

SENATE No. 200.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SENATE, April 14, 1891.

On motion of Mr. Towle, —

Ordered, That a certain document from the Bureau of Publicity and Promotion of the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago, containing information in reference to the Exposition, be printed as a Senate document.

HENRY D. COOLIDGE, *Clerk*.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

INTERVIEW WITH MAJOR M. P. HANDY, CHIEF OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLICITY AND PROMO-
TION OF THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION.

APRIL 6, 1891.

Present: The members of the Committee on Federal Relations of the Massachusetts Senate, and Major Handy, Solicitor-General Butterworth, Secretary Hurst of the World's Columbian Exposition.

By Chairman DONOVAN. Major Handy, we would like you, in your own way, to give us a general statement of the action of the States in the matter of State appropriations for the Exposition, and then we would like to ask you some questions. Please tell us, as near as you can, exactly what the States have done.

Major HANDY. We have information, official and semi-official, of the passage of bills by twenty State legislatures; the total amount of those appropriations being about \$1,250,000. Several other State legislatures are expected to pass bills this week. I have just received information that the bill in the New York legislature appropriating \$200,000 has been passed. On Saturday the Colorado legislature passed an appropriation of \$100,000, and that the bill has gone to the governor for his approval. There are bills pending ten other States. In seven States the appropriation bills have been rejected. In some of the States where bills have been rejected there is considerable popular indignation and popular movements are on foot for the purpose of promoting private subscriptions to remedy the default of the legislatures. The

largest appropriation from any State thus far is from California, where the amount is \$300,000, and the smallest in Vermont, whose appropriation is \$5,000.

In California the National Commissioners expect that from \$150,000 to \$200,000 more will be raised by county subscriptions. After that the Commissioners will go to the great corporations and ask them to appropriate money enough to make the grand total \$1,000,000.

In Colorado, besides appropriating \$100,000, the legislature has authorized the county boards to make an appropriation of two mills, out of which it is expected \$50,000 more will be raised, and there will be also private subscriptions for an equal amount.

Indiana's appropriation is \$75,000. The commission appointed by the governor of that State to consist of twenty-six members, two from each congressional district, equally divided in politics, and the Governor, President of the State Board of Agriculture, the State Geologist, the State Statistician, the National Commissioners and their alternates, and the members of the Board of Lady Managers from the State and their alternates are *ex officio* members of the State Commission. An additional appropriation will be forthcoming if found necessary. Indiana will erect a building at a cost of \$25,000.

Iowa has made an appropriation of \$50,000 for preliminary work, with the understanding that the legislature, which is to meet next winter, will increase the amount as much as may be necessary. There is a State Commission in Iowa of eleven, one from each congressional district. A State building will be erected, the cost of which will probably be over \$100,000.

Maine's appropriation is \$40,000, and there are promises of private and corporation subscriptions which will increase the amount to \$100,000. Maine will erect a building composed of twenty-seven different varieties of granite, finished with Maine woods and covered with Maine slate. The State Commission consists of members of the National Commission, with one man and one woman from each congressional district.

In Michigan a proposition for an appropriation of \$300,000 is pending.

In Minnesota the House of Representatives has passed a bill appropriating \$50,000, and this sum is likely to be increased in the other branch of the legislature. Duluth, in that State, through the Chamber of Commerce, has appropriated \$50,000.

Missouri's appropriation is \$150,000, and there is an expectation that Missouri's contribution will be increased from other sources perhaps \$100,000 more.

Montana's appropriation is \$50,000, to be expended in organization and obtaining materials for exhibition. At the meeting of the legislature in 1893 it is expected that \$50,000 more will be appropriated.

Nebraska has appropriated \$50,000, with the assurance of an additional sum.

New Hampshire's appropriation is \$25,000.

New Jersey's \$20,000.

North Dakota, \$25,000.

Ohio, \$100,000.

Wyoming, \$30,000.

In Arizona a bill has been passed authorizing an issue of bonds to the amount of \$30,000.

Wisconsin proposes \$250,000.

From Nevada there is a guaranty of \$20,000.

In Pennsylvania a bill appropriating \$300,000 hangs fire, owing to a difference of opinion as to how the commission shall be appointed.

In Texas a bill appropriating \$300,000 was defeated, on constitutional grounds; but another bill, framed so as to overcome constitutional objections, is now before the legislature. The interest in Texas is very widespread and earnest, and the Commissioners evidently expect that in some way or other Texas will raise \$200,000 or \$300,000 for a building and an exhibit.

The CHAIRMAN. What about Illinois?

Major HANDY. The State of Illinois as yet has made no appropriation, but one will be made, and it is only a question of amount. The delay has been caused by the long-continued deadlock in the Senate, which was only brought to a close about ten days ago. A representative of this department was sent to Springfield last week to make a quiet

survey of the situation. He reports that nearly all of the leading members of either house are in favor of an appropriation of \$1,000,000. There is a minority, however, who think it ought not to be more than \$500,000. The site has already been selected by this State for its building. I expect the appropriation will be made without doubt this month, and Illinois, of course, will make the high-water mark of State appropriations.

A member of the committee asked this question: You said something about Duluth making an appropriation. Are cities making appropriations on their own account?

Major HANDY. Yes, in some cases. In addition to Duluth, I hear reports of movements of this character from Atlanta and Augusta, Ga., Sioux City, Dak., and perhaps others.

Well, gentlemen, we think this an extraordinary showing, under all the circumstances. In fact the appropriations for State exhibits by States already far exceed the estimates made in the early history of the enterprise, and there are three or four States either one of which will contribute more than the total amount of State subscriptions for the Centennial Exposition of 1876.

Mr. HIRST, our secretary of installation, who was also connected with the exposition of 1876, can give you some information which will perhaps be useful in regard to State buildings and State exhibits.

Mr. HIRST: There seems to be an understanding that no State will erect any building that will cost less than \$10,000. In regard to the management of State exhibits, there will be very little difference between the management here and that in Philadelphia. Individual exhibits will be placed in the several departments according to classification, where they belong. If, however, any States should wish to use samples or show specimens in the construction or decoration of their State buildings, I can see no objection to it. The states are not required to put up buildings, but it is thought desirable that they should do so, for the use of their respective citizens and representatives as headquarters and for any monographic exhibits the State government may wish to make. States that wish to encourage immigration will want to go to the

expense of procuring samples of their soil and mineral products, photographs of their public buildings, cities and towns, maps of different counties, charts, statistics and products, educational objects, and printed matter, as to the general resources and development of the State.

A DELEGATE. Major Handy, what do you think should be the number of State Commissioners appointed, and have you any suggestion as to how the commission should be organized?

Major HANDY. As a rule, I think, the States have provided for a State Board, consisting of the National Commissioners of such State and members of its National Board of Lady Managers, and a number of Commissioners besides, care being taken to secure equitable distribution of the membership between the two great political parties. The Governor is generally given the appointing power. In some cases very large State Commissions have been provided for, but our advice has been to make the Commission as small as is consistent with an adequate representation of the parties in interest. There is usually an Executive Commissioner, who is paid a salary, for the collection and arrangement of exhibits, and who is expected to devote his entire time to the work.

A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE. Are the Commissioners appointed with or without salary?

Major HANDY. Generally they have a *per diem* allowance and an allowance for expenses. In New York, I believe, it is proposed to make the position of Commissioner honorary, the travelling expenses and subsistence of Commissioners only being paid. In the Maine bill there is a provision that 62½ per cent. of the appropriation shall be spent in collecting and arranging exhibits, not exceeding 20 per cent. in the erection of buildings, and not over 12½ per cent. in payment of salaries and expenses. In Minnesota, by the way, the question was raised as to whether any of the money should be expended in a building, but the rule has been to consider the building the main thing.

Now, as to the international character of the enterprise, I want to say to you that we have not heard an unfriendly word from any nation in the world.

A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE. Not even from Italy?

Major HANDY. No, not even from Italy. In fact, before the late unpleasantness in New Orleans, Italy seemed very well disposed, and I have no doubt she will come around all right in time. By the way, I suppose you know that we have had the blessing of the Pope on our enterprise. To show the extent of interest abroad in the matter, I take up from my desk the foreign letters received by me as an officer of the Exposition, only this day. Here are letters from Liverpool, Belfast, Cardiff, Brussels, Marseilles, Lyons, Aix-la-Chapelle, Mexico, Panama, Rome, Berlin, Milan, St. Johns, N. B., Ottawa, San Domingo, Lima, Frankfort-on-the-Main, Munich, Paris, London, and I might give you a dozen more. All of these letters are from or relating to possible exhibitors. I think that you will agree that this shows a general interest abroad. Dwelling on this subject, I would like to incorporate in my statement the following extract from the report of President Gage of the World's Columbian Exposition, which was presented a few days ago:—

Development of national sympathy in behalf of the Exposition has been very marked within the last sixty days, and during the same period there has been a distinct turn of the tide in our favor in other countries than our own. The demand for trustworthy information as to our plans and progress comes from all over the world, and is being supplied as promptly as possible. Pamphlets and other printed matter, presenting the facts as to the Exposition as concisely as possible, have gone to every newspaper in North and South America, to Great Britain and her colonies, to Germany and her possessions, to France and the French dependencies, to Russia, Austria, Italy, Turkey, China, Japan, and in fact to the remotest quarters of the globe. They have gone also for distribution to possible exhibitors, to every diplomatic and consular representative of the United States in foreign parts, to the leading banking establishments of Continental Europe, and are to be found on nearly every steamship engaged in the North Atlantic or South Atlantic commerce. In round numbers, it may be said that the matter in regard to the Exposition is now sent from week to week to nearly 25,000 addresses, and the list grows every day. Two months ago it was rare to see a favorable word for Chicago or the Exposition in any foreign print; now every mail brings a batch of favorable comment from the foreign press. Of course,

it takes time to correct the misapprehensions that grow up during a period of inactivity in the foreign field, but such misapprehensions are rapidly dissipated by the flood of facts now placed at the disposal of those who desire to know the truth.

The President's proclamation notifying the world that the Exposition would be held at the time and place named in the act of Congress, and inviting all foreign countries to take part in the same, was issued on the 24th of December, 1890. It was several weeks thereafter before formal invitations could be issued by the State Department, but considering that the processes of diplomacy are always slow, we have every reason to be encouraged by what has come to our knowledge, officially and unofficially, as to the manner in which this invitation has been received; and there can be no longer a shadow of doubt, even in the minds of the most sceptical, as to the international character of the World's Columbian Exposition of 1892-93. France was the first to accept the President's invitation, and its acceptance was couched in the most cordial terms. Already extensive preparations are making throughout France for a comprehensive display of French art industries, and it is reported that M. Berger, the distinguished Director-General of the late Paris Exposition, will head the French Commission to Chicago. French artists and French publishers are reported particularly solicitous for adequate representation. The formal acceptance of Germany has not been received, but the Berlin Chamber of Commerce has petitioned the government to appoint an Imperial Commission to deal directly with the Chicago Exposition officials, and fifteen of the leading German newspapers are pronounced in their advocacy of hearty co-operation upon the part of Germany, while the minority in opposition is almost insignificant. Throughout the United Kingdom the acceptance of Great Britain is discussed as a certainty. From Russia we have semi-official advices that the Russian exhibit will surpass anything of the kind ever attempted by the government and people of that country. A company of merchants, bankers and others has been formed in St. Petersburg and Moscow, with a capital of \$2,500,000, for the promotion of this object. Russian newspapers estimate the probable governmental appropriation at the same amount. Turkey will surely be represented, and unofficial advices from that country represent the Sultan as having already given orders for the preparation of special exhibits of Turkish literature and art, and, in particular, Turkish architecture. From China and Japan come favorable reports. In fact, there is no cloud on the whole foreign horizon, so far as the future of the Exposition is concerned.

The wisdom of sending special commissioners to the Latin

American countries has been demonstrated even earlier than could have been expected. Mexico has already chosen a commission to superintend the preparation of its exhibit. Our own representative in the Mexican capital (Mr. Payne), who holds the first foreign commission issued by the World's Columbian Exposition, has been named as one of the Mexican Commissioners.

In Cuba the Colonial Board of Commissioners appointed by the Governor-General is already actively at work, and the Cuban press is devoting much space in representing the magnitude, importance and advantages of the Exposition. All of the Central American States are manifesting deep interest in the enterprise and have assured our commissioners of their intention to be fully represented.

A DELEGATE. Have any of the foreign countries made an appropriation?

Mr. HANDY. Oh, yes, an appropriation as a matter of course following the acceptance, and in many cases the government appropriation will be followed by special appropriations by merchants and manufacturers.

Mr. BOODEY. Please give us an idea what Chicago has done and intends to do.

Major HANDY. The Solicitor-General, Mr. Butterworth, who is also secretary of the Illinois corporation, can answer that question better than I can.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I will express in a few words what Chicago has done and contemplates doing, and will hand the committee some papers giving some further details. We have raised by personal subscription over \$6,000,000. The city of Chicago is authorized to issue bonds, and they are already issued, to the amount of \$5,000,000. The directory had hoped \$10,000,000 or \$12,000,000 would be quite sufficient for our purposes, but in the present budget it is provided that \$17,000,000 will be furnished, if necessary. The subscribers to stock number nearly 30,000, and they have paid up with remarkable promptness. There is no doubt about realizing the entire sum subscribed.

Major HANDY. This is a good time to remark, gentlemen, that there is no longer any serious difference between the national and local authorities with reference to this enterprise. There is perfect harmony between the two

bodies, and whatever you see to the contrary in the public press, or anywhere else, has no foundation in fact.

A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE. Do the different States select their sites or do the commission select the site for them?

Major HANDY. Several States have expressed their preference as to site and made selections through their commissioners or other representatives, and my suggestion is that the sooner such expressions of preference are filed the better. Only to-day North Dakota and California expressed their preference to the Director-General.

Mr. FERREN. What will be the facilities for transportation?

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. You need have no fear on that point. Such facilities for getting to and from the Exposition were never enjoyed by any other city. Major Handy will furnish you, if desired, very full and complete statements on the subject of transportation and the means of approaching the fair grounds by street railways, steam cars and by way of the lake.

A MEMBER. How many acres of land have you provided for this Exposition in comparison with others?

Major HANDY. I will make a statement on that point which will no doubt surprise you. The first World's Fair, held in

London in 1851, covered	21 acres.
Paris in 1855, covered	24½ "
London in 1862, covered	23½ "
Paris in 1867, covered	37 "
Vienna in 1873, covered	40 "
Philadelphia in 1876, covered	60 "
Paris in 1878, covered	60 "
Paris in 1889, covered	75½ "

Our buildings will cover between 85 and 100 acres, that is, *flooring*, and the total amount of ground utilized for exposition purposes will be nearly eleven hundred acres.

Here is a table which the committee will no doubt find interesting:—

WORLD'S EXPOSITIONS.

WHERE HELD.	Year.	Acres Covered by Buildings.	Number of Exhibitors.	Days Open.	Number of Admissions.	Receipts.
London, . . .	1851	21	17,000	144	6,039,135	\$1,780,000
Paris, . . .	1855	24½	22,000	200	5,162,330	644,100
London, . . .	1862	23½	28,653	121	6,211,103	1,644,260
Paris, . . .	1867	37	52,000	217	10,200,000	2,103,675
Vienna, . . .	1873	40	42,000	186	7,254,687	—
Philadelphia, . . .	1876	60	30,864	159	9,910,996	3,813,724
Paris, . . .	1878	60	40,366	194	16,032,725	2,531,650
Paris, . . .	1889	75½	55,000	183	28,149,353	8,300,000

