

NEWS AND NOTES.

Lift up the Torch!

Work on our fine large hall is in very active progress.

The fall term at the Liberal University begins Monday, October 1st.

Hops are being picked in the Willamette Valley. Big crop!

Read "A Liberal Offer" on this page, and note the change this week.

Can we paint our building this fall? It should be painted at once.

The Torch and Weekly Oregonian one year for only \$1.75 if you order at once.

Three more carpenters will begin work on the Liberal University building this week.

Mr. J. H. Morris is with us again. Mr. Morris is working on our new catalogue, which will be out soon.

Prof. Freedom Hoffmann's summer school at Dolph has closed and he is with us again, ready for work in the L. U. O.

For a limited time we will give the Weekly Oregonian and the Torch of Reason both one year for only \$.75. Order at once.

The basement of the L. U. O. is at last being finished. When completed, the L. U. O. and surroundings will be "a joy forever."

Remember you will get Geo. J. Holyoake's "English Secularism" if you send in a dollar for the Torch, either as a renewal or a new subscriber.

The carpenters, masons, printers, teachers, stenographers, writers, cooks—all at the L. U. O. are very busy getting ready for the winter's campaign.

Don't forget to subscribe and get subscribers for the Freethought Magazine, published by H. L. Green, 213, E. Indiana St., Chicago, Ill., at \$1 per year. It's up-to-date.

Mr. C. W. Thompson, our former carpenter foreman, is with us again. Mr. Thompson's brother and wife, from Kansas, whom he has not seen for 35 years, arrived in Silverton Tuesday.

Notice what a jump our "Contribution Box" and "Liberal Offer" took this week. If some of our friends don't "watch out" it will reach the five thousand dollar mark, and some of the latter-day prophecies will not be fulfilled.

Next week we will send out one thousand extra copies of the Torch as samples to people in all parts of the United States and Canada. This issue will be an extra good one, and if you can use a few copies to good advantage we will send you some.

Mrs. Ida Clymer, Secretary Geer's sister, and her two bright little

children, Julia and Vance, spent several days at the L. U. O. home this week. Mrs. Clymer is a resident of Arizona, but enjoys visiting her friends and relatives in her girlhood home, the beautiful Willamette valley.

Since last week's issue we learn of the death of one of the L. U. O's staunch friends, Mrs. L. E. Fuller, of Corvallis, Ore. Mrs. Fuller has been a life-long Liberal and a subscriber for the Torch of Reason ever since it started, and has aided the Liberal University in many ways. She leaves many friends to mourn her loss.

We are sorry to learn of the death of our friend, Mr. Lewis Moffitt of Seward, Neb. He leaves a loving wife and a large number of relatives and friends to mourn his loss. Mr. Moffitt was an enthusiastic Liberal, and his wife writes as follows: "My husband had been told several times that he would recant when he was on his death-bed. He did not say one word about God and the future, and there was not one word said about them at his funeral." He was loved and respected by all who knew him, and such a man as Lewis Moffitt "is found but once in a while."

A Contrary Effect.

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

I am in receipt of a letter from a New England friend of the L. U. O., who, it seems, has been advised by some so-called "Western Liberals" to not contribute further to the Liberal University for certain reasons, and I think an extract from the letter will be interesting to our readers. He says in part:

"I have been watching the Torch of Reason for the result of the Five Thousand Dollar boom, but regret to find instead of success, reports from prominent Western Liberals that after their work and sacrifices have made the conditions favorable for your work, it will not be a success, because those who are able will send their children to better-equipped schools, and Liberals are either too poor or too stingy to support the L. U. O., and they predict that in less than five years your pet project will be a gigantic failure. So I will enclose a draft for five hundred dollars to help over the gloomy result which they fear (or hope for), and I hope this will encourage others to come to the rescue and soon make your Hundred Thousand Dollar boom a reality, for we must have some place for the Ingersoll Chair that our English friends have started. Then we will all rally to storm the Gibraltar of Orthodoxy."

I regret that I cannot give our readers the name of this good man who has come to our assistance so nobly and so generously; but he prefers, for certain reasons, to have us withhold his name. No doubt the "prominent Western Liberals" who have predicted our failure will recognize him by this letter.

Fail in five years because we are not well equipped, will we? My dear "prominent Western Liberals," which is better—cry us down and use your time and means to defeat us, or put your shoulder to the wheel and help move the load like this prominent EASTERN Liberal has done? This friend was not influenced by you in the way you intended. He said: "Here, if the L. U. O. is not well equipped, let's equip it so the Liberals will patronize it."

Three years ago these very same so-called "prominent Western Liberals" kicked out of the L. U. O. because they couldn't run their hobbies into it, and at that time they predicted our failure in less than a year and called us all sorts of names. That work didn't succeed any better than their present methods have. It is peculiar and amusing to see the way they change base.

But, Liberal friends, let me tell you that the REAL "prominent Western Liberals, whose work and sacrifices have made conditions favorable" for this movement, are still working and sacrificing for it and are staunch supporters of the Liberal University, and like this and other prominent Eastern and Western Liberals are contributing to its support financially and otherwise. Instead of crying down the L. U. O. because it lacks equipment, they have helped us to equip it, so that, with the faculty we have employed, we defy any school or university to compete with us in real teaching. Please judge us by the students we have and the knowledge they acquire at our hands.

People who employ their time sending out reports like the one above quoted are not "afraid" we will fail, they HOPE for it, as our friend puts it. And why do they hope for it? Simply because they cannot succeed in making the Liberal University illiberal by running in their hobbies. Pay no attention to them. First they called us thieves, next they said we were Orthodox, and now they are "afraid we will not get patronage!"

Yours for Truth and Justice,  
PEARL W. GEER,  
Secy. L. U. O.

O. S. S. U. Twelfth Annual Convention.

The Twelfth Annual Convention of the Oregon State Secular Union will be held in Liberal Hall, Silverton, Ore., September 28, 29 and 30, E. M. 300 (1900). Much business of importance is to be transacted and new officers elected. A very interesting program, with receptions, music, lectures and ball, is being prepared. The L. U. O. will have its opening exercises on Monday following the convention. Questions as to further union, organization and propaganda will be proposed. It will be a most lively and interesting occasion. ALL people of Liberal sentiments are cordially invited. Those who can aid by contribution of means or by taking part in the program are respectfully requested to communicate with the present officers.

T. B. WAKEMAN, President,  
Silverton, Ore.  
CLARA BAILEY, Secretary,  
91 N. 9th St., Portland, Ore.  
Dated August 30, E. M. 300.

A Liberal Offer.

A good friend of the L. U. O. has offered to donate Two Thousand Dollars in cash to our institution if other Freethinkers will raise it to Five Thousand.

Let us fill up the contribution box!

LATER—Mr. R. C. Burtis of Michigan adds one thousand dollars to the above offer. At this rate we will soon be able to go ahead with our building. "A friend who helps quick helps double."

STILL LATER.—A friend in Silverton offers fifty dollars on the above plan. The amount already received and acknowledged in the Contribution Box, goes to help make up the balance of this fund, which now lacks only \$1514.10 of being complete. Can't we, by a special effort, reach this amount before September 1st?

LATER STILL.—A friend in New England has sent us a draft for five hundred dollars, which now leaves only \$1014.10 to complete the fund and give "Luo" a big boost. Who will be the next?

The Ingersoll Chair.

The amounts subscribed and paid in for the Ingersoll Chair are set forth below. This sum is actually in the hands of our treasurer to be safely invested, the income only to be used.

	£	s.
Mr. George Anderson, England	5	0
Mr. Alfred Marsh,	"	3 0
Mrs. E. Holyoake Marsh,	"	10
Mr. Robert Applegarth,	"	10
Mr. J. M. Gunson,	"	1 0
Mr. Arthur Ginton,	"	1 0
Mr. Sidney Ginton,	"	1 0
Mr. John Leach,	"	1 0
Mr. Thos. Allsop,	"	2 0
Mr. W. Holyoake Byron Smith	"	5 0
Miss Phipson,	"	1 0
A. H.	"	10
Dr. G. Sworn,	"	1 0
Mrs. Holyoake Smith,	"	1 0
Miss Julia C. Smith,	"	1 0
Mr. T. R. Mudie,	"	1 0
Mr. A. Sumner,	"	5
Mrs. Daniel Baker	"	1 0
Herbert Spencer,	"	2 0
Mr. Jas. Wallace, Scotland	"	1 0
L. P. Maxam, Mich.	"	\$10.00
Geo. N. Hill, Boston, Mass.	"	5.00
Eva Ingersoll Brown, N. Y.	"	50.00
Prof. Daniel T. Ames, Cal.	"	10.00
Benj. Duval, Col.	"	1.00

TO RAISE \$100,000.

This is Our Building Fund Contribution Box.

Previously acknowledged	\$428.90
G. Lincoln, Hartford, Conn.	5.00
A. Vanderpoel, Lodi, Wis.	1.00
M. Miller, Sr., Dayton, Ore.	1.00

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.