

1904 World's Fair Produced the Greatest Exposition the World Had Ever Seen

The St. Louis Police Force

Instead of 500 new policemen for the World's fair period, as at first planned by the board of police commissioners, it is now probable that the St. Louis force will be increased by at least 1,000 newly-fledged bluecoats. The change has been made, it is stated, as a result of a comparison with the methods adopted by the Chicago police force during the exposition there. Chicago, it is said, found it needed 1,000 extra police to look after the crowds and safeguard the city during the fair.

Pulaski County Democrat
February 26, 1904

WHEN YOU GO TO THE WORLD'S FAIR Suggestions That should be Helpful to the Stranger in St. Louis

It will be worth all the self-denial that one may practice for several years to see the World's Fair of 1904 at St. Louis. Money saved, earned or borrowed cannot be better spent than in getting acquainted with the world's progress as revealed at this latest and greatest of expositions.

Within the two square miles of the Louisiana Purchase exposition at St. Louis there is more to be seen than ever was brought together in ten times the space before. It is nearly twice as large as the Columbian exposition at Chicago, nearly ten times larger than the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo.

The largest of these is the Palace of Agriculture, with its 23 acres under roof and filled to the doors with the most wonderful agricultural collection ever assembled upon any occasion...the Palace of



In addition to opulent buildings, marvels of electricity, and mechanical triumphs, people were on display, too. Ethnic groups from Africa, the Phillipines, and these Native Americans representing the vanquished peoples of the Louisiana Purchase. Navaho and Sioux were in villages. Pictures here are Chief Two Charge, Chief Yellow Hair, and Chief Singing Goose. Although obviously Plains Indians, specific tribes were not noted.

Transportation is next in size, covers 15 acres. The historical exhibit of locomotives is one of the features....The Palace of Machinery with huge power generators are the first things to arrest the eye—the Allis-Chalmers engine of 5,000 horse power...The Palace of Art at the World's Fair contains 135 galleries and represents an expenditure of more than \$1,000,000. There are too many buildings and attractions to mention in an article this short and can only refer to such great features as the Philippine exhibit, covering 40 acres and containing more than 1,000

natives from those far-off Pacific Islands...the great athletic field where the Olympian games of 1904 will be held...the Aerial concourse where the airship and balloon contest, having prizes aggregating \$200,000, will take place...the great Inside inn, where 6,000 guests may find accommodation at rates from \$1.50 to \$5.00 per day...the intramural railway, which gives a seven-mile ride for a single fare, and many other things of interest to visitors.

Pulaski County Democrat
April 29, 1904

The Portals Are Opened

Saturday, April 30, will go down into history as a red-letter day for St. Louis, witnessing as it did the consummation of four years of unremitting labor in the conception, organization and construction of the Louisiana Purchase Centennial exposition and the opening of its portals to the world....Estimates of the attendance during the day were varied, running 200,000 to a quarter of a million. The actual attendance, according to official estimate, will come within 200,000, which shows a new

first day record, that at Philadelphia being about 186,000 and Chicago, something over 137,000. The grounds, however, are so vast, that a million people might be within the gates without causing unseemly crowding except, perhaps, around some special attraction. John Phillip Sousa's band played "Louisiana" for the first time in public...It had been arranged that President [Theodore] Roosevelt should press the [telegraph] key which would officially open the fair...and at approximately 12:15, St. Louis time, the official signal flashed back from the White House and the exposition was officially opened.

Pulaski County Democrat
May 13, 1904

Jerusalem at the World's Fair
Removed somewhat from the Pike proper, but one of the popular concessions on the World's Fair grounds at St. Louis, is Jerusalem, a reproduction of the Holy City of Palestine. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre is a reproduction in size, decoration and arrangement of the church in Jerusalem. There are all the streets, people and landmarks of the ancient city on the grounds. It occupies a tract of thirteen acres...all can be seen without extra charge when the admission into the gate is paid. Commodious toilet rooms will be found throughout the grounds and all are free of charge.

Pulaski County Democrat
June 17, 1904

THE FERRIS WHEEL
When Visiting the World's Fair
Ride on the Ferris Wheel.

The great Expositions held during the last fifteen years have produced two marvelous examples of engineering and constructive ability. One of

these, the Eiffel Tower, was designed and built by a Frenchman at Paris for the Exposition of 1889; the other, the Ferris Wheel, was designed and built by the late George W. G. Ferris for the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1893.

Paris again held a great Exposition in 1900 but failed to produce any feature to take the place of the Eiffel Tower. In America, St. Louis, in 1904 planned and produced the greatest Exposition the world has ever seen. Scores of attempts were made to invent something more wonderful and more attractive than the Ferris Wheel, but as Paris failed to outdo her own Eiffel Tower, so did St. Louis fail to equal the far-famed Ferris Wheel of the Columbian Exposition of 1893. Arrangements were accordingly made to bring the Ferris Wheel to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, and it was given a location near the geographical center of the grounds.

The problem of moving the Ferris wheel from Chicago to St. Louis was stupendous—4,200 tons of material, including the 70-ton axle, besides engines, boilers and derricks and false work, had to be transported. One hundred and seventy five freight cars were required to move this material.

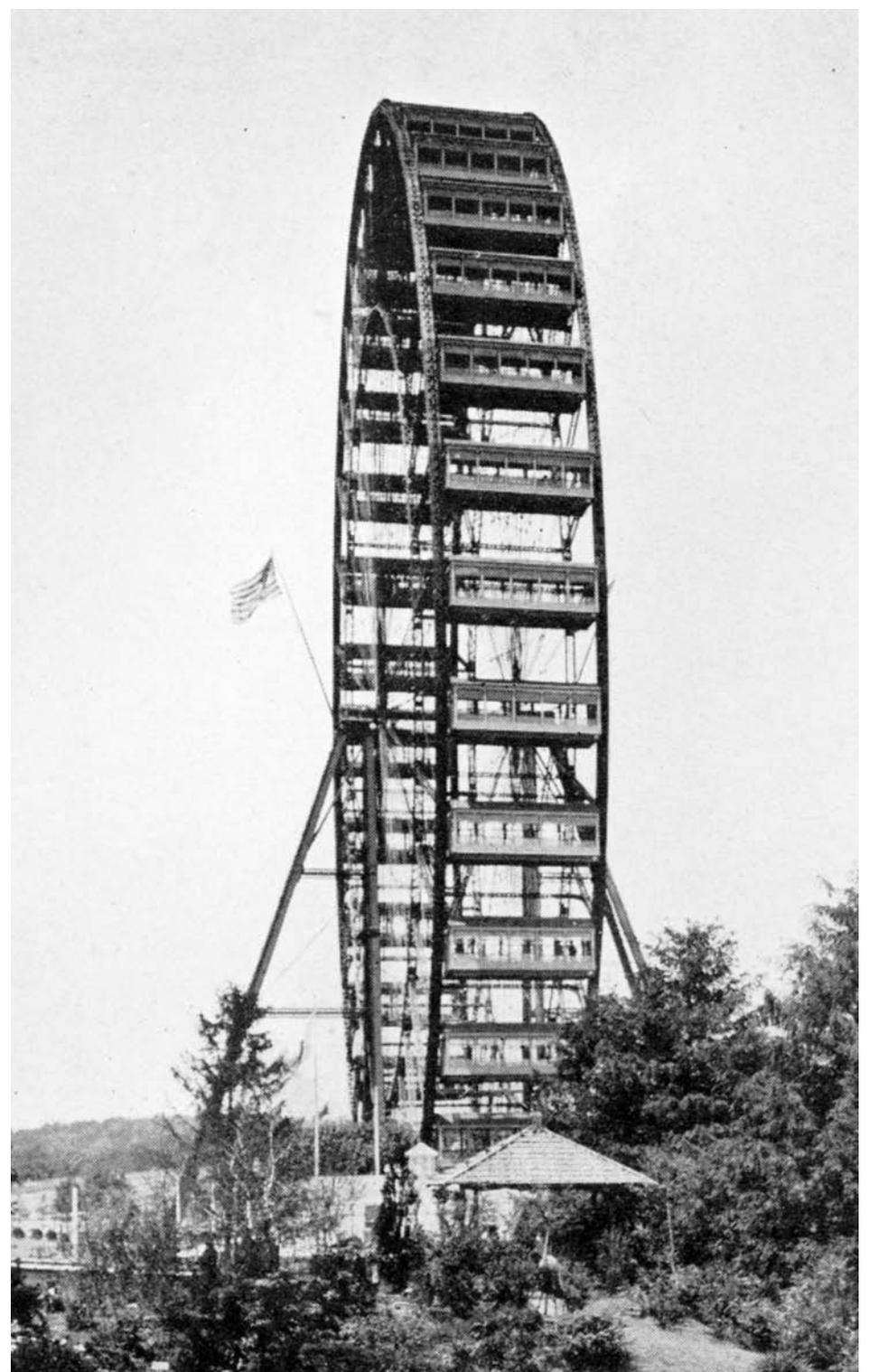
A brief resume of the dimensions and description of the Ferris Wheel may be interesting. The wheel is built upon the bicycle principle, with immense tension spokes, 2 15/16 in. diameter. The wheel is 250 feet in diameter and stands 264 feet high. In reality it is two wheels securely braced together. Between the outer rims of these wheels the eleven-ton cars are suspended on 6 1/2 in. pins 6 feet long, 9 feet high and will carry 60 persons each. There are 36 of them, so the total capacity of the wheel is 2,160 persons. At several times in its

history the wheel has been filled to its capacity. The axle of the wheel is a solid steel forging, 32 in. in diameter and 45 feet long. The solid bronze bearings upon which it rests are each 6 feet square on top and 40 x 50 feet at the base. These in turn rest upon solid concrete and steel beam pillars which are carried down to solid rock, 26 feet below the surface of the ground. The towers are anchored to the bottom of their mass of concrete by 2x6 inch eyebars, so that the wheel is perfectly safe, even in the most

violent storms. The side vibration of the wheel in an 80 mile an hour wind is less than 1/2 inch. The wheel is run by a double reversing engine with cylinders 30x48 in., capable of developing 2,000 horse power. The power is applied through a series of cogs to a sprocket chain which engages wide cogs on the outside of each rim.

When you come to the Fair, do not fail to ride upon it.

Pulaski County Democrat
September 16, 1904



A ride in the properly named Observation Wheel was the necessary means to get a comprehensive view of the World's Fair.

