

NEWS AND NOTES.

Don't forget the O. S. S. U. Convention, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 28, 29 and 30. Come!

It is only a short time now before Monday, October 1st. We hope that, as far as possible, all students will be on hand at 9 a. m. the first day.

This week the Silverton people have been treated to some of the most beautiful sunsets imaginable. This is indeed the golden land of the setting sun.

A thunder shower last evening freshened the thirsty Willamette valley and dampened the ardor of the hop-pickers. Thunder and lightning, even of a mild form, are rare phenomena in Silverton.

The workers at the L. U. O. are now dancing lively to the music of the hammer and the saw. A fine, large stage is nearly completed in the Assembly Hall, and all the rooms are being rapidly finished.

The basement wall of the L. U. O.'s main building is being completed by Mr. J. Von Viesko. Mr. Viesko is one of the best workmen we ever met. He turns solid rock and cement into "miracles" of beauty, and that, too, without asking any aid from the Virgin Mary or her smart son.

Friends receiving sample copies of the Torch of Reason are invited to subscribe for the same. One dollar is a very low price for an eight-page journal, and we are very anxious to get all our friends acquainted with our work and make other friends for the L. U. O. as fast as we can. "Spread the joyful news wherever man is found!"

A well known friend of the L. U. O. writes as follows: "I think that the suggestion of an orphans' fund is a good one. I have always felt that Freethinkers should unite in some such charitable work for humanity's sake, and not for a god's sake." Our friend also says that we may expect a money donation for this purpose soon. Shall we start the fund? Can Freethinkers unite in doing good?

Several moons ago the L. U. O.'s mighty hunter, Hoffmann, chased a "Giasticutus Tremenjus" in the cool of the evening. This wonderful animal is second cousin to the Irish banshee and an offshoot of the house of the holy ghost. He was chased up a prune tree, captured, and a picture of his gigantic skeleton, which may be seen in the Torch of Reason office, was preserved. The trunk of the prune tree was also saved and used as a sceptre by the king of the printers' devils.

Travels: Morning on the Pacific Shore: Baths, and Sights and Thoughts.

Concluded from 6th page.

bottom rock or hard-pan, and its line of growth is upward and onward, till it finally forms a hollow ball-float or head, held by a long, hollow, rope-like cartilage connecting and holding it to its natal rock, perhaps twenty to a hundred feet below the surface. The floating hollow ball or head puts out leafy, slimy tentacle branches from five to twenty feet long. This gets its food from the flotsam and jetsam, and doubtless plays its love pranks beneath the moon. When it gets the "too big head," the waves get too much pull on it and break its foot off the rock, and it floats ashore. Then the boys get the long, dark thing and play stage-whip with its long, lash-like tendrils, or excite wonder as to whether it might be a plant or an animal. It is one of the thousand curious freaks of protoplasm. We tried to bring a small specimen to the L. U. O. Museum, but it either decays in water or dries up on land; so Neptune must remain its only successful exhibitor on his own shore.

The rising tide soon brings a prettier human sight! Most of the hotel life, young and old, are out in the morning to learn what the wild waves have to say to them of health and joy, and perhaps what revelations they may make of and to each other. There is only surf or roller bathing. No one, as in the East, tries to get out beyond the rollers, or even his depth, to swim. This would be to tempt death from the under-tow. Bathers have become too wise for that. They join hands, and in long rows or groups dance and prance and jump to mount the incoming roller. Then, lifted high in its embrace, they are borne inwards until they find themselves in shouting and laughing heaps on the sand as their wave recedes.

And so they have their rollicksome play with old Neptune in such dress as they choose, and with none to see except the mermaids beneath the waters, the gulls above—and themselves. And what they see of each other is, well—a useful revelation, oftentimes, of both mind and form. People are married too much, because not married rightly enough and carefully enough. Many a married couple might do well to lay up their pennies and have ever before them a bridal tour, to be taken every year to mountains and sea. Let them be for a bit of time "off," or away from each other, and then make up on these trips with the old but renewed revelations, worship, honeymoon and joy. Let this become the fashionable habit, and let our judges adjourn the divorce courts and go along to see how it works. Those who thus re-marry themselves every year will be proof against divorce lawyers, for they

will be careful to keep themselves up to the marriageable standard in mind, temper, health and grace of conduct and dress. When husband and wife court and make a unanimous re-election of each other every year, and work and think so as to be worthy of it, their happy days will be long in the land, and the country will be safer and better.

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?

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.

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

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SILVERTON, OREGON.
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Fall term begins Monday, October 1, E. M. 300 (A. D. 1900.)
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