

FAIR POSTPONE FAIR OPENING UNTIL 1927

Edward Bok Urges Directors to Allow Ample Time for Stupendous Display

WANTS SUCCESS, NOT SPEED

Plans developed by the directors of the Sesqui-Centennial, which is to be the greatest world's fair ever held, have been organized upon such a scale in providing for national and international participation that it now appears likely that it will take an extra year to get the fair ready for opening.

Rather than postpone the Sesqui-Centennial after its construction is actually under way, Edward W. Bok and other leaders among the directors have reached the conclusion that it would be preferable to fix the date for the opening in 1927 instead of in 1926.

No action has yet been taken by the directors, but at their special meeting of the directors or at the stated meeting for Tuesday the question will be brought up for immediate disposal.

An investigation has been going forward quietly for weeks into the question of time required to obtain appropriations from the forty-eight States and the four territories of the United States and from more than three score foreign nations. The majority of foreign nations desire to participate, as, of course, do all of the States in the Union.

Must Wait on Legislatures

The crux of the situation, disclosed in the fact that official inquiries show many State Legislatures will not convene until one year hence, and others not for two years. This means that in many instances appropriations cannot be obtained for three years, leaving a year or less to erect buildings and install exhibits.

The sentiment to open the fair in 1927 instead of 1926, however, does not mean that the work of preparation will now slacken or lag at this end of the intervening period. On the other hand, it indicates, say the directors, that the most intensive kind of work must be begun at once.

The records of other world fairs and large expositions reveal that great delays were encountered in opening, in installation of exhibits and in the actual construction of buildings. At the Jamestown Exposition, for example, the building was not completed until about a month before the fair closed.

When the World's Fair opened at Chicago in 1893, and that year was postponed for a year, incurring millions in losses for blameless exhibitors and others who had sunk fortunes in concessions and in construction, there were 300 carloads of exhibits on side tracks that had not yet been unloaded.

The need for sufficient time for such a vast exposition is illustrated by the fact that the French Government in 1894 announced to the world the plans for the exhibits to be shown in the World's Fair in 1900, and even then there were serious delays affecting that great exposition.

Mr. Bok for some weeks has been urging on his fellow directors the need for more time in getting the exposition in complete readiness, and he has suggested to the Reorganization Committee as an opening date, April 30, 1927.

The quiet summer season begins on July 1 and continues three months. Legislative bodies will be adjourned, interested people will be away for the summer. All that can be done meantime will be to organize the fair's working forces and to get them ready actually to transact business in the fall.

Mr. Bok therefore contends that this will leave only three and one-half years for the opening of 1926—a brief period, since every fair has found five years' work absolutely necessary.

Expert Advises Delay

Harris de Haven Connick, vice president of the American International Corporation, of New York, who was the Director of Works of the Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco in 1915, has made several visits to Philadelphia to confer with fair directors and give the benefit of his advice. He spent half of the night with a group of directors, explaining in detail the vital and practical nature. Mr. Connick has substantiated Mr. Bok's opinion.

Mr. Connick strongly backs up the position of the former editor and asserts, from his practical experience, that even four and a half years is none too long for preparation of the fair, although to do it in the limited time now remaining until 1926 the cost of building will be increased millions of dollars by reason of the haste required.

Mr. Bok's chief contention is that the two Governments and States cannot get ready for 1926.

In a statement made to the committee of which he is a member, Mr. Bok says that the date for opening the fair is purely a matter of mathematical calculation.

"Take the Government of Great Britain as an example," he argues. "After the President of the United States issues an invitation to each foreign Government, the President must appoint a commission to visit Great Britain and each foreign country to personally lay before it the fair project. To equip this commission with proper argument, sketches, topographical maps, plans of the buildings, and so forth, a wealth of material has to be prepared. These must be prepared in fullest detail.

"We have not as yet planned a single building on the site. All this material has to be sealed and drawn and then the United States fair commission must lay this before the British Board of Trade. They have to consider it, and consult the merchants and manufacturers of Great Britain. Then their report has to be laid before Parliament, and a commission is then appointed to come to the United States and visit the site, pick a spot for their building and consult with the fair authorities.

Much Red Tape Ahead

"This commission must then return to Great Britain and make a report and recommendation to Parliament, and secure an appropriation. All this takes months and months of time. And even then, after all these preliminaries have been worked out, the exhibitors all through the United Kingdom have to have to prepare their exhibits, ship them over here, build their buildings and arrange their display.

"The thing is impossible within a period of three years when you consider that this must all be gone through with each of perhaps sixty-four nations, some of them 10,000 miles away from Philadelphia. It is difficult enough to do this in four and a half years, opening the fair in 1927."

"Then take our own country," continued Mr. Bok. "Suppose the Legislature of a State meets next year—1923. We have to go before it, explain the

fair and get an appropriation for a commission to visit Philadelphia. The Legislature, say, of California, cannot even take legislative matters while the Legislature is in session and they travel across the continent to attend to this one matter, and consume four or five weeks' time. They must wait until the Legislature is in session and they report to the next Legislature, which means 1925. Then, provided the Legislature passes the measure promptly, you leave the exhibitors of the State a scant year to get everything ready and build their building.

"It might be done, but it will be a rush, and nothing will be well done. But suppose a State's Legislature does not meet again until 1924, and this is true of eight States. How are those States going to get an appropriation and exhibit and build? It cannot be done.

"It is infinitely better we should see this now, correct our mistake at this stage and not wait until two or three years from now, discover we cannot do it and then make the mistake of Chicago in a year's postponement and disconcert the arrangements of thousands and injuring the reputation of the fair."

Wants to Assure Success

"I have gone into this matter for weeks with the greatest care, and am convinced that in holding the fair in 1926 spells absolute failure—to hold it in 1927 spells success.

"As to the year date, 1926, we have got that wrong anyhow. The fair is supposed to mark 150 years of progress. How can you mark a period until it has fully passed?"

Mr. Bok's suggestion, it is said, has caused considerable discussion in the two committees before which he proposed it. After weeks of thought, one member after another has acknowledged the correctness of Mr. Bok's argument, and all coming around to his point of view. The matter has not been officially brought before the Board of Directors, but the argument has been known to individual members for some time, and they have had time to consider its logic.

The directors are expected to take final action before the Darrow bill reaches the Senate and the President signs it with the date 1926 contained in it.

FAIR BOOSTERS RETURNING

Real Estate Men Talked About Exposition for 9000 Miles

The 9000 mile transcontinental boosting tour, under the auspices of the Philadelphia Real Estate Board, will end tomorrow morning when the board's special train arrives at Broad Street Station.

It will have on board E. J. Cattell, City Statistician, and the delegation of ninety realtors and members of their families. The train left May 17.

The trip included stops at all the principal cities between here and San Francisco. Scores of luncheons and mass meetings were arranged en route, and speeches informed all of the magnitude and scope of the coming Sesqui-Centennial Exposition.

John G. Williams, president of the Real Estate Board, will head a delegation, who will welcome the Sesqui-Centennial boosters.

City's Balance is \$11,723,245.79

The City Treasurer's report for the week ended yesterday shows: Receipts amounted to \$471,699; money expended in payment, \$1,227,561.35, and a balance, not including sinking fund, of \$11,723,245.79.

EVEN IF IT HURTS TO LAUGH it will do you a world of good. The worst possible cough will fade away if you sit down with the six pages of comic, a feature section of every issue of *Fun*. Try to read "Somebody's Stomach" without laughing. Order a copy today. "Make it a Habit."—Ad.

SPIRITS AIDED HIM, SAYS R. R. BUILDER

A. E. Stillwell Abandoned Galveston Terminal on Their Advice Just Before Flood

HELPED IN 3000-MILE JOB

By the Associated Press
New York, June 15.—That every mile of the 3000 miles of railroad he has built has been constructed by following the advice of spirits, and that he changed the direction of the Kansas City Southern and built his terminal at Port Arthur, Tex., rather than Galveston, which the spirits warned him to avoid because of coming disaster there, is the assertion of Arthur E. Stillwell, who says he has been president of many railroads and was president for seven years of the National Surety Company.

Making his revelations last night at a meeting of spiritualists, he said that he had not revealed his relations with the spirit world before because he did not want "people to think him a nut."

"I have built more than 3000 miles of railroad," he said, "and every part

of the route was determined by spirits who came to me in my dreams and told me what to do.

"When I was building the Kansas City Southern I was warned not to build the terminal at Galveston by spirits, because it would lead to disaster. They told me to terminate it at Lake Sabine, where I built the terminal of Port Arthur. Four days after the terminal was completed, the tidal wave wiped out Galveston.

"I receive communications today from a corps of spirits. The engineering plans that I have put in effect have all come from an engineer who has been long dead. I have transcribed scores of poems which have been dictated to me by poets, I have written the music of many songs, which have been dictated to me by musicians."

Mr. Stillwell returned recently from England, where he had been for several years. In one year there he produced twenty-one full-length spirit novels, twenty of which are now in manuscript. One of them, entitled "The Light That Never Fails," has been printed. Among those not yet printed are "In God's Own Time," "The Bursting of the Chrysalis" and "The Court's Decree." The hero in the last, ignorant of the identity of the prisoner, sentenced his own mother to die by hanging.

Russia Proposes Baltic Parley

Riga, June 15.—Maxim Litvinov, chief of Soviet legations abroad, in a note to Poland, Latvia, Estonia and Finland, proposes a conference to fix a proportionate reduction in armament by Russia and the states bordering on Russia.

MARCONI SEEKS MARS WIRELESS

Inventor Believes Signals Are Being Sent From Spaces Outside the Earth

TO ADDRESS RADIO MEN

By the Associated Press
New York, June 15.—Enroute to the United States on his yacht Elittra, William Marconi, inventor of wireless telegraphy, is seeking to pick up what he calls "wireless messages" from the planet Mars, according to the New York World.

Marconi, it is said, has been of the belief for five years that signals are being sent through spaces from Mars. Last year, while cruising in the Medi-

terranean on the Elittra, the inventor picked up a wave of 150,000 meters length, the greatest ever recorded.

Mars is now approaching the earth and next Sunday will be 42,000,000 miles away, closer than it has been since 1900. Marconi, therefore, is attempting solution of what he believes to be the most fascinating mystery held by science.

What may have been signals have been received, Marconi has declared, from spaces outside the earth. These, he added, may come from Mars, although they may be the result of magnetic disturbances on the sun.

The inventor, upon his arrival in New York next week, will address a joint meeting of the Institute of Radio Engineers and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

Besides the Mars experiment, Marconi is conducting a series of other experiments, which he said may prove of extraordinary importance. These include tests of direction finders on both short and long wave transmission, and of high speed dispatch and reception of messages in co-operation with radio stations on the American mainland.

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Costume Slips for Wear Under Summer Frocks

Particularly we want to mention those of charmusette at \$2.95 in women's sizes (First Floor). Soft, cool, silky looking, but absolutely shadow proof; a dainty edging of filet trims them. For girls of 6 to 17 years (Second Floor) we can supply Princess Slips of batiste at \$1.15 and \$1.95.

Women's Dresses \$15.00

A Special Group for Friday
Both silk and cotton materials, in many attractive styles, one of which is shown.
It is values such as are offered in this lot which are making our Dress Department grow so fast. Come and see them tomorrow.



At \$17.50 and \$27.50
—are some other noteworthy Dresses in a myriad of pretty styles.

House Dresses—\$3.85 and \$5.85
Two under-priced lots in the famous Queen-Make House Dresses.

Clearance of \$1.00 to \$1.60 Neckwear for: 85c

Linen Vestees and Cuff Sets, reduced from \$1.35.
Lace-trimmed Net Guimpes with sleeves, reduced from \$1.60.
Also Organdie Vestees, lace-trimmed Collar-and-Cuff Sets, Filet Lace Straight Collars, Lace-Back Collars and various other small pieces formerly priced at \$1.00 to \$1.50.

Summer Glove Specials

Women's 16-button Milanese Silk Gloves—\$1.35 a pair; easily worth a dollar more.
Women's Strap-Wrist Natural Chamois Gloves—\$1.35; the lowest price in town for equal quality.
12-button Fabric Gloves—\$1.00 a pair.

Women's Summer Capes—\$35.00

Twill cord in navy blue or black; silk lined and offering just the protection one needs for cool summer days.

Silk Capes at \$22.50 and \$25.00
Canton and Roshanara crepe; some plain, others fringe trimmed; lined with crepe de chine.

Suits and Coats Half Price
Wonderful values for those looking for a Summer Suit or Coat; many different styles.

A Cotton Goods Special for Friday 85c yard

—for 36-inch Imported Colored Crepes; a rough weave, but light in weight. Some plain Ratines are also included in the lot.

Imported Bead Bags, Drawstring Styles, for \$3.35

Good size, strongly made; steel, gunmetal, copper, black, bronze, blue.
Envelope Bags at \$1.25
Smart Leather Bags with metal clips.
White Kid Belts—50c
Plain and perforated styles, pearl buckles, all lengths.
A Good Fan for 25c
Several styles and colors.
Boudoir Slippers—95c Pair
Silk embroidered. Exceptional value at this price.

Popular Sports Silks \$2.55 yard

Former Prices \$4.50 and \$5.00
Several good crepe weaves and satins included. Very attractive patterns and colorings; 40 inches wide.

New Summer Hats, \$7.50



Various straws in white or light colors with trimmings of silk or ratine. Both large and small shapes; three are illustrated.

Silk Sweaters of the Finest Grade \$18.75

Irregulars of \$35.00 and \$40.00 Qualities
Made from pure heavy silk in a variety of shades; tuxedo, slip-over and sleeveless models; all sizes in the lot, but not all sizes in every color. Classed as irregulars because of slight defects in the weave, hardly discernible and in no way affecting looks or wear. These Sweaters are a wonderful value and just what you will want for summer.

Misses' Dresses of Tub Silks

The one shown is \$19.75; made from washable silk of excellent quality. Others at \$14.50.

Misses' Frocks of Cotton Materials, \$6.50 to \$57.50

Excellent variety in gingham, dotted Swiss, voiles, white and figured organdie, ratines, cretonnes—Dresses which are specially designed for misses and small women.

Misses' Summer Wraps

Canton and Roshanara Crepe Capes with caracul fur collars—special at \$22.00, with or without fringe. Other styles from \$19.75 to \$87.50.

32nd ANNUAL JUNE SALE

OF SLIGHTLY USED PIANOS AND PLAYERS

Including Uprights, Grands, Players and Reproducing Pianos, together with several slightly-used, shop-worn and demonstrating Pianos, at substantial reduction. During this sale we will sell every instrument in stock, regardless of cost or profit.

Uprights, Starting as low as \$65.00
Players, As low as \$185.00
Grands, As low as \$235.00

Every instrument we sell has our Manufacturer's Guarantee, and, if so desired, can be purchased on our easy payment plan.



It Pays to Think! **Cunningham PIANO CO.** Think! It Pays to Think!

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