

The Witch of Wall Street

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By Ralph Hall

In the late 1800's, the richest woman in the world was Henrietta Howland Robinson Green, a native of the New Bedford area. Hetty passed away in 1916. Her image was brought to life by Edith Nichols who dressed the part and played the part, talking true facts in the life of Hetty Green. Hetty came from a well-to-do family that made millions through whaling and investments during the growth of this country. Hetty's father left her \$900,000 and she was experienced with family finances by helping her father wheel and deal at an early age. Through this wheeling and dealing she road roughshod over Wall Street, buying and selling. Hetty became known as the "Witch of Wall Street".

She married and had two children. Her son Colonel Edward R. Green was famous for his philanthropic ways and he could spend money from Hetty's fortune as fast as she could make it.

Ms. Nichols played the part so well that while listening to her you began to think it was Hetty in the flesh. Edie's portrayal made for a successful dinner meeting for a large group of Southeastern Shrine Club members and their guests, at the Wamsutta Club in New Bedford.



Pictured: Edith Nichols as Hetty Green congratulated by Anglo Puente, President of the Club