

THE HORATIO ALGER

"RAGGED LICK CENTENNIAL YEAR"

Vol. 6 No. 8

April 1968

Founders:
Forrest Campbell
Kenneth E. Butler



"World's only publication
dedicated to Horatio Alger"

Newsboy

Incorporated 1965
(Non-profit)

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1968 Convention Chairman - Ed Levy

Editor: Forrest Campbell; Ph: 616-349-4155

Memorial Service Chairman -- Max Goldberg
Membership fee \$5 (twelve month basis)

"PARTIC'LAR FRIENDS" PLAN MAY CONVENTION!

DEBBIE REYNOLDS TO STAR IN "TATTERED TOM"

The Following Additional Society Members
Report Plans To Attend Our New Haven Meet

Susan Roy, PF-197, Releases Exciting News
To Her Partic'lar Friends Through Newsboy

Some of our previous convention attendees have signified by their silence that they will be unable to attend this year, due to school commitments, especially those from the mid-west. Others have declared their earnest intentions to attend, but on a one or two day basis. So, our attendance will vary from day to day. Others now on record will attend if not hindered by circumstances beyond their control.

PF-132 Otto & Gladys Wilt
PF-144 Ralph & Irene
Anderson
PF-223 Sylvester & Virginia
Mangini
PF-229 Frank & Sara
Eisenberg
PF-231 Stewart & Lelia
(Lee) McLeish

The convention dates are
May 23-26th, RIP VAN WINKLE
Motel, 1548 Whalley Avenue,
New Haven, Conn., will be
our headquarters. When
sending in your reservations,
be sure to identify
yourself as a society member,
giving your PF number.

Brief resume: Rooms for
two, up to \$14.50. Registrations,
any time on Thursday,
with get acquainted sessions
in the evening. Friday,
luncheon & guided tour at
Yale, plus book sales, Alger discussions,
and business meeting. Saturday, Book
sales, Alger discussions and business
meeting. Banquet in evening. Sunday,
farewell breakfast and Alger Memorial
Service in South Natick. General:
a visit to the Whitlock Book Farm,
presentation of newly composed Alger
poem and song. Agenda subject to change
by convention chairman and/or Society
officers.

24TH ANNUAL NATIONAL ANTIQUES SHOW

Ralph Anderson reports COLLECTORS
NEWS will have a booth at the show,
May 18 - 26th.

Miss Roy, senior partner of Margrove
Productions, located in the Palace
Theatre Building on Broadway made the
decision some time ago to produce a
musical adaption of the Alger story,
Tattered Tom, and has been in consultation
with us regarding the original
script of the story, plus the names and
cover designs of other popular Alger
stories.

Now that the original
script has been revised and
adapted for a musical version,
and with the curtain
and scenery preparations
well under way, she has
contracted Debbie Reynolds
to star in the lead.

The cast will begin rehearsals
early in September with the
production on tour for a period
of 8 to 10 weeks before returning
to Broadway.

Miss Roy has not yet revealed
the Broadway Theatre which
will actually stage the production,
but has promised to keep us
informed on further developments.

The timing of the Broadway
premiere could well be within
our Ragged Dick Centennial
year.

A PARTIC'LAR FRIEND PASSES

The death of Partic'lar Friend Richard
L. Lunsted, PF-097, on January 25, 1968
was reported by his widow, in February,
but too late to be announced in the March
newsletter. Richard was born March 11,
1915, and became a subscriber to our
newsletter in March of 1964.

He enjoyed a very enthusiastic interest
in all types of juvenile books. He was
eligible for our 100 Club, and had some
123 Alger books, all of which will be
offered for sale at our New Haven
convention, May 23-25th.



ALGERGRAMS

The subject of a commemorative postage stamp to honor Horatio Alger surfaced once again this past ~~past~~ month to raise our hopes, then quickly sank back into oblivion again.

About three years ago President Butler gained the attention of the proper officials of the Post Office Department on this subject which resulted in little, if any, encouragement and we had considered the matter hopeless.

Then, Don Shimmer, PF-169 revealed that he had made contact with the Department through his Congressman, and called it to my attention. The exchange of correspondence between the Congressman and the Department sounded encouraging enough, so, I wrote, pointing out that it was imperative that they take immediate action yet this year! Their reply in effect, informs us that it is now too late, however, our request will be retained in their files.

No expressed interest in Mrs. Landis, PF-226 suggestion of an Alger commemorative bottle, has come to my attention. I feel that her suggestion has merit, and should be considered. Anyone having an interest or a suggestion, please contact Mrs. Landis.

Our Sec'y-Treas-Publisher, Max Sheldon reports the accident that caused his broken leg, happened in his own back yard. In spite of this, he is putting his best foot forward in an attempt to get our by-laws published. In order that we might have a complete set of by-laws before convention time, we have assigned him pages 5 & 6 of the April & May issues for this purpose.

Several small publications such as ours, designed for collectors or fans of specific authors, or of general literary interest, are edited and published by our Society members. The Tutter Bugle, designed for Leo Edwards fans & collectors, is edited by Robert Johnson, PF-080. The Bookworm, by Jacqueline Steele, PF-199, and Literary Sketches, by Mary Lewis Chapman, PF-179. The subscription fees are insignificant. If you have any interest whatsoever, they merit your financial support. Many of our members already have. The leader, seniority-wise, is of course The Dime Novel Round-up, edited and published by Eddie LeBlanc, PF-015. Another, perhaps the newest of them all, is W-Hollow Harvest, designed for Jesse Stuart collectors & fans is edited and published by David Brandenburg, PF-207. PF-000 proudly testifies that he supports and enjoys them all. I remember well, the formative years of our own newsletter, and the faithful support it received. I look forward eagerly for the arrival of these interesting publications. Editing these various publications is a labor of love—I know. PF-000

What was it really like in the days of the original Alger heroes? The mode of dress for boys, for example. The numerous illustrators have us thoroughly confused, I suspect. The early illustrators in the Loring editions show the New York street-boys dressed in long pants. This is understandable. The homeless boys earned barely enough to eat properly, let alone clothe themselves in the style of a "Fifth Avenue Swell". The "long pants" were probably the result of hand-me-downs; cast-offs; or purchased for a few pennies at a Baxter Street second-hand clothes dealer. The "long pants" were probably the most practical for year-round wear. They provided protection and warmth from the windy and chilly days of the winter season.

Stockings were probably considered a luxury item, and considering the expense, they were really not necessary when long pants were worn. In the Colonial days, the well-dressed adult male wore knickers and stockings. Granted, the style of the male garment may have varied from one era to another in order to separate the men from the boys, but there was a time when the "Little Lord Fauntleroy" attire was the proper dress for boys. The knee-length britches, and black-ribbed stockings also had their day in the early years of this century.

We must assume that only a few of the New York street-boys advanced to the Alger-hero caliber in appearance and principle. The "Mickey Maguire" type of street-boy, for one reason or another, simply did not make it, yet they were exposed to the same opportunity as those who were willing to be converted. Their way of life was one of survival, and had built up an immunity to any other way. The "Ragged Dick" type of street-boy could be reasoned with and was usually influenced to change his ways.

From that point on, the Alger-influence left its mark in a change of his appearance and principles, but which was looked upon with scorn from the other street-boys. The boys who were forced to leave home to seek their fortunes in New York, did not need to be converted. They had the benefit of at least one parent who taught them the difference between right and wrong. They were the Alger-hero type right from the start. Alger usually described them as manly in stature, and neat in appearance, yet the height and stature of these boys as portrayed by the illustrators ranged from short to tall.

Regardless of occupation or station in life, Alger usually described his heroes as being attired in a new, or at least a neat suit of clothes. The implied age of the Alger-hero is usually established at about 15-16 years of age, yet the illustrators portray them as way too young. The short boys wear the long pants, and the manly, tall boys are often attired in knee-length breeches. PF-000

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

PF-231 Stewart C. McLeish TR-005
270 Shute Street,
Everett, Massachusetts 02149

NEW MEMBERS REPORTED

PF-232 Daniel E. Guild TR-000
P.O. Box No. 65 (Water Street)
Monson, Maine 04464

F.N. We have had many inquiries regarding our Society. One application is pending but has not yet been reported. Many inquirers are evidently thinking in terms of a subscription to the newsletter, instead of a membership in our Society.

Our membership fee of \$5 is nominal compared to the subscription (only) fees of other publications I have had to turn down, considering the service given. We must stress the fact that we are non-profit, no salaries or expenses of any kind are paid to our officers; that we finance three annual awards; an annual Memorial Service; an annual membership roster; an annual Newsboy Photo Supplement; free advertising of books for sale; and a membership plaque. All this in addition to a free subscription to our monthly newsletter.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

I've heard of us through Ralph Gardner, and also by way of being a subscriber to The Bookworm. He is also a customer of the Bookworm editor's bookshop. He was born in 1925 and his wife's name is Priscilla Elaine. He is a dealer of all types of Americana. His primary interest in Alger is in periodical form. He has the complete story of Silas Snobden's Office Boy, and a dozen more with a few issues missing. He is especially interested in Civil War material found in books, newspapers, magazines, letters, documents, etc. His accumulation of material represents twenty years of collecting, but became interested in Alger only this past year. He still enjoys reading the Alger stories and commends Steve Press for his project of placing Alger stories in the hands of this generation's young folks.

Max Sheldon, our Secretary-Treasurer, reports that his broken leg is giving him some pain, as of April 3rd.

We still get reports from people who have books for sale written by Horatio Alger, and some written by Horatio Alger, Jr. It is high time we did some research on the reason why and when "Jr." was dropped from his name by certain publishers. My theory, without the benefit of research is that it may have been dropped after the death of his father in 1881. I would appreciate hearing of any information, and your opinion on this subject which has caused considerable confusion among the uninformed.

The listings in this department (space permitting) are free to our members. Please list title, publisher, condition and price. Editor disqualified due to first notice.

Offered by Otto Wilt, PF-132, R3, Stoystown, Pa. 15563. All books postpaid, Buyers must be satisfied.

Andy Gordon,	Hurst	V.G.	\$2.00
Brave & Bold,	Hurst	Good	2.00
Brave & Bold,	Hurst	V.G.	2.00
Char. Codman's Cruise,	Burt	V.G.	2.00
Char. Codman's Cruise,	Hurst	V.G.	2.00
Chester Rand,	Trade	Fine	2.00
Erie Train Boy,	Hurst	Good	1.00
Erie Train Boy,	Donohue	Good	2.00
Facing the World,	Donohue	Good	1.00
Grit; Y.B.P.P.,	Hurst	V.G.	3.00
Grit; Y.B.P.P.,	Burt	Fine	3.00
Grit; Y.B.P.P.,	Burt	Good	2.00
Herb. Carter's Legacy,	Hurst	Good	2.00
Hector's Inheritance,	Trade	Fine	2.00
Helping Himself,	Burt	Good	1.00
Helen Ford,	Winston	V.G.	3.00
Joe's Luck,	Donohue	V.G.	1.00
Joe's Luck,	N.Y.B.	Fine	1.00
Nelson the Newsboy,	Mershon	Good	5.00
Only an Irish Boy,	Hurst	V.G.	3.00
Phil the Fiddler,	Donohue	V.G.	1.50
Phil the Fiddler, D.J.	Donohue	Fine	1.00
Paul the Peddler,	Burt	Good	2.00
Risen from the Ranks,	Burt	Fine	3.00
Ragged Dick,	Winston	Good	4.00
Rufus & Rose,	Winston	Good	5.00
Risen from the Ranks,	Trade	Good	1.00
Ragged Dick,	Winston	Fine	5.00
Risen from the Ranks,	Hurst	Fine	3.00
Struggling Upward,	Donohue	Good	1.00
Slow & Sure,	Donohue	Fine	1.00
Sink or Swim,	Winston	Good	2.00
Strive & Succeed,	Donohue	V.G.	1.00
Sink or Swim,	Hurst	V.G.	1.50
Strive & Succeed,	Hurst	Fine	3.00
Sam's Chance,	Hurst	Good	1.50
Sink or Swim,	Hurst	Good	1.00
Sam's Chance,	Donohue	V.G.	1.00
Store Boy, The	Hurst	Poor	2.00
Try & Trust,	Donohue	Fine	3.00
Tony the Tramp,	Donohue	Fair	1.50
Try & Trust,	Donohue	V.G.	2.00
Walter Sherwood's Prob.	Dono.	Good	1.00
Young Acrobat, The	Donohue	Fine	3.00
Young Adventurer, The	Burt	Fine	5.00

Offered by Herb Risteen, PF-104, P.O. Box No. 161, Baraboo, Wisconsin 53913

Andy Grant's Pluck,	Burt	Good	\$3.00
Bob Burton,	Hurst	Fine	3.00
Boy's Fortune, A	Winston	Good	4.00
Char. Codman's Cruise,	Donohue	Fine	1.50
Driven From Home,	Hurst	Fine	3.00
Erie Train Boy,	Hurst	Fine	3.00
Paul Prescott's Ch'ge,	Hurst	Good	2.25
Store Boy, The	Hurst	V.G.	2.75
Strong & Steady,	NYB	Good	1.25
Telegraph Boy, The	Hurst	Fine	3.00
Tom Temple's Career,	Hurst	Fair	2.00
Tom Turner's Legacy,	Hurst	V.G.	4.50
Tony The Tramp,	NYB	Fair	1.25
Try & Trust,	Winston	Fine	4.00
Young Adventurer, The	Winston	Mint	4.50
Young Bank Messenger,	Winston	Good	4.00

A SPECIAL FEATURE (continued) Part III

Mickey Maguire (contributed by I. Gurman)

for with the certainty of approaching good luck, came back all his warmth of feeling for his wife; it was but the pressure of calamity that deadened it for a while.

"The Blessed Heaven be praised for this," he cried, as with the earnestness of a hearted belief, he knelt and offered up a prayer of heartfelt gratitude for the precious gift which he felt assured would be the instrument of his delivery from the devil's bailiwick where he had so lately lost himself. Rising up, thoroughly subdued by the grateful feeling that pervaded every sense, he dashed the tears from his eyes, exclaiming:

"I'll be a man again now, wid a blessin'!" Then another mood came over him, and he kissed and hugged the horse-shoe, capering about, and making the echoes ring with his voluble delight.

Many were the castles in the air poor Mickey built before he reached home; and amongst other notable intentions, I regret to say, that almost his first resolve was to treat the country round, that the whiskey should flow like pump-water, until every livin' soul at the feast was as drunk as a lord. He had scarcely made this last resolution when he reached his door, at which according to his account of what transpired, he was about to knock, when he felt a slight tug at the tails of his great-coat, which made him hold back a second.

Thinking however, that it was only his fancy, he lifted his hand again to knock at the door, when a little stronger pull at his coat tail convinced him that there was something mysterious in it. The most intense fear took possession of him, as he trembling cried:

"May the Blessed Saints above stand between me and all harm! I do believe the good people is upon me!" He had scarcely uttered this, when a clear, shrill, distinct, although an infinitely small laugh ascended from the tufts of the grass at his feet, simultaneously with which his heels were tripped up, and with another tug at his coat, down he tumbled upon a mound of "fairy clover", his head striking against a soft stone.

The blow stunned him for a moment, but when he opened his eyes again what was his astonishment to see the whole extent of ground in his neighborhood perfectly alive with diminutive creatures in human form, and hundreds upon hundreds of tiny voices chirped out--

"Aha, Mickey Maguire
Luck you'll have to your heart's desire"

"Musha, then, may long life be to yez for that same, and may yez niver want divershun yerselves," said Mickey, taking off his hat and making a low bow to the little people.

At last his attention was directed to three frolicsome elves, who were carrying, kicking and pushing along what appeared to him to be three small apples, which were at length deposited immediately before him, when the whole multitude formed a circle round and pointed to them.

"What's that for, might I ask?" inquired the astonished Mickey. Whereupon a number of them took up one of the apples, presented it to Mickey and shouted:

"Eat this pippin Mickey astnore,
And see what you have seen before."

Without hesitation, he swallowed the little apple at a mouthful, when lo! in an instant the house and the hill vanished, and in its place appeared the old mill, as it was ten years ago, the sound of perpetual industry echoed around, and soon he saw the semblance of himself, but without the careworn traces which the ill-spent intervening time had marked upon his features. The ruddy hue of health was on his cheek, and content beamed from his bright eyes. A deep regret smote at Mickey's heart as he turned away from the happy scene.

"Take it away from my sight," he cried, "it is too late, too late! Oh, for the wasted time once back again!"

The voice of the leader recalled him, as they sing--

"The other, Mickey, eat and see,
What now is, but what ne'er should be."

Mickey did as he was bade, but with sad heart and increasing apprehension. No sooner had he swallowed the second apple, than the mill disappeared, the busy hum of contentment gone, he found himself within the house, and loud sobs of grief fell upon his ears. He looked around and beheld his wife, she was on her knees, her head buried in her hands with weeping. Presently a drunken uproar was heard, the door burst suddenly open, and he saw himself, when all manhood was obliterated and nothing but the beast remained. He saw himself in that brutal and degraded condition men would blush into their very hearts to behold themselves reduced to, did even one sense alone remain--the sense of sight.

"Horrible, horrible!" groaned Mickey, as he shut out the fearful apparition with his clenched fists. "Oh, for the unvitiated mind of other days; but it is too late, too late."

Again the elfin voices shouted--
"Eat and see now with the last; the future purchased by the past."

(to be concluded in the May issue)

THE HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY was organized at Mendota, Illinois, May 22, 1965, and incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois on July 27, 1965, recorded in La Salle County, Certificate No. 1278. The Registered Office of the Horatio Alger Society shall be 1325 Burlington Road, Mendota, Illinois, and its Registered Agent shall be Kenneth B. Butler, of the same address. Its purposes as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation are: To promote interest in and knowledge of the eminent American author, Horatio Alger Jr. and his works; to hold annual Memorial Services at Mr. Alger's burial place at South Natick, Mass.; to make annual awards to authors whose works best exemplify the Alger and the American Dream; to revive interest in the reading of Alger's stories, including stocking those books again in American libraries; to publish a monthly newsletter among its members; to issue a membership roster; to publish bibliography of Alger's works and other literature bearing on the subject; and to generally promote respect for and knowledge of this famed author of stories for young people.

ARTICLE I --- Membership and Dues. Section 1. There shall be two classes of membership in the Horatio Alger Society. A. Regular Membership: Any natural person interested in Horatio Alger Jr. and/or his works may, upon proper application to the Secretary and approval of the membership committee, and payment of dues of five dollars per year, become a regular member. B. Life Membership: Any natural person interested in Horatio Alger Jr. and/or his works may become a Life Member upon application to the Secretary and on approval of the membership committee, and payment of twenty (20) times the yearly dues if paid with application or twenty-two (22) times the yearly dues if paid in yearly installments, become such member, annual installments to be paid in addition to the regular dues. Section 2. The benefits and obligations of the memberships shall be identical as set forth in these By-Laws. Section 3. Membership shall be on a yearly basis to start from time first dues are received. Section 4. Of each member's dues, not less than two dollars shall be ascribed as subscription price for the monthly publication which shall be received by each member and used to defray cost of its publishing and mailing. Section 5. Club roster, bibliography, edition evaluation index, and other club literature may be printed and circulated to members, as income permits.

ARTICLE II. --- Meetings. Section 1. There shall be one annual meeting and one business meeting annually, plus such other national or regional meetings as may be called by the officers or by regional representatives. Annual meeting to be held between May and October. Bids for the place and time of the meeting for the following year will be received and discussed for approval by the gathered meeting. Section 2. The purpose of the annual meeting shall be as follows: A. To elect and install officers for the following year. B. To receive reports from officers and committee chairmen. C. To name the recipient of the Newsboy Award plaque. D. To name the recipient of the Ragged Dick Award. E. To name the recipient of the Luck & Pluck Award. F. To discuss any other matters pertaining to the Society.

ARTICLE III --- Voting. Section 1. Only members in good standing (current dues paid) shall be entitled to vote. Section 2. All matters involving the policies of the Society, selection of the convention city, amendments to the By-Laws and election of Officers shall be submitted to the membership present for vote. Section 3. A simple majority of the votes of those present at an annual meeting shall be necessary to amend the By-Laws and to pass resolutions. In the election of Officers, the candidate receiving the largest number of votes for any given office shall be declared elected.

ARTICLE IV --- Officers and Trustees. Section 1. The Officers of the Horatio Alger Society shall consist of the following: A. President B. Vice-President C. Secretary-Treasurer D. Board of Directors (Trustees) Section 2. For the purpose of this section, the area of Jurisdiction for the Society shall be divided into eleven regional areas and others as may later be deemed necessary. One of the representatives mentioned in Sec. 2 hereof shall be from each of the above delineated sections of the country. Only members residing within the geographical limits of the section may become regional representatives of that section.

ARTICLE V --- Duties of Officers. Section 1. The President shall perform the usual duties of such office. He shall preside at the Annual Business meeting. It shall further be the duty of the president to secure desirable invitations for the Annual Meeting as prescribed elsewhere in the By-Laws. Section 2. The Vice-President shall aid and assist the President in any way possible. The Vice-President shall assume the office of President during the absence of the latter, or at his written request, or in the event of his death. Section 3. The duties of the Secretary-Treasurer shall be as follows: A. Keep minutes of the annual business meeting and of any other meetings of the Society. B. Sign, countersign or attest all official papers and perform the usual duties of a Secretary. C. Keep a record of all funds received and funds paid out by the Society. D. Balance the books and prepare a written financial report at the opening date of the Annual Meeting. E. The financial reports shall be so arranged as to show separately the transactions of each fiscal year. The fiscal year shall run from May 1 to April 30. F. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be chairman of the financial committee. G. Set up such depository bank accounts as he or she feels required for the convenience of those persons such as Editor of the Newsboy, who will have occasion to draw on such accounts.

H. All disbursements of the Society shall be made by the Secretary-Treasurer by check upon receipt of an invoice, properly approved by the person responsible for the expenditure. Persons authorized to make miscellaneous expenditures out of personal funds may be reimbursed in a similar manner.

Section 4. The Board of Directors (Trustees) shall consist of the following:

- A. The President, the Vice-President, the Secretary-Treasurer, and two Directors.
- B. It will be the duty of the Board to formulate Society policy which in turn will be presented to the membership for vote.
- C. The Board shall meet at least twice a year, once at the Annual Meeting and once not less than three months nor more than nine months from the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI --- Standing Committees.

Section 1. The chairman of any committee shall have the power to replace any member of his committee who does not satisfactorily perform the duties required of him.

Section 2. The standing committees of the Society and their duties shall be as follows:

- A. The Editorial Committee for the Newsboy shall consist of the Editor, appointed by the President; and such members as the Editor may deem necessary.
- B. The Membership Committee shall be headed by the Vice-President as Chairman. He may appoint such other committee members as he deems necessary.

All regional directors are automatically members of this committee. The functions of this committee shall be:
To increase the membership of the Society. To secure adequate publicity for the Society. To generally promote good public relations. To promote interest in Horatio Alger and his works. To approve or disapprove membership applications.
- C. The financial committee shall be headed by the Secretary-Treasurer and consists of all the elected officers of the Society.
- D. The Nominating Committee shall consist of a Chairman and two members to be appointed by the President to examine, submit, and nominate candidates for the offices of the Society.
- E. The Ragged Dick Award Committee shall consist of the Convention Chairman and non-members of the Society to be appointed by him. Their task shall be to nominate a boy to receive the Ragged Dick Award. The boy should conform to the standards described by Horatio Alger and should be a typical Alger Hero.
- F. The Newsboy Award Committee shall consist of three members of the Society who must determine the person, not necessarily a member, who has done the most to add to our Hero's image.
- G. The Luck and Pluck Award Committee shall consist of three members of the Society who must determine the person who has served the Society in an outstanding manner during the past year.

ARTICLE VII

In the event the Society disbands, funds will go to a "C-3" type non-profit organization, per Internal Revenue Code 501C3; at the discretion and direction of the directors of the Horatio Alger Society.