

Work of Getting the Capitol Ready for Congress

When the Members Meet Tomorrow They Will See a Good Job of Housecleaning.

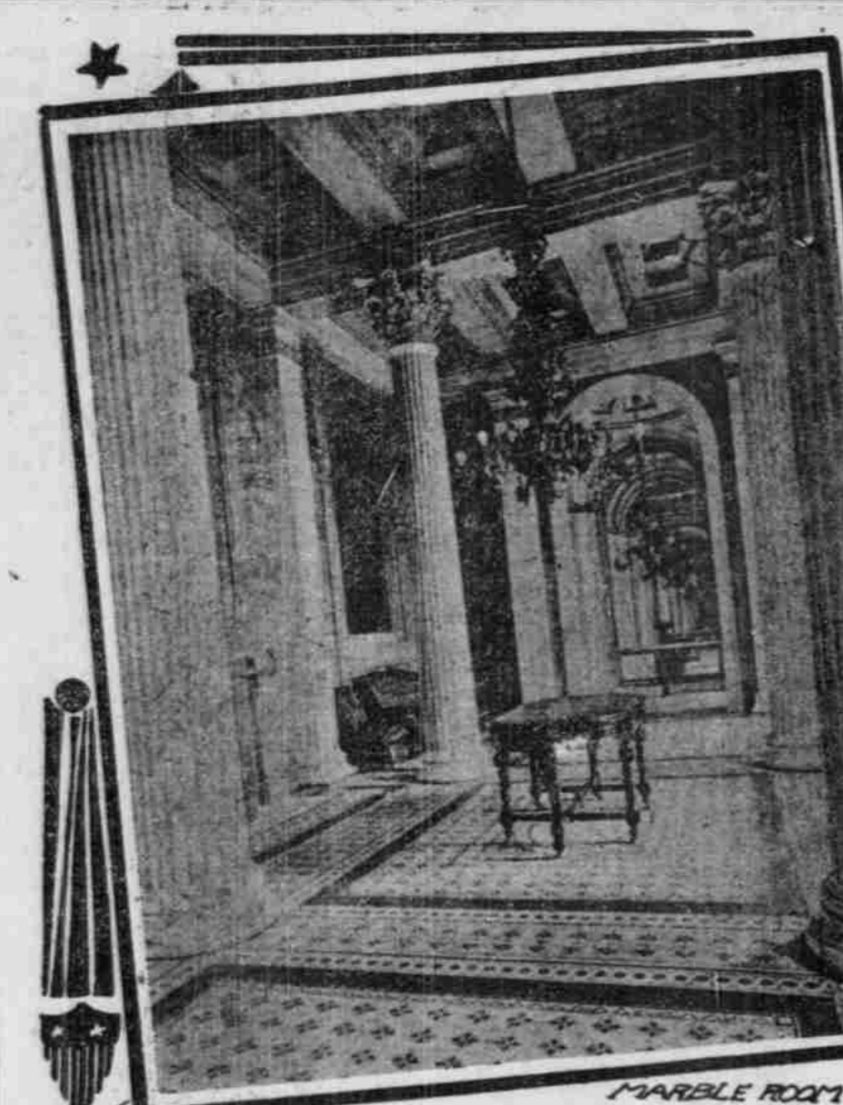
WHEN Congress assembles tomorrow the members will find their great marble workshop and paint can span as soap and water as they make it. The annual housecleaning at the United States Capitol has been unusually thorough this year and it is not too much to say that the great white-domed building at Washington is just now a little cleaner and more attractive than it has been at any previous time in history. The legislative headquarters is more modern, too, for many improvements have been made in the big structure since the National lawmakers went home, last Spring.

Few persons, not excepting the Senators and Representatives themselves, have any conception of what a herculean task it is to put the Capitol in apple-pie order for a session of Congress. The huge building has an area of more than 25 acres, and inasmuch as it is three stories in height there is an aggregate of more than ten acres of floors to be scrubbed. There are 436 separate rooms, the walls of which have to be cleaned and the woodwork touched up, to say nothing of the renovation of carpets and upholstered furniture, and during the past few weeks 28 apartments—all committee-rooms of good size—have been completely transformed, the work embracing the redecoration of walls and ceilings and refurnishing with new carpets and new mahogany furniture.

Let the average housewife try to imagine what it would mean to wash 700 windows each twice as large as any window in an ordinary house, and to clean the woodwork of 550 doors, and she may gain a slight conception of the immensity of housecleaning at the Nation's Capitol. And in addition there is more than an acre of glass skylights to be washed inside and out; 140 fireplaces to be set in order; 200 wash basins to be scoured and an infinite number of other tasks calculated to keep a large force of workers very busy for weeks before the date for the assembling of the legislators.

Better Food for Representatives.

One of the most important "improvements" which will be disclosed to the Representatives when they assemble tomorrow will be found in the restaurant. For several years past there has been a great hue and cry regarding the meals served to Congressmen. The manager of the restaurant, which is a private enterprise, endeavored to provide menus in keeping with the dignity of his distinguished patrons, and, owing to the wide fluctuation in patronage of "dull" and "busy" days, lost about \$3000 during the last session of Congress. The Representatives, on the other hand, were not at all satisfied with the food and the service, and threatened to have Congress conduct the restaurant. A committee of Congress wrestled with the mooted question this past Summer and have a solution which they believe will please everybody. Uncle Sam will not go into the restaurant business, the establishment remaining a private enterprise, but there will be abolition of the old-time elaborate repasts, and instead the Nation's lawmakers will have an opportunity to enjoy simple fare, well



MARBLE ROOM

cooked, such as is the delight of the Yankee business man, who must content himself with a "quick lunch."

When the members of Congress come back to work this week, after their long vacation, they will find that electricity to a greater extent than ever, king of the Capitol. The magic current plays the most important part in heating, lighting and ventilating the monster building and has lately enabled marvelous advances in the facilities for quick communication between the various parts of this official city under one roof. Just a hint of the conveniences afforded by the utilization of the 20th century power is found in the operation of the new electric bell system, which has been installed throughout the big building for the benefit of members temporarily absent from the floor while the legislative body is in session. By means of one or another of these 100 bells a lawmaker, no matter in what part of the building he may be, is warned when any important action is to be taken in the legislative chamber, so that it is his own fault if he does not vote on every measure which comes up.

The visitor to the Capitol under this new regime may be surprised to note the

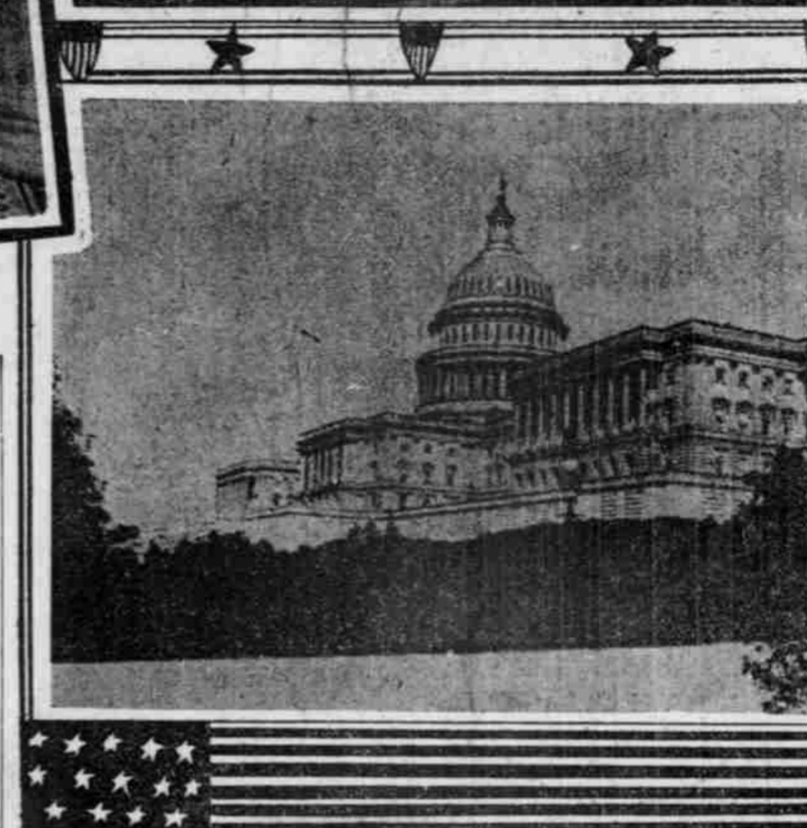
total absence of lighting fixtures, and yet the first suggestion of dual the chambers of the Senate and House of Representatives are flooded with light. More than 25,000 incandescent lamps, each of 15 candle power, tucked away in unobtrusive places, give the illumination. Similarly, not a single coil of steam pipe nor so much as one radiator is visible, and yet no person can ever complain of cold so long as he is within the walls of the huge pile on Capitol Hill. Finally, 75,000 cubic feet of fresh air is poured into the hall of the House and 25,000 cubic feet of clean atmosphere is forced into the Senate Chamber each minute, and yet the novel task is performed so scientifically that there is not the suggestion of a draught in any part of these vast rooms.

Equable Heating.

One of the innovations designed to help make comfortable the men who make our laws is an ingenious apparatus which enables the engineers deep down in the sub-basement of the Capitol to tell at a glance the temperature in any part of the big building. Thus if more heat is needed here or less heat is desirable there



U.S. CAPITOL AT THE PRESENT TIME



THE U.S. CAPITOL AS IT WILL APPEAR WHEN ENLARGED

the matter can be attended to before the Congressmen or their guests are conscious of any discomfort. With all the perfection of the heating, lighting and ventilation

ing plant as it now stands, still further improvements are being planned. Work will begin next Autumn on an enlarged power plant which, when completed, will furnish light, heat and ventilation not only for the Capitol, but also for the Congressional Library and the new office buildings now under construction for the Senate and the House of Representatives on sites adjoining the Capitol grounds.

In this betterment of things in general at the Capitol there has, as may be imagined, been no special effort for economy. The men in charge have gone on the theory that there can be nothing too good for a "billion-dollar Congress" and the men who, as the result of the recent election, are to come back to Congress after an absence of some years will be very likely to open their eyes in amazement. The 20th century Congressman sits in a chair that cost \$25, has his shoes shined free of charge at a bootblack stand that cost \$5; and is served with drinking water from coolers which cost \$36 apiece, and each of which will hold \$17 worth of mineral water. The Speaker of the House of Representatives has a private mahogany desk that cost \$120 and may rest on a leather couch for which Uncle Sam paid out \$30. There are 50 toilet-rooms in the Capitol, and 14 bath-rooms have been installed for the use of Congressmen. These tubs are all cut from blocks of solid marble, and are equipped with shower apparatus and other up-to-date adjuncts.

Enlarging the Capitol.

This coming session of Congress will in

all probability authorize an extension of the United States Capitol which will cost several million dollars and increase the size of the building fully one-third. Under the old conditions such an expansion of the already spacious structure would probably have appalled the men who are frequently called upon to communicate with widely separated points in Uncle Sam's biggest office building. Now they can regard the growth with serenity, for the Capitol has, all its own, as complete a telephone system as is to be found in the average city of 10,000 inhabitants, the exchange being connected with more than 300 telephones throughout the building.

Steps are also to be taken to give the Capitol a more efficient system of fire protection, for, whereas the massive structure is in its construction, well safeguarded against fire, its rooms contain vast quantities of records, books and documents of value which would be rapidly consumed were not means at hand for quickly extinguishing the flames. The provision of a modern fire department is all that is needed to make the Congressional community a little city in itself, for it already boasts of a police department that numbers more men than are on the payroll of the average small city; a postoffice that does a tremendous business, and an institution—the office of the Sergeant-at-Arms—which performs all the functions of a bank. When the new office buildings are completed the Capitol will also have its own underground railway system.

WALDON FAWCETT.

HETTY GREEN TALKS ABOUT MONEY-MAKING

Richest Woman in the World Tells Why She Desires to Pile Up More Wealth Till She Dies.

NEW YORK CITY, Nov. 25.—(Special Correspondence of The Sunday Oregonian.)—It was in the Chemical National Bank, on lower Broadway, that I had my second interview with the richest woman of the world. The first was held seven years ago, when Mrs. Hetty Green, in the midst of the hard times, was worth perhaps \$50,000,000. It was then estimated that her income was \$5000 a day, more than \$200 an hour, and more than \$2 every minute of every day and every night. Since then she has prospered with our prosperity, and what she is worth today no one but herself knows. I doubt if even she could tell off hand. She is so busy watching those who are trying to get what she has, and investing the surplus to make more, that she does not stop to take account of stock. She said to me today that she found it far easier to make money than to keep it, and that she kept on making because she liked the game and wanted to be in the thick of things. When I asked how long she would continue at it she replied just as long as the dear Lord gave her the mental and physical strength to do so.

In the Chemical National.

When I called by appointment at the bank today I was told to present my card at the last window in the brass network which walled the customers out of the millions behind. I did so, and thereby disturbed Mrs. Green's confidential clerk, who was busy tearing off coupons by means of a little steel square, a miniature of that used by a carpenter. He fitted the square so that the coupon lay in the inner right angle, and jerked it off as though it were waste paper. Instead of a green bank worth many dollars, he was working faster than the crack typewriter girl in the civil service who writes 25,000 words a day when I handed him my card. He showed the bonds aside like so much straw, and took it to Mrs. Green. A moment later he returned with a reply that I should go into the second office at the right, and that Mrs. Green would be with me in a moment. I went and waited. The office was not bigger than a hall bedroom, and its only furniture was a desk and two plain bent-wood chairs worth a dollar apiece. I took one of these, and within a few minutes Mrs. Green entered, and after shaking my hand, took the other. She began to talk at once, and for an hour, in answer to my questions, chatted most interestingly about the business woman and women in business.

Hetty Green's Business Training.

The world has a wrong idea of Mrs. Hetty Green. She has been represented as illiterate. She is not. She comes of a very rich family. Her father, grandfather and great grandfather were all among the rich men of this country. She was raised in the lap of luxury; her home had 22 rooms and two bathrooms. She was well educated and can speak several languages. She got some of her schooling in Boston, where she was taught by a relative of James Russell Lowell. She was a noted social figure during her young ladyhood, and was celebrated as a dancer and as a horseback rider. She had all the athletic tendencies, in fact, of the present twentieth-century girl. She traveled in Europe, and after her grandfather's death lived for a half-dozen years in London, while her father was operating in stocks and bonds of that country and this.

Indeed, Mrs. Green may be said to have had the disadvantages of wealth toward becoming a practical business woman. What saved her was her

grandfather's poor health and poor eyesight, which were succeeded by similar weaknesses on the part of her father. She read the papers to her grandfather, and especially the financial news and the stock reports. She sometimes acted as his confidential clerk, writing his letters for him and attending to some of his business. He was a man of many investments, and he told Hetty what was good and why.

She learned the fluctuations of the markets, and at 15 knew all about bulls and bears, and much better, then, she thinks, than many a man who is operating in Wall street today. She did the same work for her father, both in this country and in Europe, so that when her father died she was ready to manage for herself the property she inherited. Her father left altogether seven or eight millions, and of this Miss Hetty received one million. There was a law suit begun shortly after as to the settlement of the estate. Hetty Green thought then, and thinks still, that the lawyers and others have been trying to defraud the heirs, and she has been fighting that suit from that day until now.

The Business Training of Girls.

During our talk I asked her whether she thought that girls should have business education. She replied: "I do. Every girl should be taught the ordinary lines of business investment. This is especially so if she is likely to defraud the heirs, and she has been fighting that suit from that day until now."

How Widows Can Learn to Invest.

"But suppose a woman has no such training," said I. "Suppose her father or husband left her something, more or less, how can she go about to make the most of it? Suppose it is only \$5000 or \$10,000, or perhaps a million, what can she do?"

"For a large sum," said Mrs. Green, "there is nothing better for such a woman than Government bonds, and after that good mortgages. I invested the greater part of my inheritance in Government bonds and Rock Island Railroad stock. Government bonds at the present market value bring but a low rate of interest, but they are absolutely safe, and for the woman who has enough money to bring her a living income from them they are best."

Don't Want a Woman President.

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"But do not women have an equal chance with men in business?"

"No they do not. I could have succeeded much easier in my career had I been a man. I find men will take advantages of women in business that the courts not attempt with men. I found this so in the courts, where I have been fighting men all my life. It is difficult to get lawyers upon whom one can depend, and although I have a great respect for our Judges, it seems to me that the woman sometimes has the odds against her with them. I don't want to say anything against lawyers or judges. I respect both, and especially the latter, although I can't say I like religious lawyers, such as my friend Joseph Choate, and although I have a great respect for many a tit with him, and I shall probably have more before I die."

Advice to Judge Gresham.

"Yes," continued Mrs. Green, "I have a great respect for Judges. I think an honest Judge is the noblest work of God, and it seems to me a high position on the bench is more to be desired than the Presidency of the United States. In fact, I told Judge Walter Q. Gresham that once, I had a case before him in Chicago. You must remember him. He was Secretary of State in Cleveland's

administration, and he was spoken of as a possible candidate for the Presidency. It was at that time that I met him in his private office and said to him: 'Judge Gresham, you are a fool to let the Presidential bee get into your bonnet. The man who is stung by it never recovers; and the place you have today is higher than that of the White House. Your decisions here are independent. If you become President you will be bossed by Congress or you will get into trouble. I advise you to shoot that bee out of your bonnet.'

"I don't think Judge Gresham liked it very well," continued Mrs. Green. "He rather frowned as I spoke, and when he accompanied me to the door and I went out he slammed the door. I had to pass through another door before I got to the hall, and I slammed that door twice as hard as he slammed his, to show him there was no doubt of my opinion."

"Mrs. Green," said I, "you have made more money by your individual brains than any woman since time began. You have made millions. Some people believe that one cannot make a million dollars honestly."

"That is a ridiculous idea," replied the great woman financier. "I have made a million several times, and I have never done a dishonest act in my whole life. I have never intentionally wronged one poor person and I have helped thousands. No! I do my work in the fear of the Lord, and I believe that the good Lord has blessed me in the success I have had. Why, do you suppose I could have gone through all my troubles if the good Lord had not helped me? I can see his work all along the lines of my life. He is helping me now. I have learned to trust him and do not worry about small things."

The Business Woman a Permanency.

"Are not our women learning more about business every year, Mrs. Green? The modern business woman is a 20th century product. Has she come to stay?"

"Yes. The world of today could get along without its business women. They are rapidly taking the place of men as bookkeepers, stenographers and typewriters; they act as cashiers in many of the stores, and new fields are steadily opening. I believe that women will do more and more as time goes on. Nevertheless, it seems to me that the sphere of woman is home, and that her most important duties are those of wife and mother. Every girl should be taught that, although she should at the same time have her business education. There is no reason why the married woman should not also be a business woman."

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HETTY GREEN IN 1904. —Photo by Hollinger.

WINTER ECZEMA

Gentlemen—I suffered with Eczema on the hands and face for over a year. It was not only annoying and painful, but very unsightly, and I disliked to go out in the streets. I tried at least a dozen soaps and salves, which did me absolutely no good, and became very much discouraged, until I read in the papers of the cures performed through the use of S. S. S., and determined to give it a month's trial at least. I am pleased to state that I soon noticed a slight improvement, sufficient to decide me to keep it up. After the use of six bottles my skin was as soft and smooth as an infant's. This was a year ago, and I have never had any trouble since. Miss GENEVA BRIGGS, 215 S. Seventh Street, Minneapolis, Minn.

I tried doctor's medicines, salves, washes and all kinds of local applications, treating Eczema of long standing, but with only temporary relief. The itching and burning from Eczema was more than I can describe. Many nights I was unable to sleep on account of the awful itching. Seeing S. S. S. advertised I began its use, and after taking it for some time the dry eczematous eruptions disappeared and I was entirely relieved of this awful itching and burning. It was a boon to Eczema sufferers and I can conscientiously recommend it to them, believing confidently that a permanent cure will be effected in all such cases where it is taken according to directions.

—URBANA, OHIO, R. F. D. No. 1. C. ORRO.

strong and healthy again. S. S. S. is a purely vegetable remedy, and therefore cures this disease safely as well as surely, and from a condition of torture the patient is brought to one of healthful pleasure. Book on Skin Diseases mailed free, and our physicians will give advice, without charge, to all sufferers.

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