

Christian, Mohammedan, Shinto, Buddhist, Parsee and Confucian religion and let the visitors compare the texture and quality of each and then invest in the sort that suited them best? What does a specimen of religion look like, anyway, when it is put on exhibition? The dispatch says: "The world's fair religious building and exhibit committee has voted to reject the proposition of the management of the fair to give space in one of the large buildings for the religious exhibits, instead of in a separate building." A religious specimen must occupy a good deal of space if the exhibition of the various sorts in vogue require all the space in a whole building to display them.

For some time The Independent has thought that there was a movement on foot to make Cleveland the next nominee of the democratic party. Information which reached us this week dispels every doubt upon that subject. Men have been secretly at work for several months in every northern state east of the Mississippi. It is also claimed he has what he considers a sure thing in several southern states. If the Kansas City and Chicago platforms are to be repudiated, then Cleveland is the "logical" candidate. It would be "according to the eternal fitness of things."

News of the Week

There appears to be a movement among government authorities all over Europe to fix a ratio between silver and gold and make both a standard money. It is either that, or a greatly diminished trade with those countries using the silver standard. Mark this announcement. Before the expiration of five years there will be a bimetalism established by all the leading nations of the earth, and after that we shall have no more of the single gold standard idiocy.

Mr. Vrooman says that his scheme of socialism has failed. He announces the result in the following terse sentences: "My plans were not practicable. I attribute the shortage to very apparent errors, and my plans will not ignore human nature as in the past." The ignoring of "human nature" is the weak point in socialism as The Independent has often pointed out. Mr. Vrooman is a man of the noblest impulses and The Independent is sorry that he has suffered loss. There have been attempts without number during the last hundred years to put the theories of socialism into actual practice, some of them by the very best men and women and of the highest education, but they have all met one fate. Mr. Vrooman is not at all discouraged and will try again.

The retail trade of the merchants is beginning to feel the effect of the extortions of the coal trust. When 100 families have to pay \$25 each more for coal than usual, it means \$2,500 less trade for the local merchant. It also means a falling off in the sales of the wholesalers. That means less orders on the factories and less work for wage-workers.

The Oto bank over in Iowa is short \$214,563.11 and the books do not show what became of the money. Will any one be sent to the penitentiary for this sort of bank robbery?

In the authoritative announcement that Judge Parker would be Dave Hill's candidate for the nomination for president, it was added that Judge Parker could get as much boodle from the trusts and corporations as any republican candidate, which is no doubt true.

The shortage, just at present, in the kind of cars that haul corn and wheat is just as great as that of any other kind that carry coal. The output of coal, corn and wheat is no greater than usual, while the number of freight cars have been increased by the thousand during the last three or four years. By the tin, there are a few more "mergers" we will get cars only semi-occasionally, or when the magnates in their superior wisdom think that it is good for us to have them.

The howls that can be heard in the office of every plutocratic daily over the sufferings caused in the Philippines and elsewhere on account of the fall in the price of silver is not on account of the people of those countries. It is the office-holders and taxpayers. Every time there is a fall in the price of silver, their salaries which are paid in silver, purchase that much less.

Senator Teller holds the same view about "publicity" that The Independent

has all the time held. In an interview at the Auditorium in Chicago the other day he said that we might as well expect to suppress crime by simply publishing the names of criminals.

The Record-Herald says that "the situation of the silver countries is a hard one," and that the movement among the manufacturing nations to establish by law a ratio between gold and silver is the "ghost of bimetalism." It has found out that it is a sort of ghost that won't down. The pinch is not affecting the silver nations and their situation is not nearly so hard as it is with the gold standard nations that want to sell them goods.

How the silver countries are suffering is illustrated by the constant announcements of the investments being made in them by capitalists of foreign, and for the most part, gold standard countries. The following from Chicago dailies shows how the matter is: "The tremendous influx of United States capital into Mexico has caused a wonderful activity in railroad improvements and new construction. Nearly every railroad in the republic is experiencing an era of renewed prosperity, which is resulting in large sums being spent for betterment."

Over in the Philippines where the old Spanish laws are still in force, when they run across one that won't do at all, they do not declare that it is unconstitutional, but say that it is un-American. Governor Taft recently pardoned a man because the law under which he was convicted was, he said, un-American.

The republicans are giving Kansas the same old kind of government that was administered before the populists took a hand in governing the state. The legislature has been in session four weeks and so far has done nothing but put an immense number of party workers on the pay roll. One hundred and fifty employes look after the forty senators. Doorkeepers and "assistant superintendents of ventilation" are so thick that visitors are denied a place on the floor. One hundred and fifty other employes clog the aisles and standing-room in the house. Thirty doorkeepers stand guard over four doors. As many assistant sergeants-at-arms contest with each other for the chairs heretofore provided for visitors. The present fifty-day session will cost the state over \$100,000. That is the kind of government that the republicans gave both Nebraska and Kansas and for which the voters cast their ballots to return. The reason is that the reform party has not seen to it that the voters were kept informed. If The Independent had had 50,000 circulation in this state the railroads and republicans would never have been returned to power.

The Venezuelan matter is still in a state to excite grave apprehensions as to what may happen. The demand of Germany, England and Italy that their claims must be preferred and paid before those of any other nation, are so preposterous that many think that they were made for the express purpose of creating trouble. They are in antagonism to the interests of the United States, France and several other countries and could not have been made with the supposition that they would be accepted. France and the United States were willing to settle on the terms proposed by Venezuela and France had made a treaty to that effect which that government claims must be recognized by all other nations. If Olney were secretary of state instead of John Hay, he would be likely to say something that would bring the nations forming this coalition to fight the little republic of Venezuela to their senses.

Hundreds of thousands, clad in rags, are still tramping the streets of London, sometimes in large masses, asking for bread or a chance to work. The brutal English government seems to be taking no action at all looking towards relief. What do the English in this country now think, who got so red hot mad at The Independent for denouncing the war on the Boers which has brought all this suffering about? The cost of that war was \$1,200,000,000, and the wage-workers of England will suffer under the strain for generations to come.

The sort of Christianity that the English believe in may be gathered from the fact that while the poor starve by the thousands in the streets of London, the people are taxed to pay the Archbishop of Canterbury a salary of nearly \$100,000. The Bishop of London and the Archbishop of

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York get \$50,000, the Bishop of Durham \$35,000, the Bishops of Oxford, Worcester, Salisbury, and Bath each get \$25,000, while all the rest of them get between \$15,000 and \$20,000 each yearly.

An international debate on the trust question, between Mons. Yves Guyot, the noted French statesman, economist and writer, and H. Gaylord Wilshire, is an interesting feature of Wilshire's Magazine for February. A delightfully sympathetic study of Walt Whitman and John Burroughs is contributed by Joel Benton, who was a personal friend of both. Socialism not materialistic, by G. E. Etherton, explains that while socialism emphasizes the material basis of life it is mainly because the material supplies the necessary basis for an all-round development, spiritual as well as physical. The editorials on The American Ideal and Our Tariff on Art and the comments on current events are keenly and incisively logical and convincing.

Selling a Gold Mine

It is a matter of tremendous difficulty for a prospector to sell his gold prospect, even though it be one of exceptional merit. This might appear incongruous, but nevertheless the fact remains.

Provided the owner can bond the property for 18 or 24 months, receiving a small payment in cash, which is based just in proportion to the value of showing on the claim he will have fared unusually well.

A bond, in other words an option, is given on the property for say 18 or 24 months. During the life of bond it being agreed upon that continuous development work must be carried on.

However excellent the surface showings may be on a gold prospect, this fact does not constitute a proof of the presence of a paying mine, for after the costly operation of exploitation—driving tunnels and sinking shafts, etc.—may determine otherwise. Necessarily therefore oftentimes considerable risk is attached to these undertakings.

Accepting the EVA property as an illustration, the surface showings here were magnificent, but the owners were without the funds. However they negotiated with The Mines Exchange Limited who had little difficulty in interesting local parties to organize with a small capital the Imperial Development Syndicate, formed with the express intention only of developing prospects. An 18 months working bond was taken on the EVA group. Fortunately a thoroughly practical mining man headed the management of the Syndicate, a Mr. A. H. Gracey, whose faultless judgment distinguishes him as the greatest western

authority in the art of mine developing.

Instead of organizing a company on the mere prospect Mr. Gracey proceeded to develop the property, first a camp was built and trails made; then came the appointment of an experienced mining foreman to superintend the making of numerous open cuts on the surface—opening up and tracing the veins. When the surface work was completed tunnels were started and driven on the different veins, thus bringing to view the large ore bodies.

Development work being vigorously prosecuted proved the property to be even more valuable as depth was attained, the veins not only continuing in size, but also increasing in width.

Enormous bodies of ore were blocked out and the actual value of bullion in sight demonstrated, this being as easy of ascertainment as it is for farmers to correctly determine the value of wheat in the bin or corn in the crib.

Successful Farming

There has been much said of late about the practicability of farming by irrigation. Much of it has been from theorists, but farming by that method has now progressed far enough to get actual figures and statements as to results obtained. Here is what a former resident of this state says about his experience covering two years on a 120-acre farm:

"You ask me to give you a statement of what I have raised on my 120-acre farm for the last two years and how much I have under cultivation. About 75 acres now. In the year 1901 I raised 310 bushels of wheat off 10 acres and sold for \$1.30 per 100 lbs., and 807 bushels oats off 12 acres and sold it for \$1.50 per 100 lbs., and the same year I had in 5½ acres spuds and I got 1,400 bushels and sold them on an average for \$1.05 per 100 lbs., and off 15 acres alfalfa I cut 62 tons of hay in two cuttings. In the year 1902 my crop was just as good all around except the spuds, and the price is about as good as the year before. I am well satisfied with this country. I came here from Colfax county, Nebraska. Yours truly,

"J. F. PECHANEC."

Mr. Pechanec bought his land from Hon. M. Patrie of Market Lake, Idaho. Mr. Patrie has and is now offering for sale a large quantity of land exactly the same as that sold to Mr. Pechanec. Any readers of The Independent interested in Idaho lands or looking for a location in an irrigated district should write him for prices and terms to settlers.

A municipality is never better than the people want it to be.

Misery loves company and usually has no trouble finding it.

"All the world's a stage," and too many supes endeavor to play leads.