

J. J. HUBBELL, MANISTEE, MICH.

Forestry was shown at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition with fish and game in a building six hundred feet long by three hundred feet wide, just south of the Administration Building. The fish were shown alive and dead, big and little, in tanks, stuffed, preserved, canned, and salted, including turtles. The game was shown dead and stuffed. Beautiful specimens of all kinds of game birds, put up in the highest style of the art, under glass shields.

The animals were mostly shown in connection with forest exhibits, almost everything, from grizzly old Ephraim to a gopher, and from the lumbering bison, the awkward moose, and the stately elk, to a cotton tail. The only exhibit of live animals I recall was a fine colony of beaver from Canada.

A few of the exhibits in forestry were forestry pure and simple, but the most of them were of the nature of forest products and of a commercial character.

Twenty-four States made exhibits, also Canada, Mexico, Brazil, France, Germany, Austria, Japan, Ceylon, and others. Each occupied a space from ten to twenty feet wide, and from twenty-five to one hundred feet long. Many of the exhibits were old, some prepared for the World's Fair at Chicago, and had since been shown at Paris, Buffalo, and other places. The counter of one exhibit was prepared for the Centennial at Philadelphia in 1876, and had been at every prominent exposition since. These old exhibits had been scraped and repolished, varnished and revarnished, again and again, until the surfaces were like mirrors, but it was often difficult to determine what the original wood was. Among them were many specimens wonderful for size, beautiful for grain and figure, precious and rare woods, freaks and curiosities, with some good standard material. Michigan was slow to decide to make an exhibit. It was midwinter before the first commissioners were appointed for the Upper Peninsula, and some time later when others were appointed for the southern part of the State. It was in connection with these last appointed that the writer became involved, having been appointed as secretary, which in time developed into designing, soliciting, assembling, and setting up the exhibit, and its subsequent care during the summer.

The first step was to arrange with the Upper Michigan commissioners to make a joint exhibit, next to plan the same. It was found that our space was twenty feet wide by fifty-six feet long, fronting on one of the principal isles with the north wall of the building for a back, there being eighteen feet in height under the windows. A plan of the proposed exhibit was made and forwarded to the superintendent for his approval, of which this blue print is a copy. (Shows blue print) The exhibits proposed were: —

First. Specimens of our principal forest trees, consisting of a section of the tree with the bark on, accompanied by a good plank of the same, partly smoothed and varnished, surmounted by a plain sign giving the common name, the botanical name, and the place from which obtained.
Second. The mill exhibits, which consisted of two large deal planks set on end at an angle with a space between for a back upon which to display pictures of the mill plants.

Third. The manufactured products when made direct from the log, for these there was prepared a counter four feet wide by forty feet long, made up of a large number of our principal woods in panels, the special exhibits to consist of shoe lasts, oval dishes, broom handles, veneering, wooden bowls and trays, and a large line of wooden ware and novelties, also paper, pulp wood, and finished product. There were also a few knots and burls, but no attempt was made to show anything wonderfully large or curious. There was also provision made to show what might be called by-products, railroad ties, shingles, staves, hemlock bark, and salt.

Fourth. The pictures. A large number were contributed, and over three hundred dollars spent to complete and mount the collection. There were pictures of forest scenes, of logging operations and camps, of transportation by sleighs, by big wheels, and by cars, skidways, decked logs, rollways, river drives, and booms, also of many large mills and plants, of lumber yards and lumber shipments, all mounted on large cards twenty-two by twenty-eight inches, and shown over forest exhibits with mill exhibits and on a gas-pipe frame over exhibition table.

Having planned the exhibit, it became necessary to secure not only the material, but also the funds to prepare, set up, and care for the same. Circular letters were sent out over the State, the most of which, no doubt, went, into the waste basket before they were fully read, but they served as an introduction, and were followed by a personal visit as far and fast as possible. The month of March was not a good time to travel in northern Michigan, and it was impossible to see all parties, but as many as could be seen were favorable, and contributed liberally, both of means and material.

About April 1 I assembled as much of the material as possible at Manistee, and forwarded a car lot before the middle of the month, which was followed by several other shipments. About the same time a car was shipped from Upper Michigan, consisting mostly of cedar in the round, which was also followed by subsequent shipments. Ten days before the Fair was to open, I went to St. Louis, taking two men for assistance, and now the real trouble began. The space was without floor, except the rough lining, no end partitions, and the back wall not suitable for an exhibit, but more than all was the difficulty in getting the material delivered. The transportation facilities may have been good, but it took all the way from ten days to two weeks to get material from East St. Louis to the Fairgrounds, and as a rule, every car was held up for charges, no matter how fully they had been prepaid. Charges made by persons whose official position it was difficult to discover, and who made no bills, and gave no receipts. But what could you expect of an enterprise conceived and nurtured in the environments of St. Louis during the past three years?

But these are troubles of the past. At last the deficiencies in the space were remedied, the rustic, fence in place, the back wall paneled with cedar poles, so space between exhibits showed bark in place of plastered wall, and the exhibit in place complete, but it was near the first of June. Many other exhibits were fully as late.

Some special features: The signs were made of pine one-half inch thick, from eight to twelve inches wide, and from sixteen to twenty-four inches long. They were painted white, and then lettered in black by a free-hand sign painter, and materially assisted visitors in understanding the exhibit, and gave much information as to the resources of Michigan. The whole exhibit was rough, but it was honest, and contained much extra good material.

A young lady of Port Huron was given a corner in which to sell souvenirs, who had a smile of welcome for visitors, and incidentally wielded the duster and broom as occasion required. Having returned to the woods, I from time to time forwarded by express quantities of wood's finery, leaves, and seeds of nearly all our principal trees, to be mounted and shown with the forest exhibits, also many of our woods ferns, including the maiden-hair, all with roots, which were potted in hanging baskets made of wooden bowls and boxes covered with birch bark, also a large quantity of princess pine, which was kept in damp moss and given out to visitors. At one time a large consignment of white pond lilies just ready to burst into blossom, which lent their beauty and fragrance to the place, and were given to lady visitors. As the October days came on, a large basket of autumn leaves of bright colors, which were scattered freely over the exhibit table, and mostly carried away as souvenirs.

Further during the entire time when I was not present myself, a bright young man was employed to extend the glad hand to all comers, and with tuneful, swift, and ready tongue, answer questions and sing the praises of Michigan forestry.

After reading the paper, **Mr. Hubbell** continued as follows: —

When I went back the last time, I found this hanging over the exhibit (holding up a gold medal card). It has been said that gold medals were very plenty down there, and I know in some exhibits they were very lavishly given out. It is said that in some of our horticultural exhibits almost every apple had a gold medal. I discouraged the idea of exhibitors applying for individual medals upon their small part of our exhibit.

As I looked over the building after the awards had been made, while a good many of the foreign exhibits had medals, I saw no exhibits that could be considered a State exhibit competing with ours, that was similarly awarded. Now I found out that it is one thing to get a gold medal, quite another thing to get it in gold, and in the course of a year or two we will get a genuine gold medal, provided we furnish the gold. So much for the medal.

Now it may be that some of you may be caught in the same kind of an exhibit, or the same kind of work, and would like to know the cost.

I got a subscription of \$2,027.50, and I spent lacking twelve cents of \$2,000. So financially we came out all right. I have some pictures here which were taken of the exhibit. Each one present may have one. On the back of the card copies you will find the names of the commissioners and exhibitors.

Chairman: Gentlemen, you have listened to this interesting paper, and the interesting talk that **Mr. Hubbell** has made. He has a way of answering questions, and if there is anything you want explained further he will do so.

Dr. Lane: I should like to ask, **Mr. Hubbell**, if you had an exhibit of the charcoal.

Mr. Hubbell: I did not; the Iron Cliff people proposed to make an exhibit of charcoal and wood alcohol in the mining building, and for that reason there was no exhibit of charcoal and wood alcohol. The Cadillac people were awarded a gold medal for their maple flooring in connection with forestry, as shown in the Hoo Hoo building. The Fletcher Paper Company were awarded a medal in connection with our exhibit.

Professor Vedder: I would like to ask **Mr. Hubbell** if any steps are to be taken at this Legislature looking toward the reforestation of the State.

Mr. Hubbell: I am not in very close touch with the Forestry Commission, and I hardly know what the tone of the Legislature is with reference to reforesting the cut lands.

Mr. Sears: I want to commend **Mr. Hubbell** for his good work, and want to ask him if that covers the whole cost.

Mr. Hubbell: The State of Michigan informed us that they had no money to devote to this feature of the work. The money appropriated was already mostly spent in the Michigan Building and the horticultural and agricultural and mining exhibits. They offered to pay the freight on our material, and this, including a rebate of freight on same material when returned. They paid for freight one hundred dollars or more, and the people of the north spent perhaps two or three hundred dollars, of which I have no account. But I think, taking what the State spent, and all, it would be \$2,500. An exhibit like this should be made by the State, and a man should have about a year's time to collect and arrange it.