

## NEWS AND NOTES.

You should spend Christmas eve at Liberal Hall.

Remember Miss DePeatt's lecture at Liberal Hall Sunday evening.

Five new students expect to enter our school when it reconvenes Jan. 3rd.

Don't fail to witness the entertainment and see the Christmas stocking at Liberal Hall, Christmas eve. Admission free.

We will soon begin work on the dining-hall and have it ready to move into as soon as possible. Those desiring to donate work please let us know.

The Little Candle is an electric bulb. May its light never grow less, but shine more and more to help the TORCH OF REASON show the way.—J. P. Guild.

School closed Wednesday for the holidays. The students will now have time to rest after two months' hard study and will be ready to start in Jan. 3rd, with renewed vigor.

The Silverton Secular Sunday school is growing rapidly and parents are realizing what a benefit it is to them and their children. It is a shame that there is not a Secular Sunday school in every school district.

Miss Kate DePeatt's lecture that was to have been delivered last Sunday has been postponed until next Sunday evening. The subject of the lecture is "Evolution of Spooks". The usual good program will precede the lecture.

There will be but three more meetings of the Y. P. S. S. C. this term. Then it will be determined which side will have to furnish the dinner. The members of the Club have had a splendid time during the meetings past and it is to be hoped that the meetings next term will be even more interesting.

We will celebrate Christmas in true Secular style this year. The Secular Sunday School is preparing a fine entertainment of recitations, exercises and music, which will be followed by a short address by Miss Kate DePeatt, and the distribution of presents for the Sunday school children. The presents will be placed in a large "Christmas stocking", made especially for the purpose, and will be well filled.

In this issue we print tract no. 2 of Scientific Wisdom, which is now ready to be distributed and which we hope will find a ready sale. Remember you get fifty tracts each month for a year (12 different subjects) for one dollar. These distributed amongst your friends will doubtless do some good. The tract for February will show the similarities between gods and religions. Mrs. Bliven would be pleased to re-

ceive helps on that tract as well as all the others. Helps may be sent to this office or direct to Mrs. Bliven.

On the first page of this issue we print another of Alonzo Leora Rice's poems. Mr. Rice is a regular contributor to the magazines and is the author of a number of splendid poems. He has published a number of them, together with his portrait, in a neat 32 page book, which he offers at the very low price of five cents a copy. He also writes that he is having published a dainty little book of Secular poems which will be out in time for the holidays. He offers these books for ten cents and we hope that he will be able to sell a large number. His address is Ray's Crossing, Ind.

## REFLECTED RAYS.

"Religions are like fireflies, they require darkness in order to shine." —[Schopenhauer.

It is time for some successor of Madame Roland to exclaim, "O patriotism, what follies are uttered in thy name!"

Our malice and our anger injures ourselves far more than they do our enemies.—[Aunt Elmira, in Investigator.

If this be a Christian nation, why is not citizenship in this country synonymous with Christianity? and why may one not depend upon such citizenship for salvation?—[American Sentinel.

When one has waked up to the idea that the world needs to be made better, and goes to work to help to do it, he discovers a joy which no selfish pleasure can begin to equal.—[The Pointer.

Will spirits of departed scientists please to tell us, through their mediums, what spirits are—what they are composed of, what constitutes their being, and by virtue of what natural law they, unlike every other thing in Nature, can survive during all eternity? There will be no answer!—[Wettstein in Investigator.

If there is any time more than another when a Christian ought to be consistent in practice and in belief, it is surely while in the act of partaking of the sacrament of holy communion. Nevertheless, instead of warding off disease by the use of a little of that faith which Christ said would enable true Christians to swallow even the most virulent poisons without ill effect, churches everywhere are adopting individual communion cups at considerable expense, that contagion may be avoided. So total a lack of faith exhibited in the very performance of a sacrament of the church would be astonishing were not the relation between Christian preaching and Christian practice so very well known.—[Investigator.

## LITTLE POINTS.

The telephone has done more for the world than "the word of God".

Orthodoxy pays millions of dollars each year for her guessers to guess.

The snake in the Garden of Eden and those in the drunkard's boots are imaginings of diseased brains.

Christna of India said, "I am the beginning, the middle, and the end," long before the bible was written.

If Jesus was God manifested in the flesh, then the text might read, "Jesus gave his only begotten father," etc.

As to the existence of the supernatural, one man knows precisely as much, and exactly as little, as another.—R. G. Igersoll.

Dig down to the bed rock of all supernatural religions and you will find lies, mistakes, assumptions—everything that is infamous.

The word "Christ" was used by pagans long before it was applied to Jesus. The people of Loretto had a black savior, called Chrest, or Christ.

Christians ask, "What would you give us in place of the Christian church?" and saloonatics claim that a town would be dead without a saloon. We think that halls of science and moral entertainment would do us much more good than either.

The world wasn't made in six days; woman wasn't made from a rib; Noah didn't build an ark; the language of the world was not changed in one day; no one ever raised the dead to life; there are no gods, devils or angels; Jesus Christ nor any of the saviors of the world were sons of gods.

## University Fund.

The amount given in this fund is actual cash paid in, regardless of what has been promised:

Previously acknowledged,	\$554.55
J. G. Francis, Oregon	1.50
F. VanHoeter, Oregon	1.00

## MATERIAL, ETC.

Previously acknowledged,	\$254.50
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