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Austria Day, August 18, 1893

at the World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago

The occasion for the Austrian celebration at the Fair was the sixty-third birthday of the Emperor Francis Joseph. On the previous evening a brilliant banquet was given by the Austrian Commission to World's Fair officials and other guests.

A grand parade was formed in the city at eleven o'clock. All the Austro-Hungarian societies, numbering more than four thousand men, were in line, and the parade was rendered attractive by music, national costumes, and allegorical floats, a company of girls in Tyrolese costumes and the Csikos, or wild Hungarian horsemen, adding to the picturesque effect.

A reception was held at noon at the Austrian section in Manufactures Building, which was followed by exercises at Music Hall at 2 p. m. The exercises were directed by Herr Anton von Palitschek-Palmforst, Imperial and Royal Austrian Commissioner to the Exposition, and addresses were made by Dr. S. D. Sowards, of New York, and Dr. Henry Bak, of Chicago. Judge Bryan made a felicitous address on the part of the Exposition, and Dr. Bak spoke for the Austro-Hungarians in the United States.



Francis Joseph: Emperor of Austria, King of Hungary and Croatia, King of Bohemia (1848-1916)

Conductor Ziehrer's famous band from old Vienna began the program with the Kaiser Overture, and led in the singing of the Austrian National Hymn and Hail Columbia, concluding with Brahms' Hungarian Dances.