each volume, to be sent to me at my expense by express.

*— Stratemeyer to Henry B. Barnes
 of A.S. Barnes & Co., Oct. 1, 1907.*

Excerpts from letter to Lothrop, Lee & Shepard:

Dear Mr. Gregory:

I have to-day received the assignments of copyrights of two books, "Winning Run" and "Island Camp" from Barnes & Co., recorded in due form at Washington. Have also received from them receipted bill of \$250 for plates, cover dies, etc. With this I also enclose a bill from them for bound and sheet stock. I trust you will attend to this in the near future.

I will send them a letter to-day asking them to hold plates, stock, etc. subject to your order.

With this I mail you a receipt for \$125 for the plates.

You may pay this when convenient. Kindly draw up agreements for the two books, mentioning old and new names, making them subject to the usual 10% royalty.

With this I send you some ideas for all three covers — two old and one new which I think ought to work up very effectively. I am almost as enthusiastic about this series as I am about "Dave Porter."

With this I also send a list of corrections to make to the plates before printing a new edition.

Yours truly,
 Edward Stratemeyer
*— Stratemeyer to Warren F. Gregory
 of Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, Oct. 4 1907.*

The Island Camp; or, the Young Hunters of Lakeport (Barnes, 1904) became *The Gun Club Boys of Lakeport; or, The Island Camp* (L, L&S, 1908). Both editions had six illustrations, though the frontispiece was replaced with a depiction of the same scene by Charles Nuttall. Coincidentally, Stratemeyer had Nuttall replace eight illustrations by F(rank) Gilbert Edge for the third volume in the Dave Porter series, *Dave Porter's Return to School* (L, L&S, 1907).

The Winning Run; or, The Baseball Boys of Lakeport (Barnes, 1905) became *The Baseball Boys of Lakeport; or The Winning Run* (L, L&S, 1908). The six illustrations by Max Klepper were retained in the reissue.

To these was added a third volume, *The Boat Club Boys of Lakeport; or, The Water Champions* (L, L&S, 1908). It had eight illustrations by Charles Nuttall, as did the Dave Porter books of the period. As noted above, Stratemeyer had also requested Nuttall to redraw the frontispiece of *The Island Camp* as a full-page picture of the same scene (two boys taking refuge in a tree surrounded by angry wolves), rather than retain the vignette style of that scene by original artist Harry Rountree.

Following the L, L&S reprint titles *The Gun Club Boys of Lakeport* and *The Baseball Boys of Lakeport*, and the addition of *The Boat Club Boys of Lakeport* in 1909, annual volumes were added through 1912, forming a series of six volumes. Stratemeyer was writing *The Automobile Boys of Lakeport* (1910) just at the time that he purchased his first automobile, a 1910 Cadillac touring car. However, it does not appear that he flew in an airplane to write *The Aircraft Boys of Lakeport* (1912) or that surely would have been mentioned as frequently as his automobiling exploits in the first year or two.

Unauthorized reprint of "Snow Lodge"

Stratemeyer did some extensive work for Street & Smith. He began writing some nickel library volumes for them as early as 1890. By the end of 1892 when his daughter, Harriet Stratemeyer, was born, he began to

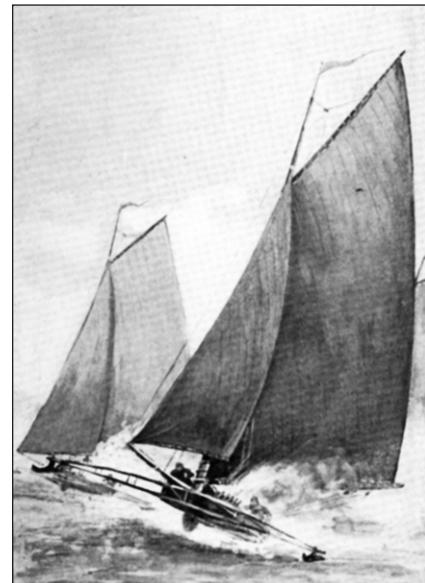
(Continued on Page 16)



The Tour of the Zero Club
(frontispiece)



Dave Porter's Return to School
(facing page 265)



The Speedwell Boys and Their Ice Racer (frontispiece)

Ice boats in Stratemeyer and Syndicate books

In addition to "Snow Lodge" and its book version, *The Island Camp*, several Edward Stratemeyer and Stratemeyer Syndicate stories include adventures on ice boats. An early Stratemeyer example was "The Tour of the Zero Club" as by "Harvey Hicks" that appeared in *Good News* in 1894. It was published in book form under Stratemeyer's personal pseudonym "Capt. Ralph Bonehill" by Street & Smith in 1902, initially as part of a projected **Zero Club Series** that was not continued. The story was soon incorporated into the **S&S Boys' Own Library**, along with appearances in various S&S thick soft-cover editions.

Another example appeared in the *Newark Sunday Call* newspaper as the short story "The Ice Boat Zip" (Feb. 3, 1895) that was reprinted as "Ice Boat Scud" as by "A.L. Thompson" in *Bright Days* in April 1896.

Other books written by Edward Stratemeyer with ice boat scenes include:

- *The Rover Boys Out West* (Mershon, 1900) by "Arthur M. Winfield."
- *The Bobbsey Twins* (Mershon, 1904) by "Laura Lee Hope."
- *The Putnam Hall Cadets* (Mershon, 1905) by "Arthur M. Winfield."
- *Dave Porter's Return to School* (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1907) by Edward Stratemeyer.

Soon after, several Stratemeyer Syndicate series books included ice yachts:

- *The Boys of Columbia High on the Ice* (Grosset & Dunlap,

1911) by "Graham B. Forbes" (St. George Rathborne).

- *The Outdoor Girls in a Winter Camp* (Grosset & Dunlap, 1913) by "Laura Lee Hope" (Howard R. Garis).
- *The Bobbsey Twins at Snow Lodge* (Grosset & Dunlap, 1913) by "Laura Lee Hope" (Howard R. Garis).
- *The Speedwell Boys and Their Ice Racer* (Cupples & Leon, 1915) by "Roy Rockwood" (W. Bert Foster).
- *The Bobbsey Twins in a Great City* (Grosset & Dunlap, 1917) by "Laura Lee Hope" (Howard R. Garis).
- *The Mystery at Cabin Island* (Grosset & Dunlap, 1928) by "Franklin W. Dixon" (Leslie McFarlane).

Of these, the Hardy Boys story is probably the best known. It is consistently listed among the top-favorite stories by fans of that series. It is less of a mystery, this time describing the search of a valuable stamp collection, rather than a Christmas vacation adventure in the outdoors. The Hardys and their friends gain permission to use the cabin after recovering the island owner's Pierce Arrow in *The Shore Road Mystery*, while the owner was in England. The scenes on the ice were impressive enough to cause one fan to get his own ice boat, name it the *Hawkshaw*, and visit frozen lakes in places like Colorado on many occasions.

Ice boating, still popular today, became a major winter pastime and competitive sport in the early years of the 20th century. Locales familiar to Stratemeyer included the Hudson River and Finger Lakes of upstate New York, whose Cayuga Lake was a primary setting for the Rover Boys and Putnam Hall series. — James D. Keeline

From ‘Snow Lodge’ to *The Island Camp*

(Continued from Page 14)

work part of the week at Street & Smith as an associate editor, soon after editing **Good News** for a time. There is also evidence to indicate that the thick paperbacks and hardcovers issued in the **Medal Library** and **Boys’ Own Library** were the fruits of his efforts to edit shorter nickel library and serial stories into book-length material. At one point, when Street & Smith was receiving criticism for its nickel libraries that might jeopardize their favorable postal rate, Stratemeyer testified on their behalf.

With this background, Stratemeyer was understandably annoyed when he learned that his short story, “Snow Lodge” was being serialized as filler material in 1912 issues of the **Tip Top Weekly**. Frank Merriwell and some other members of the family were the title characters for the lead stories in these issues but sometimes extra space was available to fill out the formulaic length of each issue. Stratemeyer had already used the “Snow Lodge” material in two book editions. He also did not wish to have his name appear on the pages of a nickel library issue, more popularly and derisively called dime novels.

In early January 1912 there began a series of letters between Stratemeyer and S&S debating this issue, with Stratemeyer finally suggesting the following:

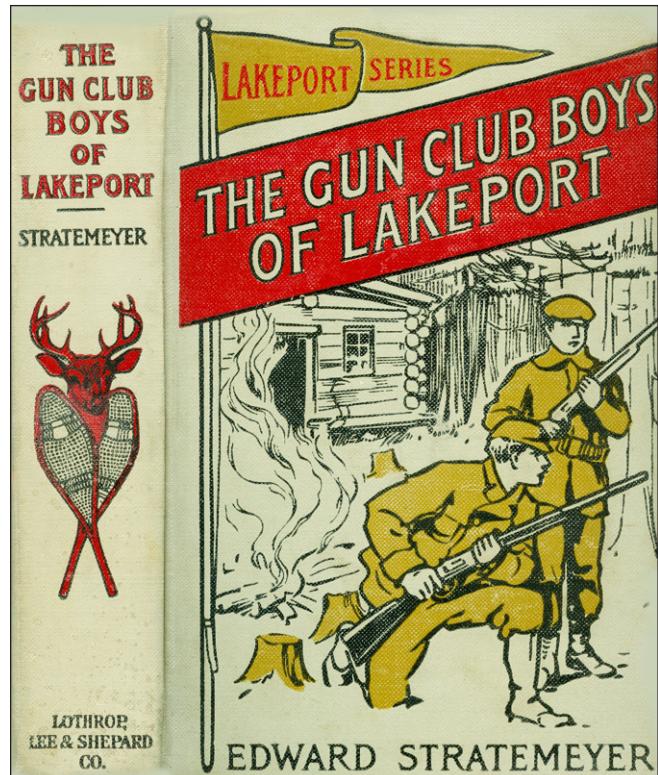
Would you be willing to issue a Card in the “Tip Top Weekly,” stating that the story, “Snow Lodge,” by Edward Stratemeyer, the well-known author of so many popular books for boys, and had been written by him for the “Popular Magazine” and was published in “Tip Top” by mistake, etc.? Such a card would be no more than fair, in my judgement, and might go a long way towards removing any damage done to my reputation.

Hoping you will appreciate my position and realize that I do not wish to appear in any degree harsh, but simply wish to defend a name that has cost a great deal of time, labor, and expense to make, I remain,

Yours truly,
Edward Stratemeyer

Thus, the matter was quickly settled when on Jan. 22, 1912, Street & Smith agreed to publish a notice stating that the serial, “Snow Lodge” by Edward Stratemeyer was written for the “Popular Magazine” and printed in “Tip Top” by mistake.

The “Snow Lodge” serial ran in seven **Tip Top Weekly**



The Gun Club Boys of Lakeport, published by Lothrop, Lee & Shepard in 1908, became the new title for *The Island Camp* after L, L&S acquired the original A.S. Barnes printing plates from Edward Stratemeyer. The Lakeport Series continued for six volumes.

issues from No. 816 (2 Dec. 1911) to No. 822 (13 Jan. 1912). Since S&S published their issues several weeks in advance, the promised notice did not appear until issue No. 829 (2 March 1912). It was printed on page 27 at the end of the Merriwell story for that issue:

NOTICE!

The story “Snow Lodge,” by Edward Stratemeyer, the well-known author of so many popular books for boys, was written for the Popular Magazine, and its recent publication in these pages was an editorial mistake. We make this explanation to our readers at the request of the author.

In summation ...

The evolution of “Snow Lodge” to *The Island Camp*, later renamed *The Gun Club Boys of Lakeport*, was a prominent example of how Edward Stratemeyer reused as much of his writing as possible. As he did with the **Mexican War Series**, when he found the original sales unsatisfactory, he worked to move the series to another publisher, even if it meant issuing the story under his own name, making it more difficult to keep his name and efforts separate from those under pseudonyms.