

EXPERIMENTS IN GEOLOGY.

A series of very interesting experiments is being carried on by W. H. H. Moore of the department of geology and Mr. Manie, who is interested in the Nebraska quarry industry. The object of these experiments is to find out whether a commercial cement can be manufactured from Nebraska rocks. The experiments include the making of cement from the lime rocks that are found in the southeastern part of the state and the comparison of the article with cement that is successfully made for commercial uses. Flattering results have been obtained by this investigation in the laboratory. A cement has been made from native rock that compares favorably with the cement that is on the market. The question yet remains to be solved as to whether this product can be manufactured profitably in large quantities.

COUNCIL MEETING POSTPONED.

The university council, consisting of the heads of the departments in the university, the presidents and heads of departments in the colleges of the state, the board of regents of the university, the governor and state officials and the principals of accredited high schools, which was to have met on charter day, was postponed on account of the impossibility of finding time for it at this charter day. The regents had so much business outlined for them that it was impossible for them to take any time for this purpose, and accordingly they approved of the postponement. The council will meet, however, on commencement day, June 7, and probably the meeting will be a fuller one than because of the failure to have a meeting at this time.

JUSTICE TO INDIVIDUALS.

A bill relating to the discharge of railway employes has been introduced in the Texas legislature, which provides as follows: "That when any employe is discharged with or without cause, that the wages of such employe shall be paid so far as due on the day of discharge, without abatement or deduction, and if the same be not paid on such day, then, as a penalty for non-payment, the wages shall continue at the same rate until paid; provided, such wages shall not continue more than 60 days, unless an action therefor shall be commenced within that time. That when such employe secretes or absents himself or refuses to receive his pay he shall not be entitled to the benefit of the act. That any servant or employe engaged for a definite period of time who is discharged without cause before the time expires may, in addition to the penalties prescribed by this act, have an action for any damages he may have sustained by the breach of the contract of employment, and such action may be joined with an action for unpaid wages and penalties.—Railway Age.

Fully one-quarter of the world's supply of coal is now mined in the United States, and in the last twenty-eight years no country has come anywhere near equaling it in the increase of production. While the increase for the whole world has been less than 100 per cent, that of the United States alone has been nearly 200 per cent.

In the calendar year 1897 the total production of bituminous and anthracite grades was 19,603,975 tons, worth at the mines \$198,869,178. Local industries and domestic consumption require an annually increasing amount and on top of this we now have a strong foreign demand, already large enough to warrant increased and more steady mining for a long time to come.

With a present production more than five times greater than it was in

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1870, our exportations have increased from a little more than a quarter of a million tons to more than four million, and is causing uneasiness in the coal-producing countries of Europe.—Saturday Evening Post.

A Knight of Labor writing to the New York Sun strikes the nail squarely on the head in the following:

"I agree with your correspondent that labor unions are trust-like in recognizing as the more generally execrated industrial combinations, better known as trusts, have long ago recognized, the fact that competition instead of being the life is really the death of trade, and they have evidenced that recognition by abolishing competition among their members. A member of a labor union is taught that he must not deprive his more fortunate fellow member of employment by offering his services for less than the wage scale adopted at a meeting by a majority of the members; in other words, the organization will not tolerate competition among the members. Were this not the case workmen would be continually in danger of being deprived of work by other men offering to do the same work for less wages than those who are fortunate enough to be employed, as is now done by the unorganized toilers. The above mentioned abolition of competition among organized workmen is to my mind the only excuse the enemies of labor organizations have for calling the organizations trusts."

Within the brief space of less than eight years the tin plate industry has been so thoroughly established in the United States that our manufacturers can now supply all local demands, and we are no longer dependent on Wales and the adjoining English counties for either tin or terne plates. Prior to 1890 all tin plate used in the country was imported because none was made here. The imports were duty free, but the tariff law of 1890 placed a duty of two and one-fifth cents a pound upon manufactured plates.

The infant industry became a subject of sharp controversy between the leading political parties. In exactly seven and a half years American manufacturers produced more than two and a quarter billions of pounds, and lowered the price to consumers 25 per cent.—Saturday Evening Post.

Dignity and pride are lonely because happiness always wants to sit in somebody's lap.

Luck consists in getting a few of the desirable things we started out in life determined to have.

Love can't break a man's heart after he has got old enough to take an artistic interest in his dinners.

When a woman truly loves a man she admires his indifference more than the attentions of other men.—Chicago Record.

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