

**AUDITION SIDE – Pulitzer, Bunsen, Seitz, Hannah
from *Newsies JR.***

PULITZER

(looking up from a report)

The *World* is in trouble. Our circulation is down for the third quarter in a row.

BUNSEN

We could use an exciting headline, Mr. Pulitzer.

PULITZER

What have we got today?

SEITZ

The trolley strike.

PULITZER

That's not exciting?

HANNAH

It's boring. Folks just wanna know, "Is the trolley comin' or ain't it?"

SEITZ

Big photos attract readers, sir.

PULITZER

Do you know what big photos cost?

BUNSEN

But without flashy photos or headlines, how are we supposed to sell more papers?

HANNAH

We don't sell papers, silly – newsies sell papers.

PULITZER

Right now, we charge the newsies fifty cents for a hundred papers. What if we raised their price to sixty cents per hundred?

SEITZ

A mere tenth of a penny per paper.

BUNSEN

(does a quick mental calculation)

Every newsie would have to sell twenty-five more papers to earn the same amount as always.

PULITZER

Exactly. It's genius. And my circulation would grow!

HANNAH

It's going to be awfully rough on those children. What if you gave them an incentive to sell more papers, like a bonus?

PULITZER

Nonsense. I'm giving them a real-life lesson in economics. I couldn't offer them a better education if they were my own.

HANNAH

Right...

PULITZER

The price for the newsies goes up in the morning!