

design nor plan which could have been chosen for the building and arrangement of exhibits on hand could better obtain the coveted honor than that which has been used.

The building itself is larger than any other state building on the ground and the decoration and arrangement of the interior are more original and effective than those of any other building, state or foreign, which is on the grounds. The entrance to the building is a wide hall or vestibule, and from this one is ushered at once into the main hall, where the most striking of all the interesting and novel exhibits is arranged. The hall is an immense one and contains separate departments where the various resources of the state are displayed in ingenious natural designs. On the right as the hall is entered from the west is seen the agricultural display where the various grains, seeds, cereals, etc., figure in a great arch which leads to the department and a handsome pavilion inside, the frame of each of these being laid in a rich mosaic work of corn, wheat, oats, beans, etc., and making in themselves a sufficiently creditable display. Next to this is the forestry exhibit where a display is made of the different kinds of wood belonging to native trees, a great wood pile of polished blocks being heaped high at one side with the natural rough branches and trunks forming a shed for their background. Outside this picturesque shed stands a handsome wagon made of twenty-five different kinds of native wood, and a huge pyramid of rocks, wood and real moss in the corner stands for the mountains from which the timber is drawn. The pyramid is one of the best effects in the building, its height, which reaches to the ceiling and the play of a cascade down the rough moss-covered sides, making it a marked and wonderfully striking feature in the building. Near the first entrance and opposite the agricultural department is the horticultural exhibit and this is composed of a varied display of beautiful flowers and plants, and next to it facing the forestry pavilion is a splendid display of fresh and preserved fruits, each department making a showing that it will redound to the credit of the state. Over the arched entrance to the immense hall is the blazoned inscription, "Relief map of the State of Illinois," and the title for a moment almost thrills one from sight of the appropriate though novel execution of the striking and novel design. Leaving the main hall we pass into a circular covered court or rotunda where a large fountain constructed of native woods sends a stream of sparkling waters down each side into a spring-like faucet at the base, from which one may drink of the cool filtrated waters that are drawn from the inside. Turning from this room to the right we pass into a sort of hall and catch sight at the further end of it of a beautiful statue, its face turned towards the entrance and its arms outstretched in an attitude of welcome and joy. The statue bears the inscription, "Illinois welcoming the nations of the earth," and was made by Miss Julia McBracken, who was given the honor of the special order for the figure intended to occupy the chief place of

prominence in the hall. The entrance which it guards leads into another immense hall, filled with paintings, etchings, statuary, art needle work, hand-painted china, etc., all the work of native artists, and making a display that in reality outside of the Liberal Arts building is the finest on the grounds. The arrangement of all these is a striking feature of the room, the exhibits being placed in immense pyramidal shaped show cases and in a way that is most effective for the display.

Amongst the many handsome exhibits of art needlework were noticed some magnificent portieres done in plush applique by the Chicago Society of Decorative Art and some handsome sets of table linen done in silk embroidered violets and a number of screens, cushions, etc., exquisitely designed by well known society ladies of Chicago. Among the latter work were noticed two sets of sacerdotal robes and altar pieces, stoles, vestments, cushions, etc., all of them being of white satin embroidered in splendid and exquisite designs of the daintiest colored flowers.

In this room set aside for decorative art was noticed a portfolio of wall papers designed by Miss Minnie D. George of Illinois. The portfolio contained samples of silk papers, about twelve inches square by twenty long, and the designs were as eminently tasteful and artistic as any displayed by the great manufacturing firms, proving without doubt women's perfect adaptability for this line of work. Another large hall in this part of the building is set apart for the university and public school exhibits, the space being arranged in various pavilions with articles and statistics representing the object and advancement of each, the University of Illinois especially being marked for its striking display. The titles above a number of pavilions such as Art College, Architectural College, College of Literature, etc., have exhibits illustrating the worth of the different departments of the university and make a very interesting showing. The manual school has also a striking exhibit, in examples of work done by the pupils, such as carved tables and chairs, some pieces of iron machinery, articles of original invention, drawing, etc., and all these in themselves alone would be sure to make the building a noted one, and with all the rest combined certainly does much to give the palm of pre-eminence to the state.

California's is, I believe, the state building which when completed will come next to Illinois in the claim of a merited pre-eminence of reputation. Not only is the design of the building a happy and striking one but the inside exhibits are so numerous and varied and arranged in such a way as to make the very most of the materials at hand. California is blessed with both a romantic and a grand history, and she has made able use of every memorable fact and detail connected with her past and present history, and the whole makes up a display that is calculated to make the building a great rival to each and every other on the grounds.

The argonautic and early mission history is represented both in the design of the building itself and in many

a quaint and romantic relic kept within the walls. The great gold-finding epoch has a thrilling reminder in a splendid bronze statue of John Marshall, his figure broad and strong arrayed in overalls and slouched hat, his outstretched right hand holding the precious nugget of gold, the other pointing downward to the gully of the creek from where it was taken. The progress of the city from that time to the present has representation in models of the city at various stages commencing with the miners' cabins of "Poverty Gulch," and the palatial mansions and thousands of streets and ship-thronged bay of the present splendid city; and the results of its development are shown in the thousand exhibits representing the industries of the state, its fruit growing, its commerce, etc., and these, with the school and art exhibits, make up indeed a wonderfully interesting and memorable display.

Next to the California building stand the two Washington buildings representing the state and district and each of these show enough interesting material to make them close rivals to the Golden Gate empire next door. Each house strives for realistic effects and has the literal representation of fields in process of cultivation, a rolling upland of plowed fields with hay and grain represented as growing—mown and stacked together with machines and men and animals engaged in different labor of plowing, threshing, etc., a representation that catches and keeps for more than an average length of time the eye of every farmer and husbandman who visits the ground. The building next to these in importance, though from its unique design perhaps attracting more attention than any other state building on the grounds, is the Iowa building representing a corn palace, a structure walled, partitioned, ceilinged, balconied and staircased with corn, wheat and grain, the interior being made up with a mosaic work of these primitive but wonderfully effective materials. The present space will not permit a detailed description of this artistic interior, nor perhaps would it be reasonable to attempt it, for the truth is that words alone could hardly do the subject justice. To enter into an account at present of either of the many state buildings or the grounds, each and all of which are deserving of lengthy mention, would of course be impossible in the limit of a single paper. But it may be said of the sisterhood one and all, from the first to the last, that each has done noble work in getting together the choice products and exhibits which serve to illustrate the resources and various lines of development of each and it is a part of the splendid education furnished by the Fair to visit them and glean the fruits and benefits of the knowledge contained in their display.

With regard to our own case, though hardly satisfactory as it is, yet the most has been done that was possible with the scanty means and indifferent interest furnished from the outside, and Utah may well be proud to be even thus well represented amongst this bevy of wealthy and carefully nurtured states. We have a redeeming feature in the mining exhibits which, according to many, will overbalance