

NEWS AND NOTES.

The people of the L. U. O. are busy as busy can be.

Mr. L. D. Leonard is digging a well for the University building.

Our business manager was in Portland Monday and Tuesday.

The most beautiful weather imaginable is being enjoyed by the people of the Willamette valley.

The captains of the Y. P. S. S. C. chose their sides last Friday evening and are all ready for business. Miss Mills will lead off next Friday evening with a good program.

As we go to press a telephone message comes that a Freethought sister, Mrs. West, of Scappoose, Oregon, has just died. One of the L. U. O. faculty will deliver the funeral address.

We have just purchased a 25-horse power boiler for steam heating purposes in the L. U. O. buildings. Steam will also be utilized in running printing machinery and water works.

This number goes to one thousand Freethinkers who are not yet subscribers. We hope that many of the thousand will join in our rapidly increasing "Torch" light procession and help spread the gospel of Science and Humanity.

We regret to say that we will not be able to paint the University building this year unless we receive more money. How many of our readers will pay for one gallon of paint each? Paint is \$1.25 per gallon.

The many improvements we have made on the buildings and grounds of the L. U. O. this year require the expenditure of a great amount of money and we hope our friends will remember to help the building fund.

Mr. Henry Browne, wife and two children, of Wisconsin, have arrived in Silverton, where they will reside in the future. Mr. Browne is an expert printer and will be seen slinging type and kicking press in the Torch of Reason office.

Miss Sophie Wolf, our former professor of elocution and music, left last Monday for Boston, where she will spend the winter in the Emerson College of Oratory. Miss Wolf's many friends will miss her during her absence from Silverton and hope for her safe return,

The following officers were elected at the Y. P. S. S. C. meeting last Friday evening:

President, Charles L. Page; Secretary, Minnie Robison; Treasurer, Elvin Ames; Sergeant at arms, L. Rauch; Assistant Ser-

geant at arms, Ada Page; Captains, Miss Kitty Mills, F. W. Hoffmann.

A Well Pleased Subscriber.

Editor Torch of Reason:—

Dear Friend: English Secularism came to hand in good condition and it is a good friend and companion. I am much pleased with it and the Torch. If only people would read some of the Liberal literature, we would have nothing of narrow mindedness and creeds and dogmas. I, for one, am glad that I have bursted the bonds of mental slavery. With many thanks, I remain one of you.

Mrs. F. E. Luce. Philadelphia, Pa.



Minnie Page Hosmer.

State Sup't Secular Sunday Schools.

Mrs. Minnie Page Hosmer, whose portrait appears above, has been actively engaged in the Liberal work in Oregon for the past five years. She was elected vice president of the Oregon State Secular Union at the seventh annual convention held in Portland, E. M. 295. The following winter and spring she, with her husband, conducted the work in the Portland Secular church and Sunday school. They then moved to Silverton to assist in founding the Liberal University, where Mrs. Hosmer is exceedingly active in the work and devotes nearly her entire time, in school hours, to teaching. Outside of school hours she devotes herself to books and various lines of work, and is always on hand to assist the members of the Y. P. S. S. C. in arranging and practicing for entertainments. She has been one of the principal workers in the Silverton Sunday school and her experience along that line certainly fits her for the office of State Superintendent of Secular Sunday schools in the Oregon State Secular Union, to which office she was elected at the convention just closed. Anyone contemplating starting an organization or wishing information regarding the Secular Sunday school work will do well to address Mrs. Hosmer, in care of the L. O. U., Silverton, Oregon.

It is Constructive Now.

BY D. E.

At the recent convention of the Oregon State Secular Union, Professor Wakeman told us that the destructive period in Liberalism had passed, and the era of construction had arrived. It was easy work to demolish the old theological systems, and scatter their idols to flinders. It may not be so easy to construct a new fabric that shall win all hearts by its truth, utility and beauty. Nevertheless the attempt should be made. Perhaps the chief difficulty will be the diversity of opinion which in the very nature of things must always exist among Liberals. But while no one is required to surrender his individual opinions, may he not keep his peculiar views in the background, and emphasize and act upon those views which are held more in common? "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."

Circulate the Petition.

A petition numerously signed should be sent to President McKinley urging him to withdraw the American missionaries from China in settling our present difficulties with that country. It is well known that the aggressive nature of Christianity is the cause of the present trouble. Let that clause be abrogated which guarantees protection to Christians and missionaries there, and they will at once withdraw, or, if desirous to become martyrs, will remain at their own peril. It is but just to China that her choice in this matter should be regarded. We exclude from this country certain classes of Chinese that are not acceptable to us and by all means let us grant a similar privilege to them. Somebody start the petition. Fifty millions of people in the United States are ready to sign it.

Our offer to give a copy of George Jacob Holyoake's English Secularism with a year's subscription to the Torch of Reason for one dollar has met with such a hearty response that we have decided to renew the offer. This book is cloth bound, gilt top, 150 pages, and sells for 50 cents. We give it free with a year's subscription to the Torch of Reason, or a renewal. We have only a limited number, so order at once.

Send 10 cents in silver or stamps to the Liberal Subscription Agency, 128 Locust St., Ottawa, Kas., and receive during the next month copies of all leading Freethought, Liberal and New Thought papers and magazines.

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.

Table listing donors and amounts for the Ingersoll Chair, including Mr. George Anderson, Mr. Alfred Marsh, Mrs. E. Holyoake Marsh, etc.

TO RAISE \$100,000.

This is Our Building Fund Contribution Box.

Table listing contributions to the building fund, including H. Rowley, O. T. Glenn, Ed. Secrest, etc.

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.

LATER STILL.—A friend in New England has sent us a draft for five hundred dollars, which now leaves only \$925.60 to complete the fund and give "Luo" a big boost. Who will be the next?

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.