

EVERY INDICATION POINTS TO BROKEN RECORDS IN OPENING ATTENDANCE AT THE GREAT WORLD'S FAIR.

FLAGS TO UNFURL WHEN PRESIDENT PUSHES BUTTON.

At Sound of First Click on Key From Washington Bunting Will Wave From Fair Buildings.

WILL BE EXACTLY AT NOON.

Arrangements Completed for Electric Current From White House to Exposition.

TO USE HISTORICAL KEY.

Machinery Will Be Started Simultaneously With the Signal Coming From the Nation's Chief Executive.

When President Roosevelt, in the White House at Washington in the presence of the members of the Diplomatic Corps, the Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, members of the Cabinet, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House and others distinguished in official life, shall press the button that opens the Exposition today, he will use an instrument that is historical.

The telegraphic key that will be used by the President is the same that was used for the opening of the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. The one used by President Francis this morning at the Exposition grounds is of gold, and has been specially constructed for the purpose by the Postal Telegraph Company.

All of the arrangements for the clicking message from Washington, which proclaims the Exposition open, have been completed by that company. Two circuits running between St. Louis and Washington have been set aside by the company for use in opening the World's Fair. They run over different routes, having been arranged with a view to overcoming any possible interruption, so that it is reasonably assured that the click will almost any contingency may be in service.

P. V. De Graw, Eastern representative of the Exposition Company, will test the circuit at St. Louis at 9 this morning. Captain E. F. Montgomery of the United States Army, who is in charge of the telegraphic department at the White House, presiding at the White House, these expert telegraphers will have charge of the circuit until President Roosevelt starts the machinery of the Fair and it is formally declared opened.

The arrangement perfected late yesterday from President Francis to President Roosevelt, stating that the management of the Exposition awaits his pleasure.

According to the scheduled arrangement the President at Washington will then press the Morse telegraphic key located in the east room of the White House, which will transmit the electrical energy to the World's Fair instrument in the rostrum at the base of the Louisiana monument, whence it will be instantly distributed to Machinery Hall, the Cascades and other points throughout the vast area of the Exposition.

While the band plays "The Star-Spangled Banner" and the cheering crowds and with uncovered heads, the effect will be briefly wired to President Roosevelt by President Francis, standing with hand touching that of Mr. DeGraw, who will do the actual key work.

TO UNFURL THE FLAGS. At the moment that the first click sounds on the key from Washington more than 1,000 flags on the palaces and buildings of the Fair will be simultaneously unfurled. Two hundred men will be required to hoist the buildings and around the exhibit buildings and around the lagoons. The State and foreign pavilions will arrange their parts in the flag ceremony themselves.

Exactly at 12 o'clock, when the playing of the national anthem is finished, the President will press the button. Colonel Edmund Rice, Military Secretary of the Committee of Ceremonies will give a signal to E. D. Allen, Superintendent of Flags, who will be stationed between the Louisiana Purchase Monument and the Varied Industries building.

He in turn will wave to George Rush, Foreman of Flags, who will pull the halyard tied around a big American flag on the southeast corner of the Palace of Varied Industries.

At the same instant flags on the corners of Manufactures, Education and Electricity will drop, and as they descend the 300 men on the roofs and along the lagoons will pull the ropes in their hands. Each of the men has at least two ropes and in some cases, where the flags are close together, four and five.

The flag poles are about twenty feet apart as a rule, and the flags are held in place by two strings. The jerking of the halyard breaks these strings and the flag is thus loosened.

In the western Exposition palaces the men will not be so numerous, but will start to run as the signal is given, and jerk every rope as they pass the poles.

As soon as the men have fastened the flags securely in place they will descend from the roofs of the buildings and will be released from work until 1 o'clock, when they will take them in for the night. After the opening ceremonies a regular force of twenty-four men under General Superintendent J. S. Trille will be kept constantly on hand to raise the flags every morning at 8 a. m., and lower them at the corresponding hour every evening. These men will also keep the halyard lines and flag poles in good condition throughout the Fair.

VISITORS MAY BOARD WARSHIPS MONDAY.

Dainty Nashville and Grim Lawrence Attract Crowds Who View Vessels.

CURRENT PREVENTS CALLS.

Boats Dash in Before the Reception Committees Are Ready—Officers Visit Mayor and Fair.

Without warning and while official harbor boats, private yachts and immense excursion boats were waiting at their wharves for the public reception committees to arrive, the United States gunboat Nashville and the torpedo-boat destroyer Lawrence steamed up the river and anchored below the Eads bridge at 9:30 o'clock yesterday morning.

No one expected the strangers until noon, and it was thought that by leaving at 10 o'clock local officials and the public might board their steamers and be far down the river to greet them.

The two representatives of the navy had been making good time in spite of the seven-mile current that opposed them, and had come to anchor before any boat had a chance to cast loose her cable.

The Nashville, with her two great yellow smokestacks looming sixty feet above the water line, and with Pilot Bob Gaines at the wheel, led the procession up the river until within a half mile of the Eads bridge, when, like a dart from a bow, the grimy, smudgy Lawrence in her war paint of "torpedo-boat green," shot past her and cast anchors in the soft mud a hundred yards north.

With three-inch cables attached to her anchors the Lawrence could not hold the bottom, however.

"It was not that our anchors would not hold," said Lieutenant A. M. Proctor, her commander, later, "but the bottom of the river would not hold."

While the long-past-out chains attached to the Nashville's anchor helped to drag them deeper and deeper in the mud, the Lawrence's anchors fouled, and the cables, affording no ballast, she was compelled to drift away.

Once again she attempted to anchor below the Nashville, and again she failed, and, as though indignant at her reception, she broke her leash and darted down the river at a rate that made the oldest pilots stare. Lieutenant Proctor finally sacrificed his ship sufficiently to induce her to tie up against the Government snagboat Wright at the foot of Meramec street, where she remains.

GREETINGS BY MEGAPHONE. During all this time reception committees representing the city government and gentlemen who had invited private parties on board their yachts were blowing whistles in respect and wondering when the formal ceremonies of the day were to begin.

The little launch Outaga, bearing John T. Davis, F. D. Hirschberg and Thomas McKittrick, finally managed to make fast next the Nashville and were enabled to inform Commander Hubbard that Mayor Wells and the city officials would be glad to see him ashore.

In the meantime the harbor boat Mark Twain, whose name seemed to inspire happy memories among the crowds that thronged the levee, steamed out with the following officials aboard: Captain Thomas Cooney, Joseph P. Whyte, Harbor Commissioner E. A. Hoberg, Assistant Harbor Commissioner Paul Young, T. E. Green, Charles Wittthoeffl, Robert Aull, Luther Tennent, S. E. Edwards, Thomas C. Henning, James P. Newell, J. R. McCarthy, Fred Widener, William Flynn and E. J. O'Neill.

The Twain could only circle about the gunboat and megaphone good wishes, however, for the swift current and the new paint of the Nashville would brook no familiarity.

Captain Russell Gardner had a delegation of carriage-makers aboard his hospitable yacht Annie Russell, and they, too, were unable to accomplish anything more than quaff good cheer to the Nashville, while her swimmers played also from the quarter-deck and the commander called a special session of the carriage-makers together in midstream.

By this time the big excursion boats Belle of Calhoun, the Corwin E. Spencer and Providence had left their wharves, crowded with passengers.

Out among the craft shot the tug Reliance, bearing mails to the gunboat. Captain Edwin Ledger was at the wheel, and with him were Captain H. W. Brolasky of the World's Fair Navigation Company, Hiram Phillips, President of the Board of Public Improvements; Ben Adkins, Water Commissioner; Edward A. Hoberg, his chief clerk; Thomas B. Carter, Superintendent of City Lighting, and F. J. Clifford. The Reliance had captured the United States mail that arrived at the harbor office and delivered it to Commander Hubbard.

Meantime the tug Henry C. Harelock, bearing Postmaster Frank Wyman, E. J. Fitcher, W. K. Kavanagh, W. F. Baunser and other representatives of the Business Men's League, had steamed out and shouted their welcome to the ship.

OFFICERS MAKE CALLS. Later in the morning Commander Hubbard came ashore, where he was met by Commander A. M. Baker, Inspector of the Fifteenth Light House District. Commander Hubbard and the Nashville party called upon the Mayor and made the trip to the World's Fair grounds in the afternoon, calling upon President Francis. Commander Hubbard was delighted with his first visit to St. Louis and much impressed with the Exposition.

WHERE THE FAIR OPENING CEREMONIES WILL TAKE PLACE.



THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE MONUMENT. At the base of which the World's Fair opening ceremonies will take place to-day. The monument is immediately north of the Grand Basin.

"and we must ask that visitors do not attempt to come aboard until the river falls, as barges cannot be taken care of by the Nashville for fear of dragging. I am charmed with St. Louis and my reception here and expect to enjoy the Exposition as greatly as I did the Philadelphia Centennial in 1876 and the Paris Exposition in 1889. These were my last efforts in this direction."

Accompanying Commander Hubbard were Lieutenant Commander Horace M. Witsel, Lieutenant Roscoe C. Moody, Ensign James C. Kress, Ensign William S. Case, Midshipman Roy M. Ryden; Assistant Paymaster H. D. Lamar, Pay Clerk J. E. Comer. On the Lawrence are Lieutenant Andre R. Procter and Lieutenant Roland I. Curtin.

There was no fuss and feathers, no receptions, no visitations on the part of the officers and crew of the little Lawrence. Provoked at her inability to keep the bottom of the river from slipping beneath her anchors, she steamed far down beneath the Warehouse quays and tied up along the Government snagboat Wright.

TO RECEIVE VISITORS MONDAY. The Lawrence is simply a little terror. Two hundred and forty-six feet on the water line, with 23 feet beam and 9 feet draught, she can carry enough coal to cross the Atlantic Ocean. If necessary, at a nineteen-knot clip. There are no glistening brass works on her decks. Her guns are as black as her black-green hull. Her two torpedo tubes, with her four white Whitehead torpedoes, could dismantle any ship afloat.

The Nashville to her is a toy, a plaything. In wartime she and her commander would be alert for battleships to ensnare by false lights in the night, or torpedo-boats to destroy in the noonday. Her seven six-pounders can shoot with precise precision sixteen shots per minute and make bull's eyes at 2,000 yards every round.

Her Lieutenant Commander, A. M. Proctor, is the son of a sturdy son of the Vermont granite hills, the late United States Senator Redfield Proctor. Her second officer, R. I. Curtin, is the grandson of the famous war Governor of Pennsylvania, Richard Curtin, the friend of the Camerons and of Lincoln.

By Monday the Lawrence may condescend to come up an anchor alongside of a warboat and let the public come and tramp over her, but until then, at least, she is going to cleave close under the lee of the snagboat, and she cares not whether anyone sees her or not. To-day and Sunday the big excursion boats will leave every hour for two-hour trips around both ships.

It is not expected that either ship will be ready to receive guests before Monday, but the river itself is an interesting sight for visitors.

GOVERNMENT EXHIBITS READY IN EVERY DETAIL.

Federal Buildings Will Be Open to Public To-Day—President Francis Congratulates Board.

The United States Government building at the World's Fair, as well as the United States Fish Pavilion, are completed, and the exhibits are installed. W. V. Cox, Secretary of the Government Board, announced yesterday that both buildings will be opened to the public at noon today.

"The Government Board has accepted both buildings," said Mr. Cox, "and so pleased were the members with the work of the contractors that a vote of thanks was extended to them. The report that the board was dissatisfied and had refused to accept the buildings is the most absurd canard of the season."

"The Government exhibits have been installed in every detail, and President Francis yesterday congratulated the Government Board upon the success of its work."

HOW TO REACH WORLD'S FAIR BY STREET CARS AND TRAINS.

Olive Maryland and Olive World's Fair Lines With Delmar Transit Cars, Go Direct to Main Entrance of Exposition Grounds, running on Minute Schedules—Chouteau, Laclede and Market Cars Run to State Building Entrance, on Southern Side of Fair, Near Inside Inn—Olive Through Service Terminates at Skinker Loop—Page Avenue Traffic Is Direct to Administration Building—Easton and Taylor Lines Operate to Pike Entrance—Suburban Main Line Runs to Skinker Entrance, While Brentwood, Clayton and Kirkwood Cars Stop at Administration Gate—Wabash Shuttle Trains Will Run From Union Station to Main Fair Entrance Every Fifteen Minutes.

CAPACITY OF RAILROADS AND STREET-CAR LINES TO FAIR.

Line and Destination	Capacity Per Hour
Olive (Maryland car)—Main entrance	4,000
Olive (World's Fair car)—Main entrance	4,000
Olive (through car)—Skinker loop	4,000
Delmar—Main entrance	12,000
Chouteau—State building entrance	6,500
Page—Administration loop	6,500
Easton—Pike entrance	6,500
Laclede—State building entrance	6,500
Market—State building entrance	6,500
Taylor—Pike entrance	2,000
Total hourly capacity of Transit Company lines	
Suburban lines and destinations are:	65,000
Total capacity of Suburban lines an hour	10,000
Wabash "Shuttle" Train—Main entrance	35,000
Grand total, per hour	110,000

It is estimated that, operating under the fastest possible schedule, the street and steam railroads of St. Louis, operating between the World's Fair grounds and points in the city, can carry 110,000 persons to the Fair every hour.

On the strength of these estimates, it is believed that the capacity of these lines for carrying persons from the Fair will greatly exceed 100,000 persons an hour, as it is generally conceded that cars can be loaded and sent out much more rapidly than received and unloaded.

Officials of the Transit, Suburban and the Wabash Railroad Company have been working night and day for many weeks over the final problem of adjusting the route and schedule of traffic to meet the enormous demands that are expected in St. Louis for many months, beginning today.

As a result it is practically possible for a person in almost any part of the city to reach any point of the Fair, which is a source of great convenience when the distances at the Fair are considered.

The Olive street lines will have Mary-land line and bearing a red sign indicating its route, has a loop at the main entrance of the Fair. This line proceeds out Olive to Boyle avenue, turns west from Boyle avenue, thence to the main entrance.

The Olive street World's Fair car will also proceed to the loop at the main entrance. This car goes out Olive to King's highway, thence out McPherson, thence to the main entrance, at De Baliviere and De Giverville avenues.

The Olive through line, which also has a sign indicating what it is, will have a loop at the Skinker entrance of the Fair. This car proceeds out Olive to Taylor avenue, goes north on Taylor to Delmar and Delmar west.

The Delmar avenue line will also have a loop at the main entrance. It starts downtown on Washington avenue, pro-

POMP, PAGEANTRY AND ELOQUENCE WILL MARK OPENING OF FAIR.

The gates of the World's Fair will be opened this morning for visitors at 8 o'clock, closing at 11 o'clock to-night.

At 9 o'clock a grand band concert will be given on the Plaza St. Louis, facing the Louisiana Purchase Monument, just north of the Grand Basin. Participants in the exercises will assemble at 9:45 a. m. at the rostrum at the base of the monument, the audience occupying the Plaza St. Louis and facing the monument.

Promptly at 10 o'clock President Francis will call the assemblage to order.

Immediately afterwards the Reverend Frank W. Gunsulius will offer up the invocation, closing with the Lord's Prayer, in which all are requested to join.

The first address of the day will be delivered by President David R. Francis, following the invocation. At the conclusion of the address the President will recognize William H. Thompson of the Grounds and Buildings Committee, who will present Isaac S. Taylor, the Director of Works.

The keys of the Exposition palaces will be delivered to the President of the Exposition Company by Director of Works Taylor, who will then present diplomas of merit to the chiefs of his staff.

Van der Stucken's march, "Louisiana," will be performed by Sousa's Band, John Philip Sousa leading.

The exhibit palaces will then be transferred by the President to the Director of Exhibits, Frederick J. V. Skiff, and the latter invested with his official commission and insignia of office.

Director of Exhibits Skiff will deliver an address, following it with the presentation of their official commissions and insignia of office to the chiefs of his division.

The "Hymn of the West," the words by Edmund Clarence Stedman and the music by John Knowles Paine, will be sung by a chorus led by Alfred Ernst.

The Honorable Rolla Wells, Mayor of St. Louis, will follow with an address.

At the conclusion of his address Thomas H. Carter, President of the National Commission of the World's Fair, will deliver an address. Following him James A. Tawney, member of Congress, will deliver an address on behalf of the House of Representatives.

On behalf of the domestic exhibitors at the World's Fair Edward H. Harriman, President of the New York Commission to the World's Fair, will then speak.

Albino R. Nunco, Commissioner General to the World's Fair from Mexico and dean of the Foreign Commissioners accredited to the Exposition, will speak in behalf of the foreign exhibitors at the Fair.

At the conclusion of Mr. Nunco's address "America" will be sung by the chorus, all in the assemblage rising and uncovering while the national hymn is being sung.

When the hymn is finished the representative of the President of the United States, the Secretary of War, the Honorable William H. Taft, will deliver the final address.

At the conclusion of his address the President of the United States will, in the White House at the national capital, press the button connected by wire with the Exposition grounds, starting the machinery, by the same act unfurling the flags on all the buildings and releasing the flow of water on all the Cascades.

When the click of the instrument connected with the President's key at Washington has formally opened the Exposition the chorus will render Francis Scott Key's "Star-Spangled Banner."

With the close of the hymn the formal order of opening exercises will have been completed. At noon all of the exhibit palaces will be opened to the public and lunch will be served to 1,500 invited guests in the Palace of Varied Industries.

At 1 o'clock the grand parade of peoples and beasts from the Pike will start on its procession through the grounds, this being the formal opening of that thoroughfare.

DETAILS OF CEREMONIES FOR THE FAIR OPENING.

Objective Point in Forenoon Will Be the Plaza St. Louis, Where Band Concerts Will Begin at 9:15—Dignitaries to March From Administration Building to Stands Facing the Cascades.

St. Louis and all her bedchambers in the suburbs, across the river that divides Missouri and Illinois, and in the many suburbs beyond the city limits, is aroused to the greatness of to-day's event in her history. Such a gathering of her people with thousands of those from all over the United States and beyond the seas will be present at the World's Fair grounds as certainly never before has been in the city.

While estimates of the probable attendance of visitors to-day at the Exposition site are difficult to obtain from Exposition officials, it is thought that the total will number from 150,000 to 200,000. This estimate is held by many familiar with the situation to be conservative rather than unwarrantably optimistic.

Only the most adverse meteorological conditions, it seems, can operate to prevent to-day being a red letter day in the history of St. Louis and witnessing at the World's Fair grounds, on the occasion of its formal opening, an unprecedented gathering.

The day is a holiday. All roads will lead to the Exposition site, and thither will travel many thousands of the citizens of St. Louis, besides many of the most distinguished foreign and national celebrities.

In the forenoon, at least, the objective point of the throngs will be the wide and beautiful Plaza St. Louis, which stretches northward from the tall shaft of the Louisiana Purchase monument which forms a central feature of the splendid picture of the Exposition, facing the cascades and Colonnade of States, on Art Hill.

At 8 o'clock this morning the gates of the eleven entrances of the Exposition will be thrown open to the world, and will remain open until 11 o'clock this evening. There will be at each entrance separate turnstiles provided for the holders of passes and for the paid tickets of admission.

The price of admission for adults is 50 cents, and for children under 12 years 25 cents. For children under 5 years admission is free. Booths for the sale of tickets are provided at all of the entrances.

From 9:15 to 10 a. m. the official program of music as completed by Director of Music George W. Stewart, provides for Sousa's band to furnish the grand assembling concert from the east band stand in the Plaza St. Louis while the audience and participants are gathering for the opening exercises.

EARLY CONCERTS. In the meantime the Philippine Scouts' Band will lead the first division of the parade from the Administration building