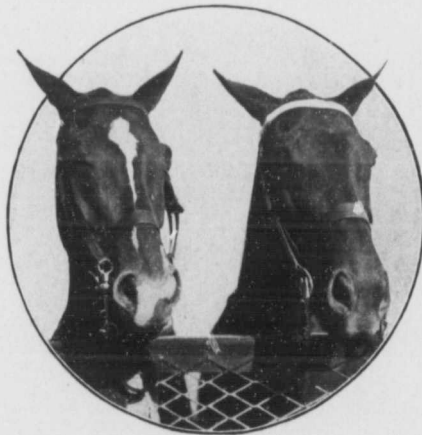


ment made by each in industrial labour, in the arts of design, and in the culture and adaptation of the earth's products to the necessities of mankind."

In the earlier stages of this progress it was necessary to offer inducements to enable the gathering of large numbers of people from distances wide apart, and therefore the purchase and sale of the goods exhibited were particularly a feature of the occasion. But as the world became richer, transportation freer, and the minds of men more widespreading in the ambitious thirst for knowledge, the necessities for this feature no longer existed, and it was found that visitors would travel vast distances only to see the products of the ingenuity and constructive skill and industry of their fellowmen.



The modern industrial institution where the exhibitive and competitive ideas are uppermost, is a British gift coming into existence with the London Society of Arts in 1753. From the first this society was patronized by royalty, and some noble-

man of high rank was invariably elected president. The influence of the organization upon the arts and manufactures of Great Britain, and incidentally of the world, has been enormous. By a judicious system of prizes, native ingenuity and invention, and their application to the arts and manufactures, were encouraged, and some of the most prominent artists and others of past generations could attribute their rise to the encouragement offered by the Society of Arts, which did everything humanly possible through its periodical exhibitions to advance the cause of civilization.

The election of Albert, Prince Consort, in 1845, was made the crowning feature in the career of the organization. The royal mind conceived some very ambitious plans, including the idea of the first World's Fair, a fair, as he explained to his colleagues, "not merely national in its scope and benefits, but comprehensive of the whole world". He suggested the construction of the famed Crystal Palace, wherein was to be exhibited a "grand collection of various products for the purpose of exhibition, comparison, instruction and encouragement". Queen Victoria opened the building in person, and the project was sustained and endorsed by the Government, Court and aristocracy, and was a pronounced success, fin-

