

INTERNATIONAL SHOOTING AND FIELD SPORTS EXHIBITION, VIENNA.

MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

A REPORT BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE SUBMITTING AN INVITATION EXTENDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRIA-HUNGARY TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL SHOOTING AND FIELD SPORTS EXHIBITION, VIENNA, MAY, 1910.

JANUARY 5, 1909.—Read; referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed with illustrations. .

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I transmit herewith a report by the Secretary of State submitting an invitation extended to the Government of the United States by the Government of Austria-Hungary to participate in the first International Shooting and Field Sports Exhibition, which will open at Vienna on May 15, 1910, together with a prospectus explaining the objects and purposes of the exhibition.

The report shows the favorable consideration which has been given to the invitation by the Department of Commerce and Labor, and by the Biological Survey, and the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture, in view of which and in recognition of the liberal part which Austria took in the World's Fair at Chicago and the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis, the Secretary of State recommends an appropriation by Congress of \$250,000 to enable the Government of the United States to accept the invitation to participate in the exhibition.

This recommendation has my cordial approval.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 19, 1908.

The PRESIDENT:

The undersigned, Secretary of State, has the honor to lay before the President the invitation extended to the Government of the United States by the Government of Austria-Hungary to participate in the First International Shooting and Field Sports Exhibition, which will open at Vienna on May 15, 1910, and close on October 15 following.

The objects and purposes of the exhibition are stated in the prospectus which accompanies the invitation.

The question of participation by the Government in the exhibition has received the attention of the Department of Commerce and Labor and the Biological Survey and the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture.

In a letter dated the 16th instant, the Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Labor writes to me as follows:

Secretary Straus, who left the city last night, desires me to express to you on behalf of the department its earnest belief that this Government should accept the invitation of the Austrian embassy to participate in the exhibition to be held in Vienna from May 15 to October 15, 1910, and the hope that it will be found possible to secure the early appointment of representatives to take up at once the active work of preparation for the same and fostering the country's interests in connection therewith.

On the same day Professor Merriam, Chief of the Biological Survey, wrote to the Department of State a letter which I quote in full:

With reference to the International Exposition of The Chase to be held in Vienna in May, 1910, in which the Government of Austria-Hungary has invited the Government of the United States to take part, permit me to say:

During the recent International Congress of Fisheries in this city Doctor von Kadiak, the distinguished representative of Austria-Hungary, explained the objects and character of the exposition and expressed the earnest hope that our Government would take the matter up and prepare an exhibit of American game animals and other objects relating to the chase which would show other nations our exceptional resources and methods along this line.

Such an exhibit, comprising mounted groups of our distinctive game mammals and birds, properly prepared and installed and with appropriate accessories, would cost a very large sum—probably not less than \$200,000—a sum far too large to be likely to be contributed by private individuals or organizations, even should any nongovernmental agency possess the facilities for securing the necessary material in the short time available, for it should be known that the specimens needed can not be had from any museum, but must be collected in the field.

The large variety of splendid game animals of the United States in connection with the high development of the art of preparing such animals in groups with natural accessories, as achieved by the American and Field Museums of Natural History, would enable this country to make an exhibit that would be the admiration of the world.

The participation of the United States in the exhibition would be a graceful act, indicating our appreciation of the prominent part taken by Austria-Hungary in our several international expositions.

I, therefore, take the liberty to express the hope that you will do all in your power to secure the cooperation of the United States in the coming Vienna exposition.

Mr. Gifford Pinchot, Forester, Department of Agriculture, writing on the subject of participation by the Forest Service in the exhibition, states that—

such participation would be valuable to us both as a stimulant to the scientific work of our foresters, and because the preparation of such a statement of our work as participation in the exposition would imply always promotes the efficiency of executive work.

And he adds:

Furthermore, I am greatly interested, of course, in the sportsmen's side of the exposition, and I believe it to be thoroughly desirable in that direction also that we should take part.

It appearing from these indorsements that participation by this Government in the exhibition would be in the public interest, I have the honor to recommend that Congress be asked to make provision for such participation.

I am moved also to make this recommendation by a desire to have shown this Government's recognition of the prominent part which Austria took in the World's Fair at Chicago in 1893, and the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis in 1904. For Austrian participation in the former exposition the Austrian parliament granted 275,000 florins, and for participation in the latter exposition 1,100,000 crowns, about \$225,000.

For participation by the Government of the United States in the Vienna exposition an appropriation of at least \$250,000 will be required.

Respectfully submitted.

ELIHU ROOT.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 17, 1908.

[Translation.]

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN EMBASSY,
Washington, March 18, 1908.

YOUR EXCELLENCY: An international hunting exposition will be held at Vienna from May 15 to October 15, 1910, and will embrace all products of agriculture, manufacture, and industry which have any connection with hunting.

At the head of the committee on organization are personages who will be able to carry out the project in an appropriate and energetic manner owing to their social position, and the interest and support of hunting circles at home is insured to the highest extent.

The exposition committee has requested the Austro-Hungarian ministry of foreign affairs to invite foreign countries to take part in this show.

I therefore have the honor, in pursuance to instructions received, to appeal to your excellency's kind offices in announcing this exposition to all official and private interested circles in the United States, and in having an invitation extended to them to participate as liberally and in as large numbers as possible.

At the same time I have the honor to inclose the invitation prepared by the committee, and will add that an English translation thereof will follow in due course.

Your excellency will please accept the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

HENGELMULLER.

His Excellency Mr. ELIHU ROOT,
Secretary of State, Washington.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL SHOOTING AND FIELD-SPORTS EXHIBITION, VIENNA, 1910.

Invitation to take part in the First International Shooting and Field-Sports Exhibition to be held in Vienna in 1910.

An international shooting and field-sports exhibition is to be held in Vienna in 1910, which is to include exhibits of all agricultural and trade products having any sort of connection with these matters.

With the exception of a few small, unimportant exhibitions of this kind, chiefly confined to exhibits from the country in which they were held, and consequently only of local interest, the hunting and shooting exhibits have hitherto usually formed a subordinate and, on the whole, neglected part of international, national, or special agricultural and forestry exhibitions. At such partial exhibitions it has never been possible to do full justice to the real significance and value of hunting and shooting, their historical development, or their relation to sport and political economy.

It is felt that hunting and shooting, with all their appurtenances, would assume quite a different aspect if the conditions under which they are conducted throughout the world were coordinated and presented to the public, and this can be achieved by means of an international exhibition.

Hunting and shooting have more than kept pace with the general development of sport; they have penetrated into fresh strata of the population, all classes of which now take the liveliest interest in them.

As no such exhibition has ever been held, the First International Shooting and Field-Sports Exhibition, to be held in Vienna in 1910, promises to be one of the most interesting "special exhibitions;" it will—apart from its primary object, its particular character and arrangement—give nearly all industrial exhibitors, especially business firms, an opportunity of selling their goods to an international purchasing public.

The object of the first international shooting and field-sports exhibition is to show the amount of economic profit to countries where hunting and shooting are encouraged, as also the extent to which art, traffic, commerce, industry, and trade are interested in the maintenance of those branches of sport and the remarkably large profit which is derived from them, not only by the parties immediately interested, but also by the whole population.

This exhibition will show how closely the interests of the public are involved in the promotion of shooting and sport generally, and what great advantages accrue to the country where they are carried on and encouraged.

This exhibition is intended to show, and will show, how closely the maintenance and practice of hunting and shooting are connected with the interests of active life.

The first international shooting and field-sports exhibition (which has the fullest support and cooperation of the I. and R. government and the municipality of Vienna) will last about five months, from May till October, 1910.

The inclosed sketch shows the area (about 500,000 square meters) which has been assigned to the exhibition, as well as the designs for the separate exhibition buildings.

The exhibition grounds include the "Rotunde" (situated in the world-famous "Prater") which it is intended to use for the industrial palace for the exhibits of those industries and trades connected with hunting and shooting, for which no adequate room is found in the separate pavilions, also the grounds around the "Rotunde" (as far as the "Haupt-Allee"), and these are intended to receive purely hunting and shooting exhibits.

The general plan of the exhibition is that every State, including Austria, should have a separate space allotted to it; that the exhibits of each country should be displayed in a building or pavilion erected at that country's expense and representing either some famous historical shooting box or country seat typical of that country. Restaurants could also be set up in such buildings.

The exhibition will include everything connected with the encouragement of hunting and shooting, particularly all objects illustrative of the historical development of this kind of sport and its economic and national importance.

The exhibition will further comprise the products of arts and crafts, schools of agriculture, forestry and vine culture, also of industries and trades in any way connected with hunting and shooting.

The exhibits of each State should therefore, in general, include:

1. The ethnographical and historical portion of sport, its practice and apparatus, i. e., a series of objects showing the development of hunting and shooting from their origin down to the present types, as well as the necessary paraphernalia in use.
2. All kinds of hunting trophies, such as antlers, horns, weapons, skins, rugs, etc.
3. Stuffed animals of the chase and live game.
4. Hunting weapons, powder, and cartridges.

5. Pictorial representations of hunting and shooting; pictures and sculpture, as well as allied art-industrial objects.
6. Shooting boxes, their fittings and furniture.
7. Dress used for hunting and shooting, including the exhibition of complete outfits and accessories of all sorts, especially those needed for big hunting and shooting expeditions.
8. Hunting with hounds and hawking.
9. Hunters and pack animals used when hunting. To this section belong also saddles, bridles, and harness in general.
10. Dogcarts and other hunting vehicles, hunting boats, special motor vehicles, etc., the associated trades, as also aerial navigation.
11. The temporary exhibition of hounds of all breeds and classes.
12. Natural and artificial foods for game, horses, and hounds.
13. Colleges and secondary schools of agriculture and forestry; schools of hunting, their fittings and modes of instruction.
14. Hunting literature, statistics concerning head of game, bags of game, plans of shooting preserves and their arrangements.
15. Societies for protecting game and societies for the suppression of poaching.
16. Articles and aids used in hunting at home and abroad in the breeding, care, and capture of game.
17. Illustrations of damage done by game and the means of preventing it.
18. Illustrations of the different kinds of poaching and its prevention.
19. The stocking of preserves with game and the exploitation of it.
20. Tourist traffic and traveling facilities.
21. Hunting hygiene.
22. Insurance against hunting and shooting accidents.

The exhibition is besides to afford an opportunity for holding international hunting and shooting congresses, at which all the questions relating to those sports are to be discussed.

Likewise special exhibitions—Temporary exhibitions of trophies, etc.—Matches—Shooting game, international shooting at clay pigeons (ball trap) and glass balls, etc.—Competition of mechanical vehicles and motor cars—Temporary exhibitions of live animals—Hunters, pack animals, hounds, etc.—Musical productions—Competition of the hunting music of different countries.

The management of the exhibition will be in the hands of a committee comprising representatives of all the parties interested.

The rules and regulations of the exhibition, as also the classification of the exhibits and forms of application for space, will shortly be obtainable by all persons wishing to take part.

We herewith invite you to draw the attention of all persons interested, the owners of estates and preserves, artists, manufacturers, and merchants to this exhibition. We should be glad to know, as soon as possible, principally if you are inclined to take part, and also whether we may reckon on your cooperation.

Vienna, December, 1907.

The committee for arranging the First International Shooting and Field-Sports Exhibition to be held in Vienna in 1910:

President, Max Egon Prince zu Fürstenberg, I. and R. Privy Councillor, I. and R. Chamberlain, Vice-President of the Upper House, Knight of the Order of the Golden Fleece, etc.

Vice-President, Count Francis Colloredo-Mannsfeld, I. and R. Chamberlain, President of the Association for the Protection of Game in Lower Austria, etc.

Prince Charles Kinsky zu Wchinitz u. Tettau, I. and R. Privy Councillor, I. and R. Chamberlain, late Ambassador Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Member of the Upper House, Knight of the Order of the Golden Fleece, etc.

Prince Henry von und zu Liechtenstein, Member of the Upper House, Prince Grandprior of Bohemia and Austria of the Knights of Malta, etc.

Count Ferdinand Longueval-Buquoy, I. and R. Privy Councillor, I. and R. Chamberlain, late I. and R. Minister of Agriculture, etc.

Count Maximilian Thun-Hohenstein, I. and R. Privy Councillor, I. and R. Chamberlain, Grand Master of the Hunt to His I. and R. Apostolic Majesty.

Prince Charles Trauttmansdorff-Weinsberg, I. and R. Privy Councillor, I. and R. Chamberlain, Member of the Upper House, Knight of the Order of the Golden Fleece, etc.

Count Anthony Wodzicki, I. and R. Privy Councillor, I. and R. Chamberlain, Member of the Upper House, etc.

William Robert Huber, Imperial Councillor. President of the Vienna Shooting Club.