

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871.

OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 9, 1898—TWELVE PAGES.

SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

NO POLITICS HERE

House Passes the Bill Providing for a National Defense.

NOT A VOTE CAST AGAINST THE MEASURE

Party Lines Are Forgotten in Face of Possible War.

NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST UNITE

Spirit of Intense Patriotism Prevails on All Sides.

MEMBERS EAGER TO BE PLACED ON RECORD

Immediately Upon the Passage of the Bill It is Hurdled Over to the Senate and Referred to Proper Committee.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—In a spirit of patriotism, with eloquent words ringing in their ears, every member of the house of representatives today responded to the president's first call to meet the Spanish situation by casting his vote for a bill placing in President McKinley's hand \$50,000,000 to be expended at his discretion for the national defense. Party lines were swept away and with a unanimous voice congress voted its confidence in the administration. Many members who were charged with absent col- leagues took the responsibility of breaking their pairs, an unprecedented thing in legislative annals, in order that they might go on record in support of this vast appropriation to maintain the dignity and honor of their country. Speaker Reed, who as the presiding officer seldom votes, only in case of a tie, had his name called and voted in his capacity as a representative. The scene of enthusiasm which greeted the announcement of the vote—aye, 311; nays, none—has seldom been paralleled in the house.

All day long the galleries were jammed with enthusiastic spectators applauding to the echo the sterling patriotism of the words of eloquence which were uttered by the members on the floor. All the speeches were brief. Although four hours were allowed for debate, as great a number of members as five minutes and most of them had to content themselves with a beggarly fraction of a minute.

In all fifty-nine speeches were made. With one exception members from the north and the south, the east and the west, the states and the territories, battle-scarred veterans of the union and the federated armies, all joining in proclaiming their support of the country's chief magistrate in the face of a possible war. General Greenvoer said that if it did not come the \$50,000,000 appropriated by this bill would be wisely expended if it only served to show the world that when threatened from without the hearts of the American people beat as one.

In the whole debate there was only a slight discordant note, caused by the speech of General Higgins (Dem.), a gallant soldier who served with distinction under Lincoln. He spoke too conservatively for the aroused temper of the house, and when he insisted that our relations with Spain were as friendly as they had been for years many of the members hissed him.

DIFFER AS TO WAR.

While almost every member who spoke deprecated the possibility of war, a wide divergence of opinion as to how close we were to hostilities manifested itself in the debate. The general conviction of the majority, among them the leaders on both sides, was that this appropriation, by preparing for war, would prove the surest guaranty of peace. Others insisted that war alarms would soon be heard and Mr. Mann (Ill.) declared that war actually existed in all save name.

The speeches which attracted most attention were those of Messrs. Cannon, Henderson and Deliver on the republican side, and Messrs. Bailey and Sawyer on the democratic side.

On the floor almost every member was in his seat. On the faces of the leaders on both sides was an air of stern resolution, indicating their deep appreciation of the grim business upon which congress and the country were entering, making this vast appropriation for possible war. As soon as the journal had been read the speaker rapped for order, and a deep silence prevailed. Mr. Cannon arose and presented as a deficiency bill the measure appropriating \$50,000,000 for the national defense. It includes also several other items, among which are \$100,000 for coal for naval vessels.

When the reading of the bill was concluded with the item of \$50,000,000 for the national defense a spontaneous outburst of applause went up from the members and the majority and minority leaders of the appropriations committee, then mutually proposed the agreement they had privately made before the house met, for three hours general debate on the bill, to be followed by one hour's debate under the five minute rule.

Mr. Barrett (Mass.) asked if opportunity would be allowed for amendments and when Mr. Cannon answered that he did not know, he objected. His objection was greeted with hisses and loud cries of "vote; vote." Mr. Barrett, yielding to the urgent appeals of republicans about him, withdrew his objection. The agreement as to the time was formally ratified.

CANNON OPENS DEBATE.

After the confusion that had followed this dramatic incident had subsided, Mr. Cannon took the floor to open debate on the bill. He spoke calmly and briefly, explaining that the items in the bill, save the last, were strictly deficiency items. Coming to the all-absorbing item, he said that in the present critical condition of affairs the committee had deemed it wise to appropriate this sum, placing its expenditures in the complete discretion of the president. He referred to the fact that the committee had been unanimous in its action and had only changed the wording of the bill he introduced yesterday by making the appropriation available until January 1, 1899, instead of June 30, 1899.

SPAIN'S RUMORED PURCHASES

Conflicting Stories About the Dons Buying War Ships.

VERY HARD WORK TO GET AT THE TRUTH

Alleged Facts Are Stated in One Quarter Only—The Other Being Another—Queen Victoria Poses as Mediator.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) LONDON, March 8.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The story of the reported purchase by Spanish agents of two Brazilian and one Chilean cruiser was again prevalent today. I inquired at the Spanish naval commission's offices in London, where I was solemnly assured that there was not a word of truth in the statement. A denial in that quarter was to be expected, however, as secrecy is essential to the fulfillment of the object that Spain has in view. I saw later in the House of Commons Lord the head of one of the largest and best-known ship-building firms on the Clyde, who told me yesterday:

"I know positively that Spain is hunting not only for cruisers but for eight fast steamships which are to be converted into armored cruisers and fitted with quick-firing guns. She has been on the lookout for some weeks, but the difficulty was, of course, the money. No British shipbuilder would permit her to remove any craft without prepayment in full. I have also just heard that her contemplated purchases, which have been hanging fire for some time, have now been arranged for a loan through Poul's bank of Paris with a French syndicate. Sentiment as well as self-interest prompts France to assist Spain against the United States and France is the only European country where Spain stands the slightest chance of obtaining help."

HARD NUT TO CRACK.

The member of Parliament who made this statement asked that his name should not be given, his firm having dealings with the Spanish government. He added: "I consider that the United States will find Spain a hard nut to crack. I have had large experience with Spanish sailors and regard them as first rate seamen. They are hardy, courageous and extremely clever navigators, but they are badly officered. Their country is destitute of resources, while the resources of the United States are practically limitless. Your country is bound to win a long run, but it will be no rosewater affair for your navy."

This opinion is in startling contrast to that expressed on the same subject by William Allan, M. P. of Gateshead, also a shipbuilder and practical sailor, to your correspondent last week.

Another report current in the lobby was that the United States government had offered \$200,000 for Capt. McCalmont's famous steam yacht Giralda. It steams twenty knots, has a displacement of 1,480 tons and is fitted under the requirements of the British navy for use in time of war as an unarmored cruiser. It has ten machine guns. The Giralda is at present at Algiers and it is stated that the offer of the United States government is being considered by the British navy, but it will be no rosewater affair for your navy."

Mr. McLean (dem., Ark.) followed in similar strain. He said the occasion was the most important that had confronted the people in the last half century. If necessary to protect our honor and dignity he was willing to increase the appropriation to any extent, for the flag floated over the capital was his flag and the flag of his people and it must be kept there.

Mr. Bell (pop., Colo.) spoke earnestly for the bill. There were, he said, no populists, no republicans and no democrats, but all were American citizens. There was no time to dwell upon what might have been, but it was enough to know that the time had come when the government needed support.

Mr. Northway (rep., O.) declared that he did not consider the bill a war measure, but rather as one calculated to preserve and secure peace. At the same time, he said, we all know full well that there is a spirit of war abroad and our relations with other countries appear to render this step necessary. He was pleased to see that the members were speaking not as partisans but as patriots, bringing to his mind the familiar lines:

Breathes there a man with soul so dead,
Who to himself has never said,
"This my own native land."

Mr. Boutelle, chairman of naval affairs committee, said that while no argument was necessary on this measure he desired to say that he had been instructed by his committee to express the hearty endorsement of that committee. His only regret, he said, was that this appropriation was not allowed to stand absolutely alone as a proclamation to our country and to the world that congress stood ready to vote millions to arm the executive to uphold the dignity of the flag.

FIRMNESS BETTER THAN BRAVADO.

Mr. Hopkins (rep., Ill.) after stating his great confidence in the president, expressed the hope that there would be no war. Thirty-three years of peace, he said, had not obliterated the ravages of the civil war. We did not want its horrors repeated. We are too powerful to play the bully, too Christian to wantonly engage in war. Let us not be hysterical. Let us show the world that moderation and firmness are better than bustle and bravado; that a wise conservatism will do more than jingoism to obtain the independence of Cuba.

Mr. Cooper (dem., Tex.) in a speech of two minutes, recalled the eloquent words of Lincoln in his defense, but not a cent for tribute. He said he had expressed, he said, from Maine to the Rio Grande, and in the face of war it was the duty of all, without regard to party, to support any measure for the national defense. "The aspirations of my soul," he concluded, "are that war may be avoided, but should it come I say to you in behalf of my beloved Texas that they will rush to the nation's defense cheerfully."

Mr. Bland said that while no debate was essential to the passage of the bill it was important to show the country that the American people, without distinction of party, were ready to uphold the administration in the present crisis.

Mr. Fitzgerald (dem., Mass.) took occasion to refer to the alleged utterance of a Catholic priest some time ago, to the effect that the sympathy and support of the Catholic church would be with Spain, which was a Catholic country. While he said he did not believe the priest had uttered such a sentiment, it had attracted wide attention and as a Catholic he desired to repeat it. If war came, the people of that faith, he declared, would be more willing to shed their blood in defense of their country than those who had valiantly defended it in the war of the revolution, the war of 1812, the Mexican war and the civil war.

Mr. McMullin (dem., Tenn.), while reiterating his firm belief in the doctrine of the strictest economy in public expenditures, said he gave the bill his hearty support.

Mr. Wheeler (dem., Ala.) also enthusiastically supported the bill, as did Mr. Driggs (dem., N. Y.) and Mr. Grosvener (O.). GROSVENER IS ELOQUENT.

Mr. Grosvener aroused the house to cheers (Continued on Fifth Page.)

POSITION OF CONSUL LEE

America's Official Representative and the Demand for His Recall.

HAS NO WORD FROM STATE DEPARTMENT

All He Knows of the Matter is What He Learns from the Havana Papers—Calls the Turn on Congo.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) MADRID, March 8.—(New York Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The whole Madrid press this morning comments gloomily on the course which Spain, including friends of the cabinet, attribute less to unfavorable rumors concerning the relations with the United States than to efforts of native and foreign speculators, ever on the alert to take advantage of the circumstances to depress Spanish securities. The tone of most papers, however, is pessimistic, as even the ministerial organ, El Liberal, concludes a long article on the situation as follows: "Undoubtedly our relations with the United States may be adjusted, but the time being to the strict dictates of prudence, but does the government really believe this nation will be able, without suffering irreparable damage, to bear for a few months more this anxious indecision, this evering uncertainty?"

Blanco, consulted by the government, telegraphed that the conduct of Consul Lee had been steadily irrefragable. The Spanish charge d'affaires at Washington telegraphed: "I have the satisfaction to communicate that the American government has abandoned the idea of sending two war vessels to Cuba about completed, and the Spanish government has made arrangements for a loan through Poul's bank of Paris with a French syndicate. Sentiment as well as self-interest prompts France to assist Spain against the United States and France is the only European country where Spain stands the slightest chance of obtaining help."

The government has wired Blanco to permit the introduction of relief free of duty at the above ports. Chambers of commerce and other corporations are rapidly sending reports embodying the opinion that the treaty of commerce with the United States is favorable on condition that colonial tariffs maintain protection at twenty to thirty per cent for Spanish insular ports.

ARTHUR E. HOUGHTON.

Cardinal Rampolla Deles.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) MADRID, March 8.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The minister of foreign affairs today received from the Spanish ambassador at Rome a telegram stating that Cardinal Rampolla had requested him to inform the Spanish government that it was absolutely false that he had granted an interview to any American correspondent. There is therefore no foundation for the report published in a New York newspaper. La Epoca published an article by an important military critic, Colonel of Engineers Alca, on the probabilities of a war with the United States, and the course it would be likely to take.

MANY ATTEND AT MAINE BENEFIT.

Audience is Conspicuous for the Notable Blue Front.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The audience which crowded the National theater at the woman's concert given this evening for the benefit of the families of the men who lost their lives in the Maine disaster was in every way the most notable body ever assembled in a Washington theater. The president and Mrs. McKinley occupied seats in the box of Secretary and Mrs. Long, while the secretary and Mrs. Sherman, the postmaster general and Mrs. Gary, the family of the secretary of war, Secretary Gage, Congressman Boutelle, with almost the entire body of Washington society and thousands of sympathetic residents of the capital, including sixty sailors from the navy yard, who filled an entire row of reserved seats in the gallery.

The concert was under the direction of the relief association, which is headed by Mrs. Long, wife of the secretary, and composed of Mrs. Long, Mrs. Crowninshield, Mrs. O'Neil, Mrs. Bradford, Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. Hitchborn, Mrs. Stewart, Mrs. Heywood, Mrs. Van Reppen, Mrs. Lemley, Mrs. Clover and Miss Beecham. The large theater was artistically draped in flags, the silk banner over the door being the largest and handsomest owned by the government. The long program closed with "The Star Spangled Banner," the audience rising and joining in the chorus.

Twenty officers of the army, navy and marine corps, each in full uniform, acted as ushers, while prominent young women of the navy and army families sold programs and small flags, which were waved vigorously by the eager purchasers during the singing of "The Star Spangled Banner."

A large crowd collected in front of the theater just before the close of the performance and pressed forward to await the appearance of the president. He left the house before the audience. The president's appearance at the doorway, with Mrs. McKinley on his arm, was the signal for an outburst of cheering, waving of handkerchiefs and hand-clapping. Both the president and Mrs. McKinley bowed and smiled as they acknowledged it with a slight inclination of the head. Another and a louder cheer was given as the president's carriage was driven away.

HAS A TORPEDO BOAT FOR SALE.

Vessel is Being Built for a South American Republic.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—Charles R. Flint of New York called at the Navy department today and talked with the officers regarding a new torpedo boat which he has had under contract to build for one of the South American countries. This boat could be turned over to the government within ninety days should it be found desirable. It is designed to make forty-two land miles an hour. It will be fitted with two engines of 1,200-horse power, and is to have twin screws. While he did not make a formal offer of the vessel to the department he will sell if the boat is desired.

MOVEMENTS OF GEEAN VESSELS, MARCH 8.

At New York—Arrived—Kaiser Wilhelm Der Grosse, from Bremen; Cowick, from Liverpool; Ethiopia, from Glasgow; Kensington, from Antwerp.

At Naples—Sailed—Patria, for New York.

At Liverpool—Sailed—Vaporia, for Boston.

At Gibraltar—Sailed—Normania, for New York.

At Delaware Breakwater—Passed up—Pennland, from Liverpool.

At Mobile—Arrived—Furassia, from New York, for Glasgow.

THE BEE BULLETIN.

Weather Forecast for Nebraska—Snow; Cold; North Winds.

1. Congress Passes Cannon's Bill.

Spain's Rumored Purchase of War Ships.

Position Taken by Consul Lee.

Date Set for Exposition Exhibits.

Meeting of the Nebraska Commission.

Union Pacific's Liberal Subscription.

Nebraska Invests in School Securities.

Chase Buys to the Pacific Coast.

Editorial and Comment.

War Feeling is Quieting Down.

Council Buys Local Matters.

Iowa Legislative Proceedings.

General News of the Farther West.

Geology of the Yukon Country.

Commercial Club's Monthly Meeting.

Proceedings of the City Council.

Review of the Beef Market.

Views of Recent Publications.

Local Comments on the Club.

Equalizing the Cost of Pavement.

11. Commercial and Financial News.

"Sammy the Tomboy."

Leuten Sewing Baskets.

Temperature at Omaha.

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	45	1 p. m.	44
6 " "	45	2 " "	44
7 " "	45	3 " "	47
8 " "	47	4 " "	47
9 " "	49	5 " "	47
10 " "	49	6 " "	48
11 " "	50	7 " "	48
12 " "	50	8 " "	52
		9 p. m.	50

been advised by their consul general to leave Havana.

EXPULSIVE CORRESPONDENTS.

Congreso said today that the correspondence were to be expelled "with the authorization of General Lee," whatever that may mean.

It is reported that Clara Barton has discharged several agents for the distribution of concentrated food for dishonestly. They sold canned goods to grocery store keepers. Miss Barton is doing nobly and is seeing that every pound of American charity goes to suffering ones. She is ably assisted by practical assistants now.

The government buoy is all ready for the Montgomery. The buoy, which was there, has been moved out to make way for the Alfonso XII. Now the three Spanish war ships are close together.

The full typewritten text of Sigbee's answer to the toast of the autonomical cabinet upon their visit to the Maine was as follows: "I have the honor, on behalf of myself and the officers of the Maine, to propose the very friendly sentiments which you have just expressed. It is my wish and effort in my position to do all within my power to continue the friendly relations so long existent between Spain and the United States. I beg to express my admiration for the high purpose of your honorable body and assure you that the officers of the Maine welcome you on board in both your official and private characters."

The speech the autonomical cabinet thought was an American greeting to the new autonomy. It was so called in the local press.

The board of inquiry had a secret meeting today. It is not known what it was about. Four witnesses were questioned. Carpenter Helm, an important witness, was held for over an hour. He is said to have known the Maine's hull better than any one else in the navy. Navy Controller Hoover was also closely questioned. There is an impression in naval circles that the Maine question will probably be referred to an international board for investigation. Some members of the American board say they are sorry the first investigation was not so made. Contradictory reports are certainly to be expected from the two commissions now at work.

SILVESTER SCOVILL.

SIGSBEE BUDEDEN WITH GRIEF.

Commander of the Maine Full of Sorrows for the Disaster.

NORWALK, O., March 8.—Captain P. M. Smith of this city, commander of the Henry Chisholm of the Bradley fleet, and Captain C. D. Sigbee of the war ship Maine, are warm personal friends. Yesterday Mrs. Captain Smith received the following interesting letter from Captain Sigbee in response to one written him after the disaster to the Maine:

MADRID, Feb. 28.—My Dear Mrs. Smith: I have kind and cordial letters conveying sympathy from yourself and Captain Smith come today and need it be said was heartily welcomed. The sadness of the great disaster continues for me in the recollection of great numbers of heart-broke appeals from bereaved friends of the Maine's crew. I have no time to think of my own troubles; in fact, they are light by comparison with those of others. That the American people think I have done my duty is more sustaining than I can expect.

I would gladly send you a photograph of myself, but I have had none taken for about twelve years. Those that have appeared in the newspapers, some from a knock-out where I will see if I can get you a photograph of the wreck. Some good ones have been reproduced in the papers.

I am at present aboard the Fern, a small dispatch vessel. The Maine lies only a few yards off, distorted and sadly disordered wreck, with a number of the bodies of its gallant dead down in the debris awaiting recovery, which is laboriously difficult. How very sad and shocking it all is.

While I am at present writing a long letter to you and my good friend, the captain, but I am hard pressed with correspondence. With my kindest regards to both of you and cordial thanks for your letter, I remain always, yours very cordially, C. D. SIGSBEE.

ILLINOIS MILITIA READY.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 8.—Adjutant General Reese of the Illinois National Guard said today: "We are all waiting for the 'boots and saddles,' to board the cars for the east. Inside of twelve hours the greatest portion of the 7,000 men and officers of the Illinois National Guard could be en route to New York for embarkation for Cuba." The general stated that 4,900 latest pattern forty-five-caliber Springfield rifles had just been received at the Illinois state arsenal from Brooklyn navy yard, ready for instant use.

TRANSFERS THE AMMUNITION.

BOSTON, March 8.—All the modern ammunition in the United States magazine in Chelsea, about twenty-six tons, has been sent aboard to government gun ship. That vessel will take the ammunition to the Brooklyn navy yard, whence it will be transferred to Key West. It is not known at the magazine what ship is to finally receive the ammunition, but it is reported that it will go aboard the Cincinnati.

WILL LEAVE WITH FINES FLYING.

NEW YORK, March 8.—A copyrighted cablegram to the Evening World today from George Bronson Rea, at Havana, says: "General Lee said last night to me: 'If Spain wishes to declare any or all of us persona non grata, it is her privilege to do so, but if we must leave town, we will leave with the American flag flying and a brass band at the head of the procession.'"

LIMIT TO THE TIME

May 25 Gates Close Against Reception of Exposition Exhibits.

RELATED EXHIBITORS MUST STAY OUT

Very Few Exceptions if Any Will Be Made to the Rule.

ORDER ISSUED BY EXHIBIT DEPARTMENT

Action Taken that the Great Show May Open on Time.

SPACE IN BUILDINGS ABOUT ALL TAKEN

Indications Favorable for the Exposition Being Opened Promptly on Time—Superintendents in Charge of Buildings.

"May 25 the gates of the exposition will be closed against the reception of exhibits and any exhibitor not having his material on the grounds at that time will be shut out. The time between that date and June 1 will be utilized in making ready for the opening of the gates and the Transmississippi and International Exposition will be opened on time and every exhibit will be in readiness for the inspection of visitors." This spoke H. B. Harst, superintendent of the Exhibit department of the exposition, and he showed a pile of printed notices to this effect which are being sent to all exhibitors as an incentive for them to govern themselves accordingly.

"It may work a hardship on some exhibitors to be compelled to comply with this rule," continued Mr. Harst, "but it cannot be avoided if the exposition is to be opened on time."

"It has been announced that this exposition will be opened on June 1 and Manager Bruce has issued positive instructions that all exhibits must be in place at that time. Nothing will be left undone to bring about this result and it can be announced with certainty that there will be no delay so far as the Exhibit department is concerned. There will probably be a few exhibitors who will be unavoidably delayed for some good reasons and these will be admitted to the grounds after June 10, but between May 25 and June 10 no exhibits will be received. There will be some exhibits which cannot be made ready as early as the opening day, especially in horticulture and agriculture, and these will be received after June 10, but at the time of the opening there will be no confusion, such as is seen at nearly all exhibitions caused by exhibitors and their assistants rushing about getting their exhibits installed. There will be no packing cases scattered about in the aisles and no noise of preparation. Western push and enterprise will show to the world that it is possible to open a great exposition promptly on time with everything ready."

WILL START THEM EARLY.

May 1 the floor in each exhibit building will be marked to show the space assigned to each exhibitor, and on that date every exhibitor will be required to commence getting his exhibit in shape. Each building will be placed in charge of the superintendent of the department in which the building belongs and this superintendent will be required to see that the rules of the department are complied with. The office of Manager Bruce will be removed to the grounds on that date and will be established in the Manufacturers building, and all operations of installation will be directed from that point.

The Manufacturers building will be under the direction of Superintendent Harst, who will look after the installation of exhibits in that building. Superintendent F. W. Taylor will be in charge of the Agriculture and Horticulture buildings, Secretary Ford of the Woman's Board of Managers will have charge of the Liberal Arts building, Dr. David T. Day, the mining commissioner, will be in charge of the Mines building; Art Director A. H. Griffith will have charge of the Art building, Prof. R. B. Owens will be in charge of the Electricity and Machinery building, Superintendent D. H. Elliott will take charge of the installation of exhibits in the Transportation and Agricultural Implement building, J. B. Dinmore will have charge of the Dairy building and E. Whitcomb will be in charge of the Aply building. All will be under the general direction of Manager Bruce, who will take up his headquarters on the ground and will devote nearly all of his time to this work.

SPACE IS ALL ALLOTTED.

The allotment of space in the several exhibit buildings is virtually completed. Every building is entirely filled, and additional room can only be made by reducing the amount allotted to exhibitors already assigned. There are very few cases in which this can be done, as nearly all of the exhibitors make their preparations to fill a certain space and cannot change their designs without great expense and loss of time. For this reason the department is encouraging the erection of buildings by certain desirable classes of exhibitors and the indications are that there will be no spot of ground left unoccupied when the gates are opened.

MEETING OF EXPOSITION BOARD.

Several Important Matters Come Up for Consideration.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—(Special Telegram.)—The government Omaha Exposition board met today and all members were present. The question of transportation was considered and propositions of the railroads laid before the board. Very reasonable rates were offered, amounting to about one-half rate for round trip freight; the passenger rate the same. It was reported by each department that exhibits were in an advanced state and all would probably be ready for shipment April 15, and all ready for installation not later than May 15. The committee on decorations goes May 1, immediately thereafter to begin decorating the hall. The board recommended that the doors at each end of the building be widened to ten feet, both for the purpose of receiving exhibits and to make it easier and safer for the handling of large goods. The front door is to be widened to twelve feet and the two small side doors eliminated, the three being thrown into one. Michael was appointed a committee on decorations to confer with the Nebraska congressional delegation and others to secure the balance of the Tennessee unexpended fund, amounting to several thousand dollars, for the use of Omaha. This was thought to be proper because of the transfer of \$12,000 from the exhibit fund and applied to the building, leaving a shortage of the exhibit fund desirable that should be made up. The proposition is to use the

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MEETING OF EXPOSITION BOARD.

Several Important Matters Come Up for Consideration.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—(Special Telegram.)—The government Omaha Exposition board met today and all members were present. The question of transportation was considered and propositions of the railroads laid before the board. Very reasonable rates were offered, amounting to about one-half rate for round trip freight; the passenger rate the same. It was reported by each department that exhibits were in an advanced state and all would probably be ready for shipment April 15, and all ready for installation not later than May 15. The committee on decorations goes May 1, immediately thereafter to begin decorating the hall. The board recommended that the doors at each end of the building be widened to ten feet, both for the purpose of receiving exhibits and to make it easier and safer for the handling of large goods. The front door is to be widened to twelve feet and the two small side doors eliminated, the three being thrown into one. Michael was appointed a committee on decorations to confer with the Nebraska congressional delegation and others to secure the balance of the Tennessee unexpended fund, amounting to several thousand dollars, for the use of Omaha. This was thought to be proper because of the transfer of \$12,000 from the exhibit fund and applied to the building, leaving a shortage of the exhibit fund desirable that should be made up. The proposition is to use the