

NATIONAL CAPITAL IS QUIET PLACE TESTS SHOW

The nation's capital, with half a million inhabitants and almost 90,000 motor cars, nevertheless goes on record as a quiet place, according to tests made around noon at eleven different points of the city recently. The noisiest spot discovered was at the U. S. Treasury where New York Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue meet, a corner famous nationally as the point where official parades turn to go down past the White House.

The survey, which was made by K. P. Royce, of the Graybar Electric Company, of New York, is similar to a noise survey recently made in New York City. The instrument used is known as an audiometer, which measures noise in sound units, and is frequently employed in testing the amount of hearing possessed by people who are partially deafened.

The Treasury corner registered 55 units of noise, as compared with 70 units at Manhattan's record breaking spot which is at 34th Street and Sixth Avenue, where the elevated railroad and downtown traffic combine to produce an almost deafening roar.

The quietest place in the capital is at the Lincoln Memorial, near the banks of the Potomac River, Mr. Royce reported. Here the noise record showed only five units, except when the wind blew, at which time the sound of the wind brought the noise up to 15.

The tour of the city took the investigators out to the embassy section, on Sixteenth Street. At the pink palace of the Spanish Embassy they paused, and found that in the street, close by the thin stream of traffic, the sound record was from 20 to 40 units. The region of the Library of Congress and the Capitol proved to be a particularly peaceful neighborhood. The audiometer registered only 10 units in a street facing the Capitol, where there is little or no traffic.

The White House, located in the downtown section of the city, is not so quiet as Capitol Hill, so far as the air itself is concerned. The survey showed that in the driveway of the White House the noise amounted to 30 units.

Mr. Royce concluded that noises in Washington are considerably less in volume and intensity than in New York. The quietest spot found by the investigators who surveyed New York was in Grove Street, between Seventh and Eighth Avenues, a narrow street in Greenwich Village. At this point the instrument registered 10 units of sound.

Considering the effect of noise on the physical and mental health of individuals, Mr. Royce said that "the damage done by noise in Washington is so small as to be classified as negligible."

BABIES TRY DRIED MILK AND GIVE IT O. K.

A small group of babies averaging three months old have been experimenting with a diet of dried human milk and have found it "acceptable". The tests, which were conducted by Dr. P. W. Emerson of the Boston Floating Hospital, are regarded as promising, and the Journal of the American Medical Association predicts that "dried milk may become a successful reality".