

confectionery, canned foods, oils, soaps, chocolates, etc.

One of the most novel, instructive and elaborate exhibits, and one that will undoubtedly attract the attention of every scientific person and scholar interested in any phase of agricultural life, will be that made by the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations. The exhibit will occupy nearly 8,000 square feet of space, and will be located in the southwest corner of the building, on the first floor. It will represent the entire work of a model Agricultural Experiment Station, covering entirely the field of experiment and research in crops, botany, horticulture, entomology, feeding stuffs, animal nutrition, dairy solids, milk testings and veterinary science, and will include an elaborate and complete botanical, biological and chemical laboratory.

In addition to this, the agricultural colleges of the United States will have, in this space, a combined exhibit graphically illustrating the work and special field covered by each college. This entire exhibit is not only unique, but is something that has never been accomplished or attempted at any previous exposition. The exhibit will be put up and conducted by the directors of the different experiment stations and representatives of the different agricultural colleges of the United States, each contributing some part of the exhibit, the whole to be installed in a magnificent manner, at the expense of the United States government. This will give to every visitor an opportunity to witness the methods by which the great advances in all phases of agricultural life and research are carried on in the colleges and experiment stations of the United States.

Outside the building will be shown several magnificent exhibits, put up at a great cost, of the irrigation systems of the great West. On the lagoon just south of the annex to the agricultural building will be installed traction and portable engines and a wonderfully interesting exhibit of windmill machinery.

Connected with the agricultural annex by a short walk will be the dairy building, in which will be shown dairy products, and in which will be conducted during the entire period of the exposition the dairy school, which has been extensively described, and has received cordial endorsement from all sources. Here will be conducted practical dairy tests for determining the relative value of different breeds of cattle as milk and butter producers and of methods of feeding. The records and results of this school, unquestionably, will be of lasting benefit to the dairy interests of the United States and of the world. In speaking of this, Mr. Buchanan says that too much credit can not be given to the dairy cattle associations of the United States, which, by their generosity and public spirit, have made this excellent feature of the exposition a certainty.

Connecting the Agricultural building with the Machinery Hall is an artistic structure known as the Assembly Hall. This will be devoted to discussions, by various agricultural societies, national organizations of farmers and live stock associations, of questions of interest to agriculturists throughout this country.

The agricultural exhibit will afford a vast amount of information to many thousands to whom it will prove of incalculable benefit. The crops best adapted to different localities and the reason therefor, the most improved methods of cultivation that are being pursued, the best results that have been secured and the manner of their securing, and the perfection of products in every line—all these will be shown and will constitute the more important lessons which the agricultural exhibit will teach.

HOLD THE MONETARY CONFERENCE IN THE UNITED STATES.

A TRANS-ATLANTIC dispatch says that English bi-metallists are in favor of holding the international monetary conference in London. If the Europeans should persist in this idea it would certainly have a bad effect on silver. With propriety they cannot expect to have this conference held at their side. In 1875, when our Congress passed the silver act of that year, section 2 of that measure provided:

"That immediately after the passage of this act the President shall invite the government of the countries composing the Latin Union, so-called, and of such other European nations as he may deem advisable, to join the United States in a conference to adopt a common ratio between gold and silver, for the purpose of establishing, internationally, the use of bi-metallic money, and securing fixity of relative value between these metals; such conference to be held at such place in Europe or in the United States, at such time within six months, as may be mutually agreed upon by the executives of the governments joining in the same, whenever the governments so invited, or any three of them, shall signify their willingness to unite in the same."

After some time Paris was chosen as the place of conference. Its first session opened on Aug. 10, 1878. Austria-Hungary, Belgium, France, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Russia, Sweden, Norway, and Switzerland were represented. Germany alone declined to participate, though invited a second time. The United States was represented by Ex-Governor Reuben E. Fenton of New York, W. S. Groesbeck of Ohio, and Prof. Francis A. Walker of New Haven. Mr. S. Dana Horton of Ohio, an accomplished monetary author, was subsequently added to the delegation. Leon Say, French Minister of Finance, was president of the conference, and Mr. Fenton vice-president. Mr. Goschen of England was an active participant in that conference.

So far as the United States is concerned the situation relating to silver is about the same now as then. Germany at the present time also begins to prove untractable. However, one of the decisions come to on that occasion by a majority of the delegates was: "That it is necessary to maintain in the world the monetary functions of silver as well as those of gold, but the selection for use of one or the other of the two metals, or of both simultaneously, should be governed by the special position of each State or group of States."

Mr. Goschen then, though opposed to a double standard, yet believed that the universal adoption of a single gold

standard would be productive of great disasters.

The Americans concurred as to the clause maintaining the monetary functions of silver, but to do this effectually they respectfully submitted that the special positions of States should be made of secondary importance.

The Europeans having had that conference on their side it is but fair that they accede gracefully to holding this one on United States soil. There are many potent reasons why Americans should use a little active persuasion to holding it here. Its proceedings will be put before the masses more effectually, by reason of our superiority as a newspaper people. We will see more clearly the attitude of Europeans on this important subject, and if it should become a matter "for each State or group of States" as formerly, then Americans can take steps to help themselves and to consider their own interests. By all means let the conference be held in Chicago.

LABOR TROUBLES.

THE labor troubles in Idaho are still in progress. The miners seem to be getting the best of the struggle. The mill-owners are not as successful in obtaining non-union labor as they anticipated. It is thought that the fight will become long and bitter, and that if the strikers maintain order they will ultimately triumph.

In the east the labor horizon is not by any means clear. The struggle now existing between the New England Association of Granite Manufacturers and Paving contractors with their employes involves over 100,000 men. Wherever granite from the New England quarries is being used the effects of this contest will be felt. It is said that work is suspended already on the Capitol at Albany, the National library at Washington, the great Betz brewery at Philadelphia, the Grant monument in New York, the Memorial Arch in Brooklyn and the World's Fair buildings in Chicago. Though the trouble is a New England one, New York is made the battle-field, but the effect will be felt everywhere east of the Mississippi where granite is used for paving, building or the manufacture of monuments.

The cause of the trouble is simple. A system of annual agreement prevails among employers and operatives. In May of each year both sides confer and arrange a scale of wages and hours of work for the ensuing year. The employers want to change this conference period to January of each year. The men object on the ground that in January general dullness prevails, and lower scales would obtain. In May the granite industry is at its zenith, and the men can secure better terms. The employers this year notified the unions that they would sign the contract only to Dec. 31 of the current year. The men would not accept, hence the lockout.

The leader of the workmen is a young man named James Graut, a Scotchman. He is said to be a capable organizer and a thoroughgoing, practical person. The labor organizations repose full confidence in him, and he in turn is confident of ultimate triumph.