

NEWS AND NOTES.

"The Hawaiian Islands" at the Thought Exchange next Sunday evening.

The Silverton Woman's Social Science Club will meet at the residence of Mrs. Dr. Davis, Saturday, March 17th, at 3 p. m. All women are cordially invited to be present.

The new officers of the Y. P. S. S. C. are as follows: President, Mrs. Addie Martin; Vice-President, Grace Wolford; Secretary, Reber Allen; Treasurer, Ollie Geer; Sergeant-at-Arms, John Madden; Critic, Clara Wakeman; Captains, Florence Brown and M. P. Hosmer.

Prof. Freedom Hoffman arrived from California last Monday and immediately entered upon his duties as teacher in the Liberal University. The Professor is very much pleased with our "pretty valley," and in his first morning talk made us all feel proud of our beautiful location.

We received the finest specimen of punk for our museum this week that we ever saw. The punk was taken from a pine log in Eastern Oregon by the donor, Mr. G. R. Wagner, of Monument. It is a sheet of about two square feet of soft, white substance as any one ever saw, and looks like nicely tanned buckskin.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Blybach and three children crossed the Coast Range and landed in Silverton last Monday. This makes another Freethought family in Silverton who will do all in their power to make our work a success. Mrs. Blybach is Mrs. Hosmer's sister, and glad we all are to welcome them to our Secular Home.

A young lady who has been attending the Liberal University for several months is desirous of getting a position as teacher in a private or public school. She has had experience in teaching, and, in addition to a good knowledge of the common school branches, has studied a number of the higher branches, always passing her examinations with high standings. Write, or enquire at the University.

During the past week the Liberal University has received from its friends many gifts of fruit trees, berry bushes, several rose bushes, grapevines, rose cuttings, bulbs and other plants; also a package of flower seeds from a friend in the East. Prof. Wakeman is planting the trees. Wherever he is, he always plants fruit trees. The ladies of the University family are planting the flowers. We thank the friends who have taken, and are still taking, an interest in helping to beautify the University grounds. Of course, this is only a beginning;

much more must be done to really make any showing of what we wish to do.

Besides a small amount for stock, the following donations have been received this week: N. F. Griswold, \$500; John Holman, \$5; Dr. G. A. de Lespinasse, \$10.

Silverton Thought Exchange.

"He who waits, wins." And so it has proved with the Thought Exchange. The rain has "gone to Spain" or elsewhere; the orthodox boycott never did amount to much; and finally, the "providential interposition" of Dr. Leonard's practice forgot to interfere. Before the choir was through with the music, that was a beauty and a mystery, the Dr. walked up the aisle with the long-expected lecture roll under his arm, and soon he began to reel it off in a very deliberate and pleasing way. "What to do for and about the young people of Silverton" was his theme. He began by showing that a town was, in a large degree, responsible for its children, for it could not help but make a large part of their environment. Parents might do all they could, but if the town did not sustain their good efforts, the children would be under conditions and temptations which would make their good health, training and morals an utter impossibility, no matter what parents might do. Of course, parents and the children must first co-operate in the home. To effect that, the parent must make it an earnest affair of home management to gain the confidence and affection of the children, and so their control and guidance for good. This done, the town must be made to second and sustain all efforts for the good and welfare of the rising generation. The details how to do this will not be given here; they were too much, too many and too important to be lost. So, by a general request which followed the delivery of the lecture, Dr. Leonard has promised to give it for publication in the Torch of Reason; and so it may see the light there next week. Look for it! We can only say that it ought to be read in every town, village and city in the United States. It would be hard to imagine anything more practical or useful on the subject, and no subject is more important. Dr. Leonard not only had his ovation, but had fairly knocked out the usual critics. The trio of professors, Hosmer, Buff and Wakeman, for once, could only say, "Amen!" or "Ditto," which they did to their best in the usual complimentary style. When they were through, the audience were not willing to let the matter evaporate in compliments, without an attempt to improve the little city of Silverton and make it worthy of

its young people and entertaining to them.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried, "That the officers of the Exchange be directed to call a public or town meeting of the citizens and residents of Silverton, to meet at Liberal Hall on the 24th of March, at 8 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of appointing a committee to look after and effect as far as possible the public improvements needed in our city and the general health, welfare and entertainment of our people, and especially of the young."

This means that the city of Silverton may mean something more than a disconnected collection of families, doing little and in no way co-operating for their general welfare, comfort or pleasure. Dr. Leonard showed that while other towns or cities were, in the East and everywhere, becoming delightful places of residence, our city has done little to develop and use its splendid natural advantages. It was necessary, in order to be a real city, to come to consciousness as such, and to act for our general health, welfare, comfort and entertainment. This meeting to appoint this general, non-partisan town committee will be one of the most important ever held in our city. Let every one attend, without regard to sex or sect, or creed, or party, or anything, but the welfare and delight of us all, and the fair fame and beauty of the Valley City in which we live. x. y. z.

Notice.

TO THE CITIZENS AND RESIDENTS OF SILVERTON:

By a resolution unanimously passed by the Thought Exchange at its last meeting, we, its officers, were directed to invite you to attend a general meeting to be held at Liberal Hall, on the 24th inst., at 8 o'clock, p. m., for the purpose of appointing a committee to look after and effect, as far as possible, the public improvements needed in our city, and the general health, welfare and entertainment of our people, and especially of the young. Please consider yourself respectfully invited to attend this meeting.

CHARLES BREWER, JR., M. D.

President.

MRS. M. P. HOSMER, V.-Pres.

LOUIS RAUCH, V.-Pres.

T. D. ALLEN, Treas.

CLARA WAKEMAN, Sec'y.

Begin at the Foundation.

To Thaddeus B. Wakeman, Supt., Department of Sociology, Liberal University, Silverton, Oregon: MY DEAR SIR:—It is now a little over six years since I had the pleasure of seeing you but a few minutes at our Congress in Chicago ('93), but I had known T. B. Wakeman by reputation for years.

Of course, I have noticed the Liberal University movement, and have felt inspired that a man of your vigor and brain qualifications should be prominently in it. Liberalism, in any country has still an up-hill and hard road to travel, although the cohorts of superstition don't burn us now as they did 300 years ago. But it shows practical wisdom to begin at the foundation, and endeavor to shape the impressive brain of youth with veritable scientific facts. The Liberals have heretofore been lax on that point, leaving, as they have, the miseducation of their children to the designing and ignorant enemies of progress.

I have received a few numbers of the Torch of Reason and have perused them with great pleasure, and now I enclose you one dollar, being subscription for one year. I need not tell you that I am an opponent of superficialism in all its multifarious forms, whether it is palmed off on deluded humanity by ecclesiastical authority or metaphysical verbiage. Hence, your manner of handling subjects in the Torch cannot fail to be interesting to me.

I am, in the cause of Scientific Progress,

Yours truly,

W. C. STUROC.

Sunapee, N. H. Feb. 28, 1900.

Can't Do Without It.

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

Enclosed find postal order for \$1, for which send me the Torch for one year. Your notice of expiration is so short and I can't remember the time that I am paid to, so I am liable to miss a number, and I don't intend to if I can help it. I can't get along without it. Success to the good work is the wish of

CHARLES E. DILWORTH,

Vernon, Okla.

Secularists would you not like to have some letterheads printed with Secular sentiment and Wettstein's Freethought badge, to use in correspondence with your friends? We will furnish them to you with your name and address printed on them for 75 cents per hundred, \$1.50 per 250, or \$2.50 for 500, postpaid. Let the people know where you stand.



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