Know Your Capital City

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EACH YEAR thousands of American boys and girls visit Washington. The eager excitement with which they explore our great capital city is proof of its fascination and the first-hand education in citizenship which it offers.

For those who can visit in person and for those who stay at home, this bulletin tells the story of Washington and of the District of Columbia. Here is its colorful history, together with some highlights on its famous landmarks and Government buildings. This publication gives the setting for the key Government activities which center in the Nation's Capital. Its purpose is to give young people perspective and background. It should help them both in visualizing the President, the Congress, the Supreme Court, and other officials in action; and in understanding the Nation-wide services for which the American people have set up our Government agencies.

Oscar R. Ewing

Federal Security Administrator.

Contents

Foreword

SO YOU WANT to see your Capital City! Of course you do because any good citizen wants to know how his Government works. As an initial experience it is necessary to become acquainted with the setting—Washington, D. C. This bulletin will guide your introduction to the Capital. It will give you an historical and a present-day background for appreciating the city that is your own.

What kind of a community is your Washington? Why does it exist? Was it planned or did it just happen? How large is it? Is there a relationship between its size and its purpose? Does it have the kind of government that you have in your home town? Who are the people? What do they do to earn a living? How well does the community meet their needs? Why is Washington your city? Are there historical evidences that show the past as a prologue to the present?

A tour of the city will help you answer these questions and many others. Such a tour may be taken in person or through reading the story of a group of young people. This story is not an actual record of a particular group or tour, but is a composite of many experiences. It is based upon diary records of tours taken by one person as a child, as a youth, and as an adult. To these impressions were added those of many elementary school children and high-school youth who have visited Washington recently. In writing about a subject on which authorities sometimes disagree, every effort has been made to secure accuracy. The Columbia Historical Society contributed the time of several

members, especially L. F. Schmeckebier, who reviewed the manuscript. Dr. George W. Hodgkins, of the public schools of the District of Columbia, also reviewed the manuscript.

Children, young people, and adults were asked to read the story. They talked about the material that interested them most and how it helped them to understand Washington as the seat of Federal Government. Their reactions contributed to the revision. As a result, this bulletin can be used by upper grades and high-school students, teachers, parents, and other citizens, as well as various kinds of community organizations.

All aboard on the Cherry Blossom Special!

BESS GOODYKOONTZ,
Director, Division of Elementary Education.

June 1949

Final decisions of justice are made in this Supreme Court Building.

A Tour to Washington, D. C.

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BETTY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP, was as excited as the other students over John's startling suggestion. She almost forgot to list it on the blackboard with other ideas for the year's work in social studies.

John had said, "I suggest that we go to Washington, D. C., to see our Government in action. We need to know our Capital City in order to understand our Government."

"That is the best suggestion in the list," Bill exclaimed. "How did you ever think of it, John?"

John explained, "We have been looking through our Yearbooks to see what kinds of experiences we have had since our kindergarten days of picture recording. I noticed that we have done many things to help us become better members in our homes, neighborhood, school, and community.

"Yesterday Jane came to tell us what her group did in this room last year. She suggested one change. She thought all of us should go together to take our exhibit to the State Fair, instead of sending a committee. While we are there we should visit the State Capital and find out how State laws are made."

John continued, "When Jane left it was time for me to go to our School Council and there I heard the chairman urge us to become world-minded. I told about our Current Events Club and about some of the guests who have helped us understand how boys and girls live in other parts of our world.

"Then I remembered what happened in our Current Events Club today. When Frank was confused about the powers of our Congress to pass laws, no one in the class could help him. How can anyone be a good world citizen if he does not know how his own Government works? Then I said to myself, 'When Betty asks for final suggestions for our year's work in social studies, I shall suggest a tour to our Capital City, as a background for studying our Government.'"

Practical Pat said, "I disagree with Bill that John's idea is the best one on the list. How can any idea be the best one until we know how it will work out? A tour to Washington is a wonderful thing for a dream, but how can we ever take it? Where shall we get the money for the tour? Where shall we stay when we get to our crowded Capital City?"

"I've thought about ways we could earn money," John replied. "Father

says it is beautiful in Washington at any season of the year, but he likes Easter best, because of the beautiful cherry blossoms. We can find a place to stay if we inquire now and make reservations early this fall."

Helen thought it would be fun to organize a "Know-Your-Washington Club" and share information about Washington as a background for the trip.

Practical Pat spoke again, "I still wonder if it is possible to take the trip. There is a way to find out. Betty could appoint a ways and means committee."

Everyone liked Pat's idea and Betty called for volunteers. There were too many for a good working committee so she selected John and four others. The four chose John as chairman.

Later the chairman of the ways and means committee gave the report, recommending that a 3-day trip be taken at Easter. The group discussed and accepted the recommendation. Parents, school administrators, and Miss Brown had met with the committee earlier and had helped to write the report. Of course the tour to Washington was one of many kinds of activities planned for the year, but it was the most important one.

A "Know Your Capital City" Club was organized. One of its purposes was to share information about Washington so that the tour would be more meaningful. Another was to arrange for the tour.

The club members read newspapers, magazines, and books; corresponded with students who go to school in Washington; saw movies furnished by tour companies, railroads, and audio-visual aid centers; listened to special radio talks about our National Government and the Capital City; and talked to Congressmen and other citizens who had lived there. A Senate page boy who was at home on vacation was a special resource person. He came to school each afternoon for a week and helped the boys and girls find answers to their questions about Washington.

Just before Easter the club members finished a book for use during the trip. They planned to use it again when they returned home, as one way to evaluate what they saw. Before school closed in May, they would revise it, adding interesting high lights of their trip, and a carefully selected picture collection. Here is the club's book.

Beautiful City

IF YOU LIVE IN OR VISIT IN WASHINGTON, you can find beauty in many places, not just in beautiful art galleries. Globe trotters claim that your Capital is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Its orderly design with its impressive buildings justifies their claim. The natural setting, as well as the man-made one, also fascinates them. This City of Trees originally built on an amphitheater of rolling land beside the broadening Potomac, now spreads out over the green hills on all sides.

Bill, the page boy, says that Washington is beautiful to him for another reason. Everywhere he looks he sees evidences of our Nation's past. Its monuments alone record a century and a half of adventuring in freedom. Since the birth of the Nation, its leaders have put forth great effort to establish, maintain, and improve our democracy as an ideal way of life.

When you come to Washington you can see for yourself why Bill and the globe trotters feel that it is so beautiful. No matter how you arrive, by train, plane, bus, or boat, you will be excited at the beauty of the spacious circles, its tree-lined boulevards and streets, and its many parks. If you come in the springtime, you will enjoy the fragrance and color of magnolia, cherry blossoms, azaleas, and forsythia. Here are some interesting places and things to see.

The Capitol and Office Buildings

"So this is Washington," you say as you walk briskly through one of the largest rooms in the world, the Concourse of the Union Station. You catch your first glimpse of the majestic Capitol framed by the arched doorway. You reach the doorway and take a swift glance across the Plaza at the car-burdened semicircle of streets. They radiate outward like the sticks of Martha Washington's fan.

In an instant the grandeur of the massive Capitol draws your eyes upward. No matter when you see it—in daylight, in floodlighted night, under skies of blue or gray, its dome is the focal point of your Federal city. At the top of this double-shelled, cast-iron dome stands the huge statue of Freedom, democracy's guardian of the past, present, and future.

Your chartered bus whirls you to the east door of the Capitol. You are impressed by the size of its imposing structure. It is about 751 feet long, 350 feet wide, 287 feet high, and covers about 3½ acres of land. You remember that its five parts were built on the installment plan. In 1800 as democracy was starting on its way, no one quite knew where, the original north wing was finished. In 1811 the original south wing was finished; in 1829, the central portion; in 1857, the House Chamber; and in 1859, the Senate Chamber.

You walk up a broad flight of the Capitol's steps where all of the Presidents but one have been inaugurated since Jackson's day. On Taft's inaugural day snow followed by cold prevented an out-of-door ceremony. On these very steps on March 4, 1865, Lincoln made his famous plea for a just and lasting peace among all nations. Today we remember his unforgettable words that begin, "With malice toward none, with charity for all, * * *."

As you go toward the Great Rotunda, a large circular hallway, you will see beautiful bronze doors on which the story of Columbus is told in relief. How glad you are that the District is named in honor of Columbus who discovered our land; and the city, to honor Washington, who wrested it from England!

The beauty of the Great Rotunda is almost overpowering. You look far upward and see the dome, decorated with the Apotheosis or glorification of Washington. If you climb up the 365 winding steps to see the dome at close range, you can hear your friend's whisper at a distance of 65 feet.

Along the side walls of the Great Rotunda are beautiful, historical paintings and statues. Trumbull's famous paintings are a record of his experiences in the Revolutionary War. He had Washington, Jefferson, and other famous men model for him. When you see his inspiring *Declaration of Independence*, you will know why John Randolph called it

An airview of your city reveals its beauty.

the "shin" picture. Maybe your favorite statue will be Borglum's *Lincoln*. Everything you see will make you proud of your responsibility to carry forward the great ideal of democracy.

Can you believe that peddlers once swarmed in this dignified Great Rotunda until a law drove them away? They sold many kinds of things, such as a piano, a hoe, or calico to sew. Here Lafayette was received, the body of Lincoln lay in state, and some crackpot tried unsuccessfully to assassinate Old Hickory, President Jackson. During the War Between the States, when the Capitol was barricaded with cement barrels and sandbags, tired and wounded soldiers rested on the floor of this Great Rotunda.

Part of the ground floor beneath the Great Rotunda was a military bakery. Today it has offices, service shops, and restaurants for the

Congressmen. The basement has one of the shortest electric railroads in the world. A motorcar takes Senators to the Senate Office Building. The basement also has a pedestrians' tunnel to the House Office Building, and an automatic book carrier to the Library of Congress. Do not become too curious about this book carrier. It would take an Alice in Wonderland to shrink small enough to ride on it. Only books and periodicals boast of success.

In the crypt in the basement you will see the three famous women suffragists—Mrs. Lucretia Mott, Susan B. Anthony, and Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton—sculptured on one piece of marble. As you look you pay silent tribute to these three courageous women who struggled for woman suffrage. Your mothers can vote because of them.

Do you have a stamp collection? If so, you may have a special 1936 three-cent stamp with Miss Anthony's picture on it. In 1948 another three-cent stamp honored Mrs. Stanton, Mrs. Mott, and Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt. Mrs. Catt continued the fight of her predecessors, until the passage of the nineteenth amendment in 1920 granted the vote to women. Democracy in the United States has marched onward toward universal adult suffrage, regardless of sex or race.

In the sub-basement is a place prepared for the tomb of Washington, but only its wooden bier has been used. It has supported the bodies of famous men who lay in state in the Great Rotunda.

Through the south door of the Great Rotunda you enter National Statuary Hall where you will look for the statues of two famous citizens from your own State. You may find only one because some of the statues had to be moved to other parts of the building. Their weight was too much for one floor. Over the entrance door is the Franzoni clock that ticked off the hours when this room was originally used as the Hall of Representatives.

This clock has seen the wrath of early Representatives when their own voices bellowed back at them, or their whispered secrets were heard, because of the room's echo. Tapestry on walls, and ceilings of flat glass, silk, and canvas were tried, but the echo impishly mocked these efforts. It will be fun for you to find the whispering block and try out the echo for yourself.

You will like the semicircular, low-domed old Senate Chamber. Here the treaties were confirmed that provided for the Louisiana Purchase and ended two wars: the War of 1812 and the one with Mexico in 1848.

When the Senate moved into its present larger room, this old one was used by the Supreme Court until 1935. The rich, red draperies of the lovely old Senate room gave warmth to the black-robed Justices, and to their solemn decisions. The busts of the former Chief Justices, lining the walls of the room, seemed to lend authority to the decisions of the highest Court in our land. Today the Court is housed in a white marble building near the Capitol.

Although the old Hall of Representatives and the old Senate Chamber are very interesting, you are eager to see your Congressmen in action.

You walk to the visitors' gallery of the Senate Chamber and look down at the large Chamber whose rich coloring is reflected by the beautiful skylights. They are stained glass medallions symbolizing Peace, Progress, Union, War, Arts, Sciences, and Industry. Since this room became the Senate Chamber just before the Civil War, there have been very few changes except air conditioning, modern heating and lighting, and a safer new ceiling.

The President of the Senate, the Vice President of the United States, sits in a carved chair on a raised platform, facing semicircular rows of big mahogany desks and chairs for the 96 Senators. You want to see if each desk has a copper nameplate, and a bottle of sand that was used in earlier years instead of a blotter. You wonder if Daniel Webster's desk is there. If so, was one of your two Senators assigned to it? Webster had scratched his name on it, just like a mischievous, young school boy.

Suddenly you see Bill, the page boy, who visited in your schoolroom last September. He has darted from his seat on the platform steps to help some Senator. The Senator had just snapped his fingers for a page boy to run an errand for him. Next you locate your two Senators, using the floor chart that the guide had given you. You knew already that the Democrats sit on the right side of the Chamber and the Republicans, on the left. But the chart helps you to locate your Senators quickly. You locate them just as the Sergeant at Arms calls for order.

On the platform in front of the Vice President you notice a desk where the Parliamentarian and three clerks sit. Below them, on the floor level are two desks where official stenographers sit. What they record is printed at night in the *Congressional Record* for use the next morning.

The busts of the first 20 Vice Presidents are around the walls. The first 2, Adams and Jefferson, are over the Vice President's chair. Behind it is a big, silk American flag embroidered with stars. Your eyes lower to the small, handleless, ivory gavel that has been used since 1789 when it called the first Congress to order. Bill has never touched it because only the most trusted page boy takes care of it. Bill is a new boy, but he is hoping for that honor some day.

When you leave the gallery you go into the hall, outside the main entrance to the Senate Chamber. You will notice a mahogany grandfather's clock. It was made in Switzerland in 1803 and its wooden parts still keep time. It has 17 stars carved on grandfather's shield, but the last one does not match the others. When the clock first arrived it had 16 stars, 1 for each State. But Ohio, a new-made State, would not let Congress pay for this clock until the seventeenth star was added. The carving of it was done here in America.

Opposite the clock is the Stuart portrait of Washington. Perhaps you have a copy of it on your classroom wall. Next you look at the busts of the Vice Presidents to see if one has been finished for President Truman

who was a recent Vice President. You see the niche for it, but the bust is not there.

Be sure to go to the rooms of the President and the Vice President, and to the Marble Room. This Marble Room is the Senators' reception room, not a place to play marbles, as one schoolboy thought. There is another reception room for the public. If you especially like geography, history, and science you will enjoy the ceiling frescoes of the room of the Committee on the District of Columbia.

You hurry to the gallery of the large Legislative Chamber of the House of Representatives. The natural light from the steel-trussed, glass ceiling makes the life-size portraits of Washington and Lafayette seem real. It brightens the fresco of Washington at Yorktown, refusing peace offers from Cornwallis. It also shows the snowy whiteness of the Speaker's marble desk, located in the center of the platform. On the right of the desk is the Speaker's Mace, a bundle of ebony rods tied with silver, having a silver globe with an eagle on top. The first Mace was lost in the fire of 1814, and then a wooden one was used until 1841, when this one was made.

You look for your district Representative among the 435 who are seated in semicircular rows facing the Speaker. Next you look for the Parliamentarian, the Sergeant at Arms, the majority and minority party leaders, the clerks, and the page boys. Unlike Bill, the page boys stand around the desks of two overseers at the back of the Chamber, waiting for the flashes of electric signals. Each House desk has a button that will flash a signal on one of the two back desks.

You leave the gallery and go downstairs. Along the hallway are the Members' retiring rooms and the lobby. If you want to know the kind of weather that your home town is having, be sure to look at the unusual glass map in this lobby.

After you visit the Capitol you go to the office buildings across the street to the north and to the south of the Capitol grounds. The one to the north is the Senate Office Building and the ones to the south are the old House Office Building and the new House Office Building. In these three buildings are offices and meeting rooms where your Congressmen do much of their work.

Other Responsibilities of Congress

The Botanic Garden, the Library of Congress, and the Printing Office

Would you like to see the Confucius Oak, grown from an acorn brought from the tomb of the Chinese philosopher? If you would, you must stop at the Botanic Garden, a million-dollar greenhouse built of glass and

aluminum. Also, you can see the Crittenden over-cup Peace Oak, two cedars from Lebanon, and a papyrus plant from Egypt. You can walk safely through a lionless jungle; you can enjoy a waterfall; and you can see many rare plants and flowers. You will be amazed at the sight of the Holy Ghost Orchid with a dove in its white cup.

This internationally known Botanic Garden was the first scientific project in your City of Trees. It was suggested by George Washington in 1796, but did not have its humble birth until 1820. Today this Garden houses accomplishments of botanists from all over the world.

The massive, ornate Library of Congress, with its modern Annex, is the largest and best treasure chest of knowledge in the world. Its 1,700 workers care for millions of books and pamphlets, maps, music, talking books (records) for the blind, prints, and manuscripts. This Library must have two copies of every copyrighted item, according to the copyright law amendment of 1870. Be sure to see the Gutenberg Bible, the first book that was printed from movable type six centuries ago.

The two most important parchments for you to see are in a marble shrine, enclosed in glass, rail-protected, and police-guarded. They are the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. A lump will stick in your throat as you proudly but quietly gaze at these faded documents of your democracy. How grateful you are to those three clerks who whisked them to safety during the War of 1812! They stuffed them into gunny sacks and hauled them in a cart to an empty grist mill across the Potomac. When they realized that the British might blow up the nearby cannon factory, they took them in a farmer's wagon 30 miles away to Leesburg, locked them in an empty house, and left the key with a minister.

Publications in the Library of Congress come from all over the world, but Congress has its own Government Printing Office where its publications and those of Government agencies are printed. Private printers were employed by Congress until 1861, on Lincoln's Inaugural Day. That day Congress began to use its own printing plant with 350 workers. Today this plant has nearly 6,900 workers and is the largest in the whole world.

The White House and Other Homes

What does the song, "Home Sweet Home," mean to you? It has meant the White House for a time to 31 different rent-free tenants, the Presidents of the United States. In 1800 John Adams was the first tenant in this well-known building. The roof leaked, firewood was scarce, there was no plumbing, gas, or electricity, and not enough furniture. But it was a home to the Adams family while they were there.

The Executive Mansion has changed through the years because each family has had its own tastes. The First Ladies have changed furniture and curtains, silver and china. The Presidents have changed fences and walks, and have planted trees and shrubs. President Roosevelt

added a swimming pool, and President Truman built a south balcony. President John Quincy Adams in 1825 would have enjoyed the privacy of that swimming pool. He arose at 5 o'clock each morning for his hour's swim in the Potomac.

When you arrive at the White House, you will cross the terrace, and enter through the east door, unless you are a special friend of the President or his family. If you are, you will enter through the front or north door. The high officials and the Diplomatic Corps use the south door when they arrive for State dinners. A person is highly honored if the President invites him to go from the Executive Offices through the west door to the living quarters upstairs. Bill, the page boy, tried to explain these doors when he said, "Socially all Washington is divided into four parts, according to the doors used to enter the White House."

As a tourist you can see five of the rooms that are on the first floor of the White House. They are the East, Red, Blue, and Green Rooms, and the State Dining Room. With special permission you might be able to see the basement with its new modern kitchen, the China Room, and the radio room made famous by the Fireside Chats. The East Room is the largest in the White House. When it was still unfurnished in 1800, it made an excellent place to dry the laundry of the Adams family. Today the most important official State receptions are held on its oak, parquetry floor. Three sparkling chandeliers add to the dazzling brilliance of these formal occasions. The huge gold mirrors over the two marble mantels would have delighted Mrs. Adams in 1800. She thought that her mirrors were made for midgets.

In the East Room take a good look at the new piano, so that you can describe it to your music teacher. This mahogany beauty was made especially for the White House. Its sides are decorated in gold with five forms of American music: The Cowboy Ballad, the Indian Ceremonial Dance, the Cake Walk, the Virginia Reel, and the Barn Dance. The piano's big, eagle legs are leafed in gold.

Your art teacher will enjoy hearing about the two full-length portraits of Martha and George Washington. The one of George was painted by Stuart in 1796. Dolly Madison saved it from the fire of 1814. She hastily cut it from the frame and hustled it away to safety. The portrait of Martha was painted in 1878 by Andrews, a Washington artist.

The Red and Green Rooms are beautiful, but you may like the Blue Room best. It is the President's personal reception room where he receives foreign diplomats and other callers. The State dinner guests use this Blue Room, too. When you see the State Dining Room you will wish that you could be a dinner guest sometime soon. It would be fun to sit in one of the 107 chairs around the big, horseshoe table.

The Executive Office is on the West Terrace, and it houses the President's office force. Visitors must have admission cards from their Congressmen if they wish to see the President's Room and the Cabinet Room.

Today, in 1949, the White House is being repaired. The President and his family are living across the street in the recently purchased Blair and Blair-Lee Houses. These two houses were used for important guests before the official family moved into them. Before the Government bought these two houses, rooms for overnight guests of the White House were scarce. Once President Buchanan had to sleep on a couch in the anteroom of his study when the Prince of Wales, the future King Edward VII, came to visit.

Blair House is one of the famous homes in Washington. Here, it is said that Francis Preston Blair unsuccessfully tried to persuade Lee to accept the command of the Union Army. In later years many famous people lived in it. One was Blair's oldest son, Postmaster-General Montgomery Blair, who originated free mail delivery service in cities. Today the souvenir post cards that you send to your parents are delivered to your home because of his idea.

Before you finish your tour you must see Mount Vernon, the home of our first President. It is an excellent example of historic preservation in America. For years on February 22d your school teachers have shown you many pictures of Mount Vernon. You know that it contains many evidences of the personality of Washington—first as a home-loving man, and then as a plantation owner, a soldier, and a statesman.

Of the many interesting things to see inside the plantation home, Bill, the page boy, likes the big wing chair best. In it George Washington had held both his step-children and his step-grandchildren.

The Treasury Department

Have you ever heard your father exclaim, "Taxes and more taxes to pay"? Maybe he knows that long ago this Nation had money to burn. In the Treasury, the third oldest building of our Government, tons of dirty, worn-out bills have been shoveled into furnaces. Today when you visit the Treasury you will be saved from this painful sight. In another building big machines grind these useless bills into bits, and papier-mâché dealers buy them.

The main building of the Treasury stands east of the White House because of Old Hickory, President Jackson. After the Treasury had been burned for the third time, Congress squabbled over a new site for a larger building. One day impatient Old Hickory stalked out of the White House and crossed its East Terrace to the present site of our Nation's bank. He jammed his cane into the good earth, and shouted at some Congressmen, "Put it here." The location of the Treasury cut off the clear view of the Capitol from the White House. Also, spacious grounds around the building were impossible.

Are you a good speller? If you are, look in the lobby exhibit of the Treasury for the misspelled word on a $7,200,000 draft. It is the draft

that paid for your Nation's biggest bargain, Alaska. In another place you will see what can be done with money after mice have nibbled it. Notice the big keys big enough to have belonged to Blue Beard or to the Bastille. They are keys to the Treasury in the days before modern locks were made. The Coast Guard exhibit will make you wonder how such queer old boats could rescue people from the sea, or could be used to catch smugglers.

The gallery is the best place for you to see the Cash Room, the largest bank in the world. Here warrants for millions of dollars are cashed daily. The money is kept in vaults underground. They are so modern that not even a ghost could creep into them without the electric bells warning the guards.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing

How long did it take you boys and girls to earn each dollar that you are spending on this tour? How long does each dollar bill last you? It lasts the Government about 9 months. It changes owners so many times that it wears out. When you visit the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, you will be told that the replacing of worn-out dollar bills is the greatest task of the Division of Currency. Your 5- and 10-dollar bills last twice as long. Do you know why?

As you walk along narrow, railed galleries, you will see how millions of dollars' worth of paper money is made. Each of the 250 presses prints 12 bills or notes every 5 seconds. After the printing plates are inked and wiped, they must be polished by hand before they can go through these presses. Isn't it queer that we are living in an atomic era and no machine has been invented to perform successfully this delicate hand-polishing task?

This noisy, bustling Bureau designs, engraves, and prints many other things besides money. You will see how bonds, Treasury warrants, notes, patent certificates, and postage stamps are made.

In the stamp printing room you may get dizzy looking down on millions of rapidly moving red, green, blue, brown, and purple stamps. Tons of paper, ink, and gum, are used in making them. This stamp room will impress you so greatly that you will place a green stamp more carefully on that next souvenir post card you send back home.

The Department of State

The building that used to house the State Department, flanks the White House on the West Terrace. You may like the early style of architecture with its attic peepholes. It is a great contrast, both inside and out, to the modern State Department Building that has been built recently.

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Now the old building houses some of the White House Staff and has such Executive Offices of the President as the Bureau of the Budget, the Council of Economic Advisers, the National Security Council, and the National Security Resources Board.

The real work of foreign affairs takes place in the New State Department building and in other nearby buildings. Be sure to look at the historic Winder Building where you can get passports to visit other countries. As you grow older you will not be satisfied with tours in the United States only. You will be eager to visit other parts of your world, and will need a passport.

The Department of Defense

Your sight-seeing guide will show you the Headquarters of the National Military Establishment in the Pentagon, across the Potomac. In this largest and most unusual office building in the world are the Departments

Your President lives temporarily in the Blair and Blair-Lee Houses.

of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force, which are branches of the Department of Defense.

The Department of Justice

Dan wanted to go to Washington to see the G-men. His classmates knew that Government men are nicknamed G-men, and these men are necessary soldiers of the law. These G-men keep our democracy safe from criminals. And Dan has learned that G-men are not on exhibit. Do you know why not? You can learn how they are trained scientifically by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, commonly called the FBI. You can see fascinating exhibits of innocent-looking articles that are really the deadly weapons of criminals.

Jane shocked the class by announcing that her father's fingerprints were on file in the FBI. Then she explained that they are in a large non-criminal file. His business firm sends him all over the world, and he wants to be identified quickly in case of an accident or of his loss of memory. Fingerprints can never be changed, not even by the acids or surgery that criminals often try.

The Department of Justice carries on many other kinds of activities. They are all coordinated by the Attorney General of the United States who is the Head of the Department.

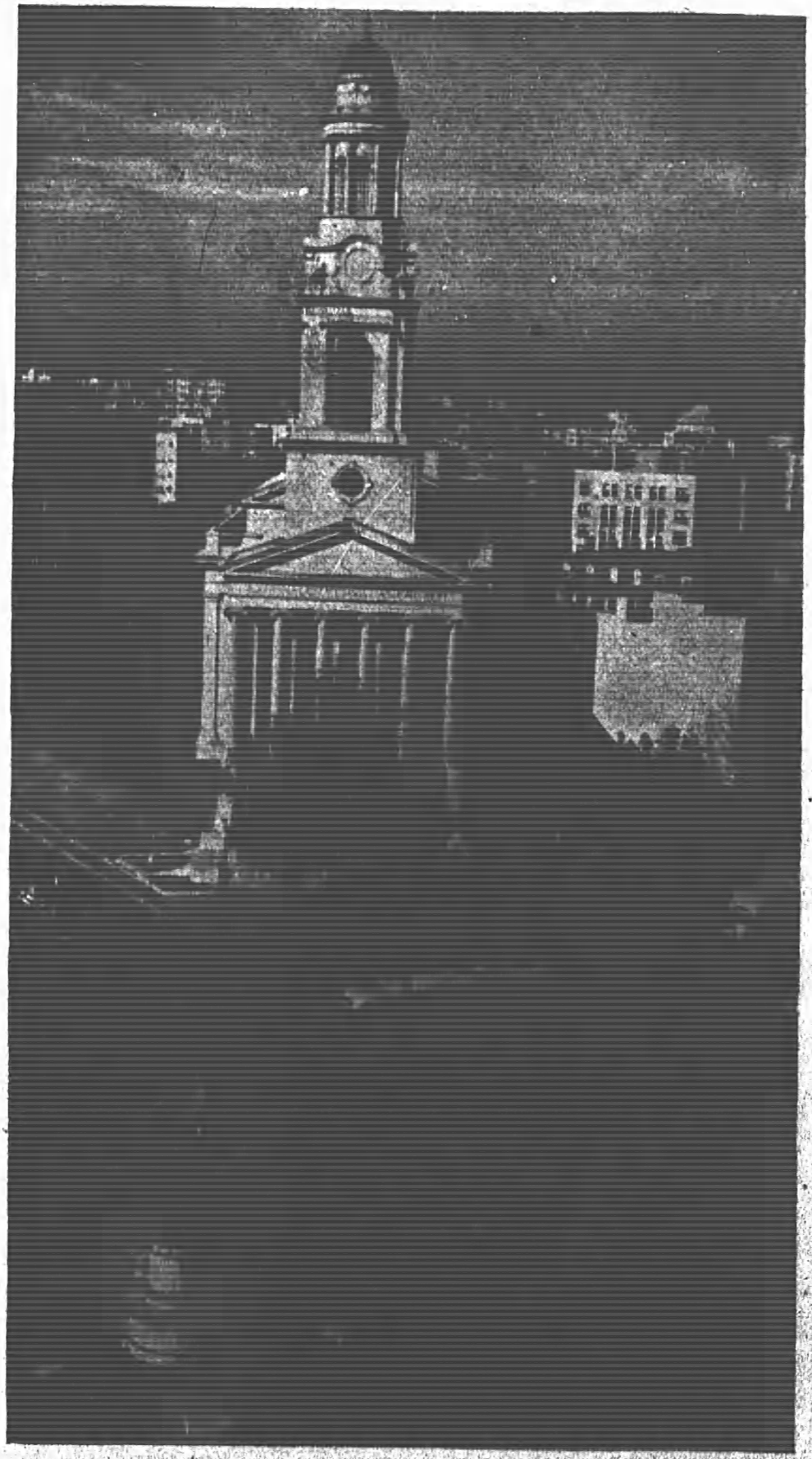
The Post Office Department

The Post Office Department is very well known. Of course you know the reason. On the first floor is an exhibit that the stamp collectors in your class are eager to see. In it is every kind of stamp issued by the Government since the first one in 1847.

If you want to buy stamps for your collection, there is a place to do it. George even knew the room number because he has used it on his mail-order purchases from the Philatelic Agency. You may not have the money to buy any of the Agency's stamps on this tour, but you can see what ones you want, and mail an order for them later.

The Department of the Interior

The thousands of workers in the Department of the Interior have been called soldiers of conservation. They guard our great wealth of resources. Some of the divisions or units in which you may be interested: The Bureau of Land Management, The National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Mines, and the Division of Territories and Island Possessions. In the Department Museum there are outstanding exhibits that interpret the different units. When you see the diorama of Hoover Dam you will think that you are actually seeing a real dam.



Thomas Circle illustrates L'Enfant's use of intersecting streets and avenues.

The Department of Agriculture

Betty's class is eager to see the Department of Agriculture because the parents of five children have received help from this Department recently. Jack's father has learned how to produce more corn per acre, and Harry's mother has secured help in judging the quality of canned peas. The parents of three girls have had help in removing paint stains on clothing, in the candling of eggs, and in the drainage of a 10-acre timberland.

We have both service and research in the Department of Agriculture today, because our forefathers believed that all people, not just farmers, are affected by the Nation's food supply. It was not until Lincoln's administration, however, that Congress actually set up the Department.

Its thousands of workers, as well as the ones in the Department of the Interior, are truly soldiers of conservation.

The Departments of Labor and Commerce

Has your father ever worried about his work or his business? Tom's father has. He would have had much greater cause for worry if Congress had not authorized a Department of Labor and Commerce in 1903. Its purpose was to promote business at home and abroad.

George Washington had urged Congress to authorize a Department many years earlier, but nothing was done. Some businessmen had impressed him with the necessity of governmental help immediately after the Revolutionary War, when business was slow. In 1913, the Department was divided, so that now Commerce and Labor each has a Secretary.

The Commerce Building has a fascinating exhibit in the basement, and the good fishermen in the class must see it. It is an Aquarium that contains all of the kinds of fish native to the United States. Fishermen, do you know your fish well enough to locate a flesh-eating pirenha?

The Commerce Building houses the Civil Aeronautics Administration, the Patent Office, and other bureaus. If any of you future inventors should create something new, you could protect your right to it by getting a patent.

Other Agencies

The Government has many independent agencies, that is, agencies which are not organized within a department. Some of them are the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Civil Service Commission, the General Services Administration, and the Federal Security Agency. You will want to visit the National Archives, now a part of the General Services Adinistration, to see its exhibit hall and how it handles Government records. When the group passes the building of the Federal Security Agency, the boys and girls will remember that the Public Health Service, the Food and Drug Administration, the Children's Bureau, and the Office of Education are parts of this Agency. Earlier in the year, Miss Brown, their teacher, had written to the Office of Education to get

help on some of their school activities. When Betty was chairman of the Current Events Club, Miss Brown wrote to the Elementary Education Division to find out the advantages of an all-year-round school program. Another time, Miss Brown received help for an assembly on conservation.

The Supreme Court

You will be so greatly impressed by the grandeur of the massive Supreme Court Building that you will talk in awed whispers. This beautiful white marble temple has an east and a west portico with tall Corinthian columns. At the top of the west portico are the sculptured figures of Liberty, Order, Authority, Council, and Research. One research figure on the left is the likeness of former Chief Justice Taft when he was a student at Yale.

Although the Judiciary Act of 1789 created this highest court, as well as the lower district and circuit courts, it was Chief Justice Taft who persuaded Congress to appropriate a large sum of money for a worthy permanent building.

Beneath the pediment of the west portico are chiseled four words, EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER LAW. You take a second thoughtful glance at this great principle before you go through the bronze door on which is told the history of law. In the large hall, the two spiral staircases will intrigue you. They run round and round from the fifth floor to the basement. You wonder if they are safe for anyone but a fairy because they seem to have no support under them. But they are safely supported in the walls and extend outward into space.

You will see lawyers entering the famous third-floor law library and wonder if one of them is Bill's lawyer father. You wonder about Bill's father again when you see men entering the basement cafeteria.

The Supreme Court chamber is the most important place in the building for you to see. Here the Chief Justice and eight Associate Justices square the laws of the States and the lower courts with the Constitution. These black-robed men sit on a raised platform that has a back drop of rich, red curtains. You will be impressed by the wisdom and dignity of the members of this highest court in your Nation.

A Museum and a Park: The Smithsonian Institution and the Zoo

The five huge units of the Smithsonian Institution should satisfy everyone's curiosity about anything under the sun, including the sun itself. A person could spend his entire life in these five units and not exhaust the supply of organized knowledge that they have to offer him.

This wonderful Institution exists because of the disappointment of an English scientist, James Smithson, who never saw the United States. He had planned to leave his fortune to the Royal Society of London,

but he changed his will when the Royal Society refused to publish one of his papers. He left all of his wealth to the United States for the establishment of an institution to increase and spread knowledge.

One of the buildings, the Smithsonian headquarters building, is made of red sandstone and has square towers, turrets, and high narrow windows. It looks somewhat like an English castle of the robber-baron days. This Smithsonain building contains material for study and research, and is not of the greatest interest to the tourist. But the red brick Arts and Industries Building has many fascinating exhibits. You can see two famous airplanes—the Kitty Hawk and the Spirit of St. Louis—the original Star-Spangled Banner that waved over Fort McHenry, and the dresses of the First Ladies.

The massive granite Natural History Building houses millions of specimens of natural history. One of the largest collections of animal groups in the world is exhibited here. There are numerous botanical, zoological, and archeological collections.

The beautiful National Gallery of Art was a gift of Andrew W. Mellon. It is built on the site of the former Pennsylvania Railroad Station where Guiteau, the disgruntled office seeker, shot President Garfield. This magnificent marble gallery contains one of the foremost art collections in the United States. The Freer Gallery, a gift of Charles L. Freer, of Detroit, has an unusual collection of oriental art.

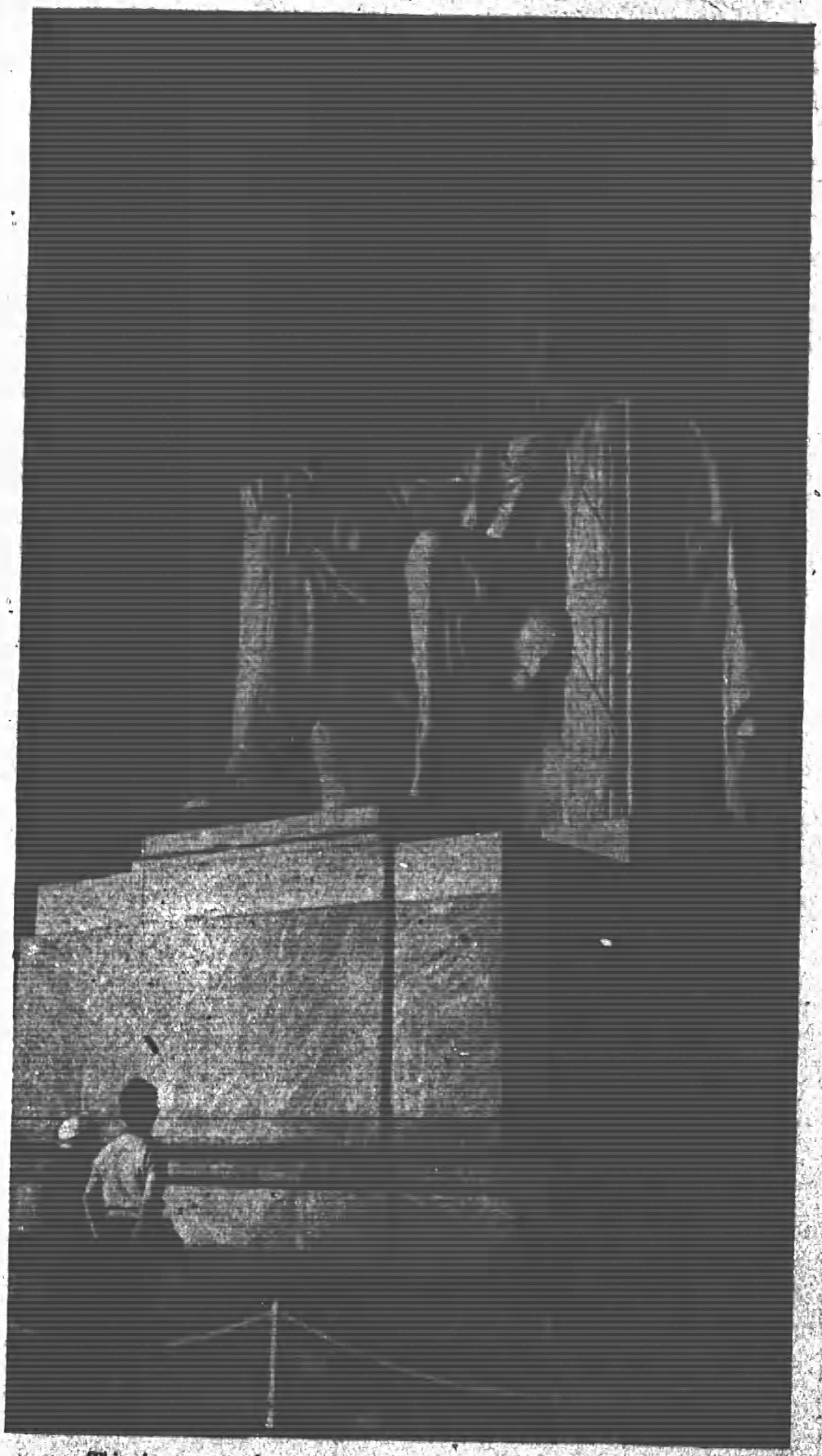
The National Zoological Park is the godchild of the Smithsonian Institution. In the early days of the Smithsonian, taxidermists used live models of animals that were kept on the Mall. When many models were needed Congress appropriated money to buy land along Rock Creek for the establishment of a zoo. This Zoo is one of the best in the world. It reproduces the natural settings where the animals have lived. Some of the rooms in the Zoo are heated and others are cooled. The smallest mammals in the world live in a room that has artificial moonlight.

If anyone is looking for beauty hints, watch the snakes as they take their skin treatments. The spitting cobra and the barking deer usually attract people. The giraffes and the visitors eye each other with mutual curiosity.

The Memorials: The Washington Monument and Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials

Do you want to get a fine view of your Capital City? If so, visit the Washington Monument, and look down from the four pairs of windows. As you look 500 feet below, you will see clearly L'Enfant's plan for the city.

To the east, a wide grassy Mall extends to the Capitol. To the west, over a reflecting Rainbow Pool is the Lincoln Memorial. How appropriate it is that the two Memorials, one for the founder of the Nation



This giant statue of your beloved Lincoln sits in the Lincoln Memorial.

and the other for its savior, should be on the same axis with the Capitol! At the north end of a cross axis is the White House and at the south end, the Jefferson Memorial.

An elevator takes visitors to the top of the Monument. As it whizzes upward in the hollow-stone shaft, a voice tells the exciting story of the Monument's past. The voice comes from an invisible recording machine.

Some visitors like to walk down the 898 steps to read what is on the Tribute Stones. Maybe one of them was donated by children from a Sabbath School in your home town or by some other organization there.

The committee found that many queer things have been said about this Monument. Some of them are: It is upside down; it breathes; it has had tuberculosis; and it makes rain.

Someone said that it is upside down because the top half is made of heavier stones than the bottom half. It seems to breathe because it is so elongated. This bit of magic is nothing but lateral expansion and contraction. Chained irons under the steps keep it safe. Discharges did appear through the cracks at one time, but new cement was forced into the crevices where the walls were beginning to crumble. The attack of tuberculosis was over. On warm days the Monument does make rain. You have studied condensation of moisture in your science class. You can explain this rain by recalling the response of cold stone to the warm air outside.

You chuckle over these queer stories as you leave this tall finger that points upward into the sky. But your mood becomes serious again as you approach the Lincoln Memorial. This classic, flat-roofed, marble shrine is strikingly located on an elevation. Roads and walks radiate outward from it, so that its beauty is seen from any kind of approach.

The Reflecting Pool mirrors not only the Memorial but also the Washington Monument and the dome of the Capitol. The open wall of the Memorial makes the east entrance most impressive. The 36 fluted columns represent the States of the Union at the time of Lincoln's death. You enter the room where the giant statue of Lincoln sits on a flag-draped chair.

As you gaze at this immense marble statue of the beloved Lincoln, his kindly face lightens your serious mood. You think about his keen sense of humor and recall his correspondence with 11-year-old Grace Bedell, of Westfield, N. Y. Grace wrote to him, suggesting that he grow whiskers on his thin face. If he would, she promised to get all four of her brothers to vote for him. He replied, asking if it would not make him look silly to grow whiskers. She assured him that all the ladies like whiskers and they would make their husbands vote for him. Lincoln enjoyed her letters so much that he stopped in Westfield to see her on one of his campaign trips. These letters and others are preserved in the Lincoln Museum in your Capital City.

The Jefferson Memorial is a circular, white marble shrine that has four entrances to the beautiful Memorial Room. Here stands the huge bronze

figure of Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence, and the third President of the United States. On a frieze you will read his famous words against any form of tyranny over the mind of man.

The Pan American Union and the American Red Cross

The current events class agreed that all of the nations of the world belong to one big family. On a small plot of ground in your Capital City stands the beautiful Pan American Union, the first successful attempt for this kind of "big family" relationship. It is owned and maintained by 21 different nations. They are the American Republics that have pioneered in international understanding through closer intellectual, cultural, and commercial relationships.

As you enter the building, you are fascinated by the Latin American patio. It has a revolving glass roof, a splashing fountain, and spicy smelling tropical trees. As you go up the wide stairways you notice the mosaic floors and the colorful wall decorations. A gallery joins the stairways.

In this gallery hang the flags of the American Republics in alphabetical order. Jane will be able to identify them for you because of her hobby of collecting flags. She says that her favorite one is the flag of Guatemala. On it is a golden-green bird, the quetzal, that dies when it is caged. It is a symbol of liberty.

Among the busts look for Simon Bolivar, the George Washington of Venezuela. The guide will show you the big assembly room, the Hall of

The tropical patio of the Pan American Union is a bit of Latin America.

the Americas, and the adjoining Council Room. Finally you will visit the Aztec garden, where the statue of Xochipilli, the God of Flowers, haughtily presides over the blue reflecting pool.

You are sorry to leave this beautiful building that houses an ideal of world friendship. But you want to see the American Red Cross that houses another kind of ideal—that of service. You know what kind it is because you have been members of the Junior Red Cross for many years.

Jane does not have to identify the Red Cross flag because it is an international one that the whole world salutes. It has been familiar to everyone in the class since their kindergarten days.

The Junior Red Cross exhibit room is where you will spend your time. You want to see the work of school children from all nations in the world. The girls who are Scouts will leave for a hurried trip to the Girl Scout House in the Capital City. They have promised their local Scout group to visit it. The rest of the class will talk with their Junior Red Cross regional representative. She has suggested by mail that she would help the group decide what kinds of activities the school council should plan for next year.

When the Girl Scouts return, the sightseeing bus will take the tourists back to Union Station. They are glad that the last buildings visited were the ones of great international significance. They want to remember Washington as a Capital City in one big world.

City With a Purpose

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Did your city just happen? Most cities did, but not your Capital City. It was created for a specific and unusual purpose. The Nation needed a single, permanent home for its new Government. When the Revolutionary War ended, the Continental Congress had met in four different places. Its Members had grumbled many times about the hardships of moving. So many moves had made the Government seem weak and unstable. These grumblings were softened after nearly 5 years of sessions in comfortable Philadelphia. Then something exciting happened that stirred the Members into action for one permanent home.

One day the Continental Congress was holding its usual, dignified session in Independence Hall. An angry mob of ragged, half-starved soldiers cursed and shouted threats of violence outside the windows. These soldiers wanted their back pay and other claims settled. The Continental Congress had not been able to pay them or settle claims earlier because it had no money. The Nation was almost bankrupt.

The Continental Congress rushed a request for protection to the Executive Council of Pennsylvania. It was meeting at the same time in Independence Hall. It refused to help and the local police would do

nothing. Such unwillingness to cooperate with Continental Congress was not unusual in any State or city during these early days of our new Government.

Real fear made the Members of the session want to adjourn and leave, but that would be cowardly. They must face possible physical danger to hold the respect of their countrymen for the young, faltering Government.

At the end of the day, however, they voted that after adjourning, in a few days they would convene on the campus of Princeton University. No one had been harmed by brickbats or bullets, but the outrageous happening influenced action toward a single, permanent home for our Government. Such a home must be controlled and protected by Congress, and not by the laws of any State or city.

During the Princeton session, a bill was introduced for a permanent Federal town on the quiet banks of the Delaware River or the Potomac. Then the Continental Congressmen began a 7-year argument over the place where the town should be. Towns, cities, and States struggled for it. The bitterest feelings of all raged between the North and the South. The rivalry was so strong that two Federal towns seemed to be one way way out. An angry Congressman is reported to have shouted, "Why not put our precious Government on an old hay wagon and haul it north and south? Why not haul the new statue of the Father of Our Country on another wheeled platform? Any old oxcart will do." Suddenly the deadlock was ended by a curious, clever compromise.

By this time the Constitution of the United States had been adopted, and George Washington was our President. Alexander Hamilton, the Secretary of the Treasury, wanted the new Nation to be on a sound financial basis. He believed that the Federal Government should pay for all debts owed by the States. He wrote this into a bill which was introduced in Congress. Northern States favored a strong central government which would assume the war debts; the Southern States were opposed.

Hamilton had an idea. Why not get help from Jefferson, a Virginian and a great Southern leader. Hamilton would promise to get votes for a Federal town on the Potomac, if the Southern Members would vote for the "assumption" of State debts by the Federal Government. Although Hamilton had voted for a northern location earlier, he had no strong feeling against a southern one, and now would vote for a Potomac location of the Federal town. The passage of his bill was more important.

So Hamilton watched for a good time to talk alone with Jefferson. It came one day when Jefferson was going to see the President. Hamilton hailed him and eloquently pleaded his cause, as the two men paced back and forth in the street in front of the President's door. He said that the Nation would die in its infancy if all of the States did not pull together as a unit. The Southern States might pull away over the question of war debts and set up another government. Jefferson must save the

Union, by getting votes for Hamilton's bill. In return, Hamilton would see that the Federal town had a Potomac location.

Jefferson was touched by the earnestness of Hamilton's plea to save the Union. A compromise seemed fair. The next day he invited Hamilton and two powerful Virginia Congressmen to dinner. Again Hamilton made a forceful plea for his bill. You can imagine what happened at that famous and successful compromise dinner.

The bill for a permanent Federal town passed on July 16, 1790. It was to be a district no larger than 10 miles square. George Washington was asked to select the exact place from a specified area extending about 95 miles along the winding Potomac from Washington to Williamsport, Md. The original bill did not limit the District to Maryland, but public buildings could be built only on the Maryland side.

In January 1791 President Washington chose the land that is now the District of Columbia and asked Congress to extend the boundary farther downstream along the Potomac. Georgetown and her old port were included in the Maryland section. Many years later Congress gave back to Virginia the land south of the Potomac, including Alexandria, but it made no change in the Maryland portion. Today Georgetown is no longer a separate town, but is part of the city's 70 square miles.

Congress had asked Washington to get the land and to appoint three Commissioners who would see that the town was built. The need for it was so great that it must be ready in 10 years, by 1800. Meanwhile Congress would meet in Philadelphia. One raw March day six gentlemen in great topcoats tramped along the swampland of the Potomac, talking over plans for the Federal town. The two tallest men were President Washington and one of his soldier admirers, Major L'Enfant, who was a brilliant French engineer. President Washington had appointed him to plan the Federal town. The others were the three Commissioners and L'Enfant's surveyor.

Both Maryland and Virginia ceded authority over the land chosen for the District, and also provided sums of money toward the buildings. President Washington made an agreement with the owners of the land within the city by which part of the land was donated for highways, part was bought by the United States for public buildings, and the remainder (20,272 lots) was divided equally between the United States and the original owners.

On April 15, 1791, the cornerstone of the District of Columbia was laid. At last our roaming government had a permanent place which was to be controlled and protected by Congress. In the meantime the boundaries of the city were established, as the city at that time formed only a part of the District.

Planned City

Did your home town, like most towns, grow in a haphazard fashion around a main street? Your Capital City is unusual because it grew in an orderly way. It had been carefully planned for growth. Planning of towns was almost unknown in the late eighteenth century, but not to the imaginative L'Enfant. He had deep faith in the future greatness of the Government of the United States. He planned the Capital City in a way that could meet the need for expansion in the future. He used wisely the natural beauty of the landscape, the wooded lands facing the broadening Potomac. The original copy of his plan is carefully preserved in the Library of Congress.

The basic idea of L'Enfant's plan was the development of the city on two axes of parks, with a Monument at their intersection. He wanted one park system to extend west from the Capitol to the Potomac, and the other one south from the White House to the river. Both parks would be about a mile long.

The Capitol, high on its hilltop was like the hub of a huge wheel, four of whose spokes divided the city into Northeast and Southeast, Northwest and Southwest. L'Enfant began his planning with such important locations as the Capitol, the President's House, and the site of the Monument. He tied these together, and all other chief sites, by wide streets and wider avenues. Through his checkerboard of streets he slashed diagonal avenues. They made more direct ways of reaching important buildings. This kind of designing resulted in many irregular blocks.

Pennsylvania Avenue is the result of L'Enfant's vision of a highway 160 feet wide, to connect the President's House with the Capitol. He dreamed of a Grand Avenue, 400 feet wide and a mile long. Today it is our less pretentious but beautiful Mall, where a grassy carpet extends with few interruptions from the Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial.

L'Enfant made parklike squares and circles where there were chance intersections of three or more streets and avenues. The north-south streets were numbered and the east-west ones were lettered. The avenues were named for the States, and the circles and squares for those famous men whose monuments adorn them. These monuments help to keep alive the glorious story of our past.

So L'Enfant dreamed, worked, and argued over his farsighted vision of a Federal town, to become the noblest Capital in the world: Many people called him the "Mad Frenchman" because he wanted more than half of the ground for spacious streets 100 feet wide and avenues of 160 feet. They thought that most of this space should be sold for town lots. Paris had only a fourth of its space for streets. Why should Washington use more?

A crisis came when L'Enfant ruthlessly tore down a new manor house, because it spoiled the view. This house was owned by one of the richest landowners who had promised to give some of his land free for streets and roads. If you had been the owner how would you have felt if your new home had been demolished suddenly, even if you had been warned? L'Enfant had not let the landowners see his master plan, so that they could sell some of their lots for more money. During this crisis ill-tempered L'Enfant was dismissed, but his successors carried out his major plan.

His plan for the Capitol came true. On this very hilltop on September 18, 1793, President Washington laid the cornerstone. What a solemn occasion it was. There stood Washington, wearing a Masonic apron embroidered by Madame Lafayette. Around him clustered a group of citizens, praying for the future greatness of their young Nation. After the ceremony everyone went to a big booth where there was a 500-pound barbecued ox. They ate and had a gay time. Then 15 successive volleys of artillery fire concluded the occasion.

As the Federal town continued to grow, the master planner sank into obscurity. He died in 1825, uncelebrated and penniless. Eighty-four years later, Congress rescued his body from its lonely grave under a red cedar on the Digges' Maryland farm. The body lay in state in the Great Rotunda of the Capitol. After full military ceremonies, it was taken to its final resting place in the Arlington National Cemetery. Recognition had come at last to the planner of what has been called the most beautiful city in the world.

L'Enfant's plan is in use today because of the outstanding work of four Commissions. They are the McMillan Commission of 1901, the Commission of Fine Arts of 1910, the Zoning Commission of 1920, and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission of 1926. The McMillan Commission, no longer in existence, revived the plan when it was almost forgotten. The other three Commissions have enlarged and extended it, and are continuing their work today.

Before 1900, changes had been made that disregarded the basic ideas of the original plan. When the site of the Monument had been moved a short distance to higher and drier land, it shifted the position of the parks as originally planned in a way that would affect future building. Other changes in the original plan that caused difficulty were the railroad tracks and the station that disfigured the Mall, and the Botanic Garden located at the east end of the parkway where L'Enfant had hoped for a large open space.

Senator McMillan was greatly distressed about these changes and seized an opportunity to revive L'Enfant's plan. When the Centennial Celebration had aroused keen interest in the future development of Washington, McMillan persuaded Congress to create a commission of experts to study and report a way to improve the park system. The unsightly Mall was proof that a commission was needed.

In 1902 the McMillan Commission reported a unified and harmonious way to improve the entire Capital City. A park system could be improved only in relationship to the total development of the city. The report revived the basic ideas of the L'Enfant plan. The Commission asked for no money or power, but its influence reached far into the future.

In the report the Commission advised the acceptance of the new site of the Monument as a shift in the east-west park axis. But the Lincoln Memorial was proposed for the end of the axis opposite the Capitol. A few years later this Memorial was built. The Commission suggested the removal of the railroad tracks and the station from the Mall, and the building of a Union Station north of the Capitol. The Botanic Garden should be moved south, so that there would be an open space on the west approach to the Capitol. Congress followed these suggestions that the Commission had made.

The recently constructed northwest Federal Triangle, a unit of beautiful Government buildings between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues, shows the far-reaching influence of the McMillan Commission. The report called for an orderly plan for the grouping of public buildings in units. An interesting feature of the buildings in the Federal triangle is the unusual length of their bases. They look like skyscrapers that are actually resting on their sides. The National Gallery of Art, built across from the Triangle but not a part of it, is 200 feet longer than the height of the Monument.

When Taft was President in 1910, the Commission of Fine Arts was created to maintain standards of art in the growth of the city. Today this Commission must be consulted by the President, Congress and its committees, and by heads of Government departments in all details of progress in the city's building programs. It must advise about the kind and location of statues, fountains, and monuments in public squares and parks, as well as the works of art that are sent to other countries as expressions of good will. The Lincoln Memorial was one of the first projects to be passed upon by the Commission. A later one was the Jefferson Memorial, located on the end of the cross axis that is opposite the White House. The Commission on Fine Arts works with the Zoning Commission by setting standards of architecture for various zones in the city.

In 1920 Congress created the Zoning Commission to control the use and development of the land, to provide open spaces for ventilation and light, to settle questions relating to the number and distribution of people within areas, and to regulate the height and bulk of buildings. Today zoning laws divide the city into use, height, and area districts. Districts are separated for residences, business, and industry. The height of the buildings is restricted, as well as the kinds of districts in which the buildings are located. Billboards are banned in all parts of the city.

You may wonder why Washington is one of the cleanest cities of its size in the Nation. It is due partly to a zoning law that limits manufac-

turing. This law protects the purpose for which the Capital City was founded. The location of Washington has no particular advantage anyway for industry or commerce. Limited manufacturing is done, but it is for local use, with the exception of printing. Retail trade flourishes in districts zoned for business use. There are stores for every kind of income and taste, where people can buy almost anything they want. The Washington Board of Trade helps to make the city a desirable place for retail trade.

A third Commission works effectively with the Fine Arts and the Zoning Commissions. It is the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. It was created by Congress in 1926 to offer advice regarding an extensive park system, including the changing of old highways and the laying out of new ones. This Commission buys all of the lands for parks and playgrounds with money appropriated by Congress but largely paid for through local taxes. The lands purchased for the parks are placed under the control of the Department of the Interior. The Recreation Board controls many of the playgrounds. The Commission's regional planning is done with the cooperation of two States and four counties.

The National Gallery contains a fine collection of art.

All of the work of these three present-day Commissions is based consistently on L'Enfant's ideas that were revived by the McMillan Commission.

In 1934 Congress passed the Alley Dwelling Elimination Act. This act authorized alley property to be purchased gradually and the land used for other purposes. By this act Congress hoped to get rid of the slum areas.

And so L'Enfant's plan has been revived, reviewed, and revised by four outstanding Commissions. Three of them are doing effective work today, and, as a result, you are very proud of your Washington.

Cosmopolitan City

Washington took a long time to grow up. After 100 years of infancy and youth, it emerged a full-fledged, cosmopolitan city. Today this picturesque Capital has a population of approximately one million persons, from all parts of the world as well as from all regions of the United States.

About 70 foreign nations send representatives to Washington. These diplomats bring their families, counselors, secretaries, attachés, and other kinds of workers. Great Britain employs 400 people in her Embassy, Mexico has at least 50, and usually even the smallest nations have 10. There are more than 10,000 foreign workers in the diplomatic services. In 1946, for the first time in history, the President had to divide the guests into two groups at his annual dinner for the diplomats. The table in the State dining room of the White House was not large enough to serve the top foreign officials and their wives.

There are many other international groups in Washington besides the ones in the diplomatic services. Thousands of visitors come on pleasure or business from places all over the world. Important conferences are held in the city. In 1921, the major nations held the Limitation of Arms Conference. In 1942, 26 nations at war against the Axis met in the Capital and signed the original Declaration by the United Nations. In 1944, at the Dumbarton Oaks conference, much of the groundwork was done for the present United Nations organization. The United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization had its fourth conference in Washington in 1948, and there was an International Wheat Conference in 1949. Large groups of foreign students come for orientation before they visit other places in the United States. Some students come to study in the art galleries and other educational institutions. Foreign newspapers and magazines send large numbers of correspondents and feature writers, because many of the decisions made in Washington affect the future of the whole world.

These people from other countries, together with Government workers from all regions of the United States and its Territories, make Washington a delightful city of contrasts. It is a common occurrence to hear different languages spoken on the streets and in the stores. Sometimes people are seen in their native costumes.

One day a distinguished-looking lady, clothed in a colorful foreign costume, was waiting in a hotel entrance. Some curious tourists standing nearby began to chat with her about her costume. Graciously she gave them a brief account of the dress and customs in her homeland. She suggested that the tourists eat dinner in a restaurant where her native food is served. This restaurant is in a section of the city where most of the people live who are of her nationality. She was eager for the tourists

to dine in other kinds of foreign restaurants throughout the city, as well as in her favorite one.

One of the tourists asked the charming lady if the Ambassador of her country lived in that section of the city where her favorite restaurant is located. The surprising reply was, "No. My good husband, His Excellency, the Ambassador, has a large residence in another section of Washington. Most of the Embassies and Legations are on or near Massachusetts Avenue which is commonly known as Embassy Row. Be sure to see it. Many of the nations have coats of arms or other identifying emblems on their buildings."

This incident could never have happened when the cosmopolitan city was in its infancy. Then it was only a rural village. The few tourists who came to Washington considered themselves fortunate if they had a chance to talk to people from other parts of their own Nation. One lucky tourist met Senator Henry Clay because of an amusing incident.

When the town was very young there were few houses and many wide streets. The pedestrians shared the streets with cows, pigs, sheep, and goats. One day a selfish old goat refused to step aside for Senator Clay to pass. The Kentucky statesman grabbed the goat's horns when the attack began, but the creature was unimpressed by the Senator's strength. Finally Clay followed the advice of a youthful bystander, let go, and ran fast. His long coattails wildly flapped an undignified farewell to the surprised old goat. At a safe distance the embarrassed, panting Senator stopped to smooth his rumpled clothing. As his sense of humor came to his rescue, he muttered to an amused tourist who had witnessed the incident, "In a democracy all people are treated as equals."

It is a long step back from the cosmopolitan present to 1809 when this incident occurred. At that time a national respect for the rural town was increasing in spite of muddy streets and open sewerage, dim lights and poor heating, and lack of fire and police protection.

An interest in physical improvements came after the British had burned Washington in 1814. As a result, in a few years the Congressmen were at work again in the restored Capitol. Gas lights were installed and an impressive gas lantern adorned the top of its wooden dome. A gas plant had been installed on the Capitol Grounds. The Grounds were fenced and the gates locked at 10 o'clock each night.

One cold night two youthful tourists were so busy gazing at the beautiful gas lantern they did not hear the gatekeeper's warning: "10 o'clock. Everybody out." Later, when they were ready to leave, the gates were locked. They called to an approaching dark figure, "Oh, Mr. Gatekeeper, please let us out."

A man replied, "I'm not the gatekeeper. I'm only a Senator who has worked too late. But I can help you over the gate. Then you can go to the gatekeeper's home and get him to help me." One at a time the boys climbed on the broad shoulders of the tall Senator and leaped over the gate. He told them where the gatekeeper lived. They thanked the

Senator for rescuing them from a cold, sleepless night under the trees. Then they ran fast to the gatekeeper who unlocked the gate for the Senator. When the boys returned to their home town, they bragged about meeting a Senator from a State far away. They told two funny stories at school. One was, "How we rescued a Senator." The other one was, "How to play piggy back."

Political influence of the Federal town had grown with the purchase of Florida from Spain in 1819 and with the famous Monroe Doctrine of 1823. It was a sign of national power when President Monroe said, "Europe, keep your hands out of our affairs and we shall keep ours out of yours." Your Capital City took on more international significance during these years.

Washington had burst out of its colonial infancy by 1850 and was now a youthful city of 51,000. It was no longer a struggling, southern village, but the town still reflected the charm of the South. During the Reconstruction days that followed the Civil War, money poured into the city from the North, and exciting boom days had come at last. Streets were modernized with such speed that some wives jokingly said they stayed home for fear of finding their walks torn up when they returned.

By 1878 a commission form of government was established, and after that the city continued to grow rapidly. When the nineteenth century ended, Washington, a city of 300,000 people, was the center of a new world power. It was a metropolis of contrasts. There were spacious houses and tiny hovels; landmarks of exciting history side by side with the most modern improvements in living; great wealth and extreme poverty; stimulating, colorful society and mechanical, dull living; and a majority of one racial group with a minority of others.

Two world wars have quickened the Capital's pace and nurtured mushroom growth. Today the population of approximately one million persons reflects the ways of life in many lands. The city is considered an important crossroads of the world. Even though the official faces in the mirror change frequently, the international influence of your colorful, cosmopolitan city marches steadily onward.

Federal City

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No doubt you have visited a meeting of your town council and have heard your mayor or manager discuss problems of local government. You discovered that your local laws are closely interwoven with your State and National ones.

Government in your Capital City is different from the kind that you have in your home town or in any other place in the United States. Since the District of Columbia is a Federal district and not a part of any

State, the Constitution of the United States gives Congress control of the Government.

Congress has tried various forms of government in the District. At first there were three Commissioners appointed by the President of the United States. Then Congress granted the city a charter in 1802 and 20 mayors had served up until 1871. After that a modified form of territorial government was used for 4 years. Before Congress created this territorial form, there had been three units of government for the present District of Columbia. They were the municipalities of Washington and Georgetown and the county of Washington, which comprised the area not in the two cities. The Territorial Act of 1871 combined these three units, and since that time Washington has had the same boundaries as the District of Columbia. In 1874 Congress was dissatisfied again and asked the President to appoint three Commissioners on a temporary basis. In 1878 Congress passed an act that gave the District of Columbia three Commissioners to manage it, and this form of government has been used ever since.

During the very first years of its life, the Federal town had to rely upon the courts of Maryland and Virginia. Suppose one of your lambs had taken a stroll down the main street in 1800 and had fallen into a mudhole. A Mr. No-Good had come along, lifted it out, and later roasted it for dinner. Someone told you who had stolen it. You decided that Mr. No-Good needed punishment. Because both of you lived on the Maryland side of the Potomac, you would take your case to a Maryland court. The court might have decided that Mr. No-Good should be flogged and also should pay you for the lamb. But if both of you had lived across the Potomac, the case would have been tried according to Virginia law.

Between the years of 1802 and 1871, when there were 20 mayors, few civic improvements could be made or public works financed. The Federal town ran down at the heels and was such a disgraceful sight that Congress had to do something. In 1871 it set up a modified form of territorial government with a Governor and a Board of Public Works. This Board of Public Works spent such large sums of money for rapid physical improvements that Congress had to act again in 1874. While it was making a careful study of the situation, it had the President appoint three Commissioners. In 1878 Congress passed an act establishing the Commission form of government that has lasted throughout the years.

Today the District of Columbia is governed by three Commissioners who are chosen by the President and approved by the Senate. Two of them must be persons who have lived in the District at least 3 years. They can serve for 3 years, or until their successors are selected. The third Commissioner must be an officer of the Engineer Corps of the United States Army. This Commissioner can serve a maximum of 4 years, because military law prescribes that 4 years is the longest time an

officer of the Army can serve without troops. Often this Engineer Commissioner serves less than 4 years. The terms of the Commissioners are staggered, so that there is continuity in managing the District.

One of the three Commissioners is the chairman of the group and is known as the official head of the District. He has no more power than the other two members. The three members decide how to divide the supervision of the various District departments, such as Fire and Police. Some of the powers of the Commissioners are the making of local rules, the appointing of city officials, offering suggestions to Congress, selecting a Board of Trustees for the District Public Library, and setting up a Board of Public Welfare.

Do you know how the public-school board is chosen in your home town? In Washington the Justices of the District Court of the United States for the District of Columbia appoint nine board members to manage the schools. The President of the United States appoints the Justices. He also appoints judges of the juvenile and municipal courts and the recorder of deeds.

Of course you know that it costs money to run local government. Congress makes an annual allocation for the District, and the rest of the money must be raised by local taxation. The amount of money allotted by Congress, the rate of local taxes, and the cost of licenses depend upon estimates of the financial needs of the city. The District Commissioners make these estimates and then have them approved by the Federal Bureau of the Budget. When Congress passed the Budget and Accounting Act, it placed the financial expenditures of the District under the control of the executive branch of the Federal Government.

After the Commissioners' estimates are approved by the Bureau of the Budget, they are presented to Congress by the President. Congress studies them before it makes its annual appropriation for the District. The main burden of the cost of local government, however, is borne by the residents and not by Congress.

The residents of the Federal city cannot vote in National elections because the Constitution of the United States does not give them this privilege and responsibility. For many years it has been argued whether or not Congress should change this voteless situation by an amendment to the Constitution.

At present, Washington is a voteless Federal district, governed by three Commissioners who are responsible to Congress. The Capital City has a dual status. It is not only a municipality with certain local powers of government, but it is also partly governed by the executive branch of the Federal Government.

City of Workers

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If you really want to know your Capital City, you must know its people. When tourists first arrive and see the surging crowd at the Union Station they are likely to call Washington a "City of Good-byes." Although it does have more transients than any other city of similar size in the world, its citizens have deep and permanent roots. The number of residents has increased rapidly during the past several years, bringing the population to approximately one million. According to the last census, the District ranks eleventh in population among cities in the United States, and thirty-seventh if it is compared with States.

The residents are predominately of the white race, although many people of all races live in the city. The next largest racial group is the Negro. The foreign diplomatic services employ workers who represent all races. In one section of the District there is a Chinese neighborhood of approximately 200 persons.

The very nature of Washington, a Federal city, tells you that all of these groups are mainly workers and their families. More than one worker in three is employed by the Federal Government. Nearly all of the other workers supply the basic service needs of life: Food, clothing, shelter, protection, health, religion, education, recreation, travel, and communication. If there is any doubt in your mind that the Capital is a city of workers, take an airplane ride early on any working morning, and look down on the thousands of employees entering just one building, the Pentagon, across the Potomac. You cannot help realizing that Washington is a great human dynamo, generating power to operate the Government of your Nation.

In all seasons of the year, regardless of political tides and tourists, a multitude of persistent workers carry on the Government's business. Although they seldom, if ever, make the glamorous headlines of the daily newspapers, they have faith that the success of democracy depends upon them as cogs in the huge machine of Government.

The majority of the great crowd of workers come from farms, villages, towns, and cities throughout the United States and its Territories. The reason why Government employees come from such widely distributed areas is that they are selected by a system called Civil Service.

Civil Service requires the selection by competitive examinations of all classified Federal Government workers, not members of the armed forces or the court system. Although there are a number of exceptions, appointments from the list of highest rating applicants must be apportioned among the States and Territories of the Nation. If the allotted number of employees from your State or Territory have received appointments, you could not be selected until the quota was reached everywhere else, even if you had the qualifications, unless you were a veteran or were exempt from the apportionment rule for some other reason.

An underlying principle of the Civil Service system is the selection of Federal employees on the basis of merit, and not as political rewards for support given to legislators or executives before their elections. Between 1828 and 1883, the reward system was practiced openly, and the slogan, "To the victor belong the spoils," became popular. Abraham Lincoln practiced the system but did not like it because he was handicapped in filling positions with the most capable people. Once he said that his appointments of unqualified backwoodsmen as postmasters caused him problems almost as great as the ones he faced during the Civil War. The assassination of President Garfield by a disgruntled office seeker brought to a climax the strong feeling of many citizens against the system of political rewards. In 1883, Congress passed the Pendleton Act, establishing the Civil Service system that has continued in use to the present time.

This act not only requires the use of competitive examinations as a basis of selection, with apportionment to States and Territories, but also guarantees freedom to appointees from the necessity of contributing money or service to any political organization. It places upon the workers the responsibility of loyalty to the Government, as well as efficiency in services rendered. As a result of this act, Washington has an intelligent group of Government workers with worthy personal characteristics.

The kinds of positions in the Government are as varied as they are in private industry. Some people think that most positions are clerical. These individuals do not know that there are 1,700 different kinds of classified jobs, many of them professional, listed by Civil Service. There are other kinds of Government work that are unclassified and do not require competitive examinations. In the great enterprise of Government the kinds of workers range from unskilled labor to the highest levels of research. There are thousands of doctors, lawyers, merchants, and chiefs.

Government workers must serve a probationary period of 1 year before they are permanently employed. As of June 1948, about 77 percent of the Government workers in the competitive service in Washington had or were serving their probationary periods. Upon retirement they will receive pensions. Other Government workers have indefinite or temporary employment.

It is not surprising that so many of the workers who come to Washington temporarily decide to spend the rest of their lives in the metropolis. It is a fine place to live because of the religious, educational, and cultural advantages; in addition, there are recreational facilities and health and welfare services.

The 500 churches and many religious organizations located in Washington, make the Capital a great national religious center for all faiths and creeds. The oldest national church is the Metropolitan Memorial Methodist Episcopal, established in 1852. There are many other churches located throughout the city which have been established by their denom-

inations as having national significance. The Protestant Episcopal Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul where Woodrow Wilson is buried and the Catholic National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception are two beautiful churches that are most frequently visited by tourists.

Workers recognize the educational and cultural advantages in Washington, both for their families and themselves. There are nearly 200 elementary schools; 60 high schools, universities, and colleges; headquarters of such learned national organizations as the Carnegie Institution, The National Geographic Society, and the National Education Association; more than 200 libraries, including the Library of Congress; world art centers, such as the National, Freer, Corcoran, and Phillips Memorial Galleries; and musical organizations, including the National Symphony and the Marine Band.

The workers in the Capital City take advantage of the fine recreational opportunities. They enjoy several parks, Rock Creek, National Zoological, East and West Potomac, the Mall, and the Botanic Garden. There are several hundred smaller areas of playgrounds and athletic fields, and the small parks at the intersection of city streets are conveniently located for leisure hours. There are indoor recreation centers, swimming pools, movies, and countless other places where one may relax.

The beauty of cherry blossoms around the Tidal Basin is a cherished memory.

The health and welfare services in Washington make conditions of living desirable for workers. There are many health centers, as well as hospitals for physical and mental illnesses. The Public Welfare Board, the Federal Government, and private organizations carry on a broad social-service program to promote human welfare.

Housing conditions for workers are congested because Washington has felt acute growing pains as a result of the war. During the last decade, as your Government has increased its world services, the number of workers has increased from 100,000 to 230,000. These additional employees, together with more workers in other kinds of services, the transient business visitors, the newly retired, and the tourists, cause this temporary housing congestion. But the present building boom points toward the future adequate housing of the increasing population. Regardless of the temporary housing congestion, workers are proud of their city and consider it a fine place to live.

Your City

After your tour is over, see if you believe these comments that Bill, the page boy, made last September. He said, "Washington reminds me of a family picture in my grandmother's album. What you see in your Capital City is a picture of your Nation's family, taken in a beautiful setting. In it are the heads or officials, and an excellent sampling of its family members from the North, South, East, and West."

Bill was trying to say that Washington is your city. You own it because your parents are the employers of the officials and thousands of other workers, and the Congressmen are your representatives. Your parents and all other voters in the United States pay taxes for the expenses of the Government. These taxes pay for the salaries of workers, for buildings, and for their maintenance.

This is the reason why your official family and their workers are eager for you to visit your Capital City. They want you to know where and how they live. When you know your Washington you have a background for helping your employees and representatives manage a democracy. You are more capable of expressing opinions and of suggesting ways that might help your Government to grow into the kind of nation you want it to be. After all, democracy is a cooperative affair, and no one is free from the responsibilities of doing his share.

After you know your Capital City you cannot help feeling as a certain businessman does. On the exit of his cafeteria are these words, "Through this door pass the finest people in the world, my customers." You will say, "To Washington come the finest people in the world, the makers and customers of American democracy."

Home Again

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When the happy travelers returned to school, it was fun to relive the tour, day by day and hour by hour. When they were ready to discuss the values of the Washington experience, they thought about the purpose of the tour. They had taken it to see the kind of setting that our Government has. Everyone was convinced that an appreciation of Washington is necessary in order to understand how the Government works. The boys and girls raised questions to guide their discussion, and the summarizing committee asked for evidence as it wrote the answers. Can you suggest answers from the pages that have gone before? Here are the questions.

Is Washington a desirable place today for the seat of Federal Government? What kind of community is it? In what ways is it like or different from your town? Is it worthy to be a Capital City? Do you believe that the government of the city is effective? How representative of our country are people who live and work there? How well does Washington meet their basic needs? How cosmopolitan is the city of Washington today? Did evidences of the past make you feel proud of your Nation's growth? How were these evidences a prologue to the future? What experiences helped you most as a background for understanding your Government? How have they helped you?

As the students were evaluating the tour, they carried on many kinds of activities besides discussions. They dramatized, painted pictures, organized materials for display and reference which were collected during the tour, made recordings, saw movies again that they had seen earlier, and wrote articles for the Yearbook and the school newspaper. Finally they revised their book, Know Your Capital City.

The boys and girls enjoyed sharing their experiences with others through a school assembly, an open house for parents, exhibits in store windows, articles for the local newspaper, a story hour at the public library, an interview over the local radio, and the explanation of a movie in the Town Hall on Community Day.

The last day of school was exciting. The group had a surprise for Miss Brown. It was a beautiful kodak book that the "Know Your Washington" Club had planned during secret meetings. The art teacher had helped to make it. It contained enlarged pictures that the Kodak Club had taken on the tour. Pat made a fine presentation speech that he had prepared with the help of his classmates.

It was just the kind of gift that appealed to Miss Brown. She could use it with other groups of children as an introduction to the Capital City. She herself would enjoy the tour over and over again as long as she lived. Everyone chatted informally about the pictures as Miss Brown looked at them. When it was time to go home, Pat's last comments were, "How foolish I was last September to doubt that John's idea could

ever come true. Almost any group can go to Washington if it plans well and works hard to get there. I wish that everyone who has not been to the Capital City recently could go soon."

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