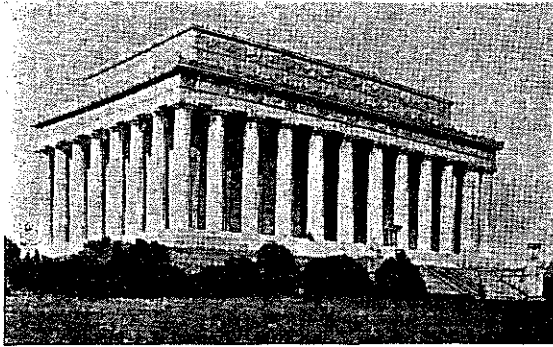


Washington's Attractions

By CURTIS HODGES *

THE visitor in Washington can, by properly planning his itinerary, in a few days, see a great many of the interesting places of the city. When he has seen these places and has learned about them, he has a fund of valuable information to carry away with him, for in visiting Washington, he is seeing the world's greatest national capital, the capital this is of the greatest interest — undoubtedly of the greatest interest to the people of the United States.

In a tour of one day, the visitor may see the White House, the State War and Navy Building, Corcoran Art Gallery, American Red Cross, Constitution Hall, Pan-American Building, Navy Building, Munitions Building, National Academy of Sciences, Titanic Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument, Bureau of Engraving and Printing, National Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Shopping and Theatre District, Ford's Theatre, Oldroyd Lincoln



Lincoln Memorial

Museum, and the National Cathedral. These are, of course, all interesting and historic places.

A South Carolina architect, James Hoban, designed the White House and the cornerstone was laid in 1792. At first it was planned only as the President's home, but it has come to be also the executive offices of the Government.

The Oldroyd Museum contains relics in keeping with the interesting events in the life of the Civil War President. It is housed in Ford's Theatre, the building in which President Lincoln was fatally wounded in 1865.

Approximately 50,000 persons, representing every state in the Union, have contributed more than \$10,000,000 to the National Cathedral and its associated agencies. There is not space available here to give a description of all of the various places that have been mentioned but they are all full of interest.

Certainly it would be to the advantage of the visitor to spend more than one day in Washington. On a second day's tour, he would have an opportunity to see the wonderful buildings of the Federal Building Triangle, the Capitol, the Library of Congress, Senate and House Office Buildings, Alexandria Memorial Highway, the Highway Bridge and many other places of greatest interest.

No other library in the world surpasses the Congressional Library, either in the size of the building or the number of books, prints, manuscripts and documents available. The building is notable for its beauty and its interiors are particularly attractive. The cost of the building and the

land for the Library was approximately \$7,000,000. It is a sumptuous building and in the estimation of the public, perhaps stands first, or at any rate on a par with the Capitol Building.

The Folger Shakespeare Library is one of the new institutions of Washington and represents an investment of \$7,000,000. It is one of the most artistic buildings in the world. As to its collection of material relating to Shakespeare and his writing, it is unsurpassed by any other institution of the kind in the world.

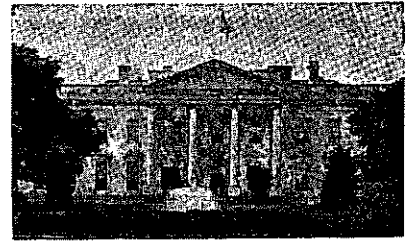
Everybody wants to see the United States Capitol and grounds. Probably ninety per cent of the visitors who come to Washington each year primarily for the purpose of sightseeing, go to the U. S. Capitol. The Capitol is 751 feet long, contains a total of 431 rooms and the cost of construction was \$14,550,000. The Capitol is one of the many old buildings of Washington that is an outstanding example of good architecture.

The Union Station and Capitol Plaza, as it has been improved in the last few years, is also well worth seeing. The cost of laying out and completing this beautifully landscaped area was in excess of ten million dollars. The plaza is in reality an extension of the U. S. Capitol grounds and doubles in area the vast lawn of that historic building. The total area of the U. S. Capitol grounds, including the new Plaza, is 120 acres. This 120-acre tract of carefully kept terraced lawns, fountains and growing trees and shrubbery from almost every land in the world, is the beautiful sight that greets the visitor to Washington as he arrives at the Union Station.

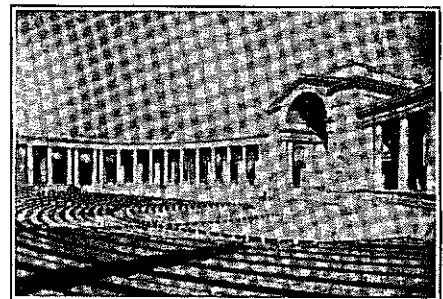
If the visitor really can stay in Washington longer than two days, and it should be longer than that, he can see many other interesting and educational sights. For example, he may see Arlington, Custis Lee Mansion, Fort Myer, George Washington National Masonic Memorial, Christ Church, Monastery, and take a drive through Rock Creek Park to get really a comprehensive idea of the city.

It is not practical to undertake to enter into a description of all these many places. However, the visitor in Washington will find available free booklets and maps giving all necessary information in regard to interesting places in Washington. Such booklets and maps may be obtained from the Greater National Capital Committee of the Washington Board of Trade, 204 Evening Star Building, Washington, D. C.

With further reference to Rock Creek Park; not everybody who visits Washington realizes that virtually in the heart of the city, there is a wild park-land area, 1700 acres in extent. This park-land area in Rock Creek Park is one of the 685 pleasure



White House



Amphitheatre in Arlington Cemetery

* Mr. Hodge is executive director of the Greater National Capital Committee of the Washington Board of Trade. By courtesy of that Committee the illustrating pictures are furnished.

grounds in Washington. Rock Creek Park is unusually well adapted for motoring, horseback riding, and other diversions and it has been the scene of relaxation for many of the most prominent men in the history of the United States. At the present time, ambassadors from foreign countries, members of the Cabinet, and other widely known officials may be seen within its bounds enjoying a respite from their official duties.

Reference has been made to the Arlington Memorial Bridge. This development has been carried out as a tribute to George Washington. The bridge is 2,150 feet long and cost approximately \$10,000,000. It has the largest draw bridge in the world and the draw opens and closes in five minutes. The bridge converges with the new Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, which is undoubtedly the most notable piece of roadway construction in the world. With the completion of this roadway and bridge, the dream of statesmen for nearly a century has at last been realized. Nothing is more pleasant than a drive along the George Washington Memorial Highway, which follows the meanderings of the Potomac River from Arlington Bridge to Mount Vernon.

A great deal has been said about the classic old attractions of Washington and these attractions can be enjoyed again and again. But Washington is now practically a new city, due to the extensive improvements that have been made in the last few years. And even those who have visited Washington recently, if they come again, will see many new places of interest.

As a matter of fact, the Memorial Highway, the Arlington Bridge, the Folger Shakespeare Library, the U. S. Capitol Plaza — 120 acres in extent — are all new. Then there is the beautiful ten million dollar Supreme Court Building, which has just been completed and which everybody who comes to Washington will want to see.

But probably the most important of the new buildings, are the structures in the 70 acre Federal Triangle which stretches from the White House almost to the Capitol. These buildings were erected at a cost of \$200,000,000 and they are now ready for inspection by the public.

Begun nine years ago, and built entirely of domestic material, the Federal Building Triangle has arisen as a memorial to one of the most trying times in the history of the Nation.

It is a show place in every sense. Those who visit the Federal Building Triangle will find within its six units such features as the largest pair of bronze doors in the world, the only aluminum fountain in the world, the only Government auditorium in the country, the most elaborate suite of Government offices in the country, art done by the finest sculptures and painters, the largest Government building and one of the finest classical buildings of modern times.

The largest pair of doors in the world is in the Archives Building. Each door is fifty feet high and ten feet wide and they are made of solid bronze. Products of many states have contributed to the Archives Building. The marble flooring is made of green marble from Maryland; grey and rose marble from Tennessee; cream from Alabama; and gold from Missouri. The outstanding work of art in the entire building will probably be the colorful mural circling the room above the exhibition cases.

In the Department of Justice Building, \$400,000 worth of aluminum has been used. There are aluminum doors, aluminum fountains, aluminum balconies, aluminum windows and aluminum elevator shafts. This material has never before been used to this extent in construction work. Hand selected curly Maple and American Walnut were chosen for the panelling in the building and the result suffuses a deep rose color through the long room.

The new Post Office Building has on the third floor the most pretentious suite of offices ever built for a Government official in this country, not excluding the President's

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new suite. The Postmaster General's office overlooks the Plaza, which lies in the center of the Federal Triangle. When landscaped, according to plans already drawn up, the Plaza will be one of the most beautiful formal garden parks in Washington. Bows of trees, flower beds, and walkways, all will harmonize with the architectural character of the surrounding buildings. Perhaps the most outstanding decorative note in the entire building are the eight story nickel and bronze chandeliers, hanging from the top floor to the ground floor. These unusual fixtures, modernistic in design, are attached to a chain 105 feet long. Another feature enjoyed by the Post Office Building that no other building in the Triangle has is the use of accoustical plaster in every corridor and every office. There is not so much as a slight echo ever to disturb the workers. Even the corridors of this magnificent structure are graceful. There are no straight hallways in the entire building, with its eight floors, covering an area of some 15,000,000 feet of space. Curving in wide half circles, the corridors are wide and extremely light. Large windows, almost side by side, with their green Venetian blinds, let in the maximum amount of sunlight. Even the public telephone booths are outstanding for their beauty. The telephone books rest on black marble desks and the walls have little chance of being marked for they too are of black marble.

But the Post Office building is not the largest structure in the Federal Triangle. The largest unit is the \$12,000,000 group, composed of the Department of Labor building and the Interstate Commerce Building, joined by the building known as the Connecting Wing.

The Connecting Wing Building is the smallest building in the entire Triangle, but it contains perhaps the most beautiful interior. For, in the Connecting Wing Building is the only Government auditorium in the country. Six tall columns on either side of the auditorium, reach three stories to a ceiling of robin's egg blue. An interesting design in gold leaf, done by an artist of note, borders the high walls. Large walnut doors are at the side entrances. On each door is the hand-carved figure of a magnificent lion's head, covered in gold leaf. A spacious stage at one end is built on simple lines and can be used for the showing of motion pictures. The projecting room and balcony are at the other end. More than 2,000 comfortable, movable seats fill the auditorium, making it a larger meeting place than either Hall of the House or the Senate Chamber.

The Labor Department Building has a library covering almost the entire fourth floor and which is regarded as one of the finest of its kind in the world.

The buildings in the Federal Triangle when they are more generally known will be a show place for people from all over the world. These Government buildings are unprecedented by anything of their kind in the history of the world.