

MOVABLE STATIONERY

Volume 1 Number 1

September, 1993

The Movable Book Society

The formation of The Movable Book Society has received an enthusiastic reception. Over 60 collectors and book dealers joined in the first two months and many more people have written or called requesting additional information about the organization. The Society exists to provide a forum for collectors to share enthusiasm and exchange information about pop-up and movable books.

Movable Stationery, the quarterly newsletter of the Society, will be guided by the interests, suggestions, and contributions of the members. In order for that to happen I need to hear from you. Please let me know what you would like to read about, and, more importantly, what you would like to write about. This is your organization, please take an active role in its direction.

Ann Montanaro

Pricing Pop-up Books

Dorothy G. Cook

Welcome to the world of pop-up books. My husband likes them better than my regular stock of rare children's books and our two granddaughters love them and are fascinated by them. There is excitement in opening a book of pop-ups. Among other things you wonder if they are going to work! But usually I am awed when looking at one of the more elaborate ones; how ingenious is the mind of the paper engineer who dreamed this up.

But, how do you know what to price an out-of-print pop-up book? It doesn't matter much what sort of a book it is — literature, cookery book, bibliography, children's book, medical book, illustrated or pop-up book. There are certain criteria by which it is judged.

Is the book complete (especially does it have a dust wrapper if it is supposed to have one)? After that comes the condition. Is it practically as new or does it have a few tears in the paper? Does the cover have a few spots? Are there fingerprints, foxing, or crayon marks by budding artists? Or, in the case of pop-up books, are the pop-ups complete and working well?

It has been said that children's books because of the probability of rough handling don't have to be in as good condition as, for instance, modern first editions to be judged in fine condition. But I can't see much difference. It has been my experience that

really dedicated children's book collectors are more interested in books in top condition and are willing to pay higher prices for them.

Other points to be considered are the book's rarity, its age, the illustrator, and in the case of pop-ups, the paper engineer, and whether it is of interest for some reason to more than one group of collectors.

Many books are rare and old, but nobody wants to read them, so they have no particular value. Other books of fairly recent date are considered scarce because there are several different groups collecting them and thus they are worth more, because of the law of supply and demand.

The illustrator has a great deal to do with the value of a pop-up book. There are many wonderful illustrators of children's books but not many of them illustrate pop-up books. The illustrators of pop-up books whose books are the most in demand are C. Carey Cloud, Harold Lentz, Julian Wehr, V. Kubasta, and the Walt Disney Studio. Also, popular are pop-up books illustrated by famous illustrators such as Ernest H. Shepard, Tony Sarg, Norman Rockwell, Beatrix Potter, and Maurice Sendak.

Publishers from the 20th century whose books are avidly collected are Blue Ribbon Books, Pleasure Books, Warne (cut-out books), McLoughlin Bros., Hallmark, and others.

Some books have collectors in different spheres collecting them so naturally they will be in greater demand, as for example the *Alice in Wonderland*

pop-up books. There are many collectors of Lewis Carroll's Alice books and they also collect the pop-up editions. It is the same with Mickey Mouse, Tarzan, Red Riding Hood, Cinderella, Goldilocks, Black Beauty, Humpty Dumpty, and many others. Also highly collectible are pop-up books of comic book characters as Popeye and Dick Tracy.

Some pop-up books are more interesting because of their subject content: the circus, Santa Claus, Christmas, dinosaurs, the weather, riddles, space, ships, etc. Other pop-ups are interesting because of their fabulous complicated pop-ups as some of the Meggendorfer's and the beauty of some of Nister's movable books.

So, all of these things are taken into consideration when pricing pop-up books:

1. Is the pop-up book rare or scarce? Books don't have to be old to be hard-to-find or scarce. An example of this is the 1983 *Pop-up White House* featuring a wonderful pop-up of the White House done with two floors, punch outs of furniture, and the Regans. It is not old but very difficult to find.
2. What is the condition? Is the book complete? Are end papers, title page, plates, pop-ups or movable parts missing? Are the pop-ups and movables in good working order? Are the covers or pages soiled? Are there tears, foxing, ex-library stamps, crayoning, spots or stains? Is there wear to the cover or scuffing? Is the dust wrapper present? What is its condition? The dust wrapper can have a big influence on the price of a book. If it is present it raises the value of the book considerably (even if it is in poor condition).
3. Is the illustrator collectible or well known?
4. Is the publisher well known from the beauty or interest of the printing?
5. Is the pop-up book a first edition? Later editions are usually not worth nearly as much as the first edition.
6. Is it a book that would appeal to two or more groups of collectors?
7. Is it an especially charming, interesting, educational, or beautiful book?

So, after you have gathered all this information, you compare two or three dealer catalogs or retail

sales lists and see how they have priced the book. That will give you some idea of what the going price is for the book in hand or to a similar one in the same condition. All things considered, the better the condition, the more the book is worth.

The author is the owner of Dorothy G. Cook Rare Books, 80 Hollins Drive, Santa Cruz, California 95060.

PopShots Collectors Club

PopShots pop-up cards are available through the PopShots Collectors Club. Four different PopShot cards are mailed each month. Club subscribers receive the whole set starting with the first PopShot PS101 and a current card catalog. There are almost 150 different cards in the set ranging from traditional to funky. Many are no longer available in stores and are only available through the Collectors Club. The cost is \$18.00 per month plus shipping charges of \$2.00. For more information write PopShots Collectors Club, P.O. Box 3569 Westport, Connecticut 06880 or call 203-454-9700.



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Miriam Schapiro's Book Mobiles are a Pomegranate Artbooks series of innovative diamond shaped accordion-fold books. There are four in the series; *The Alphabet Book Mobile*, *The Numbers Book Mobile*, *The Crazy Clothes Book Mobile*, and *The Kaleidoscope Book Mobile*. Each book is 3 1/2 inches square and contains 28 brightly illustrated panels. Printed on both sides in beautiful graphic detail and bound to hard covers on both ends, these unique and colorful books measure thirty-two inches when fully extended. Each of the books is issued in an individual slipcase and sells for \$7.95.

The Movable Book Society

Movable Stationery is the quarterly publication of The Movable Book Society. Letters and articles from members on relevant subjects are welcome. Advertising is accepted from members. The annual membership fee for the Society is \$15.00. For more information contact Ann Montanaro, The Movable Book Society, P.O. Box 11654, New Brunswick, New Jersey 09806.

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Robot's Bike

Does your copy of Jan Pienkowski's *Robot* include a bike? Betty Torno noted that her copy, with a 1981 copyright, differs from the 1981 copy shown in Liz Wessel's Catalogue number five. The last page of Betty's *Robot* reads "CU all 4 xmas. Love, ROB P.S. Keep twins out of my workspace!"

An examination of *Robot* published by Delacorte Press (1981) and Dell (1981) shows the Dell edition lacks the bike. The publications are identical until page 9. The Dell publication concludes on pages 9-10 with a pop-up rocket and the text is the line quoted above. The Delacorte edition on pages 9-10 has a pop-up bike and the text "boyfriend? I miss riding my bike. CU all 4 xmas. Love. ROB." Pages 11-12 have the same concluding as the Dell edition but the text reads "P.S. Keep the twins out to my workspace!!!"

If variant editions of additional titles are known, please document them for other collectors.

Bantock Sets

Viking is issuing Nick Bantock's books in two boxed sets. The first, featuring *Robin Hood*, *There was an old lady*, and *Solomon Grundy* is priced at \$27.85 and the second with *Jabberwocky* and *The walrus and the carpenter* is priced at \$18.90.

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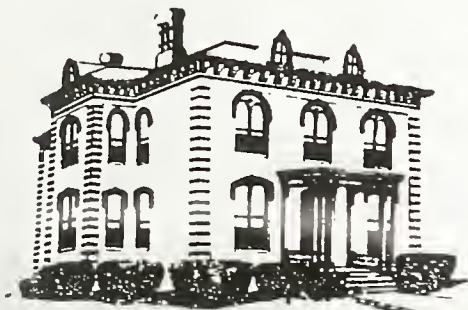
William W. Streeter is a book binder and a member of the Guild of Book Workers. He repairs movable books and is interested in discussing how much repair and restoration should be done to movable books. Should plates or movables in good working condition be removed from one volume to replace movables in another volume which are no longer working? How should a restored book be noted when it is offered for sale? Send your comments or ideas to the newsletter for further discussion.

N is for Newsletter

N is for Newsletter is a new publication "about alphabets, alphabet books, and alphabet memorabilia for alphabet lovers." Each issue contains a minimum of four pages and appears approximately once a month. The subscription rate for the six 1993 issues is \$10.00. Write N is for Newsletter, P.O. Box 465, Chappaqua, New York 10514. Make checks payable to the editor Nyr Indictor.

Books Wanted!

If there are books you are looking for or have titles for sale or trade, send your list to *Movable Stationery*. Each subscriber can list up to five titles per issue. Include your name and address with the list and indicate if the title is being sought, sold, or offered for trade.



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**Catalogs
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Forthcoming Publications

The following new titles have been identified from pre-publication publicity and publisher's catalogs. All titles include pop-ups unless otherwise identified. The actual publication date may vary from the one originally anticipated by the publisher.

FALL

Anything cuddly will do! Mick Inkpen. Bedrock \$9.99. 4 1/4 x 3. Price. 1-878685-71-6.

Come for a ride on a ghost train. [Lift-the-flap] Colin and Jacqui Hawkins. Publisher. \$12.95.

Crocodile! Mick Inkpen. Bedrock Press. 4 1/4 x 3. \$4.99. 1-878685-73-2.

The first Christmas. Golden/Western. \$5.95.

The pop-up Mickey Mouse. [reprint of 1933] Applewood. \$9.95.

The pop-up Minnie Mouse. [reprint of 1933] Applewood. \$9.95.

Special street: A pop-up, fold-out play street. Golden/Western. \$12.95. 0-307-17604-5.

This troll that troll. Mick Inkpen. Bedrock Press. \$4.99. 4 1/4 x 3. 1-878685-70-8.

Thomas' carousel book. Random House. 8.00 0-679-84879-3.

The very good dinosaur. Mick Inkpen. Bedrock Press. \$4.99. 4 1/4 x 3. 1-878685-72-4.

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SEPTEMBER

ABC dinosaurs and other prehistoric creatures. Jan Pienkowski. Lodestar. 10 3/4 x 10 1/2. 10p. \$18.99. 0-525-67468-3.

Animal homes. [tab] Joshua Morris. \$9.95. 8 1/4 x 8 1/4. 10p. 0-89577-512-3.

Animal rap! A noisy pop-up book. Robert Crowther. Candlewick. 7 3/4 x 7 3/4. 10p. 1-56402-207-2.

Animal snap! A noisy pop-up book. Robert Crowther. Candlewick. 7 3/4 x 7 3/4. 10p. 1-56402-208-0.

Bible stories from the Old Testament. Simon & Schuster. \$18.00. 0-671-87573-6.

Boo whoo? A spooky mix-and-match pop-up book. Kees Moerbeek. Price Stern Sloan. \$9.99. 10p. 5 x 9 3/4. 0-8431-3623-5.

Colors. David Carter. Price Stern Sloan. \$5.99. 12p. 3 1/2 x 7 1/4. 0-8431-3624-3.

Colors. David Carter. Simon & Schuster. 3 x 3 3/4. 14p. \$4.95. 0-671-86875-6.

Counting. David Carter. Simon & Schuster. 3 x 3 3/4. 14p. \$4.95. 0-671-86876-4.

Deadly storms in action. Marianne Borgardt. Aladdin. 6 1/4 x 7 3/4. 16p. 0-689-71719-9.

Dinotopia pop-up book. James Gurney. Turner Publications. \$15.95. 8 3/4 x 10 3/4. 1-878685-46-5.



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Dog tricks: Pop-up pooches. Ruth Tilden. Simon & Schuster. 6 x 6 5/8. \$7.95. 0-671-87127-7.

Dracula: A spooky lift-the-flap book. Keith Faulkner. Lodestar. 10 3/4 x 10 1/2. 10p. \$18.99. 0-694-00559-2.

Fairy magic. Cicely Mary Barker. Warne. 5 1/2 x 6. \$7.95. 0-7232-4038-8.

Fairy places. Cicely Mary Barker. Warne. 5 1/2 x 6. 10p. \$7.95 0-7232-4039-6

Frightful winged creatures. Ken Hoy. Ideals. 10 1/4 x 9 1/4. \$12.95. 0-8249-8618-0.

Good night, Tom. [Lift-the-flap] Cartwheel. \$4.95. 0-590-46924-x.

Gruesome land creatures. Ken Hoy. Ideals. 10 1/4 x 9 1/4. \$12.95. 0-8249-8617-2

Home for Christmas: An advent book. [die-cut doors and musical chip] Norman Rockwell. Dutton. 13 x 8 1/2. \$13.00. 0-525-44894-2.

I'm shy: A bashful little pop-up book. David Carter. Simon & Schuster. 5 x 5. \$7.95 0-671-72925-x.

In and Out. David Carter. Simon & Schuster. 3 x 3 3/4. 14p. \$4.95 0-671-86630-3.

Let's look inside a bus, train, ferry, and plane. [lift-the-flap] Derek Radford. Lodestar. 10 x 8 1/2. 20p. 0-52567459-4.

The little engine that could: Let's sing ABC: A lift-the-flap alphabet book. Platt & Munk. \$9.95. 9 3/8 x 9 3/8. 24p. 0-448-40509-1.

Little polar bear. Hans de Beer. North-South Books. \$15.95. 1-55858-226-6.

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Merry Christmas, little mouse: A scratch-the-scent & lift-the-flap book. Noelle & David Carter. Henry Holt. 8 3/4 x 7 1/4. 12p. 0-8050-2712-2.

Monny and baby. David Carter. Price Stern Sloan. 3 1/2 x 7 1/4. \$5.99. 12p. 0-8431-3625-1.

Mother Hubbard's cupboard. [split pages] Laura Rader. Tambourine Books. 8 1/2 x 11. 48p. \$12.95. 0-688-12562-x.

The museum of unnatural history. Kees Moerbeek. Price Stern Sloan. \$14.99. 7 3/4 x 11 7/8. 12p. 0-8431-3541-7.

My first pop-up book of dinosaurs. Roma Bishop. Simon & Schuster. 8 1/4 x 11 3/4. 14p. \$13.00. 0-671-86723-7.

Nature's creatures of the dark: A pop-up glow-in-the-dark exploration. David Taylor. Dial. \$15.99. 8 x 11 1/4. 0-8037-1631-1.

The naughty nineties: A saucy pop-up for adults only. Price Stern Sloan. \$9.99. 11 x 18 cm. 10p. 0-84311-3522-0.

The night before Christmas: A pop-up book. Boyds Mills Press. 9 x 9 1/2. \$9.95 1-56397-003-1.

Old MacDonald had a farm. [panorama] Rick Brown. Viking. \$9.99. 10 x 10. unfolds to 80. 0-670-85157-4.

Old MacDonald had a farm: A lift & look counting book. Tracey English. Artists & Writers Guild Books. 9 1/4 x 7 1/2. \$9.95. 0-307-17601-0.

Opposites. David Carter. Price Stern Sloan. 3 1/2 x 7 1/4. \$5.99. 12p. 0-8431-3626-x.

Opposites. David Carter. Simon & Schuster. 3 x 3 3/4. 14p. \$4.95 0-671-86877-2.

Pat the beastie: A pull-and-poke book. Henrik Drescher. Hyperion. \$9.95. 18p. 4 1/2 x 5 3/4. 1-56282-407-4.

Road hog. Jan Pienkowski. Price Stern Sloan. 10p. \$13.99. 5 3/4 x 11 3/4. 0-8431-3586-7.

Santa's new suit! A dress-up and fold-out Santa. [die-cut pages] Mike Lester. Price Stern Sloan. 22p. \$7.95. 5 7/8 x 7 1/2. 0-8431-3587-5.

Shipwrecks: A 3-dimensional exploration. David Hawcock. HarperFestival. 9 1/2 x 8. 24p. \$15.95. 0-694-00452-9.



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animations by Julian Weir. Spiral bound paper
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1949, printed by Duenewald. Very good condition,
ink owner's name on title page. \$150

CHRISTMAS TIME IN ACTION. Illustrated by Wm
Kemp Tilley. Spiral bound, 5 pop-ups illustrating
Christmas poems. Copyright 1949, printed by
All-Occasion Book. Owner's name on cover, g+. \$60

BUCK ROGERS IN THE 25TH CENTURY. Glazed
boards, engineering by Ib Penick. 4 pop-ups plus
moveables. 1980. Very good condition. Colombia. \$25

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\$8.00. 0-679-84819-3.

Togethers. David Carter. Price Stern Sloan. \$5.99.
12p. 3 1/2 x 7 1/4. 0-8431-3627-8.

Tom's friends. [Lift-the-flap] Cartwheel. \$4.95.
0-590-46949-5.

Tom's picnic. [Lift-the-flap] Cartwheel. \$4.95.
0-590-46947-9.

Tom's school day. [Lift-the-flap] Cartwheel. \$4.95.
0-590-46948-7.

The ugly duckling: A pop-up classic storybook.
Clare & Jack Segnit. Aladdin. 7 1/2 x 10 1/2. 12p.
\$14.95. 0-689-71722-9.

A Victorian advent calendar. [lift-the-flap] Penny
Ives. Putnam. 10 3/4 x 16 1/4. \$7.95.
0-399-22529-3.

Volcanoes and earthquakes in action. Marianne
Borgardt. Aladdin. 6 1/4 x 7 3/4. 16p. \$8.95.
0-689-71720-7.

Who's afraid of tigers: A pop-up book. John
Patience. Price Stern Sloan. 8 1/4 x 10 3/4. 12p.
0-8431-3542-5.

OCTOBER

The Christmas journey. [punch-out figures] Sally
Fisher. Viking. \$19.99. 40p. 8 1/2 x 12 1/4.
0-670-85039-x.

*The Christmas story: A lift-the-flap advent
calendar.* Sheila Moxley. Dial. \$15.99. 8 1/2 x 8
1/2. 24p. 0-8037-1351-7.

Disney's pop-up book of actions. Disney Press.
\$7.95. 12p. 4 1/2 x 8 1/2. 1-56282-506-2.

Disney's pop-up book of things that go. Disney
Press. \$7.95. 12p. 4 1/2 x 8 1/2. 1-56282-509-7.

Fun at the fair. [pull tabs, peepholes] National
Geographic Books for Young Readers. \$4.50. 16p.
5 3/4 x 5 5/8. 0-7922-1919-8.

*Jake & Jenny on the town: A finger puppet lift-the-
flap book.* Price Stern Sloan. \$7.95. 18p. 6 3/4 x 7

3/4. 0-8431-3584-0.

The Jemima Puddle-Duck pop-up book. Warne.
\$13.00. 7 3/4 x 10 3/4. 0-7232-4122-8.

*King Arthur's Camelot: A pop-up castle and four
storybooks.* Lisa Rojany. Dutton. \$18.99. 13 1/2 x
15 1/2. 0-525-45026-2.

*Mimi's scary theater: A play in nine scenes for
seven characters and an egg.* Hyperion. \$14.95.
18p. 7 1/2 x 9 3/4. 1-56282-415-5.

Mr. Bump. Roger Hargreaves. Price Stern Sloan.
\$5.00 10p. 4 1/4 x 4 1/4. 0-8431-3639-1.

Mr. Funny. Roger Hargreaves. Price Stern Sloan.
\$5.00 10p. 4 1/4 x 4 1/4. 0-8431-3637-5.

Mr. Silly. Roger Hargreaves. Price Stern Sloan.
\$5.00. 10p. 4 1/4 x 4 1/4. 0-8431-3637-5.

My dog's day: A moving picture book. Viking.
\$11.99. 7 1/2 x 7 1/2. 0-670-85202-3.

My lift-the-flap plane book. Angela Royston.
Putnam. \$14.99. 18p. 11 x 8 1/2. 0-399-22533-1.

My house. [lift-the-flap] National Geographic Books
for Young Readers. \$4.50. 10p. 7 1/4 x 6 5/8. 0-
7922-1835-3.

Pop-up ballerina bear book and gift set. Scholastic.
\$12.95. 0-590-46753-0.

The red dragon: A 3-D picture book. Stephen
Wyllie. Dial. \$13.99. 20p. 8 x 10. 0-8037-0796-7.

Spot's walk in the woods. [Lift-the-flap, rebus]
Putnam's \$12.95. 0-399-22528-5.

*Them bones: A fabulous four-foot, fold-out, pull-out
skeleton.* Ina Dicks and David Hawcock.
Doubleday. \$13.95. 10 3/4 x 7 3/4. 0-385-31045-5.

Things that go zoom! [puppet] John Wallner. Price
Stern Sloan. \$6.95 18p. 6 3/4 x 7 3/4.
0-8431-3605-7.

*Tim Burton's nightmare before Christmas super
pop-up.* Mouse Works. \$14.98. 0-453-03132-3.



The ultimate bug book: A unique look into the world of insects in fabulous full-color pop-ups. Luise Woelflein. Artists & Writers Guild Books. \$19.95. 9 x 12. 0-307-17600-2.

A visit to the North Pole. Tracy Sabin. Troll. \$15.95. 7 x 10. 0-8167-3137-3.

Wee Sing pop-up nursery rhymes. Price Stern Sloan. \$13.95. 14p. 7 1/2 x 10 1/2. 0-8431-3599-9.

What do you eat? Random House. \$3.99. 3 1/4 x 5. 0-679-83844-9.

What do you say? Random House. \$3.99. 3 1/4 x 5. 0-679-83845-7.

Where's Jack? A Christmas pop-up book. John Richardson. Aladdin. \$12.95. 7 1/4 x 9 1/2. 0-689-71713-x.

Where's that pig? A lift up & look book. John Wallner. Price Stern Sloan. \$6.95. 18p. 0-8431-3604-9.

Who's getting ready for Christmas? [panorama, lift-the-flaps] Chronicle. \$13.95. 0-8118-0470-4.

NOVEMBER

Babar's peekaboo fair: A peek-a-board book. [die-cut holes] Random House. \$3.99. 6 1/4 x 9. 14p. 0-679-83935-6.

The car book. [acetate overlays] Chronicle. \$17.95. 32p. 10 x 10. 0-8118-0514-x.

Playtime delights: An antique pop-up book by Ernest Nister. Philomel. \$15.95. 26p. 9 x 9.

Scooter's Christmas: A lift-the-flap story. Harper Festival. \$10.95. 16p. 8 1/2 x 8 1/2. 0-694-00484-7.

Seven mysterious wonders of the world. Celia King. Chronicle. \$9.95. 0-8118-0361-9.

Sleepy bear. [die cuts and acetate overlay] Joshua Morris. \$6.95. 22p. 5 1/8 x 5 1/8. 0-89577-513-1.

Squirrel's party. [die-cuts and acetate overlay] Joshua Morris. \$6.95. 22p. 5 1/8 x 5 1/8. 0-89577-514-x.

Walt Disney's three little pigs pop-up book. Disney Press. \$11.95. 10p. 8 x 10. 1-56282-513-5.

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