

Tourists Trek to Washington

National Capital Expects to Break All Records This Year.

WASHINGTON. — The national capital is expecting this year to establish a new tourist record, largely because of war's curtailment of foreign travel, and the President's proclamation of 1940 as "Travel America Year."

"Washington is many things to many people, but government is still the principal industry and tourist attraction," says the National Geographic society. "The White House last year was visited by 1,500,000 men, women and children."

"No record is kept of the thousands who visit the Capitol to see the senate chamber and the hall of the house of representatives; but the Library of Congress, bordering on the Capitol grounds, had more than 1,020,000 visitors in 1939 and more than half a million strolled through the marble corridors of the new Supreme court building."

"Exhibits of broadest appeal are the various museums of the Smithsonian institution which last year reported a total of 2,233,345 visitors, while 2,201,080 people peered into the cages of the National Zoological park."

G-Men's CHQ Popular.

"Each day last year more than a thousand persons were shown the work of the Federal Bureau of Investigation with its crime laboratory, fingerprinting files and trophies of the more notorious criminal cases handled."

"The Washington monument, 555 feet high, last year welcomed more than 900,000 visitors who sought a bird's-eye view of the city. An elevator in the towering obelisk ascends to the top in 1 1/2 minutes."

"Others than stamp collectors flock to the bureau of engraving and printing to see the only place in the United States where postage stamps are made; for here, in addition, all the paper money is also engraved. These unique operations last year attracted 361,268 travelers to the bureau."

"Many non-governmental buildings vie for the attention of visitors to Washington. Notable among these is the Washington cathedral, on Mt. St. Alban overlooking the city, where one of the ten largest cathedrals of the world is under construction."

"Other buildings interest tourists and architects because of their history and structural beauty. The chapel of Trinity college, near the campus of the Catholic University of America, has been pronounced a gem of ecclesiastical architecture; and the Octagon house, home of the institute of architects, is a direct link with the earliest social life of the capital."

Other Attractions.

"The Custis mansion, later the estate of Gen. Robert E. Lee at Arlington, overlooks the capital from a hill on the Virginia side of the Potomac. The estate now is the Arlington National cemetery, where are interred the remains of many of the nation's heroic dead, including the Unknown Soldier of the World war. The restored Lee mansion contains a fine exhibit of colonial furnishings."

"Washington's proximity to battlefields, to Annapolis, to Alexandria and Mount Vernon extends the interest of a visit to the capital. By motor over the Memorial highway which parallels the Potomac on the Virginia side, or by steamer down the broad river, Mount Vernon was last year host to 650,000."

"In its widely varied phases, Washington appeals to many particular interests and individual hobbies. The story is told of an English tourist who had but a few hours in the capital; he elected to spend that time in seeing the world-famous statue by Saint-Gaudens erected in Rock Creek cemetery to commemorate the wife of Henry Adams. "The Corcoran, Freer and the National Art galleries, and many famous murals and mosaics in public buildings, attract thousands each year. These, with the National Gallery of Art now under construction, will make Washington the nation's great art center."

Jap Girls Ban Hair Bob

In Big Culture Reform

TOKYO.—Upper class students of the famous Peeresses' School of Tokyo have voted to ban bobbed hair at the school. It was decided to permit the hair to grow long, then do it up into a knot at the back of the head. By doing so the daughters of the Japanese nobility hope to set an example to the rest of the nation's school girls.

The change is part of the drive of the Central League for National Spiritualization for a drastic reform of the people's ways of living.

Best Laid Plans of Boys

Also Go Astray, It Seems

ROCKVILLE, CONN.—The best laid plans of mice, men and little boys who don't obey their teacher oftentimes go astray.

Five youngsters who thought their teacher too stern, tried to "get even" by letting the air out of the tires of her auto. They were caught and turned over to their parents, who reported "appropriate" disposition of the cases.

EMPLOY LOCAL LABOR

It is by no means fostering sectionalism or kiannishness to urge employment preferment for local labor. It seems to us the advice is based on economic wisdom. Local workmen are taxpayers in one way or the other, and a great deal of them are home owners. They make their money here and in turn return it to the channels of local commerce.

Of course, there frequently comes times when no employees are available in a particular field. This is understood and is economically wise as well as imperative that, under such circumstances, we seek elsewhere for a source of labor supply. But we cannot over emphasize the necessity of first utilizing the home market. Choose union labor preferably, yes; but insist on home labor.

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'Slave' Island to Erect

Statue for Gen. Grant

WASHINGTON. — On the tiny island of Bolama, off the Guinea coast of West Africa, where slave traders once reaped a rich harvest in "black gold," authorities are planning to erect a monument to Ulysses S. Grant, leader in the war that freed the American slaves, says a bulletin from the National Geographic society.

"According to dispatches from the Portuguese colony of Guinea, the revenue from its new stamp tax on bills of exchange will be used to honor Grant, in commemoration of his official recognition in 1870 of Portugal's possession of Bolama island. Today this island holds the capital and second port of the colony. Also named Bolama, the capital has a good natural harbor from which the colony ships much of its tropical produce of ground nuts and palm oil. Surrounded by French territory, Portuguese Guinea has a total population of about 350,000, including some 2,000 Europeans."

"During the early slave-trade operations along the Guinea coast one Fifteenth century expedition left the following record: 'It pleased God, rewarder of good deeds, to compensate the navigators for the many hardships undergone in His service, and to award them at last some triumph and glory for their sufferings, and compensation for their outlays, for they possessed themselves of 165 heads of men, women and children.'"

Motor Busses Now Use

Stage Coaches' Corral

FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS.—Sleek motor busses now run into the same corral here where dusty stage coaches once delivered passengers.

The corral was at the Nimitz hotel, a landmark on the western trail across Texas. Founded by a German sea captain, the hotel was built ship-shape. Its register, still preserved, shows that Gen. Robert E. Lee (then Lt. R. E. Lee, U. S. A.) was an occasional guest. O. Henry often alighted from the stage there.

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