

PUBLIC BUILDING IS NOW OUR OWN

Formally Presented to City by Assistant Secretary Bryan R. Newton of The United States Treasury. Tablet Unveiled

WAS MEMORABLE OCCASION IN HISTORY OF WASHINGTON

PARADE NEARLY HALF MILE IN LENGTH; LUNCHEON AT THE ELKS HOME

The total cost for site, construction and interior equipment of Washington's public building, said Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Newton, today in his speech presenting the building to the city, amounts to \$139,993.84; deducting this from the appropriation of \$140,000 it will be seen that you still have a balance of \$6.16.

ble kind and shape could be seen on all sides. At the public building, where the main exercises of the day were to take place, were seen the most elaborate decorations. Here the entire front was a mass of flags etc., typical of Southern hospitality and patriotism.



Hon. Byron R. Newton

Ladies and Gentlemen, Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of the Confederacy, the Hon. Secretary of the Treasury, and Member of Congress.—The immortal Shakespeare has told us that a rose by any other name would smell as sweet, this may be true of the rose but believe it not as regards a name that has been glorified by the sweetness of the immortal soul that it is as that of Washington.

Dedication Washington's handsome public building in which is situated the postoffice, United States court room etc., was formally presented to the city today by Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Bryan R. Newton, and accepted for the city by Hon. Hallett S. Ward.

Secretary Newton Arrives The Assistant Secretary left Washington City Saturday night and came as far as Elizabeth City where he boarded the Revenue Cutter Pamlico arriving here early this morning.

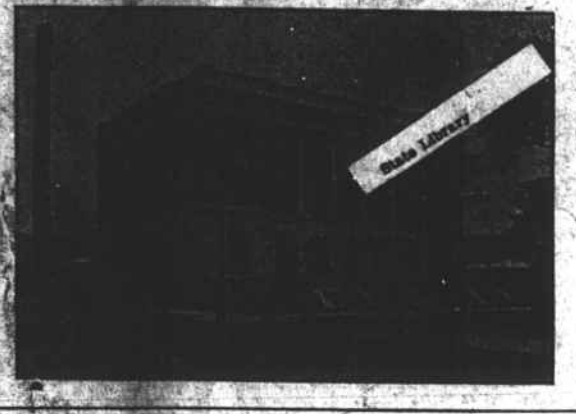
City in Gala Attire Washington today was in holiday garb and nearly every business house on Main and Market streets was decorated for an occasion memorable in city's history—the formal turning over to the city of the public building just completed by Uncle Sam.

Order of Exercises Arriving at the public building the exercises of the day proper began. His Honor, Mayor Kugler being in charge. In opening the program the mayor said that on October 12, 1492, when Columbus landed on American soil he gave thanks to God so we deem it fitting to give thanks to Him on this auspicious occasion.

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PUBLIC BUILDING



INSCRIPTION ON TABLET

Exitus Acta Probat To commemorate the first Post Office named Washington in the United States. Established A. D. 1789. In Washington, Beaufort County, North Carolina, The First Town named Washington in the United States, December 1776. (Record of Beaufort County Book 4 Page 253) Tablet erected by the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution of Washington North Carolina. 1913.

Buff and blue, the British colors, but Washington had but recently been an officer in the British, or colonial army, in the French and Indian wars and as early as 1776, no great change in uniforms had taken place. The Americans wore what was displayed by his drawing in one corner, as official mark, a town in the clouds painted in the center of a pea pod—sitting beneath is the fool in his cap and bells making merry. This perpetuates the name of the town bestowed by New Bern, the home of royal governors, and metropolis of the state, upon its port little rival upon the banks of Pamlico river just rearing its head on the site of Col. Bonner's pea patch.

The old Mulberry Tavern, on Water street was the first house built in the town of Washington, letters were carried there by the captains of the vessels, or other travellers, and left until called for, or given to passing neighbors, or friends. But when the representatives of the colonies met in the Provisional Congress they resolved to expend and improve the carrying the mail from Massachusetts to Georgia by post carriages if practicable.

William Blount, a member of the Congress of 1787, from the district of Craven, was active in securing the extension of the mail service from Suffolk, Va., to Edenton thru Washington and New Bern, and thence to Wilmington. He favored this route in opposition to the one through Halifax, Hillsboro, etc., which would have been disastrous to this section. He wrote frequently to his brother, John Gray Blount urging him and other prominent men to undertake this work and become personally responsible for the drivers engaged in transporting the mail over this route.

I hold in my hand one of the first maps of the town, drawn for John Gray Blount, by Mr. Pastour, he was an artist as well as a druggist, and he has made the plot of the town on a background of the folds of the military cape of an officer of rank.

lina. I hold this commission in my hands—to me it is a precious document for it shows that Beaufort county gave her portion in the last call for troops made in North Carolina for Revolutionary service.

The county and the town have lived up to their grand old names, and it behooves us of today to live up to this beautiful building which has been secured to the town of Washington through the untiring efforts of our distinguished citizen, and member of Congress, Hon. Jno. H. Small. In this endeavor, we, the members of Major Reading Blount Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution present this tablet to Mr. Small, to the city, and to the government as a fitting memorial to connect the present with the past.

At the conclusion of the presentation of the tablet it was unveiled by sweet little Miss Majorie Blount Hoyt and Master Charles M. Brown. A fitting climax to the unveiling of this tablet was the singing of "America" by the school children.

Hon. John H. Small then presented the speaker of the day, Hon. Byron R. Newton. Mr. Small said that it was his distinct pleasure as a citizen in the citizenship of the community to take a humble part in this endeavor. Spoke of his work in aiding towards its possibility and that if the people here had not given him his job, the present building would not have been possible so far as he was concerned.

Building Presented Secretary Newton in presenting the building to the city of Washington in the name of the government.

Mr. Charles G. Vanekefer, Ladies and Gentlemen:—As the representative of the federal government, it is a genuine pleasure for me to be here today and perform my humble part in the ceremonies which convey to you this beautiful new structure. I belong to the working branch of the government, and whatever I shall have to say to you must be said in the simple terms of a working man, for I know no other form of expression. I represent the Treasury Department. The oratorical and ornamental branch of the government is situated at the other end of Pennsylvania avenue, up at the Capitol, and the functions of that department must be performed on this occasion by Congressman Small.

It is now a little more than seven years since the initial step was taken toward procuring this building. On June 30, 1906, an Act of Congress was passed authorizing a site and building for a postoffice and court house, at a cost of \$75,000. Before active operations began, on this basis of cost it became apparent that the growth and progress of your little city would demand a much larger structure than was at first contemplated, and two years later, Mr. Small came back to congress with a request that the limit of cost for site and building be increased to \$110,000. That act was passed in May 1908.

But again the development of your town outran the activity of the Federal machinery, at Washington, and two years later your representative again asked Congress that \$30,000 more be added to the \$110,000 and on June 25, 1910, the bill was passed fixing the cost for site and building at \$140,000.

Meanwhile on January 29, 1909, the Treasury Department accepted the present site, offered Mrs. J. K. Hoyt, at a cost of \$15,000. Three months later in April 1909, the title of the land was vested in the United States government. Two years after that, on July 21, 1911, the contract for construction was awarded to Mr. John G. Vanekefer for \$194,485. And exactly two years from the awarding of the contract the building was completed and ready for occupancy.

The total cost for site, construction and interior equipment amounts to \$139,993.84. Deducting this from the appropriation of \$140,000 it will be seen that you still have a balance of \$6.16. Therefore, Mr. Chairman and citizens of Washington, it is my pleasure to me it is a precious document for it shows that Beaufort county gave her portion in the last call for troops made in North Carolina for Revolutionary service.

It is my pleasure to me it is a precious document for it shows that Beaufort county gave her portion in the last call for troops made in North Carolina for Revolutionary service.

But I am not here to destroy Congressman Small on his own hearstone. All congressmen talk. They are all very much alike in that respect, except that some keep them selves in Congress by talking and others keep themselves at home by the same process. It is all in knowing how to talk. This beautiful edifice is a testimonial to Congressman Small's ability as a talker, so if you want to continue getting good things from the National Capitol, my counsel to you is to keep Mr. Small in Congress. We like him, we've grown used to him, and he can have anything in Uncle Sam's warehouse not otherwise appropriated.

But there is another reason why we like Congressman Small in the National Capitol. He fits into the new order of things; and, my friends, there is new order things today in Washington. That new order of things means that men in control are working with an honest purpose and they are working hard. They are doing their best, and why not? They are working in an atmosphere and in an environment where every man may feel that he can serve his God, his government, his party and his highest ideals all at the same time. They are not striving for the unattainable. They are not seeking the enrichment or the elevation of one man or group of men at the expense of other men. They are doing their best, and why? They are working in an atmosphere and in an environment where every man may feel that he can serve his God, his government, his party and his highest ideals all at the same time. They are not striving for the unattainable. They are not seeking the enrichment or the elevation of one man or group of men at the expense of other men. They are doing their best, and why? They are working in an atmosphere and in an environment where every man may feel that he can serve his God, his government, his party and his highest ideals all at the same time.

There isn't anything idealistic or experimental about that. It is just plain, human, twentieth century prudence and honesty, and I don't know of any reason why men should not be just as honest and prudent in the District of Columbia as anywhere else. Of course, it is one of the inherent frailties of human nature to approach with suspicion any sudden turn in the road that leads toward a higher level of human welfare. That tendency is as old as our race, but thank God, it is slowly disappearing and all the time it is growing easier to be decent in this world. Dishonesty and hypocrisy are going out of style and each day it is becoming easier and pleasanter for a man to play the game of life on the square and still hold his job and make a living for his family.

This, however, is not the time or place to talk politics or religion. Your congressman warned me against it. He said if I talked politics it might hurt him and if I talked religion it might hurt me.

There is however, one little matter I want to speak about, that is the beautiful tablet which the Daughters of the American Revolution have placed here in the walls of this new structure. It is the typical of the magnificent work they are doing all over this great country; and in saying this I am not talking politics, for while I admire the Daughters, it by no means follows that I am advocating equal suffrage. In fact one of the reasons why I might be inclined to oppose woman's suffrage is the danger that modern politics might creep into the affairs of the Daughters and interrupt and profane the beautiful work they are doing.

I believe that most of us who go (Continued on Page 2)