

UNISPHERE

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NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR 1964-1965 CORPORATION
INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION AT FLUSHING MEADOW PARK
FLUSHING 52, N.Y. • TELEPHONE- AREA CODE 212-WF 4-1964 • CABLE ADDRESS "WORLDSFAIR"

ROBERT MOSES
PRESIDENT

NEWS:

March 26, 1965

REFER INQUIRIES TO:

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FOR RELEASE: A.M. MONDAY, MARCH 29

New York World's Fair, March 26 -- It's count-down and shape-up time at the New York World's Fair as the one-mile square exposition puts on the finishing touches for the opening of the 1965 season, Wednesday, April 21.

Since mid-February an army of workmen have been busily engaged in "Operation Dewinterization", and according to Fair President Robert Moses, "all work is on or ahead of schedule."

Unless unforeseen weather causes a roadblock, the blemishes and blights of winter should be cleared from Fair facilities by next Friday, April 2. From then until April 21, there will be testing, inspecting, adjusting and checking on all facilities so that by Re-Opening Day the set will be staged for the finest show of it's kind.

Some 125,000 tulip bulbs, planted last fall, interspersed with more than 238,600 pansies, now being planted, will provide a breathtaking array of beauty and color for Fairgoers.

Col. John T. O'Neill, Director of Engineering, who is in charge of the spruce-up and clean-up operations, says: "we had a big job to do and we've got it almost completed now." Here is what has developed:

Hundreds of plumbing connections have been completed and the water has been turned on in all buildings, except the Boy Scout exhibit and the new Carnival Pavilion. All 118 drinking fountains are now ready for use.

(more)

FROM: Wm. J. Donoghue Corporation
10 Columbus Circle, N.Y.C.

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Exterior painting is more than 80 per cent complete in the 55 Fair-owned buildings and the entrances are being stripped of their protective barriers.

Some 250 tons of protective salt hay, covered by 18,000 square feet of chicken wire, used to keep the pool floors from freezing and to protect the plumbing and electrical fountain connections, have been removed.

Replacing of more than 1,000 electric fuses and hundreds of light bulbs, renovation of more than 500 loudspeakers, replacing wire and rechecking circuits is near completion.

Repainting and restriping of more than 100 miles of line dividers separating the car areas in the Fair's parking lots: painting of multi-colored lines along five miles of Fair road to designate the various routes of the Greyhound Glide-A-Ride and Sightseeing buses -- these different colored lines, coinciding with colored signs on the buses, also will help visitors find their way to various destinations. More than 3,000 numerals in the parking lots also are being painted.

Filling of pools (11 of them) is progressing according to the time table. The Fountain of Planets in the Pool of Industry is to be filled to its 5-million plus capacity by April 15 from nearby Flushing River. Work on the dewatering of the sound control system for the Fountain is in progress. The synchronization of the fireworks with the watershow, lighting and musical accompaniment should also be completed by April 15.

Work on improved directional signs and on forty-two "YOU ARE HERE" maps is expected to be completed by April 10.

The spring phase of lawn restoration (there are 11 malls) and additional display planting is to be finished by the end of the week. By mid-May the wilting tulips and pansies will be replaced by 52,000 petunias, 6,000 geraniums, 2,500 ageratums, 2,700 begonias and 10,500 lantanas. Then on September 1, 32,000 chrysanthemums will take over to add a nostalgic touch of fall to the waning days of the World's Fair.

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While workmen are busy burnishing the World's Fair physical properties, painters, electricians, and carpenters are preparing the more than 155 pavilions, with over 400 exhibits, for Re-Opening Day on April 21. Swaths of waterproof, windproof and transparent plastic covers are being removed from building exteriors, and interiors displays are being readied.

Throughout the five main area of the Fair, International, Federal and States, Industrial, Transportation and Lake, exhibitors are working feverishly to make their presentations the finest possible for what will be an even brighter and more stimulating Fair in 1965.

In this connection, Mr. Moses reminds people that "the Fair is not a spectacle to be enjoyed in a day, but a global summer university to be studied and savored pavilion by pavilion. It is not likely that you will have an opportunity again for another quarter of a century to visit so truly remarkable an international exhibition."

He concludes: "it is a great show -- something which everyone should see. Don't let slip by the opportunity to see it in 1965."

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