



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.

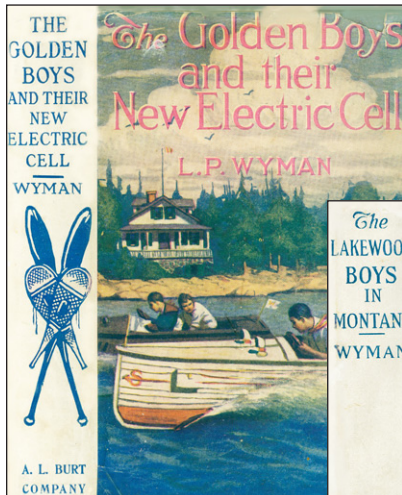
VOLUME LVIII

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2020

NUMBER 6

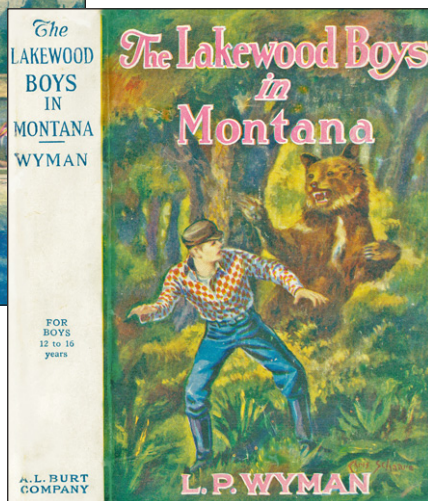
More on the H.A.S. convention

-- See Page 3



L. P. Wyman

Maine outdoorsman, educator and author of books for young people



-- See Page 9

Update on Appleton-Century transition — *Letters to the Editor*, Page 8

Happy Holidays from the Horatio Alger Society!

President's column



Good morning from Houston, and Happy Holidays to all our Partic'lar Friends from Linda and me!

Well, the pandemic rages on and despite the promised (and soon to be available) vaccine, the days of masks and sheltering in place are far from over. I guess we are all getting used to the new normal.

From a personal standpoint, it has been a quiet fall. My kids did not come home for Thanksgiving and it is doubtful that we will see them during the Christmas holidays. As opposed to our yearly trek to Chef Chan's for Christmas dinner, we probably will be breaking bread via Zoom.

Of course, things could be worse. I just finished the entry for my bibliography for J. C Garrigues & Co., a Philadelphia publisher. Here is a summary from a couple of newspaper clippings:

In 1872, James C. Garrigues (the senior member of the firm) health had taken a turn for the worse. He had become "impaired by overwork" and was placed in an insane asylum. As he improved, he was allowed visits into the city. During one of these visits he disappeared. There was a posted reward of \$100 for information regarding his whereabouts. A couple of months later his body was found without arms or legs. It was thought that he had been run over by a train.

I guess the publishing industry was plenty stressful back then!

As many of you know, boxed book sets are a special interest of mine. There is a subset of boxed books that is

(Continued on Page 6)

HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY

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

OFFICERS

CARY S. STERNICK	PRESIDENT
JAMES KING	VICE-PRESIDENT
BARRY SCHOENBORN	TREASURER
ROBERT G. SIPES	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ROBERT PETITTO	(2021) DIRECTOR
DEBBY JONES	(2021) DIRECTOR
JAMES D. KEELINE	(2021) DIRECTOR
JOSEPH STRANG	(2021) DIRECTOR
JACK BALES	(2022) DIRECTOR
MICHAEL MORLEY	(2022) DIRECTOR
LEO "BOB" BENNETT (1932-2004)	EMERITUS
RALPH D. GARDNER (1923-2005)	EMERITUS

PAST PRESIDENTS

KENNETH B. BUTLER	MARY ANN DITCH
JACK ROW	JOHN CADICK
DR. MAX GOLDBERG	CARL T. HARTMANN
STEVE PRESS	ARTHUR P. YOUNG
JUDSON S. BERRY	CAROL NACKENOFF
LEO "BOB" BENNETT	ROBERT G. HUBER
JERRY B. FRIEDLAND	ROBERT R. ROUTHIER
BRADFORD S. CHASE	MICHAEL MORLEY
ROBERT E. SAWYER	LAWRENCE R. RICE
EUGENE H. HAFNER	ROBERT G. SIPES
D. JAMES RYBERG	BARRY SCHOENBORN
GEORGE W. OWENS	JEFF LOONEY
WILLIAM R. WRIGHT	RICHARD B. HOFFMAN
ROBERT E. KASPER	

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

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

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

Newsboy ad rates: Full page, \$32.00; one-half page, \$17.00; one-quarter page, \$9.00; per column inch (1 inch deep by approx. 3 1/2 inches wide), \$2.00. Send ads, with check payable to Horatio Alger Society, 1004 School St., Shelbyville, IN 46176.

The above rates apply to all want ads, along with ads offering non-Alger books for sale. However, it is the policy of the Horatio Alger Society to promote the exchange of Alger books and related Alger materials by providing space **free of charge** to our members for the **sale only** of such material.

Send advertisements or "Letters to the Editor" to **Newsboy** editor William R. Gowen (PF-706) at 23726 N. Overhill Dr., Lake Zurich, IL 60047, or by E-mail to hasnewsboy@aol.com

Fredericksburg's place in history is forever tied to Civil War battle

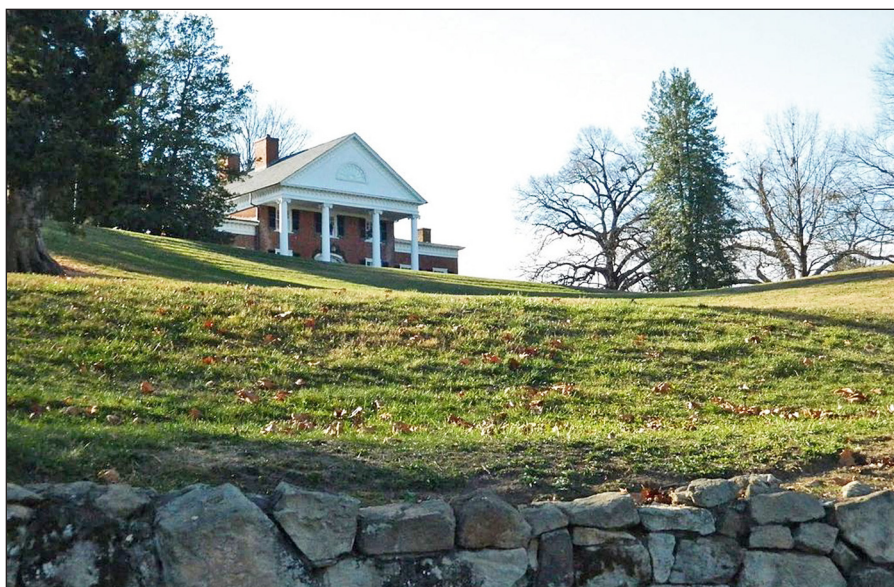
By Jack Bales (PF-258)

I never go anywhere without at least one mask (and a gaiter is always around my neck). Social distancing has become second nature for all of us. Here's hoping that the developing vaccines continue to bring encouraging news.

In the meantime, I continue to look forward to June 3-6, 2021, when I welcome Horatio Alger Alger Society members to Fredericksburg, Virginia, for our annual convention. Enclosed with this issue of **Newsboy** is a tentative schedule. I say "tentative" because some items have not yet been finalized, and more detailed itineraries and our registration form will appear in subsequent issues.

As I have mentioned before, there is much to see and do in Fredericksburg, but the number one attraction, according to a local tourism official, is the Civil War. You can stop in at the Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitor Center (1013 Lafayette Boulevard) or simply walk around the grounds and see interpretive signs describing the December 1862 Battle of Fredericksburg.

Within a few hundred feet of the Visitor Center is "Brompton," now the home of the president of the University of Mary Washington. It was built in 1824 and was the home of John L. Marye (pronounced Marie), a well-known local lawyer and businessman. From the historical marker in front of Brompton: "During the Battle of Fredericksburg, the 3rd South Carolina Infantry took position in front of Brompton, while Colonel James B. Walton of the Washington Artillery made the building



"Brompton," now the residence of the president of UMW, was built in 1824 and figured prominently in the Battle of Fredericksburg.

his headquarters. Seventeen months later, in May 1864, the house became a hospital for Union soldiers wounded in the Overland Campaign."

The area around Brompton is known as Marye's Heights, and its hills and ridges occupied by Confederate General James Longstreet and his men helped turn back Union forces during the December 1862 Fredericksburg battle. The Confederates also took full advantage of a sunken road and a rugged stone wall in front of Brompton. "Not one attacker touched the stone wall," wrote one modern-day historian, "and not one entered the Sunken Road." Almost one in three Union soldiers were killed trying to storm the stone wall in front of Brompton. And Brompton still bears the bullet marks and other scars of that battle that took place more than 150 years ago.

Civil war cannons, trenches, and interpretive signs and maps line Lee Drive, the entrance of which is just a few hundred feet down Lafayette Boulevard. Lee Drive follows part of the path of Confederate forces during the Battle of Fredericksburg, and General Robert E. Lee's command post is an easy walk from one of the drive's turn-offs. Trails and hiking paths abound, and Lee Drive is a popular place for bikers, hikers, and people

The 2021 convention will be held at the Hampton Inn and Suites, Fredericksburg-South, 4800 Market Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22408. The phone number is (540) 898-5000, and room reservations are now being accepted. The cut-off date for reservations at the convention rate of \$89.00 per night is May 1, 2021.

(Continued on Page 5)

Editor's notebook

I open this gathering of random thoughts with hope for all our Partic'lar Friends to have a happy and safe holiday season. We know that this is a Christmas/New Year's celebration unlike any other we have experienced in our lifetimes, with relatives and close friends separated geographically from us by the ongoing pandemic and its related restrictions on interstate travel and large gatherings. With the so-called "new normal," we will just have to make the most of a difficult situation.

I open with the sad news of the passing of longtime member and former convention host Ralph Carlson (PF-955), after learning from his daughter in Utah that her father had died in early 2019. We were unaware, and had been sending **Newsboy** to him over the past year, and in the September-October issue



Ralph J. Carlson (PF-955)

we listed his change of address after notification by the postal service this summer. When his daughter saw that issue of **Newsboy** arrive at her home, she immediately contacted us with the news of Ralph's passing. He joined the Society in late 1994 and was a regular attendee at our conventions for the following two decades.

We remember his 2002 convention, "Crossroads of the West," with fondness. I still feel it was one of our finest conventions. Salt Lake City is a place every American should visit in his or her lifetime, with such attractions as the Great Salt Lake, the Mormon temple and famous Tabernacle, and the beautiful surrounding Wasatch Mountains. Ralph arranged for us to attend a dress rehearsal of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and orchestra for its weekly national radio broadcast, as well as a concert by the Utah Symphony Orchestra in the acoustically splendid Maurice Abravanel Hall, directly across the street from our convention hotel. What a wonderful weekend that was!

A nostalgic "virtual" trip to Maine: I hope you enjoy reading my article on author L.P. Wyman as much as I had writing it. He was a fascinating man, trained as a chemist and educator, but still finding time to write 30 books for boys, most of them set in the wilderness

of his beloved Maine, where he was born in 1873.

Ironically, 2020 is the first year I will have missed an annual trip to Maine in well over 30 years, obviously due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These annual trips were mostly focused on book-hunting, and I added many items for my collection, especially in the earlier years when second-hand bookstores were still very plentiful "Down East."

Now, most of the stores are gone, including within the past year the closure of Doug Harding's bookstore in Wells, on U.S. Route 1. Harding will continue to sell from a small stock of volumes at his home, either online or by appointment. But it will not include the large selection of series books he displayed in a dedicated small room at his shop. I first visited Harding's store when it was in Portland, many, many years ago.

Newsboys' Lodging House: After reading convention host Jack Bales' letter to the editor on Page 7 describing his ongoing research on the various locations of New York's lodging house for homeless newsboys, I remind readers that just over a year ago we republished Horatio Alger's memoir of his 1866 visit to the Brace Memorial Lodging House in our special "newsboy" issue (September-October 2019). Originally published in the **Liberal Christian** of New York on April 20, 1867, Alger's memoir first appeared in the **Newsboy** issue of December 1981 (Vol. XX, No. 5).

MEMBERSHIP

New member

Jonathan Booth (PF-1150)

520 Warwick Road

Kenilworth, IL 60043

Phone: (847) 251-7064

Email: luthersleuther@sbcglobal.net

Reinstated member

Scott B. Chase (PF-1106)

Spouse: Lisa

22 Mill Neck Lane

Pittsford, NY 14534

Phone: (585) 662-5950

Email: godoggo1960@gmail.com

Convention update

(Continued from Page 3)

who just enjoy the tranquility and the many trees lining both sides of the road. I highly recommend driving the entire length of Lee Drive (only a few miles) and stopping whenever you feel like it to read the various signs and take in the landscape.

If you do set off on Lee Drive, be sure to go all the way to the end and watch for signs for Meade's Pyramid on the right side of the road. In 1897, the Confederate Memorial Literary Society asked Virginia railroad executives to erect markers at historical spots along their railroad lines. The president of the Richmond, Fredericksburg, and Potomac Railroad built a 23-foot-tall granite pyramid near the spot where General George Meade's Union Army charged over the train tracks to attack Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson's lines on December 13, 1862. Although the pyramid has come to be called Meade's Pyramid, it is a fitting Confederate marker, as Meade's troops suffered 40 percent casualties.

Meade's Pyramid was modeled after the 90-foot



Belmont, located in Falmouth, Virginia, across the Rappahannock River from Fredericksburg, was the home and studio of American Impressionist painter Gari Melchers.

monument to the unknown Confederate soldiers buried in Richmond, Virginia's Hollywood Cemetery.

Trains still frequently pass by the Meade Pyramid, but that did not deter my children and me from hiking out across the field and crossing the tracks one summer day many years ago, just so we could get a closer look at the iconic landmark.

As noted in the previous issue, our banquet speaker Saturday night will be Scott H. Harris, Executive Director of the University of Mary Washington Museums and Director of the James Monroe Museum.

Another of the museums under his direction is UMW's Belmont. Located in Falmouth, Virginia, across the Rappahannock River from Fredericksburg. Belmont was the home and studio of American Impressionist painter Gari Melchers. His house and studio contain original works and furnishings, and the 27-acre grounds include restored gardens and walking trails. Melchers was well known for his portraits and murals; his "War" and "Peace" murals hang in the Northwest Gallery of the Library of Congress in Washington, DC. Incidentally, this writer (and your convention host for "Frank and Fearless in Fredericksburg") used to live in the Belmont house.

I recently stopped in at the local Visitors' Center downtown, where numerous brochures are available to tourists. One of the helpful persons working there told me that in the spring I can pick up copies of brochures for my convention packets. You will enjoy going through them — and also enjoy exploring the city during "Frank and Fearless in Fredericksburg."



Meade's Pyramid marks the spot where Union General George Meade and his troops crossed train tracks in an all-fated decision to attack Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson's lines on Dec. 13, 1862 during the Battle of Fredericksburg.

President's column

(Continued from Page 2)
quite interesting. These are boxed books that include a little something extra. Take for example the "Christmas Gift Series" published by the Henry Altemus Company of Philadelphia in 1906. This floral decorated boxed book (at right) has a piece of holly attached to it, providing a message of holiday cheer.



Keeping with the upcoming holiday season, several 19th century publishers (again, including Altemus) had a tradition of sending out Christmas greetings and New Year's calendars, so I have selected a few to share with you:

- From N. Tibbals & Sons in 1883:



ESTABLISHED 1848.

1883 **N. TIBBALS & SONS,** 1884.
No. 124 Nassau Street, New York City.

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL HOLIDAY SALE
Of over Forty Thousand Dollars' Worth of Stock, consisting of
Fine Illustrated, Standard, Religious, Children's and Sunday School

BOOKS,
Teachers' Pocket and Family Bibles, Photograph Autograph and Musical Albums, very Finely Bound Prayer Books and Hymnals, Fine Stationery, and Birthday, Sunday-School, Christmas and New Year's Cards, all to be sold without reserve, from

20 to 80 per cent. from Regular Prices !

Christmas Cards at Half Price.
OPEN EVENINGS.

CATALOGUE FREE.
OPEN EVENINGS.

- From D. Lothrop & Co. "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year:"



THE BOOK SALE
32 Franklin Street.

Book buyers are profiting by the fact that D. LOTHROP & CO., in order to devote exclusive attention to their own publications, are disposing of their immense Retail Stock at from 40 to 60 per cent. below Catalogue prices.

THE BOOKS ARE CHOICE AND FRESH.
History, Travel, Classics and Romance, Art and Science, Illustrated Works, Books for the Scholar, Theologian, and General Reader, Books for Home and School Libraries.

ALL ARE OFFERED AT SUCH Surprisingly Low Prices
That Librarians and all book buyers will do well not to neglect this opportunity of replenishing their libraries at almost nominal prices. A large stock of

BIBLES AND ALBUMS
is included in this sale.

D. LOTHROP & CO.,
IMPORTERS, PUBLISHERS AND BOOKSELLERS
Retail Department, 32 Franklin Street, Boston.

- And a "Happy New Year" from J. B. Lippincott & Co., Porter & Coates and Henry Altemus & Co.



COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

PORTER & COATES,
Booksellers,
Publishers, Importers,
900 Chestnut St.,
PHILADELPHIA.

ALTEMUS & CO.,
Stationers & Printers,
Blank Book Makers.

CALENDAR

All kinds of Blank Books on hand or made to order.

26 South Fourth St., Philadelphia.

Again, may the holidays and 2021 bring you the best that life can offer.

Your Partic'lar Friend,
Cary Sternick (PF-933)
26 Chestnut Hill Court
The Woodlands, TX 77380
(713) 444-3181
Email: css3@mac.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Bill,

Preparations are going well for the 2021 Alger Society Convention here in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and I look forward to continuing to share details in each issue of *Newsboy*. This issue also encloses our tentative schedule of events for June 3-6, 2021.

As I have mentioned before, I am now retired after more than 40 years as the Reference and Humanities Librarian here at the University of Mary Washington. Since 2004, UMW has offered during each spring semester a public lecture series/academic course titled "Great Lives: Biographical Approaches to History and Culture." The free lecture series has brought well-known biographers, including quite a few Pulitzer Prize winners, to campus "to explore the diverse lives and achievements of remarkable people" (from the Great Lives website).

Not surprisingly, COVID-19 has changed the plans for next semester. The speakers will principally be UMW faculty, and talks will be videotaped in advance and made accessible on the Great Lives website (www.umw.edu/greatlives/).

I was asked to talk about Horatio Alger, and I've already started work on my presentation and PowerPoint slides. At some point I intend to bring up the Horatio Alger Society, show rows of attractive Alger books on bookshelves (a few books from my collection and several shelves from Rob Kasper's), and mention the book sale at our convention.

In my presentation I want to talk briefly about Alger and the Newsboys' Lodging House, and recently I re-read some of my *Newsboy* articles on the lodge (see the November 1975 and March-April 1985 issues). I also did a bit more research, and I found some interesting information I wanted to share with H.A.S. members.

As I mention in my articles, contrary to some published reports, Alger never lived at the Newsboys' Lodging House, but he was indeed familiar with it and he wrote about it in his books. In particular see Chapter 12 of *Mark, The Match Boy* and Chapter 9 of *Ben, The Luggage Boy*. The first lodge was on the top floor — and later two floors — of the *New York Sun* newspaper building at the corner of Fulton and Nassau Streets. The lodge, established in 1854, moved in 1868 to 49 and 51 Park Place.

Alger notes in *Mark, The Match Boy* that "it is to be hoped that at some day not far distant the Children's Aid Society, who carry on this beneficent institution, will be able to erect a building of their own in some eligible locality, which can be permanently devoted to a purpose so praiseworthy."

Part of Alger's wish was fulfilled in 1874 when the Newsboys' Lodging House at the corner of Duane and



Boys preparing for supper in the Newsboys' Lodging House (1874 third location).

Jacob Riis: *How the Other Half Lives: Studies among the Tenements of New York*. 1890: Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.

New Chambers Streets was opened. Alas, the building would not be "permanently devoted" to homeless boys and girls, for on Alger's birthday in 1943 it was formally turned over to the U. S. Coast Guard, which used it as a receiving and transfer depot for Coast Guard recruits. Twenty years later, the building was torn down.

I don't recall Alger writing much about the third lodge, though in Chapter 2 of *A Rolling Stone* he writes: "Wren followed his young guide, who now seemed like an old friend, to the big building on New Chambers Street."

The annual reports of the Children's Aid Society contain detailed information and statistics about the benevolent work of the organization. And yes, Alger is occasionally mentioned. A list of "donations and subscriptions to the Children's Aid Society, for the fiscal year ending October 31, 1873" is in the 21st annual report, dated November 1873. Beside "Alger, Horatio, Jr." there is the figure of \$10.00.

After Children's Aid Society founder Charles Loring Brace died in 1890, the name of the lodge was changed to the "Brace Memorial Newsboys' Lodging House." An article titled "First Annual Report of the Librarian of the Brace Memorial Library" is in the 40th annual report, dated November 1892. Part of one paragraph reads:

"The smaller boys always demand juvenile fiction and Horatio Alger's books, of which we have only two copies, and also those of Oliver Optic, are the most popular. A full set of the books of these authors, placed in the Library, would tend strongly to induce the boys to throw away their dime novel literature, which is so freely circulated in New York, and which tends to demoralize a boy's character, and exerts such a pernicious

(Continued on Page 8)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from Page 7)

cious influence on his mind. There is not a boy, who has once commenced reading such trash, who would willingly give it up, unless a substitute were offered him. It should now, in this case, be fully understood, that the substitute offered must be superior to the dime-novel literature, and still not lose in interesting and startling adventures and situations. It is only after careful and unprejudiced investigation that the Librarian recommends the authors mentioned."

An article titled "The Brace Memorial Lodging-House for Boys, Corner Duane and New Chambers Streets," is in the 43rd annual report, dated November 1895.

One paragraph mentions Alger:

"The annual musical entertainment given by Mr. [Percy] King was very fine. We also enjoyed Mr. [Evert] Wendell's songs, and had a pleasant evening with Mr. Marshall P. Wilder, kindly sent by Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt. Our Sunday-evening services have been well attended. Mr. H. D. Sedgwick has been most faithful in his attendance. His stories and addresses were very interesting and highly appreciated by all. We also thank Mr. [Gustav] Kissel, Mr. [Charles Loring] Brace, [Jr.], Mr. J. H. Hamersley, Mr. H. Alger, Mr. E. W. Gardner, and the ladies who so kindly honored us with their presence at these meetings."

Cordially,
Jack Bales (PF-258)
422 Greenbrier Court
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
Email: jbales@umw.edu

Hi Bill,

Just a note to let you know how pleased I am with the way the Appleton article came out. Everyone who has seen it has commented on the presentation. And we now know that there is a Heyliger title involved, as Jeff Looney has reported (*Ed. note: see following letter*). Hopefully, a few more titles will be uncovered.

I recently began collecting and reading the Renfrew books, which you wrote about several years ago. An eBayer had a couple for cheap — nice G&D reprints in nice jackets, so I thought "what the hell" and bought them. I also found a copy of *Comrades of the Clouds*, which also has Renfrew content, as I found out from the seller having pictured the contents pages. It's not a true Renfrew, but he does appear during his WWI career several times in the book. And do you know if *One Man Came Back* has any Renfrew content?

I will also have some surprising Leo Edwards news

soon, but as I don't have the book yet, I will wait to fill you in. Something I never thought I would find, and Mary Ann found it, just poking around.

Be careful out there!
Bart J. Nyberg (PF-879)
4657 Mason St.
Omaha, NE 68106
Email: lewarcher@aol.com

Dear Bill,

I read Bart Nyberg's article about the transition from Appleton to Appleton-Century in 1933 with great interest, and with admiration for Bart's formidable scholarship. It clarified some things I have always wondered about and, like any good piece of scholarship, it opened up possibilities for further research. At his suggestion, I am sending along some new information that has recently come to light.

By an interesting coincidence, I very recently acquired not one, but two copies of one of the transitional titles, William Heyliger's *The Gallant Crosby* (1933). Both copies list Appleton as the publisher on the title page but Appleton-Century on the cover's heel imprint. One copy has the dust jacket, and it lists Appleton as the publisher, just as Bart predicted in such cases.

As it happens, one of the copies has a long autograph inscription, and it may provide a clue on the two hypotheses Bart has offered to explain what was going on with these transitional copies. The inscription reads as follows:

"To Mr & Mrs Frederic K. Shield

This book, written seven years ago, lacks the mature background & outlook of "Backfield Play." It is more frankly adolescent. It is the unvarnished school athletic type. But it deals with a pernicious frat situation & for that reason you may find it interesting. At least it presents a contrast between the Heyliger book of 1931 & the Heyliger of 1938.

William Heyliger
Christmas, 1938."

Appleton-Century did publish *Backfield Play* in 1938. One interesting point is Heyliger referring to *The Gallant Crosby* as a "book of 1931" when the title page reads 1933. The book was first published in *The American Boy* starting in July 1932 as a serial entitled "The Bench Warmer." Heyliger presumably wrote the piece in 1931 and is recalling that.

I have identified the recipients of the book as Frederic Kull Shield (1893-1987) and his wife, Clarice Elizabeth Van Wyck Shield. Frederic Shield was a clergyman and educator. He graduated from Rutgers University

(Continued on Page 16)

L. P. Wyman:

Maine outdoorsman, educator and author of books for young people

By William R. Gowen (PF-706)

Who were the Golden Boys, Lakewood Boys and Hunniwell Boys, and who authored their many adventures? These exciting tales of yesteryear were the work of L. P. Wyman, as it appears on the covers. His full name was Levi Parker Wyman.

A native of Maine, Wyman was born on July 12, 1873, in the mid-state town of Skowhegan, located on the Kennebec River. He joins an elite group of writers of adventure stories for young people who were natives of Maine, including Charles Asbury Stevens (writing as "C.A. Stephens"), Clarence R. Burleigh, Hugh Pendexter and Claude LaBelle, each of whom devoted entire (or most) titles in books describing adventures set in the Maine north-woods wilderness country or along the Atlantic seacoast.

Also worth noting is Capt. Charles A.J. Farrar, an avid woodsman and hunter and author of numerous travel guidebooks covering the Rangeley Lakes-Androscoggin region of west-central Maine, where he also briefly operated a steamboat company. He found the time to write a four-volume boys' adventure series for Lee & Shepard between 1880 and 1888, titled the **Lake and Forest Series**.

Farrar's life and writings are presented in an article by University of Maine historian William B. Krohn, Ph. D., with permission granted by the author and the Bethel, Maine, Historical Society for republication in the September-October 2018 issue of **Newsboy**.

In terms of pure numbers, Wyman out-wrote most of the above — 30 books for boys, along with a Civil War novel featuring historical material gleaned from his 45 years' association with Pennsylvania Military College in Chester, Pennsylvania. That book is titled *After Many Years: A Novel of the War Between the States* (Philadelphia: Dorrance and Company, 1941).

This article is derived from a presentation on April 17, 2019 in Washington, D.C. at the 49th annual conference of the Popular Culture Association, and at the 2019 H.A.S. convention in Shelbyville, Indiana.



It seemed as though the wind increased with every minute as they hurried through the thick woods. *The Golden Boys with the Lumberjacks*, frontispiece

Other well-known authors of books for boys, while not setting a full series in Maine, took their readers to that state for adventures in the Great North Woods on many occasions. Examples include James Otis Kaler's *Boy Scouts in the Maine Woods*; H. Irving Hancock's *The Motor Boat Club of the Kennebec*; Walter Prichard Eaton's *Boy Scouts on Katahdin*; St. George Rathborne's *Boy Scouts in the Maine Woods* (written under the "Herbert Carter" pseudonym); and even the Stratemeyer Syndicate got into the act with *The Outdoor Chums in the Big Woods*, by "Capt. Quincy Allen" (Rathborne). This is but a small sample of titles, both non-Syndicate and Syndicate.

Maine held an allure for these writers because of its unique topography, which included deep wilderness, tough winters and an interesting mix of human population, including native Americans and French-Canadians, referred to as "Indians," "Injuns," "Canucks," and "half-breeds," or simply "breeds," in a great many of these stories, including the books by Wyman. If course, these

(Continued on Page 10)

L. P. Wyman:

(Continued from Page 9)

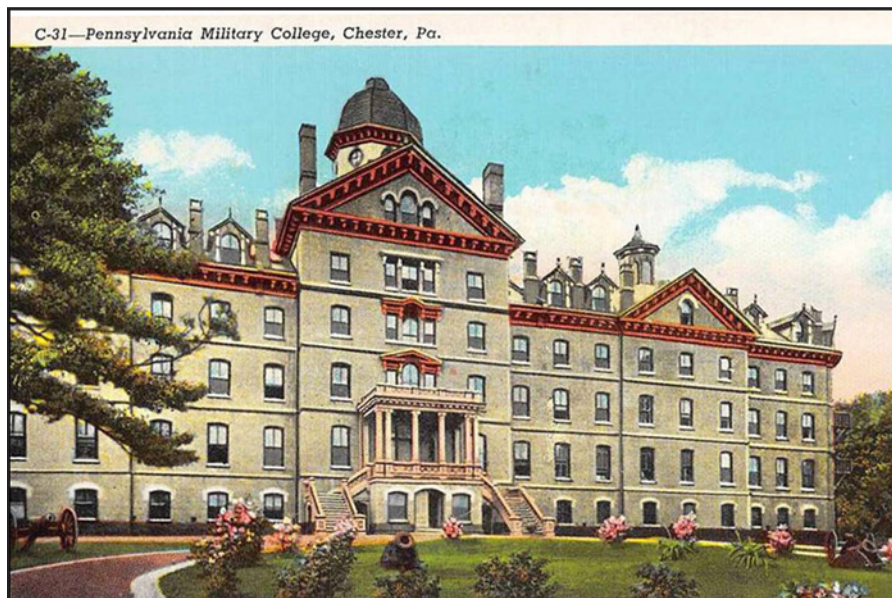
descriptions — generally acceptable at the time — are considered insensitive and politically incorrect today.

As mentioned, Levi Parker Wyman was born in 1873 in Skowhegan. He was the son of Augustine H. Wyman and Sarah (Parker) Wyman. He graduated from Skowhegan High School in 1891 and went to Colby College in nearby Waterville, receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1896. He earned his Master of Arts degree from Colby in 1899 and a Doctor of Philosophy in chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania in 1902. His dissertation was titled “The Purification of Tunstic Acid.”

Wyman married Ida M. Rich on Dec. 31, 1896 and they had one son, Dr. Newton Augustine Wyman, who became a practicing physician in Chester. After spending four years as a teacher in public schools in Massachusetts, L. P. Wyman devoted the majority of his teaching career on the faculty of Pennsylvania Military College in Chester, Pennsylvania. He started as instructor of chemistry from 1902 to 1904 and became professor of chemistry in 1905. After serving as the college’s adjutant, he was promoted to dean of faculty in 1916 and served in that post until retiring in 1944, his final year as dean emeritus. He stayed on at PMC as a vice president until his death on April 16, 1950.

Pennsylvania Military College’s roots go back to 1821 with the formation of the Bullock School for Boys in Wilmington, Delaware. After several name changes, the school introduced a military curriculum in 1858, and changed its name to Delaware Military Academy the following year. In 1862 the school moved to Chester and was renamed Chester County Military Academy, finally becoming the Pennsylvania Military College in 1892. Widener College became its name in 1972.

Military schools of this type were founded throughout the United States during the years before and after the Civil War and continuing through World War I and World War II. However, changing attitudes by a younger generation toward the military, in particular during the unpopular Vietnam War, caused many of these schools to close or convert to traditional prep schools or colleges due to falling enrollment. The former PMC campus is now part of Widener University, which has



three campuses in addition to that in Chester — Harrisburg and Exton in Pennsylvania and in Wilmington, Delaware, the original home of PMC predecessor Bullock College for Boys.

Although Wyman spent the school years at Pennsylvania Military College, his summers were spent relaxing with his wife and son at their family cottage on Lake Wissermuset, in the hamlet of Lakewood, just four miles from the family home in Skowhegan. It is there where Wyman, an avid woodsman and fisherman, created the story ideas for his adventure books for boys. While young Newton was spending his school terms in Chester, he befriended the son of one of his father’s closest friends and neighbors, Schaeffer M. Glauser, executive director of the Community Chest of Chester. He and his family often joined the Wymans during the summers in Maine.

The two boys often would go by themselves on hiking, camping, hunting or fishing adventures, and when they returned, Wyman would ask numerous questions about their exploits, the young adventurers at first unaware of the father’s motives. Later, of course, the boys found out that they, in fact, had become the fictitious Bob and Jack Golden as well as the boy heroes of his other books

For example, a summer adventure canoeing down the River Allagash toward the Canadian border formed the basis for seventh book in the **Golden Boys Series**. The boys’ adventures with Maine’s logging industry framed two books in the series. The second book at the series, *The Golden Boys at the Fortress*, depicts their experiences in school and sports at that fictional military school just southwest of Philadelphia, obvi-

ously patterned after Pennsylvania Military College. The name "The Fortress" bears a canny resemblance to "The Citadel," the famous military school still active in South Carolina.

Wyman's 30 books for boys are shown on this chart, chronologically in order by the starting year of the series. They are **The Golden Boys** (10 volumes), **The Lakewood Boys** (seven volumes) and **The Hunniwell Boys** (eight volumes). He also wrote five "single" titles, three set in the Maine wilderness, and one, *Blind Man's Inlet*, taking place along the northerly coast, near Eastport. The fifth, *The Battalion Captain*, returns the readers to The Fortress. The boy protagonists of these books are also based in part on Wyman's sons' personal experiences.



Levi Parker Wyman (1873-1950)

If you study the chart of Page 15 you will note that the copyright dates occasionally seem out of sequence with the titles. This likely occurred because several manuscripts were submitted to publisher A.L. Burt over a short period of time. For example, the first seven Golden Boys titles were published in 1923, the first five Lakewood Boys titles in 1925 and the first five Hunniwell Boys titles were issued in 1928. Sitting in a stack on a desk at the U.S. copyright office, the copyright applications were likely shuffled about while being registered. The books on this list (provided by James D. Keeline) are in the proper order, according to the sequence of the story plots.

Obviously, space limitations preclude deep discussions of the books' storylines, but we'll focus on what I consider Wyman's flagship series, **The Golden Boys**, with impressions on the author's thematic approach and writing style.

In a monograph for the University of Maine titled *A Handful of Spice: Essays in Maine History and Literature*, one of the contributors is David C. Smith, whose essay is titled "Virgin Timber: The Maine Woods as a Locale for Juvenile Fiction." In it he discusses several of the authors mentioned earlier and how they constructed their stories, in particular Stephens, Burleigh, Pendexter and LaBelle — along, of course, with Wyman.

Smith writes that one of Stephens' stereotyped plot devices involve attacks by wild animals, including

(Continued on Page 12)

The books of Levi P. Wyman

The Golden Boys Series

Title	Publication Year
<i>The Golden Boys and their New Electric Cell</i>	1923
<i>The Golden Boys at the Fortress</i>	1923
<i>The Golden Boys in the Maine Woods</i>	1923
<i>The Golden Boys with the Lumber Jacks</i>	1923
<i>The Golden Boys on the River Drive</i>	1923
<i>The Golden Boys Rescued by Radio</i>	1923
<i>The Golden Boys along the River Allagash</i>	1923
<i>The Golden Boys at the Haunted Camp</i>	1924
<i>The Golden Boys Save the Chamberlain Dam</i>	1927
<i>The Golden Boys on the Trail</i>	1927

The Lakewood Boys Series

<i>The Lakewood Boys on the Lazy S</i>	1925
<i>The Lakewood Boys and the Lost Mine</i>	1925
<i>The Lakewood Boys in the Frozen North</i>	1925
<i>The Lakewood Boys and the Polo Ponies</i>	1925
<i>The Lakewood Boys in the South Sea Islands</i>	1925
<i>The Lakewood Boys in Montana</i>	1927
<i>The Lakewood Boys in the African Jungle</i>	1927

The Hunniwell Boys Series

<i>The Hunniwell Boys in the Air</i>	1928
<i>The Hunniwell Boys' Victory</i>	1928
<i>The Hunniwell Boys in the Secret Service</i>	1928
<i>The Hunniwell Boys and the Platinum Mystery</i>	1928
<i>The Hunniwell Boys' Longest Flight</i>	1928
<i>The Hunniwell Boys in the Gobi Desert</i>	1930
<i>The Hunniwell Boys in the Caribbean</i>	1930
<i>The Hunniwell Boys' Non-Stop Flight Around the World</i> ..	1931

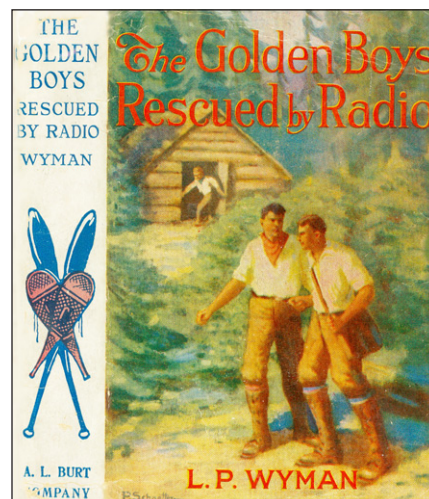
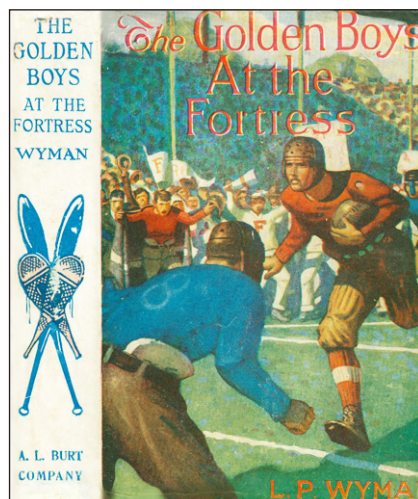
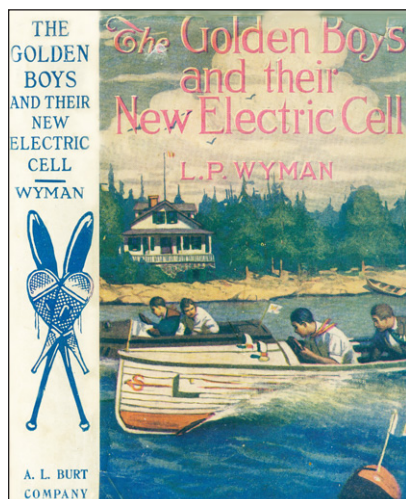
Books not in series

<i>Donald Price's Victory</i>	1930
<i>The Mystery of Eagle Lake</i>	1931
<i>Blind Man's Inlet</i>	1932
<i>The Battalion Captain</i>	1936
<i>The Haunted House Mystery</i>	1936

The above 30 titles were published by A.L. Burt Co., of New York, with the five non-series books reprinted by Saalfeld Publishing Co. Burt collected these "singles" into a publisher's library titled "Mystery and Adventure Series for Boys" and revised it later to "New Adventure and Mystery Series for Boys." Other authors represented in this omnibus series included Philip Hart, Capwell Wyckoff and H. Gardner Hunting.

Adult fiction

<i>After Many Years: A Novel of the War</i>	
<i>Between the States</i>	1941
Published by Dorrance and Co., Philadelphia.	



The Golden Boys Series (1923-27) launched L. P. Wyman's successful career as author of books for young people.

L. P. Wyman

(Continued from Page 11)

moose, packs of wolves, wildcats and bears. "In book after book, one of the members is treed by a moose," he writes. Ironically, in the Golden Boys' adventures in the North Woods, the first moose isn't sighted until nearly halfway through the fifth volume, *The Golden Boys on the River Drive*. This story involves floating fallen tree logs downriver to one of Maine's numerous paper mills, with the boy heroes, Bob and Jack Golden, taking part in this dangerous job along the Kennebec River. As in all the books, there are plenty of "bad guys," in this case a rival lumber company challenging the firm owned by the boys' father.

Here a few additional comments about the Golden Boys:

- In the first volume, *The Golden Boys and their New Electric Cell*, brothers Bob (age 17) and Jack (age 15) invent type of storage battery that will power their motor boat (the *Sprite*), along with motor cycles and automobiles, silently and at high speeds. They estimate that this small, cylindrical battery will give their car a driving distance of 200 miles at an average speed of 50 mph. NOTE: This book was written nearly a century before Elon Musk helped launch today's new generation of electric cars going 200-plus miles on a single charge.

- Of course, several nefarious sorts attempt to steal the batteries, but the Goldens have a small removable cap they place in a pocket whenever the vehicle of choice is parked or docked, rendering the batteries useless. In that first volume, they say they hope someday to build an airplane that will fly around the world nonstop on a single charge! (More on that later).

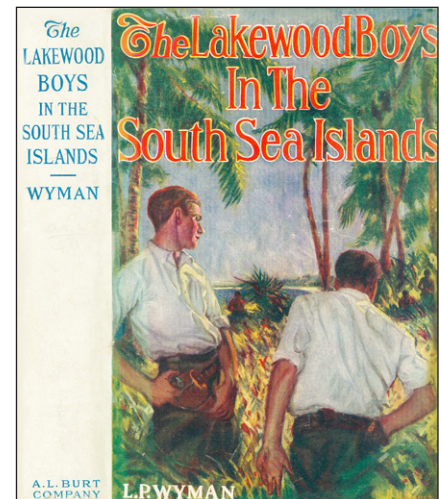
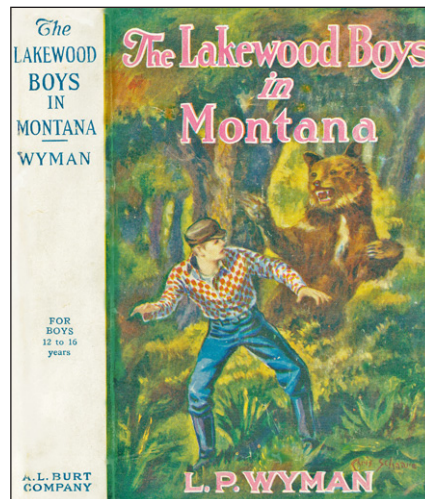
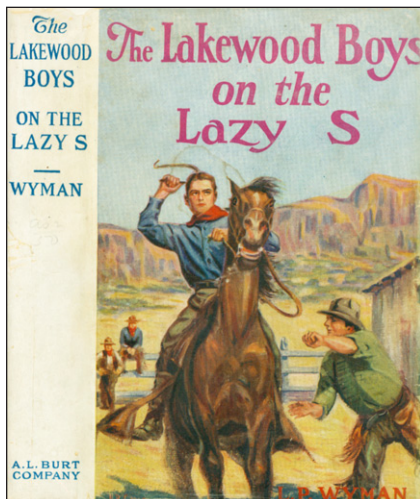
- In the opening chapter of *The Golden Boys and their New Electric Cell*, the boys' wealthy father has set them up with a modern workshop and laboratory (shades of Tom Swift!) in the basement of their Skowhegan home, where the new battery has been perfected after just a few pages of text.

- As mentioned, the 10 books of the series have numerous "bad guys," which follow the Stratemeyer model of introducing all sorts of evil-doers. Wyman's villains have some appropriate aliases: Jim the Penman, Oily Joe, Skeets and Slippery Elm, to name a few. Jim the Penman makes his first appearance in the first book of the series and reappears in Volume 8, *The Golden Boys at the Haunted Camp*, where he lives up to his nickname as a counterfeiter.

- I must mention fishing. The art of fly fishing is truly that; just getting the cast into the water properly is a highly developed skill. Jack, the younger of the two boys, is the brothers' fisherman of choice, and when it is meal time he simply walks down to the nearest river or stream and minutes later is holding a string of 10 to 12 trout of 5 to 8 pounds each. Trout is their favorite catch, with perch introduced in Volume 7, salmon in Volume 8 and finally, bass in Volume 9. Wyman himself was a very accomplished fisherman, and his technical description on numerous occasions in battling and landing a large trout is vivid and exciting.

- Every bad guy's handgun is described as "ugly" and "mean-looking," with the terms "revolver" and "automatic" often confused. Shots are often heard whistling by the boys' heads, barely missing, the bullets lodging in a nearby tree or building. Every cabin in the woods contains "a rusty stove" and "a couple of broken down chairs and a table."

- The word "maybe" apparently doesn't exist in Wy-



The Lakewood Boys Series expanded the reach of Wyman's books to locales elsewhere in the U.S. and the world.

man's lexicon. Every person in these books substitutes "mebby" — understandable in the dialects of native Americans, Canadian-Americans or the Irish immigrants and their descendants of central and northern Maine. But the well-educated Bob and Jack Golden and family members say "mebby" throughout the 10 volumes of the series and it appears in Wyman's later books as well.

The final volume of the series, *The Golden Boys on the Trail*, involves the kidnapping of Tommy Betts, 10-year-old son of a neighbor family. This adventure eventually takes Jack on a sailing schooner headed from Boston to the Bermudas for the last third of the book. Everything ends well with the assistance of a former fellow cadet at The Fortress, now a Navy Ensign aboard a U.S. cruiser.

This is the first time the Golden Boys (at least one of the brothers) spends numerous chapters away from Maine, with the exception of Volume 2, *The Golden Boys at the Fortress*, where they enter their first year of college. It's as though by Volume 10, Wyman was running out of plot ideas. Adventures on the rivers, mountains and in the North Woods were getting repetitious. The Golden Boys had dealt with illegal liquor distillers as well as whiskey smugglers from Canada, rival loggers, and a group attempting to drive a friend's lakeside summer camp out of business with stories of ghosts. Other enemies attempt to blow up a dam to prevent their father's annual river drive of logs to the paper mill. So, with the plots starting to get as thin as tissue paper, what was a writer to do?

The Lakewood Boys and The Hunniwell Boys: Other places, new heroes

Wyman had taken the Golden Boys as far as he could without becoming too repetitious, so he came up with **The Lakewood Boys Series** and **The Hunniwell Boys Series**. The Lakewood Boys, starting in 1925, overlapped

the final two Golden Boys volumes (1927), while the Hunniwell boys began their aviation adventures in 1928, the year following the last Lakewood Boys title.

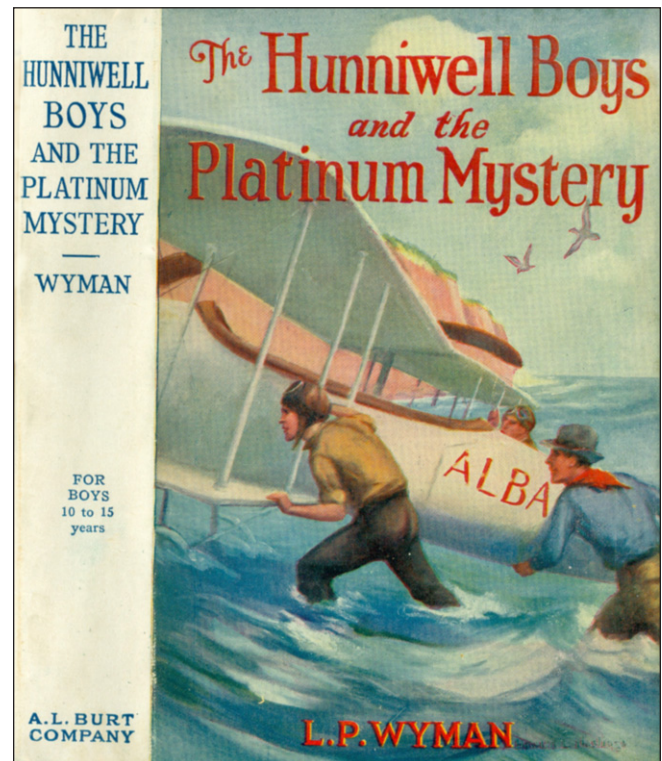
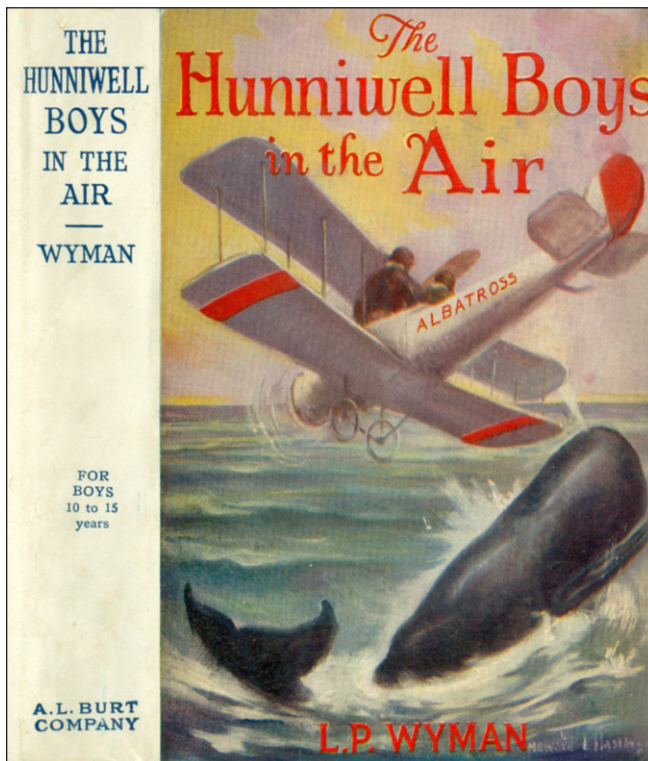
This change must have been difficult at first, because the third volume of **The Lakewood Boys Series** (*in the Frozen North*) reads like a clone of *The Golden Boys*, betraying Wyman's nostalgia for the Great North woods of Maine. The heroes, Bob and Jack Lakewood, have the same first names, Bob is also the elder by two years, and they briefly describe their experiences growing up in Maine before now venturing elsewhere. In *The Lakewood Boys in the Frozen North*, they are on a trip to northern Alaska, searching for a missing uncle, Silas Lakewood. They have a native American guide, named Lucky, described as "a full-blooded Crow," who speaks and acts just like Kernertok, the Golden Boys' faithful Indian companion and guide. Familiar bad guys are also present, mostly Canucks and various half-breeds, with Eskimos and dog-sled teams added for realism. The dialects of these similar characters are the same as heard in the Golden Boys books.

It's as though you could plug in "Golden" as the titular surname, and this would be the eleventh Golden Boys book. It is interesting that the family name of the new heroes is "Lakewood," since Wyman's summer lakeside cottage was located in the small hamlet of Lakewood, four miles due north of Skowhegan.

These selected dust jackets (above) show places the Lakewood Boys traveled, both in this country and abroad, including the South Sea Islands and Africa.

The Hunniwell Boys Series has much closer personal and location ties to **The Golden Boys Series**. Brothers Bill and Gordon Hunniwell are first introduced as "at work in the back yard of their home in the little town of

(Continued on Page 14)



The Hunniwell Boys Series, which featured leading characters' tie-ins with the Golden Boys Series, capitalized on the great interest by young readers in aviation, the books selling well despite the Great Depression.

L. P. Wyman

(Continued from Page 11)

Skowhegan, Maine." They are building an airplane, which they'll name the *Albatross*. And here is described a real connection, as Gordon Hunniwell asks his brother:

"It's about time we hear from Bob and Jack Golden, don't you think?"

"Seems so, but I suppose they're busy seeing the sights of Europe and don't get time to write many letters," replied Bill.

"Probably," said Gordon. "Anyhow, they're mighty fine fellows and I don't mean maybe. There aren't many who would have let us use those cells, let me tell you, It's a wonder to me they've never tried them themselves in a plane."

"Been too busy, Jack told me, when he offered to let us have them." (*The Hunniwell Boys in the Air*, 4, 5)

So that's how Wyman launched **The Hunniwell Boys Series**. Looking at these book covers (a sampling, above) you can see where the Golden Boys' electric cell, invented many years before, sent the silent-running

Albatross on various adventures all around the world. This is another way the author was able to figuratively leave Maine's forests, mountains and harsh winters.

By the time we get to the final volume, *The Hunniwell Boys' Non-Stop Flight Around the World* (1931), one of the unattained dreams of the Golden Boys (as stated in their first volume back in 1923) is achieved by two of their best friends from their home town of Skowhegan. **The Hunniwell Boys Series** capitalizes on the growing interest in aviation among the young readers of juvenile books, as the series came on line just one year after the start of the very successful **Ted Scott Flying Stories** by the Stratemeyer Syndicate

Wyman's five "single" titles are set with heroes of different names, again in Maine, with the exception of *The Battalion Captain*, which returns us to Pennsylvania to learn how boys become men at The Fortress military school. *Blind Man's Inlet* features two boys (not brothers, but family friends) tracing and helping the authorities capture smugglers of opium and cocaine carried by way of airplane drops following flights from Canada into the United States.

L. P. Wyman's run of boys' books came to an end in the mid-1930s, when the United States was in the throes of the Great Depression. Many publishers were dropping — or curtailing — their production of series

Copyright applications for L.P. Wyman's books

	Title	Year	Copyright	
1	<i>The Golden Boys and Their New Electric Cell</i>	1923	31-Mar-1922	A659523
2	<i>The Golden Boys at the Fortress</i>	1923	12-May-1922	A661658
3	<i>The Golden Boys in the Maine Woods</i>	1923	6-May-1922	A661591
4	<i>The Golden Boys with the Lumber Jacks</i>	1923	6-Jun-1922	A674529
5	<i>The Golden Boys on the River Drive</i>	1923	22-Jun-1922	A674738
6	<i>The Golden Boys Rescued by Radio</i>	1923	29-May-1923	A704730
7	<i>The Golden Boys Along the River Allagash</i>	1923	28-May-1923	A704729
8	<i>The Golden Boys at the Haunted Camp</i>	1924	23-Apr-1924	A792135
9	<i>The Golden Boys Save the Chamberlain Dam</i>	1927	9-May-1927	A976573
10	<i>The Golden Boys on the Trail</i>	1927	16-May-1927	A976663
1	<i>The Lakewood Boys on the Lazy S</i>	1925	18-Mar-1925	A822517
2	<i>The Lakewood Boys and the Lost Mine</i>	1925	16-Mar-1925	A822454
3	<i>The Lakewood Boys in the Frozen North</i>	1925	17-Mar-1925	A822486
4	<i>The Lakewood Boys and the Polo Ponies</i>	1925	13-Mar-1925	A822455
5	<i>The Lakewood Boys in the South Sea Islands</i>	1925	19-Mar-1925	A822516
6	<i>The Lakewood Boys in Montana</i>	1927	13-May-1927	A990149
7	<i>The Lakewood Boys in the African Jungle</i>	1927	12-May-1927	A990150
1	<i>The Hunniwell Boys in the Air</i>	1928	9-Apr-1928	A1069701
2	<i>The Hunniwell Boys' Victory</i>	1928	9-Apr-1928	A1069700
3	<i>The Hunniwell Boys in the Secret Service</i>	1928	5-Jun-1928	A1074886
4	<i>The Hunniwell Boys and the Platinum Mystery</i>	1928	5-Jun-1928	A1074884
5	<i>The Hunniwell Boys' Longest Flight</i>	1928	5-Jun-1928	A1074885
6	<i>The Hunniwell Boys in the Gobi Desert</i>	1930	15-Apr-1930	A22110
7	<i>The Hunniwell Boys in the Caribbean</i>	1930	24-Apr-1930	A22363
8	<i>The Hunniwell Boys' Non-Stop Flight Around the World</i>	1931	2-May-1931	A36998
	<i>Donald Price's Victory</i>	1930	24-Apr-1930	A22356
	<i>The Mystery of Eagle Lake</i>	1931	21-May-1931	A38340
	<i>Blind Man's Inlet</i>	1932	10-May-1932	A51238
	<i>Battalion Captain</i>	1936	27-Apr-1936	A93867
	<i>The Haunted House Mystery</i>	1936	27-Apr-1936	A93875

books due to the economy. A.L. Burt, with the retirement of Harry P. Burt in 1937, went through a couple of ownership changes, with its remaining reprint catalog eventually winding up with Doubleday and Company in 1939.

Regarding the books covered in this article, the three series remained with the Burt imprint and faded into obscurity, while the five "single" titles' copyrights were not renewed and they were reissued by Saalfield into the mid-to-late 1930s in cheaply bound editions,

their dust jackets replicating the Burt originals. While all Wyman's books are scarce today, especially with their original dust jackets, the five single titles are especially difficult to find in Burt editions with or without jackets.

* * *

Acknowledgement: The author wishes to thank James D. Keeline (PF-898) for his assistance in providing biographical information on L.P. Wyman, along with the copyright record shown on this page.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from Page 8)

with high honors in 1915. That same year he had a brush with greatness when he helped to judge a debate competition at nearby Somerville High School and praised the performance of Paul Robeson, the only African American contestant, who subsequently became famous as an athlete, actor, singer, and civil-rights activist

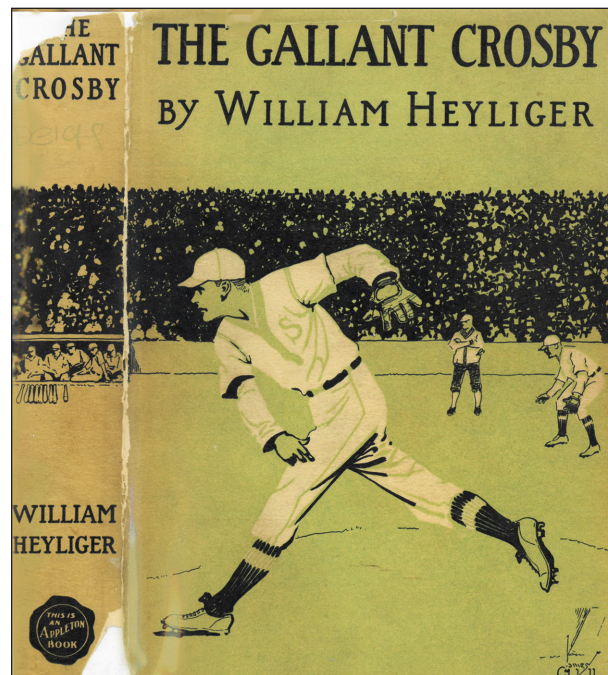
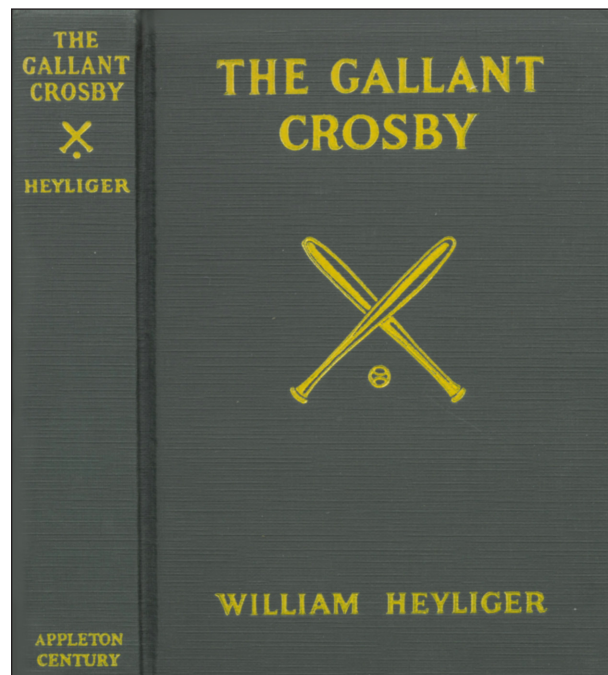
For 18 years starting in 1936, Shield was the principal of Ridgefield Park High School in Bergen County, New Jersey, which helps explain Heyliger's assumption that Shield would find this piece of school sports fiction interesting.

When I read the inscription, I wondered why Heyliger was giving away a five-year-old book at Christmas. Bart's article points to a possible explanation. His Theory One is that, while it was called Appleton, the publisher set aside groups of unbound copies of certain titles, and then, after the merger and after first batches sold, it bound the rest, listing Appleton-Century on the cover. Perhaps *The Gallant Crosby* sold out in 1938, Appleton-Century bound the remaining copies, and Heyliger was sent a few as author's complimentary copies, one of which went to the Shields.

I have noticed other cases where gift inscriptions date long after a book's publication. Indeed, my other copy of *The Gallant Crosby* has a July 1939 inscription (not by Heyliger). I have tended to conclude that these much-later dates mean that someone was re-gifting a book, but I now suspect that they can sometimes be useful clues to books being sold long after their initial publication date.

One further point: Bart remarks that Appleton-Century continued using the parenthetical number on the last page to designate the printing "well into the 1940s." The system evidently remained in effect even longer, carrying over to Appleton-Century-Crofts, which was created by merger in the mid-1940s. This publisher is said to have lasted into the 1960s, and there is reason to think that at least a few juveniles were published with this system at late as that. I have a copy of Barbour, *The Crimson Sweater*, published by Appleton-Century-Crofts, which is the 41st printing — the last page has "(41)." According to the dust jacket, two other Barbour's were still in print: *All Hands Stand By!* and *How to Play Better Baseball*.

Since these titles don't have much in common, I suspect that they were scraping the bottom of the barrel, Barbour-wise, getting rid of their last stock. The jacket has no illustration, nor the cover. The book has a gift inscription of 1966, and, interpolating from Bart's research, it seems at least possible that that is roughly when this printing came out.



William Heyliger's *The Gallant Crosby*, a recent addition to the list of confirmed Appleton/Appleton-Century transition editions. (Images courtesy of Jeff Looney)

There is always something new to be learned in this great hobby!

Sincerely,
 Jeff Looney (PF-903)
 1712 Concord Drive
 Charlottesville, VA 22901