(The NEWSIES back up to give JACK room. JACK pulls back his fist as WIESEL rings his hand bell, officially opening up for business. The DELANCEYS run back to help him collect the money and distribute the newspapers.)

Papes for the newsies! Line up! **WIESEL** (*JACK is the first to the wagon.*) **JACK** Good morning, Weasel. Did you miss me?

WIESEL

The name's Wise-el.

JACK

Ain't that what I said? (slapping down his money) I'll take the usual.

WIESEL

A hundred papes for the wise guy.

(OSCAR hands over the papers and RACE moves up to the wagon.)

RACE (slapping down money)

I'll take fifty.

WIESEL

Fifty for Race. Next!

CRUTCHIE

Good morning, Mr. Wiesel.

WIESEL

Fifty papes for Crutchie. (DAVEY, a "fish-out-of-water" newbie, emerges with his younger sibling, LES.) Have a look at this: a new kid.

LES

I'm new too!

HAZEL

Don't worry – rubs right off.

DAVEY

I'll take twenty newspapers, please.

WIESEL

Twenty for the newbie. Let's see the dime.

DAVEY

I'll pay you when I sell them.

WIESEL

Funny, kid. C'mon, cash up front.

DAVEY

But whatever I don't sell, you buy back, right?

WIESEL

This kid's a riot. Cough up the cash or blow. (DAVEY hands over a dime, gets his papers, and looks them over.) Come on, move along. Albert, lemme see your money.