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Published for the enjoyment of Readers, Collectors and Dealers of books written by Horatio Alger, Jr. Prepared and distributed by Forrest Campbell, 5868 Pilgrim; Kalamazoo, Michigan  
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Greetings Friends! Old and New! If you are reading this newsletter for the first time, you are not alone, for 173 others also are doing the very same thing. To my old friends, I expect to get your comments into this newsletter. Comments from the new friends we make will be printed next month. Last month, I made this statement: "My most cherished books are not from gifts, but from results of my own efforts and search!" Now I am in trouble for I received and accepted three gifts this past month for which I am truly grateful to John Sullivan, Ottawa, Illinois; Margaret Smeltzer of Glenside, Pa; and Kenneth Butler of Mendota, Illinois. May I attempt to get off the hook, Friends, by saying that I feel that I will always be indebted to you! Also last month I said that the Alger stories which were designed for boys were being read by just about every one except the 1962 Boys. This statement is not quite true, for I have become acquainted with Gilbert K. Vestgard, II 1433 N. Hoffman Avenue, Parkridge, Ill. who will be 19 on September 4th (HAPPY BIRTHDAY, GILBERT!) Gilbert has as many or more books than I have!

A CHILD'S PRAYER BY HORATIO ALGER JR.  
(from Gleason's Pictorial, August 6, 1853)

Thou who dwellest far above me,  
Heavenly Father, cherish, love me,  
Still surround me with Thy care,  
I am small and weak and lowly,  
Thou art wise and great and holy,  
Let me in Thy goodness share!

I am weak; O Father guide me,  
Let Thy Spirit walk beside me,  
Keep me in the path of right,  
That, when this short life is ending,  
I, on Angel's wings ascending,  
May be seated in Thy sight!

From the blue sky bending o'er me,  
Heavenly Father, I implore Thee,  
Listen to my prayer tonight,  
Let me feel that Thou d'st hear me,  
Feel Thy holy presence near me,  
In the darkness as the light!

Contributed by John V. Bogart, Smyrna, N.Y.

Our project to stock the Public Library in Revere, Mass. with as complete a set as possible of Horatio Alger's books, has been accepted by the Librarian, Mrs. Mildred Stowell. Altho this is the first public announcement, the project already has been started and is underway; Here is the way the project will be handled: The books will be donated by you but in the name of our Club. The books for this project must be in good or excellent condition and shall be mailed from your home.

From your many responses, I am pleased to relay these interesting news items: I have just recently made the acquaintance of Charles L. Clapp through correspondence; His first letter to me began thus: "Saw an article in the Boston Herald about your Alger Club"... Charles has been collecting Alger for the last twenty years. He has been at his summer home at White Horse Beach, Mass. but will be returning soon to his home in Quincy, Mass. He keeps me posted on all the news items regarding Alger that he finds. So far he has informed me of three which originated in his area. He also collects post cards and has one of the Unitarian Church in Brewster where Horatio preached; Charlie spent some time there getting facts. Also in Brewster is the Donald Doane Museum where Charlie obtained some interesting information about our Hero. If interested, write to Charles for more information.

To those of you who are familiar with Starved Rock Park on the Illinois River; Let me introduce John Sullivan, man-about-town in Ottawa, Illinois and very much at home on the river as well. John is one of our readers and belongs to that exclusive group who so often sadly says; "I wish I had saved mine." John became interested in books for boys written by Leo Edwards, when he learned that the locale of the stories were in his own neighborhood. Those of you who enjoyed the Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn stories of the Mississippi River will want to become acquainted with John (2202 Burlington St.) and his complete collection of Leo Edwards books. I myself contributed the missing link to one of the series called "Jerry Todd and the rose colored cat." John is originally from Malden, Mass. and at the age of 14 having read Alger was instrumental in quieting a paniced audience in the Mystic Theatre which was thought to be on fire. John says being inspired by Alger heroism prompted him to take charge of this disturbed and rioting audience.

Perhaps one of my most faithful supporters is Mrs. Lorne J. (Shirley) Conlon of San Diego, Shirley is very much interested and concerned about the future of this newsletter and how it can be financed. She says there is a project already started to reproduce illustrated reprints of the Tarzan stories and perhaps the Zane Grey stories will be next and so why not reproduce illustrated reprints of our own Alger Series. Anyone else interested or care to comment? Shirley and her husband plan to go into the book-store business when retirement time comes their way; The Conlons reside at 6491 Glenroy and is a near neighbor of my favorite neice.

Robert Coyle of 3515 Mohawk, Lincoln, Neb. has a stock of Alger books and can get more from his area and wants to deal with anyone of us who is willing to exchange our old coins for his Alger books.

But before you mail them, please consult me so there will be no duplicate books mailed to Revere. Just tell me what book you would like to donate and I will make a record and publish in the newsletter just what books have been selected so far; I will let you know by return mail if you are to mail or make another choice. If you can name two books for me to choose from, it might eliminate unnecessary elapse of time an correspondence. Two books have already been sent:

RISEN FROM THE RANKS - Forrest Campbell  
JULIUS, THE STRIPET BOY - Kenneth B. Butler

Please keep this copy and succeeding copies for your future guidance.

My Alger exhibit which was on display in the window of the Industrial State Bank here for two weeks was a success in as much as it has led me to one source which will net from 50 to 100 Alger books. I have not yet had the opportunity to see these books and the suspense is almost maddening for I am not the patient type. I expect everyone to be as enthusiastic about my interests as I am. If you have a collection of 50 or more books, I suggest you put them on exhibition in your neighborhood; A few things I would point out from experience; Select a window with a northern exposure to eliminate sun fading; Select and area which will be protected from public handling. I chose to call my display, THE TURN OF THE CENTURY and it included items which helped date the period in which our Hero's books were most popular. I displayed such things as a boy's button shoes; Kerosene lamp; Old Family Album; A stereoscope with dual pictures. a small supply of Indian-head pennies;; Stick candy; a recesstype school-hand-bell; supposedly personal belongings tied in a red bandana and other books which a child would carry home from school strapped together; I was fortunate, I had a Mc Guffey Reader to display. I had a lot of fun; I opened a savings account in the name of RAGGED DICK and placed the deposit book on display. I opened the account with one dollar; If any of you want to add a dollar to RAGGED DICK'S Savings account, you may do so; We will decide later what we will do with it! Of course I took movies of the display and of people walking by, including those who stopped to admire. Only one shot was posed and that was of one of our City Commissioners. However a little later a most embarrassing situation arose; A young lady walked by and asked: "Are you planning on robbing the place?" What did I say? "Yes, this is my next job and I am casing the joint!" (Yes, I was in my postal uniform at the time!).

Having a few days vacation time coming, we loaded our camera and struck out for the State of Illinois where a number of our Alger friends reside. Of course the trip was planned in advance and we arrived in Mendota on the birthday of Kenneth B. Butler, President of the Wayside Press, August 27th. Being his birthday, very little work was got out of him that day after our arrival; While we were being shown the plant operation, Ken somehow cancelled the rest of his appointments and laid out the red carpet for us. To our amazement, each of the 26 paintings mounted on the walls of the various offices; were done

Arthur E. Dobin of 7513 S. Vernon Ave., Chicago, one of our faithful readers, also collects the Tarzan books and anything by Stratemeyer, otherwise known as Winfield, Appleton, Young, Webster etc.

I have a short note from Morton S. Enslin of 16 Prospect St., Canton New York; Morton has over 100 first editions but is still trying to fill in the gaps. (aren't we all; except in reprints) Many of us are guided by a very complete list prepared by Morton and published in the July 6-13th 1959 edition of Antiquarian Bookman.

Kenneth B. Butler, President of the Wayside Press, Mendota, Illinois, resides at 1325 Burlington Road and has the most complete collection that I personally have seen; His want list is down to about 15; Ken welcomes reprints of course and has some surplus books; It may be that he has just what you have been searching for.

Mrs. Richard F. Fanning of 115 Rebekah, Woonsocket, R.I. has a surplus of G.A. Henty books. (If you have an over supply of books like Henty, Castlemon or Optic; Please mention them. We will be pleased to be of service to you if we can.

Martin Gately, a News Editor on a New Jersey Daily resides at 472 Palisade Ave., Bogota, N.J. writes me that he has many duplicates and wishes to contact other Alger collectors. He writes a very interesting letter as you might well expect from a news editor and has given me many pointers in Alger collecting. I am sure you will find him interesting.

Mrs. Irene Gurman, (August 1962) my worthy colleague from Eastern Michigan writes a very interesting letter, never a dull moment; She will write you with hardly any effort a three to six page letter at the drop of a hint. I really enjoy them, Irene and have learned much from your experience and I am grateful.

(to avoid repetition, when a person has been mentioned previously; I simply give reference to the source as with Mrs. Gurman)

Mr. Frank G. Horton, 110 Main St., Attica, N.Y. will be opening a Bookshop soon; Already he has a large supply of Algers on hand and already, I have taken advantage of it. However there are more where these came from.

Mr. Ralph Brant is another Newspaper Man, He writes a column for the Bridgeton (N.J.) Evening News. Ralph is an Alger collector but as yet had not heard of us, as a group. I have invited him to become one of our group and read of our activities. Welcome aboard; Ralph!

Congratulations are in order for Mrs. Thelma Romanik, an Alger collector from Shenckens St., Millville, N.J. who is the only grandmother on our records with the newest and youngest potential Alger Fan, her grandson, Brian; Thelma has been sending me portions of Ralph Brant's column when it pertains to our Hero.

Leo F. Moore, a jeweler from Atlantic, Iowa lives in an area noted for its corn and Alger books; Leo recently sent me a large quantity for trading and he claims to have more! Moore has more; should be his slogan!

Harold Poore (August 1962) visit our home as scheduled and exchanged valuable bits of information as well as rehearsed poses before each other's movie cameras and we exchanged a book or two, too! Come again, Mr. & Mrs. Poore!

Milton Salls, Herkimer Home, Little Falls, N.Y. is still in the market for Burroughs and Algers, he advises me this month!

by Ken himself; We still had not seen them all, for Ken escorted us across the street to another one of his enterprises and each of the offices contained in this building also were furnished with at least one or two paintings. We were still not through for we discovered more at his lovely home, including his very first attempt! What was the subject? A well filled book-case, of course! And I can well imagine that a beautiful shelf full of Alger books did give him inspiration. And on the residential grounds is a well filled carriage house, with antique cars; We got our camera going here! After treating us to a sumptuous dinner (on his birthday) we were escorted about town where we viewed other storage places which housed items such as Genuine circus band-wagon, a conostoga wagon and a Tallyho coach, all genuine! How Ken finds time for business is more than I can understand. Reluctantly, with a couple of Ken's duplicates under my arm we left this paradise after assuring him that we certainly enjoyed ourselves on his birthday! (That's a switch isn't it!) Our next stop was at the home of Gilbert K. Westgard, (section 1) where we viewed one of the finest collections of Alger plus perhaps all of Stratemeyer's books and no doubt is comparable with the collection of Al Vogt of California (August 1962). We also met his charming parents and enjoyed our short visit in their lovely home. They are within hearing distance of O'hare field in northwest Chicagoland. In a couple of hours we were in Ottawa and visiting with Mr. & Mrs. John Sullivan (2202 Burlington St.) Section 1)(section A) John donated to us a duplicator machine in very good condition and perhaps the October issue will be reproduced on it. We enjoyed a very delicious dinner with them (he has 3 daughters 2-4-6 perhaps or was is 2-6-8) after taking deep sea diving lessons in almost full regalia and on dry ground and with the camera grinding we pushed on to southern Illinois, the terminal of our trip. Vandalia is where I lived during my teen-age years and is also the location of the first Illinois State-house, this is where Abraham Lincoln, The Backwoods Boy first began his political career; I took a few movie shots of this and of the Abe Lincoln Cafe across the street where we had a smorgasbord luncheon, all we could eat for a dollar; I recommend this establishment to you if you are within eating distance of it. We next visited with my youngest cousin and perhaps the most beautiful cousin, Mrs. Verna (Pfeiffer) Worrell; She and her husband, Frank are carrying on a family tradition, the A.W.(my deceased uncle) Pfeiffer Ins. Agency. Next on our way to Greenville, we drove past the site of my former farm home and was saddened to find that nothing remains except a standing field of corn; Only my memories and a well misplaced photograph remain. My only consolation is that I have outlasted mansions built by hands and my memories, no one can destroy. Next we visited with my octogenarian cousin, Mrs. Grace Breuchaud, 103 W. Washington St., Greenville, Ill. Grace will be 81 on November 17th, 1962 (please remember her on this occasion with a card; It would please her very much) Grace remembered well a certain story of Alger's and I was able to furnish it for her to reread after a lapse of perhaps 60 years! We were showing

My good friend, George L. Setman, III of Quakertown, Pa. also has a group of members organized into a HORATIO ALGER CLUB, however he does not have a monthly newsletter and has asked me to supply his members with our newsletter. I have agreed to do this with no extra charge. Welcome aboard, Friends!

My very dear Friend, Margaret Smeltzer, (section 1) recently gave me one of her prize possessions, Mark, The Match Boy (Loring) altho it is not a first, I treasure it more-so because of the spirit in which it was given and this token deserves honorable mention.

Mr. & Mrs. Ellis Steiner of Berkeley Springs, West Va. (Jean is the Alger collector in this household) were kind enough to put us up overnight last June when we were on our way to the East Coast and we are looking forward to a returned visit to our home when they leave for the southland, this fall. Jean has the only collection in West Va. to my knowledge and knows a bargain when she sees one; you can only gyp her once; There will be no repeat business!

Alphabetically, Sullivan comes next and of course more could be said but John graciously relinquishes space allotted to him so that others can be mentioned.

Pleasant business relations has been established with Morris Teicher of 169 Blake Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. We have made some excellent trades from which I received a very valued copy of Ben, The Luggage Boy.

Keith Thompson of Ithica informs me that after September 1, he will no longer be at Cornell University, but will reside at 164 South country Road, Bellport, Long Island, N.Y. Keith is still (Seeking his Fortune) on the look-out for some of those rare and hard to locate Algers and altho he perhaps has one of the largest collections, many of them are in California.

Mrs. Anton (Mildred) Van Ry, Star route box 176, Aberdeen Washington is formerly from Traverse City, Michigan is starting off with (but well on her way) an Alger collection; I have been unable to furnish all that she wants.

Mrs. Virginia M. Viera of 38 West St., Millville, Mass. is another of that select group who laments, "I wish I had saved mine!" Now she is starting all over again! It seems she traded for Science Fiction but now wants to exchange or buy. Exchanges could be made in one fell swoop, but purchases will be small and time consuming, for she is a working girl. Can you help her?

Alphabetically, Westgard (sections 1&3) also relinquishes his space so others can be heard; He has no duplicates (lucky boy!) but is still looking for the rare ones. I must say that he appreciates very much the information we passed on regarding Fortune Magazine; He was able to go out and find a copy for sale! He also has a reproduction of Alger's Obituary and is anxious to procure a death certificate if possible.

Mr. Austin Lindsay of 230 Minnie Street, Godfrey, Ill is one of our readers but is primarily interested in poultry, no doubt since he lives in a suburban or rural area, he perhaps raised chickens as a hobby as well as to supply his table with meat and eggs. Austin is planning on eventually writing a book about his poultry hobby. I had planned on including them in my itinerary, but since his wife is not well and at present in Cheasapeake, Ohio, I had to pass them by this time.

movies of our grandchildren to them in the evening when her son, Henry and his family came in unexpectedly from Alton, Illinois. Knowing that Alton and Godfrey are neighboring cities, I casually remarked hopelessly, "I don't suppose you know Austin Windsor?" Henry looked at his wife and she responded likewise as if to say, "Can it be true?" It was true! They are neighbors! Henry lives in rural Alton and Austin lives in rural Godfrey and now the T'AIN has met! Small world! We then made, the next morning a hurried dash home to get the NEWSBOY into production however two things remain worth mentioning. If you are passing through Joliet by car and are looking for a pleasant spot to stop and rest and have a couple of cups of coffee, You are in luck for just west of Joliet on R 52 and before you get to the junction of R 66, on the right you will find a very inviting, pleasant and shady park. You're welcome! Then in Niles, Illinois (Northwestern Chicagoland) and very near to Gilbert's home you will find an exact replica (but somewhat smaller) of the LEANING TOWER OF PISA) We enjoyed it very much and took movies, however we were disappointed that it does not attract any more attention than it does. It is located on Touhy Avenue just a few steps east of the intersection of Caldwell; It was locked up when we were there, but still worth seeing! We had only been home a couple of days when we were pleasantly surprised with a call from Chicago and four hours later a visit from Gilbert. We look forward with anticipated pleasure to your announced plans to visit us and of course you must keep those letters coming. Don't stop! I'll have to stop. There is no more room!

Altho my very good Friend George C. Stenson of 2750 Dixie Highway, Pontiac, Michigan is not now a reader, but has been, he is on my mailing list. George also puts out a newsletter which is read mostly in Pontiac but in addition is being mailed to many points all over the USA. George seldom misses giving us a plug in his letters and in his most recent edition which consists of 11 pages letter size; he gave us a full half page and occasionally a humorous cartoon; George is doing us a service and I'll wager that after this edition he will be sheepishly searching the old bookstores again and will soon belong to that select group of those who sadly cry, "I wish I had saved mine!"

My mailing list is growing and my daily volume of mail is growing, but I am not complaining; instead I am rejoicing. I want to be of service to this choice group of Friends. Up to now, I have absorbed the expense and charged it off to the expense to maintain a hobby; But the size of this group is expected to enlarge, at least I am hopeful and the burden of expense (not work) is mounting. So until we get a sponsor who could benefit by ads in our Newsletter, I am forced to accept your offers to assist with the expense involved. I will accept \$2.00 per subscriber but I am not demanding it. Your newsletter will continue to come regularly with or without your assistance. What I need most is your goodwill and of course those vitally needed letters. I WILL FIND TIME FOR THEM AND YOU WILL GET AN ANSWER if it is at all possible. Please do not hesitate to send in the name of a friend or if you think it wise, the name of an enemy, just to get even; I guess there is no more room!



THE MORATO ALGER

Newsboy

CLUB

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KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

Mr. Milton R. Salls,  
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