

## New York's Future As I View It

" The end of the old New York and the beginning of the greater city were marked last night by the biggest, noisiest and most hilarious New Year's Eve celebration that Manhattan has ever known."

This was the way the New York Tribune of Jan. 1, 1898 reported the merging of five boroughs into one great metropolis, New York City. I've been living in New York for 14 years and till this week I had never realized how great this city actually is. It all happened high up while riding through the clouds, in a helicopter....

My uncle Dan, an enthusiastic pilot, had telegraphed from Saratoga Springs a few days ago, " ALL GOES WELL STOP WILL ARRIVE TOMORROW." He arrived in a blaze of glory, and invited my grandfather and me to ride in his helicopter. We were to go and have a look at the City of Ambition, New York.

Getting clearance at spacious Kennedy Airport took only a few minutes, and then, there was the city spread out before us. Flying low, I observed the Empire State Building, the Statue of Liberty, the United Nations Building and Times Square, but I was not prepared for the words first spoken. It was my grandfather.

" Ah, those were the days. I remember the Golden Jubilee Parade of June, 1948. I remember the Mayor, Fiorello La Guardia, 'the Hat, Little Flower, Butch!' I remember standing at the always superior Port of New York and watching the boats.

That was New York."

My uncle was off on a spiel too." That's ridiculous, going into the Past. Look at New York right now. There is the Museum of Natural History, the Museum of Modern Art, Lincoln Center and the Metropolitan Opera House. There are libraries, theatres, movies, and concerts.

This is New York."

But I knew differently. When someone mentions New York to me, I see blazing lights, streamlined transportation, food in capsule form that tastes like Manna from heaven, jet-powered vehicles, on-the-spot automatic entertainment. A peaceful world with New York as its center is what I see. I don't see disease, poverty, illiteracy or slums. I see equal rights for all. These dreams are terribly realistic to me.

This will be New York.