works out the details differently. Of the state laws now in operation, their handling of the same subject matter. All of which indicates how legislatures of the various states differ in their persons as in Colorado. The tax on employers nine tenths of one per cent for the was an excellent speech that dwelt upon the subject of harmonious international relationships. It was done in such solid Yankee fashion, Minister Sze had somehow divested himself of that lilting sing-song quality of Chinese speech. We asked him where he acquired his facility for expression in our language and then learned also where he acquired the name Alfred. Minister Sze came to this nation many years ago as a student. In fact he took his high school training in Central High School, Washington, D. C, and when he returned here years later as the Ambassador of his own country, it was like coming home.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION. Before 1935, Wisconsin alone had enacted an unemployment compensation act. Then came the Social Security Act, enacted by Congress with provision for taxing employers for unemployment compensation and remitting 90% of the tax to the states if they enacted their own laws. Under such indirect compulsion, 36 states have enacted laws to compensate unemployment. It is estimated that such laws now cover nearly 18 million employees. Illinois, has no such law as yet with the result that taxes on employers for this purpose go into the U. S. Treasury and are commingled with the general monies of the government. It is curious to observe that when Congress establishes the general pattern for a law, each state works out the details differently. Of the state laws now in operation, their application covers employers of but one person as in Pennsylvania up to 8 or more persons as in Colorado. The tax on employers nine tenths of one per cent for the first year up to 3% in 1938. Tax on employees varies from nothing as in the case of Minnesota to 1% as in the case of Alabama. The effective date when benefits are to begin ranges from July 1, 1936 to January 1, 1939. The amount of benefit to be paid to an unemployed person in any one year ranges from 20 times the weekly benefit amount as in Rhode Island down to 12 times the weekly benefit as in Arizona. All of which indicates how legislatures of the various states differ in their handling of the same subject matter.

SIZE. From the standpoint of persons employed, what is the largest agency of government? The answer is correct. It's the Post Office with 264,814 persons in its farflung domain. There are however, other departments of government that employ enough people to outfit a good sized city. The Treasury Department has 56,063 persons in its employ, the War Department 64,804, the Navy 69,981, Interior Department 34,814, Agriculture 42,980, the State Department 4,614, the Commerce Department 16,048. Then there are some independent agencies that haven't done so badly. Take for example the Veterans Administration with 37,450, the Home Owners Loan Corporation with 15,791, the Resettlement Administration with 35,343. Altogether Uncle Sam now employs 841,000 persons not counting the Army, the Navy, the Judicial or the Legislative branch of government. It affords a high note in comparisons. To think of the State Department with 4,614 people employed as against the time when Thomas Jefferson became the Secretary of State in 1789 and had only two clerks who wrote everything out in long hand.

SUPREME COURT. The President's message recommending a revamping of the Judicial branch of government recalls the fact that the Supreme Court did not always consist of 9 members as at present. In 1789 when the Court was established it had six members. In 1801 when Jefferson went to the White House, the number was reduced to 5. But in 1807, while Jefferson was still President, the number was increased to 7. In 1837, after Van Buren had succeeded Jackson, the number was increased to 8. In 1863 when the nation was ravished by Civil strife and Lincoln occupied the White House, the number was increased to 10. Under Lincoln's successor, Andrew Johnson, the number was reduced to 7 in 1866. Three years later, with Grant presiding as Chief Executive, the number was again increased to 9 and has remained at that number ever since.

NEWS WHILE IT'S HERE. If the author remembers his history correctly (students better check it) the battle of New Orleans was fought after the peace treaty with Great Britain was signed or at least agreed upon. The trouble was that in those days there were no cables, no radios, no telephones, no telegraph, no system of communication except by slow letter or by the Paul Revere system. We've made some progress since that time. In fact, so enormous is the Communication structure of this country that a Communications Commission employing 739 persons is charged with supervision of radio, telegraph, and telephone. In 1916 we had but 6,470,197 telephones but that number has increased to 15,000,000 with an expansion of service.
the point where one can telephone to most of the countries on this earth. From these phones, an average of 2 1/2 billion local calls and 67 million toll calls shuttle back and forth over 83 million miles of wire. That's what one might call the vast empire of speech. As for radio, the nation is now dotted with stations of all classes to the number of 53,480. To be sure, the majority of these are amateur stations, operated by amateurs who have qualified in a standard examination given by the Federal Communications Commission. Today there are 46,850 licensed amateur stations and the number is growing. There are 656 regular broadcasting stations and 2020 ship stations. For those who would like to throw the saxophone player in a nice cold lake, there is little comfort because the Commission's engineering staff reports in the development of new portions of the so-called radio spectrum which promise to increase the number of available channels for communication. So what?

PLANNED BILL. Hon. Marvin Jones, Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, has introduced a bill to establish a Farmers Home Corporation, with a capital of $50 million dollars and a fund of $50 million per year for ten years for the purpose of encouraging and promoting ownership of farm homes by farm tenants. The general method of operation under the bill would call for the acquisition of farms by the Corporation and the sale of such farms to farmers or those who are about to engage in farming. Preference would be to those who are married or have dependents or to tenants, sharecroppers, or farm laborers. A committee of three, consisting of a business man, a farmer and an experienced credit man would be set up in each county whose duty it would be to recommend to the Corporation the names of bona fide applicants for farms who in the opinion of the committee would meet their obligations. It is proposed to place a limit of $3000 on the value of any farm acquired under the proposed bill. That of course would limit its operation to the cotton and tobacco growing sections where 10 acres constitute a farm. The bill may have been inspired by the plight of 1 3/4 million tenant and sharecropper families in the cotton south who work all year and are lucky if they break even. Another inspiration might have been the gradual mechanization of cotton farming. In the deep Old South it is done like it was done in Civil War days with a single mule. In Texas and Oklahoma and other states, the machine is making it possible to produce more cotton per man at much less cost. Figures from the delta experiment station at Stoneville Mississippi indicate that the operating cost per acre of cotton using a single mule and a half-row cultivator is $14.20 per acre. With a 4 row cultivator hitched to a tractor, the cost is $5.20 per acre. The mule hasn't got a chance in such a match. So we have a cotton problem and it will be with us a long, long time and with it, we shall have the tenant and sharecropper problem. But note: Three thousand wouldn't go very far to buy and equip a farm in Illinois.

JUST BY WAY OF INFORMATION. The miserable inaugural weather recalls what Mark Twain said about Pennsylvania Avenue when he first saw it. He suggested that they dilute the mud and use the Avenue as a canal. It was that same Avenue with its seemingly bottomless mud that promoted the historic remark of Horace Greeley about going west. What Greeley really said was, "In Washington, the mud is deep, the rents are high, the food is execrable and the morals deplorable; Go West young man, Go West." Believe it or not but the attache of the Egyptian legation bears the interesting name of I. Said Soulfikar.

EPITAPH. On a tombstone in a little cemetery in Northfield Mass. is this inscription: "He that doeth the will of God abideth forever." That stone marks the grave of one who was born February 6th, 1837, in Northfield. He was the son of a brick mason, and one of nine children. His schooling ended at 13 and he then became a shoe salesman. In this endeavor he was successful and made money. He went to Chicago about 1865 and became interested in church work. While the Civil war was raging, he gave more and more of his time and money to church work and to evangelism. He began to build churches, establish Bible classes, and church schools for young men. He began to expand and soon the whole world knew him. He preached everywhere and yet was never ordained. He knew the power of song and effected a partnership with a writer and singer of hymns named Ira D. Sankey. He made the world a better place than what he found it and his monument is really written in the hearts of thousands. That epitaph graces the simple marker of Dwight Lyman Moody whose birthday was briefly commemorated in Congress on February 5th.