

STORY PAPER COLLECTOR

Diamond Jubilee Celebration of The National Amateur Press Assoc'n, Philadelphia, July, 1951



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No. 4 of The Schoolboys' Own Library, Published in May, 1925

The Story Paper Collector WHO'S WHO

No. 16: JOHN REDMAN MURTAGH

JOHAN REDMAN MURTAGH, of 509 Selwood Road, Hastings, in New Zealand, has an amazing collection away "down under," and at the age of thirty-eight is still just as keen about collecting as he was twenty years ago, even though he has been married, and very happily, for twelve years and has two growing daughters.

His collection of old boys' papers comprises the following: a complete collection of *The Nelson Lee Library* except for 46 issues in the first one hundred of the first series; complete sets of *Monster Library*, *Robin Hood Library*, *Detective Library*, *Nugget Library*, *Scoops*, plus about 600 *Union Jacks*, 200 old *Sexton Blakes*, 200 *Schoolboys' Own Libraries*, 200 each of *Magnets* and *Gems*, and a good selection of *Boys' Friends*, *Thrillers*, *Boys' Realms*, *Detective Weeklies*, and others.

An avid *Nelson Lee* fan, his one ambition is to complete his set of the old series of that paper. Many years ago when interest waned he sold a large collection of *Sexton Blakes*, *Magnets*, and *Gems*, but kept his pride and joy, his *Nelson Lees* and *Monster Libraries*. In recent years

he has again been collecting *Magnets* and *Gems*.

Apart from his collecting activities in the sphere of old boys' books Jack Murtagh is a prominent collector of cigarette cards, having almost 1½ million from all parts of the world. He also collects science, fantasy, and weird fiction magazines and has almost complete files of the various magazines, mostly from the U.S.A., in this group, as well as a splendid library of books in the same line.

Jack has worked in many jobs and trades, from shop assistant to theatre projectionist, and is also a professional hypnotist, having recently toured New Zealand as "Redman the Amazing Hypnotist." In 1950 he spent seven months in Australia where, during his travels, he looked up many of his correspondents there and received very warm welcomes from them. He hopes in the very near future to visit Hawaii and the United States. His one complaint is that his life and his hobbies are so interesting that the days are not long enough to do all he would like to do. One thing is certain, he will never die of boredom.



THE BOYS' HERALD

No. 1, August 1st, 1903—No. 511, May 18th, 1912

THE THIRD MEMBER of Hamilton Edwards' three boys' serial papers and, as events proved, the weakest, *The Boys' Herald* can not be counted a real failure, for it ran almost nine years. It was, however, one too many of that kind of boys' paper. My interest in journals of that period has largely been concentrated on the first of trio, *The Boys' Friend*, but I am sure that, had I been reading boys' papers during the 1900's, *The Boys' Herald* would have rivalled its oldest brother in my affections. The white paper on which it was printed is, I think, to be preferred to the pink of *The Boys' Realm* and the green of *The Boys' Friend*, and it presented the work of the same popular writers and artists. It may perhaps be of interest to note that a line can be traced from *The Boys' Herald* to *The Champion* of today: the *Herald* was succeeded in 1912 by *Cheer Boys Cheer*, which was replaced in 1913 by *The Boy's Journal*; *The B. J.* was combined early in 1915 with *The Dreadnought*, which in turn was merged a few months later with *The Boys' Friend*; at the end of 1927 *The B. F.* was combined with *The Triumph* and the last-named paper was merged with *The Champion* in May of 1940. — W. H. G.



The Story Paper Collector

Articles of Interest to Collectors of British Boys' Periodicals of the Past

No. 43—Vol. 2

JULY, 1951

Priceless

EARLY SCHOOLBOYS' OWN LIBRARY ST. FRANK'S STORIES

By ROGER M. JENKINS

CONSISTING AS IT DID mainly of reprints, *The Schoolboys' Own Library* affords a useful guide in estimating the popularity of the various kinds of school stories published by the Amalgamated Press. For instance, Greyfriars merited 184 stories, St. Jim's 81, and Rookwood 54. Few would dispute that these figures accurately represent the ratio of popularity of the three Hamilton schools. The number of St. Frank's tales published in the *Library* was 52, and this may be a surprise to some collectors who would consider the figure to be unduly high, but it must be remembered that when the St. Frank's serials came to an end in *The Gem* in 1936 the issues of *The Schoolboys' Own Library* were increased from two to three each month, the extra volume invariably being devoted to the exploits of Nelson Lee.

These later volumes (45 in all) were a sorry lot. Beginning with "The Great Fire at St. Frank's" in No. 279 they were with one or two exceptions all detective stories and a great deal of the action took place in imaginary foreign countries. They were neither reprints nor original stories but a curious mixture of both, Edwy Searles Brooks having taken to polishing up his earlier work. They were, by their very nature, hardly school stories but detective-adventure ones, and would more appropriately have been published in *The Boys' Friend Library*. Neither the supporters nor the opponents of St. Frank's set much store by them and so we need consider them no further.

The early stories, however, of which there were seven, were, on the whole, a different kettle of fish. Most of them were written by Mr. Brooks in the

first flush of enthusiasm when Dr. Stafford was headmaster, when there were only two houses at St. Frank's, and when Nelson Lee did not dominate every story. The majority of these tales were never of better than average quality. The interesting thing about them was the promise they showed of better things to come, but they were, alas, false prophets.

THE FIRST STORY, which was titled "The Fighting Form of St. Frank's," appeared in May, 1925, in No. 4 of *The Schoolboys' Own Library*. Mr. Marmaduke Muggles, a temporary master, was put in charge of the Third Form, and when his bedroom was "ragged" by Willy Handforth's pet monkey the blame was laid on Willy himself. The Third rebelled for a few hours in an old mill, but peace was restored when Nelson Lee proclaimed to the Head that the footprints in the bedroom had been made by a monkey. This episode suffers from a number of faults: the writing is naive, the plot spasmodic, and the author spends too long a time in explaining the motives of the different characters instead of leaving their actions to speak for them.

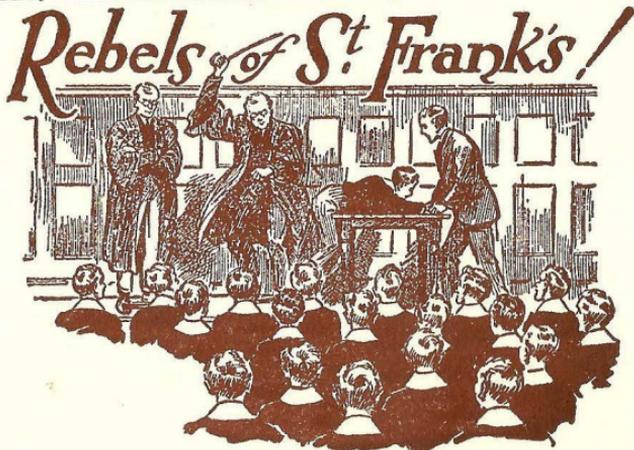
May of 1926 saw the publication of another story by Edwy Searles Brooks in *The Schoolboys'*

Own Library—No. 27, "The River House Rivals." This deals with the temporary deposition of Hal Brewster from the junior captaincy by the Hon. Aubrey Wellborne. The story concerns St. Frank's but little and it is difficult to understand why this particular one should have been chosen since the *Library* was still in its infancy, and it could hardly have appealed to many readers.

Incidentally, there is a certain amount of mystery attaching to Nos. 4, 27, and 120 of *The Schoolboys' Own Library*. None of these St. Frank's stories ever appeared in *The Nelson Lee Library* and the question therefore arises whether they were specially written for *The Schoolboys' Own Library* or were reprinted from some other publication of the Amalgamated Press. Certainly Edwy Searles Brooks did write stories specially for these monthly books, e.g., No. 435 of *The Boys' Friend Library*, "The Schemer of St. Frank's." On the other hand, *The Nelson Lee Library* was not the only source of original St. Frank's stories, for *The Nugget Library*, a monthly publication of the 'twenties with about twice as much reading matter as *The Nelson Lee*, contained a number of new stories by Mr. Brooks.

It seems probable that Nos. 4 and 27 of *The Schoolboys' Own Library* were reprinted from *The*

No. 120.—THE SCHOOLBOYS' OWN LIBRARY.



Inside Title Design, Schoolboys' Own Library No. 120

Nugget (especially as No. 27 contains allusions to recent re-arrangements of the school cricket elevens, which infers that the story is one of a run of several). No. 120, on the other hand, seems to come from a later period altogether when Dr. Morrison Nicholls was headmaster and St. Frank's had four houses. It is therefore likely that this story was specially written by Mr. Brooks for *The Schoolboys' Own Library*.

St. Frank's was given a better show in 1927. "Buying the Remove," No. 54, appeared in the

Library in June, and "The Terror of the Third," No. 56, was published the following month. At this point the narration of some of the stories was taken over by Nipper, a fact which tended to cover them with a veneer of smugness which was more than a little irritating. For instance, No. 54, a reprint of *Nelson Lee* old series Nos. 381-382, which explains how Fullwood became Captain of the Remove, is prefaced with the remark that all the decent fellows had gone to the Antarctic! Other annoying mannerisms also date from this

era, like that of ending chapters with prophecies of "Little did they know what lay in store for them!"—mere devices to bolster up interest. There can be no doubt that the decision to let Nipper relate the stories was a mistaken one, quite apart from the fact that he was never physically present more than half the time.

THE STORIES IN *The Schoolboys' Own Library* made no pretence of being in chronological order. Whereas No. 4 had dealt with the rebellion caused by Willy Handforth's expulsion, the early part of No. 56, a reprint of *Nelson Lee* old series No. 386, relates how he first came to the school. It has often been asserted that Edwy Searles Brooks created only one real character, and that was Handforth minor. Willy Handforth certainly had the makings of a good character about him, but the stories in which he was featured were generally so tortuous and far-fetched that he appeared to be an incredible youngster, master of the arts of simulation and dissimulation, and possessed of a knowledge of the world that would be amazing in anyone twice his age.

All these defects in characterization are only too painfully obvious when one peruses *Schoolboys' Own Library* No. 120, "The

Rebels of St. Frank's," which was published in March, 1930. Mr. Suncliffe was the proposed victim of share-pushing swindlers, whom Willy suspected immediately Marmaduke the monkey took a dislike to them. The Third Form master would, however, hear no word against these swindlers, so Willy kidnapped Mr. Suncliffe in a fruitless effort to prevent the deal from taking place. After a flogging he still regarded his form-master more in sorrow than in anger, and took even more drastic steps to save Mr. Suncliffe from himself.

The tale ends with the form-master grovelling to Handforth minor ("Have you boys saved me from my insane folly?") in a manner nauseatingly reminiscent of "Eric; or, Little by Little." This story, which for reasons already stated was probably the last to be written of all within the ambit of this article, illustrates only too clearly how Edwy Searles Brooks found himself bereft of ideas in later years: the plots became fantastic; the writing was slick yet the dialogue was unreal. So little of the story rang true to life.

These limitations were also apparent in *Schoolboys' Own Library* No. 212, "The Boot-Boy Baronet," which appeared in January, 1934, a reprint of *Nelson Lee* first new series Nos. 90 to 93. This story

relates how Vivian Travers manoeuvred Grayson into a position where he was forced to steal some money to save himself from being expelled. Travers then used this knowledge to force Grayson's father into restoring to Sir Jimmy Potts the money he had swindled from Sir Jimmy's late father. The shortcomings of this plot could have been overlooked if the style of writing had been good, but it was already on the decline. What ought to have been the two great scenes—the meetings between Grayson and the bookmaker, and between Travers and Mr. Grayson—were hopelessly bungled. The arguments were forced and inconclusive and the reactions unnatural and completely false.

THE LAST OF THE St. Frank's stories in question was published in March, 1934: "The Wizard of St. Frank's." The sequence of stories about Ezra Quirke had originally appeared in Nos. 542-549 of *Nelson Lee* old series, but the reprint contained only the last three of these. The plot was highly artificial. Ezra Quirke, an accomplished conjurer, came to the school posing as a magician, whilst his uncle kidnapped Professor Tucker and impersonated him. The idea was to get Singleton to invest several thousand pounds in a "healing apparatus" supposedly invented

by the pseudo-professor. Quirke was instructed to get Singleton into the right frame of mind, but as the latter had already become suspicious of Quirke by the time he lent the money, the schoolboy magician appears to have played a purely decorative part.

Still, there is no need to emphasize the shortcomings of this plot. Ezra Quirke can be enjoyed without our wondering why he was there at all, for there can be no doubt that Edwy Searles Brooks really rose to the occasion for this series. The air of mystery, the occult atmosphere of the school where vampires flew and unseen hands gripped ankles, and the attempts of the Compact of Ten to denounce Quirke all add up to a really remarkable tale, which the author himself never surpassed.

It marks the zenith of the St. Frank's tales, this outstanding combination of detective-cum-fantastic-cum-school story. The secret of its success is, one feels, not in the plot alone—there were many others more extreme than this—but in the writer himself. One has the impression that, possibly for the first and last time, the author had found a plot which engrossed him so much that the story flowed from his pen as though he were recounting actual events. For this one brief occasion the

marionettes cast off their strings and came to life.

SUCH, THEN, comprise the early St. Frank's stories in *The Schoolboys' Own Library*. The tragedy of these stories is the way in which their author lost interest in his creation long before he reached his maturity as a writer. For Edwy Searles Brooks undoubtedly tired of St. Frank's long before *The Nelson Lee Library* itself came to an end. So the early stories display enthusiasm, the later ones technical ability,

but the two elements seldom fused. In other words, by the time the author had learned to introduce a secondary plot of sorts into the stories they were scarcely worth the reading. We can only guess at the cause of the author's lack of interest, but we can at least be certain of one thing: when Edwy Searles Brooks burnt down the school he destroyed it in every sense of the word. The new St. Frank's was but a pale ghost of its former self; and, like Humpty-Dumpty, it couldn't be put together again.



THOSE TANTALIZING ADS.

By LEONARD M. ALLEN

FROM TIME TO TIME the Amalgamated Press introduced into their boys' papers a very pleasing feature—a readers' Exchange and Mart. The main factor, of course, was to increase circulation, and to obtain the insertion of an advertisement the reader had to include with it several coupons from the current issue of the paper concerned. The editor stressed the fact that commercial announcements could not be included and the feature was for readers only. *The Boys' Herald* in particular specialized in this

direction and at one period a whole page was devoted to these notices.

What a sense of frustration a glance through these columns can bring today! The issue for July 13th, 1907, contains the following: *Boys' Friend 3d. Library*, Nos. 1, 5, 8, and 10, the lot for eightpence, postage paid. Also 17 copies of *Chums*, nine *Marvels*, and five *Boys' Friend Libraries* for ninepence. Later in the same year a Manchester reader announces that he will dispose of 99 *Boys' Realms* at three for a penny, and books by Ballantyne

at sixpence each, the comparatively high price of the latter being a good indication of the demand for this popular author's work.

A very interesting announcement can be found tucked away at the bottom of page 237 of *The Boys' Herald* for February 1st, 1908—an illustration depicting a group of boys and girls reaching with coins outstretched to a large magnet suspended above them. No. 1 of the new paper, *The Magnet Library*, was soon to be published.

THE EXCHANGE AND MART feature suffered a temporary eclipse with the end of *The Boys' Herald*, but in 1912 the editor of that paper's successor, *Cheer Boys Cheer*, announced its re-introduction, although he claimed the idea as original. The charge for insertion was four coupons from a current number of the paper, and in No. 27, November 23rd, 1912, the first columns appeared. These differed from the *Herald* advertisements in that not one of the vendors quoted a price; all of them awaited offers. Evidently the idea was new to most of the readers and apparently they were feeling their way.

Nevertheless the ads. are interesting reading. For instance, a Huddersfield reader wishes to dispose of complete sets of Mag-

nets, *Gems*, *Marvels*, *Boys' Realms*, and *Boys' Friends*. How amazed he would be to receive the avalanche of replies and stupendous offers this announcement would bring today. Commercial advertisements were again barred, although stamps are offered for sale and an author, Jack M. Finn, offers copies of his latest comedy song, "Come and See the Town," for a small sum.

The response to offers of story papers could not have been very encouraging, few appearing in the succeeding weeks. Interest revived, however, a short time later in the successor to *Cheer Boys Cheer*, a paper to all intents the same, *The Boy's Journal*. No. 32 contained an offer of 50 *Gems* for the startling price of one shilling and eightpence the lot. *Dreadnoughts* were available at fourpence a dozen. The following week the Exchange and Mart was greatly enlarged and contained such items as thirteen *Union Jacks* and four *Nuggets* for a shilling and, for the first time, a list of "wants."

There is little evidence of the Exchange and Mart feature being continued in any of the Amalgamated Press papers for some years after the withdrawal of *The Boy's Journal*, apart from a period of a year or more in *The Pluck Library*, to which paper it was transferred upon the

demise of *The B. J.* in January of 1915. With the introduction in 1922 of *The Champion*, which at first adopted so many of the good old proved ideas, the Exchange and Mart appeared once again.

The conditions were the same, four coupons, but the layout was greatly improved. Instead of one solid mass of words, with little to distinguish the finish of one

advertisement and the commencement of another, they were spaced in a manner similar to the newspaper "smalls" of today.

The feature does not appear to have been a great success in *The Champion* and soon was to be seen only at intervals. Other, more substantial, inducements were offered to increase the paper's circulation.



Apropos the foregoing article the Editor quotes:

FOR SALE

Pre-war *Boys' Friends*, *Boys' Realms*, *Populars*, etc., 1/4 per dozen.

—Advertisement by Arthur Budge in No. 1001 of *The Boys' Friend*, August 14th, 1920.

FOR SALE

Magnets, *Populars*, *Boys' Friends*, *Boys' Realms*, *Union Jacks*, from 12/- per dozen.

—Advertisement in No. 50 of *The Collectors' Digest*, February, 1951.



THE JACK, SAM, & PETE LIBRARY

As I HAVE NOT seen it stated elsewhere it might be worth noting that *The Boys' Friend Library* did not start on its long career under that name. I have a copy of No. 2 of *The Jack, Sam, and Pete Library*. The story is "Jack, Sam, and Pete's Treasure Hunt," and apart from the heading at the top of the cover it is

identical with No. 2 of *The Boys' Friend Library*. It would seem that the publishers' original intention was to call the *Library* by the former title, but changed it to the one by which it is now known when a second printing of the first two numbers was required.

—C. W. DANIEL

THE GREYFRIARS GALLERY

Reviewed by WM. H. GANDER :: Part Thirteen

READERS OF *The Magnet* had two weeks to wait for the appearance of Number 90 of *The Greyfriars Gallery* (*Magnet* No. 555, September 28th, 1918). Featured in it is Heracles Ionides — pronounced, we are told, not Ironsides with the “r” and the “s” left out, but more like “Ee-o-nee-dees, though, perhaps, that is not the exact pronunciation.”

It did not matter much, for Ionides had long since departed from the stories. To me he always seemed out of place when he was in them, but that may be a prejudiced opinion. I never liked him. Neither did the Greyfriars folk, for “he earned dislike directly he reached Greyfriars,” where he became a member of the Sixth Form.

Heracles Ionides was a Greek, but “he must not be taken as a typical Greek.” The warning was needed, for he was not a nice person to know. “Very much of a dandy, he was also more than a little of a bully. . . . [He] was to be counted upon to be in anything rascally and underhand.” It is not known whether Ionides left Greyfriars voluntarily or by request, but it is assumed that he escaped out-

right expulsion. His going was no loss to the school.

Still one more relative of Dr. Locke’s graced Number 91 of the Gallery (*Magnet* No. 556). “Miss Locke—Hypatia is her Christian name—is the sister of the Head of Greyfriars, though many years younger than he is,” we read. “Miss Locke she is, you see; the Head’s elder daughter is Miss Rosalie Locke.”

Miss Locke was—or is—a Girton girl, which means she attended Girton, a women’s college at Oxford. A ladies’ college, Mr. Pentelow called it; presumably none but ladies went there. I think Miss Locke has not appeared in the Greyfriars stories for a great many years, but on one notable occasion she took charge of the Remove during the absence of Mr. Quelch on sick-leave. The Removites were not greatly pleased with the idea and she had difficulty enforcing discipline. Miss Locke held a position at Cliff House School at one time, but I do not know if she was there during *School Friend* days.

Next to adorn the Gallery was Josiah Snoop, a not very worthy father of a rather unworthy son,

Sidney James Snoop of the Greyfriars Remove. Mr. Snoop came into the stories on only a very few occasions. There was a problem of certain monies in the wrong hands. It was resolved by Mr. Snoop landing in prison. Then he escaped and hid in the vicinity of Greyfriars, finally turning over that well-known new leaf by enlisting, under an assumed name, for the duration—a convenient way of reforming and disposing of a character of doubtful integrity in those days of war. Josiah Snoop is Number 92 in the Gallery.

WE ARE INTRODUCED in *Magnet* No. 558 to Merton and Tunstall—John Arthur Merton and Frederick Guest Tunstall of the Highcliffe Fourth Form. They were both, I believe—I am open to correction on this point—creations of John Nix Pentelow. Certainly they were featured in his *Gem Library* serial, "The Twins From Tasmania," a Highcliffe story which brought in Greyfriars characters only in minor roles.

At the beginning of the story Merton and Tunstall were pals of Cecil Ponsonby—slackers, but not such deeply-dyed slackers and no-goods as Pon. As I recall it, at first Philip Derwent, the boy twin (Philippa, the girl twin, was at Cliff House), tended to rival them in slackness, then his

good influence caused them to see the error of their ways. Merton and Tunstall were to be found occasionally in Greyfriars stories while J. N. P. was around the *Magnet* office, but when he departed from that office they vanished from the Greyfriars scene. They share Number 93 of the Gallery.

One more week and we meet Mr. Bull and Miss Bull, paternal uncle and aunt of Johnny Bull of the Greyfriars Remove. As pictured, Uncle John Arthur is a cheery old fellow, while Aunt Tabitha Martha is rather Victorian-looking, as she was presented as being in the stories in which she appeared. Slightly eccentric, too, one would think.

One would think so because, one time, she gave Johnny five hundred pounds (I have to spell this out because there are no pound signs with my type) to do with as he liked. The catch was, if he spent it in gay living he would be cut out of Aunt Bull's will. That was in pre-1914 days; now, few maiden aunts of Greyfriars fellows—or any others—would have that sum to spare, after taxes, for the testing of a nephew's probity of character. He'd have to be taken on trust.

Uncle John Arthur lived in Australia at one time, and there was the occasion when, while on a visit to England, he persuaded

Johnny to go to Australia with him. Johnny agreed, but second thoughts, involving home and Greyfriars, prevailed, and he parted with his uncle on the way out and returned to the school in "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" (*Magnet* No. 376). Uncle and Aunt Bull appeared in Number 94 of *The Gallery*, *Magnet* No. 559.

TWO WEEKS LATER we find Sir Reginald Brooke, Bart., in Number 95 of the *Gallery*—monocle and all. Sir Reginald does not concern us greatly, not at all but for the fact that he is the guardian of Lord Herbert Mauleverer and Sir Jimmy Vivian of the Greyfriars Remove. We note that he "is a very different person from the other representative of the baronetcy of England who has appeared in this series—that very crusty and wrong-headed gentleman, Sir Hilton Popper." We would indeed hope so.

One more week and one more occupant of the *Gallery*, Percy Esmond of the Remove as Number 96. He is another who played his part and then left. Esmond came to Greyfriars preceded by a reputation for cowardice, but eventually he won general esteem, in the process "licking" Bolsover. That was no easy task,

to be sure. After that little was heard of him.

There is, in Number 97 of the *Gallery*, a picture of someone who appears to be a disreputable bookmaker who has just "had a few." Somewhat amazed, we note that this person is Samuel Vernon-Smith, father of "the Bouncer" of the Remove and a millionaire. Mr. Vernon-Smith was a thoroughly nasty person in the stories that told of Smithy's early days at Greyfriars, not above blackmail in order to keep his son at the school when he richly deserved expulsion. He seemed to mellow a little as the years passed, but never to the point of really being likable.

Ninian Elliott, from Scotland, just north of the Border, is Number 98 in the *Gallery*. At the time he was "written up" he had left Greyfriars, going to Canada. "Greyfriars lost very little when Elliott went. But we will hope that in time to come he may make a good Canadian citizen."

Little was heard of Elliott of the Remove until the time came for him to leave. An Elliott is to be found in "Bunter, the Hypnotist," *Magnet* No. 1583. Is this the same Elliott, I wonder, and if so, when did he return from Canada, and why? Were the winters too cold for him?

The Concluding Part Will Appear in the Next Issue

YOUR EDITOR'S ADVICE

THAT WAS THE heading of the Editor's page in *The Boys' Herald* back in the 1900's, but this editor has no advice to offer. We just wish to advise our correspondents whose letters have not been replied to that they will be eventually. Letter-writing has been neglected in order that regularity of publication of *The Story Paper Collector* could be maintained.

CONGRATULATIONS are in order to the National Amateur Press Association on the occasion of its Diamond Jubilee, which is being celebrated at the Association's 76th Annual Convention in Philadelphia during July 4th, 5th, and 6th. Seventy-five years is a lengthy existence for an organization that has from its very nature had at all times a comparatively small membership. The boy printers who three-quarters of a century ago met in Philadelphia and formed the N.A.P.A. must have done a good job.

WE READ in *Sunday Graphic*, London, for May 13th of this year, that difficulty was being

encountered in finding a fat boy to take the part of Billy Bunter in a proposed TV serial, "The Greyfriars Story," based on Frank Richards' Harry Wharton & Co. This dire shortage of fat boys can only, we suppose, be ascribed to very many years of "tuck" rationing.

IN THE APRIL *Collectors' Digest* Wheeler Dryden proposes, quite convincingly, that we call ourselves "Collectors of Juvenile Literature." In the May issue Editor Herbert Leckenby and several correspondents propose, just as convincingly, that we do no such thing. John Medcraft suggests "Juvenalia," and Jimmy Stewart Hunter thinks "Penny Dreadful Collector" will do, just as "Dime Novel Collector" does for our friends in the U.S.A.

WE DO HAVE a little advice to offer, after all—to those who will, when the time comes, be having Volume 2 of S. P. C. bound: instruct your bookbinder to place the reproduction of *The Boys' Herald*, in this issue, between pages 234 and 235. —W.H.G.

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