

## CHICAGO WORLD'S FAIR CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

### MESSAGE

FROM

## THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A RECOMMENDATION THAT LEGISLATION BE ENACTED  
EXTENDING AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED FOR GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION IN THE CHICAGO WORLD'S FAIR CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN 1933 TO JUNE 30, 1935, AND AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$405,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE EXPENSES OF PARTICIPATION BY THE GOVERNMENT IN SUCH

MARCH 28, 1934.—Referred to the Committee on the Library and ordered to be printed

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I commend to the favorable consideration of the Congress the enclosed report from the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Commission to the end that legislation may be enacted extending the availability of funds previously appropriated for Government participation in A Century of Progress, the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration, in 1933, to June 30, 1935, and also authorizing the appropriation of funds in the amount of \$405,000 for the purpose of defraying the expenses of participation by the Government of the United States in the reopening of A Century of Progress, the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration, in 1934.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
March 27, 1934.

THE CHICAGO WORLD'S FAIR CENTENNIAL COMMISSION,  
March 23, 1934.

The PRESIDENT:

House Joint Resolution No. 365, Seventieth Congress, second session, authorized and requested the President to invite the participation of the nations of the world in "A Century of Progress" (the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration) to be held at Chicago, Ill., in 1933, whenever it should have been shown to the satisfaction of the President that a sum not less than \$5,000,000 had been raised and made available to the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration Corporation, organized for the purposes of a world's fair in Chicago to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of that city. On the 6th day of November 1929 President Hoover, being satisfied that the above sum had been raised and made available, issued a proclamation inviting "the participation of the nations in this exposition of a century of progress, to the end that there may be shown in Chicago examples of contributions made to that progress by the peoples of many nations; and in order that the achievement and inventions of the great men of the world in science, in art, in drama, and in sport, as well as in industry and agriculture, may be fittingly acknowledged and acclaimed."

At the second session of the Seventy-first Congress, Public Resolution No. 92 authorized the President to appoint one representative each of the Departments of State, Agriculture, and Commerce to investigate and report to the President their conclusions and recommendations with reference to suitable representation at and participation in the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration on the part of the Government of the United States and its various departments and activities. This committee was constituted as authorized. On December 19, 1930, your predecessor submitted a message recommending to the favorable consideration of the Congress the report of the committee, which he enclosed. This message and report are contained in House Document No. 698, Seventy-first Congress, third session. Pursuant to this recommendation, bills were introduced in the Senate and House of Representatives. A brief résumé of the legislative history of this legislation follows: Senate bill No. 355 was reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce on January 15, 1932, after hearings had been held. (S.Rept. No. 93, 72d Cong., 1st sess.) The House Library Committee considered H.R. 7526, H.R. 57, and H.R. 4583, and reported the latter, it being identical with Senate bill No. 355. (H.Rept. No. 194, 72d Cong., 1st sess.) On January 28, 1932, Senate bill no. 355 passed the Senate, and on February 2, 1932, the House substituted the Senate bill for H.R. 4583 and passed it with amendments. The Senate agreed to the House amendments on February 3, and the act received the approval of the Executive on February 8, 1932. (Public Act No. 14, 72d Cong., 1st sess.)

Public Act No. 14, Seventy-second Congress, authorized the establishment of a commission, to be known as the "Chicago World's Fair Centennial Commission", and to be composed of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Secretary of Commerce, to represent the United States in connection with the holding of an international exhibition, known as "A Century of Progress", in the city of Chicago, in the State of Illinois, in the year 1933, in celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of Chicago as a

municipality. It also authorized the President to appoint a United States commissioner to put the act into effect and he in turn was authorized to employ subordinate assistants. A commissioner was appointed and the work of preparing the Government exhibits was forthwith initiated.

The act authorized the appropriation of the sum of \$1,000,000, of which sum not to exceed the sum of \$550,000 could be expended for the erection or rental of suitable buildings, and the remaining portion to be used for the "selection, purchase, preparation, assembling, transportation, installation, arrangement, safe-keeping, exhibition, demonstration, and return of such articles and materials as the Commission may decide shall be included in such Government exhibit and in the exhibits of A Century of Progress." To fulfill the purposes of this act a Government building was constructed at a cost of \$299,980. In it were housed exhibits of the various Government departments and establishments, and it was held open to the public until the close of the Exposition on November 12, 1933. This building was 620 feet long by 300 feet wide, with a rotunda 70 feet in diameter, surmounted by a 75-foot dome, around which were grouped three fluted towers 150 feet high, typifying the three coordinate divisions of the Government—executive, judicial and legislative. Architecturally and artistically the Federal Building was outstanding, and it is gratifying to note from the reports of the commissioner that the greatest number of people to visit any of the exhibits passed through the Federal Building. The paid attendance at the Fair reached a total of 22,565,859, and it is estimated that 15,500,000 of these visitors, drawn from the United States and the world at large, viewed the Federal Building and its exhibits. The exhibits presented a rare opportunity to this vast public to understand the lines along which the Government of the United States is proceeding in an effort to aid in the advancement of science and general betterment of conditions.

Eighteen Government departments and independent establishments had exhibits in the Federal Building, which were carefully planned and arranged to give the best educational and explanatory benefits. In addition to their exhibits in the Federal Building, the Departments of Navy, Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, and Labor, and the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, provided exhibits for display elsewhere in the exposition.

At a meeting held November 3, 1933, the board of directors of A Century of Progress, with the concurrence of the trustees, passed a resolution authorizing the continuance of the exposition in 1934. This decision was reached after consultation with the Governor of Illinois and the mayor of Chicago, and after assurances had been received from most of the important exhibitors that they favored reopening the exposition for another year. The reopening, however, was contingent upon the passage of an ordinance by the General Assembly of Illinois which would permit continued use of the site occupied by the exposition in 1933. This contingency has been removed by the recent passage of the requisite legislation and its approval by the Governor of the State.

We take the liberty of recalling your visit to the fair on the 2d of October and the interest in its continuance for another year which you expressed on that occasion. With a view to possible Govern-



ment participation, we have taken steps which would permit of such participation with a minimum of cost.

When plans were announced for reopening A Century of Progress this summer, the commissioner recommended to the commission, in the interest of economy, that the exhibits be retained in the Government Building, pending an expression of the will of Congress as to continued Government participation, and that authority be sought from the Comptroller General for an expenditure to provide heat for their protection from extremes of weather. Such authority was requested and granted and heat was immediately provided.

The estimates submitted by exhibitors for 1934 have, with one exception, been smaller than allotments made to them for 1933. This exception is the estimate submitted by the Secretary of Labor. In the year which has elapsed since the original exhibits were prepared new activities have been incorporated in, or have become intimately associated with, that Department. The Labor Department, therefore, feels that if its work is to be effectively presented to the public, an entirely new exhibit should be arranged.

We are convinced of the value of continuing the Government exhibits at Chicago and have made a careful study of the requirements. In order that the Government of the United States may be properly represented during the period of the reopening of the exposition, we recommend that an appropriation of \$405,000 be requested of the Congress for that purpose. In addition to this amount it is necessary that the unexpended balance of the existing appropriation which lapses automatically at the close of the present fiscal year be reappropriated.

There is attached hereto a statement covering allotments and expenditures made in 1933, together with estimates for similar requirements in 1934. Draft legislation designed to carry out the above recommendation is also attached.

Respectfully submitted.

CORDELL HULL,  
*Secretary of State.*

H. A. WALLACE,  
*Secretary of Agriculture.*

DANIEL C. ROPER,  
*Secretary of Commerce.*

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
Washington, D.C.

(Enclosures: (1) Statement of expenditures and estimates; (2) draft legislation.)

Exhibitors	Allotments 1933	Expenditures and estimated obligations to June 1, 1934	Estimated unexpended balances as of June 1	Estimated requirements, 1934
State Department.....	\$10,000	\$9,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$6,000.00
Treasury Department.....	30,000	29,157.63	842.37	24,277.00
War Department:				
U.S. Army.....	60,000	54,000.00	6,000.00	29,400.00
Corps of Engineers.....	4,000	3,680.94	319.06	1,850.00
Justice Department.....	7,500	7,009.39	490.61	2,523.00
Post Office Department.....	15,000	5,182.42	9,817.58	14,818.00
Navy Department.....	47,500	28,856.51	18,643.49	36,967.00
Interior Department.....	54,100	45,790.36	8,309.64	33,810.00
Agriculture Department.....	101,750	101,750.00	-----	45,000.00
Commerce Department.....	86,790	80,499.87	6,290.13	43,812.00
Labor Department.....	24,600	24,576.65	23.35	50,000.00
Smithsonian Institution.....	12,500	8,697.43	3,802.57	3,803.00
National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.....	10,800	10,747.55	52.45	7,414.00
National Capital Park and Planning Commission.....	7,000	6,726.10	273.90	1,300.00
Government Printing Office.....	5,000	3,072.47	1,927.53	1,000.00
Veterans' Administration.....	4,500	3,892.25	607.75	2,508.00
Library of Congress.....	600	454.47	145.53	463.00
Shipping Board.....	7,000	5,115.91	1,884.09	3,500.00
Panama Canal.....	1,500	797.62	702.38	702.00
Commissioner's Office.....	509,860	493,618.05	16,241.95	172,954.00
Total.....	1,000,000	922,625.62	77,374.38	482,101.00
Unexpended balance to be reappropriated.....				77,374.38
New funds to be reappropriated.....				404,726.62

A BILL To amend an Act entitled "An Act providing for the participation of the United States in A Century of Progress (the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration) to be held at Chicago, Illinois, in 1933, authorizing an appropriation therefor, and for other purposes", approved February 8, 1933, to provide for participation in A Century of Progress in 1934, to authorize an appropriation therefor, and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the United States continue its participation in the Exposition, A Century of Progress (the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration), at Chicago, Illinois, in 1934.

SEC. 2. For this purpose the Act entitled "An Act providing for the participation of the United States in A Century of Progress (the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration) to be held at Chicago, Illinois, in 1933, authorizing an appropriation therefor, and for other purposes", approved February 8, 1932, as hereby amended, is extended and made applicable to the continuance of the participation of the United States in the said Exposition in 1934 in the same manner and to the same extent and for the same purposes as originally provided in said Act, except insofar as the provisions of that Act specify the erection of a building or group of buildings: *Provided*, That there may be expended a sum not to exceed \$2,500 for the purchase of a passenger-carrying automobile for the official use of the Commissioner of A Century of Progress.

SEC. 3. In addition to the sum of \$1,000,000 authorized by the aforesaid Act to be appropriated for the participation of the United States in A Century of Progress (the Chicago World's Fair Centennial Celebration) and appropriated under section 2 of "An Act making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1933, and for other purposes", approved July 7, 1932, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$405,000.





