

# Newsboy

Jack Bales, Editor  
1407A Winchester St.  
Fredericksburg, VA 22401



Official publication of the HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY,  
a magazine devoted to the study of Horatio Alger, Jr.,  
his life, works, and influence on the culture of America.

*Horatio Alger, Jr.*

1832 - 1899



*Founded 1961 by Forrest Campbell & Kenneth B. Butler*

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As practically all Alger Society members know, Horatio Alger frequently mentioned the Newsboys' Lodging House in his stories. This photograph of a room in the third Newsboys' Lodge (on New Chambers Street--see Wren Winter's Triumph) is from the collection of Gilbert K. Westgard II.

## 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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## NEW MEMBERS REPORTED

PF-720 Don B. Echols  
El Dorado, Ark. 71730

PF-722 Ivan McClymont  
R.R. #1  
Varna, Ontario CANADA  
NOM 2R0

Ivan learned of the Society through the Henty Society publication; indeed, he is a serious Henty collector with about 180 titles in his collection. He has recently started collecting Algers (he has over 500 books by other authors), and we hope he enjoys his membership in HAS.

PF-723 Forrest Johnson  
Route 2  
Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501

Forrest, a college instructor, was told of HAS by member Dale Thomas. Owner of 100 Algers, he is also interested in Cambridge glass tools.

PF-724 Juanita Kelley  
P.O. Box 54  
Goreville, Illinois 62939

Juanita wishes "to find as many titles as possible for my library." Besides collecting Algers--of which she has 36--she is also interested in antique cars. George May of Metropolis, Illinois told her of the Alger Society.

PF-725 Brian P. Doherty  
844 Wynnewood Rd, 2nd floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19151

Brian is a Boy Scout leader and collector of related books and memorabilia, and is interested in Alger as a historical figure and personality. He heard of us from an old issue of the Boys' Book Collector.

\* \* \*

Convention time is getting closer and closer (Jerry Friedland calls me every couple weeks or so--he has it pinpointed down to the number of days and hours). May 3-5, 1984--"Nostalgia in Nashua"--hosted by THE THORPS!!



## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

PF-463 Richard F. (Dick) Bales  
P.O. Box 807  
Geneva, Illinois 60134

PF-539 Christopher J. Novak  
14512 Tramore #2  
Chesterfield, MO 63017  
\* \* \*

## LETTERS

219, Church Road  
Earley,  
Reading RG6 1HW  
ENGLAND  
Jan. 1, 1984

Dear Jack,

Many congratulations on your engagement! Some editors will do anything to get material for their magazines, but seriously, I hope that you will both be very happy!

Since I joined the Alger Society, I've received a number of letters from enterprising American members asking if I have copies of British editions of Alger. The truth is that although I have been collecting British children's books for about twenty years, I have never seen any British editions of Alger. This does not mean that they do not exist, for my interest in him is fairly recent, and I haven't been looking out for him in our secondhand bookshops. I hope to make a real effort this year, and report back in twelve months time. That might even make you an article for Newsboy!

Incidentally, while I continue to admire the biographical and bibliographical expertise in Newsboy, I wonder why there are not more articles about Alger as a writer? Are all his books exactly the same? Was there no development between his first book and his last? Which are his best books and his worst--or what do members think they are? Have you ever conducted a poll? What writers influenced him, and whom did he influence? Did he, for example, know the works of Samuel Smiles, whose Self-Help

(1859) praising ordinary men who made good by practising thrift, duty and industry, was an enormous success in Britain in the second half of the nineteenth-century? I personally would welcome discussion of these kinds of topics as well as the important work you are already doing.

Best wishes for 1984.

Yours sincerely,

Dennis Butts  
Editor  
Henty Society Bulletin

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1502 Laurel Ave.  
Chesapeake, VA 23325  
Jan. 30, 1984

Dear Jack,

I mailed you a letter on January 28, and I'll try to type you a few lines today and tell you some news about my two manuscripts. I received two surprises in my mail box last Saturday. One of them was a letter from Good Old Days, and the other one was a copy of the monthly (March 1984) issue of the Good Old Days Magazine. I opened up the letter, and it said that my manuscript, "Street Cleaning, or, My Business is Picking Up," has been accepted for publication!! They sent me a release form to sign.

The other surprise was when I looked in the copy of the magazine I saw my printed manuscript, "Winning First Prize in a Drawing Contest," plus my old 1929 drawing of a farmer plowing.

My best wishes to you.

Yours truly,

Louis Bodnar

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1307 Greenbush  
Lafayette, Ind. 47904  
Dec. 12, 1983

Dear Jack,

Will write a few lines. Gilbert

Westgard stopped by on the way to see his parents. We had a nice visit as usual. We had books in the dining and living rooms, and I kept pulling out books to show him. I'm filling a box for the auction too.

Your PF 160,

Rohima Walter

\* \* \*  
PRESIDENTIAL CHIT-CHAT  
by Bob Sawyer

It doesn't seem possible that we will soon be heading for Nashua, New Hampshire to attend our TWENTIETH ANNUAL CONVENTION of the Horatio Alger Society. I doubt if our co-founders Forrest Campbell and Ken Butler ever foresaw such an event. I often wonder what Horatio Alger would have thought of if he saw our members gathering from all over the USA to talk, trade, buy, sell, cuss and discuss his many publications. Should be quite a lift for a man who died thinking of himself as a failure.

One of the most important events is always our annual meeting. At this time we nominate and elect our officers. The following terms will expire:  
President, now held by yours truly;  
Vice-President, now held by Gene Hafner, who deservedly should be elevated to the Presidency; Treasurer, now held by Alex Shaner, who has done a great job. Board of Directors: Dale Thomas' term will expire in May 1984, as will Brad Chase's.

The following officers still have unexpired terms: Paul Miller, one year; Bill McCord, three years; Ed LeBlanc, three years; Bill Russell, two years; Glenn Corcoran, two years; Bea Fortner, one year; Bill Leitner, one year.

Our Secretary, Carl Hartmann, and our Editor, Jack Bales, are appointed and not elected.

I am asking Bill Russell to head the Nominating Committee and to report at our annual meeting in May of 1984. I am sure that Bill will welcome the

comments of the membership to help him fill the slate. He will choose two or three other members to fill out his committee.

Helen Gray, PF-697 and recipient of the Luck and Pluck Award in 1983 at "Collected in Columbus", has written asking to be excused as Chairman of the Committee to choose the winner in 1984. Helen feels her business commitments will not allow her to do justice to the position. I have asked Bob Bennett to take over, form a committee and make the proper selection.

I had a letter from Mark Preston, PF-453 just before Christmas. Mark attended conventions in Geneseo, New York in 1975 [where, as I recall, Gene Hafner so thoughtfully gave him many Algers which he (Gene) had purchased---Ed.] and Waltham, Mass. in 1977. At that time he was in high school and one of our youngest and most avid collectors. He and I both collect Tom Swifts as well as Alger, and I enjoyed a brief visit with Mark and his Mom in Bar Harbor, Maine. After high school Mark went into the armed services but we have kept in touch. Now he tells me that he plans to be in Nashua. I'm sure many of you will look forward to getting reacquainted with this fine young fellow.

Jim Thorp, who with his wife Maryjane will host the convention in Nashua, has been collaborating with me on a study of the Winston Algers. This is being done in a similar way to what Brad Chase has done with the Burt Algers. I am working on the final draft now and hope to have it done by convention time.

See you in Nashua!!!!

\* \* \*

Editor's note: A review of Brad Chase's new book appears elsewhere in this issue, along with full ordering information. Don't miss it!!! It is a welcome addition to the many fine volumes on Alger put out in recent years by HAS members, including Jack Dizer's work on Tom Swift. Also, an ad for Bob Bennett's 1980 bibliography appears in this issue. An absolute must!!



THE NOVEL:  
ITS SCOPE AND PLACE IN LITERATURE  
by Horatio Alger, Jr.

(Editor's note: The following Alger essay was discovered by Jack Bales and Gary Scharnhorst and is reprinted here for the first time. It originally appeared in the March 1896 [Vol. IX, No. 6] issue of New York Railroad Men ["a monthly publication devoted to their interests"], pp. 141-143).

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Within fifty years the novel has advanced to a much higher place in the popular estimation than ever before. The time was when it was considered almost discreditable to read a work of fiction. The novel was hardly accorded a place in literature. This was not wholly without reason. Men of ability were seldom drawn into this department of literary work. It was the genius of Scott that first invented novel-writing with dignity. Some noteworthy novels, indeed, had appeared before Waverly, but they were few in number. The world could not stand aloof or view coldly such a book as *Ivanhoe* and its hardly less brilliant companions. Sir Walter Scott, therefore, may be said to be the father of the modern novel.

Some thirty years since, in company with an American member of Congress, I entered the pleasant and unpretentious dwelling in Edinburgh where Scott wrote some of his most brilliant novels. There was nothing in the house or surroundings to kindle the imagination of the great romancer. It would seem better adapted to be the home of a prosaic barrister. But to us there was an indefinable charm in the reflection that here Sir Walter conjured up those stirring and picturesque scenes of feudal times. In the rear part of the house, on the second floor, I believe, is a plain bed-room, where from a bed of pain Scott dictated the magnificent romance of *Ivanhoe*. It is certainly wonderful that, amid such plain surroundings, he should have been able to imagine and describe the brilliant scenes and characters of his great romance.

Had the Waverly Novels never had any worthy successors, they alone would have won for the novel a high place in literature. But since the days of Scott a long list of illustrious writers have turned their attention to novel-writing. Perhaps there are none who have attained the high rank of Scott, yet there are those who in some respects have surpassed him. Thackeray, Dickens, Bulwer, Charles Reade, Wilkie Collins, George Eliot are names that will spring at once to the recollection of all who have even a slight familiarity with the fictitious literature of the last fifty years. Imagine for a moment the loss to English literature if these authors and their works were stricken from its record. I might extend the remark to other languages, but in the brief space at my command I think it best to confine myself to English literature. No one at this late day would venture to deny to the novel a place, and a high place, in literature. Against the prejudices of the narrow-minded, it has secured recognition and conquered a place for itself.

What is the function of the novel, and in what consists its value. I am disposed to divide novels into three classes--novels that instruct, novels that entertain, and novels with a purpose. To the first class belong historical novels, notably those of Scott already referred to. Prof. Bowen, while occupying the chair of history at Harvard, recommended his students to read Scott's novels, and especially *Quentin Durward* and the *Fortunes of Nigel* for the graphic and correct pictures which they afford of the French and English courts during the reigns of Louis XI and James I. No historian has ever been able to represent with so near an approach to reality, the cunning and crafty Louis, and the cowardly and pedantic James, as the great romancer. I doubt if a contemporary writer would have been able to paint as faithfully the characteristics of the two monarchs and their courts.

I accord a high place also to the novels of G. P. R. James which have

## THE CAST

(in order of appearance)

Dick Hunter (Ragged Dick) ..... Todd Taylor  
 Officer Fitz ..... David Franklin  
 Mickey Maguire ..... Geoffrey Weglarz  
 Foswell ..... Eric Weitz  
 Gideon Chapin ..... David Pursley  
 Allen Carlisle ..... Marshall Borden  
 Higgins ..... John Newton-Fletcher  
 Miss Winkle ..... Martile Bucklew  
 Benson ..... Randy Brenner  
 Silas Snobden ..... Richard Kinter  
 Luke Gerrish ..... George Lee Andrews  
 Bridget Mooney ..... Valerie Toth  
 Mrs. Mooney ..... Anne Russell  
 Mrs. McHugh ..... Suzanne Murphy  
 Stacia-Jane ..... Alexandra Korey  
 Rob ..... Nathan Fairman  
 Bank Teller ..... Richard Kinter  
 Urchin/Rob Understudy ..... Todd Rodriguez  
 Mrs. Halliwell ..... Milica Govich Miller  
 Butler ..... David Franklin  
 Mrs. O'Malley ..... Tempy Cornelius-Fisk  
 Mrs. O'Leary ..... Maggie Anderson  
 Mrs. Cassidy ..... Maj-Lis Jalkio

The ladies, gentlemen, bucks, and working people on the streets of New York: Maggie Anderson, Randy Brenner, Tempy Cornelius-Fisk, William Doan, Randy Hansen, Maj-Lis Jalkio, Richard Kinter, John McNamara, Milica Govich Miller, Suzanne Murphy, John Newton-Fletcher, Geoffrey Weglarz.

Dance Captain ..... Maj-Lis Jalkio

As announced in the November-December 1983 Newsboy, "Shine: The Horatio Alger Musical," premiered in Richmond, Virginia in October. HAS President Bob Sawyer obtained a program, and as you can see by the cast, the musical was loosely based on the Alger novel, Silas Snobden's Office Boy (with perhaps a little bit of Ragged Dick tossed in)!

Sharp-eyed Alger readers will notice two points readily. Dick's friend was named Fosdick, not Foswell (if indeed this is the same character). Also, Dick's enemy spelled his name "Micky" not "Mickey." Of course, remember that "poetic license" can change anything!!!



fallen into undeserved oblivion. While standing far below Scott's some of his historical romances possess high merit, notably Richelieu and Philip Augustus. In my college days I read many of James's novels with pleasure and profit. I hope to see the interest in them revived by a popular edition from the press of some prominent publisher. While the author has some peculiarities that provoke a smile, his novels are well worth reading.

Novels that simply entertain are of course in the great majority. Some of these are works of art, and as such commend themselves even to fastidious critics. Indeed I may say, that a novel of this class is much more likely to be artistic than the historical novel or the novel with a purpose. It may be indeed a more valuable contribution to literature from a literary point of view. The historical novelist is likely to be affected by the nature of his work, and the same is true of the novelist with a purpose. The writer who seeks chiefly to entertain has full scope and can give reins to his imagination, following his own idea and plans without restriction, just as the sculptor whose subject is ideal, is more likely to attain artistic beauty and perfection than one who sets himself to portray a living subject.

Of course the novels of this class admit of infinitely greater variety than those of the other two. While less valuable they probably yield more enjoyment. Nor are they without striking and distinct merits. Often they are valuable photographs of men and manners. They not unfrequently show a rare and profound insight into human character and motives especially in what may be called the philosophical novel. To this class belong the principal novels of Balzac and George Eliot, if I may be permitted to couple the two. To achieve success the writer must be a profound student of character, with the gift of expressing intelligently and plainly what he has been able to read in the volume of human life.

I pass to the novel with a purpose. This is perhaps the latest development in the history of the novel. It was not until a recent period that it was discovered how effective a helper the novelist might become to social reform and a broad humanity. Foremost in the list of novels with a mission comes Uncle Tom's Cabin. Mrs. Stowe, when she wrote this wonderful novel, probably had a very inadequate idea of the importance of the book and its far reaching effects. That it precipitated the civil war and so led ultimately to the abolition of slavery can hardly admit of a doubt. It has not been given to any other writer to achieve with a single book such wonderful effects. Speeches and editorials by the hundreds had appeared on the same subject, but all the efforts of all the anti-slavery orators sink into insignificance compared with the work of this plain and unassuming woman. Orators appealed to the intellect, she to the heart. She portrayed the cruelties and the infamy of the system of slavery in a way that set the people aflame with indignation. The greatest advance that has been made in the cause of humanity in this age was the work of a woman and a novelist. If Uncle Tom's Cabin had been the only novel ever written it would have gained for itself a high place in literature, not as an artistic production, but as a factor in the world's progress.

I have not the space to refer to other novels with a purpose. Most of Charles Reade's romances belong to this class. Others will occur to the reader. They are not numerous, but many of them have been very effective. In their way they have not only been a contribution to literature, but have helped the world's progress. Whether indeed there shall be a new development of the novel, and it shall achieve for itself a still higher place in literature I cannot tell, but I think I have shown that it is entitled to the highest respect and appreciation.

\* \* \*

Don't forget--May 3-5, Nashua, New Hampshire--the 20th annual convention of the Horatio Alger Society.



FORREST CAMPBELL  
1905-1984

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A few thoughts from Kenneth B. Butler, co-founder with Forrest W. Campbell of the Horatio Alger Society, at the time of the death of Mr. Campbell.

Following the sad news of the death of my friend and fellow Alger admirer, Forrest W. Campbell, it was only natural that I recall the beginnings of our long and friendly association in connection with the Horatio Alger Society.

When Forrest Campbell, of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and Kenneth Butler, of Mendota, Illinois, became acquainted back in 1960, they had three things in common. They were both Kalamazooans--Forrest had been a letter carrier and so had Ken's father--and they both had been avid readers of stories by Horatio Alger, Jr. as boys, and still thought of him as the greatest writer of all time.

This common interest led to the idea of forming a Horatio Alger Club. Communication being important, Forrest volunteered to edit, produce, and mail a club publication, typing the stencils and running it off on his mimeograph. There was another Alger group, decaying, which joined with ours. Thus the birth of the Horatio Alger Society, the advent of the Newsboy, growth and widening of membership, and finally the annual conventions launched with a formal organizational meeting in 1965 at Mendota, Illinois.

Forrest continued to write, and created several Alger-style stories and one play. "The Young Postmaster" was serialized in Newsboy in 1965-66. "The Boy From the Bowery," a play, was produced by The Children's Theater of Mansfield, Ohio in 1967 and directed by Hal McCuen, PF-096. Other stories were "The Young American," "The Young Stableboy," "The Young Philanthropist," "The Young Economist," and "The Young Boston Boy."

His final creation, written only a few days before his final hospitalization,

was a special story for two of his little girl grandchildren. This story will be read and re-read by them and their children each Christmas and become a tradition.

In conversing with his wife of over fifty years, Rachel Campbell, she characterized her husband as "a quiet man, almost a recluse, who opened a spigot in writing and let it run."

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Editor's note: Following are some remarks from Bob Sawyer in a letter which he recently sent:

"From the beginning Forrest showed little interest in acquiring rare or first editions, and was just as thrilled to find a new Alger title in a New York Book as in a Loring. He was much more interested in what Alger wrote than how valuable his books were. In his position as one of the founders of HAS and editor of the house organ, Newsboy, he could have easily picked up many valuable editions at nominal cost. However, he preferred to give members the first chance.

"He was one of the first to visualize the possibility of an Alger stamp. On March 12, 1968, he sent a letter to the United States Postal Service inquiring about the possibility of such a stamp. He received a reply indicating the proposal would be retained in the files for future stamp programs. This was followed by Forrest and other members over the years until the stamp was finally issued in 1982. In a special ceremony at that time, Forrest was honored by the Postal Service in Kalamazoo, Michigan. This must have been particularly gratifying to him as a retired Postal Service employee.

"In Forrest's very first issue of Newsboy, he told of a trip East to South Natick, Alger's final resting place, where he and he wife Rachel became acquainted with Max and Ida Goldberg. Of this he wrote: 'As I stood there [in the South Natick Cemetery] in the twilight hours of the summer evening,



I strongly felt that we who know Horatio only from his life's work are basking in the twilight of his memories. I felt that I had honored our hero according to my ability, having visited the place of his beginning and ending. What went on in between will be discussed and disputed for ages to come.' This quote seems to truly express the philosophy of Forrest W. Campbell. I feel that he would be most gratified to be viewed by us at this time of sadness in the same light."

\* \* \*

#### TRIBUTES TO FORREST CAMPBELL

I never met Forrest Campbell, but through his efforts the spirit of Horatio Alger is stronger in the 20th century than it was in the 19th.

Eugene H. Hafner, PF-175  
Vice-President, HAS

Here is a man who loved this organization and put his words into action. We are greatly indebted to him.

Maurice R. Royar, PF-300

I first met Forrest by correspondence in the late 1950s--probably referred to me by Morton Enslin. We had considerable correspondence and did some Alger swapping before the Club was formed. Without his tireless efforts it would never have achieved momentum.

Milton R. Salls, PF-020

Farewell to a longtime friend and dedicated man.

Herbert L. Risteen, PF-104

Forrest was a good friend and we miss him. He introduced Jean and me to the world of Horatio Alger, Jr. with enthusiasm and dedication that was catching. His home was always open to Alger fans, young or old. Rachel, his wife, was always the perfect hostess. Our sons grew up knowing Forrest and are better men because of him. The memories of the pleasant hours spent with him will be with us always.

Carl Hartmann, PF-102

Secretary, HAS

Jean Hartmann, PF-710

I first began corresponding with Forrest Campbell in 1968 and met him in 1969 at my first Alger convention--the one he hosted in Kalamazoo. He was an avid letter writer--sometimes writing a letter a week, and in several years I had literally hundreds of long letters from him. He was devoted to Horatio Alger, and completely unselfish in his efforts to bring his favorite author national recognition.

Jack Bales, PF-258

Editor, Newsboy

One could say, with certainty, of Forrest Campbell that in conversation or writing, neither "character assassination" nor "me-mine-God" were in his credo; nor, was there deceit or sycophancy in his unguarded moments (where a person is really graded). How could one say more about a practitioner of the spoken or written word?

Paul Miller, PF-351

Director, HAS

Forrest Campbell was a man with a Dream, and he lived long enough to see that Dream come true and to prosper. How much we all enjoy the Horatio Alger Society. How thankful we should be that Forrest Campbell and Kenneth Butler had a vision of Do and Dare and the incentive to Strive and Succeed. I am sorry I had the privilege of meeting him only once.

Evelyn M. Grebel, PF-318

Past Vice-President, HAS

During the brief time I knew Forrest Campbell (at one time we were the only HAS members in the state of Alabama), I got to know why Alger books were so successful. He emulated the Alger hero as depicted in Alger's books.

Harry L. Lane, PF-428

Forrest was one helluva guy. I met him at Max Goldberg's home. He made a great impression on me. We will all miss him.

Morris Olsen, PF-106

Our Society owes much to the foresight, originality, kindness, effort, and dedication of Forrest W. Campbell--a

"Partic'lar Friend" of the first order.

Jack Barker, PF-186

Along with Ken Butler and Carl Hartmann, I knew Forrest earlier than most HAS members. He was unswervingly determined in what he wanted for his partic'lar friends. Even though we've grown considerably over the past two decades, I believe we remain the organization--especially regarding goals and warm fellowship--that Forrest made his own special cause for so many years.

Ralph D. Gardner, PF-053  
Director Emeritus, HAS

Forrest and I had resumed corresponding several years ago. I had to admire his desires, refusal to "give up" under the most trying circumstances. He was indeed fortunate to have a wife like Rachel. No man was ever blessed with a more patient wife, interested in Forrest's activities.

Stewart C. McLeish, PF-231

Forrest Campbell was one of the first members we met. I had just got started on my collecting, so anything on Alger I was sure glad to learn. I know he will be like Horatio--never be forgotten.

Rohima Walter, PF-160

For Forrest Campbell--Your many friends are thinking of you at this time and remembering you in their prayers.

Donald F. Elder, PF-369

A most gentle man, was he--a joy, we did enjoy, producing and directing the premier performances of his play, "The Boy from the Bowery" in our town. It's tremendous we have time along our days to gather moments and memories for times in life when needed. I see nothing wrong in bringing them back and making them live again. He had that knack.

Hal E. McCuen, PF-096

Forrest was a continuous source of personal inspiration and support. He has left this world better than he found it because of his presence here. No greater tribute can be given upon the passing of a man.

Robert E. Williman  
PF-569

## Alger unit founder dies at 78

A memorial service is set for 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Unity Church of Kalamazoo, 910 W. Main, for Forrest W. Campbell, 78, co-founder of the Horatio Alger Society, who died Wednesday in Bronson Methodist Hospital.

Campbell was born Oct. 13, 1905, in Greenville, Ill., but lived most of his life in Kalamazoo.

An admirer of the writing of Horatio Alger, Campbell founded the Horatio Alger Society with a friend, Kenneth Butler, now of Mendota, Ill., on Thanksgiving Day of 1961. The society's purpose, according to its newsletter, is "to encourage the spirit of Strive and Succeed that for half a century guided Alger's undaunted heroes."

Campbell's novel, "The Young Postmaster," was published serially in the society's newsletter, which he edited, in 1965, and his play, "The Boy from the Bowery," was performed in 1967 by the Youth Theater in Mansfield, Ohio.

Campbell, who retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 1970 after 30 years as a Kalamazoo letter carrier, was a former president of the Metropolitan Club.

He is survived by his wife of more than 50 years, the former Rachel A. Foulston; a daughter, Mary Alice Kizer; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Obituary sent in by Max Friedman, PF-001, a longtime friend of the Campbells.



I bought my first Alger book from Forrest Campbell in about 1972. It is Tony the Hero, published by my grandfather, John S. Ogilvie, in 1880 when his firm was at 29 Rose St. N.Y.C. I first joined the Society in 1972 and have greatly enjoyed Forrest Campbell's letters about being a member of his club when one reaches age 70. I enjoyed corresponding with him.

Florence O. Schnell  
PF-344

Since our meeting in Mendota in 1965 I have always considered Forrest a true and sincere friend. I have never known anyone so dedicated and loyal to a subject as he was to Alger. In his first Newsboy (July 1962) he sums up some of his philosophy thus: "Let's get acquainted, though we are strangers, yet we are friends, for we have one thing in common. We both have an interest in Alger."

Leslie G. Langlois  
PF-093

In 1945 a man in a mailman's uniform came to my brother's paper grading company. I inquired if I could help. He said he was buying books by Horatio Alger, Jr. He said his name was Forrest Campbell, my PF of 39 years, now gone!

Max Friedman, PF-001

I knew of Forrest W. Campbell from the beginning of the Horatio Alger Society and I regret his passing. He was a great man.

David B. Carlson  
PF-064

Through his love for the writings and teachings of Alger, he served us all and we are all richer for it.

Helen M. Gray, PF-697

Forrest Campbell was simply a genius at the art of Algerism. The critical years of the Society were the early ones, and what Forrest had from the start was a sense of vision, able to see the future and carve it up. In addition, he had a natural feel of what was good for the Society. He both loved it and could judge it. It was

many of Forrest Campbell's decisions which helped create the Horatio Alger Society as it exists today with the power and taste being centralized in our present membership.

Bill Leitner, PF-381  
Director, HAS

I never had the pleasure of meeting Forrest but I'm sure the Horatio Alger Society has lost a good friend. I would like to extend my sympathy to his family.

George W. Owens  
PF-286

All Alger aficionados will mourn the death of Forrest Campbell, whose devotion to the juvenile genius of his day kept the author's name perpetuated for time eternal. The Alger Society is his legacy.

Ralph A. Brandt  
PF-266

Forrest personified the collector who collects stories rather than editions. There are few left.

Edward T. LeBlanc, PF-015  
Director, HAS

I'm sure that the spirit of Horatio Alger, Jr. still looks over Forrest for Alger had no greater disciple.

Bob Bennett, PF-265  
Past President, HAS

I corresponded with Forrest for ten years, but we had never met. Forrest and Rachel had planned on having a private dinner with my wife Lucy and me on Friday, May 6, 1983 while they were attending the HAS convention in Columbus, but Forrest's health problems made it impossible for them to attend the convention. Regretfully, it is now too late, but I shall always remember Forrest as a very special friend.

Robert Walters, PF-378

Unfortunately, I never had the pleasure to meet Forrest Campbell. The last convention he attended (1978) was one of several that I could not make due to health reasons. I always figured that I would meet him someday but now it will never be and I am the loser. All I can say is that he had to be a



most thoughtful and wonderful gentleman to have helped start a great organization like the Horatio Alger Society.

Owen R. Cobb, PF-473

Horatio reached down and grasped Forrest's outstretched hand, and lifted him up into "Our Hero's Land."

Ralph R. Keeney, PF-331

Playing the lead role of Perly Gates in the 1967 Children's Theatre play, "The Boy from the Bowery," is one of my fondest boyhood memories. Forrest and I corresponded about it just last year, and he seemed happy that I remembered him and his play so well, but even happier to know that he had infected me--I'm an Alger fan for life.

Michael E. Blake, PF-213

Forrest Campbell shared his "Particular Friendship" with all of us. Alger would have asked no more.

Paul L. Webb, PF-210

It was with deep regret that I was informed of the passing of Forrest Campbell. To no single individual does the Alger Society owe such a debt of appreciation and gratitude for its existence. Taking an idea he gave it substance, and with a small group of dedicated enthusiasts and at his own personal expense launched the Newsboy, which he so ably edited and wrote for in its formative years. In the autumn of his years it must have given him a great deal of personal satisfaction that something he started from an idea has lasted so long. May he rest in peace.

Stanley A. Pachon, PF-087

Forrest will always be remembered as the Horatio Alger Society's number one "Partic'lar Friend."

Russ Folsom, PF-293

[Editor's note: One HAS member who wrote a particularly warm tribute was Irene Gurman, PF-OA1. Unfortunately, I mislaid or lost her letter, and since it was too late to get another from her, her contribution is absent. I regret very much this omission, and I apologize for my carelessness].

Forrest was a "Partic'lar Friend" of mine--an outstanding gentleman; he will be missed. John R. Juvinall, PF-537

Without Forrest Campbell there never would have been a Newsboy. He will be remembered as one who remained true to his early love of Alger's works. Even when he relinquished control of Newsboy it continued to grow, improving and venturing into unexplored areas of Horatio's career, and maturing into a respected publication in its field. Without the pioneering efforts of Forrest Campbell this could never have taken place. For what he did we can be truly thankful. With the Poet, we may say: "When the dead man is praised on his journey, bear, bear him along, With his few faults shut up like dead flowerets."

Gilbert K. Westgard II  
PF-024

In a letter written to me on March 19, 1968, Forrest wrote: "As a beginning Alger collector, I bought every Alger book that I found. As a result, I gave away the cheap editions as fast as I could replace them with better conditioned copies." I think this describes his unselfish outlook and interest in helping other collectors.

Don Shinner, PF-169

Fond memories of an overnight visit at our home in Clarion, Iowa by Forrest and Rachel; and later on, Beth and I basking in the Campbell's warm hospitality at Kalamazoo, Michigan

Jack W. Row, PF-101  
Past President, HAS

One not imbued with the true Alger spirit could have penned those Neo-Alger stories and the play, "The Boy from the Bowery." At the first convention in Mendota I was impressed by Forrest Campbell's enthusiasm, sincerity and friendliness. He will be missed.

George W. May, PF-121

I have enclosed John Walter Wayland's "The True Gentleman." We have lost a friend in the passing of Forrest, and I



feel that this tribute is one that fits Forrest very well. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell were house guests of mine many years ago, and of course, I met them at the first reunion in Mendota.

John F. Sullivan, PF-074

### THE TRUE GENTLEMAN

The true gentleman is the man whose conduct proceeds from good-will and an acute sense of propriety, and whose self-control is equal to all emergencies; who does not make the poor man conscious of his poverty, the obscure man of his obscurity, or any man of his inferiority or deformity; who is himself humbled if necessity compels him to humble another; who does not flatter wealth, cringe before power, or boast of his own possessions or achievements; and who speaks with frankness, but always with sincerity and sympathy, and whose deed follows his word; who thinks of the rights and feelings of others rather than of his own; who appears well in any company, and who is at home when he seems to be abroad—a man with whom honor is sacred and virtue safe.

—John Walter Wayland

I never was fortunate to have met Forrest but wish I could have done so. His many stories and articles in Newsboy were read with pleasure and I, for one, will miss his contributions.

John T. Toot, PF-251

### CAMPBELL, Mr. Forrest Westland Meadows

Passed away Wednesday morning, Jan. 11, 1984. Mr. Campbell was born Oct. 13, 1905, in Greenville, Ill., son of William and Keturah Campbell and had been a resident here most of his life. Before his retirement, he had been employed as a carrier by the U.S. Postal Service for over 25 years. In 1961, he and his dear friend, Kenneth Butler, of Mendota, Ill., founded the Horatio Alger Society, which has grown to

nationwide membership. He has been honored many times for his work on behalf of this society. In former years, he had been active in the Milwood United Methodist Church and the Cooper Congregational Church and in recent years, he had attended Unity of Kalamazoo and Unity of Pensacola, FL. He had formerly been a member of the Metropolitan Club. On April 19, 1930, he was married to Rachel A. Foulston, who survives. Also surviving are one daughter, Mary Alice Kizer of Kalamazoo; 3

With the passing of Forrest Campbell, I lost a friend, the Society, a pillar of its foundation and the world a humanitarian. He was the most sincere votary that Horatio Alger, Jr. ever had. The Society meant much to him, it was to be an esprit de corp of members and a brotherhood of Algerphiles. Maxims and platitudes of philosophers seem hollow when applied to the circumstances of the moment. We shall all miss him. "We may build more splendid habitations --Fill our rooms with paintings and sculpture, But we cannot buy with gold the old associations."

Max Goldberg, PF-008  
Director Emeritus

Diligent in the practice and promotion of the Alger ideals—a man who merited the respect of all who knew him—Forrest Campbell was a VERY partic'lar friend.  
Russell Dock, PF-235

Forrest Campbell was a good and decent man, and although I never met him, I enjoyed his writings, particularly "The Boy from the Bowery," which was serialized in the Newsboy. I express my sympathy to his family. The Society owes him a great debt.

Anonymous

grandchildren, Noble Kizer and Lynn Hope, both of Kalamazoo, Lorraine Goodrich of Royal Oak, Mich.; 3 great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. Cremation has taken place. Memorial services will be held Saturday at 1:30 o'clock at Unity of Kalamazoo Church, 910 W. Main St., with Rev. Mr. Robert Barth officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Unity of Kalamazoo Music Dept. or a charity of choice. Arrangements by the  
LANGELAND  
MEMORIAL CHAPEL  
622 S. Burdick



RACIAL STEREOTYPES IN  
HORATIO ALGER'S FICTION  
by Jack Bales

"There is no doubt that the series book was one of the 'great agencies' through which the Negro stereotype was nurtured and imparted."

--Peter A. Soderbergh, "Bibliographical Essay: The Negro in Juvenile Series Books, 1899-1930," Journal of Negro History, 58 (April 1973), p. 185.

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"Of course not," said Oscar coolly. 'It isn't respectable to work. Niggers and servants work.'"

--Horatio Alger, Jr. Try and Trust, Chapter 18, c1873.

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Anyone even remotely familiar with the juvenile series books of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are aware of the racial and ethnic stereotypes that abound between their covers. Quoting from Paul C. Deane's "The Persistence of Uncle Tom: An Examination of the Image of the Negro in Children's Fiction Series" [Journal of Negro Education, 37 (Spring 1968), p. 142]: "Negroes have remained servants and slaves, always in inferior positions. They are porters in Herbert Payson's Boy Scout series, the Hardy Boys, and Nancy Drew; they are maids and cooks in the Bobbsey Twins; . . . they are handymen and butlers in the Rover Boys; and they are mammies in Bunny Brown and the Bobbsey Twins."

Horatio Alger's novels are certainly not devoid of such stereotypes. Characters of Scottish ancestry are invariably portrayed as being thrifty. Note this description from Chapter 19 of The Young Adventurer: "His new companion, Donald Ferguson, was a sedate Scotchman, and a thoroughly reliable man. He was possessed to the full of the frugality characteristic of the race to which he belonged, and, being more accustomed to traveling than Tom, saved our hero something in the matter of expense."

New Englanders do not fare any better. The following is from Chapter 13 of

Frank Hunter's Peril: "Looking around, he saw a tall, thin man, dressed in a blue swallow-tail coat with brass buttons, a high standing dickey, and pants three or four inches too short in the legs. He was an admirable specimen of the Yankee. . ."

Blacks, however, are particularly singled out, and are usually stereotyped as fun-loving and irresponsible "darkies." The following is from Chapter 8 of Bob Burton: "'Couldn't help it, Massa Wolverton! I 'clare to gracious I couldn't!' said Clip, rolling his eyes in a most wonderful manner. 'Are you hurt, Massa Wolverton?'"

From Chapter 14: "'He's a nice boy,' said Maud, putting her hand confidently in Bob's.

"'I am sure of it,' said Mr. Pearson, cordially, grasping the hand of our hero.

"'And he's a funny boy,' continued Maud, pointing out Clip.

"'Yah, yah!' laughed Clip, with a broad grin on his shining face."

From Chapter 15: "'This is the young man who rescued Maud, Margaret,' said Mr. Pearson, pointing to Bob.

"'And he so young! I must kiss him, too!' said Margaret; and, considerably to our hero's embarrassment, Margaret gave him a resounding kiss.

"'This boy also assisted,' said Mr. Pearson, indicating Clip, with a smile.

"Margaret hesitated a moment, then expressed her appreciation by shaking hands with him."

Frank's Campaign is particularly full of such derogatory descriptions. Here is a paragraph from Chapter 10, entitled "Little Pomp": "The latter [Pomp] was a bright little fellow, as black as the ace of spades, and possessing to the full the mercurial temperament of the Southern negro. Full of fun and drollery, he attracted plenty of attention when he came into the village, and earned many a penny from the boys by his plantation songs and dances."



Of course, as previously indicated, Alger is by no means alone in his derogatory treatment of blacks; indeed, if his books were widely reprinted today I am sure that they would be rewritten just like those of the Stratemeyer Syndicate. Although some writers are bitterly hostile to these so-called "racist" series book authors [see, for example, Gerard O'Connor's "The Hardy Boys Revisited: A Study in Prejudice," pp. 234-241 in Challenges in American Culture, Bowling Green University Popular Press, 1970], Jack Dizer cautions in the chapter, "Stratemeyer and Blacks," from his marvelous Tom Swift & Company [Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 1982, p. 108]: "We should note the period in which the writing was done and the audience for whom the writing was intended. We must be aware of the social attitudes of the day and the common ways of portraying blacks in literature."

In essence, many researchers have maintained that these standardized stereotypes have resulted from preconceived perceptions of blacks: "At the beginning of the twentieth century the position the Negro occupied in the eyes of most Americans was that of an irresponsible child, incapable of self-determination and requiring supervision by his Caucasian superiors." [Sol Cohen, "Minority Stereotypes in Children's Literature: The Bobbsey Twins, 1904-1968," Educational Forum 34 (November 1969), p. 120]. Dizer goes on to dissect each particular stereotype, commenting that dialect is a special issue altogether, and that it "was expected in the portrayal of all ethnic and regional characters and is practically worthless as a measure of attitude." In "Negro Dialect in Children's Books," [Publishers Weekly, October 18, 1941, p. 1556], a librarian affirms that "dialect is the folk flavor in the speech of people of all races; remove all this, and replace it with the 'King's English,' and you have done away with much of the racy tang of the expression among books and people."

As with any sensitive issue, however,

one will find opposing views. Some will say, for example, that it doesn't matter HOW Americans viewed blacks or WHAT time period it was---racism is racism. Peter Soderbergh, a well-known author of articles on series books--notes in the aforementioned essay that the major series books authors--all WASPs--were basically writing for white adolescents. Moreover, since they all had a literary "formula," none of them wanted to "risk offending readers with references to sex, politics, social reform, or current controversy. Nor was it wise to disturb fashionable stereotypes of minority group behavior. It does not mitigate their culpability, but it simply did not occur to series writers that their stories might have done more than perpetuate the ethic of the white majority."

How influential were the series books? Though quantifying "influence" is never easy to do, most researchers maintain that the books were read by millions of readers. Admittedly, the authors did NOT create the stereotypes, nor were they the only proponents of it; they did, however, reinforce the attitude, and not until the late 1950s did the publishers begin to rewrite the books.

Where does Alger fit in? It is difficult--if not impossible--to make any value judgments at such a late date. With the exception of Bob Burton and Frank's Campaign, I can think of no Alger title in which a black plays a major character, so a thorough discussion of the individual occupations and how they were viewed by the stories' heroes--such as Jack Dizer did with Stratemeyer's books--is simply not feasible.

It is, however, interesting to wonder at the positive force series books might have had if their authors had been more "socially aware." (And, of course, if movie producers, journalists, etc. had all had similar hindsight). Whatever the result, the lowly and much derided series book would undoubtedly have been a most effective tool for racial education.



# Success stories...

## Class addresses American notions

By TIM GRIFFIN  
Staff Writer

DALLAS — The perception of success in America has undergone a vast transformation from the early days of Puritanism to today's cosmopolitan society, according to a class on the subject offered at the University of Texas at Dallas.

From Cotton Mather to H. Ross Perot, instructor Dr. Gary Scharnhorst details the changing notions of success and successful people throughout American history in his class, blending insights culled from the traditional academic disciplines of theology, philosophy, sociology, history, philology and political science.

Scharnhorst has deduced that success in the colonial days of early America originally was judged as a religious-ethical ideal as prosperous early Americans were encouraged to give something back to mankind for their gained successes. This general call to do good — or stewardship — was seen mainly as a "moral component to do good" for common man.

The notion of success evolved by the late 18th century as the successful individual was seen to be the natural aristocrat rather than the "saint."

Benjamin Franklin was adjudged as an American who best typifies the concept of a successful man during the time period. Franklin gave up a prosperous printing and writing business career at the age of 42 to devote the rest of his life to becoming a political adviser and a type of unofficial "public trustee" in the formative stages of his country.

Scharnhorst, who has done extensive research and written several books and articles about Horatio Alger, whose work mirrors the concept of success in literature, incorporates Alger's "Ragged Dick" and Mark the Match Boy" and Franklin's autobiography into his discussion of success during the period.

The nature of success changed in the "Gilded Age" of the late 19th and early 20th century when industrial giants like J.D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie and J.P. Morgan were seen as successful by society, largely because of their vast accumulations of wealth, Scharnhorst said.

Scharnhorst said the fittest (i.e. — the most ruthless) competitor came out successful during the gilded age with the result usually due more to natural selection than anything else. Society's concept of success was judged by wealth acting as a catalyst toward industrial progress.

These changes were results of social Darwinism and the Industrial Revolution, a period of child labor and other working atrocities, in which no moral counterweight was present for success to be judged against.

Although some "Captains of Industry" like Andrew Carnegie made philanthropic gestures (as in Carnegie's funding of many public library systems), these gestures were made largely to give other like men the opportunity to progress as Carnegie had.

After the end of the Great Depression and with the



The notions of success have evolved during the history of America, Dr. Gary Scharnhorst, an assistant professor at the University of Texas at Dallas, said. (Staff photo by Karen Legge).

The Plano [Texas] Daily Star-Courier, February 10, 1984



# —Changing view of success

continued urbanization of American society, America's notions of success changed again.

These new feelings were caused by several divergent interests, including the Great Depression, the beginnings of an ur-

banized American society and the development of large corporations and industries after World War II.

With the introduction of the New Deal program by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in the early 1930's to pull the country out of the Great Depression's economic morass, the role of government took an accentuated role in American society.

With these changes, more emphasis was placed on the "professional politician" and the corporate manager, Scharnhorst said.

"It was no longer necessary to own the company to be judged as a success in American life," Scharnhorst said. "It was now more important to be the chief executive officer."

Although wealth is still highly judged by American society,

political power has largely outstripped wealth as society's central measure of success.

"Success is now equated by clout, not in the accumulation of money as in the Gilded Age," he said.

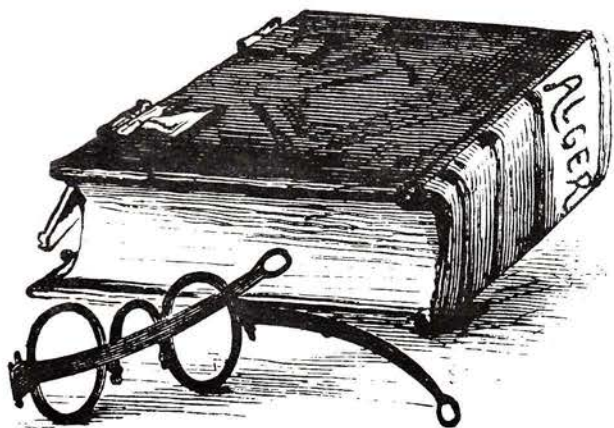
Scharnhorst expects a growing class of managers to emerge in the future, with the continued growth of large corporations and economic infrastructure, resulting in less opportunity for success for the common man in the future than is possible today.

He expects society's expectations about the notions of success to change as well in the future.

"I think we will probably readjust our notions of success as well," he said, "but I don't hazard to guess how it will be judged. I do see a more rigidly stratified society in the future."



Dr. Gary Scharnhorst, a Fulbright scholar, is seated below pictures of Horatio Alger and Bob Hope adorning his wall at his offices at the University of Texas at Dallas. Scharnhorst has written several books and articles about Alger and admits he tries to incorporate some of Hope's comedy into his classroom persona. (Staff photo by Karen Legge).





NEWSBOY BOOK REVIEW

by Jack Bales

Horatio Alger Books Published by A. L. Burt. By Bradford S. Chase, 6 Sandpiper Rd., Enfield, Conn. 06082. 1983. Softbound: \$12.95; Hardcover [limited edition of 50 copies, all numbered]: \$16.95. Price for both volumes: \$20.00.

In recent years, the mere mention of Alger's prolific publisher, A. L. Burt, brings to mind Brad Chase's name. Brad has studied the many Burt series and has painstakingly compiled a book which sheds new bibliographic light for the Alger collector and researcher.

Though I am no expert on the Burt editions, it doesn't take one to recognize that Brad has poured hundreds of hours--if not thousands--into the making of this volume. Parts include "Cover Index to Burt Series and Formats" (which acts as a marvelous Table of Contents--the Burt covers are all pictured here); "Description of Series, Formats and Alger Titles"; and "A. L. Burt, The Man and His Business." The last section is devoted to appendices, charts, footnotes, and a bibliography.

The volume is professionally printed and bibliographically pleasing to the eye. Literally hundreds of reproductions are included, and all are sharp and crisp. No fuzzy photocopies here!! Each series is discussed in great detail, and a list of all the titles in each format is included. Special informative notes abound.

So...are you interested in The Rugby Series for Boys? How about Burt's Chimney Corner Series? If the former, do you want the Rings Format, the Flutist Format, the Brown Cap Format, the Weave Format or any of six other styles? The Chimney Corner Series features twelve formats. In essence, all information related to A. L. Burt can be found here, and once again an Alger Society member has made our own individual collecting and researching interests a bit easier to pursue. A marvelous book!!

RANDOM REPORTS FROM ALGERLAND

by Jack Bales

Thanks go to Bob Sawyer for arranging the special tributes to Forrest Campbell in this issue. Bob is a virtual "workaholic" when it comes to Alger, and I appreciate his always ready assistance.

Dennis Butts' letter on page 3 raised some interesting points, and I hope to come up with some good articles in forthcoming issues that address his points. The new Alger essay reprinted here for the first time on page 5 and 7 significantly helps to answer the question on what authors influenced Alger.

From the Complaint Department--some members have commented that occasionally ads for books appear in Newsboy, and they feel that these should appear in the ads sheet. I'd simply like to note that these are paid ads, and the person or persons have given money for the privilege of advertising in Newsboy.

One person wanted to know more about the miniature edition publicized in the last Newsboy. As with virtually all limited, miniature editions (and there is a growing number of collectors of these volumes), you are paying not for the number of pages (in this case only 5), but for the handmade volume itself. Plus, the fact that it is a limited, signed edition contributes to its cost (and hopefully to its value years from now).

Do you have the Dime Novel Round-Up? If so, don't pass up the fifty year index, compiled by Michael L. Cook. Dime Novel Round-Up: Annotated Index 1931-1981 has 112 pages, and costs \$6.95 for the paperback and \$12.95 for the hard cover. Order from Popular Press, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio 43403.

Want Horatio Alger Society post cards? Send \$2.00 plus SASE for 12 to Bob Williman, Box 415, Bowie, Maryland 20715.





## Around here

By JACK ALKIRE

Staff Columnist

# Alger fans cherish books

The birthday of author Horatio Alger on Jan. 13 passed unnoticed here, except at the home of John and Rohima Walker, 1307 Greenbush St.

Alger was the clergyman and writer who churned out nearly 200 inspirational books for boys during the latter part of the last century, and the Walkers are Alger fans and collectors of his books.

They are members of the Alger Society, a group of Alger fans across the county — about 270 in number, according to Rohima Walker. There are members in England, Europe, Canada and Japan as well. Blanche Lloyd, a former West Lafayette Library librarian, once served as secretary of the international group.

It's a small, but kind of exclusive group that specializes in collecting Alger's many books. He wrote under a couple of names other than his own, and no one is sure just how many books he turned out, says Mrs. Walker. She has nearly 150 of them.

Most of Alger's books followed the same theme — how pennyless, mistreated boys endured to become rich and famous. His books resulted in some common catch phrases, like "Rags to Riches," the title on one book, and his name itself — "A Horatio Alger story" — symbolizing success in the face of great odds.

Some of these titles are typical of his theme, "Ragged Dick," "Tattered Tom" and "Luck and Pluck."

Alger was born in 1832 and died in 1899, and he started out as a Unitarian minister. He got into some kind of a scriptural disagreement with his church and ultimately was invited to leave. In desperation he turned to writing boys books and became a success, just like the heroes of his novels.

Rohima Walker says all Alger's first books were printed in paperback, and those in mint condition bring up to \$1,000. Any Alger book in good condition is worth some money to collectors, she says.

Mrs. Walker's name, "Rohima," is supposed to be an American Indian name.

"I don't know if it's true, but that's what my mother told me," she says.

The article shown at left is from the Lafayette, Indiana Journal and Courier, the January 18, 1984 issue, and was sent in by Rohima Walter. Rohima regularly sends me clippings and articles and is definitely one of Alger's biggest boosters.

Roy Wendell also sends in clippings on a regular basis--this last one is from the February 15, 1984 Boston Globe and is entitled, "At Postal Service, You Can Join 'Em, Lick 'Em." The article is concerned with the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee and the many stamp applications which the committee annually considers. Across the top of the article Roy had written: "After reading this I think we did well to get the Alger stamp."

"The American Dream: We Believe Rags-to-Riches Success Can be Ours" is the title of an article from the January 13-15, 1984 issue of USA Today, sent in by Donald Elder. On Alger's birthday, the newspaper commissioned a poll asking Americans if the "Horatio Alger success story is still possible." More than 81% of the adults interviewed "said even the poorest child can rise to riches."

The January 29, 1984 issue of the Baltimore Sun featured an article on the prosperity of a trucking firm. One part of it reads: "Angelo Teeter's rise in the business community can be likened to the Horatio Alger story. When he came to this country he didn't have two pennies to rub together." Thanks go to HAS member Jean-Maurice Poitras for sending me the clipping.

Speaking of thanks, they are extended to Jack Dizer for his aid in my article on pages 14-15, and to Ralph D. Gardner for sending me the picture of the Alger book on page 17. Ralph also sent in the crossword puzzle from the February 12, 1984 issue of the New York Times Magazine--the clue for 84 down is "Alger's Fiddler."

I almost forgot--Bob Sawyer sent me for use in Newsboy the program mentioned



on page 6. I neglected to mention, however, that Hal McCuen had sent it to him. (Hal, as many of you will recall, produced Forrest Campbell's play, "The Boy From the Bowery.")

A couple members have said that sometimes their issues of Newsboy have been damaged in the mail. If this happens, write Carl Hartmann for a replacement, as I'm sure we all want our files of Newsboy looking clean and untattered.

"Strive and Succeed: Horatio Alger, Jr. and His Times" is the title of an article by Jack Bales appearing in the September 1983 issue of The Henty Society Bulletin. This was written at the request of Dennis Butts from England, an HAS member and Editor of the Bulletin. (The article has resulted in at least one new member of the Alger Society).

Remember the Alger biography Horatio's Boys? It was republished last month as a paperback and should be in stores all over the country by now. Of course, this book is NOT recommended for purchase as it is a poor book--I recall seeing it on "remainder" lists for \$1.99 a while ago.

HAS members may remember the name Thomas V. DiBacco--an article that he wrote on Alger was reprinted in the March-April 1982 issue of Newsboy. Roy Wendell, Bob Williman, Florence Ogilvie Schnell, Jean-Maurice Poitras, Bill McCord, and Gene Hafner all sent me articles that Professor DiBacco recently wrote. "Read Horatio Alger--It's Still Worthwhile," is from the December 28, 1983 issue of the Baltimore Sun, and the second, "Horatio Alger Stories Retain Their Popularity," is from the February 22, 1984 issue of the same paper.

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#### N O W   A V A I L A B L E

Horatio Alger, Jr.: A Comprehensive Bibliography by Bob Bennett

Mt. Pleasant, Michigan: Flying Eagle Pub. Co., 1980, illus., 200pp., \$15.00

- \* Handsomely bound in sturdy blue cloth
- \* Complete descriptive and enumerative bibliography of all Alger's books
- \* Listings of each known title and subtitle variation by format and publisher
- \* Cites all known sources of Alger's serialized stories; published articles and poetry
- \* Awarded the Horatio Alger Society's prestigious "Newsboy" Award

#### Comments Received

Reviewer: A virtual bible in terms of Alger scholarship as it not only corrects errors found in past works but adds heretofore unknown research material.

Librarian: Your book is very impressive and will serve as an excellent reference book--the pictures are clear and well reproduced.

Bookseller: All past and future Alger scholars and collectors will forever be in your debt.

Order from: Flying Eagle Publishing Company, P.O. Box 111, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858 (or contact Bob Bennett--see membership roster).