



EXECUTIVE SECTION OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

View from top of Washington Monument, showing site now under condemnation for \$5,000,000 building for State, Justice and Commerce and Labor departments. The white line incloses a rectangle of five squares, bounded by Pennsylvania avenue on the north, 14th street on the east, the Mall on the south, and 15th street on the west.

1, new Municipal Building, opened July 4, 1908; 2, Sherman Statue; 3, the Treasury; 4, the White House; 5, State, War and Navy Departments; 6, Corcoran Gallery of Art.

CAPITOL'S BUSIEST MAN.

Multifarious Activities of Elliott Woods, Its Superintendent.

Washington, Aug. 8.—"I do not know how Elliott Woods could be overworked unless he was hitched double with a mule." "Uncle Joe" Cannon recently remarked of the superintendent of the Capitol, recognized as the busiest man in Washington. Woods is heels over head in work every winter, but it is in the hottest part of the summer that his energy has the most strenuous calls made upon it, so that everything may be in shape for the reconvening of Congress and that all the plans made by the national legislators may be faithfully carried out.

Woods has four separate offices and fills at least fifteen places, all of which have responsibilities and require his official attention. His engagement book is more voluminous and comprehensive than that of the most popular debutante. First of all, he is in charge of the whole Capitol and the new office buildings of the Senate and House. He belongs to all the commissions appointed by Congress to look after the selection of sites and construction of monuments and memorials. He is engaged in drawing up the plans for the proposed Lincoln memorial, the plans for the new buildings for the departments of State, Justice and Commerce and Labor, and he is also working on the design for the new pediment to be placed on the west wing of the Capitol. Besides, he is the superintendent in charge of the installation of the underground railroad from the Capitol to the various office buildings, and he also has to decide what sort of contrivance shall be used to make it possible for members of the House seated in their offices to hear all that is being said on the floor of the House.

It is Woods who is responsible for the greenness and freshness of the Capitol lawns and terraces; he is the author of all improvements inside the building; he is at the head of the work on the new heating, lighting and power plant, which will cost \$1,500,000, and he is also in charge of the work on the \$200,000 addition to the District of Columbia courthouse. All these things he does with the greatest modesty and good humor. He never loses his temper, is never too busy to greet a friend or answer a curious observer, and he never makes remarks about the hot weather, although much of his time is spent in the broiling sun and on the softened asphalt.

He is an early riser, of necessity rather than inclination. A cup of coffee about 6 o'clock is his breakfast, and there immediately ensues a mad rush for his first office, which is in a building by itself to the south of the Capitol. He used to drive horses on his daily rounds, but the beasts were not endowed with his energy, so they have long since been replaced by an automobile which usually exceeds the speed limit some miles. After he has heard the early morning complaints, read all the mail and given his daily orders to the assistants at his first office, he visits his "den" in the House office building. There he hurries the completion of that splendid structure and betakes himself to his third headquarters in the Senate office building. His fourth stop is his main office in the Capitol. He reaches here about 1 o'clock, after a morning which has sped all too rapidly. Some time

between 1 and 2 o'clock, when he has a spare five minutes, he eats luncheon. He does not attempt predigested foods, but eats five minutes' worth and then stops.

The rest of the day he is supervising the work that is going on about him, talking to the numerous visitors that besiege him, being nice to foreign architects who view the Capitol and making his plans for the next day. After a good dinner his chief recreation is music. He has composed some creditable strains and hopes to have a complete opera of his own produced next winter. The piano is his forte, but he plays the violin and several other instruments with sure facility. He has his own wireless telegraph station on top of Capitol Hill, and amuses himself by keeping in touch with all the naval stations on the Atlantic Coast as well as chatting with ships at sea. Woods is six feet tall and carries proper flesh for his height. He looks to be about thirty years old, but was actually assistant to the architect of the Capitol nearly that long.

When all the improvements that are contemplated in Washington are completed he will cease to be the hardest worked man here, but

that will not be until after he is dead and gone.

PARABLE FOR SUFFRAGETTES.

Mrs. Humphry Ward is against votes for women. At a luncheon of suffragettes in New York, by means of a parable, she pointed out her belief that the immediate home circle, not the distant polling booth or Senate chamber, was the true feminine sphere of usefulness. She said an aged Scot told his minister that he was going to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

"And whiles I'm there," said the pilgrim, complacently, "I'll read the Ten Commandments aloud frae the top o' Mount Sinai."

"Saunders," said the minister, "tak' my advice. Bide at hame and keep them."

AMAZONS.

General F. D. Grant, at a dinner party in New York, said humorously of the emancipation of woman:

"Suppose, though, women should have to go to war. I don't think they would make very good soldiers. For one thing, they would never grow old enough to be placed on the retired list."

BEAUTIFYING CAPITAL.

Departments Now Scattered To Be Near the White House.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Aug. 6.—Rapid progress has been made in the systematic beautification of Washington in the last five years in accordance with the plans of the Burnham commission, which involve an ultimate expenditure of \$50,000,000, of which nearly one-half has already been devoted to enhancing the aspect of several sections of the national capital. The splendid railway terminal, inferior to none on the globe; the huge Senate and House office buildings, second in importance only to the Capitol itself, with which they form an unsurpassed architectural group; the huge National Museum and the Department of Agriculture near by in the Mall, and the superb Library of Congress, at last give definition of the comprehensive project for making the city that belongs to the whole country worthy of a great, progressive people.

Within a few years from now Washington's chief slums, in the triangular tract from the Capitol to the Treasury, lying between Pennsylvania avenue and the Mall, will have given way to a chain of parks surrounding notable public buildings. The Postoffice and the Municipal Building have already risen in this section, and Congress at its last session appropriated \$2,500,000 for acquiring another huge slice, upon which is to be erected a group of structures for the Departments of State, Justice and Commerce and Labor. The private owners of this property having failed to offer their holdings at reasonable prices, condemnation proceedings have been promptly instituted, and within another year it is hoped one of the glaring eyesores of the city, only a few hundred yards from the White House, will be obliterated.

The expenditures now being judiciously made by the government will result in a vast annual saving of money, for the executive departments are now paying such extortionate rentals for office quarters that the new buildings will save their own cost within a decade.

For many years the State Department has been housed in the smallest corner of the edifice known as the State, War and Navy Building, although the two military arms of the government have gradually encroached on the State Department until there is hardly space for an additional employe and little left but the name. Even some of the more important officials are compelled to transact delicate international matters within earshot of half a dozen persons, while the clerical force is actually without elbow room. The congestion also affects the War and Navy departments, which have overflowed into a number of rented buildings, and both of these will welcome the day that Secretary Root, with the valuable archives, and assistants go to a home of their own.

"That was a strange fish story Brown told."
"What was it?"
"He said that the fish that got away was the smallest one of the lot."—Detroit Free Press.



ELLIOTT WOODS, Superintendent of the Capitol.

ORIENTAL RUGS & CARPETS
Washed, Cleaned, Repaired and Stored.
MICHAELIAN BROS. & CO.
Tel. 5073 Madison. 297 FIFTH AVE.