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Letter From John Campbell.

Ursa, Ill., Aug. 29, 1886. W. J. WIMER.—Sir:—According to promise, I write you a few lines this evening. I arrived at home Aug. 21st. When I left Grant's Pass, I went to Albany, thence to Corvallis; from Corvallis to Newport on the Yaquina bay, where I remained six or seven days. I found a Mr. Smith whom I knew in Quincy, Ill. He is a lawyer and a school teacher. I visited the light-house at Cape Foulweather. I saw much to interest me; Salmon, Flounders, Gold-fish, and various other species of the funny tribe. The Flounders are rights and lefts; the male's mouth is on one side of the head, and the female's on the other. I selected a few shells. The rock oyster grows here. They grow in blue looking rock, and are not as good as the eastern oysters. The razor clam is found there in the sand. I saw two young ladies trying their hand at catching them, but they are not so easily caught. To catch them requires some skill; you take a small paddle, find their breathing holes or small sink in the sand, then go for them. It takes an expert to get them. They sink in the soft sand so rapidly. Newport was alive with visitors, pleasure seekers and bathers. Newport is not much of a town—about like Grant's Pass. No insinuation, Mr. Wimer, but what you have a nice town. Real estate is looking up at Newport. I took ship at Yaquina Bay, the "Yaquina City," a small steamer, to San Francisco, a distance of 450 miles which we made in one day and two nights. We had a good time, the sea not being very rough. There were several board, among others, the county judge of Lin county, Mr. Whitney, who is a nice gentleman. I saw some whales blowing their noses. I was sea-sick, so were many others. We sailed in sight of land most of the time when it was not foggy, and arrived in Frisco all safe. What a stir such crowds of people make. I came across my old school teacher. He is on Montgomery street, No. 17, opposite the Palace hotel. Oh, my, what a building; it looks like a whole block, about seven stories high, the first story is about 24 feet and the others 14. I think four elevators run in the building. Rumor says it cost ten millions. It is said to be fire and earthquake proof. I saw the celebrated Woodard Gardens. I paid 25 cents entrance, and spent half a day very pleasantly. I visited the Cliff House and saw the sea lions sporting in their native element. I saw Chinatown with its 60,000 denizens. From Frisco I went to Monterey, 100 miles south of Frisco. Del Monte, Artesian wells, flowers and plants of all kinds—grand place. On my return from the coast I visited Sacramento, Salt Lake, Denver, Atchison and St. Joseph. Our corn here is much damaged, blown down; will have about half a crop. Corn is 40 cents, wheat 70 cts.; Irish potatoes, 30 to 35 cts. Yesterday was very warm, is cooler to-day. I sold 65 acres for \$5,100. I am going to southwest Missouri. JOHN CAMPBELL.

A genuine stage robbery of a different type from that acted at Cole's circus, occurred at Baker City on Wednesday of last week. The Canyon City stage was stopped, two Chinamen were robbed of \$700 each a gentleman of \$18 and Wells Fargo & Co's treasure box of \$500. A lady passenger was not disturbed of her \$5. The robbers were masked and a big reward will be paid for their capture. [States Rights Democrat.

The departure of 3,000 Russian and Rumanian paupers recently for America has increased the discussion as to the advisability of modifying our immigration laws. We may yet have to resort to the frequently suggested plan of requiring from every immigrant a certificate from the American Consul resident in the immigrant's district, to the effect that the bearer is "of good repute at home, able-bodied and self-supporting." [News.

The West Shore is preparing for its holiday issue a large engraving of Mt. Hood, executed in eight colors. It will be a handsome picture and worthy a place on the wall of every house which contains an admirer of Oregon's majestic mountain. [West Shore.

Great excitement was created at Chatham by the unexpected receipt and urgent orders from the admiralty to expedite the completion of men-of-war. Relays of workmen are to be employed to work day and night if necessary. This activity is regarded as indicating possible continental complications.

The Coos Bay News gives a startling account of a narrow escape of Miss Charlotte Nichols of South slough from being killed by a cougar. She was on horse back and the ferocious beast jumped from a tree terribly favoring the horse, but missing the lady.

Aims, Objects, and Regulations of the Ancient Order United Workmen.

The Ancient Order of United Workmen is a general organization for the mutual benefit of its members and their families. It embraces in its membership men of every vocation, profession and occupation—employers and employees—workers of all classes, whether their labor be mental or physical. It has no connection with any religious sect, political party or organization for affecting the prices of labor or commodities, but is designed to promote fraternity, mental and social improvement, and mutual assistance.

BENEFICIARY FUND.

The most distinctive feature of the order is what is designated as the Beneficiary Fund—a carefully devised, well guarded, economical and beneficial system, by means of which the sum of Two Thousand Dollars is secured to each members family, or such person or persons as he may choose to designate. During the several years since the Order has been established in full in each case of death, to the persons entitled to receive it, within a few weeks, and without any litigation or troublesome formalities. A careful examination of the working of the system will satisfy any intelligent person that such will continue to be the case.

HOW ASSESSMENTS ARE PAID.

Each person who becomes a member of the order pays to the Receiver of his lodge one dollar for the beneficiary fund. Every lodge has on hand, at the beginning of the month, ready for a call, one dollar of beneficiary fund for each member. When a death occurs, if there is a sufficient amount of the fund in the Grand lodge to meet the required payment of \$2,000 no call is made upon the Subordinate lodges, but if there is not a sufficient surplus from the last assessment, then the lodges are notified at the first of the month to forward their portion of the fund on hand (\$1.00 for each member), and an assessment is made to replace the amount forwarded. By this means the beneficiary fund of the lodge is again replenished, ready for a call at the first of the next month, if it should be made. Assessments are only made on the members at the first meeting night in each month, and a written or printed notice is sent to each member, bearing date of such meeting night. Twenty days' time is given from that date to meet the payment. Thus the payments are made at such intervals, and are called for in such manner, that they may be easily provided for and met without in convenience even by persons of small income.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST.

In the first year of the working of the Supreme lodge (1873-4), the number of assessments made upon the members of the lodges directly under its jurisdiction, was 20; second year, 14; third year, 13; fourth year, 15; fifth year, 14; sixth year, 16. Since that time the average has remained about the same, and these figures will vary but little in the jurisdiction of Oregon and Washington Territory. It is probable that the future average will rise a very little until the 20 years of age, maturity point, is reached, after which it will remain about the same. The average cost to each member, therefore, has been \$15.66 per year; being a little more than four cents per day as the cost of a completely secured guarantee of \$2,000, to be paid on the death of a member.—Can any man who is in circumstances to avail himself of this system be justifiable in neglecting to give to his family the security which it affords? Does not prudence and affection dictate that he should secure for them the protection thus offered?

ADVANTAGES OF THE SYSTEM.

The A. O. U. W. beneficiary system is simple, easily understood, economical in its workings, and in all its details comes under the direct observation and care of the members who meet weekly or semi-monthly (as their by-laws prescribe) in their lodges, where the business is transacted, and where they enjoy the advantages of social and fraternal intercourse, and of mutual improvement. These lodges are governed by officers regularly elected by the members—the financial officers are under the proper guards and restrictions, and a careful system of checks prevents fraud or betrayal of trust.

PROTECTION AT NET COST.

All money paid on assessments for the beneficiary fund goes to the payment of death benefits, without reduction even for expenses, these being provided for out of a general fund in each lodge. This fund is made up from initiation fees (usually about \$15.00 for each member, with sometimes an advanced rate, according to age), and weekly dues of not less than 25 cents per month. The advantage which each member de-

rives from the social, fraternal and educational features of the order, and the good which is accomplished by it in these respects, afford a more than ample return for the sum he pays into the general fund, which meets all the expenses of the order, leaving the entire beneficiary fund intact for the beneficent purpose for which it is intended. There are no commissions, fees or salaries to be paid out of it, but the entire amount paid in goes to the widows, orphans and other heirs of deceased brethren. Thus the beneficiary system may be fairly said to be carried on absolutely without any working expense, and, at the same time, to be more closely under the observation of those interested in it, and more carefully guarded than any other method adopted for similar purposes.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION.

A medical examination is required under such rules as are generally adopted by life insurance companies. The character of the applicant must also be investigated and the lodge pass upon his application by ballot. Persons between the ages of 21 and 50 only are admitted.

BENEFITS OF SICK OR DISABLED MEMBERS.

The payment of weekly sick benefits to members is a matter left to the control of each Subordinate lodge. Some provide in their by-laws for such benefits—others do not. If sick benefits are to be paid, the initiation fees and monthly dues are fixed at an amount sufficient to cover the expense—each lodge having the power to fix the fees and dues at such sums (not below \$15.00 for initiation and degrees, and \$2.00 for beneficiary fund and certificate and 25 cents per month for dues), as may be determined upon.

GENERAL FEATURES OF THE ORDER.

The A. O. U. W. is a secret order, having two degrees, with appropriate initiation ceremonies. These are simple, but impressive. The teachings are calculated to strengthen the character and elevate the moral principles of the members. The order is composed of Subordinate lodges, Grand lodges, and a Supreme lodge. Subordinate lodges in states and territories where no Grand lodge has been established, are under the immediate jurisdiction of and report to the Supreme lodge, until a Grand lodge is established. When a Grand lodge has over 2,000 members under its jurisdiction, it can be set apart as a separate beneficiary district if desired. In this case the members are assessed for the deaths that occur within such district or jurisdiction, and the Grand lodge collects the assessments and pays the death benefits under the laws and regulations adopted by the Supreme lodge. The Grand lodges of Pennsylvania, New York, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, Tennessee, Indiana, Michigan, California, Wisconsin, Kansas, Oregon, Ohio, Massachusetts, Ontario, Maryland, Nevada and Colorado, have been thus set apart as to the beneficiary fund. In all other respects they remain integral parts of the order. These Grand lodges sometimes include more than the name of their state. For instance, the Grand lodge of Oregon and Washington includes British Columbia; that of Maryland includes New Jersey and Delaware; that of Nevada includes Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana; that of Colorado includes Arizona and New Mexico.

PROGRESS OF THE ORDER.

The A. O. U. W. was started in Pennsylvania in 1868, was not sufficiently established to pay the \$2,000 benefit until 1873. The membership reported on the 1st of March, 1886, was 159,401, with Grand lodges established in the states noted above. The order has already paid to the widows and orphans of its deceased members over \$14,000,000. In all these states the order is steadily and rapidly growing, with the increase already since the above date, it is safe to say that before the close of the year 1886 it will number over 150,000 members. The order was founded by Father Upchurch' aided by a few earnest, honest men, for fraternal and beneficent purposes. Its sphere of usefulness has been enlarged, and it has been faithfully conducted as its founders designated it to be—not to subvert the selfish interest of a few, but for the mutual benefit of all. Thoughtful and prudent men join it because they can thus provide, without present embarrassment, for the contingencies arising from the uncertainties of life, and at the same time aid each other in mutual improvement and the elevation of humanity.

SOME OF THE REASONS FOR JOINING THE A. O. U. W.

1. Because insurance benefits are furnished to all the members at cost. Having had over 10 years of practical experience and trial, during which millions of dollars have been paid to widows and orphans at less than half cost of insurance in stock

companies, it is worth more than a trial.

2. The A. O. U. W. offers more benefits than any other order.

3. Because the cost of all the above large benefits is less than one-half of a corresponding insurance in the ordinary insurance companies.

4. Because the assessments are based on the "Actuaries Table of Costs of Risks."

5. Because the Order is steadily and rapidly growing.

6. Because the whole membership is taken into full confidence as to the management, and in the monthly published reports of the officers, every member can see what has been done with every dollar received by the order, and the financial officers have given adequate bonds; and lastly, because the A. O. U. W. will not take advantage of any technicalities, but will pay all just claims promptly, whenever they arise.

Further information cheerfully given by applying to F. M. Nickerson, D. D. G. M. W. for Josephine, Klamath and Lake counties, Oregon. Post office address, Grants Pass, Josephine county, Oregon.

Railway Building in 1886.

The "Railway Age" for September 2d, presents some interesting information concerning the progress of railroad construction for the first eight months of the current year. Up to the end of August, 3475 miles of main line track, not including sidings or additional tracks, have been laid in thirty-six out of the forty-four States and Territories, upon 163 lines. During the whole of 1885 only 3131 miles of railway were built, and already in the first eight months of 1886 this has been exceeded nearly 350 miles. Since July 1st track-laying has been done at the rate of nearly thirty miles for every working day, and work is still in progress on ninety-five lines. From these data, and from the fact that the remaining four months of the year are those in which the harvest of the railroad construction work is to a large extent reaped, the Age considers itself justified in predicting that the new railway mileage of 1886 will largely exceed 6,000 miles.

Kansas has added 600, Wisconsin 225 and Texas 300 miles. Florida leads the Southeast with 225 miles on 11 roads. The larger proportion of the total of new track for the year is in Neb. asika, Dakota, Kansas and Texas; while Nevada, Montana, New Mexico and Utah make no showing at all up to date. In view of these facts, the glowing statement of the Age is not altogether unfounded in declaring, "an army of men, numbered by tens of thousands, is preparing for the great engine of civilization, all over the country, and tens of thousands of other men are finding active employment in manufacturing the locomotives, cars, rails and innumerable other material entering into the construction and operation of the railway; so that the great work of railway extension, now so actively going on, is furnishing work to scores of thousands and food to hundreds of thousands, and disbursing into varied channels of industry many millions of money."

Findings Against the O. R. & N. Co.

In the four cases of the Oregonian Railway Company (limited) vs. the O. R. & N. Co., the findings of the Court were for plaintiff. The O. R. & N. Co., several years since, leased the lines of the Oregonian Railway Company for a period of ninety-nine years, and subsequently repudiated the lease and refused to pay the rent. The Oregonian Railway Company kept bringing suit until four were in active operation. This decision means that the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company will have to pay under this decision between \$200,000 and \$250,000 back rent and costs. It will be quite a lift for the Narrow Gauge road. [News.

Missouri Flat.

Weather sticky. Will prove as beginning to travel South which indicates fall weather.

A. Rehkopp and family have returned to Applegate after a year's absence.

Parties who attended Cole's circus from this place pronounced it an entire failure.

Wm. H. Basye is building a neat residence which adds greatly to the appearance of things around there.

Elders Brown & Slover have been holding a protracted meeting, on Williams creek and have met with good success.

People are busy making up their sugar cane. There has been quite a large amount raised this year and some excellent syrup has been made.

Jay Gould's favorite dish is succotash, and he has it three times a day.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Grant's Pass, so named after General Grant, is a county seat centrally located in Southern Oregon. It is a progressive railroad town of 600 inhabitants, and is the main supply point for a large portion of country devoted to mining, lumbering agriculture and fruit-raising. Climate unexcelled.

The Courier being the only paper published in Josephine county, with a good circulation in Jackson county, enables it to be one of the best advertising mediums in Southern Oregon. For rates, address THE COURIER, Grant's Pass, Oregon.