

thousand trainmen propose to strike. A strike will cost the railroads heavily, making it necessary still further to increase earnings.

where, Nebraska people can sympathize with the people of Kentucky, whose name in other states is suggestive invariably of a land flowing with whisky and swarming with inebriates.

QUESTION BOX

What has become of James Parker, the negro who tried to save McKinley's life at Buffalo by striking the arm of Czolgoz as the latter fired?

He has been living a vagrant life in Philadelphia. Was recently committed to an asylum a raving maniac.

Please give the cotton crop of the last two years by states.

Table with columns: State, 1906, 1905. Rows include United States, Texas, Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indian Territory, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee.

Kindly tell me how to poison gophers. A common way is to insert a little strychnine in a small piece of potato; a hole is made into the gopher's run with a piece of wood, say something like a fork handle.

Since the burning out of the Helicon home colony are there any co-operative colonies left in the United States?

- There are several. A magazine interested in such things lately printed the following as a fairly complete list of co-operative and group movements: Altruist community, 271 Franklin avenue, St. Louis, Mo. Amana society, Amana Ia. Beacon company, Aberdeen, S. D. Central Western Co-operative association, Commercial building, St. Joseph, Mo. Colorado Co-operative company, Nuclea, Col. Commonwealth of Israel, Adullam, Tex. Co-operative Association of America, 5 Park square, Boston, Mass. Co-operative brotherhood, Burley, Wash. Co-operative commonwealth, Bow, Skagit county, Wash. Co-operative Manufacturing company, 315 East Wall street, Fort Scott, Kas. Co-operative Vegetarian colony, Highland, N. J. Equality colony, Equality, Wash. Evergreens, Ollala, Wash. Fellowship farm, Westwood, Mass. Fraternal Homemakers' society, 70 Dearborn street, Chicago, Ill. Freedom colony, Fulton, Bourbon county, Ky. Freeland colony, Bow, Wash. Gibbs Co-operative colony, Gibbs, Santa Clara, Cal. General Industrial company, Ruskin, Ga. Golden Rule fraternity, 604 D. S. Morgan building, Buffalo, N. Y. Helicon Home colony, Englewood, N. J. Henry Clough Industrial home, 3508 Eleventh avenue N. E., Seattle, Wash. Home colony, Lake Bay, Wash. Home Employment company, Long Lane, Mo. Koreshan community, Estero, Fla. La Hacienda, Alpine, N. J. League of American Homesteads, 425 1-2 South Campbell street, Springfield, Mo. Le Claire group, Edwardsville, Ill. Lloyd group, Westfield N. J. Martha McVister, Kenesaw avenue, Washington, D. C. Mutual Home association, Home, Wash. Oneida community, Oneida, N. Y. Physical Culture city, Spotswood, N. J. Right Relationship league, 185 Jackson boulevard, Chicago, Ill. Roycrofters, East Aurora, N. Y. Ruskin commonwealth, Ruskin, Ga. Salvation army, 129 West Fourteenth street, New York city. Single Tax city, Fairhope, Ala. Spirit Fruit society, Ingleside, Ill. Straight Edge, 1 Seventh avenue, New York city. The Israelites, Benton Harbor, Mich. The Ruskin Co-operators, 516 Reaper block, Chicago, Ill. Tomorrow City movement, 2238 Calumet avenue, Chicago, Ill. Universal brotherhood, Point Loma, Cal.

celebrated by an exposition in France instead of the United States where he accomplished his work?

The United States consul at Bordeaux, where the exposition is to be held explains it in this way: "The motive for the celebration of this great event will be found in the fact that in 1803, four years before his success on the Hudson with the Clermont, Fulton made his initial essays in steam navigation in France. Fulton's experiments appear to have been at first with a submarine boat, which he christened the Nautilus and in which he was submerged for five consecutive hours on one occasion in 1801. This demonstration appears to have been at Brest, in the presence of the French Admiral Villaret, and it is recorded that by the use of torpedoes Fulton managed to blow up a boat in the harbor.

With his second submarine boat he gave a demonstration on the Seine at Paris on which a commission appointed by Napoleon Bonaparte reported favorably. Nothing, however, came of the submarine boat and it was subsequently, in 1803, that Fulton treated the Parisians to the spectacle of a small boat propelled by steam on the Seine with two bateaux tied astern. A chronicler of that time describes it as "a boat moved by wheels like a chariot."

What was the Concordat, of which we hear so much in connection with the controversy between the French government and the Catholic church?

The treaty between the French government and the pope, drawn in 1801 by which the relations of church and state and the disposition and ownership of the property involved were defined and adjusted. The Concordat consists of a preamble and seventeen sections, the whole about filling a column of newspaper space. The preamble is as follows: "The government of the republic acknowledges that the Catholic, Apostolical, and Roman religion is the religion of the great majority of French citizens. His holiness, in like manner, acknowledges that this same religion has derived, and is likely to derive, the greatest benefit and the greatest splendor from the establishment of the Catholic worship in France and from its being openly professed by the consuls of the republic. This mutual acknowledgement being made, in consequence, as well for the good of religion as for the maintenance of interior tranquility, they have agreed as follows:"

Table with columns: School Type, Number of Students. Rows include Elementary and secondary schools, City evening schools, Business schools, University and colleges, Normal and other professional schools, Private kindergartens (estimated), Reform schools, Government Indian schools, Schools for the feeble minded, Orphan asylums and other benevolent associations, Indian schools (Five Civilized Tribes), Schools for the deaf, Schools for the blind, Schools in Alaska, Schools of music, oratory, cookery, etc.

Please make a list of George Washington's brothers and sisters, Augustine Washington, father of "The Father of Our Country," was twice married.

First to Jane Butler, by whom he had issue: Butler Washington, born 1716, died young; Lawrence Washington, born 1720; Jane Washington, born 1722, died 1735.

Secondly to Mary Ball, by whom he had six children:

Want Column

If you want to buy, sell or exchange anything; if you have a farm to rent or want to rent a farm, a small advertisement in this column will bring about the desired result. Try it—only 2 cents a word. No advertisement for less than 30 cents first insertion. All initials and numbers counted as words. Cash with order. Address THE INDEPENDENT.

WANTED—Men to learn barber trade. The Moler System is short and practical. Tools given; positions waiting; top wages paid. Established in 22 leading cities. Write for catalogue. Moler Barber College, Omaha, Neb.

PERSON TO TRAVEL in home territory; salary \$2.50 per day and expenses. Address J. A. Alexander, 125 Plymouth Place, Chicago, Ill.

EASTER.

Easter is the oldest and the most emphasized festival of the Christian church. The festival of the resurrection was made much of long before the festival of the birth was thought of. Eusebius, a Christian historian of the fourth century, tells us that the festival had taken on importance early enough that a discussion had arisen as early as the year 169 over its date.

Throughout at least eighteen centuries, therefore, the Easter festival has been to the church a day of declaration of the belief without which, according to its chief doctrinal authority, all Christian preaching and belief are vain, the belief in the risen Christ. But the origin of the festival of the risen life is back of the Christian era, and broader than any race or religion. The triumph of spring over winter, the resurrection of plant life, gave our German ancestors an "Ostern" long before they heard of the resurrection in the garden of Joseph. The eggs which play a part in our Easter observance were symbols of resurrection in the mythologies of pre-Christian peoples. This goes to explain how Easter is almost universally accepted as a day of rejoicing regardless of religious belief. The rising of nature, a perpetual miracle, is universal in its appeal and makes Easter one of the happiest and most hopeful of the world's days.

SENATORIAL CRITICISM.

One of the members of the senate finance committee is reported to have said that the state was expending a large amount of money for the university, and there was nothing to show what had been done with it. If the senator really desires information, it is easily had. Of the \$630,000 appropriated by the last legislature, \$350,000 was expended for salaries and wages, and the name and salary of each employe appears on pages 3 to 82 of the printed biennial report, a copy of which is furnished to each member. If he will compare this pay roll in gross amount of individual salaries with the payrolls of other universities having the same attendance, he will discover that the expenditure is exceedingly small. Of the balance \$80,000 was expended for general current expenses, the items of which appear on pages 83 to 111 of the report. By comparison with other institutions, this is very low. The remaining \$200,000 was expended for new buildings, equipment, repairs, improvements, farm departments, the items of which appear on pages 112 to 162 of the report. If the senator desires to see the original vouchers they are accessible at any time.

In view of the absolute publicity of all university accounts, each item passing through the auditor's office, such a remark as is attributed to the senator can only be explained as hostility to the university. If a senator does not believe in higher education, it is his privilege to attack it. This does not injure its standing. To assail the good name of the university by insinuation as to its accounts, when the public records show the indisputable fact that the regents have maintained a university at a lower cost in all lines than any other like institution having the same attendance, is inexcusable.

KENTUCKY'S REPUTATION.

A generation after Nebraska began to take rank among the half dozen leading agricultural states of the country eastern people mention the state as the land of the drouth. Notwithstanding meteorological data prove Nebraska to be the American Italy in winter time the state is still recognized as the home of the blizzard. Cities of substantial construction and fine farm buildings dot the plains of all parts of Nebraska, yet Nebraska is the land of the cyclone to people who live else-

THE MONTH OF MARCH.

Warm dry weather gave the farmers opportunity to make ready for planting operations and permitted the marketing of a considerable part of the crop left over from last year. Business continued brisk and building operations in the cities showed no tendency to decrease.

With speculative business the case was different. The worst slump in stock values in several years occurred, a shrinkage of about a billion dollars occurred in a single day. The stability of the commercial situation was demonstrated by the fact that not a single business failure followed the panic. In the country outside of New York business went on exactly as before.

The beginning of the month found E. E. Harriman on the witness stand endeavoring to justify his various railroad manipulations. In Nebraska a two cent fare went into effect on the seventh, and all other middle west legislatures passed or proposed to pass similar laws. Stricter regulation of freight rates was a general subject of legislation. With the stock panic as evidence various prominent railroad men seized the occasion to declare that the prosperity of the railroads was threatened by state legislation, and announced that projected railroad improvements would be suspended pending a clearing of the situation. The fact that a general money stringency existed in the speculative market was taken by other authorities to be the cause of the market difficulties, and not railroad legislation.

The Fifty-ninth congress adjourned for good on the fourth. One of its last acts was the passage of the amendments to the free alcohol law designed to enable the manufacture of denatured alcohol on a small scale. The appropriations totaled over nine hundred million dollars, a large increase over the last session, which had itself been a record breaker on appropriations up to its time.

Floods in the Ohio river did serious damage at Pittsburg and other river towns, incidentally emphasizing the need of timber on the hills of the Ohio watershed. The most sensational exhibition of civic corruption since a Philadelphia council was mobbed into refusing a gas ordinance was presented at San Francisco. The investigation of political corruption under the regime of Abraham Ruef resulted in the return by a grand jury of indictments against all but three of the seventeen supervisors of San Francisco county, against Ruef and Mayor Schmitz, and against various business men and financiers who are alleged to have resorted to bribery for the obtaining of franchises and other valuable public privileges.

Following the adjournment of congress numerous congressmen made visits to the canal zone. Their unanimous praise of the conditions existing and the progress of the work enlivened the hopes of the friends of the canal. Presidential gossip began to achieve prominence. Vice President Fairbanks delivered speeches on various occasions and at most he was hailed as a presidential prospect. Senator Foraker announced his intention to contest with Secretary Taft for the control of the Ohio delegation, and proposes to hold an election of delegates to a convention which shall choose between them. It was common talk that President Roosevelt will not be satisfied to allow the nomination to go without a fight to an opponent or lukewarm friend of the "square deal" policy. He was said to hope for the nomination of Taft.

The world abroad was more or less disorderly. A war between Honduras and Nicaragua in Central America proceeded to the point of the capture of the Honduras capital. Disorders in Morocco, involving the murder of a French citizen, called French forces to that coast. Agrarian disorders complicated with assaults on the Jews left Roumania in a distressed condition with the trouble not yet over. The Russian douma met on the fifth and remained in session quietly throughout the month. The new Transvaal government was installed with General Botha, a Boer leader of the late war in the office of premier.

How does it happen that Fulton's success with steam navigation is to be