

Newsboy

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Belmont
224 Washington Street
Fredericksburg, VA 22405



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

Volume XXIII

March-April 1985

Numbers 9 & 10

House-Warming

Of the Recently Modernized

Brace Memorial Newsboys' House

of the

Children's Aid Society

244 William Street

Wednesday, January 13th, 1926

8 to 10 P. M.

Some Interesting Facts:

More than 250,000 boys have lived in the Newsboys' House since 1853.

Newsboys' Club organized in 1917.

2,890 boys served in the world war.

More than 7,500 boys have enlisted in the Army, Navy and Marines since 1915. The Supt. is guardian to 6,000 of these boys.

The Newsboys' House has been the Mecca for literati seeking boy atmosphere. The "Chimmy Fadden" stories, some of the Horatio Alger books, the Roy L. McCardell stories and hundreds of magazine and special articles got their inspiration from the work of this house.

The Newsboys' House was the first constructive work for underprivileged boys in this country.

The third Newsboys' Lodging House was dedicated in 1874 [see "The Newsboys' Lodging House," Dime Novel Round-Up, October 1976, pages 116-122]. By the 1920s, however, the building had fallen into disrepair, and on January 13, 1926, a celebration for the "recently modernized" Lodge was held, and shown here is part of the "program" that all attendees received. Note mention of Horatio Alger.

Decades later, Newsboy begins its own celebration—a special "Salute to the Newsboys" issue—which begins on page 4 inside.

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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Newsboy, the official organ of the Horatio Alger Society, is published bi-monthly (six issues per year). Membership fee for any twelve month period is \$15.00, with single issues costing \$3.00. Please make all remittances payable to the Horatio Alger Society. Membership applications, renewals, changes of address, and other correspondence should be sent to the Society's Secretary, Carl T. Hartmann, 4907 Allison Drive, Lansing, Michigan 48910.

Newsboy is indexed in the Modern Language Association's International Bibliography.

The Society recognizes Bob Bennett's Horatio Alger, Jr.: A Comprehensive Bibliography, as the most current, definitive authority on Alger's works.

Newsboy ad rates: 1 page, \$32.00; one half page, \$17.00; one-fourth page, \$9.00; per column (1" x 3-3/4"), \$2.00. Send ads, with check payable to the Horatio Alger Society, to Bob Sawyer, 204 Mill St., Gahanna, Ohio 43230.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

PF-680 Bill Strong
8109 Walnut Hills Way
Fair Oaks, Calif. 95628

* * *

B O O K M A R T

The listing of Alger books in this department is free to HAS members. Thus, it is assumed that all books can be returned if the buyer is not satisfied with them. Please list title, publisher, condition, and price. If book for sale is a first edition, give bibliography used to determine same. To determine condition of book, see August-September 1982 "Book Mart," and also "Dick Seddon Alger Collection" insert in March-April 1984 Newsboy

Offered by Harold Yerty, P.O. Box 599, Indio, Calif. 92202. Harold writes: "I have decided to sell some of the 107 Alger books in my collection. Those for sale are all first edition, hard cover books. The bibliographies used were Horatio Alger, Jr.: A Collector's Guide to Values (1982) and Bob Bennett's Horatio Alger, Jr.: A Comprehensive Bibliography. The first editions for sale are:

B. Brooks' Adventures	Burt	G	\$33.00
Bob Burton	P&C	G	50.00
A Debt of Honor	Burt	AV	30.00
Canal Boy to Pres.	Ander.	VG	220.00
(with erratum slip)			
The Odds Against Him	Penn	AV	150.00
T. Turner's Legacy	Burt	VG	28.00
Young Capt. Jack	Mersh.	VG	55.00

ABBREVIATIONS: G = Good, VG = Very Good, AV = Average, P&C = Porter and Coates, Ander. = Anderson, Mersh = Mershon.

* * *

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

PF-509 John F. Beirne
349 East 20th St.
Jacksonville, FLA 32206

* * *

NEW MEMBERS REPORTED

PF-738 Gary Leveille
128 Williams Ave.
Winstead, CT 06098

Gary was featured in a recent issue of Collectibles Illustrated, as he is a collector of newsboy items. He is an advertising copywriter, and he heard of HAS through Bob Sawyer.

PF-739 George Locko
4485 Holly Tree Lane
Wilmington, N.C. 28403

George likes Alger for his "rare ability to motivate the youth of America in my era." Dale Thomas told him of the HAS, and 15 Alger are in his collection. He is interested in fishing, hiking and other out-of-door activities, figurine collecting, and book collecting.

PF-740 Richard L. Pope
Overlook Drive
Corning, N.Y. 14830

HAS member Bob Fertig told Richard of the Horatio Alger Society, who is interested in researching, collecting, and selling Tom Swift and Tom Swift Swift, Jr. books. He is the owner of a year-round Christmas shop, a fine glass store, and and art-antiques-old books gallery. 10 Alger are in his book collection.

PF-741 Lawrence E. Eastley
600 Wilcox Parkway
Clare, Mich. 48617

Lawrence, a retired teacher, owns 65+ Alger titles, and also collects coins, tokens, and St. Patrick's Day postcards. He heard of us through a collector's magazine.

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Amos Smith services Sunday; educator, church leader

Memorial services for Amos V. Smith, 79, Oaklandon, a church leader and 37-year educator, will be at 2:30 p.m. Sunday in All Souls Unitarian Church, of which he was a member.

Appleget Lawrence Mortuary is handling arrangements.

A native of Oaklandon native, he died Aug. 3 in his home.

He taught music in Oaklandon, Lawrence and Castleton and served as principal of several Marion County schools. He was principal of the Oaklandon Grade School, and Arlington Woods and Grassy Creek schools in Warren Township.

Mr. Smith was also the supervisory principal of the junior division at Emmerich Manual High School.

After 37 years in education, he worked for Rigsbee Supply in Marion and as a sales representative for World Book and Childcraft for 10 years.

His church-related offices include past president of the former Universalist State Convention, president of Midwest Universalist Unitarian Summer Institute, editor for more than 30 years of *Hoosier Voice of Fellowship* and contributing editor of *Church of the Larger Fellowship*.

A former moderator at Oaklandon Universalist Church, he was a member of the Seniors Fellowship of Old Bethel United Methodist Church, Fellowship of Social Justice

and Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

Mr. Smith was a graduate of the Arthur Jordan Conservatory of Music at Butler University. He attended Indiana University and received a master's degree in education from Butler.

He was a member of Oakland Masonic Lodge, Order of the Eastern Star, Horatio Alger Society, National Retired Teachers Association, Indiana Retired Teachers Association, Elementary Principals Association and American Farm Bureau.

He was a member of the Indianapolis Senior Citizens Center; past president of Sinfonia, a musical honorary; and a founding member of Oaklandon Fire Department.

Survivors: wife, Priscilla Smith; son, Ellsworth Smith; daughter, Anita Fisher.

One of HAS's most devoted members was Amos Smith, who died on August 4, 1984. Our condolences are most sympathetically expressed to his wife, Priscilla, and their family.

Some HAS members collect the Armed Services Editions, those small squat paperbacks that were issued during WWII to servicemen overseas. The Library of Congress has a complete set of these, and they have recently published a book on them, titled Books in Action: The Armed Services Editions. Send \$6.95 (make checks payable to the Library of Congress) to the Library of Congress Information Office, Box A, Washington, D. C. 20540. Be sure to include the book's ISBN Number, which is 0-8444-0466-7.



A SALUTE TO THE NEWSBOYS

Compiled by Jack Bales and Friends

Several years ago I was researching in the archives of the Children's Aid Society in New York. Since I was pressed for time, I was photocopying everything that seemed remotely interesting. When I got home, however, I quickly began working on other projects, and unfortunately soon forgot about this research.

On October 31 last year, while cleaning out some files, I discovered my material, and immediately realized that I had some fascinating information for a special issue of Newsboy. For example, there were "admitting slips" used in the Newsboys' Lodging House when boys came in for the night, and guest registers that visitors signed when entering the Lodge (unfortunately, the original register was missing from the archives--I pored over the one they had for the 1880s but couldn't find Alger's name).

I've said many times that no extant evidence indicates that Alger ever lived in the Newsboys' Lodging House (Herbert R. Mayes in his 1928 book originated this old chestnut), but notice--especially on page 1 of this issue--that pre-1928 material at least mentions Alger's connection with the Lodge! (Of course, his books show that he was indeed familiar with it; also, he wrote an essay on the Newsboys' Lodge for a magazine that I reprinted in Newsboy some months ago).

Thus, I decided to gather some of this remarkable data together for a special

"Alger and the newsboys" issue of Newsboy. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did in putting it all together--and special thanks to the HAS members who contributed timely articles that helped me so significantly.

* * *

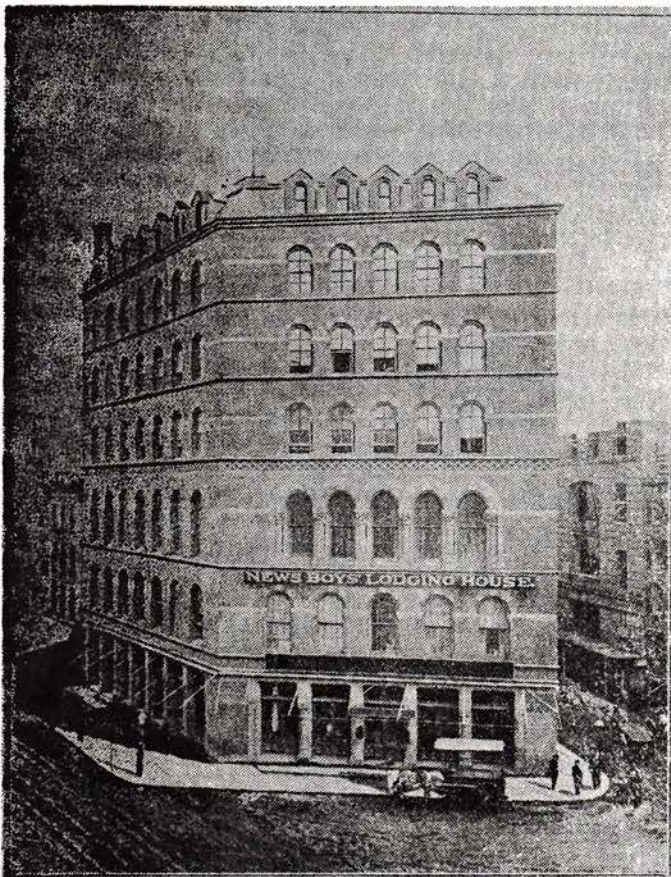
NEW YORK'S NEWSBOYS' HOME
GIVES AID TO "BUDDING GENIUS"

(Note: This article originally appeared in the January 22, 1926 issue of the Christian Science Monitor, page 3).

There was a celebration downtown at the junction of Duane, William and New Chambers Streets recently, where the friendly red brick walls of the Brace Memorial Newsboys' House jut out like a slanting ray of brightness in the dingy shadows of the lower East Side. For nearly half a century this house has been there. During all this time its doors have been open day and night to boys from everywhere, known and unknown.

Colorful pages have been written into the lives of many of the boys who have come for help to the "newsboys' home," as it is called. Some of them who entered years ago, timid and obscure urchins of the street, have emerged into positions of honor. Some have become Governors. In varying shades of importance the house has touched the lives of 350,000 boys.

Heroes of boy fiction have slept in these halls unaware of their importance to overnight lodgers of literary bent. "Chimmy Fadden" sprang into existence here when Edward W. Townsend, then a reporter on the old New York Sun, discovered an East Side boy at the house who appealed to him as the ideal hero for a series of stories. Horatio Alger came to the newsboys' home for first-hand accounts of the thrilling adventures that made his books popular. It was here that Roy L. McCardell gathered material for his newsboy stories.



The Newsboys' Lodging House

Thus, while the recent celebration was ostensibly in honor of material improvements that will benefit present and future cycles of boys, the general sentiment aroused went far deeper than an interest in the modern feats of carpentering and plumbing. It went, rather, to the days when boys were "newsies" and an armful of papers on

any corner was a "stand." Back to the days when there were no subways nor elevated trains, no Brooklyn nor Williamsburg bridges, no terminals such as today, and, hence, no newsstands--when a lad who earned \$8 a week was considered an up and coming citizen. It is through these memories that the Brace Memorial Newsboys' House traces its most interesting history.

Most of its visitors then were, at least for the time being, homeless boys who had wandered in from all parts of the world. They were in search of food, beds, work. Today they come in search of recreation. They are neighborhood boys, for the greater part, and not ragged little adventurers or waifs.

But even today, boys from far away ports with adventure for a guide are not infrequent. One lad drops in once a year to see William Lewis Butcher, the general superintendent, and tells of traveling about the country in circus-es and box cars during the rest of the year. One day a boy from India, unable to speak English, but with qualities that soon break down language barriers, came to the home for advice about education and work here, and after months passed, word came of his success and prosperity back in his own country.

"Romance is always with us down here," Mr. Butcher told a reporter for The Christian Science Monitor. "The runaway boy always has been one of our assets. The boy with a desire for adventure can be of tremendous benefit to society. I would never decry a youth who was brought here by a desire to see the world. It shows a quality that some time, somewhere can be made useful.

"Fifteen years of working with boys have only added to my faith in the average boy of today. Within every boy there lies an ability that can be trained into proper channels. Sometimes, of course, his career will not lead to greatness, but too much emphasis should not be laid on being great

and famous. We tell the youngsters who come here that the boy who does the common thing, and does it well, can take his place among the best citizens of the world."

* * *

NEWSBOYS' HOME HAS PARTY WITH NO NEWSBOYS

(Note: The following article is from the January 14, 1926 issue of the New York Herald Tribune).

Brace Memorial, known as the Newsboys' Home, where Horatio Alger found models for the ragged but ambitious heroes of his "Pluck and Luck" series, held elaborate ceremonies last night in honor of its new trimmings, which were purchased at a cost of \$125,000.

The old building erected in 1872, has been completely remodeled during the last year and it boasts to-day a new gymnasium--an innovation that would surprise Tom the Bootblack--the addition of several dormitories, a complete library, locker room, set of showers and a commodious mess hall.

Tom the Bootblack might also be astonished to find among the eighty-five boys living at the house not so much as one newsboy, and not even the suggestion of a bootblack. The new generation are elevator boys, printers' apprentices, errand boys, copy boys on newspapers, and office boys. Nary a newsboy amongst them.

Their numbers, however, past and present, include a number of soldiers, which was one thing Horatio Alger didn't mention. William Church Osborn, president of the Newsboys' House and Children's Aid Society, told those present at the house warming that 2,890 boys--either residents or graduates of the House--took part in the World War and he unveiled a tablet to the thirty-two boys who died in service.

Tilden Collar, who came to the house fifteen years ago and who is now studying law at Fordham University, accepted the tablet for his fellow veterans and

sketched the history of some of the house's heroes. "Libby" Labenthal, he said, was pitcher on the house baseball team before the war and had a great outshoot.

Pete Cawley was the star of every house minstrel show. He sang like John McCormack. And Jakie Levine, also a minstrel show performer, was the house wit. These, with twenty-eight others, were killed in the war. And the first to die--it was at Chateau Thierry, Tilden Collar said--was George (Blackie) Kammers, a Negro boy.

Another tablet, dedicated to Dr. Eugene Pool, a late trustee, was unveiled in the new \$15,000 gymnasium, the gift of William H. Wheelock, of the Children's Aid Society. The house-warming ceremonies, attended by the trustees, were under the direction of William Butcher, the general superintendent; Father Cashin, for long a friend of the home, pronounced the benediction, and Charles Loring Brace, son of the founder of the home, was among those present.

The eighty-five boy guests at the House are not inhabiting crowded quarters. This, according to an executive, is a sign of general prosperity.

But if any faithful student of Alger's pages visited the Newsboys' house today--with its fresh paint and the very clubby poolroom, not to mention the other trimmings--he'd be surprised. And room rent is about three cents a day.

* * *

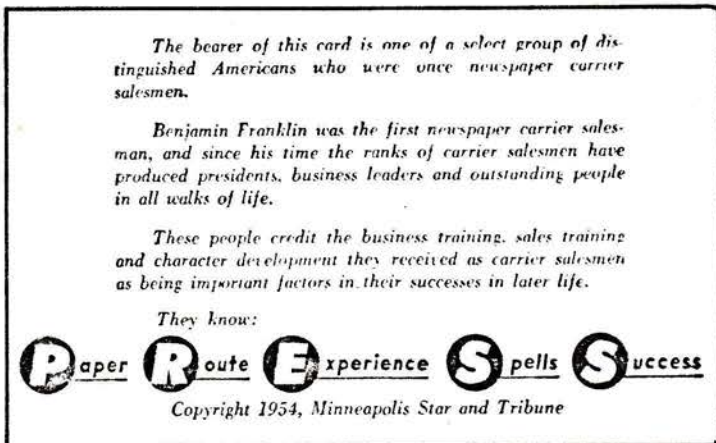
While researching in the archives of the Children's Aid Society in New York, I was able to skim many of its Annual Reports. I found Alger's name in several of them, including the 21st Report, dated November 1873. A list of "donations and subscriptions to the Children's Aid Society, for the fiscal year ending October 31, 1873" is included. Beside "Alger, Horatio, Jr." there is the figure of \$10.00.

NOTES FROM RALPH
by Ralph D. Gardner

Two interesting things happened at about the same time: Editor Jack Bales told me he was planning a special Salute-to-Newsboys issue, and -- while searching for something else -- I found the card that illustrates this article. It is a reminder of my own former days as Ralph the Newsboy. Actually, judging by the 1954 date printed on the back of the card, I must have received



(front of card)



(back of card)

it sixteen years after I peddled newspapers at DeWitt Clinton High School, here in New York. I had almost forgotten. It was a half-century ago!

When I received the card, back in '54, I was still on the staff of *The New York Times*, having already worked on the City Desk, and in *Times* bureaus in Paris and in Germany. In fact, it was about the time I was preparing to leave *The Times*, my happy home for fifteen years, to start my own advertising agency (which still exists, although I retired several years ago). Looking at this "Press" card, I now recall that it was presented by the circulation director of the *Minneapolis*

Star & Tribune to a number of once-upon-a-time newsboys who had grown up and moved on to other -- hopefully more profitable -- ways of earning a living.

Slightly in error, the card indicates I once sold the *New York World-Telegram & Sun*. That's what it was called in '54, but during my newsboy days, 1937 and '38, the *World-Telegram* and the *Sun* -- two fine afternoon newspapers -- had not yet merged. Today they are both forgotten, along with other long-departed publications that once made the New York newspaper scene so exciting.

1937 and 1938. Those were still Depression years when most kids were doing what they could to hustle a buck, no easy task at a time when the average annual family income was less than one thousand dollars!

When I was at Clinton, *The Times* and *Herald-Tribune* were sold to students at cut-rate prices. I tried to become an agent for these newspapers, but those jobs were sewed-up by boys who got there ahead of me.

Clinton was, at that time, the biggest high school in the city, and I knew that many faculty members (close to 300) bought the *Sun* because it was the only New York newspaper that regularly featured education news. After classes, one day, I went down to

the *Sun*, located on Lower Broadway, a block north of City Hall, and asked if they'd appoint me their exclusive agent if I could persuade the faculty people to buy their daily papers from me. I was given a tentative go-ahead, but the circulation manager doubted that I could create a market for 300 copies a day. The next morning I arrived at school early, taking up a position near the time-clock where teachers checked-in. I was lucky, and signed-up well over 200 of them. Many others didn't want the *Sun*, but said if I could supply the *World-Telegram*, they'd buy it from me. That afternoon I hurried down to the *World-Telegram* building on Barclay Street and arranged the same exclusivity. I was fourteen at that time.

For almost two years, until I graduated, I sold something close to 300 papers every day. Friday mornings I left my home in Greenwich Village at 5:00 a.m., getting to school at 6:00 to collect fifteen cents from each of my clients. Papers then cost only three cents, and faculty members were happy to have them delivered each afternoon, rather than having to seek copies at subway newsstands where they were often sold out.

Note that I called these customers "my clients". That's no accident. I approached the job as though I was a high-priced business executive (even though my commission was only a half-cent per paper), and felt that by adding a touch of class to even the most menial job, it might be done more successfully. And more profitably. I've never had reason to doubt the value of such an approach. I've occasionally written in my books -- and stated in lectures -- that I discovered in every Horatio Alger story a blueprint for success. I not only tried to follow his "blueprint", but to add to it a certain flair.

I was able to test this theory when the district salesman for the *World Almanac* -- then published by the *World-*

Telegram for fifty cents a copy -- visited me one afternoon while I was stuffing newspapers into teachers' mail slots.

"I'll bet," he remarked, "you can sell as many as thirty copies, and you make ten cents on every *Almanac* you sell."

Without even knowing for sure what the *World Almanac* was, I agreed that he was probably right, but selling only thirty copies really wasn't enough to interest me. Every high school kid needs this almanac, I said, adding that I had an idea that would produce sales of more than 30,000 copies.

What was my idea, he asked.

I didn't have any idea. So I told him I couldn't talk at that moment, as the teachers would soon be coming in to pick up their newspapers.

"I'll meet you at your office after school," I suggested, "and we'll work it out."

Riding the subway downtown that afternoon, I did sketch out in my mind a viable plan. Arriving, I asked that the sales manager sit in on our conversation, so I could get a prompt yes or no.

This was my plan: Every high school student takes English courses. Appoint me, I proposed, as exclusive representative for high schools to sell these -- through English teachers -- in the New York Metropolitan area. That is, New York City, Westchester, Long Island and nearby New Jersey and Connecticut. My method, I explained, was to have these teachers sell the almanacs, collect payment from their students and turn over the cash to my student representative (who most often was the editor of the school newspaper). As an incentive to the teachers, those who sold twenty-five or more copies at fifty cents each, would receive -- free -- a deluxe copy of the book. These deluxe editions -- they retailed at seventy-five cents -- had black cardboard covers, mottled to

simulate leather, with the teacher's name to be stamped in gold at the bottom of the cover. And the *World-Telegram* would, of course, cover all my expenses.

They were dubious, but went along with my plan. I proceeded to line up my young book agents in dozens of schools in the Tri-State area, sharing with them my ten cents profit. A nickel for me; a nickel for my representative.

This January-through-April arrangement selling *World Almanacs* worked successfully for two years, my earnings eventually going a long way toward paying my college tuition.

After the second year I was lucky again and landed a job at *The New York Times* -- as a copy boy -- and started working my way up the ladder all over again.

And thus ended the adventures of Ralph the Newsboy!

(Editor's note: Ralph D. Gardner has written a superb introduction to the new Dover Publications paperback edition of Alger's *Struggling Upward*, reviewed elsewhere in this issue of *Newsboy*).

* * *

THE RUNAWAY BOY

(Note: The following paragraph is from the February 22, 1919 issue of *The Brace Memorial News*, page 5.)

The runaway boy whose life is portrayed so well in the books of Horatio Alger, who, by the way, dedicated two or three of his famous books to the Newsboys' [Lodge], is the fascinating, interesting and adventurous type that comes within our influence. He is a boy filled with vision, hope and ambition. Some times too much of it, but to give him his due, it must be said that most of them embody the qualities which are characteristic of the average American; imagination, push, and the love of

adventure. Our first aim with these boys is to restore them to their parents except in such cases which, after investigation, prove the boy to be justified in leaving home because of undesirable domestic conditions. More than three hundred boys were returned to their parents last year. This Department is under the supervision of Mr. Spring, who, with the co-operation of Mr. Cleaver, has accomplished a wonderful work which can be estimated only in the lives of the boys who have been reclaimed. Many of these boys who are making good in the markets of real life have run away from home. Hundreds of them are rendering valuable service to Uncle Sam overseas.



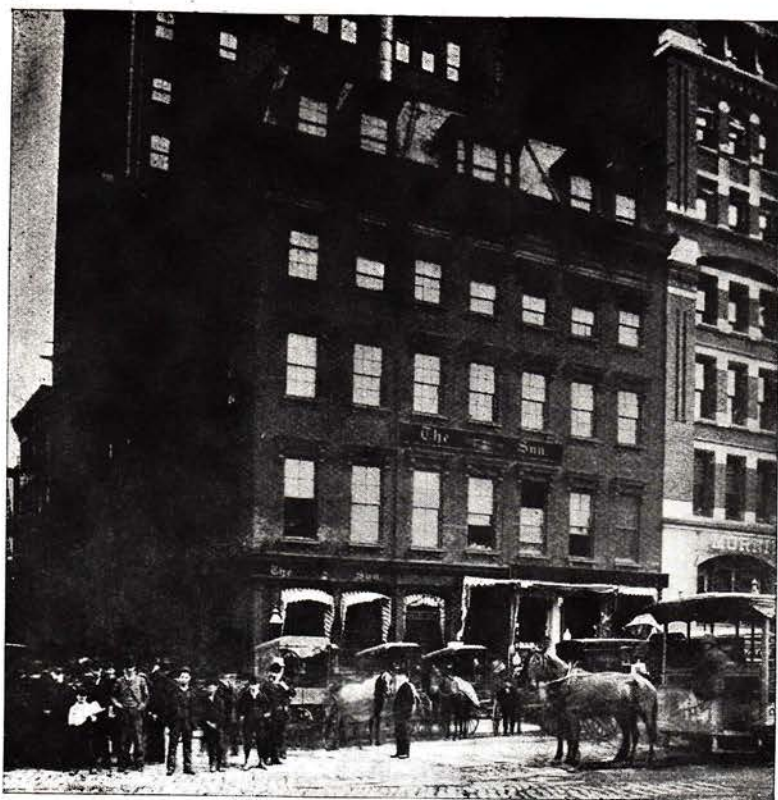
"WHY DID YOU RUN AWAY FROM HERE?"

* * *

In the 65th Annual Report of the Children's Aid Society, "for the year ending June 30th, 1917," there are these statements--under the heading "Brace Memorial Newsboys' House, 244 William Street, N. Y.--Formerly 14 New Chambers Street."

It is with mingled feelings of enthusiasm and sadness that one approaches the proposition of making a survey of the work of the last fiscal year at the Newsboys' Home.

We are saddened when we realize the irreparable loss of our dearest and noblest friend Evert Jansen Wendell who for forty years visited the Newsboys', rendering service as far back as the time of Charles Loring Brace, the founder of the Society. While still a



"THE SUN," NASSAU AND FRANKFORT STREETS.

The first Newsboys' Lodging House--
atop the old Sun Building on Nassau St.

small boy, he manifested an interest in the Newsboys' [Lodge] which he visited with Horatio Alger, who had dedicated many of his famous books to the Newsboys' Lodging House and who has made this Home known in every clime and country where his famous works are read. [Etc. etc. etc.]

* * *

FORMER HAUNTS
FORGET ALGER'S BIRTHDAY TODAY

(Note: The following article is from the January 13, 1932 issue of the New York Herald Tribune, page 19).

Thundering circulation department trucks and newsstands manned by mature and muscular salesmen have supplanted "Nelson the Newsboy." Chair-equipped emporiums dominated by Greek and Italian influence supply the ministration of "Ragged Dick" the bootblack. And more cultural and modern writers have

replaced Horatio Alger, born 100 years ago today, even in the Brace Memorial Newsboys' House, 244 William Street, where the author of some 125 tales that sold nearly 1,000,000 copies, made his home as a hero in the '70s and '80s.

The 100th anniversary of Alger's birth and the seventy-eighth anniversary of the founding of the Newsboys' Home will not be celebrated by any special observance today. Officials of the organization reminisced yesterday about their own delighted reading of "From Rags to Riches" and other Alger tomes, but pointed out that a new generation has arisen which knows not Alger.

The present newsboys' house and club, with a membership of about 650 young men between sixteen and twenty-one, numbers only 1 per cent newsboys, according to Harry Stryker, superintendent. Most of the current club members and residents favor pitting their "Luck and Pluck" in a "Sink or Swim" battle in the business world as errand boys.

The clubhouse where Alger used to read aloud, tell stories and gather material has a library containing a few copies of Alger's works, but they are in small demand.

"A few of the boys may still read Alger occasionally," said Superintendent Stryker, "but in such rare cases they do so only as a stepping stone to more advanced reading. The boys here in the last few years have a far greater background and education than those of the Alger era. They have in many cases completed one to four years of high school and we have a number who have entered college. Their reading is so diversified that it would be difficult to name any particularly favorite author.

March-April

"The spirit of the modern members follows that of the old Alger heroes. In 1930 we sent 198 young men into the Army, Navy or Marine Corps and we are naturally proud of our war record of 2,890 enlistments. Thirty-two of our boys were lost in action."

H. I. Spring, assistant superintendent, Jack Elliott, who is in charge of the club work, and Walter Utting, busy organizing a club orchestra, all recalled their pleasurable reading of Alger tomes but were surprised to learn that the late author was born just 100 years ago today at Revere, Mass. There was no apparent interest or even acknowledgment of the Alger legend among the groups of young fellows discussing various diverse matters in the club lobby.

They talked of the coming Presidential election, the economic situation, the case of Lieutenant Massie in Hawaii, hikes about the city, the American Museum of Natural History and club activities in the fields of basketball, checkers, handball and ping pong.

The boys seemed less pessimistic about present and future economic conditions than the average gathering in many other sectors. Members expressed complete satisfaction with the house system by which a clean bed and two hearty meals are provided for fifty cents a day, with credit extended ending employment. No one mourned for the good old days of 1854, when the rate for a lodger was six cents a day.

Note: In the files of the Children's Aid Society, I came across volumes of their Minutes. On January 20, 1932, the Trustees met, and they discussed the preceding article. A paragraph from the Minutes for this day is as follows:

"The Secretary reported further on the interesting publicity we received on the 100th Anniversary of Horatio Alger, Jr.'s birth. Mr. Alger at one



Inside the Newsboys' Lodging House

time lived in the old Newsboys' House, and many of his books were written as the result of his experiences there. In an editorial in the Herald-Tribune mention was made that many of the boys of today are not reading Alger books and we are, therefore, through a questionnaire finding out just what they read, with a view toward further publicity. In this connection, Mr. Milbank suggested that we should have a complete set of the Alger books at the Newsboys' [Lodge]. But the Secretary believed the boys would not use them."

I came across a copy of this questionnaire. Some of the questions are:
"Have you heard of the Alger Books?"
"Have you read any of the Alger Books?"
"What do you think of the Alger idea that a good boy always succeeds?"

The results of this questionnaire were printed in a variety of publications, which included "Boys Today Doubt Alger Success Code [New York Times, Feb.

The Lost Life of Horatio Alger, Jr.

By Gary Scharnhorst with Jack Bales

"Immensely effective. . . . This book is written as a popular and scholarly book. It is especially well done: clear, direct, accessible, vivid."

—David Nordloh, Indiana University

No American writer has been so misrepresented by his biographers as Horatio Alger, Jr. Alger's first biographer perpetrated an incredible hoax: by his own admission, Herbert R. Mayes fabricated his "authoritative" account of Alger's life. Subsequent biographers have either echoed Mayes or substituted fictions of their own.

Gary Scharnhorst and Jack Bales have written the first biography of Alger to be based on factual evidence derived from thorough research. The research and writing of this biography proved to be a task akin to disproving a conspiracy theory. The authors painstakingly



Carte de visite of Alger about 1868, a bonus to subscribers to *Student and Schoolmate*.

pursued every clue in this complicated literary missing-person case. With this book they are now ready to set straight the record of the lost life of Horatio Alger, Jr.

GARY SCHARNHORST is Assistant Professor of Humanities at the University of Texas at Dallas and author of *Horatio Alger, Jr., Charlotte Perkins Gilman, and Horatio Alger, Jr.: An Annotated Bibliography* (with Jack Bales).

JACK BALES is a Reader Services Librarian at Mary Washington College in Virginia. He has written widely on Horatio Alger, Jr.

April 1985

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Courtesy of the Harvard University Archives

3, 1932, p. 17; and "The Cynical Youngest Generation," *The Nation*, Feb. 17, 1932, p. 186. Following is part of the press release obtained from the files of the Children's Aid Society:

"That Horatio Alger is utterly unknown to the majority of the present generation of boys who are treading in the footsteps of 'Tom the Bootblack' and 'Dan the Newsboy' is indicated by a questionnaire circulated by the Children's Aid Society among over 7,000 boys who attend its nine Boys' Clubs. Not only the modern boy's reaction to Alger's books but his taste in literature, magazines, and newspapers, is neatly plotted according to Owen R. Lovejoy, Secretary of the Society.

"The boys who answered the questionnaire are between the ages of seven and twenty-one and represent a fair cross-section of New York boy opinion. They are the run of the club from nine different neighborhoods and include nearly every race and nationality resident in the city.

"It was with just such boys that Alger surrounded himself when fifty years ago he set about writing his famous boys series. For many years he lived at the Newsboys' House founded by the Children's Aid Society in 1854 as a club and lodging house for boys. At that time Alger's books were widely read by the boys, but today less than 20% of the newsboys have ever read an Alger book and not one boy owns a copy of his work. Among the Children's Aid Society's nine clubs, less than 20% of the boys have heard of Alger and only about 14% have read any of his books, the questionnaire shows. Alger's most faithful disciple, however, is quite properly a seventeen year old member of the Newsboys' Club, who claims to have read every book Alger wrote." [Etc. etc.].

* * *

Buried in the archives of the Children's Aid Society is a sheet dated March 23, 1928, that lists "Famous Characters Associated With Newsboys' Home." Alger holds top billing, of course!

March-April

THE GREAT BARRINGTON NEWSBOY STATUE

by Gary Leveille

On a busy street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, there's a dependable newspaper boy who's been hawking his papers for 90 years! Yes! 90 years and he hasn't missed a single day in all that time. But don't be too concerned for the "old gent"--he looks almost as young as the day he started back on October 10, 1895.

This famous Great Barrington newsboy strides along with his cap thrown back on his head, a hefty stack of papers under his arm, greeting passers-by with the latest "extra". Over the years, the bronze-skinned figure has gained world-wide recognition as the world's oldest newsboy. . . statue, that is!

Presented to the town of Great Barrington by Colonel William L. Brown (part owner of the original New York Daily News), the 14 foot monument perpetuates the role of the rugged newspaper carriers who helped make the Daily News such a success. Brown, a summer resident of Great Barrington from 1887 until his death in 1906, was known as a jolly, good-natured man with a keen sense of human nature. He was quite involved in politics and served for a time in the New York State legislature. Apparently a good friend of Grover Cleveland, Brown named his son after the President.

As a great animal lover, Brown had toyed with the idea of a monument to both man and beast. Finally, on a festive, sunny day in 1895, his dream became a reality as he proudly presented his life-sized, bronze newsboy (standing atop a column of polished granite) to the residents of Great Barrington. Below the outstretched hand of the newsboy, a water trough for horses was installed, and here cool water spurted from the mouth of a bronze lion's head. Beside the road on the boy's left, a smaller, lower basin held the water that poured from the mouth of

an angry cat with arched back and erect tail. Separate fountains also provided bubbling refreshment for man's best friend, the dog--and of course, yet another fountain for people.



As the many years went by, the New England weather and vandals took their toll on the Newsboy. By the 1960s the once proud statue was in disrepair--ignored and forgotten. Luckily, the Newsboy had a chance meeting with Barrie Hughes, a Horatio Alger Society member now living in Watertown, New York. Barrie was determined to save this priceless monument. Although he is quite modest in accepting credit for his efforts, Barrie brought about the statue restoration largely through his own diligent efforts. In October 1973 the Newsboy was rededicated and ready to continue his vigil for many years to come.

The Great Barrington Newsboy Preservation Committee, headed by this writer and Barrie Hughes, is planning a 90th birthday celebration this summer in honor of the Newsboy. Located on Route 23 in Great Barrington, the Newsboy is nestled in the beautiful Berkshire Hills of western Massachusetts. Famous for its craggy rock cliffs, scenic waterfalls and soft, gentle valleys, the Berkshires have been home to many writers and artists including Nathaniel Hawthorne, Herman Melville and Norman Rockwell.

For more information about the Great Barrington Newsboy and the 90th birthday celebration, you may write to Newsboy Preservation Committee, Box 562, Great Barrington, Mass. 01230.

Editor's note: Gary has a number of Great Barrington Newsboy items for sale, and you may write him at the address given above. These include:

1. Newsboy statue replicas, as mentioned in the January 1985 issue of Collectibles Illustrated. Price was incorrect as shown in the article--the correct price is \$36.95 plus \$3 shipping per statue. Statues are individually made to order from eight separate ceramic molds and feature an antique bronze-colored finish. 15" tall.

2. Color photographic reproduction of the Great Barrington Newsboy. Reproduced from hand-colored photo taken at the turn of the century. Also shows people in period costume. 8" x 12". \$12.00 each.

3. Pen and ink print of Great Barrington Newsboy. A richly detailed print of the Newsboy. Signed by the artist. 11" x 18" plus two inch border. \$12.00 each.

4. Modern color photo postcards of Newsboy statue. \$4.50 for 25 cards.

5. Color photographic reproduction of Belle Isle Park, the Detroit, Michigan Newsboy Fountain. Reproduced from early 1900s color photo. 3½" x 5". \$3.00 each.

Incidentally, I think we should all congratulate Barrie and Gary--two HAS members--for their diligent efforts to not only preserve this renowned newsboy statue, but to organize a birthday celebration of it. Members desiring further information can write to Gary, and he would love to hear from you. See the January 1985 issue of Collectibles Illustrated for additional material.

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THE BRACE MEMORIAL NEWSBOYS' HOUSE, IN THE HEART OF NEW YORK, GOES DIRECT TO THE HEART OF THE BOY PROBLEM

Founded in 1853 by Charles Loring Brace

First Building at Broadway and Fulton Street
Until 1872

Present Building Erected in 1873

Modernized Building Opened January 13th, 1926

William Lewis Butcher.....General Superintendent

The following members of the staff and leaders will be found in their respective rooms and floors as follows:

First Floor:

Administration Offices.

Second Floor:

Mass Game Room, Mr. Williams in charge.
Club Rooms, Mr. Di Motta in charge.

Third Floor:

Library and Assembly Hall, Mr. Cassidy in charge.
Coat and Check Rooms, Mr. Landone in charge

Fourth Floor:

Roosevelt Club, Mr. Gordon in charge.
Dormitories and Rooms, Mr. Woodworth in charge.

Fifth Floor:

Guggenheimer and Lane Clubs, Mr. Meyer in charge.

Boys' rooms, Mrs. Woodworth in charge.

Sixth Floor:

Gymnasium, Mr. Garino, Physical Instructor in charge.

Handball Court and Locker Rooms, Mr. Landone in charge.

Seventh Floor:

Spectators' Gallery, Mr. Lopez in charge.

NOTE: For special information concerning the work of the House, refer to Mr. Butcher, Mr. Loring, Mr. Cassidy or Mr. Siegrist.

The above material is from the Brace Memorial Newsboys' House housewarming "program" that is partially reproduced on page 1. The celebration was held on January 13, 1926; Horatio Alger was born on January 13, of course, but although Alger is mentioned in the program, no connection between the two dates is drawn.

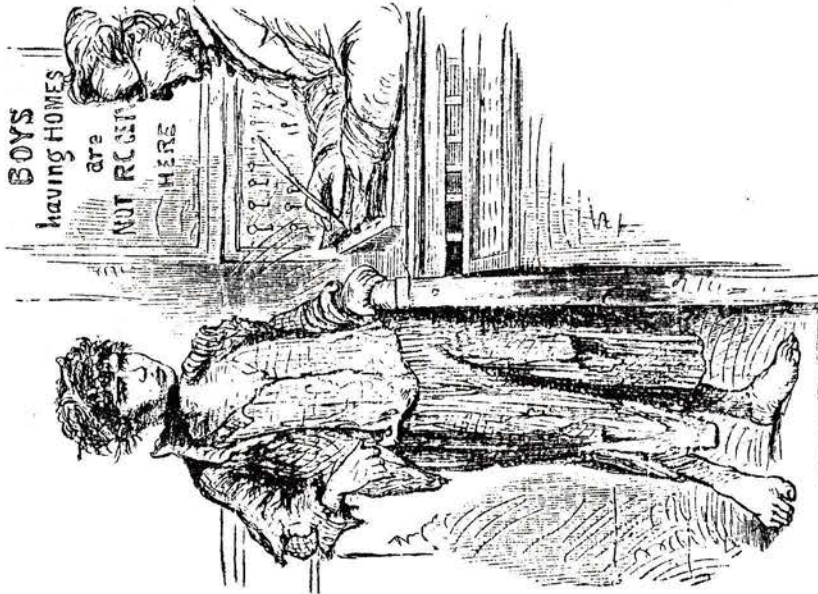
Note the many floors of the renovated Lodge and the numerous facilities. A far cry from the 1854 loft on top of the old New York Sun Building at the corner of Fulton and Nassau Streets!!

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March-April



The illustration here shows a boy "checking in" at the Newsboys' Lodging House. (I have seen the sign "Boys Having Homes Not Received Here" in other drawings and photographs of the Lodge besides this one). Opposite it is a reproduction of an actual "check-in" slip, obtained when I was researching in the Children's Aid Society's archives. The boy, Joseph Assande, was 15 years old, and was born in Russia. As the Superintendent or other adult noted on the form, he was a newsboy by occupation. On this slip the "Why out of work?" space is blank--on other forms I have answers that included "Employer would not pay for over time" and "Didn't like it." [Since these application slips are very old and the ink has faded, I hope that the writing reproduces well for the readers of Newsboy].

RECEIVED BY *[Signature]* Date, *10/7* 190*7*

Name: *Joseph Assande* No. *783*

Where born, *Russia* Age, *15*

Have you either parent? *No*

Can you read and write? *Yes*

What is your occupation? *Newsboy*

Where were you last employed? *Bridge*

At what wages? *How long?*

Why out of work?

Where have you stayed for the past week? *Answers*

Give the address of a near relative, *Simon*

REMARKS: *See 2D-*



ON EVERY WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY THE GOVERNOR DINES WITH HIS NEWSBOY FRIENDS AT THE NEWSBOYS' LODGING HOUSE ON PARK ROW, NEW YORK CITY

Washington's Birthday
Feb. 22nd, 1930

Louis Wiley

Adelle G. Lewis & Co
Jay R. R. R. R. R.
Wm. L. Schwartz

W. E. Cushing

Alfred Smith ←

W. E. Cushing

Joseph Cohen
Wm. Siegfried Jr

Ruin Butcher.

The photo above is from Up From the City Streets: Alfred E. Smith, A Biographical Study in Contemporary Politics (by Norman Hapgood and Henry Moskowitz, Grosset & Dunlap, New York, 1927). Governor of New York Alfred E. Smith frequently visited the Newsboys' Lodge, as the picture's caption affirms. I was able to examine a "Visitor's Book" for the Lodge while at the Children's Aid Society, and found his signature many times (see arrow above).

COAST GUARD GETS NEWSBOYS' HOUSE

Home in Which Alger Wrote
to Become Depot Tomorrow

Newsboys' House at 244 William Street, home of thousands of lost and friendless boys since 1872, will be formally turned over to the Coast Guard tomorrow morning, it was announced yesterday by the Children's Aid Society.

The seven-story structure in which Horatio Alger wrote most of his 100 books about and for boys will be a receiving and transfer depot for Coast Guard recruits. Lieutenant Frank U. Nelson will be in charge of an average of 300 recruits who will be housed temporarily in the home.

The Children's Aid Society announced at its offices, 105 East Twenty-second Street, that its services for homeless boys would continue, although, with many young men in the services and

This article is from the New York Times, January 12, 1943, page 21. Note that the Lodge was "turned over to the Coast Guard" on the anniversary of Alger's birth. See also "Newsboy Home to be Occupied by Coast Guard," New York Herald Tribune, January 12, 1943, p. 34.

employed in war industries, need for aid to these youths has sharply decreased.

In 1872 the society bought the present

March-April

site of the home as a lodging house for the ragged youngsters who roamed the city's streets, selling newspapers. Previously the boys were housed in The New York Sun building at Fulton and Nassau Streets. Horatio Alger, native of Revere, Mass., and Harvard graduate, lived in the home and found material for his stories among his fellow residents. Among these were "Ragged Dick," "Tattered Tom," as well as the heroes of "Sink or Swim" and "Adrift in New York."

Each year residents of the house have marked Alger's birthday, Jan. 13, but this year the observance also will be a farewell for the duration to the institution that was refuge to many who went on to fame and fortune like the heroes of Alger's tales.

During the last war Newsboys' House had its own recruiting station. Two thousand eight hundred and ninety men were recruited for the services at that time. According to the institution, more than 300 youths, present or former residents, have enlisted since Pearl Harbor.

* * *

FAMOUS CHARACTERS ASSOCIATED
WITH NEWSBOYS' HOME

As mentioned on the bottom of page 12, this is the title of a sheet I obtained from the files of the Children's Aid Society (it is dated March 23, 1928). It reads as follows:

Horatio Alger, Jr. -- In the early 80's lived at the Newsboys' Home and gathered material there for many of his stories of bootblacks and newsboys who rose to sudden fame. The majority of his boy types were drawn from the life. A biography of Alger published by Macy-Masius will be out today.

Edward W. Townsend -- While covering the Newsboys' Thanksgiving dinner for a paper, was struck with the face of a small urchin who later became the hero of his "Chimmy Fadden" series.

Roy McArdle -- Also gathered the

material for characters and plots for many stories at the Newsboys' Home.

Eddie Foy -- Made his debut at the Newsboys' Home before an enthusiastic audience of street urchins. He turned cartwheels and did an acrobatic dance with his coat turned inside out--the foreshadowing of a life of buffoonery.

* * *

NEWSBOYS AND THE CARRIERS' ADDRESSES
by Louise Kent-Boyd

"Carriers' Addresses", known also as "broad-sides", "New Year's Verses", or "leaflets", constitute one of the most colorful segments in the fascinating tale of North American newsboys--if not, in fact, in the histories of both Canada and U.S. As the name "broadside" implies, the Addresses were printed on large sheets of paper, on one side only--the size and shape usually being that of the parent newspaper for whose patrons the Addresses were intended.

They were printed as a type of gratuity to the newsboys; they were intended as "giveaways" to help him/her get from his various customers what would today be termed "a tip"). The practice occurred once annually--this being on January first when New Year's Day has been traditionally celebrated as a holiday. The suggestion has been made that the newsies fared a mite better when these giveaways were delivered to patrons at a time when they were celebrating (at house parties, entertaining guests of their own, or in attendance at New Year's Day "levees"--an old British custom still continued for some time by officials here). The format of these Addresses was similar to that of their representative newspapers: with a reproduced version of the masthead and with the contents set in columnar fashion, similar in size and number to the sponsoring paper.

"I wish you health and wealth
and joy . . .

And a gift besides for the
Carrier Boy."

--From Kansas City Times, Jan.
1, 1861

11th *Colbert Van*
 April 13th *Charles O'Connor* →
 17th *J. H. Hamersley*
 17th *Mrs. Field*
 17th *Miss Winter*
 17th *Laurence Coffin*
 17th *Miss O. Crozier*
 20th *C. L. Bruce* ←
 21st *L. O. Holte*
 24th *Chas. B. Whitland*
 28th *Mrs. M. D. Hoare*

Above is a photocopy from the Newsboys' Lodging House "Visitors' Book" for 1887. Remember Charles O'Connor, the Lodge's Superintendent who figures so largely in the "Ragged Dick Series"? His name is second on the list, for April 13--marked with arrow. Charles Loring Bruce--who founded the Lodge in 1854--also signed the register, and I have marked his name.

The subject matter was most often presented in rhyme and could concern anything from a political discussion to the naming of: theatrical performers, sportsmen and their feats, or public figures and their accomplishments or lack of same. Even race horses had been the subject of some special broadsides, but most commonly the material content of Carriers' Addresses was major news for the preceding year...either local or national. All of this was in a form of poetry where the meter might vary from stanza to stanza, rhymes which have been described as ranging from "...the veriest doggerel to examples of superior verse".

Just as "Extra's" and "Special Editions" have not been included in the serial numbering of newspapers, so too Carriers' Addresses were never included in serial-numbering systems. Most

publishers had copies of their newspapers bound into book-form at year's end (or at some regular three- or four-year period) or otherwise had back copies of their editions boxed and stored in some manner for preservation. But not many publishers (and very few patrons) bothered to save the newsboys' Addresses or New Year's Broad-sides... which is one reason for the survival of relatively so very few of these highly collectible and extremely informative items from our past. One historian aptly termed them: "...collectively a march in time with history of 100 years done in meter." That, indeed, the Addresses were.

The earliest Carrier's Address to have survived in its original form is dated January 1, 1735, produced for the American Weekly Mercury (now a part of
(continued on page 22))

On the next four pages is a list of items donated to the HAS Auction last year, along with the donor's name, the buyer's name, and the amount of money each item brought. Our thanks to Alex Shaner for making up this list!!

	<u>DONOR</u>	<u>BUYER</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
Center Piece	J. Thorp	E. LaBlanc	10
Apple Butter	P. Miller	D. Thomas	10
Apple Butter	P. Miller	B. Sawyer	2
Apple Butter	P. Miller	E. LeBlanc	2
Apple Butter	P. Miller	Hoffner	2
Apple Butter	P. Miller	Lightner	2
Fans	T. Veno	Freidland	20
Pee Wee Harris (7)	T. Catledge	T. Catledge	10
Japanese Print	F.O. Schnell	T. McAndrews	5
Police Gazette MTD Cover	B. Leitner	B. McCord	6
Beetles Card	WestGard	C. Hartmann	5
Paper Covers	T. Catledge	P. Cripes	8
3 Fans & Rack	T. Veno	D. Thorpe	8
Shoeshine Boy figurine	J. Ryberg	J. Thorpe	25
Young Acrobat-Amer. Pub.	J. Thorpe	B. Bennett	10
Outdoor Chums (3)	T. Catledge	T. Catledge	6
Desk Pen Holder	G. Sherrard	D. Thomas	75
Cassette	Juvinal	B. Banks	20
Newstand Newsboy	R. Walter	D. Thomas	30
Boy Statue	Ms. Cockrane Mary Techetten	R. Schissel	2
Tom Slade (13)	T. Catledge	T. Catledge	16
Radio Boys (8)	T. Catledge	J. Juvenill	19
Roy Blakley (14)	T. Catledge	T. Catledge	16
5 Spalding Golf Balls	R. Gardner	M. Preston	8
1st Ed. Backwoods Boy	D. Thomas	J. Jaques	100
Keepsake Cover	B. Leitner	Mrs. Thorpe	5
2 Algers	R. Wendell	T. Catledge	5
Boy Ranchers (6)	T. Catledge	T. Catledge	10
3 Braden Books	T. Catledge	G. Hafner	6
4 Thomson Burtis	T. Catledge	T. Catledge	5
Dave Dawson (4)	T. Catledge	G. Hafner	6
Papersack	T. Catledge	P. Cripes	5

	<u>DONOR</u>	<u>BUYER</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
Red Randell (6)	T. Catledge	T. Catledge	6
Seven Deities	T. Veno	M.E. Thomas	26
15 Webster Hkbks	T. Catledge	P. Cripes	25
Rufus & Rose - P & C	J. Freidland	B. Chase	21
First Day Cover	J. Bales	J. Thorpe	5
73 Proof Set	B. Brandt	B. Chase	28
Glass Covered Dish	B. Leitner	B. Bennett	15
Seven Dieties	T. Veno	B. Bennett	25
Cancelled Stock Certificate	R. Banks	A. Shaner	25
School Boy of 1850	J.J. Lowe	J. Thorpe	20
H. Sherman (7)	T. Catledge	T. Catledge	7
R.B. Parker My Stg (6)	M. Olsen	G. Kapleman	45
Zane Gary 1st Edition	B. Heffner	D. Thomas	50
Postcards	R. Gardner	R. Miller	2
Auto First "Water Castle"	R. Gardner	R. Miller	16
Morton Salt Taffy	J.J. Lowe	D. Thorpe	8
Card Trick	A & G Sharrad	J. Lowe	5
Misc	J. Walter	D. Thorpe	2
Honeywell Meter	B. McCord	G. Hafner	5
Polaroid Camera	B. Leitner	T. Catledge	5
Misc Items	R. Walter	M.E. Thomas	4
Phil Fidler (1st Rebound)	G. Hafner	H. Graybell	50
Street Smith Alger (2)	T. Catledge	T. Catledge	5
Opportunity Still Knocks	B. McCord	D. Thorpe	1
Works J.R. Riley	B. McCord	P. Miller	7
1st Day Cover	J. Bales	A. Shaner	4
Misc J. Henry Tems	J. Walter	D. Thomas	15
R.R. Pamplet & Tray	J. Walter	B. McCord	20
Arrowhead	J. Walter	J. Freidland	13
Alger Paperback	K. Butler	Newman	5
Ham	F. Martin	B. Sawyer	35

	<u>DONOR</u>	<u>BUYER</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
1st Day Cover (2)	J. Bales	T. Catledge	13
1st Day Cover	J. Bales	J. Freidland	4
1st Day Cover	J. Bales	A. Shaner	5
Photo	B. McCord	A. Shaner	3
Note Cards	T. Veno	McAndrews	15
PostCard	B. McCord	J. Thorpe	35
Newsboy Postcard	B. McCord	B. Banks	5
Newsboy Figurine	R. Wendell	D. Thomas	20
Flash Cards	R. Gardner	A. Shaner	4
Fan	T. Veno	M.E. Thomas	11
Newsboy Figurine	J. Ryberg	B. Chase	20
Whitman Algers (4)	T. Catledge	B. Banks	12
Gas Co. Premium	B. Leitner	H. Brandt	5
1st Ed in a new world	D. Thomas	J. Jaques	50
Golden Days 2 Vols.	E. LeBlanc	B. Wright	20
Golden Days 2 Vols.	E. LeBlanc	B. Wrigth	17
Rex Less (5)	T. Catledge	T. Catledge	6
Auto Bio Farley	B. McCord	D. Thomas	25
Andy Lane (6)	T. Catledge	T. Catledge	7
At Earths Core 1st	J. Freidland	G. Hafner	55
2 Cassets	J. Juvenil	Freidland	5
Don Sturdy (6)	T. Catledge	T. Catledge	7
Co. Martin (6)	T. Catledge	T. Catledge	8
Misc Boys Pks (7)	T. Catledge	T. Catledge	15
Grave Rubbing	A. White	J. Ryberg	9
3 Glasses	B. Leitner	G. Hafner	20
Tattbred Tom	O. Coby	B. Chase	30
Frank Fearlessness	J. Freidland	J. Jacques	45
T. Brace	O. Cobb	J. Thorpe	200
Jed Poorhouse 1st	W. Palmer	H. Gravebelle	80
Sams Chance 1st	D. Thomas	J. Jacques	100
Game Board	J. Freidland	J. Thorpe	40
Randy of River 1st	D. Thomas	J. Jacques	100

	<u>DONOR</u>	<u>BUYER</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
P. Prescott (2nd)	J. Freidland	J. Jacques	100
WoodenBust	B. Sawyer	D. Thomas	130
Young Miner 1st	D. Thomas	M. Preson	115
Western Boy 1st	D. Thomas	B. Chase	220

(continued from page 18)
the excellent collection of the American Antiquarian Society (Worcester, Massachusetts). The next oldest represents Benjamin Franklin's Pennsylvania Gazette of 1739.

I've toiled for you thro' storms of
hail and rain,
Hard was my lot, though very small
my gain.
Now if you'll but unfold your purse
and heart
And grant a FEE--I'll thankfully
depart.

--Thé Boston Idiot, 1819

Since the purpose of these Addresses was to aid the newsie in getting a "douceur" from his patrons, [Author's note: "Douceur"--any gratuity, fee, or conciliatory gift or bribe. The acronym "TIPS" (To Insure Prompt Service) had not come into existence at this early time], the verses quite often accentuated the hardships endured by the newsboy in the course of executing his duties or experienced in his way of life, separate and apart from his daily occupation. The rhymes themselves are considered amateurish in style--in a sense, "homemade" folk art composed by untrained persons who, nonetheless, "expressed themselves with some degree of success". Yet for all this crudity of style, the quality is said to have improved in the late 18th century when the venturing rhymsters became somewhat less influenced by the "literary yoke" of the parent country.

Newsboys' broadside poetry claimed

various and sundry creators: "A friend", "the publisher himself", "an insignificant poet", "a literary annalist", "a clerk in a store". On record are some lines which ". . . were wrote, by him, for the Boys who carried out the Weekly News-Papers to their Master's Customers, in Philadelphia; to whom, commonly, every New-Year's Day, they present Verses of this Kind." By 1720, the giving out "Addresses" on January first was a well-established custom.

Although very few Addresses were signed by their creators, many were composed by those destined later to become well-known; it is thought that they simply could not resist the temptation to invoke the muse, to befriend the publishers, or to help the newsboy. Some more recognizable names are: Benjamin Franklin, William Biglow, Joel Barlow, Daniel Webster, Lemuel Hopkins, Theodore Dwight, Richard Alsop, John Greenleaf Whittier, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Noah Webster.

The distributing of Carriers' Addresses began to diminish about 1870 when the practice was becoming somewhat commercial; Addresses were being printed without the name of any sponsoring newspaper--for sale to any newsie who would buy them. One such sample was headed: "New Year's Address to the Patrons of Sunday and Daily Papers"--to be sure it served everyone in every place. The larger, more influential news publisher viewed this all as just too undignified and some (e.g. "proprietor" Mr. Childs of the Philadelphia Ledger) gave instead a "very

useful and valuable Almanac" in lieu of the customary Address.

With this, the emphasis changed from that of aiding the newsboy in obtaining his "donation" or "fee" to one of promoting goodwill for the paper and its publisher (much as any giveaway today is intended to do). When W. R. Nelson began his Kansas City Star (1880), he "declined to follow the tradition" of issuing Carriers' Addresses because he considered it a "touching" one (that is to say, "to put the touch on" in a mendicant sense). Soon other newspapers followed this trend-setting lead and thereafter gratuities for the newsboys were left to the individual customer's conscience. (Again, much more could be written on this unjust aspect of "news-boy-manship"....but some other time).

Carriers' Addresses or "broadsides" per se are a thing of the past. Today the publishers of the larger, wide-circulation newspapers supply their newsboys with single-sheet cards bearing "Season's Greetings" on one side followed by a line on which the carrier may furnish or sign his/her name. These new versions are a far cry from being "collectibles"; on the contrary, they might understandably be thought of as additions to a patron's plethora of "junk mail".

Today (as in former times) there can be certainly no one who could question the fact that any newsie's work constitutes "a job well done"; what does, however, remain a moot point is: exactly how "often" a youngster receives a gift from his patrons on receipt of one of these cards. At best these cards are substitutes that pale by comparison to those ornate, edifying, humorous, creative, and very individual petitions on behalf of yesterday's hard-working, deserving newsboys: the "Carriers' Addresses".

(Note: Unfortunately, Louise's detailed & footnoted article had to be trimmed due to space limitations. My sincere thanks for providing us with these remarkable insights into the lives of "our heroes"--the newsboys.

NEWSBOY BOOK REVIEW

by Jack Bales

Struggling Upward, by Horatio Alger, Jr. With a new Introduction by Ralph D. Gardner. New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 31 East 2nd St., Mineola, N.Y. 11501. 1984. ISBN 0-486-24737-6. \$3.95.

Struggling Upward is quintessential Horatio Alger. All the ingredients we love so well are present--the Benefactor (two of them, in fact), the rich young snob, the villainous squire, etc. etc. It's always been one of my favorite Alger stories, and other Alger collectors have told me the same; indeed, when Crown Publishers reprinted four titles in 1945, SU was one of them. Also, in 1971, when Nautilus Press issued its special, boxed facsimile first editions, SU was one of the two titles selected.

This new edition of this beloved Alger was reprinted directly, page-for-page, from the Crown Publishers edition, and unlike some hastily "get rich quick" reprints, the type style is clear, attractive, and easy to read. Moreover, this one is highlighted by Ralph Gardner's introduction--his best yet--as he briefly capsules Alger's life and succinctly describes the plot of a typical Alger story. As SU was first serialized in The Golden Argosy, Ralph devotes considerable attention to this periodical and its famous editor, Frank Munsey. Footnotes are included.

Dover Company is well-known for its book reprintings. Unlike many paperbacks, the covers are of a hard, stiff cardboard, and the signatures are sewn and then glued. Best of all is the price. Being used to seeing paperbacks priced at \$10 and \$15 and some books as high as \$40 and up, I think \$3.95 is more than reasonable. What with Ralph Gardner's Introduction, and a guaranteed "good read" of a story, you're definitely assured of a good buy!! Be sure and add this book to your collection!

* * *

NEWSBOY EDITORIAL

by Jack Bales

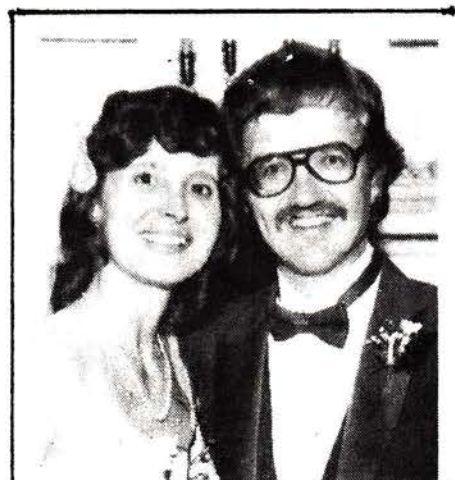
As I put the finishing touches on this issue of Newsboy, I scan the pages and think to myself, "Hmmm, this is a pretty good issue." It's always been like this--every time I finish a Newsboy, I'd send it to Carl Hartmann, and invariably my enclosed letter would say, "This is a good one, Carl," or "Well, Carl, this one is kind of mediocre. I'll try something different next time."

Just like this for over ten years. Not including several "guest edited" issues in the early 1970s, I've taken care of Newsboy since September of 1974. The May-June issue, however, will be my last.

This decision was not made hastily, nor is it not totally without regret. But as I look at my career, my lifestyle, and my surroundings, I see many changes, and it's simply time to move on to other things. First of all, my recent marriage has of course added new dimensions to my life. (The two of us are planning to be at Gil Westgard's convention--we hope to see many of you there)! Also, I'm receiving more and more responsibility in my job as Reader's Services Librarian and Assistant Professor here at Mary Washington College, and as my Library enters the computer age, I must take additional courses to keep up with technology. I may even begin work on another degree. Thus, my free time is going to be somewhat limited.

Part of my decision deals with pride. I'm finding it difficult to consistently find new material on which to write, and although these issues are pretty good, I'd hate Newsboy to become stale and boring. I'd rather leave and hopefully have people wish I'd stay, then hang on and have them pray that I leave.

And finally, I've achieved what I set out to do. Newsboy is now indexed in probably the most prestigious literary index in the world, the Modern Language

**Bales-Kelly**

The wedding of Lisa Dodd Kelly and James Edward Bales III took place Dec. 28 at Trinity Episcopal Church in Fredericksburg.

The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Mary Annette Klinesmith Kelly of 119 Lakeshore Drive, and Walter B. Kelly of 1020 William St.. The bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Phyllis Steinkamp Bales and James Edward Bales II, both of Aurora, Ill.

The Rev. Robert J. Boyd Jr. officiated at 5 p.m. wedding ceremony in the church.

Association International Bibliography. I helped Gary Scharnhorst with a new Alger biography--see page 12--and that will be out very soon. There just isn't that much more I want to do with Alger, and I need to refocus my energies.

Perhaps I'll be back, if only to write a few articles or maybe even guest-edit an issue now and then. In any case, I hope that the last eleven years have produced issues of Newsboy that have caused you to think, to reflect, to wonder, to doubt, or even to become angry. If so, then I think it's been a good eleven years!!

Special thanks are extended to all the individuals over the years who have helped with Newsboy, from those contributing articles or ideas to those who simply wrote me to comment on a particular piece. To everyone, a grateful "thank you."