

NEWS AND NOTES.

Remember that Prof. Buff lectures on astronomy at the Thought Exchange next Sunday evening.

Capt. Hosmer and his crew gave an excellent program at the Y. P. S. S. C. last Friday, which was highly pleasing to the members and visitors present.

Messrs John Steelhammer and June Drake entered the Liberal University this week, and others inform us of their intention to be with us in a short time. It encourages us to see the Liberal University grow.

The congress of the American Secular Union and Freethought Federation is to be held in Boston this week and the meetings promise to be very interesting. We are sorry that Oregon is not able to send a delegate.

At the Annual Secular Union and Freethought Federation Convention in Boston, John Prescott Guild speaks on Robert Ingersoll, also he gives an address on "Freethought's Mission and Liberal's Labors Today." That the Liberal University will be strongly advocated by him goes without saying.

Mrs. M. M. Turner is having printed a volume of selections from the Bible with comments, and selections from the writings of scientists. This will undoubtedly be interesting reading, and we earnestly hope that the book will be widely circulated. As soon as it is published, it will be announced in the Torch of Reason.

The Woman's Social Science Club of Silverton met at the home of Mrs. H. C. Page last Saturday and completed its organization, adopting a constitution and by-laws and electing the following officers for the ensuing year: Emily L. Wakeman, President; Mrs. A. A. Leonard, Vice-President; M. P. Hosmer, Secretary; Mrs. Lou Ames, Treasurer. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Dr. Leonard next Saturday at 3 o'clock p. m. The subject for discussion is "What to Eat and What Not to Eat". All ladies are invited to attend.

We doubt there being any one more interested in our cause than Mrs. M. M. Turner, of Washington, D. C. Besides contributing financially and sending literature all over the country, she has this to say to us in a private letter: "I am deeply interested in the proceedings at Silverton. I wake early in the morning and often my thoughts go out to Silverton. I see the place in darkness and sleep, but know that when the sun, carrying good wishes from me, or good wishes I commission it with, looks into streets and houses, there will

be a waking to hard, earnest and loving work which will be as sunlight to coming generations."

There will be full choruses of thirty voices in the opera Thanksgiving evening, at Liberal Hall.

"Four-leaved Clover" is the title of a beautiful opera, in two acts, which will be given at Liberal Hall, Thursday evening, Nov. 30. (Thanksgiving Day).

We still have some photographs of the Liberal University faculty, which are for sale at 50 cents each, post paid. These pictures should be in possession of our patrons. Do you want one to frame and hang on the wall?

Prof. Wakeman's Inaugural Address, in pamphlet form, is on sale at this office in lots of ten and over, for only 5 cents a copy. This is a strong document for Freethought, and we hope our readers will lose no time in having it scattered broadcast.

We have again arranged to give the Torch of Reason and Weekly Oregonian both one year for only \$1.50. This is the price of the Oregonian alone, and people who desire to take that great Western newspaper, have the privilege of getting the Torch of Reason free. This offer only lasts until Jan. 1st.

Secularists wishing to visit Silverton and the Liberal University should make it a point to be here during Thanksgiving week. Thursday evening, November 30 (Thanksgiving), the splendid opera, "The Four-Leaved Clover," will be given at Liberal Hall. A full chorus of over thirty voices will take part. The opera will be followed by a social ball. Friday evening is the meeting of the Young People's Social Science Club, when an interesting program will be given and visitors will have a splendid opportunity to see what the students of the Liberal University can do. The Woman's Social Science Club meets on Saturday afternoon, and Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock Prof. T. B. Wakeman will deliver a Thanksgiving Sermon at Liberal Hall. Monday will be a good time to visit the Liberal University and see the actual school work. Come and visit us if you can and we will do our best to entertain you and show what we are really doing.

Must Have It.

MANAGER TORCH OF REASON:

I have become so accustomed to receiving the Torch in my Monday morning mail, that when it misses I feel uneasy until it appears. For some reason, the last two numbers have failed to come, and I know of no reason, unless it is that my subscription has expired, in which event I should have preferred that you send me the bill for another

year, as I have not the slightest idea when my time is up.

I enclose you \$1.00, and if it has been stopped for lack of this, please don't let it happen again, but notify me in advance. I feel very much interested in the University, and through the Torch I can keep posted as to its progress. Not only this, but I consider the paper bright, able and aggressive, and I don't want you to deny me the pleasure of its company.

Please send me the last two numbers which I have missed.

Very truly yours,  
C. K. TENNEY.  
Madison, Wis.

Thought Exchange.

The meeting of the Thought Exchange last Sunday evening was one of the best that has been held. Mr. Bleakney, of Aumsville, Ore., gave us an interesting talk on Expansion, in answer to Prof. Wakeman's lecture of the week before. Mr. Bleakney believes in expansion and upholds the McKinley administration. Prof. Wakeman replied to the speaker of the evening in his able manner, and was followed by Mr. Geer, who agreed with Mr. Bleakney and also with Prof. Wakeman in his idea of making the Pacific Ocean an American lake. The only disagreement was on the methods. Prof. Hosmer next followed with some able remarks opposing the views of the Expansionists. Matters began to wax warm then, and Prof. Wakeman was asked what he would do with the Phillippine question. He said he would settle it in a humanitarian way that would be best to all concerned, and bring a close to the war.

This put words into the mouth of Hon. T. W. Davenport, who had acted the part of a "stool-pigeon" with his cries of "That's right!" and "Amen!" whenever Prof. Wakeman would strike the line of argument that would suit him. Mr. Davenport referred to the looting and stealing done by the American troops in Luzon, and said that our principle of warfare is wrong and a disgrace to civilized nations. Mr. Ames, treasurer of the L. U. O., again filed his intentions of sticking to the administration. Then Mr. Putnam, a great-great-grandson of General Putnam, closed the debate with some witty and well chosen words favoring the ideas of the speaker of the evening.

As a whole the meeting was entirely satisfactory and was a good exchange of thought. The people of Silverton are becoming interested in the meetings, and anxiously wait for next Sunday, when Prof. Buff will lecture on Astronomy. No one should miss hearing him.

P. W. G.

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