

# The Collector's Miscellany

No. 2 (5TH. SERIES)

DECEMBER, 1945

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# The Collector's Miscellany

A journal for collectors of Old and Modern Boys' Books, "Bloods" and Penny Number Romances

No. 2 (5TH. SERIES)

DECEMBER, 1945

## THE GOLDEN READING DAYS

BY R. A. H. GOODYEAR



SAID that world-famous author, H. G. Wells: "I 'took in' irregularly, but thoroughly, one of those inspiring weeklies which dull people used to call 'penny dreadfuls'—admirable papers, crammed with imagination".

Another celebrated author, Frank Swinnerton, speaks enthusiastically in his autobiography of the old boys's papers and in particular extols E. Harcourt Babbage's "Island School" and "Lambs of Littlecote".

I have often wondered how much of the charm of the old boy's tales was due to their illustrations. I mention this because it was not the letterpress but the pictures which remained brightly in my memory when I grew to man's estate. I forgot what most of the stories were about while fadelessly retaining their truly delightful titles, such as "The Spies of the School," "Jack Harkaway's", "Ralph Rollington's" and "Mat Marchmont's Schooldays", "Caractacus the Unconquered" and "Handsome Harry of the Fighting Belvedere" but never shall I lose the happy remembrance of the coloured illustrations to "The Master of the Sword", smelling delightfully of printing-oils and beautifully lithographed by the famous Bros. Leighton.

W. Boucher's clever illustrations to "Kidnapped", "Ingo-mar", and many other 'Young Folks' Paper' serials always fascinated me by their graphic beauty and historical accuracy. Even when the tales proved too "dry" for me I could sit for hours looking at the pictures.

In Guy Rayner's well edited "Boy's Popular Weekly" Edwin S. Hope illustrated his own thrilling serials and I thought that astoundingly clever of him. Fancy being both an author and an artist at one and the same time! I tried to imitate him by myself illustrating the so-called "sensational" serials I wrote for the



school magazine—couldn't of course do the job properly, so copied some pictures from 'The Boys of England' and no one was any the wiser!

Although I have confessed that I can remember little of the serials which illuminated my schooldays, I have always admitted that I owe to them much of the inspiration which afterwards enabled me to write serials and long complete novels for 'Lot o' Fun', 'Nuggets Library', and 'Lloyd's Boy's Yarns'. When stuck for a new 30,000-word yarn I took long walks across the moors and flushed my mind and heart with the golden memories of 'Boy's Comic Journal' and 'Ching-Ching's Own' and the sheer romance of my thoughts excited me into the right atmosphere for a swiftly moving school or adventure story.

'Best for Boys—Ching-Ching's Own' had a feature which I loved. It was a sort of a Literary Tournament or Court, which appointed its own "King". Readers voted a boy called Bradford to the "Throne" as the best contributor of amateur prose and verse. My vote went to F. W. Carter of Islington; a precociously clever young writer approaching professional standard. Perhaps some Islington reader may know if Carter is still in the land of the living.

An Extract from

## THE STRING OF PEARLS

(continued from page 14)



"I'LL cut your throat from ear to ear, if you repeat a word of what passes in this shop, or dare to make any supposition, or draw any conclusion from anything you see or hear, or fancy you see or hear".

"Yes, sir, I won't say anything. I wish, sir, as I may be made into veal pies at Lovett's in Bell Yard if I as much as says a word".

Sweeney Todd rose from his seat, and opening his huge mouth he looked at the boy for a minute or two in silence, as if he fully intended swallowing him but had not quite made up his mind where to begin.

"Very good" at length he said, "I am satisfied, I am quite satisfied, and mark me—the shop and the shop only, is your place".



"Yes, sir".

"And if any customer gives you a penny you may keep it, so that if you get enough of them you will become a rich man; only I will take care of them for you, and when I think you want them I will let you have them. Run out and see what's o'clock by St. Dunstons".

There was a small crowd collected opposite the church for the figures were about to strike three quarters past six. The three quarters was struck by the figures and the crowd walked away, with the exception of a man who seemed deeply interested. At his feet crouched a noble dog.

"What do you think of that, Hector"? said the man. The dog gave a short low whine.

"There's a barber's shop opposite so I'll go and get shaved". He crossed the road towards Sweeney Todd's shop and stood face to face with the odd looking barber. The dog gave a low growl and sniffed the air.

"Why, Hector", said his master, "what's the matter"?

"I have a mortal fear of dogs" said Sweeney Todd, "would you mind him, sir, sitting outside and waiting for you, if it's all the same"?

"Down Hector, down" said his master "get out".

Most unwillingly the dog left the shop and crouched down close to the outer door which the barber took care to close muttering something about a draught, and then, turning to the apprentice boy who was screwed up in a corner, he said—"Tobias, my lad, go to Leadenhall-street and bring a small bag of the thick biscuits from Mr. Peterson's, and say they are for me. Now, sir, I suppose you want to be shaved and its well you have come here for there ain' a shaving shop in the city of London that ever thinks of polishing anybody off as I do".

"I tell you what it is, master barber, if you come that laugh again I will get up and go. I don't like it".

"Very good", said Sweeney Todd mixing up a lather, "just turn your head a little on one side; that will do. You have been to sea, sir"?

"Yes, and have only now lately come up the river from an Indian voyage".



"Indeed. Where can my strop be? I had it this minute, I must have laid it down somewhere. Oh I recollect, I took it in to the parlour. Sit still, sir, if you please. You can amuse yourself with the 'Courier', sir, for a moment".

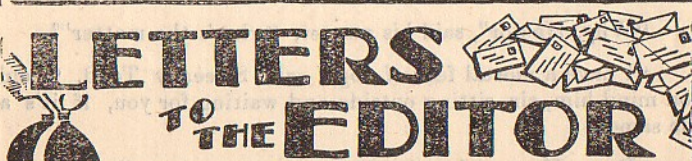
Sweeney Todd walked into the back parlour and closed the door.

There was a strange sound suddenly, compounded of a rushing noise and then a heavy blow, immediately after which Sweeney Todd emerged from his parlour, and folding his arms, he looked upon THE VACANT CHAIR where his customer had been seated, but the customer was gone leaving not the slightest trace of his presence behind except his hat, and that Sweeney Todd immediately sized and thrust into a cupboard that was at one corner of the shop.

END OF EXTRACT

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR




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### TO THE EDITOR OF 'THE COLLECTOR'S MISCELLANY'

MY friend Wm. H. Gander's article "The Golden Age" in the 'Collector's Miscellany' No. 1 had a particular interest for me, not only because it was my happy privilege to assist in two of the incidents he mentions but also because of an even more remarkable coincidence which happened to me in 1941.

I was corresponding at the time with a clergyman living in the West country, a sentimentalist, whose desire was for the fondly remembered books of his boyhood. I had already supplied him with several of these, the last being a set of the Aldine 'Garfield Boys Journal' in 2 vols for which I was to receive in exchange a volume of Henderson's 'Our Young Folk's Weekly Budget'.

Two days later came a letter in which my friend's normally crabbed handwriting was almost undecipherable through excitement. He had received the books and found, to his amazement



and joy that they were the very ones he had bought and bound when a boy. Naturally, I was extremely gratified but this turned to utter astonishment when I opened the parcel containing my end of the exchange. I could hardly believe my eyes at first but there was no mistake, it was the self same Vol. 3 of 'Our Young Folk's Weekly Budget' that had belonged to my uncle and which I was allowed to read on special occasions. Later it was presented to me, with much ceremony, on my 10th. birthday and remained one of my prized possessions for years until—"I became a man and put away childish things".

I think that dual coincidence will take a lot of beating. Perhaps our indefatigable statistician, Brother Leckenby, will oblige, reciprocally, by assessing the chances against a recurrence—when he has time.

JOHN MEDCRAFT

## THE NEWSAGENTS PUBLISHING Co. BY JOHN MEDCRAFT



OF all the old publishers of Penny Bloods I rate the Newsagents Publishing Company easily first. Founded in 1860/1 with offices at 147 Fleet Street, London, they issued a wide variety of sensational romances of dubious tendency during a brief career of about 9 years.

The Lloyd bloods, which had ended only a few years previously, and first earned the name that was to become synonymous of their class, lacked nothing in fierceness of theme and narration but did not always look the part. Many of the so called "domestic romances" in particular, were often unsuitably titled and tamely illustrated despite Edward Lloyd's injunction to his artists that "There must be more blood, much more blood". Fox, also, was an outstanding publisher of bloods but not all of these were original, "Sweeney Todd", "Spring Heeled Jack" and "Three Fingered Jack", amongst others, were rehashed reprints of earlier publications.

Now all the Newsagents Publishing Co's romances were original and very well produced, attractively titled and with a fine range of illustrations by H. C. Maguire, Robert Prowse and Hebblethwaite, in short, to use a flattering contradiction, the perfect blood.



As chairman of the company, Edwin J. Brett exercised a controlling influence on the policy and although severely criticised in certain quarters these romances had a wide sale for Brett was a shrewd business man who knew what his public wanted and gave it to them in good measure.

Over 30 romances of varying length were issued, some twice, in lurid wrappers and with title pages and indices but were not invariably dated, hence it is not possible to determine the exact order of publication or the precise dates of certain titles.

Incidentally, an enthusiastic statistician recently made the naive suggestion that I compile a list of the start and finish dates of *all the penny number romances*. Ye gods! The labour of a Hercules for a mere mortal like myself. Know, brother scribe, that unlike the journals the serial romances were rarely dated and it is sufficient and often difficult to determine the year of issue. I mention this because the Newsagents Pub. Co. provide some of the very rare instances of individually dated penny numbers.

Two of the Newsagents Co's earliest romances were "The Skeleton Horseman ; or, the Shadow of Death" in 60 numbers, a fantastic tale of Glendore Castle and a revengeful skeleton, illustrated by Maguire and "The Skeleton Crew ; or, Wildfire Ned" in 24 numbers which concerns the exploits of a gang of fleshless pirates. Other early items were "The Boy Sailor ; or Life on Board a Man-of-War" in 33 numbers, illustrated by Maguire, also issued by George Howe, and "Spring Heeled Jack" which was the original of the Fox item of the same name.

In 1862 came "Tales of Highwaymen" in 62 numbers comprising three distinct tales viz, "Captain MacHeath ; or, the Black Rider of Hounslow", "Black Hugh ; or, the Forty Thieves of London" and "The Shadowless Rider ; or, the League of the Cross of Blood" three delightful examples of the perfect blood title.

"Black Hawke the Highwayman" in 19 numbers was originally intended for inclusion in "Tales of Highwaymen" but was eventually issued separately in 1866. The rarest item of all is "May Turpin" for only Nos. 1 & 2 in the wrapper dated 1864 are known to exist. "Sixteen String Jack the Darling Highwayman" in 19 numbers and "Mazeppa ; or, the Dwarf's Revenge" in 12 numbers were also published serially



in Harrison's 'Boy's Miscellany' in 1863. Both the complete items and the serials are identical and I am unable to say which appeared first.

"Lion Limb the Boy King of the South Sea Islands" in 54 numbers and "The Boy Soldier; or, Garibaldi's Young Captain" in 48 numbers, about 1863, were both issued by George Howe. Others published about this time were "The Night Hawks of London; or, The Noble Highwayman and the Miser's Daughter" in 12 numbers, "The Lady of Title" in 12 numbers and "Lady Godiva; or, Peeping Tom of Coventry" in 7 numbers. Then followed "The Ticket of Leave Man" in 30 numbers which was reissued later in abridged form by H. Lea. This was illustrated by Maguire and also "The Boy Pirate; or, Life on the Ocean" in 92 numbers, 1864, a gory pirate yarn that was renamed "Kit the Pirate" upon reissue.

With the American Civil War nearing its end, a tale covering this was indicated and duly appeared in "Black Rollo the Pirate, or, the Dark Woman of the Deep" by Captain J. Lyons, in 92 numbers illustrated by Maguire. "Red Ralph; or the Daughter of Night" in 52 numbers by Percival Wolfe was a highwayman story illustrated by some of Robert Prowse's goriest work. In the last number was announced the advent of a sequel entitled, "Wild Will; or, the Pirates of the Thames" in 12 numbers but this proved to be an entirely different tale without a single co-related incident. A rather different story was "Rose Mortimer; or, the Ballet-Girl's Revenge" by a Comedian of the T.R. Drury Lane; in 25 numbers illustrated by Prowse. One woodcut, in particular, depicting an angelic lady burying a murdered infant while a horrified policeman peeps through a hole in the fence is a perfect gem of its type.

The best known of all the Newsagents Co's. romances is "The Wild Boys of London; or, the Children of the Night" in 105 numbers, 1866, illustrated by Maguire, this well written and very readable story of its class was reissued about 10 years later by F. Farrah but was suppressed at No. 79 by the police. As a result there are a number of incomplete copies in existence but very few perfect ones. Somewhat similar in theme was "The Boy Detective; or, the Crimes of London" in 71 numbers, 1866; this and "The Workgirls of London, Their Trials and Temptations" in 40 numbers 1866, were both illustrated by Maguire. Also published in 1866, "Ivan the Terrible; or, the Dark Deeds of Night" in 33 numbers is not as might be supposed a Russian story but centres round a black hearted sorcerer.



In "Moonlight Jack, King of the Road" in 30 numbers, 1866, we are introduced in Chapter 1 to the "hero" swinging alive from a gibbet on a lonely heath. Another published in 1866 was "The Dance of Death; or, the Hangman's Plot" in 23 numbers, both this and "Moonlight Jack" were illustrated in part by Hebblethwaite and were dated weekly.

Of "The Wild Boys of Paris; or, the Secret of the Vaults of Death" I have no definite information apart from the fact that, at least one complete copy is in existence. "The Jolly Dogs of London; or, the Two Roads of Life" in 14 numbers was probably inspired by Arthur Lloyd's popular comic song of the day "Slap! Bang! Here we are again" and, like the song, illustrated by Maguire.

"Hounslow Heath and its Moonlight Riders" in 18 numbers illustrated by Prowse was also issued by the London Romance Co. "Roving Jack the Pirate Hunter" in 40 numbers, 1867, was written by Charles Stevens first editor of 'Boys of England'. A fantastic tale introducing both highwaymen and pirates on common ground. The familiar story "The Young Apprentice; or, the Watchwords of Old London" in 65 numbers by Vane St John was first published in 1868 but frequently reissued by Brett in later years. The last story bearing the Newsagents Co's. imprint on the title page was "Jane Shore; or, the Goldsmith's Wife" in 30 numbers, 1869, which was also frequently reissued by Brett.

Another which has just been brought to my notice by Hugh W. Fennell is "The Young Ladies of London; or, the Mysteries of Midnight" in 16 numbers, by Lieutenant Parker, author of "The Boy Rover". This hitherto unknown item is probably the only existing copy.

On January 2nd, 1863, 'The Boy's Own Reader and Companion, illustrated by Hebblethwaite, commenced but did not last very long. A rather uninspiring journal, it served a good purpose as pacemaker for the famous 'Boys of England' which was to follow in November of the same year. In 1869, with the 'Boys of England' firmly established in public favour, the Newsagents Publishing Co. closed down and Brett carried on the business thereafter under his own name.

But, although dead, the parent company refused to lie down, for in 1870 Brett published three stories bearing the unmistakable Newsagents Co's. title headings—"Rupert Dreadnought; or, the

*(continued on page 31)*



## THE CREATOR OF THE 'GEM' AND 'MAGNET' STORIES

Some Reflections on a Remarkable Performance

BY HERBERT LECKENBY



RATHER more than two years ago some paragraphs appeared in a London evening newspaper which made public for the first time the real identity of "Frank Richards" known to fame as the creator of Billy Bunter. These paragraphs were re-published in at least one provincial newspaper; and as a result quite a lot of people who in their youth had revelled not only in the escapades of the owl of Greyfriars but also in the adventures of Tom Merry & Co. of St. Jims, got a real surprise. For they learned, these devotees of the 'Gem' and 'Magnet' that famous Frank Richards, and almost equally popular Martin Clifford, were one and the same, and that the pen names had concealed the identity of Charles Hamilton, himself not exactly unknown as a writer for boys. If that was not enough readers who had enjoyed for many years the stories of Rookwood School in the 'Boys' Friend' found that Owen Conquest whom they had admired so much, was really Charles Hamilton, too. When one adds that Ralph Redway, who had written quite a lot of stories about a certain Rio Kid was yet again Charles Hamilton I am sure it will be agreed that it was a most amazing revelation.

Now, for years I had been interested in the Frank Richards — Martin Clifford authorship question. I was pretty certain that Martin Clifford was Charles Hamilton for the simple reason that when the St. Jim stories first appeared in 'Pluck' they appeared under his name, and when they were transferred to the 'Gem' it was fairly obvious the same master hand was at work. I had, too, a suspicion that there was some link between the 'Gem' and the 'Magnet' authors, but I hesitated to think they were one and the same simply because I did not think it possible for one man to write the two stories week in and week out over a number of years, even if there was an occasional substitute. As for Owen Conquest, although his identity puzzled me I never took him into my calculations in this connection.

Moreover; the issue was further confused by the assertions of the editors at the time. Several times keen and curious readers wrote asking if Frank Richards and Martin Clifford were



one and the same, and the answer was a point blank denial. This I can't help thinking was a wrong attitude for the editor to take. It may have been a bit awkward but he could have got over it by saying "Now do you think it possible for them to be one and the same"? or something of that kind.

Then there were those "Personal Recollections" by H. A. Hinton, editor at the time, in which he drew a fanciful picture of how he first met the three authors! They seem all very absurd, and far from the truth in view of what we know now.

Well these paragraphs did arouse a lot of interest. I know Mr. Hamilton was astonished by the number of letters he received following them, proving that quite a lot of men had not forgotten the stories he used to write.

But; not everyone learned the truth at that time. This is not surprising for there were readers of the 'Gen' and the 'Magnet' all over the world. And, as a matter of fact, at the present time a controversy is raging away in Australia over the authorship of the stories. Rather remarkable seeing both papers gave up the ghost nearly six years ago.

It happened like this. The Services magazine 'Gen' which is distributed to the troops published an article by a well-known British firm in which it was suggested there had never actually been a Frank Richards, but that the 'Magnet' stories were written by a syndicate of writers. This was reprinted in 'A.B.C.' the weekly organ of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. A real controversy then broke out. Mr Leon Stone well known in Australian amateur magazine circles took up the cudgels on behalf of Frank Richards: others declared there was "no such person" and backing up the syndicate idea in no uncertain terms. Unfortunately Mr Stone, in his enthusiasm rather overstated his case for he asserted that Mr. Hamilton wrote everyone of the Greyfriars stories, a statement which was not exactly correct. Some of the assertions in favour of a variety of writers, however, were really ridiculous.

Then, our friend, W. H. Gander was invited to take a hand. Needless to say he soon put the case in its true perspective. A little later still Mr. Hamilton himself entered the lists, and, in no uncertain voice, let the sceptical ones see that there was a Frank Richards and that he was still very much alive. And, at the time of writing the latest is that the War Office, yes, the War Office, has joined in by sending to 'Gen' a contradiction of the



syndicate statement.

Well all this is extremely interesting. Who would have thought in the humble halfpenny days of the 'Gem' and 'Magnet' that such a situation would arise with a Government Department joining in after more than thirty years. Surely a tribute to the amazing popularity of the two papers and the man who made them so.

Now let us have a look at the substitute question for of course, there were substitutes. After all, thirty-three years is a long time and even a Charles Hamilton would require a holiday or liable to fall ill now and then. So it can be said that there were occasions when for the nonce some other hand wrote the story which appeared under the name of Frank Richards or Martin Clifford. But, by no stretch of imagination could it be called a syndicate. The position was similar to what it is on the stage when an understudy appears occasionally in place of the leading player. Moreover, these substitute stories all appeared in the earlier days and for the last nine or ten years of the 'Magnet', Charles Hamilton wrote every one of the Greyfriars stories. He penned the first sentence in the immortal No. 1, Feb. 15th, 1908 and the last one in No. 1683, May 18th, 1940 (and that "Battle of the Beaks" No. 1684 which never appeared) to him goes the credit of about 851 of those in between. So who dares to say Charles Hamilton was not Frank Richards?

Now the question of these substitute writers who sometimes filled the breach is an interesting one and I should like to go into it in some detail and also do a little straight speaking. Some of them were authors on the A.P. staff who, under their real names, or different pen names, wrote quite good stories, especially school stories, but when writing as Frank Richards (or Martin Clifford) failed to get the Hamilton touch. J. N. Pentelow, who was popular as Jack North and Richard Randolph, never seemed quite happy when writing of Bunter and Harry Wharton. E. S. Brooks, famous creator of St. Franks was another. In one series he brought Handforth to St. Jims, but it was a very different St. Jims. Still one other, son of a famous author father, wrote some grand school yarns for another A.P. paper, but only very ordinary Greyfriars tales. And there was still one more, who shall be nameless, whose efforts were to say the least, naive, crude, incredible and ridiculous.

(continued)



## SEXTON BLAKE &amp; ONE OF HIS CHRONICLERS

FROM AN OLD SCRAPBOOK

CONTRIBUTED BY F. N. WEARING



YESTERDAY I met a man who has just written his 151st. thriller. His name is Gwen Evans, a young Welshman from Portmadoc. He is one of the chief writers of the Sexton Blake, detective stories. Now Conan Doyle is dead, and Sherlock Holmes off the trail, Sexton Blake is the senior detective in fiction, and is still going strong.

The figures are staggering. The first time Sexton Blake appeared was in 1894, written by Harry Blyth a popular serial writer. Blake has gone on without a break from that day to this. The monthly output is 112,000 words in the 'Detective Weekly' starring that hero of a thousand thrills, as well as 260,000 words each month in the 'Sexton Blake Library'. It reaches a grand total of just under four and a half million words a year.

Evans, of course, does not write all the Sexton Blake stories himself. There are six of them doing the job, but you can see that individually they are possibly the most prolific writers turning out thrillers. Yet in his "spare" time Evans manages to write other novels, one of which has just been filmed under title of "Mr. Hercules".

No one has yet worked out the number of times Sexton Blake has been knocked on the head, gagged, bound; flung from aeroplanes, buried alive, shot, stabbed and poisoned, but it must run into several thousand times.

Incidentally Sexton Blake, and his assistant Tinker, to say nothing of Pedro, the bloodhound, have a devoted fan mail, and the average number of letters received from readers is about 300 a week. They arrive from all parts of the world, and the majority of readers who write are adults!

A few of Evans's thrillers may interest. Here they are: "The Case of the Coughing Corpse", "The Man with the Scarlet Skull", "The Terror of Siam", "The Affair of the Black Carol", "The Man who Stole the Nelson Monument" and "Gallows for Two".

In fact what was formerly the schoolboy's pleasure, to quote Dorothy Sayers in her book "Great Short Stories of Crime and Detection", is now, "Worthy of serious scientific study"—probably the only saga that is as universally popular as the tales of Robin Hood.



**THE NEWSAGENTS PUBLISHING CO.**

—continued from page 26

Secrets of the Iron Chest" in 52 numbers, "The Rival Apprentices, a tale of the Riots of 1780" both written by Vane St. John, and "The Gipsy Boy; or, the Green Woods and the Battlefield" in 52 numbers. A few years later Brett reissued "The Boy Soldier" and also "The Boy Sailor" under the title of "Harry Halliard" while in 1881 "Roving Jack the Pirate Hunter" reappeared in 20 double numbers.

Finally in 'The Boys Weekly Reader' Vol. 6, 1881, 'Ivan the Terrible' was reissued and in Vol. 7, 1882, 'The Skeleton Horseman' also. With this final flicker, the Newsagents Publishing Company subsided.

**Sale Exchange Wanted**

**Wanted** All classes of Penny Dreadfuls and old boy's journals issued from 1836 to 1900. Also Amalgamated Press, Henderson and Aldine publications prior to 1914. Anything from whole collections to single items purchased at fair prices. I particularly want the following: Skeleton Horseman, Skeleton Crew, Wild Boys of Paris, Lion Limb, Lightning Dick, Ivan the Terrible, Turpin and Bess, May Turpin, Dance of Death, Night Hawks of London, Jenny Diver, Outsiders of Society, Spring Heeled Jack, all versions, Wild Will, Tom Turpin, Morgan the Buccaneer, Black Wolf, Cheeky Charlie, Boy Rover, Socialist Girl, Nickelas Nickleberry, Tyburn Tree, Boy's Standard, Sons of Merry England, Boy's Leisure Hour, Boy's Champion, Young Gentlemen of Britain, Young Briton, Boys of the Isles, Young Britannia, Boy's Miscellany, Rover's Log, Bad Boy's Paper, Jack Harkaway's Journal for Boys. Top price paid for first 100 nos. of "Lot-o-Fun" published by James Henderson, 1906-7 or any odd nos. Hundreds of duplicates for sale. State wants. John Medcraft, 64 Woodlands Road, Ilford, Essex.

**The Collector's Guide** established in 1929, is Canada's premier amateur magazine. Four to eight large pages every issue, press printed, well illustrated. Regular contributors include Del O. Gilbert, (Art, Antiques, Curios), Jan Steel, (Literary Notes), Leslie Booth, (illustrations in lino), James D. Weir, (Match-box Labels), David Shaw, (Stamps), Earle K. Peters, (Cigarette Packets), Melvin Duncan, (Old Boys' Books), Leonard Rivers, (Horse Brasses), etc. etc. No. 106, Vol. 15 now on sale 1/-. Four issues (as published) 5/-. Advert. rates 1d. per word one insertion. Display adverts 5/- column inch. No free space, and no free copies. English edition from A. C. Cleeve Sculthorpe, Printer, 82 Lichfield Road, Coleshill, C. Warwickshire. This has one of the largest circulations in amateur journalism.

**Will exchange advertising space with all collectors' publications.**



## Sale                      Exchange                      Wanted

**I WILL PAY** good prices for Magnets, Gems, Union Jacks, Nelson Lees, Wizards, etc. c/o BM/FRVV, W.O. 1, London. 4

**WANTED** Aldine Libraries, 1d. Boys Friends between numbers 262 and 764, Young Folks' Budget, Wild West Library, Ally Sloper, Boys of England and New York, ½d. Union Jacks. Books for exchange. Grainger, Alexandra Road, Paynters Lanes End, Redruth, Cornwall. (Late of Edinburgh).

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