

Inaugural Visitors Will Find That Eight Years Have Greatly Changed the Face of Washington

By BARBARA DUBIVSKY

WASHINGTON—Republicans returning here after an eight-year Executive sabbatical will find the nation's capital much changed since they last met to inaugurate a President of their own. As they gather on the banks of the Potomac to await the historic moment at high noon on Monday, Jan. 20, the party faithful may benefit by beginning their re-entry process just as the First Family-elect did—with an orientation or sightseeing program.

During his first post-election tour of the White House West Wing, President-elect Nixon discovered, to his dismay, that the office he had planned to assign to Vice President-elect Agnew had long since been partitioned in two. Run-of-the-party Republicans are in for more pleasant surprises.

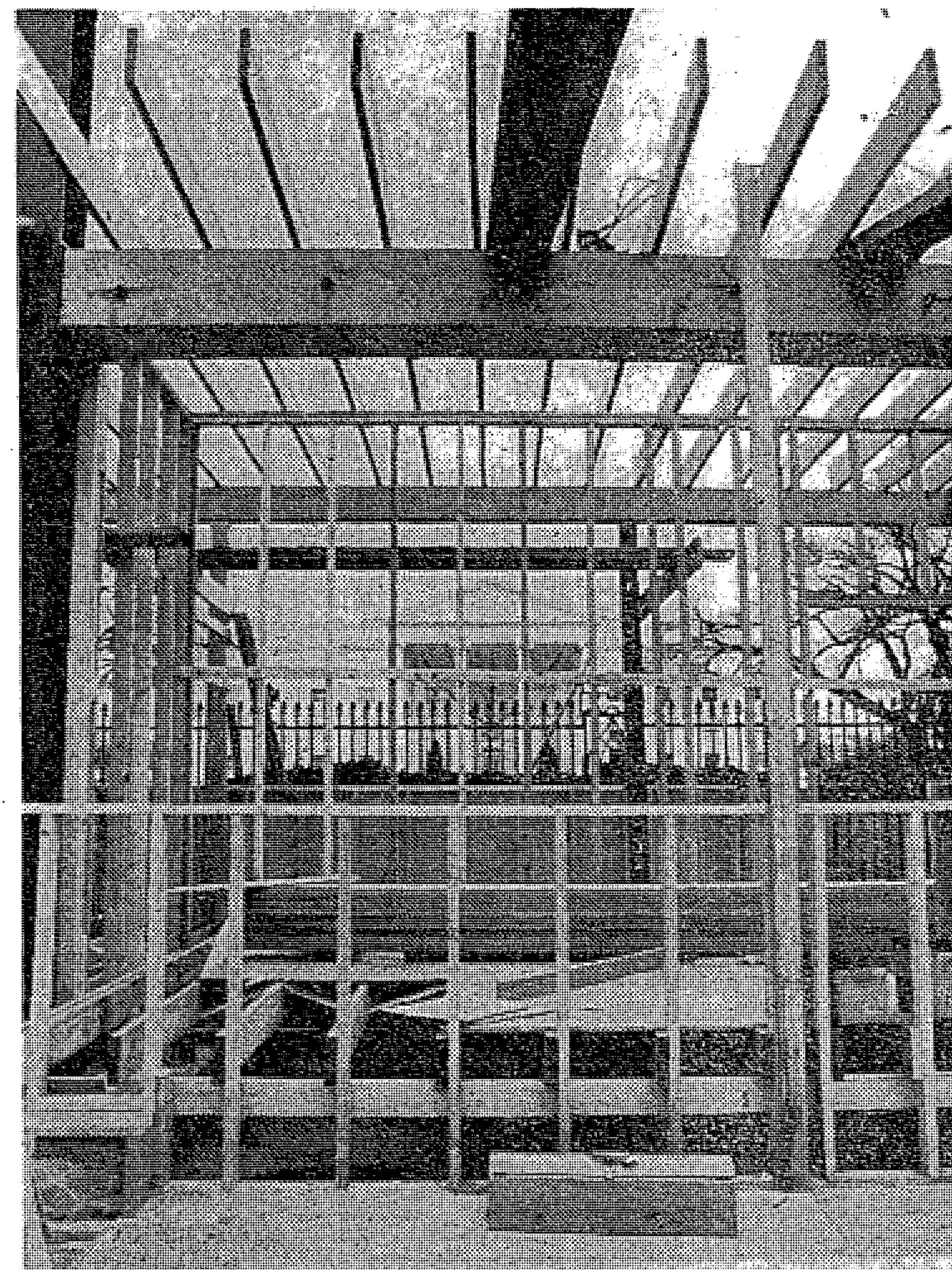
In between galas, concerts, parades and balls, and while they sit out the more important receptions to which only their upper echelons are invited, they can easily investigate that which is new and of interest in Washington. Much of it is within walking distance of the inaugural activities.

Democrats' Contribution

However else one may rate the departing Democrats, they do deserve high marks for sprucing up the capital. They dotted it with new Federal office buildings (some architecturally more successful than others), preserved and restored a creditable number of historic buildings and residences and added new parks and fountains.

The installation of information kiosks at busy tourist centers has been a special boon for visitors. The National Park Service keeps two open the year round, and both are conveniently situated for inaugural visitors. One is on the grounds of the Washington Monument, and the other is on 15th Street, between Constitution and Independence Avenues.

Best of all, Pennsylvania Avenue, the nation's most famous ceremonial route,



FRONT SEATS—Reviewing stand rises opposite the White House.

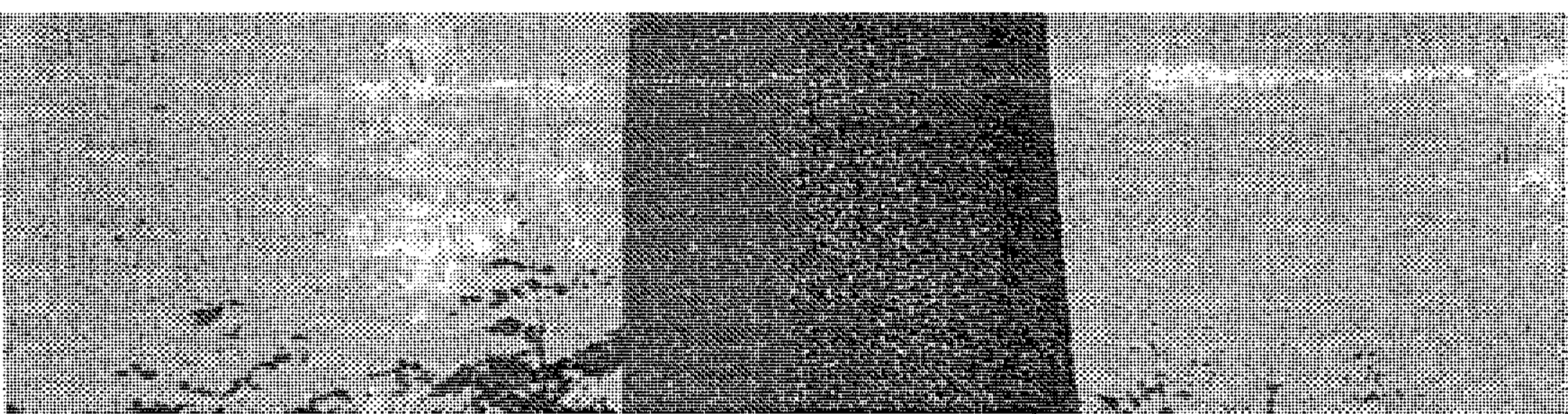
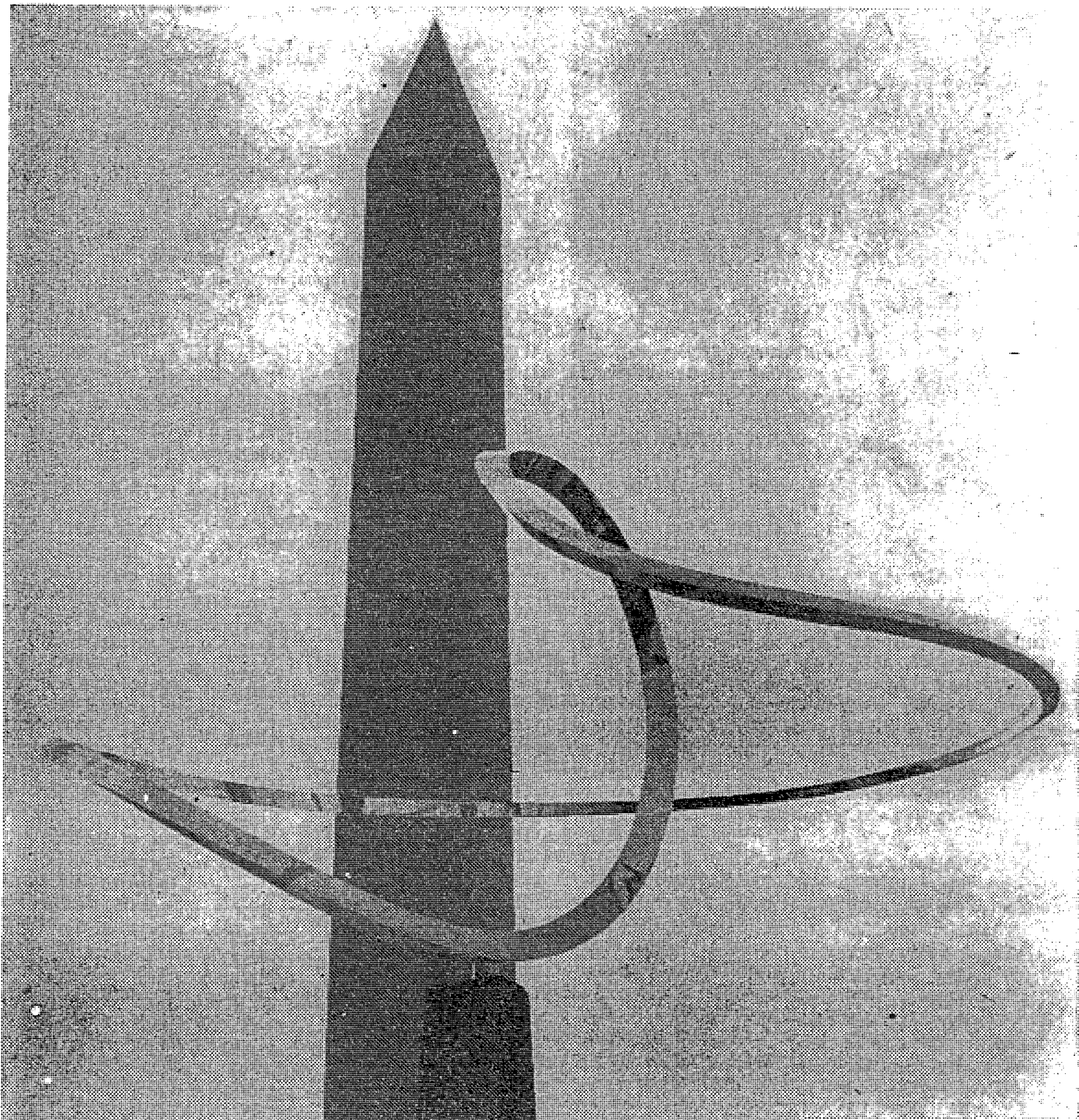
is finally having, its face lifted after long enduring ramshackle buildings and unsightly shops. The replacement structures, which will include a super-sized new home for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, are being set back 50 feet so as not to dominate the avenue and to provide room for pedestrian traffic.

The shining marble splendor of the Smithsonian Museum of History and Technology, on Constitution Avenue be-

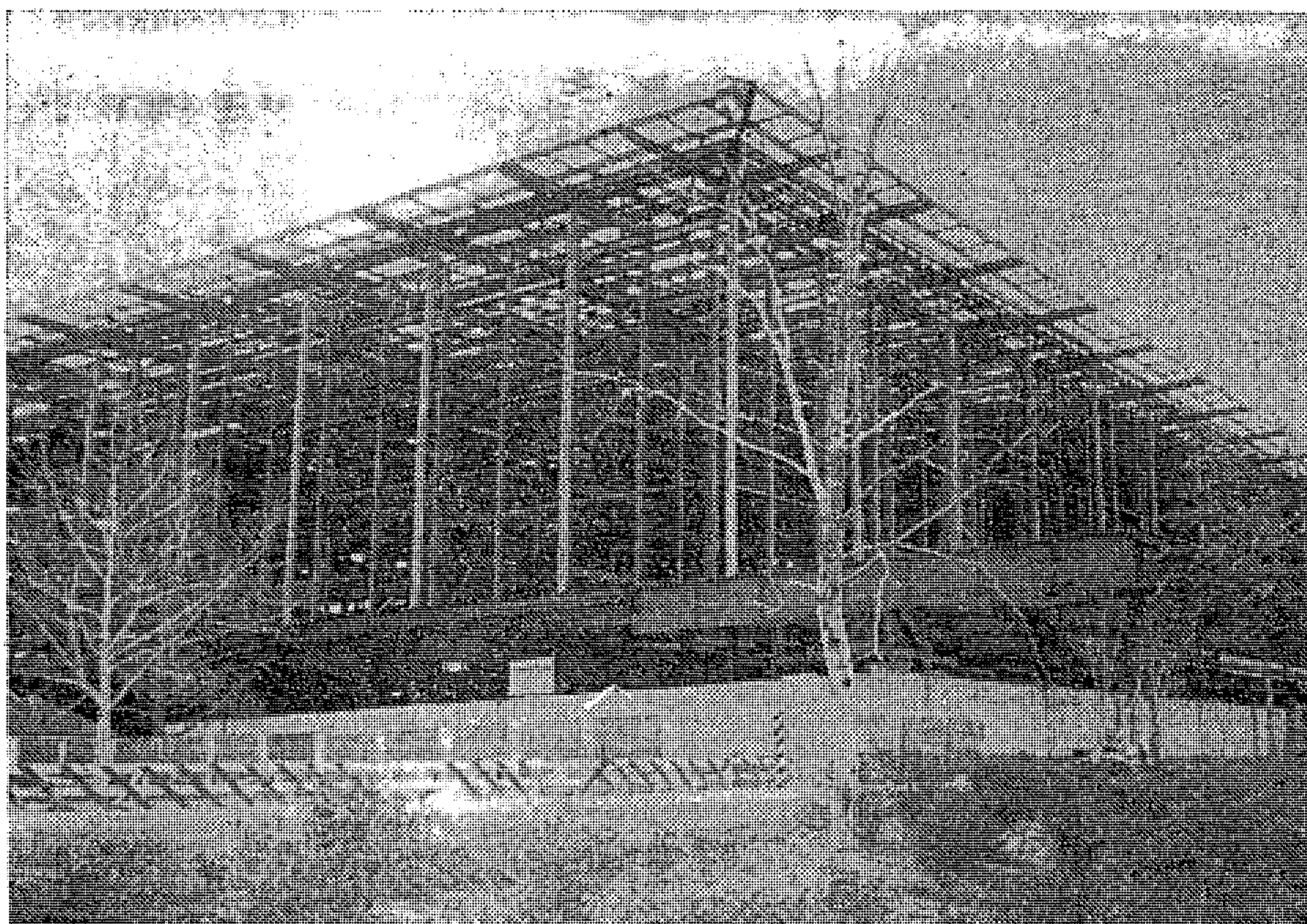
tween 12th and 14th Streets, should be on the list of every inaugural visitor. It was opened early in the Johnson Administration, and it has been a prime tourist attraction ever since.

A special exhibit opening Wednesday recalls past and present inaugural ceremonies with such memorabilia as the balcony rail from New York City's Federal Hall, where Washington took his oath of office; Grant's inaugural

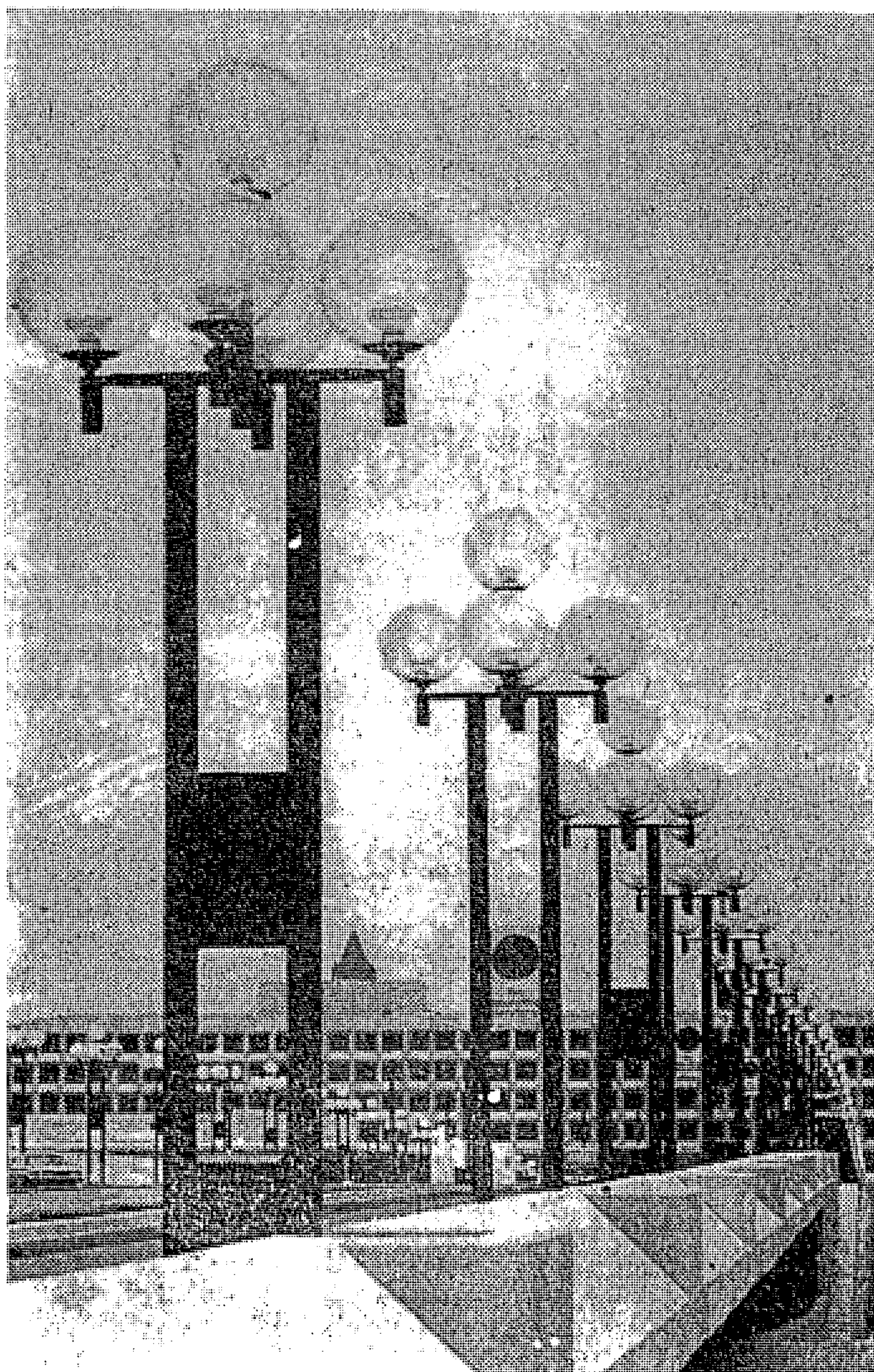
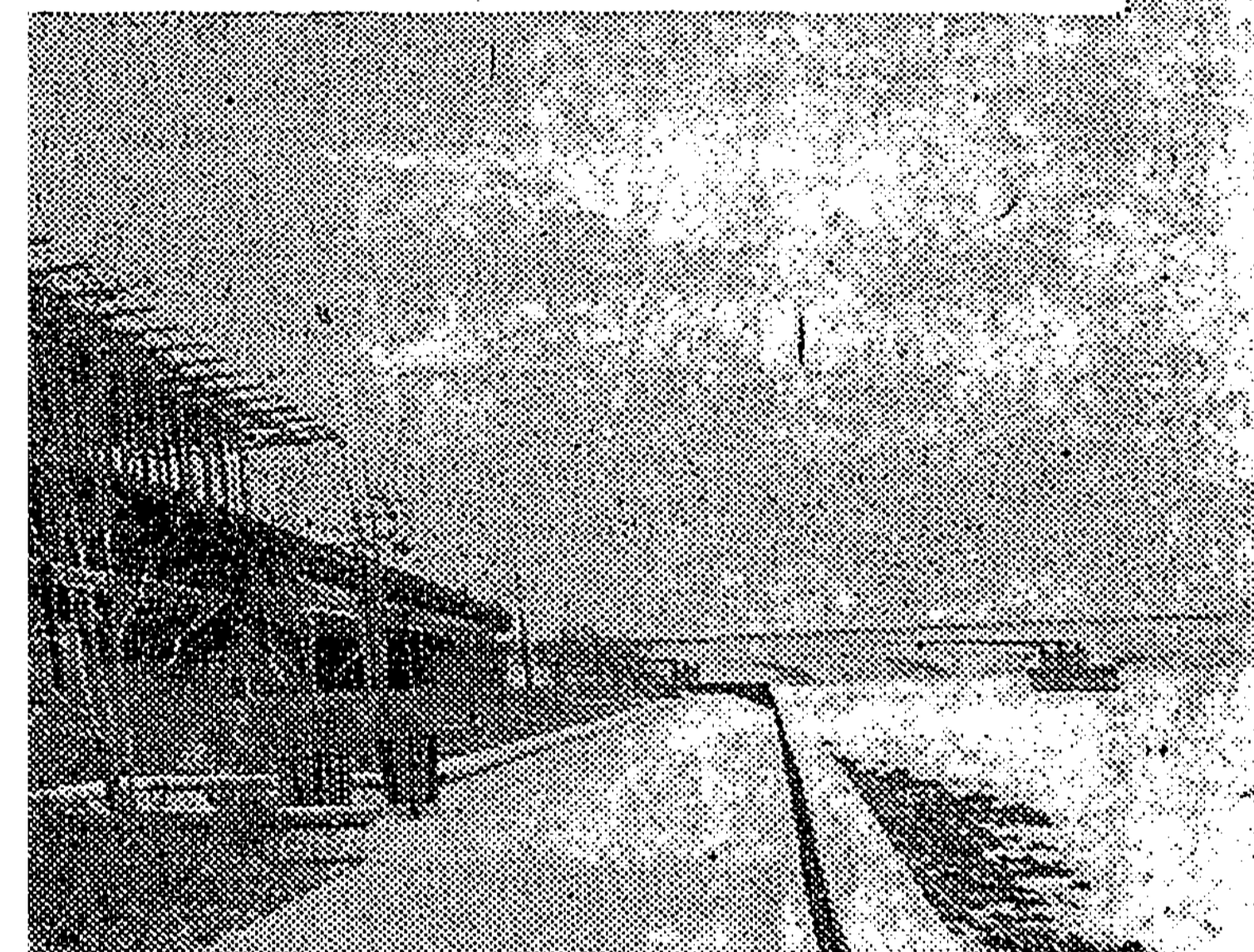
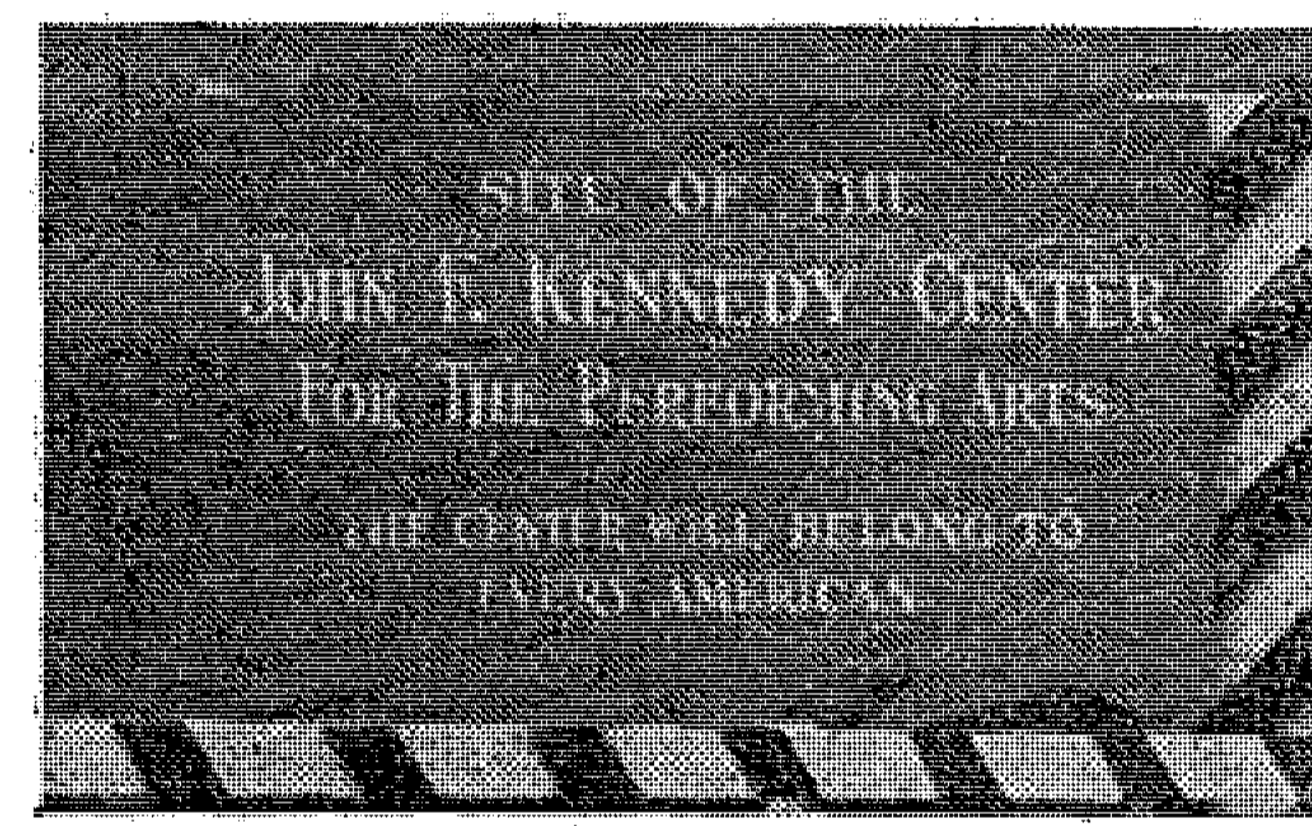
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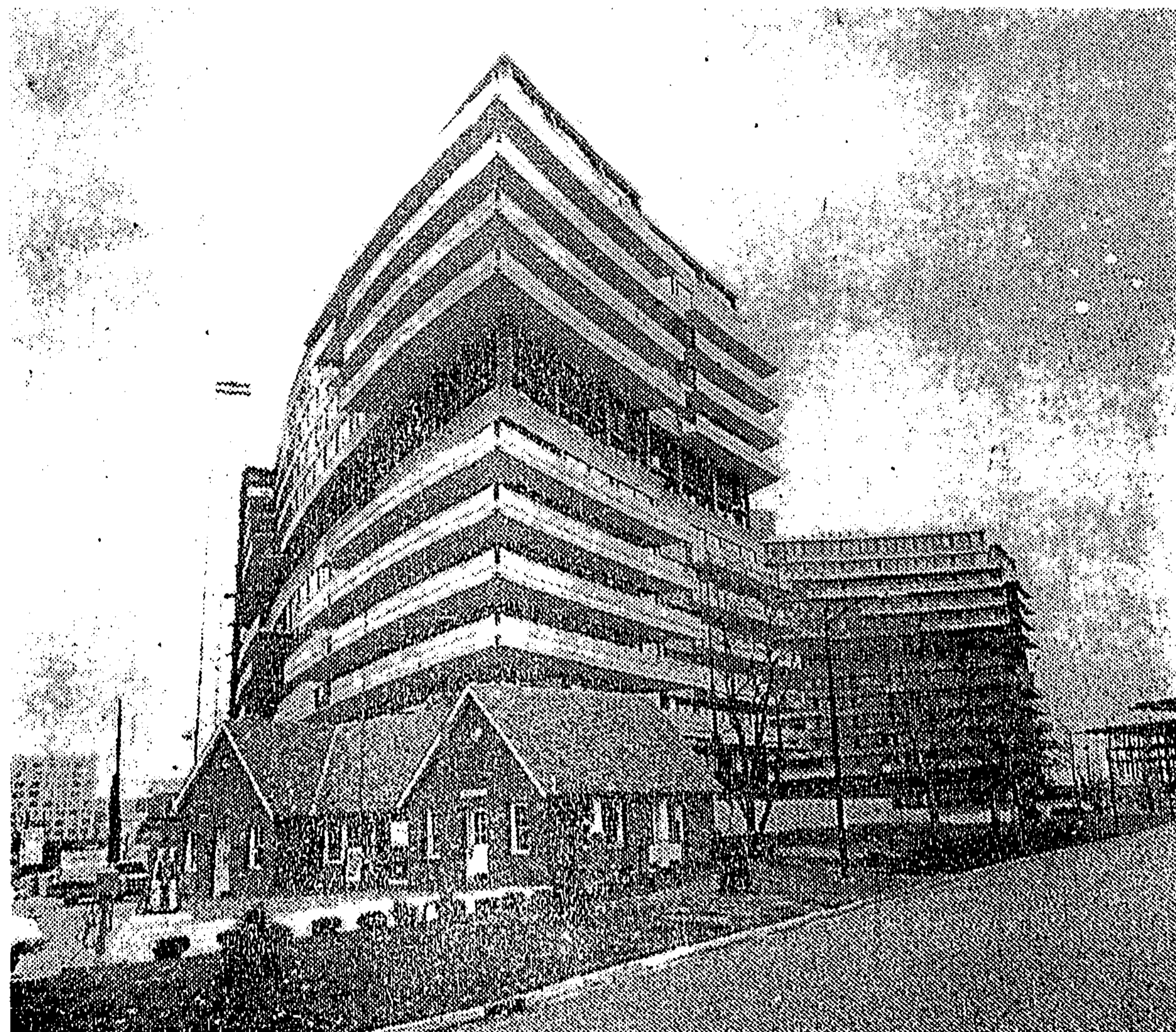
ABSTRACT—José de Rivera's motion symbol on South Plaza of the Museum of History and Technology revolves every six minutes, tracing figure eights against the silhouetted Washington Monument.



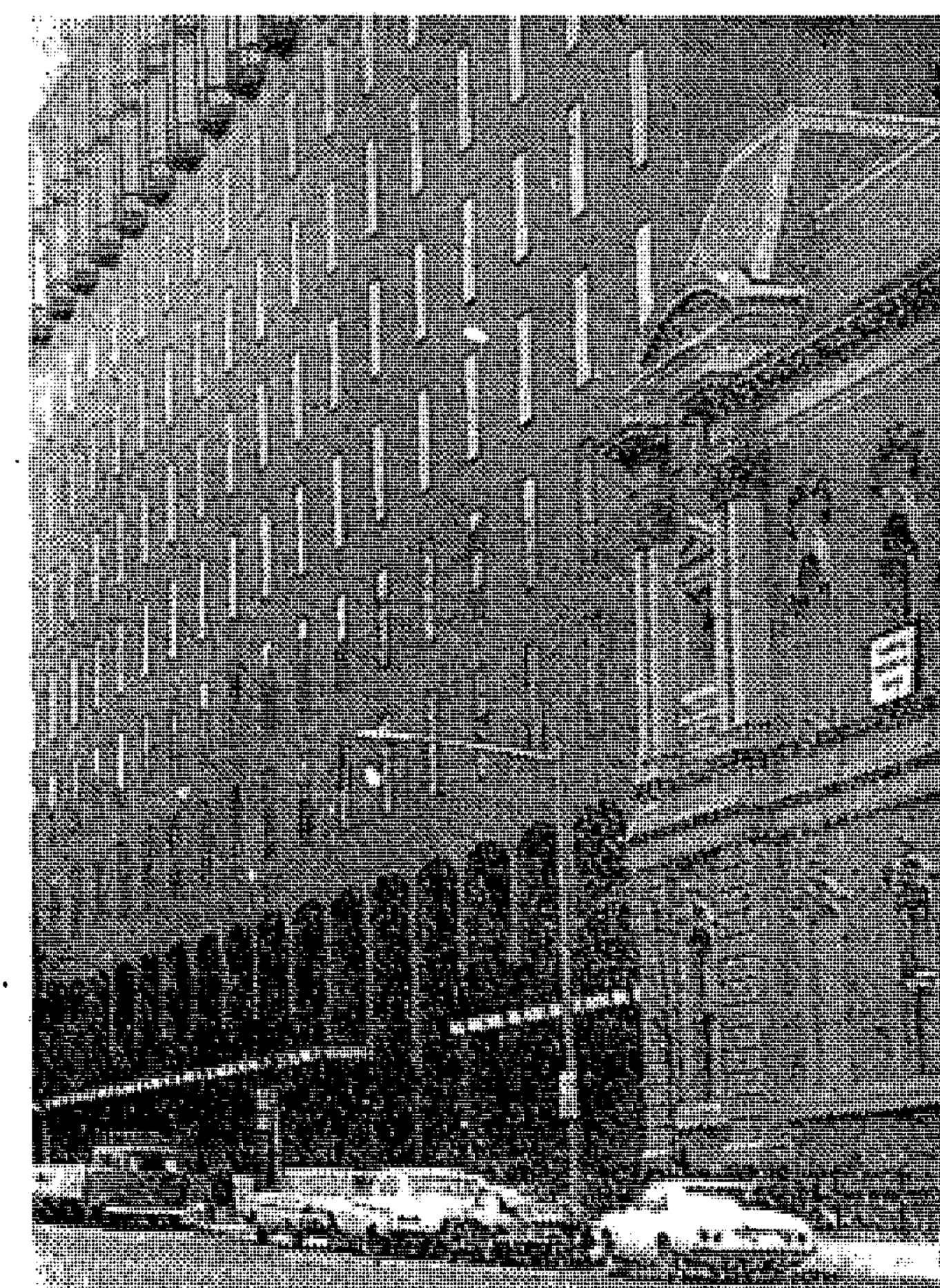
CULTURAL COMPLEX—The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts now under construction on bank of the Potomac River.



L'ENFANT PLAZA—Private development is named for Pierre Charles L'Enfant, French architect who designed the nation's capital. It will have office buildings, underground shops, fountains, a theater.



BOLD DESIGN—Watergate Apartments, a luxury cooperative development, is owned by Roman Catholic Church.



NEW AND OLD—Federal Office Building No. 7, on Jackson Place, stands next to the former Court of Claims, once the Corcoran Gallery and soon to be the Renwick Museum. Office Building No. 7 is the site of President-elect Nixon's transition offices.

Changed Face of Washington Awaits Visitors to Inaugural

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carriage; silent movies of inaugurations from McKinley's through Coolidge's; Eisenhower's original copy of the precedent-setting prayer he addressed to the nation he was about to govern, and the "No. 1" Inaugural License Plate issued to Mr. Nixon.

Loyal Republicans seeking inaugural memorabilia of their own can purchase higher-numbered versions of the special plates—they are sanctioned for use in metropolitan Washington through midnight, Jan. 31—at Inaugural Headquarters, 440 G Street, Northwest. They cost \$10.

The official Inaugural Medal, with a likeness of Mr. Nixon on one side and a reproduction of the crewel-embroidered Presidential Seal that Julie Nixon made for her father on the other, is available in bronze for \$6 and in silver for \$45. They can be purchased at Inaugural Headquarters and several other locations.

Inaugural Gowns

The whole panoply of American female fashions—hoopskirts, bustles, flapper skirts—is on permanent exhibit in the First Ladies Hall in the Museum of History and Technology. Mannequins representing wives or official hostesses of all the Presidents display the actual gowns worn by these women at inaugural festivities, with the backgrounds befitting the occasion.

Elsewhere in the museum, a comprehensive collection of all that has contributed to the growth of the United States is artfully exhibited—from covered wagons to locomotives, from spin-

ning wheels to textile looms and from abacuses to electronic computers.

On the Museum's South Plaza, José de Rivera's pretzel-shaped motion symbol is representative of the exciting modernistic sculpture that some day may replace the city's morass of Civil War statuary. Wrought in highly polished stainless steel, Mr. de Rivera's curvilinear abstract sculpture revolves every six minutes, tracing shimmering figure eights in the air.

Restored Theater

Ford's Theater, where John Wilkes Booth shot President Lincoln, has been totally restored in authentic period reconstruction, and its stage has been rebuilt for live performances. Lincoln was the most stagestruck of all the Presidents, having gone to the theater at least twice a week.

The theater, at 511 10th Street, Northwest, is open every day from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. In its basement is a small museum of memorabilia of Lincoln's early days. Across the street is the Peterson House, where Lincoln died.

Washington's two newest government museums, the National Portrait Gallery and the National Collection of Fine Arts, are housed in one of the city's handsomest and oldest structures. The museums are open to the public daily, except Mondays, from 9 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

The two museums are situated in the Old Patent Office, a splendid two-block building in the Greek Revival style that was saved from the wrecker's ball at almost the last moment. The eight acres of floor space have been divided into



PERIOD PIECE—Poster outside Ford's Theater in capital retains flavor of the 1860's.

21 exhibit areas, and an inner courtyard, which will be an outdoor sculpture garden, already boasts several pieces. These include Alexander Calder's "Nenuphar," a commanding black metal composition

The National Portrait Gallery, housed on the F Street side of the building, tells this country's history through paintings and busts of the men and women who made significant contributions to its development. Most of the likenesses are more important for their history than their art, but almost all convey a strong feeling of personality.

Of special interest at this time is the

Presidential Gallery. There, one can see not one, but two Gilbert Stuart portraits of George Washington. Surprisingly, Presidents Grant and Eisenhower are depicted in military uniforms. Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, staunch friends who died within a few hours of each other, are represented by the portraits that each commissioned of the other while both were living in London.

A controversial portrait of President Johnson will soon replace one of John F. Kennedy in a special octagonal Presidential alcove. Sometime in February, the gallery will hang the Peter Hurd portrait, which the artist donated to the gallery after Mr. Johnson reportedly had described it as "the ugliest thing" he had ever seen.

The galleries off the Presidential corridor house a fascinating show based on the diversity in the national character. "This New Man," the American, is shown as Rugged Individualist (Henry Ford, among others), Altruist (Clara Barton, who was a nurse in the building when it was a wartime hospital), Lawmaker (Daniel Webster), Idol (Babe Ruth, Jean Harlow and John L. Sullivan), Rebel and Non-Conformist (Eugene V. Debs, H. L. Mencken, Jefferson Davis), Inventor and Innovator (Eli Whitney) and Frontiersman and Expansionist (Daniel Boone).

Elegant Backdrops

In the National Collection of Fine Arts side of the building, large velvet "walls" section off the Lincoln Gallery. The "walls" mask the room's splendid proportions somewhat, but they provide elegant backdrops for more than 200 years of American art, from pre-Revolutionary War days to the present.

On view are works by artists such as Childe Hassam, James McNeill Whistler, Winslow Homer, Mary Cassatt, Ben Shahn and John Marin.

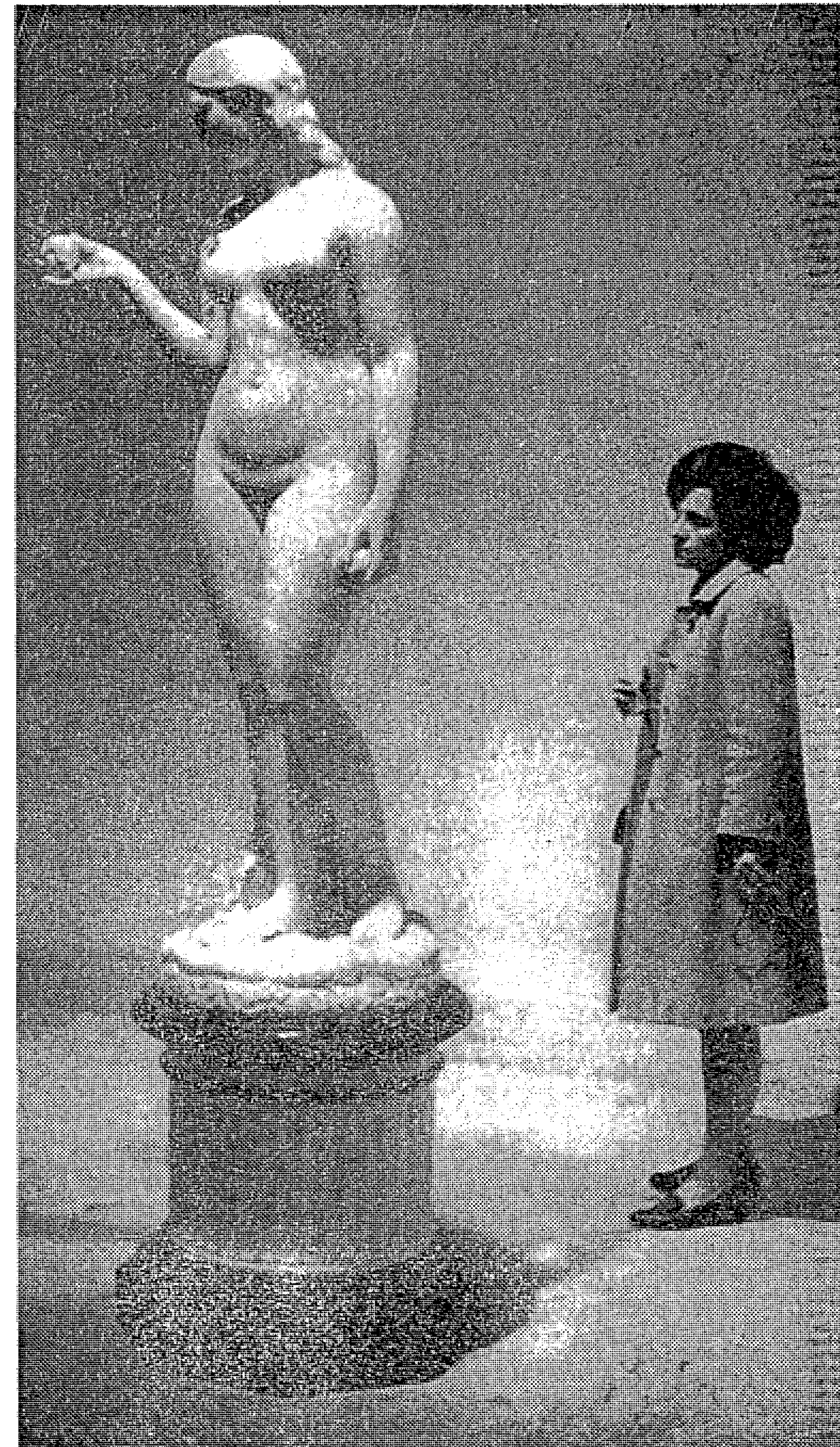
Among the more successful attempts at historic preservation in recent years was the saving of the 19th-century row houses on the east and west sides of Lafayette Park. The buildings had been threatened by the urgent need for additional Federal offices easily accessible to the White House, across the street. The flavor of the period was retained by placing the necessary red-brick, high-rise buildings behind the existing houses, where Dolley Madison, Stephen Decatur and other notables once lived.

Decatur House, believed to be the first residence on the square, was built by the naval hero with prize money gained along the Barbary Coast. Restored in late 1967 and then reopened to the public, its reception rooms are made available, under the terms of its last owner's will, to entertain distinguished visitors.

Controlled Atmosphere

Republicans with children in their party can effectively distract them for hours at the National Zoo, where even adults enjoy visiting the fabulous Bird House. There, one walks through a free-flight room as 40 species of birds flutter about in a controlled atmosphere that puts no barriers between birds and humans.

Twice a day, a fine mist of "rain forest" is released from jets in the ceiling; this provides a refreshing shower



"EVE TEMPTED"—Marble statue is part of National Collection of Fine Arts housed in the Old Patent Office in the nation's capital.

for the pampered inhabitants of what has been dubbed the "Cuckoo Hilton."

At the Washington National Cathedral (Episcopalian), whose cornerstone was laid by President Theodore Roosevelt and whose 14th-century, Gothic-style tower has been completed since the end of the Eisenhower Administration, a collection of Bibles used at Presidential inaugurations, or personally associated with the chief executives, is on display. The oldest Bible in the collection, and also the only one in a foreign language, is the fine 1686 folio Dutch Bible that Franklin D. Roosevelt used at his four inaugurations.

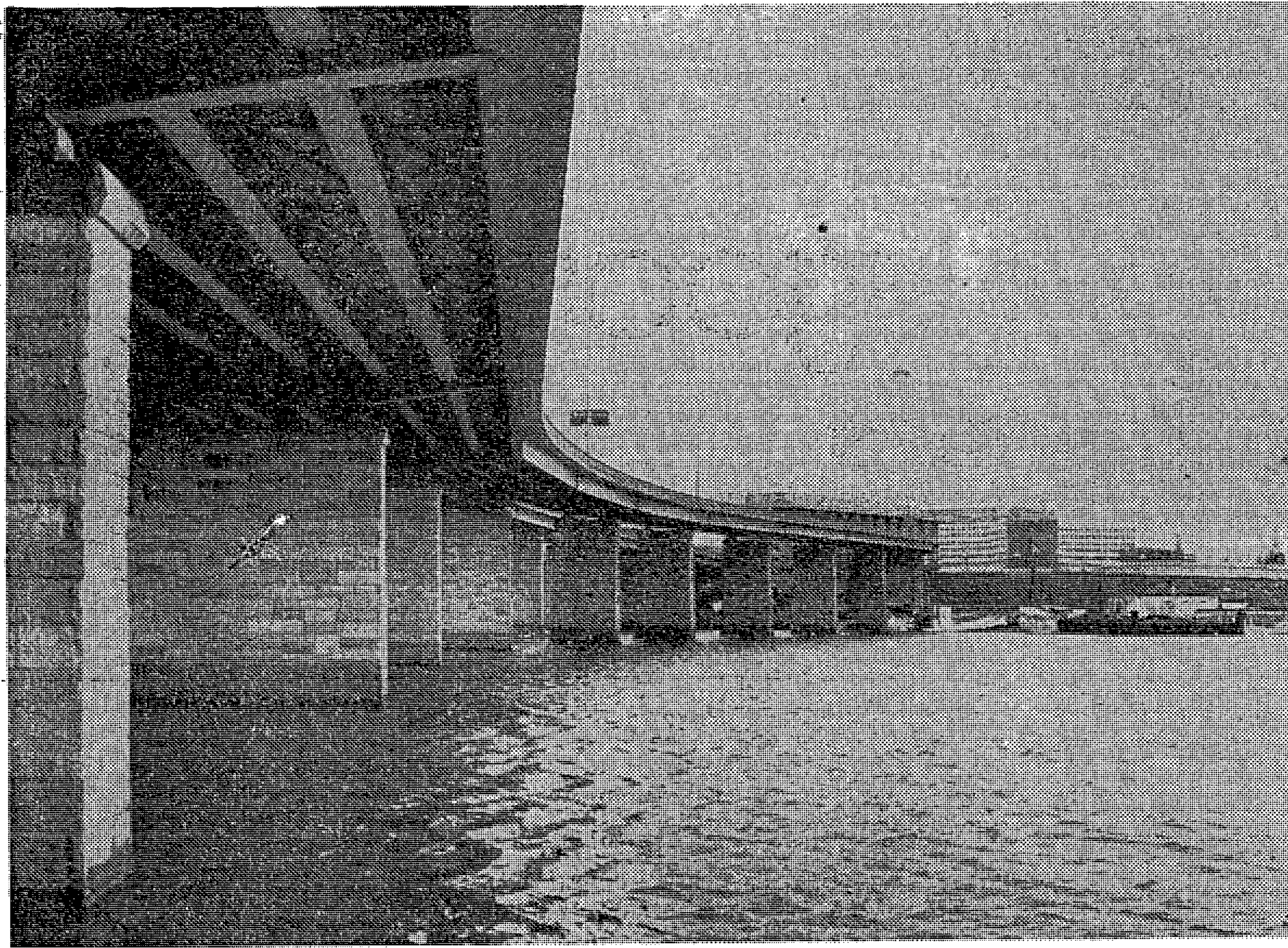
By all odds, this Inauguration Day should be bright, clear and cold, but hopefully not as chilly as when President Grant took the oath of office. Dancers at the ball that evening cavorted in their coats and hats. The buffet supper froze, and the canaries brought to provide decorative sounds huddled silently in their cages.

Inaugural events include the All-American Gala at the National Guard Armory on Saturday evening, Jan. 18. Tickets cost \$10 to \$100, and the program will be highlighted by big-name stars and entertainers. Admission to the Inaugural Concert at Constitution Hall the following evening costs \$5 to \$35.

Box Seats at \$25

The inaugural parade can be viewed free from the sidewalks along Pennsylvania Avenue or for \$4 to \$18 from seats in the reviewing stands. Box seats opposite the Presidential reviewing stand cost \$25.

The special invitations to the Inaugural Ball are more widely circulated, with some 54,000 of them having been mailed to those party workers and financial contributors considered most likely to pay \$35 a person to waltz and bugaloo at an event that will be held simultaneously in five downtown hotels and at the Smithsonian's Museum of History and Technology.



HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT—Francis Case Bridge carries traffic across the Washington Channel.

New York Times Photographs by GEORGE TAMES