



THE HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

NEWSBOY



Horatio Alger, Jr.

1832 - 1899

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

VOLUME XXXI

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NUMBER 3

'Forging Ahead in Philly'

Convention
Issue -- '93

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Governor's Office

GREETINGS:

I am delighted to send warmest regards to everyone gathered in Fort Washington for the 1993 International Convention of the Horatio Alger Society and to welcome you to Pennsylvania.

This meeting provides an important opportunity for your members to share information and ideas about the works of Horatio Alger Jr., and to further your mission of encouraging the spirit of "Strive and Succeed" that guided Alger's undaunted heroes. I salute your dedication to maintaining our understanding of this important American author.

While "Forging Ahead in Philly," I invite you to take time to sample the rich cultural, historical, and recreational attractions that the Philadelphia area has to offer.

Best wishes for an enjoyable conference and for every continuing success.



Robert P. Casey
Robert P. Casey
Governor
April 29, 1993



The National Memorial Arch at Valley Forge National Historical Park.

Porter & Coates
Algers -- Part I

-- See Page 7

Charles Pierce Burton:
Father of the
Bob's Hill Boys

-- See Page 11

President's column

In this issue of **Newsboy** you will find a complete chronicle of the 29th annual Horatio Alger Society convention, which was by all accounts a smashing success. Everything from the souvenir to the banquet, right down to the weather, was picture perfect. Our convention hosts, Murray and Michele Levin, really outdid themselves in ensuring that everyone had a good time. Although the turnout was lower than expected (there were 54 members and guests present), everyone that I spoke to had only positive comments about the activities. Of course, there were lots of books available and many members remarked how they found that much-needed volume for their collections. Convention highlights and photos begin on Page 3.

The 1994 convention will be hosted by Christine DeHaan (PF-773) in or near Grand Rapids, Mich. The exact dates will be announced later but the convention will take place at the usual time in early May. We are interested in hearing from anyone who would like to host the convention in 1995.

During our annual business meeting on April 30, three new directors were elected to replace the three outgoing directors. Their names are listed at the right, with terms running through 1996. The treasurer's position also changed, with Murray Levin taking over from Judy Roobian-Mohr.

There is, however, one position that remains to be filled. That is the Executive Secretary slot currently held by Carl Hartmann. Carl's retirement, along with changes in ownership at his place of employment, no longer allow him the opportunity to provide the same quality attention he has given to the Society for the past 31 years. Carl has been Executive Secretary for 10 consecutive terms and he feels that it is time for someone else to provide his or her insight and perspective to this important position.

The duties of Executive Secretary can be found in the back of the 1989 membership roster. They include the processing of memberships and the collecting of annual dues, along with being the initial point of contact for potential new members.

Please contact me directly if you would like more information about this position.

Your partic'lar friend,
Robert E. Kasper (PF-327)
585 E. St. Andrews Drive
Media, PA 19063

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 newsletter of the Horatio Alger Society, is published bi-monthly (six issues per year). Membership fee for any 12-month period is \$20, with single issues of **Newsboy** costing \$3.00. Please make all remittance payable to the Horatio Alger Society. Membership applications, renewals, changes of address and other correspondence should be sent to Executive Secretary Carl T. Hartmann, 4907 Allison Drive, Lansing, MI 48910.

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

BOOKS RECOMMENDED BY H.A.S.

- "Horatio Alger, Jr., A Comprehensive Bibliography," by Bob Bennett (PF-265).
- "Horatio Alger or, The American Hero Era," by Ralph D. Gardner (PF-053).
- "Publication Formats of the 59 Stories by Horatio Alger, Jr. as Reprinted by the John C. Winston Co." Compiled by Bob Sawyer (PF-455) and Jim Thorp (PF-574).
- "Horatio Alger Books Published by A.L. Burt," by Bradford S. Chase (PF-412).
- "The Lost Life of Horatio Alger, Jr.," by Gary Scharnhorst with Jack Bales (PF-258).

Newsboy ad rates: Full page, \$32.00; one-half page, \$17.00; one-quarter page, \$9.00; per column inch (1 inch deep by approx. 3 1/2 inches wide), \$2.00. Send ads, with check payable to Horatio Alger Society, to Carl T. Hartmann, 4907 Allison Drive, Lansing, MI 48910. The above rates apply to all want ads plus non-Alger books for sale. However, it is the policy of the Horatio Alger Society to promote the exchange of Alger books and related Alger materials by providing space **free of charge** to our members for the **sale only** of such material. Send such ads to Carl T. Hartmann or directly to editor William R. Gowen (PF-706) at 923 South Lake St., Apt. 6, Mundelein, IL 60060.

H.A.S. Convention '93: 'Forging Ahead in Philly'

by William R. Gowen (PF-706)

George Washington never had it so good!

Of course, he was in the area in the dead of winter. When more than 50 members and guests of the Horatio Alger Society arrived at Fort Washington, Pa. the last week in April, beautiful spring weather was in force. That was ample evidence that "Forging Ahead in Philly," the 29th annual H.A.S. convention, was going to be a great one.

By the time the last stragglers had left the Ramada Inn on Sunday afternoon, May 2, there was little doubt this was true. To use that old cliché, "a great time was had by all."

The registration/hospitality room was humming when we pulled in at about 5:45 p.m. on Thursday. On hand were H.A.S. President Rob Kasper, Executive Secretary Carl Hartmann and '92 co-host John Cadick who, along with his daughter Jessica, were handling the registration process.

When asked why we were so late, the answer was simple: "We were book-hunting!" On Wednesday night our car, co-driven by Neil McCormick (PF-506) and Percy Seamans (PF-405), longtime collector/dealer friends from Wisconsin, had pulled into the parking lot of the Super Eight Motel in New Stanton, Pa. in a previously arranged meeting with Bart Nyberg (PF-879) of Downers Grove, Ill., who had just finished a successful fishing trip on Lake Erie.

Early Thursday morning our two cars set off in a mini-caravan across Pennsylvania, hoping to find some elusive books along the way.

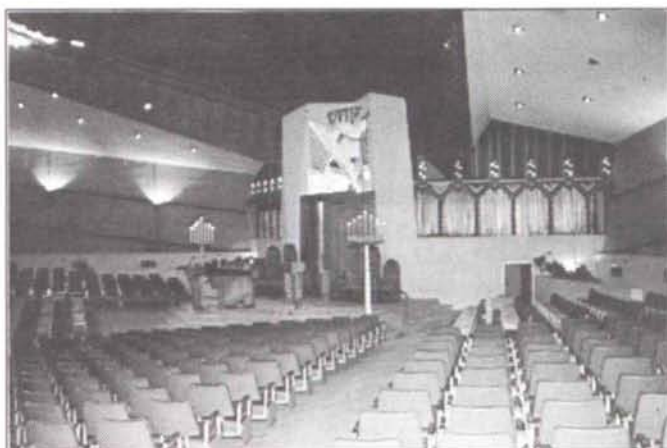
Because of our late arrival, we had barely little time to renew old acquaintances before getting ready for the first major event on the agenda.

Congregation Beth Sholom tour

Convention host Murray Levin had a spectacular event planned for our first evening, and it most certainly lived up to expectations. In nearby Elkins Park is architect Frank Lloyd Wright's last commission and, in fact, the final building he designed prior to his death in 1959 — Congregation Beth Sholom. The tour was conducted by Beth Sholom member Bob Weil, a survivor of the Nazi holocaust who turns 80 this year.

"Every aspect of the synagogue was conceived to combine the symbolisms of Judaism and Americanism," said Weil, also the congregation's historian and archivist, who had recently participated in the opening of the American Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C.

The unique design of the building, a great departure



The interior (top photo) of the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Beth Sholom Congregation in Elkins Park, Pa. Guide and archivist Bob Weil, above left, is assisted by Jessica Cadick during the Horatio Alger Society's tour of the synagogue on April 30.

from typical religious buildings, has important symbolism, said Weil. The shape of the synagogue (if looked at from above) is roughly hexagonal. When asked why he chose that shape, Wright said, "When one enters a place of worship, he should feel if he were resting in the hands of God. When one holds his hands in this symbol of acceptance, they form a hexagon."

The building itself, shaped like a truncated pyramid, is meant to symbolize Mount Sinai, the place where Moses received the laws, or Torah, from God. "As a result, the building symbolizes Mount Sinai resting in the hands of God," Weil said.

The tour concluded with a coffee-and-cake reception, during which time Weil and fellow members of Beth Sholom were available for questions.

The remainder of Thursday night was turned over to book-selling, buying and trading, an activity that went well past midnight.

The annual directors' meeting was held Friday morn-

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Editor's notebook

From New Orleans to Syracuse

This has been quite a year for those of us who love books. The 1993 H.A.S. convention is history and what a memorable weekend it was! For a complete rundown, look through this issue of Newsboy for stories, photos, auction results and other highlights.

But let's use this space to review and preview other gathering places for those of us who like to read, collect and study books. First came the annual Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association conference in New Orleans, a four-day event filled with all sorts of presentations ranging from television and films to studies of sports, World War II and Vietnam as well as such esoterica as the popular culture of gravestone markings. The conference is put on each year by Bowling Green State University, and it's quite an event.

Our area of interest is titled "Dime Novels, Pulps and Series Books." Chaired by Kathleen Chamberlain (PF-874), Assistant Professor of English at Emory and Henry College in Emory, Va., our sessions took place Thursday afternoon, April 8, and all day Saturday the 10th.

It should be noted that nearly half the presenters are members of the Horatio Alger Society, including, in addition to Kathleen, such well-known names as Deidre Johnson (PF-596), J. Randolph Cox (PF-598), Eddie LeBlanc (PF-015), Jack Dizer (PF-511), Rocco Musemeche (PF-897) and myself. Each individual presentation covered one aspect of Dime Novels, Pulps and Series books, with emphasis on research of authors and content rather than the collectibility of the books themselves.

The next PCA/ACA conference is set for April 6-9, 1994 at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago.

The following weekend was the Nancy Drew conference in Iowa City which unfortunately I could not attend. I have since talked to several people who were there and they said it was a great experience. One of the highlights was the previously unannounced attendance of Nancy Axelrad, former partner in the Stratemeyer Syndicate, who over several hours shared her Syndicate experiences with many of Nancy Drew's best fans.

But we're not through with 1993. Not by a long shot. Through the initiative of Randy Cox, the PCA/ACA's area for Dime Novels, Pulps and Series Books, the Syracuse University Library's Special Collections Department and the Syracuse University Library Associates, the bulk of "the New Orleans gang" is getting together again on August 5-6 for the first "Syracuse University



Lydia Schurman, J. Randolph Cox and Edward T. LeBlanc take a break during the 1993 Popular Culture Association conference in New Orleans in April. All three of these prominent researchers are scheduled to participate in the Syracuse University Symposium for Dime Novels, Pulps and Series Books on August 5-6. (Photo courtesy of Albert Tonik)

Symposium for Dime Novels, Pulps and Series Books."

Topics to be covered include all aspects of the famed publishing house of Street & Smith, whose archives are now housed at the Syracuse University library; a presentation on the Howard Garis collection, which is also held by the SU Library; and presentations on the current trends in dime novel, pulp and series book research and publishing.

Already listed as speakers are Lydia Schurman, Eddie LeBlanc, Randy Cox, Deidre Johnson, Gordon Huber, Jack Dizer, Peter Walther, Albert Tonik, Jean Carwile-Masteller, Joel Cadbury, Fred Cook and Rocco Musemeche, among others.

The goals for the symposium are "to celebrate the publications of Street & Smith, one of the largest publishers of popular entertainment in the United States, and their influence on readers of all ages; and to share information and ideas about the present and future of dime novel, pulp and series books research and to discuss ways libraries can support research and be supported in turn by the researcher."

Because so many of the participants are H.A.S. members, Brad Chase's resolution (see Page 5) asking to study the feasibility of a permanent library of Alger's works for

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'Forging Ahead in Philly'

(Continued from Page 3)

ing in the hospitality room, with president Rob Kasper calling the meeting to order slightly past 7:30 a.m.

The main order of business was the discussion of new directors and officers. To replace outgoing directors Jim Thorp, Owen Cobb and Bill Gowen, the nominating committee presented the names Christine DeHaan (PF-773), Bart Nyberg (PF-879) and Joe Slavin (PF-880), who would be nominated and voted upon at Friday night's annual business meeting.

Treasurer Judy Roobian-Mohr expressed her desire not to run for another two-year term, and convention host Murray Levin volunteered to allow his name to be placed in nomination.

Executive Secretary Carl Hartmann expressed his desire to step down as soon as a successor could be found. Kasper pointed out that it will be difficult to find anyone who could fill Carl's shoes in a position that has gradually evolved over the 31 years he has been Executive Secretary.

The next item on the agenda was the 1994 convention, which Chris DeHaan had volunteered to host in the Grand Rapids, Michigan area. The board voted to accept her offer and place Grand Rapids before the membership for a vote.

Also discussed was Nell Wright's offer to host the 1995 convention in Chillicothe, Ohio (the 1989 convention site, with the Wrights as hosts) as a means to allow the Society's members to have an opportunity to pur-

(Continued on Page 6)



Brad Chase (PF-412) describes the many formats of M.A. Donohue's Alger reprints during Friday morning's symposium on Alger and other authors.

RESOLUTION

For presentation at the 1993 H.A.S. annual convention. Offered by Bradford S. Chase (PF-412).

WHEREAS, a basic purpose of the Horatio Alger Society is to further the philosophy of Horatio Alger, Jr. and to encourage the spirit of Strive and Succeed, and

WHEREAS, Horatio Alger's heroes epitomize the Great American Dream associated with the growth and development of our Country, and

WHEREAS, there is continuing interest in the works of Horatio Alger, Jr. and a resurgence of interest in the principles and components of the American Dream, and

WHEREAS, there is no existing permanent depository which is dedicated primarily to preserving examples of all the writings of Horatio Alger, Jr. for potential use in studying, among other things, the development of the American Dream in America, and

WHEREAS, such writings as a matter of historical record should be readily available and accessible for examination and study purposes,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Horatio Alger Society form a committee consisting of at least three members to explore the feasibility of finding a permanent location to house and build a complete collection of the works of Horatio Alger, Jr. The basic concept behind such a collection is to gather in one place, at least one example of every different title and format of any Alger work ever published to be used primarily for reference and research purposes. The committee is encouraged to explore this concept with academic and other libraries, private business organizations and governmental agencies and report its findings, including any appropriate recommendations, to the 1994 H.A.S. annual meeting.

Submitted on April 30, 1993
at Fort Washington, Pennsylvania

'Forging Ahead in Philly'

(Continued from Page 5)

chase books from former president Will Wright's Alger and series-book library. It was decided discuss this offer at the business meeting.

Ways of boosting membership were discussed, and it was decided to form a "committee on advertising for new members" to study the Society's options. Named to the committee were John Cadick, Bill Gowen, Murray Levin and Brad Chase.

The final item for discussion was Chase's resolution calling for a permanent repository, or library, of Horatio Alger books for the benefit of future generations of researchers. Chase, Kasper, Ralph Gardner, John Dizer Bob Collmer were set up as the committee.

Symposium on books and authors

Friday morning's major event was a two-hour presentation organized by **Newsboy** editor Bill Gowen offering insights into Alger and other authors. The symposium was broken down into four 25-minute segments all accompanied by slides or other visual aids.

The first presentation, by Bill Gowen, was titled "Ralph Henry Barbour: Boys' Books and Much More," and it chronicled the 42-year writing career of the former newspaperman who wrote more than 160 books for boys as well as adults.

Jack Dizer's talk was titled "The Unknown Percy Keese Fitzhugh," detailing PFK's early career before he became (starting in 1915) Grosset & Dunlap's highly popular author of Boy Scout fiction.

Bart Nyberg followed with a look at Owen Johnson's popular Lawrenceville Stories, set at the real-life Lawrenceville (N.J.) School for Boys. Although the series is a short one (five volumes), the Lawrenceville Stories such as "The Varmint," "The Hummingbird" and "The Tennessee Shad" have endured to this day.

Brad Chase brought the session to a close with his overview of the reprint history of Horatio Alger books by the Chicago publisher M.A. Donohue. On display were actual examples of the more than three dozen Donohue formats, from high-quality earlier printings to later "cheapies."

The session concluded in time for lunch, which members had on their own. The remainder of the day was free for bookhunting or sightseeing in the Philadelphia area. Many saw Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell and historic sites downtown, others visited nearby Valley Forge, while others went bookhunting in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Annual meeting and book auction

Friday night was a busy one. First came a submarine sandwich supper catered by the Subway shop located



Jerry Friedland displays the endpapers of another Alger gem at Friday night's annual book auction.

adjacent to the Ramada Inn. The event was so well-attended that we ran short of forks and plates but there was plenty of food to go around.

The business meeting opened with convention host Murray Levin making introductions and reading from the proclamations offered from the Governor of Pennsylvania, Mayor of Philadelphia and Arlen Specter, the senior U.S. Senator from Pennsylvania (reproduced elsewhere in this issue).

Levin also announced that Ralph Gardner had been a guest Friday afternoon on the Talk Radio Network, his discussion on Alger reaching more than 70 markets.

President Rob Kasper presided over the annual business meeting, first explaining the procedures for the auction later that evening. He then opened the meeting to new business, as follows:

- *The committee on advertising was announced, with chairman John Cadick explaining the major goal was to reach potential new members from among existing, unknown Alger collectors as well as collectors of books other than Algers.

- *The treasurer's report was given by Judy Roobian-Mohr, showing the Society's net loss for fiscal year 1992 of \$167.96 on income of \$9,452.36 and expenses of \$9,620.32 (see complete Treasurer's Report on Page 16).

- *The membership accepted Chris DeHaan's offer to host the 1994 convention, and she spoke for several minutes on the Grand Rapids area and what it would offer to visiting H.A.S. members. She said she is close to finalizing the dates April 28 to May 1, 1994, these depending on a suitable hotel arrangement, which she said would be completed soon.

- *Kasper opened the floor to discussion of Nell

(Continued on Page 19)

A bite of the apple

Porter and Coates Algers: Part I

by Bradford S. Chase (PF-412)

We all realize that Alger first editions were published by many different companies. Some of these publishers produced many Alger firsts, often in several different formats. One company in this latter category was Porter and Coates of Philadelphia.

This article is the first of three parts. It examines certain Alger first editions published by Porter and Coates and gives some history about the development of that firm and its successors.

Discussed specifically are the Alger books

Alger at first glance

contained in a series known to many of us as "Brown Apples." This series contains 28 titles, eight of which are Alger first editions. Part II will describe three other first-edition formats by Porter and Coates and Part III will cover the first editions published by its successor firm, Henry T. Coates.

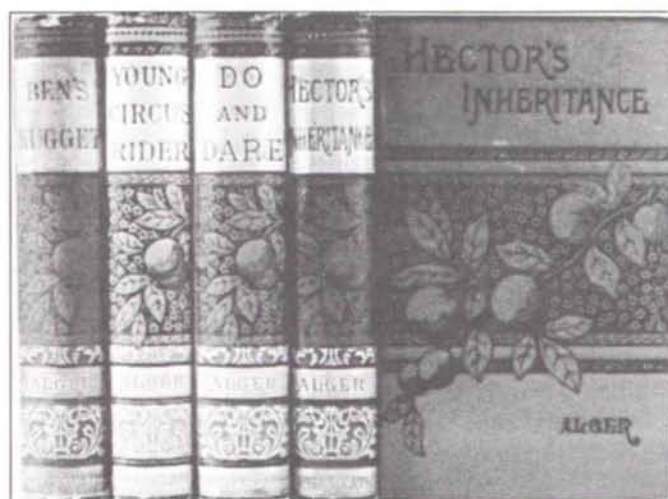
When Henry T. Coates in 1866 joined the publishing firm of Davis and Porter,¹ little did he realize that he would have a substantial interest and financial effect on me more than 100 years later. I'm sure he was at that time more concerned about supporting himself, continuing his publishing career and doing work that was primarily profitable and perhaps only incidentally concerned about making a product having lasting quality.

Assuredly, he would be amazed to learn that his Horatio Alger books are of keen interest to many other collectors in 1993!

When Charles Davis retired in 1867, the firm was renamed Porter and Coates. Henry, together with Robert Porter, then built the firm into one of the largest publishing houses in Philadelphia over the next 30-plus years. The key for us as Alger collectors was the purchase by the firm in 1881 of the stock, stereoplates and copyrights of books written by Horatio Alger, Jr. from the bankrupt Boston publisher, A.K. Loring.²

A variety of Alger editions then flowed from the Porter and Coates firm. The volumes were usually well constructed, moderately priced and had some very attractive formats, many of which we collectors proudly display on our bookshelves today as nice-quality Algers. One of these formats is called "Brown Apples."

Now, I'm not just sure how the "Brown Apples" name was given to this format. I guess I should credit my brother Rolfe, who has collected them from the start, for either coming up with the name himself or learning about it from some other collector. Anyway, the "Brown Apples" format is a sort of shorthand that Rolfe, I and



Four of the eight first editions published in Porter and Coates' "Brown Apples" format.

some other collectors use when discussing whether or not this or that title is needed.

I believe that the only true basis we have to determine the number of different titles Porter and Coates produced in this format is to count the number of different titles that have been found to date. The purpose of this article is to explain what I know about this format and see if other collectors have corrections or additions.

Collectors may also find the information of interest and may want to think about collecting the "Brown Apples" format now that there is more detailed information about it available. I have found it to be a very nice format to collect and looks really impressive with all the spines (with the books' titles printed against a gold background) side-by-side in a row on my bookshelf.

Before I continue with the description of the format, however, I should finish the historical notes about the Porter and Coates firm. It produced Algers and other juveniles until Mr. Porter retired in 1895. The firm then became the Henry T. Coates Company, which continued producing Algers, some of which we know are very collectible today as first editions.³ At some later point, the Henry T. Coates Alger plates became the property of the John C. Winston Company (also of Philadelphia), which reprinted Algers for many years. But that is another story; let's get back to "Brown Apples."

There are two cloth covers for this format: dark brown and gold (a yellowish tan). Both are considered first-edition cloth. I collect the dark brown-colored books because the brown is very attractive when contrasted with the black lettering on gold background and black apples and leaves depicted on the cover and spine. The front cover is 4 3/4 by 6 7/8 inches in size, smaller than the usual Alger, but similar in size to the Loring Algers from which they were derived. According to the advertise-

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Porter and Coates Algers: Part I

(Continued from Page 7)

ments in the books themselves, the cost per volume was \$1.25. If you wanted four that were advertised as a series, it would cost \$5.00. It should be noted, however, that books in the Luck and Pluck and Brave and Bold series were advertised for \$1.50 each and, as I note later, the titles in these series were not published in the Brown Apples format. Overall, individual editions of the Brown Apples format are nice-quality books that any collector would be proud to own and display.

The front cover has the title and "Alger" stamped in black, above and below a row of dashes and connecting dots bordered by black lines above and below a rectangular pattern of small flowers against a black background. Superimposed diagonally over this is a branch of leaves and apples (some people call them berries).

The spine has the title printed in black against a gold background on the upper third of the spine and "Alger" and "Porter & Coates" blind-stamped against gold strips interspersed with gold filigree on the lower third. In the middle third, the apples, leaves and flower design is carried over from the front cover.

A variant edition of "The Store Boy" has been observed in which there is no gold in the lower-third area of the spine, with "Alger" blind-stamped against a black background and "Porter & Coates" in a different style of lettering printed in black at the base of the spine. All other first-edition points are identical with the gold-stamped edition (see photo on Page 9).

A pertinent question relates to the number of titles that Porter and Coates actually produced in this format.

As mentioned above, I believe the only factual answer is based upon actual different titles found. After informally surveying other collectors and closely examining all my copies, I have concluded that a total of 28 titles were produced having this specific format. There may be more titles, and if you have one, please let me know. But you must have an actual copy of a "Brown Apples" book which is not included in Table 1 in order for it to be a valid addition to the listing.

The 28 titles in Table 1 are essentially of two basic types: 20 titles originally copyrighted and published as Alger first editions by A.K. Loring and eight titles published by Porter and Coates as first editions. The eight that are described by Bennett as true firsts are shown in boldface type in Table 1 and are listed separately with their copyright dates in Table 2.⁴

Porter and Coates published a new first edition each year from 1882 through 1889. In all of these first editions except "Ben's Nugget" there is no advertisement listing Algers in the front of the book. The "Ben's Nugget" verso (reproduced on Page 9) shows that title, along with 32

Table 1

Known Titles in the Brown Apples Format

(In alphabetical order; first editions in boldface)

Ben's Nugget	Phil the Fiddler
Ben the Luggage Boy	Ragged Dick
Bob Burton	Rough and Ready
Charlie Codman's Cruise	Rufus and Rose
Do and Dare	Sam's Chance
Fame and Fortune	Slow and Sure
Frank's Campaign	The Store Boy
Hector's Inheritance	Tattered Tom
Helping Himself	The Telegraph Boy
Julius	The Young Adventurer
Luke Walton	The Young Circus Rider
Mark the Match Boy	The Young Explorer
Paul Prescott's Charge	The Young Miner
Paul the Peddler	The Young Outlaw

titles originally published by Loring (titled **Famous Alger Books**). According to Bennett, the first edition is identified by the fact that "Ben's Nugget" title is the last title listed in these ads.⁵

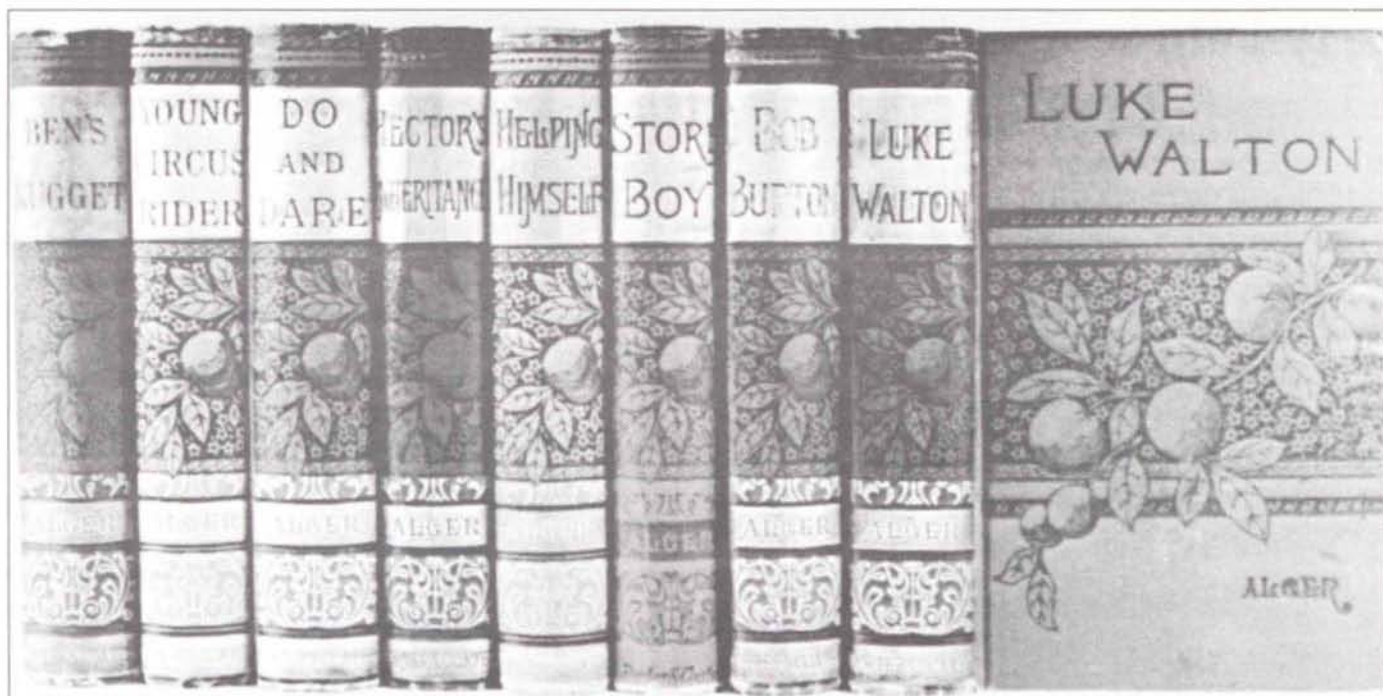
Why is "Ben's Nugget" unique? According to Gardner, this book, as the fourth and concluding title in the Pacific Series, had been planned for publication in October 1881 by A.K. Loring, who apparently already had the manuscript in hand when his firm went bankrupt in June 1881. When the Loring assets went over to Porter and Coates, the latter firm deposited the book for copyright in 1882.⁶ Note that "Ben's Nugget" is copyrighted by "Horatio Alger, Jr." and not either of the two publishers, which probably reflects the state of transition between the two firms.

It is interesting to note that the advertising list of 33 Alger titles on the verso of the "Ben's Nugget" title page and reproduced here on Page 9, consists of that title (a new title in 1882); 20 other titles grouped into five series (Ragged Dick, Tattered Tom [1st and 2nd series], Cam-

Table 2

First-edition publication dates

Title	Date
Ben's Nugget.....	1882
The Young Circus Rider.....	1883
Do and Dare.....	1884
Hector's Inheritance.....	1885
Helping Himself.....	1886
The Store Boy.....	1887
Bob Burton.....	1888
Luke Walton.....	1889



The eight Alger first editions appearing in Porter and Coates' "Brown Apples" cover formats.

paign and three titles of the Pacific Series); and 12 titles shown as part of the Luck and Pluck [1st and 2nd series] and Brave and Bold Series. I believe that due to the higher price per title (\$1.50 vs. \$1.25) and because none of these latter 12 titles have been found in the Brown Apples format, they were published in their own different format. I have never seen a dust jacket for the Brown Apples format, so using that as a basis for making a conclusion of number of titles is also out. The state of present research reflects the list of 28 titles in Table 1.

So that's it! All you Alger collectors look over your "Brown Apples" copies to see if you agree or disagree about the listing of the titles. Please let me know if you have some other title than is listed in Table 1. Let's establish once and for all how many and which titles Porter and Coates produced as "Brown Apples," so those among us who desire to complete this beautiful set will be able to do so with confidence in knowing the scope of what there is to collect.

NOTES

1. Tebbel, John H. *A History of Book Publishing in the United States*, Vol. II. New York: R.R. Bowker Co., 1978. p. 245.
2. Stern, Madeleine B. *Publishers for Mass Entertainment 19th Century America*, p. 246.
3. Tebbel, p. 423.
4. Bennett, Bob. *Horatio Alger, Jr.: A Comprehensive Bibliography*, Mt. Pleasant, Mich., Flying Eagle Publishing Co., 1980. pp. 46, 49, 58, 70, 71, 81, 104 and 125.
5. Bennett, p. 47.

6. Gardner, Ralph D. *Horatio Alger or, The American Hero Era*, Mendota, Ill., Wayside Press, 1964. p. 399.

FAMOUS ALGER BOOKS.

Illustrated, Cloth, Extra, Black and Gold.

RAGGED DICK SERIES. Complete in six vols. Price per vol., \$1 25.

Ragged Dick; or, Street Life in New York.
Fame and Fortune; or, The Progress of Richard Hunter.
Mark the Match Boy.
Rough and Ready; or, Life among the New York Newsboys.
Ben the Luggage-Boy; or, Among the Wharves.
Rufus and Rose; or, The Fortunes of Rough and Ready.

TATTERED TOM SERIES. A Continuation of the Ragged Dick Series.
Price per vol., \$1 25.

First Series. Complete in four vols.

Tattered Tom; or, The Story of a Street Arab.
Paul the Peddler; or, The Adventures of a Young Street Merchant.
Phil the Fiddler; or, The Young Street Musician.
Slow and Sure; or, From the Sidewalk to the Shop.

Second Series. Complete in four vols.

Julius; or, The Street Boy out West.
The Young Outlaw; or, Adrift in the World.
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BRAVE AND BOLD SERIES. Complete in four vols. Price per vol., \$1 50.

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Jack's Ward; or, The Boy Guardian.
Shifting for Himself; or, Gilbert Greyson's Fortunes.
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The Young Adventurer; or, Tom's Trip across the Plains.
The Young Miner; or, Tom Nelson in California.
The Young Explorers; or, Among the Sierras.
Ben's Nugget; or, A Boy's Search for Fortune.

COPYRIGHT BY HORATIO ALGER, JR., 1882.

The verso of the title page of the first edition of "Ben's Nugget," copyrighted by Alger in 1882.

A tribute to Frank Schott

by Paul F. Miller (PF-351)

I did not learn of the death of Frank J. Schott (PF-684 Hon.) of Suring, Wis. in the very early spring of 1992, until the past Christmas/New Year's season. Then, in a delayed delivery of a Christmas card -- from his wife Elsie -- came the news of Frank's passing.

It seems that Frank was preoccupied with his regular winter chore of removing accumulated snow from his residential walks -- by the hand-shovel method -- when death struck on April 10, 1992. He was buried in the Breed Union Cemetery in Suring on April 13, 1992.

Frank was 78 years of age at the time of his death, having been born on March 17, 1914, in Milwaukee. Elsie Missal became his wife on Aug. 27, 1939. The couple had no children.

Frank spent most of his working life as a self-employed furniture and cabinet maker in the Milwaukee area until failing sight caused him to retire. At that time he moved to the Breed, Wisconsin area in 1966, where he continued to reside at 10494 Rover Road, Suring, Wis., 54174 until his death, and where his wife still lives.

Not so many years after moving to Suring, Frank was declared legally blind by the Wisconsin Association for the Blind. Through the use of multiple pairs of different-lensed eyeglasses, the Association for the Blind determined it would be able to teach him bookbinding as a profession. Frank entered into the Association's apprenticeship program and became a success at the learning process. As part of its agreement, the Association for the Blind made certain necessary tools and equipment (a boardcutter, etc.) available to him. His wife Elsie became his "needle," sewing the signatures together and taking care of other needle-work, consisting of spines and other areas of bookbinding. In return for the Association of the Blind's help, Frank had been tied to a pledge to charge only for necessary materials and a protracted labor rate for his services in this new endeavor.

I guess Frank's bread-and-butter business was with libraries, museums, schools, religious groups, etc. The fine quality of his work, coupled with his favorably competitive prices, soon became known to collectors and other hobbyists, and finally to our Horatio Alger Society membership.

Many of us called upon Frank for service through his mail-order business. I suppose that Society-wise, Bob Sawyer (PF-455), with his **Sun Series** publications and his voluminous paperback series bindings, was probably one of Frank's bigger-volume clients. Over the past 15 years, it seems that much of the time I had single items (hard-cover books, paperbacks, magazines, old periodicals and other paper items that Alger collectors accumu-

(Continued on Page 17)



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
ROOM 215 CITY HALL
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19107-3095
(215) 686-2783
FAX (215) 686-2710

EDWARD G. RENDELL
MAYOR

April 29, 1993

To All Those In Attendance:

As Mayor, I am pleased to welcome members of The Horatio Alger Society to Philadelphia. Benjamin Franklin, who was this City's leading proponent of industry and thrift, clearly demonstrated how these qualities could lead to success in life. Horatio Alger, through his writing, expanded on these themes, and in his more than 100 books for boys showed them that by leading exemplary lives and struggling valiantly against poverty and adversity, they could gain wealth and honor.

Alger's message of industry and opportunity is as relevant today as it was when he published his first book, *Ragged Dick*, more than a hundred years ago. Your society performs a valuable service by perpetuating and interpreting Alger's philosophy.

While you are in Philadelphia, I hope you will take the opportunity to visit Independence Hall and the many other attractions in what is America's "Most Historic Square Mile," where modern freedom and democracy were born and which undoubtedly had a significant impact on Alger's writing. Contemporary Philadelphia offers fine dining, world-class shopping, and an array of cultural, entertainment, and sporting opportunities.

Please accept my best wishes for a successful conference.

Sincerely,

Edward G. Rendell
EDWARD G. RENDELL

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3822

April 26, 1993

Horatio Alger Society
c/o Murray D. Levin
600 Old York Road
Jenkintown, PA 19046

Greetings:

As the Senior United States Senator from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I would like to extend my warmest welcome to the Horatio Alger Society to the Annual International Convention here in the city of Philadelphia.

I am pleased to see the spirit, ideas, and traditions of Horatio Alger still alive today.

I hope that you enjoy your stay in Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love, and have a chance to explore our beautiful historical landmarks and experience its rich cultural and ethnic diversities. I believe these many opportunities will entice you to revisit Philadelphia as well as the many other interesting areas of the Keystone State.

Sincerely,

Arion Specter
Arion Specter

AS/ jnn

Charles Pierce Burton: Father of the Bob's Hill Boys

by Jack Bales (PF-258)

Like all **Dime Novel Round-Up** and **Newsboy** readers, I love boys' books, and I suppose I inherited this bibliographic affection from my father. I remember coming across an Alger book in his study in about 1968 (it was a Donohue edition of "Charlie Codman's cruise"). I picked it up, read and enjoyed it, and started collecting Algers. I eventually acquired a pretty fair collection, including a couple of autographed first editions and some Alger letters.

When I was 10 my father gave my twin brother and me a couple dozen Jerry Todd and Poppy Ott books by Leo Edwards, many in mint condition with dust jackets. My father was and is very fussy about his books -- a

*Other authors...
...other books*

very admirable trait in my opinion. (Unfortunately, when we were 12 my brother threw away all the d.j.'s, though I still read and reread all these volumes). I corresponded with Edwards aficionado Bob Chenu for awhile, joined the Leo Edwards fan organization and eventually amassed complete sets of the Jerry Todd and Poppy Ott series.

But my father's favorite author was Charles Pierce Burton, whose habit of incorporating historical events into all his books, gave Dad -- now a history teacher -- a love for the past. Significantly, Burton was a local author and celebrity in our hometown of Aurora, Illinois. Boys all over the country read his "Bob's Hill" stories, published in brown covers by Henry Holt & Company of New York in the early 1900s, which told of the "doings of the band" in Adams, Massachusetts. Burton lived on 439 Downer Place in Aurora, just two doors from my father's childhood home, and the author would autograph the Bob's Hill books that Dad would bring him.

But before this article gets too nostalgic, a few historical facts should be noted about "Charlie" Burton. His father, Pierce Burton, was born in Vermont in 1834. He was working in Anderson, Indiana when his son Charles was born on March 7, 1862. Soon afterwards, Mrs. Burton's health failed and she and Charlie went to live with her mother in Adams, Massachusetts. His mother died shortly

Editor's note: This article originally ran in the February 1980 issue of **Dime Novel Round-Up**. Slightly revised, it appears in **Newsboy** courtesy of Jack Bales and **DNRU** editor Edward T. LeBlanc. With the exception of the picture of Burton and those of the books themselves, the photographs accompanying this article were taken in 1992 by Dick Bales, who now owns Jack's Charles Pierce Burton collection. The books photographed for this article are courtesy of Bart J. Nyberg (PF-879).



Charles Pierce Burton (1862-1947)

afterwards and the small boy, living with Grandma, began the adventures which he would recall many years through a dozen separate volumes.

In 1866, Pierce Burton went to Demopolis, Alabama to raise cotton. In 1868 he founded a newspaper, the **Southern Republican**. In 1871, he moved to Aurora where he bought a newspaper, the **Aurora Herald**, in partnership with local Aurora resident James Shaw. In 1874, Burton married again and brought 12-year-old Charlie to Aurora to live.

Opon graduation from high school, Charlie went to work for his father. In 1882, Pierce Burton founded the **Au-Daily Express**, and by 1886, Charles Pierce Burton was the editor of it. By 1899 he was the owner of both this and the **Aurora Herald**.

Though Burton was well known in Aurora for his newspaper column in the **Aurora Beacon-News**, he is far more famous for his 12 books in the Bob's Hill series.

Bob's Hill is a real hill in Adams, Massachusetts and Burton's books record the adventures of "the Band," a group of boys who live in this village. Each story has a certain amount of American history written into it, and

(Continued on Page 12)

Charles Pierce Burton: Father of the Bob's Hill Boys

(Continued from Page 11)

teachers across the country lauded the volumes for their educational value. Quoting from an article which appeared in the Oct. 21, 1934 issue of the **Aurora Beacon-News**, "In a recent questionnaire sent out by Columbia University to schools and libraries requesting information regarding the popularity of juvenile fiction, the reports rated the first four authors as follows: Altsheler, Barbour, Burton and Twain."

How did Charles Pierce Burton begin to write this series? Quoting from the above newspaper again, this time from "Another book by C.P. Burton off the Press" (Oct. 23, 1932) the author relates, "I have served an apprenticeship in that best of all schools for writers -- newspaper work -- and naturally was ambitious to see my stuff in book form."

"One day, 25 years ago in the Chicago Press Club, a man was brought to me who wanted to buy a juvenile manuscript for his syndicating bureau. I told him that I did not have any but would write him one, and thereupon wrote 'The Boys of Bob's Hill,' taking the scenes and inspiration from my early childhood."

It might be appropriate here to mention something about the stories in the Bob's Hill books. They revolve around, as stated earlier, a group of boys living in Adams, Massachusetts. The character of John Alexander Smith, familiarly known as Pedro by the other boys, was really Burton himself, and he, in the form of the Band's secretary, wrote the books in the first person.

A quotation from "The Boy Scouts of Bob's Hill" can give you a clear idea of the characters of these stories, as well as Burton's writing style:

"Perhaps you never heard about the Band; how we found a cave at Peck's Falls, part way up the mountain, and had all kind of fun playing there and on Bob's Hill. There are eight of us in all. Skinny is captain. His folks call him Gabriel but we don't like that name. Skinny is a good name for him, he is so fat. He can run, though, even if he is heavy, and you would think that he could fight some if you had seen him once, when the Gingham Ground Gang got after us."

"Benny Wade is the littlest fellow in the bunch, but he feels just as big as anybody and sometimes that is almost as good as being big. Besides these there are Harry, Willie, Chuck, Bill Wilson, Hank Bates -- oh, yes, I almost forgot -- and myself."

"My name is John Alexander Smith. The boys call me Pedro, and I have been secretary ever since Tom Chapin found the cave. It's up to me to write the doings of the Band and the minutes of the meetings."



Devil's Cave, located near Aurora, Illinois, which played a significant role in "The Bob's Hill Braves."

"Tom Chapin was our first captain and he visits with us now, whenever he is in town."

Although the central theme of the books is simply the fun and good times that the boys have, there is always an underlying element that holds each book together.

For example, throughout "The Bob's Hill Braves," the members of the Band pretend they are Indians as they camp along the Fox River in Illinois. "The Boy Scouts of Bob's Hill" details the formation of the Raven Patrol.

"Bob's Hill on the Air" tells how the Band learned Morse Code and built a ham radio, and how it saved their lives when they were trapped in a cave that was blocked by a rockslide. And "Bob's Hill Boys in Virginia" begins with Scoutmaster Norton informing the Band that some members of the Raven Patrol were selected by the Troop Committee to attend the Boy Scout Jamboree in Virginia.

A variety of adventures occur through the many volumes of the series, including fights with the "Gingham Ground Gang," the members of which, like Jerry Todd's rivals the Stricker Gang, live on the wrong side of town. There is hiking and camping in the woods (also getting lost there) and in true Boy Scout fashion, rescuing people -- from a burning building, a wrecked train or from the side of a cliff.

Scouting came to be closely associated with Burton's books. In 1935, he addressed the audience at the 25th anniversary of Boy Scout Troop No. 3 in Aurora. He made the following remarks which were repeated in the **Beacon-News** of Jan. 29, 1977:

"Until I was almost 12 years old I lived in Adams, Massachusetts. Park Street, where the old house stood, skirts the foot of a large hill which was a favorite playground for us village boys. Sixty years and more ago, that hill was called Bob's Hill because at one time it belonged to Robert Briggs."

Burton said that when he sat down some 30 years later to attempt the writing of a book for boys, "that childhood

(Continued on Page 13)

on Bob's Hill reached up to me through the years and I became a boy again."

He recalled that he had written three books, "The Boys of Bob's Hill," "The Bob's Cave Boys" and "The Bob's Hill Braves" when the scouting movement began to attract general attention throughout America.

Burton reported that "Charles H. Norton was teaching a Sunday school class of boys in his church (New England Congregational in Aurora, which sponsored Troop 3 then and still does today) and he had initiated a group of these boys into Scouthood. My youngest son, Malcolm, was one of them. He ... and others became First Class Scouts, members of the Raven Patrol, Troop 3."

Burton said that he felt he could help the scouting movement by writing a Boy Scout book. "My first three books had won a wide reading, and a large, ready-made public was waiting for a fourth," he said. "It seemed an ideal setup for some constructive scout work."

So Burton then wrote "The Boy Scouts of Bob's Hill." It proved as popular as the previous books in the series. At the church banquet Burton explained how he combined the Bob's Hill Boys with the Raven Patrol, Troop 3 in Aurora:

"There were eight boys (in the other volumes), just the right number for a scout patrol. The previous books had been devoted to outdoor play. All that I had to add was the Boy Scout technique and ideals."

"Skinny Miller, captain of my band of boys, called Skinny because he was so fat, was made patrol leader. the secretary of the Band, Pedro, naturally became scribe of

the patrol.

"For Scoutmaster, I lifted Mr. Norton bodily, name and all, from Aurora and set him down in Adams, Massachusetts. I made him out to be a rather lovable and wonderful character in the books, but so he is in real life." (It is interesting to note that "Norton Hall" is now the name of the Scout meeting room at the New England Congregational Church).

Though Charles Pierce Burton's works were based in Adams, Massachusetts, he still did not forget his home in Aurora. "The Boy Scouts of Bob's Hill" (1912) is dedi-

cated "To the Raven Patrol, Troop 3 of Aurora, Illinois, Boy Scouts of America." Furthermore, one of his books, "The Bob's Hill Braves," tells of the Band's trip to Aurora and the adventures they had there.

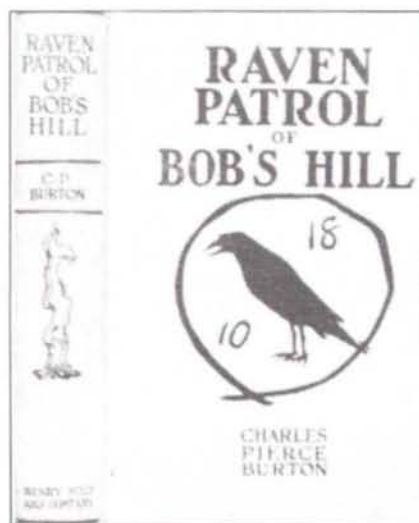
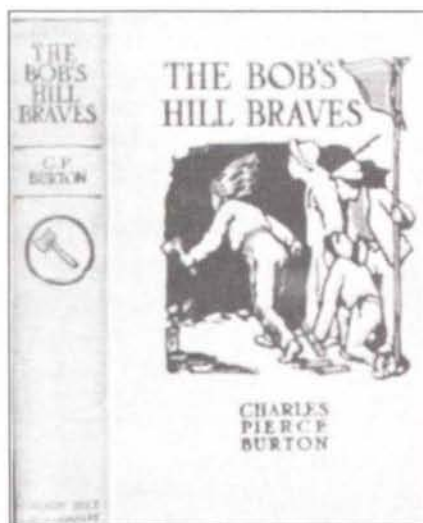
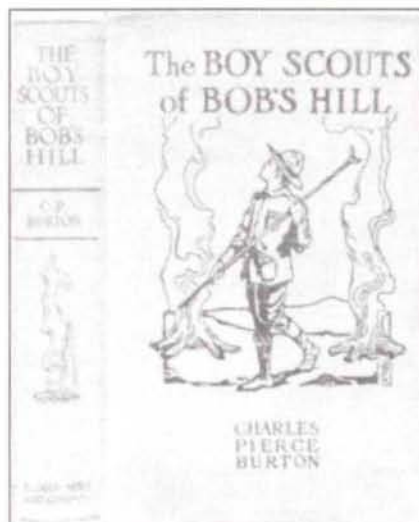
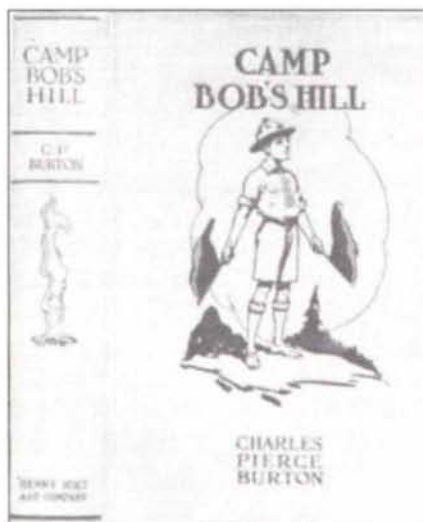
In attempting to complete my set of the Bob's Hill books (which I have since given to my brother) Owen Cobb (PF-473) helped out, and Carl Thieme, whom many of us know as the possessor of many beautiful boys' books, sent me a mint first of "Bob's Hill Boys in the Everglades" with dust jacket, a real tough one to find.

I suppose some people in Aurora still remember

Charles Pierce Burton. The Two Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America (in Aurora) has named its highest award for meritorious service the Charles Pierce Burton Award, in honor of the man whose life and writings promoted the virtues on which scouting was based and which it perpetuates.

But I can't help but feel that he is not as highly regarded as he should be, for although the last Bob's Hill

(Continued on Page 14)



Charles Pierce Burton: Father of the Bob's Hill Boys

(Continued from Page 13)

book was published in 1939, I still think they're the best juvenile series around. I guess Aurora newspaper man Lutz White felt the same way when he wrote in "C.P. Burton's Latest Book Called Best" (*Aurora Beacon-News*, Sept. 23, 1928): "There is an ancient aphorism which insists 'a prophet is not without honor, save in his own country and in his own home.'"

"While this adage is not strictly true, respecting Charles Pierce Burton in Aurora -- his home -- still, there are many of us who do not appreciate to the fullest extent the national fame, prestige and glory of our local author.

"We old-timers knew Charlie Burton, the young reporter, hustling news items, small ads, job printing, etc. for his dad's paper, the *Daily Express*; we knew him when he became city editor of that journal and surprised



Charles Pierce Burton's home on Downer Place in Aurora, Illinois.

us all with his humorous, philosophical and human 'Facts and Fancies' column; and we remember when his first book of essays was published.

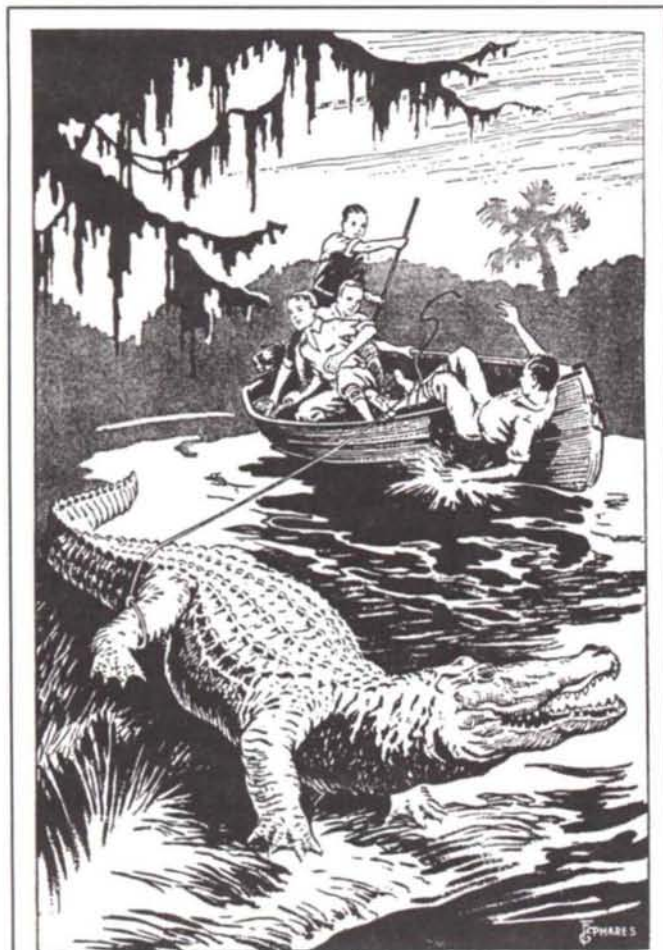
"We knew Charlie Burton when he was as much a fixture on our business streets as the old-time lamp posts; and knowing him so intimately we barely realize his high position in his literary field. We scarcely sense the fact that when he visits other cities, especially in the East, he is feted, written about and acclaimed the 'Dad of the Bob's Hill Boys.' It is just the recognition of this common truth that inspired that philosopher to coin the adage above."

Though we book collectors and readers of such publications as *Dime Novel Round-Up* and *Newsboy* pride ourselves on being familiar with many series of old-time books for boys, I suspect that Charles Pierce Burton is not very well known. Here's hoping that this article will spark interest in this superb story writer.

The Bob's Hill Series

1. The Boys of Bob's Hill (1905)
2. The Bob's Cave Boys (1909)
3. The Bob's Hill Braves (1910)
4. The Boy Scouts of Bob's Hill (1912)
5. Camp Bob's Hill (1915)
6. Raven Patrol of Bob's Hill (1917)
7. Bob's Hill Trails (1922)
8. Treasure Hunters of Bob's Hill (1926)
9. Bob's Hill Meets the Andes (1928)
10. Bob's Hill Boys in the Everglades (1932)
11. Bob's Hill on the Air (1934)
12. Bob's Hill Boys in Virginia (1939)

All published by Henry Holt and Co., New York.



THE ROPE HAD KNOTTED FAST AROUND HIS LEGS. . . .

The frontispiece for "Bob's Hill Boys in the Everglades," also used as the dust-jacket illustration.

Mrs. Pollifax and 'Tattered Tom'

by John T. Dizer (PF-511)

Am I reaching too far for an Alger connection? It's not really all that far. Dorothy Gilman (Butters) is, of course, well known for such books as *"The Tightrope Walker"* and *"The Clairvoyant Countess"* and is world famous for her adventure stories of Mrs. Emily Pollifax. I am sure many other Alger readers are as fond of Mrs. Pollifax as I am.

Many years ago Dorothy Gilman also wrote a number of delightful books for young people. One of them was *"The Calico Year,"* copyrighted in 1953. This is the Gilman book with an Alger connection.

I will spare you the amiable and predictable plot, though I believe Alger would have liked it. In the book, two sisters, one 16 and one 22, inherit an old house in the Berkshires of western Massachusetts. While cleaning out the basement they found four boxes full of papers and old books.

"Here are three by Horatio Alger," cried Tina (the 16-year-old), pocketing a copy of *"Tattered Tom."* "This is going to be fun" (pp. 48-49). Note that a 16-year-old girl recognized Alger, had apparently read other Alger books and expected to have fun reading *"Tattered Tom."*

The next day Tina went fishing. The girls had little money; they needed the fish for food and fishing was serious business. She "tossed the anchor overboard, fitted her rod together, brought out 'Tattered Tom' and settled down to wait. She was deep in chapter three of her book and furious with herself for being so interested when her line sank with a nibble."

I assume she was furious at herself, not for being interested in *"Tattered Tom"* but for not paying enough attention to her fishing which, after all, put food on the table. We can deplore taking what is apparently an early edition of *"Tom"* out in a rowboat, but at least the girl read and enjoyed Alger and didn't just collect him.

That's all we hear about Alger until near the end of the book. We expect that Tina finished *"Tattered Tom"* and possibly the other two Alger books also. In the body of the book the girls were so busy just surviving, to say nothing of creating and solving their romantic problems, that it was only after survival and romance had been resolved that Alger appeared again. And this appearance was economic.

The girls found a rare stamp and made a trip to New York City where they sold the stamp to a New York rare stamp/book dealer.

The dealer gave them a lecture on first editions and manuscripts that the girls should look for in the Berkshires, noting that Hawthorne and Melville "spent some time near them." He mentioned that they might find

"Little Women" because of its Boston publication, *"Tom Sawyer"* because of its Hartford printing, *"New England Primer"* and so on, and quoted (1953) prices of \$25 to \$750.

This fired up the girls. Tracy (the 22-year-old) said, "I wish we were going home tomorrow."

"Me, too," said Tina, "I miss the mountains."

"I was thinking of that Horatio Alger book you were reading," said Tracy heartlessly, "because if it should be a first edition it would be worth fifteen dollars" (p. 184).

How Tracy learned the value of Alger is not stated nor is the title of the Alger she had in mind. It may or may not be significant that Tracy had become a librarian as part of the girls' economic survival plan.

Tracy obviously knows that Tina is or has been reading Alger and it is apparent that Dorothy

Gilman knows Horatio Alger books and liked them enough back in 1953 to have her 16-year-old girl heroine thoroughly engrossed in *"Tattered Tom."* I do wonder why she didn't mention that Tom was a girl. As Alger noted in his 1871 introduction to the book, "Some surprise may be felt at the discovery that Tom is a girl; but I beg to assure my readers that she is not one of the conventional kind. I venture to hope that she will become a favorite in spite of her numerous faults..."

She must have become a favorite of Tina's. It is also interesting to notice that when her older sister Tracy learns about the value of first editions of *"Little Women"* and *"Tom Sawyer"* she relates this to the value of first editions of Alger with no comments or apparent concerns about literary value.

It is a real pleasure to find a writer of such wide knowledge and reputation as Dorothy Gilman who knows Alger and mentions his books in a non-judgmental way in one of her own books for young people.



TREASURER'S REPORT

(May 1, 1992 - April 30, 1993)

INCOME		EXPENSES	
Dues	\$3,351.00	Misc. postage (a)	\$309.70
Ads	4.00	Newsboy postage	1,191.19
Mchdse. sales	64.00	Newsboy typing (b)	200.00
Book sales	145.85	Newsboy printing	2,176.83
Donations	120.00	Editor's misc. expenses	423.03
Misc. inc. (A)	5,751.94	Other misc. expenses (c)	5,183.53
Interest	15.57	Aldinger (labels)	136.04
Total		Total	
Income	\$9,452.36	Expenses	\$9,620.32

Net income for reporting period (\$167.96)

Notes:

(A): Miscellaneous income includes:

-- Receipts of \$5,751.94 from 1992 Waco convention, including \$5,537.54 in auction revenues received between May- November 1992.

(a): Miscellaneous postage expenses include all H.A.S. mailings made by the Executive Secretary other than the mailing of **Newsboy**.

(b): **Newsboy** typing expenses have been eliminated because of the switch to desktop publishing. The \$200 typing expense incurred in August 1992 was for the new H.A.S. membership roster.

(c): Other miscellaneous expenses incurred during the reporting period include the following:

May 1992 -- Book auction disbursements to consignors totaling \$2,430.12.

June 1992 -- Book auction disbursement to consignor Walter Moore, \$1,788.42; annual report fee, \$5; shipping costs of \$107.50 incurred by 1992 convention co-host John Cadick; book refund of \$6.95; flowers for the family of William R. Wright, \$38.48; check printing, \$12.60.

September 1992 -- Printing costs for H.A.S. roster, \$639.29.

March 1993 -- Auction bid slip printing, \$17.16.

April 1993 -- **Newsboy** envelope printing, \$138.01.

Dear Partic'lar Friends:

Above is the financial report for the Horatio Alger Society for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1993. We began the fiscal year with \$1,071.76. Since then, income was \$9,452.36 and expenses were \$9,620.32, leaving us with a net loss of \$167.96 and a checking account balance of \$903.80.

Most of our income came from dues (\$3,350) and from last year's auction (approximately \$1,100).

The majority of our operating expenses were **Newsboy**-related. Postage, labels and printing costs were a shade less than last year, with the editor's computerized layout system bringing a net savings of several hundred dollars. The other expense of note was the \$800-plus for typesetting and printing the new membership roster.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Roobian-Mohr (PF-849)
Treasurer

H.A.S. AUCTION RESULTS

Ralph Anderson collection:

Lot	Title	Buyer	Price
1.	Bertha's Christmas Vision	Carl Bromer	\$78.00
2.	Out for Business	Floyd Hunt	7.00
3.	Young Captain Jack	Wally Parsons	8.00
4.	Joe the Hotel Boy	June Land	12.00
5.	Phil the Fiddler	Ivan McClymont	22.00
6.	Slow and Sure	Ivan McClymont	7.00
7.	Ben Bruce	Wally Parsons	6.00
8.	From Farm Boy to Senator	Larry Rice	11.00
9.	Ben the Luggage Boy	Wally Parsons	13.00
10.	Ragged Dick	M.R. Royar	12.00
11.	Mark the Match Boy	F.M. Hunt	17.00
12.	Rufus and Rose	Percy Seamans	4.00
13.	Canal Boy to President	Wally Parsons	6.00
14.	The Backwoods Boy	Jerry Friedland	35.00
15.	Strong and Steady	Don Cripe	22.00
16.	Fame and Fortune	Don Cripe	10.00
17.	Ragged Dick	M.R. Royar	10.00
18.	Tattered Tom	Christine DeHaan	7.00
19.	Shifting for Himself	Don Cripe	10.00
20.	Jacob Marlowe's Secret	John Walter	14.00
21.	The Train Boy	Carl Bromer	2.00
22.	Mark Mason's Victory	Brad Chase	4.00
23.	Bound to Rise	Ivan McClymont	22.00
24.	Try and Trust	F.M. Hunt	20.00
25.	Risen from the Ranks	M.R. Royar	21.00
26.	Herbert Carter's Legacy	M.R. Royar	20.00
Total	(individual books)		\$400.00
	(other books in group lots)		138.00
Anderson collection total			\$538.00

McCord collection total \$244.00

Wright estate auction (Alger statues) \$890.00

Regular H.A.S. auction total \$614.00

Total bids from all auctions \$2,286.00

Paid to consignors \$817.50

Total raised by H.A.S. \$1,468.50

Notes:

A. The Ralph Anderson collection was a donation with 100 percent of the above total going to the Society.

B. The William McCord collection was a 75 percent donation, with \$183 of the above total to the Society.

C. The Will Wright estate sale provided 15 percent of the above total, or \$133.50, to the Society.

D. The entire \$614 raised from the regular H.A.S. auction goes to the Society.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Bill:

I think the slide presentation you conducted at our Philly convention opened a fascinating new dimension for all who attended. Whereas we're all happily involved with Horatio Alger's great works, I (for one) learned a lot from your talk on Ralph Henry Barbour; Jack Dizer's on Percy Keese Fitzhugh, Bart Nyberg's on Owen Johnson and Brad Chase's on the Donohue Algers.

This program -- a real highlight of a generally high-light-filled convention -- was itself worth double our remarkably low registration fee!

Let's have more of this next year at Grand Rapids!

Cordially,
Ralph Gardner (PF-053)
135 Central Park West
New York, NY 10023

Dear Bill:

I want to thank all the members of the Society for making this my best convention yet (they just get better and better). Just a partial list of this year's wonderful experiences include:

- Completed by collection of Motor Boys titles and added three additional titles in dust jacket;
- Added a beautiful first-edition title to my collection of Winston juvenile science fiction;
- Met several new friends for the first time;
- Renewed and refreshed many friendships;
- Visited several historical sites, including Valley Forge;
- Watched several of my friends add new or improved editions to their various collections;
- Attended my first directors' meeting;
- Was appointed to serve on the committee for the membership drive;
- Watched my daughter grow as she socialized and learned about books and the history of our country.

But these were only preludes. The finest moment for me, was when I was announced as the co-recipient, along with Bob Collmer, of this year's Luck and Pluck Award. I have thoroughly enjoyed my association with the Society, beginning with my first convention in the Catskills. I am looking forward to a long, enjoyable relationship in the future. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
John Cadick (PF-858)
P.O. Box 495578
Garland, TX 75049-5578

Let's hear from you! Share your collecting experiences or other news of interest to fellow members by writing to **Newsboy** editor Bill Gowen at 923 South Lake St., Apt. 6, Mundelein, IL 60060.



Bart Nyberg, right, and Jerry Friedland at the annual H.A.S. book sale on May 1.

A tribute to Frank Schott

(Continued from Page 10)

late that "need work") either en route to Frank or in his workshop or enroute back home to Vienna, Ohio. I always tried to include a Preface or a Title Page or some other typed credit -- just past the front endpapers -- that gave Frank a publisher's-type credit, as it were, at the bottom of this insertion page.

Frank usually included a short handwritten note with his work when he returned it. Often, in these notes to me he would refer to the fact that the handwritten note required the use of the fourth or fifth pair of glasses on my order. These notes gave me an insight to the enjoyment he and Elsie got from their lifestyle. Apparently, Wisconsin winters in this area could be particularly harsh, since Frank often referred to his shoveling bouts "with that darn 'white stuff' and the battles it cost him."

We often engaged in telephone conversations, too, which were very enjoyable. But, my travels never took me to that point in the U.S.A. and I never had the pleasure of a personal visit with the Schotts.

I might add, too, that because of the many differently-powered sets of eyeglasses, Frank was able to carry on his cabinet-making on an extended hobby basis.

Elsie's brother, Kelly Missal, spent the early weeks of 1993 down from his home in Fairbanks, Alaska, at the Schott home in Suring. They are working up lists of Frank's books, which will be available for sale. I guess that except for modern dime novels of the 1970s and 1980s, available at the Suring address will be western and mystery books in hardcover: C. Doyle, E.R. Burroughs, F. Gruber, R. Howard, Whiskers, Tuttle and a host of others.

Editor's notebook

(Continued from Page 4)

research purposes, will be a major topic of discussion.

The program begins Thursday morning, August 5, but for early arrivals, there will be a reception Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the library's Class of 1916 Room.

Syracuse University is going all-out to make this symposium a success, hoping to emulate the highly acclaimed Hess Symposium on Dime Novels and Series Books held at the University of Minnesota in June 1991.

The registration fee is only \$25, a bargain in today's economy. The university is also offering a housing plan at Dellplain Dormitory, 601 Comstock Ave., for \$85 for the nights of August 4-5. This includes meals (Wednesday dinner through Friday breakfast) in Haven Dining Center, adjacent to the dorm. However, be warned that Dellplain is not air-conditioned and being a college dormitory, it has shared bath facilities.

For those of you wanting more luxurious accommodations, the SU Sheraton Inn is located one block west of Bird Library, where the symposium is going to be held. These are typical Sheraton rates, however, including senior citizen rates. For information, call the hotel directly at 1-315-475-3000 or the international Sheraton reservation line at 1-800-323-3535.

Also available one mile north of the library is the Genesee Inn/Executive Quarters at 1060 E. Genesee St. (1-315-476-4212). Please mention the conference and you may get a special rate.

If you are driving, there are several budget and medium-priced motels within 15 or 20 minutes of the campus. A good selection (Econo Lodge, Red Roof Inn, Super Eight, Quality Inn, etc.) can be found near New York State Thruway interchanges No. 35 (Carrier Circle/Thompson Road) and No. 36 (Interstate 81).

Syracuse is also served by Amtrak and major airlines; however there is no public transportation to the campus from the airport or train station (Syracuse Airport is in North Syracuse and the Amtrak station is in East Syracuse) so you will have to take a cab.

A registration form is enclosed in this issue of **Newsboy**. For more information on the program itself or about registration, call Carolyn Davis of the Special Collections Department, Syracuse University Library, at 1-315-443-2697, or phone Randy Cox at 1-507-646-3598 (days) or 1-507-645-5711 (evenings).

I must emphasize that this is not a book-collector's swap meet; it's for researchers, not dealers. While I'm sure those attending will find time for some area book-hunting, that is not what this symposium is all about.

So if you're interested, send in the enclosed registration form right away.

Moving?

If you are changing your address or phone number, or if your current H.A.S. roster listing is incorrect, send your new address and phone number immediately to Executive Secretary Carl Hartmann, 4907 Allison Drive, Lansing, MI 48910.

MEMBERSHIP

New members:

James P. Broderick (PF-912)
25 Glen Burnie Road
West Roxbury, MA 02131 (617) 323-9673
James, who is self-employed, currently owns 60 Alger titles and lists toy cars, art, antiques, old magazines and sailing as his other hobbies.

Nick Michero (PF-913)
6301 Roberto Drive
Huntington, W. Va. 25705 (304) 736-7754
Nick, who is retired, has 70 Alger titles. He also collects Frank and Dick Merriwell paperbacks.

William J. MacRitchie (PF-914)
3 Stanley Oval
Westfield, NJ 07090
William is a retired chemical engineer who currently has 60 Alger titles in his collection. He also collects stamps, coins, antiques and Lionel trains. He learned about H.A.S. from Ed Mattson's article on Alger books in **AntiqueWeek**.

Change of address:

Rolfe B. Chase (PF-602)
4731 Fox Creek Road
Carson City, NV 89703 (702) 885-6812
(phone number in roster is incorrect)

Walter J. Moore (PF-131)
401 Burwash, Apt. 221
Savoy, IL 61874

Robert G. Huber (PF-841)
205 Ozark Trail
Madison, WI 53705-2532 (608) 238-1298

'Forging Ahead in Philly'

(Continued from Page 6)

Wright's offer to host the 1995 convention in Chillicothe, Ohio. The pros and cons were debated, with the membership deciding to leave all options open on a '95 site.

*Brad Chase moved that we adopt his resolution on the formation of a permanent Alger research collection; the motion was seconded by Ralph Gardner and the committee was introduced, consisting of Kasper, Chase, Gardner, John Dizer and Bob Collmer, to send inquiries to various libraries and report on its findings at the 1994 convention.

*The three new directors, Chris DeHaan, Bart Nyberg and Joe Slavin were placed in nomination, seconded and elected by acclamation.

*Judy Roobian-Mohr's desire not to seek another term as treasurer was accepted with regrets, and Carl Hartmann moved that the Society vote to accept Levin's agreement to serve a two-year term; he was elected by acclamation.

*With Levin moving up to Treasurer, that vacated the final year of his three-term as a director. Hartmann nominated Jon Friedland (PF-641) to finish out this term; Friedland was elected by acclamation.

*Kasper discussed Hartmann's desire to turn over the Executive Secretary's duties to someone else after his 31-year tenure in the job. Hartmann agreed to stay on until a successor is found as well as work with the new Executive Secretary during the transition period.

The business meeting was adjourned.

Annual H.A.S. auction

Immediately following the business meeting, the New Hope Room was set up for the annual Horatio Alger Society Auction, which contained several parts.

Included were the books donated by Ralph Anderson (PF-144), in 26 individual lots plus several group lots, with 100 percent proceeds going to the Society; books donated by Bill McCord (PF-360) with 75 percent going to the Society; the three Alger hero statues from the Will Wright estate, with 15 percent going to the Society; and the auction of member-donated books and memorabilia (100 percent).

Four hours later, a total of \$2,286 had been hammered down, with \$817.50 going to the consignors and \$1,468.50 to the Horatio Alger Society.

For a listing of the Anderson collection results, plus a complete auction summary, see page 16.

Saturday morning book sale

The New Hope Room was rearranged late Friday night for the big annual book sale kicking off at 8 a.m. on Saturday. More than 20 members and dealers set up for the sale, and many bargains were available despite the

two days of bookselling that had already taken place in members' rooms.

The sale lasted until around 11 a.m., with the rest of the day off for lunch on our own, more bookhunting and watching the Kentucky Derby.

Annual awards banquet

The site of the annual banquet was the Palace of Asia restaurant, located in the Ramada Inn. More than 50 members and guests attended.

The highlight of each year's banquet is the presentation of awards. Ralph Gardner, the first winner of the **Newsboy Award** in 1964, opened the festivities by presenting the 1993 award to Brad Chase. It was Chase's second **Newsboy**

Award, his having received it in 1984 for publishing his book on A.L. Burt Algers. He is currently involved in similar projects involving publishers like Whitman and Donohue.

Bill Gowen, the 1992 recipient, presented the **Luck and Pluck Award** to Bob Collmer and John Cadick, who silenced the doubters that an Alger convention could draw big numbers in the south by co-hosting the very successful "Baylor, Class of '92" in Waco, Texas.

The **Dick Seddon Award**, given annually to the member who "emulates the qualities and comradeship of the late Richard (Dick) Seddon," was presented by outgoing treasurer Judy Roobian-Mohr by the 1992 winner, Bernie Biberdorf.

The final award of the evening is one that is not given annually but only when the Society feels it is merited. The **Strive and Succeed Award** is given to "a boy or girl who conforms to the standards described by Horatio Alger Jr. and should be a typical Alger hero."

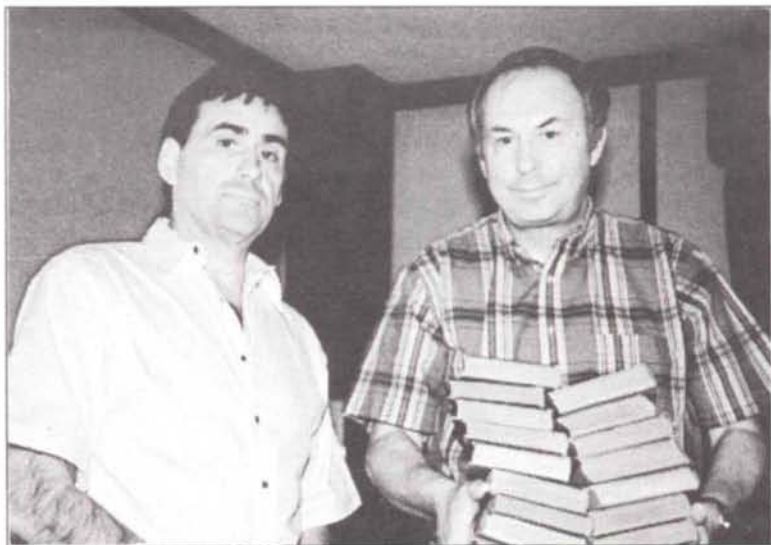
Convention host Murray Levin announced that this year's **Strive and Succeed Award** recipient was "in all respects an Alger hero," in introducing 17-year-old Fernando L. Medina of Bloomfield, Ct., a recent graduate at Church Farm School in Exton, Pa., who will major in business at the University of Hartford starting this fall. "If ever there was a real-life example of Strive and Succeed, Fernando is that example," Levin said.

The banquet and convention now over, it was time to say "We hope to see you in Grand Rapids in '94!"



Fernando Medina, 17, receives the Strive and Succeed Award from Murray Levin.

*Farewell to Philly --
Welcome to Michigan!*



Dick Pope, right, looks satisfied with the deal he has made with Ed Mattson on Thursday night.



Outgoing treasurer Judy Roobian-Mohr is presented the Dick Seddon Award by Bernie Biberdorf during Saturday night's banquet.

Photos by Joseph T. Slavin III

Next year's convention host Christine DeHaan checks out of the hotel on Sunday with a cheerful message to all the Society's Partic'lar Friends: "I hope to see you in Grand Rapids in '94!"

