

RAGGED DICK CENTENNIAL YEAR

Newsboy

Vol. 6 No. 10

June 1968



Monthly Newsletter of the HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY
Editor, FORREST CAMPBELL
5868 HEATH
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN 49002

World's Only Publication Devoted
To That Wonderful World
Of Horatio Alger

Founders: Forrest Campbell & Kenneth B. Butler

Incorporated 1965, Non-profit

OUR NEW ENGLANDER - NOW HISTORY

Our 1968 convention held at Rip Van Winkle Motel in New Haven with Ed Levy as our General Chairman, made some new records but did not exceed our previous membership attendance record established at our 1967 Des Moines Session.

Weather-wise, our convention was cool, man, cool; and a bit of rain fell, but it didn't dampen our spirits in the least.

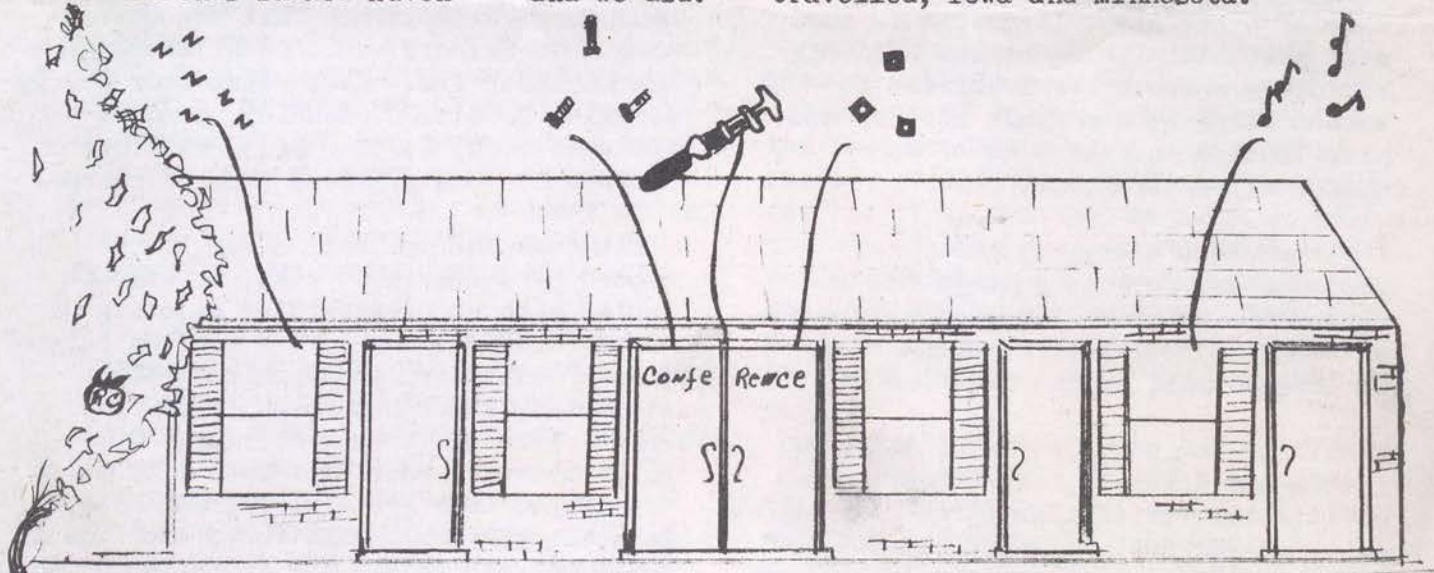
A total of twenty-three members were registered, however, we had a peculiar pattern of daily attendance. Some members who registered on Thursday, May 23, could not stay until Sunday, May 26, while some members did not register until Friday, May 24th.

The motto for this convention where the East met the West was "You'll meet some new friends in New Haven" -- and we did.

Thirteen members represented the East, and ten members represented the West. We were hopeful of a larger attendance from the east since this convention was designed for their convenience.

One of the records that we did achieve was that the twelve new faces among us outnumbered the eleven old-timers. In this respect our New Englander was a great success, since we hope to see most of these new faces again next year.

Membership registrations represented eleven states: Connecticut, 3; Illinois, 3; Indiana, 1; Iowa, 1; Maine, 1; Massachusetts, 3; Michigan, 2; Minnesota, 1; New Jersey, 1; New York State, 5; and Wisconsin, 2. Four were from New York City. Farthest distance travelled, Iowa and Minnesota.



MEMORIAL SERVICE

A total of eight registered members from our New Haven New Englander met about noon on Sunday, May 26th at the home of Max Goldberg in Natick, Massachusetts where we joined with two other Society members of the area. Here again new acquaintances were made and warm friendly greetings were exchanged.

About two o'clock, after a mid-day luncheon served by our hosts, Max and Ida Goldberg, we were joined by a local photographer, and a minister from a local church, and a small motorcade proceeded a short distance to the Greenwood Cemetery in South Natick which is the last resting place of our hero, Horatio Alger, Jr.

Ample time was provided for members who were visiting the cemetery for the first time, to examine the monument on which is inscribed the authentic dates of Horatio's span of life.

A fresh wreath had been placed at the foot of the monument which was the subject of many photographs.

After the invocation spoken by the local minister, Mr. Goldberg delivered his specially prepared eulogy for this annual occasion, which is the fifth annual Memorial Service that Max has personally arranged and conducted.

After paying our last respects for this year, Max led the motorcade on a tour of other Alger landmarks in the area which terminated at the Goldberg residence where we were invited to second helpings and fresh coffee, and also invited to view some of Max's choice Alger treasures.

It had been a bright, cool, and glorious day for the members who attended the Memorial Service, and as the afternoon waned, we bade farewell to our hosts until another year.

Perhaps the good people of the area, noting our interest, might recall that Horatio was buried some three generations ago, but our Society shall attempt to prove that he is not entirely forgotten.

KALAMAZOO TO HOST 1969 CONVENTION!

The registered members in session at New Haven had two choices for our 1969 convention site. Gilbert Westgard extended an invitation for our 1969 convention to be held in the Chicago area. Forrest Campbell invited the group to come to Kalamazoo, with certain reservations.

The reservations being that a July mid-week (Tuesday, 8th; through Friday, 11th) convention was offered.

Upon being questioned further regarding specific dates, Westgard agreed to yield to the majority of the members present. Campbell explained that the July date was designed in favor of those members who have school-year commitments, and that a mid-week date was selected to enable distant members to attend within one calendar week.

At our previous conventions we have always approved a May, week-end date which, according to the opinion of some members, prevented those with school-year commitments from attending. A vote on the acceptance of one of the two invitations was tabled for further consideration.

Campbell explained that the July date would not conflict with the July 18th Annual Memorial Service held in Natick.

The result of the final vote was to accept the Kalamazoo invitation. Campbell further explained that our convention headquarters would be at the Cross-town Holiday Inn. Room rates from \$10.50 (single) to \$15.00 (double) Banquet (private room) \$3.50 - \$4.50 with our conference room provided free of charge.

Although the invitation was not accepted by a unanimous vote, it was accepted with an overwhelming majority of votes. The Kalamazoo site has the potential of exceeding previous convention attendance records perhaps by 100 per cent. Already, some members who have no commitments have expressed intentions to attend. Our grateful thanks, however, we shall sincerely miss those who find it impossible to attend our KALAMAZOO OCCASION.

A VISIT TO YALE

A highlight of the Yale visit was a guided tour of the Yale-Reinecke rare book library. We were fortunate to view these treasures with explanations in person by the director of the library, Mr. Herman W. Liebert. The building itself is a gem of contemporary architecture, supported on four massive corner bases. Sunlight being detrimental to books, the building side panels are $1\frac{1}{2}$ " slabs of marble which admit soft light.

A mosaic-like painting is created by the differences in the translucency of the stone. Focal point of the impressive interior is a free-standing central core, rising nearly to the roof, which contains glass-enclosed book stacks, many floors of them, containing the most unusual of the library's 800,000 rare books and more than a million manuscripts.

The building and a fund for supporting it was a gift of the three Beinecke brothers, former Yale graduates, and executives with S & H stamp company. Use of the library is not limited to Yale students, but is widely used by scholars from all over the world. Many of the book stacks and reading rooms are one floor below grade level, overlooking a commodious outdoor well visible from study room as well as from ground-floor courtyard above.

Our Alger group saw special exhibits in glass cases on the two display levels. Books dating back to the Gutenberg Bible of 1455, and manuscripts dating to 500 BC were seen. Viewed were famous manuscripts, some of them color illuminated and inscribed by monks. An interesting feature was a collection of works and manuscripts by Robert Louis Stevenson.

The collection is not a museum or graveyard for books, Mr. Liebert pointed out. The material is used and photographed by many researchers and scholars. No book leaves the building. An elaborate control panel in one building enables the library authorities and nighttime security men to see, by means of lights and dials, the temperature and

humidity control level in all parts of the building. Even the presence of smoke would reveal itself by means of a tell-tale light on the control panel which would specify the location of any danger.

Of high interest to the Alger group was, of course, the special Alger exhibit which had been arranged by the library and by Ed Levy. Early editions of books and story papers, photographs, and other Algeriana, were displayed under glass.

Ed Levy led the visitors on a 20-minute walking tour of some of the nearby spots that figure prominently in the history of "Old Eli".

.....Kenneth B. Butler, co-founder

EDITOR'S NOTE: It was also arranged by Ed Levy for certain Society members to present to the rare book library, Alger, or Alger-related, items. Ralph Gardner gave a copy of his book, HORATIO ALGER, or The American Hero Era. Steve Press gave notes on his ALGER PROJECT which was designed for his Bronx School students. Ed Levy gave a rare copy of NEW YORK WEEKLY which featured the Alger story, THE TRAIN BOY. Campbell gave a copy of his Alger-type story, THE YOUNG POSTMASTER, and a copy of his Alger-style play, THE BOY FROM THE BOWERY.

Preceding the tour in which some 17 members and wives participated, we were all guests of Ed Levy at a luncheon in the Yale student dining room. Ed informed us that the students were charged for the meals whether they ate on campus or not. It was an enormous room, and I would estimate that some 500 students could be seated at one time. The food was good, and I understand the students are permitted to eat as much as they want.

The room was well filled with students when we were there, yet our small group managed to find seats reasonably close together. Milton Salls and Mr. & Mrs. Steele, arriving late, recognized us.

The NEWSBOY, the official organ of the Horatio Alger Society is published monthly except January and July, and is distributed free to Society members. Membership fee for any twelve month period \$5.

NEWSBOY recognizes Ralph D. Gardner's HORATIO ALGER, or The American Hero Era, published by Wayside Press, 1964, as the leading authority on the subject.

Due to increased printing costs, but also to improve the quality of our publication, we have adopted an entirely new format with this issue. We hope you will like it.

OFFICERS

Max Goldberg,	President
Steve Press,	Vice-President
Carl T. Hartmann,	Executive Secretary
Dan Fuller,	Treasurer
Kenneth B. Butler,	Director
Ralph D. Gardner,	Director
Forrest Campbell,	Editor

Please use membership roster for mailing address of our officers.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

PF-112 David J. Thompson
7205 Langley Canyon Road,
Salinas, California 93901

NEW MEMBERS REPORTED

PF-234 John A. Keating TR-000
179 Beach Street,
Revere, Massachusetts 02151

PF-235 M. Russell Dock TR-132
26 Broadway,
New York, New York 10004

PF-236 Mrs. Ralph (Mildred) Chamberlin
535 Church Street, TR-000
Bound Brook, New Jersey 08805

PF-237 J. Yale Rubin TR-000
42 North Lake Drive,
Hamden, Conn. 06514

INTRODUCTION OF PARTICULAR FRIENDS

John is the new librarian at the Revere Public Library, to which some of our

early subscribers donated some Alger books a few years ago. John first heard of us through Stewart McLeish, PF-231.

Russell saw our advertisement in Collectors News. Russell and his wife, Amy, are partners in the firm, DOCK & DOCK, Patent Counsels, with branch offices in Washington, D.C. He is Doctor of Law, and has five degrees from various colleges and universities. He is a firm believer in the Alger principles, and Amy, also enjoys the Alger stories. Russell attended the New Haven meeting, but unfortunately, Amy was left to mind the store.

Mildred, a collector of the Joseph C. Lincoln books, heard of us through the BOOKWORM. She is a high school librarian but spends much of her leisure time on Cape Cod at their summer cottage at Wellfleet. Deciding to add Alger to her book interests, she mailed her membership application to us in New Haven. Due to her enthusiastic interest in Lincoln, and a personal friend of Don Consodine of Brewster, the leading authority on Lincoln, a new organization for Lincoln admirers and collectors may be soon forthcoming.

J. Yale is a personal friend of Ed Levy. His rise to ultimate success, is equivalent to the often publicized "Alger Story." About 45 years ago as a salesman in a New Haven Furniture Store, he decided to go into business for himself in the suburbs where ample parking facilities were available. Today, his Wayside Furniture Company is one of the largest retail outlets in New England. Yale, as well as the other new members, may have a sizable Alger collection, but at this time are unreported.

CONVENTION ATTENDANCE

Mr/Mrs. Paul Alger; Ralph & Irene Anderson; Kenneth B. Butler; Forrest & Rachel Campbell; Dr. M. Russell Dock; Frank Eisenberg; Dan Fuller; Ralph D. Gardner; Max & Ida Goldberg; Carl & Jean Hartmann; Paul House; Les & Bertie Langlois; Eddie LeBlanc; Ed & Hortense Levy; Sylvester & Virginia Mangini; Stewart & Lelia McLeish; Philip Neufeld; Steve & Alice Press.
(continued on page five)

Jacqueline & Richard Steele; Milton Salls; J. Yale Rubin; Gilbert & Helen Westgard, and Eddie.

MEMORIAL SERVICE ATTENDANCE

Kenneth B. Butler; Forrest & Rachel Campbell; Ralph D. Gardner; Max & Ida Goldberg; Carl & Jean Hartmann; Paul House; Stewart & Lelia McLeish; Ed & Inez Reynolds; Roy Wendell; Gilbert & Helen Westgard, and Eddie.

The invocation was given by the Rev. Robert Dennett of Natick. The eulogy delivered by Max Goldberg will be printed in a later issue of Newsboy.

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Perhaps the highlight of our business meeting was the Friday Evening joint-session with the ladies.

Our annual \$100 Ragged Dick Award, was divided this year between two recipients. Ed Levy presented Richard Arthur, a New Haven Register carrier, chosen by his supervisor, with his share; and presented to Steve Press, an equal amount to be delivered to Frank Brown, a negro student who participated in Steve's "Alger Project" in the Bronx Schools. Frank, in Steve's opinion, earned high honors in the project and was deserving of recognition.

The installation of our new President was conducted by co-founders Kenneth B. Butler, and Forrest Campbell. Butler, with a few choice words presented Max with the gavel of authority, and Campbell presented him with a three-level step ladder with the words UP THE LADDER, on the three levels, reading upward. It was symbolic, Campbell said, of Max's rise to the highest office of authority and responsibility. Max was given custody of the symbolic ladder until his successor is duly elected.

Campbell also read a charge to the new President in which the following key underlined words, using the initials of each, spell out, HORATIO ALGER.

It will be your duty to maintain

Harmony, and a reasonable degree of Order. It is expected that you will always be of good Repute, and to settle our differences with complete Accord. And the use of Tact may be required. You will act at all times with our Interest in mind, and let our progress be your Objective.

You will rule with Authority as our chosen Leader, but try to be Generous when credit is due. Treat all with Equality, and then you will merit our love and Respect.

A scheduled panel-symposium consisting of Steve Press and Max Goldberg, was moderated by Ralph D. Gardner. The exact questions are not available, but generally, Max was given ample time to present his image of Alger, while Steve devoted his time to defend the impact of Alger's principles on present day students. Steve also took this opportunity to again thank everyone who aided him in the project. Steve firmly believes the project was worth while, and intends to do another such project with our much needed assistance.

NEWSBOY, and LUCK & PLUCK AWARDS

At our banquet, Kenneth B. Butler was named as our recipient of the L&P Award, for his able guidance during the formative years of our Society.

There were duplicate NEWSBOY Awards. S.H. Behrman was named as one recipient for his introduction remarks in the recent Alger story volume entitled STRIVE & SUCCEED. Hal McCuen, PF-096, was the other recipient for his directing genius in presenting the Alger image through the play, The Boy From The Bowery.

The Campbells also awarded him a special NEWSBOY award in the form of a framed linen with focal attention on the Bowery, and "that wonderful world of Horatio Alger."

Ida Goldberg favored us with two, much enjoyed, vocal presentations. Our grateful thanks to Ed & Hortense Levy!!

BOOK MART

The listings in this department (space permitting) are free to our members. Please list title, publisher, condition and price. Editor disqualified due to first notice.

Offered by Sylvester Mangini, PF-223,
P.O. Box No. 212, Somers, Conn., 06071
Condition - good to very good--Returnable

Adrift In New York,	Mershon-Stitt	\$ 5.00
Ben's Nugget,	H.T. Coates	7.00
Debt Of Honor,	A.L. Burt	5.00
Do And Dare,	H.T. Coates	5.00
Driven From Home,	Hurst	4.00
Errand Boy,	A.L. Burt	7.00
Frank Fowler,	A.L. Burt	7.00
Canal Boy To President,	Anderson	15.00
Farm Boy To Senator,	Ogilvie	20.00
Farm Boy To Senator,	Federal	7.00
Hector's Inheritance,	H.T. Coates	5.00
Helen Ford,	Hurst	4.00
Herbert Carter's Legacy,	Hurst	4.00
Jack's Ward,	A.L. Burt	4.00
Joe's Luck,	A.L. Burt	5.00
Joe's Luck,	A.L. Burt	5.00
Mark Mason's Victory,	A.L. Burt	5.00
Only An Irish Boy,	Winston	3.00
Phil The Fiddler,	T&T	10.00
Phil The Fiddler,	P&C	10.00
Ragged Dick,	P&C	15.00
Ragged Dick,	P&C	15.00
Slow And Sure,	Mershon	4.00
Store Boy,	Winston	3.00
Tom Temple's Career,	A.L. Burt	5.00
Tom Thatcher's Fortune,	A.L. Burt	5.00
Tom Thatcher's Fortune,	A.L. Burt	5.00
Tom The Bootblack,	A.L. Burt	7.00
Tom The Bootblack,	Hurst	4.00
Tony The Hero,	A.L. Burt	5.00
Train Boy,	A.L. Burt	5.00
Train Boy,	A.L. Burt	5.00
Try And Trust,	Hurst (miniature)	7.00
Young Acrobat,	APC	10.00
Young Bank Messenger,	Winston	4.00
Young Explorer,	H.T. Coates	7.00
Young Outlaw,	Hurst	4.00

BOOK SALES AT OUR NEW ENGLANDER

The largest displays of Alger books at New Haven were brought in by Gilbert Westgard and Sylvester Mangini. It is estimated that Westgard displayed a possible 500 books, and Mangini displayed a

possible 200 books. Due to the peculiar pattern of arrivals and departures, books were permitted to be sold from the member's rooms each day.

On Saturday morning, the scheduled time for the big sale, only small displays were brought in to the sales room.

It is difficult to determine how many books changed hands, or how much money was spent, yet, Westgard and Mangini both seemed encouraged with the final results, and so the transportation of their many books was apparently worth while.

Saturday at noon we were guests of Everet Whitlock at his Book Farm. There were only a few Alger books on display. Three went to Minnesota, one went to New York, and one went to Michigan.

In addition to Alger, there were thousands of books by as many authors, and on as many subjects. After a tasty luncheon in the crisp country air, we hurried back into the barns to browse for at least two hours.

We even had books at our Saturday evening banquet at the New Haven Country Club. Les Langlois donated five Alger books as door prizes. Ralph Anderson's name was drawn first, and Eddie Westgard's name was drawn next. Ralph was a slow starter, and fleetfoot Eddie beat him to the coveted prize, a miniature edition of Bertha's Christmas Vision.

Langlois also brought a tape recording and several brochure copies of a sermon prepared by Rev. Christopher G. Raible, from a Milwaukee Unitarian Church. Unfortunately, a tape recorder could not be located, but the brochures were passed around among our members.

The title of the sermon was, Whatever Happened to Horatio Alger? Langlois made available to the minister much of his Alger material for a hasty review of the life of Alger. From the question posed in the title there seems to be some doubt in the Reverend's mind. As a devotee of Alger, I believe we are in step, following Alger's principles, but the rest are all out of step!

RANDOM THOUGHTS FROM ALGERLAND

Dear members: I am deeply honored and appreciate the trust and confidence you have placed in me by electing me President of the Horatio Alger Society.

The mystery of the flower pot! Upon advancing to the Alger grave site, I noticed a small flower pot placed in front of Alger's head stone. It had not been there before. At the time, I paid no attention to it, but proceeded to the Memorial Services. Still, I pondered all the way home, as to who placed it there. Could it be that thru the years of Memorial Services, someone had become conscience stricken for the neglect of homage? Was it a nostalgic retrospective or reminiscent gesture? Life has a way of adding problems! In addition to the Presidency, Memorial Services, Civil War Round Table, Pharmacist and Antiques, I shall now become an Alger Sherlock Holmes and try to solve the enigma, even if I have to pay an honorarium for it. When solved, I shall report it to the members.

The convention seemed to have ended too soon. The great expectations of the convention culminated in such pleasant events, that tho it is over, the memory lingers on. One should be proud to be a member of the Horatio Alger Society. In no other Society is there such a display of sincere and warm friendship. I should know, because I belong to the three largest fraternal orders. The enthusiasm was contagious. If the Society had a pass-word, it would be "San Souci." All tensions, and worldly problems seemed to have been cast aside and an aura of Utopian friendship prevailed.

We are an extraordinary Society. Most are dedicated to one person and his literary works, such as Charles Dickens, International or Edgar Allen Poe, etc. Ours is unusual in that our hero, not only wrote books for success but even gave principles needed to solve the anarchistic problems that beset us. Would we but heed them. Reason, respect for Law, kindness, faith, anastomosing with love and tolerance, can antidote the social upheaval!

We seem to be in the position that Prescott wrote in his preface to Ferdinand and Isabella, - "The crises of a revolution, when old things are passing away and new ones are not established, is indeed fearful."

Our members are inoculated with Alger's teaching. Think of the opportunities for service and friendship that the vitality of his teaching gives us to permeate Hope & Happiness to a Quandary world. It can help produce an era of Humanity.

We should acquaint people with Alger, the Man. The advocate of Civil Rights. He stresses merit, rather than birth or background. Were he living today, he would have joined the Civil Rights movement and would have applauded the Peace Corps. I believe such information to non-members would swell our ranks.

I still think it is a good idea to give an honorary membership to Mayors and Governors, who started with humble beginnings. The presentation would give us much publicity and Press notices. Your Partic'lar Friend,

Max Goldberg, President

E.N. From the many comments of our members upon returning home, all have expressed themselves as having an enjoyable time in New Haven. Perhaps they can best be summed up in these words: "Now our 1968 gathering is a past, - but a real happy memory - I think all who worked to make it a success deserve thanks and congratulations. All who attended sure had a fine time -- a great time!"Ralph D. Gardner.

Our apologies to those who may have been neglected in this issue. Our thanks to Mrs. Levy for attendance to our ladies, and the beautiful jewel tipped key ring presented to the ladies in attendance at our banquet. Our thanks also to our hosts, the Levys, the Goldbergs, and the Whitlocks for the tasty luncheons. The founders did not anticipate such a tremendous response in the advocacy of a publication!

THAT WONDERFUL WORLD OF HORATIO ALGER

Undoubtedly, the highlight of our trip east while enroute to our New Haven New Englander, was our visit in New York City and especially my visit to lower Manhattan, that wonderful world of Horatio Alger.

I have written about it in the newsletter, off and on, for the past six years. I have even written a play in which the setting is the south portico of City Hall, and had started another in which the setting is in front of the old Astor House, all without having seen the area with my own eyes until now. My research from various reference books proved to be accurate and authentic.

In my trip down Broadway (on foot) from Times Square, I viewed the remains of the once prominent Gilsey House, Madison Square and Union Square. At this point, upon hearing the rumblings of the subway from the street gutter, I yielded to the temptation of riding out the balance of my trip to City Hall Park.

I surfaced somewhere in the vicinity of Whitehall and bent my steps in the direction of 26 Broadway, the business address of one of our newer members, Russell Dock PF-235. After an enjoyable hour in his office where he displayed several recently acquired Alger books, and after meeting his wife, Amy, the other partner of the firm, Dock & Dock, we plummeted down to the street level and turned out into Broadway.

I must admit that I needed Russell's guidance in the vicinity of Wall, Broad and Beaver streets and the like, where I recognized immediately the two pillars which frame the entrance of Delmonico's Restaurant. I touched their pitted surface with my own hands, and thrilled at the thought that Horatio, himself once passed through this portal.

We turned in at Mendoza's book store in Ann street. I thrilled at the thought of the many references to Ann street in the Alger stories. Gone were the restaurants and the newsboys & bootblacks who patronized them, being just off Broadway.

As we approached the area formerly known as Printing House Square, little did Russell realize that I no longer needed a guide for I felt quite at home here across from City Hall Park. Perhaps City Hall is the subject of more photographs than any other historic building in the city, yet I felt it necessary to have a photograph of it from my own camera.

With the removal of the post office from the park some fifty years ago, the park has been restored similar to the way it must have looked 100 years ago. As I stood in the park, facing the south entrance of City Hall, while Russell cooled his heels, I visualized the youthful cast of my play, The Boy From The Bowery, performing their parts.

But the best was yet to come, as we crossed Broadway near Barclay. I knew that the famous old Astor House once faced Broadway between Barclay and Vesey. Mr. Mendoza, at the book store informed us that there was a plaque on the Broadway entrance of the Transportation Building, marking the site of the old Astor House.

I was thrilled at the opportunity of viewing an exact replica of the building indented in the bronze plaque. The wording on the plaque gave the exact historic data of its span of years, 1836-1913.

As I stood there with camera focused upon the plaque I attracted the attention of some people who gave the plaque a passing glance as they moved on. I must admit that the old Astor House has received little attention from historians and it is inconceivable to me why pictures of this historic building have not been made available in reference books for students of early New York history.

The traffic along Broadway was not heavy, nor was the street dangerous to cross. I believe any little old lady could have made it without the aid of an Alger hero at her side for protection. The skyline around City Hall Park has changed considerably during these past 100 years, but soon, Russell will tell us about some that are still standing. PF-000