

JOHN JORDAN U

EXCERPT FROM: HISTORICAL RALEIGH (NC) FROM 1792

BY: MOSES M. AMI 1902 - RPU - 3 SEP 2014 PG 104

ORF:

△ A. O. U. W.

△ ANCIENT

ORDER OF

UNITED WORKMAN

↳ FOUNDER △ JOHN JORDAN U

The local Lodges of the order of Red Men, the Elks, Junior Order of American Mechanics, Knights and Ladies of Honor, Royal Arcanum, the Heptasophs, Ancient Order United Workmen, and the Modern Puritans, are organizations of recent date.

JOHN JORDAN  
JASPER

4

John Upchurch

North Carolina Marriages,  
1759-1979

marriage: 29 May  
1830

Wake, North  
Carolina

spouse: Angelina G.  
Green

JOHN JORDAN U

① The Article below an ISUP sent to RPU by Gerald Tharp Leonard in a letter dated 19 JUL 2010. It appeared in the News & Observer in Raleigh, NC - undated. This item is new to RPU Records

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FRANKLIN MAN FATHERED BENEFITS FOR WORKERS

by Fred G. Zahler (Published in the News and Observer)

The union of employer and employe "in one grand organization opposed to trade unions," was the plan proposed by a native of Franklin County back in Civil War days. That man was John Jordan Upchurch.

In these days when trade unionism bulks so large in the public eye, and wields so great an influence in national politics, it is good to take a look at one who was among the pioneers in the unionization of workers, albeit the chief interest of the subject of this sketch was in the fraternal and benefit aspects of unionism.

Just as Franklin was called a printer, and Roger Sherman a shoemaker, so Upchurch is described in the registers as a mechanic. But like St. Paul, the tentmaker, his mind was on many subjects other than his immediate calling.

Upchurch's youth was a hard one and it was enhanced by an unfortunate occurrence in his family. His education was exceedingly limited but he had an active mind and even as a boy, saw beyond his immediate environment.

First he worked on the farm, and in his teens learned the trade of millwright. When he came to Raleigh with his wife's uncle, John Zeigenfuss, and with him opened a hotel, said to be the first temperance house south of Mason and Dixon's line. As was to be expected, the venture proved a failure, sufficient evidence of this being found in an advertisement by W. W. Holden, assignee in bankruptcy for Wake County, in the Raleigh Register, February 1843, listing a sale of household furniture, including a "good two-horse wagon," at the residence of John Zeigenfuss.

Young Upchurch worked briefly for the Raleigh & Gaston Railroad, attempted horse taming, and, making little headway, went to Pennsylvania where in a few years he became master mechanic of the Mine Hill & Schuylkill Haven Railroad.

In June, 1864, the employes of the road, seeking a raise, went on strike, and for two weeks Upchurch operated the road in the interest of the government, with men provided by the War Department. Then it was the thought came to him of uniting both employer and employe in one organization.

(5)

Upchurch, in 1868, joined the League of Friendship, Supreme Mechanical Order of the Sun, in Meadville, Pa., one of many secret workers orders then springing up. It soon split, and on Upchurch's initiative a section reorganized as Jefferson Lodge No. 1, of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. One of the main objects of the new order was "to discountenance strikes" but since the organization had the character of a lodge rather than a trade union, it proved impotent to affect strike movements seriously one way or the other. When, according to the article in the Dictionary of American Biography, a year after its inception it levied a dollar per capita assessment to pay substantial death benefits, it began to transform itself into a fraternal benefit society, and became a model for a movement characteristic of the period in America.

The demand of a rising but propertyless working class for a bulwark against sickness, old age, and funeral expenses underlay the rapid expansion of mutual-benefit societies. Impetus was given by the policies of the old line commercial insurance houses, whose rates were very high. Indirectly, the societies were influenced by the English friendly societies of the 16th century, and directly, although subordinately, by the secrecy, ritualism, and sociability of Freemasonry. Dozens of them went bankrupt until, late in the eighties, actuarial calculations were adopted and reserves built up.

The Ancient Order of United Workmen pioneered in this field under the direction of Upchurch, who in 1873 had been made Fast Supreme Master Workman, and today he is generally regarded as the founder of the mutual-benefit system, which, some years ago, numbered 200 fraternal societies in the United States and Canada, with more than 120,000 subordinate lodges and over 9,000,000 members.

Upchurch continued to work as a master mechanic for various railroads until about 1881, when he gave the most of his time to the furtherance of the interests of the benefit societies which he had been so instrumental in founding. In 1885, at the solicitation of the Order, he visited California, where he was feted by many lodges, and the next year visited Boston and Philadelphia. He was the author of an autobiography, "The Life, Labors, and Travels, of Father (the title by which he was affectionately known in his later years) John Jordan Upchurch," edited and published posthumously by his fraternal brother, Sam Looth.

A man of limited early advantages, Upchurch was a man of warm heart and original ideas, which, coupled with purposeful enterprise, made of his life one of real help to his fellowmen.

So far as was known, Upchurch never returned to visit the home of his boyhood and the scene of his early adventures.



JOHN JORDAN U

XID-4806

O RE FAMILY OF JOHN JORDAN U FROM ANCESTRY.COM-26SEP2008 RPA

1870 CENSUS, TRUMBULL CO, OH

1880 CENSUS - PETTES

I. JOHN U, IV

PO = WARREN

CO, MO - SEDALIA

HEAD OF CLAN

A. AMBROSE

U 1792-1824

Δ I. JOHN

JORDAN

U b 26 MAR

1820 (NC)

d 1887 (MO)

(BUR-ST LOUIS, MO)

Δ MO 1841 (RALEIGH, NC) ANGELINA GREEN

b 1825 (PA) d 1896 (MO) (BOK-AS HUS)

Δ Q. THEODORE FAIRFAX U b 11 MAY 1844 (RALEIGH, NC)

Δ L. RUFUS W. U b ABT 1853 (PA)

Δ C. CHARLES F. U b ABT 1856 (PA) d 17 JAN 1887 MO (INDEPENDANT CITY) BEFORE

Δ d. HORACE C. U b AUG 1860 (PA) d 1917 (MO) ST LOUIS W AND 23

Δ R. JOHN C. U b ABT 1862 (PA)

Δ f. WILLIAM A. U b SEP 1864 (PA)

Δ MO ABT 1883 (?) OLIVIA E. ADAIR

b SEP 1863 (MO) d AFTER 1930

Δ i. CHARLES H U b 8 JUL 1884 (MO)

Δ MO 2 OCT 1908 (?) LAURA E. HAMMER

b ABT 1889 (MO) [1910 = 1, ]

Δ (I) CHARLES M. U b 15 AUG 1909

Δ (II) RUTH O. U b 3 DEC 1910 (MO)

Δ (III) WM LEE U b 21 MAR 1914 (MO) 1920 CENSUS

Δ (IV) JOHN J. U b 11 NOV 1915 (MO) ST. LOUIS

Δ (V) GEO. JOSEPH U b 14 JUL 1918 (MO) CO, MO

Δ (VI) HARRY L. U b 15 JUL 1921 RICHMOND

Δ (VII) LAWRENCE G. U b 28 MAY 1924 HEIGHTS

(RICHMOND HTS, ST. LOUIS CO, MO)

Δ (VIII) HELEN E. U b 21 OCT 1928

(RICHMOND HTS, ST LOUIS CO, MO)

Δ ii. LEWIS J. U b MAY 1886 (MO)

Δ iii. JUANITA ANN U b APR 1890 (MO)

Δ g. CURTIS L. U b ABT 1870 (OH)

\* SINCE LAURA E. U IS STEPDAUGHTER OF GEO. S. ETTER - SARAH R. MOBITRAVE MO EARLIER U

Name	FOREMAN IN R R SHOP	BABT	Age
John J Upchurch		1821	49 NC
Angeline Upchurch		1824	46 PA
Rufus W Upchurch	JEWELRY APPRENTICE	1853	17 PA
Charles F Upchurch		1856	14 PA
Horace Upchurch		1858	12 PA
John Upchurch		1862	8 PA
William Upchurch		1865	5 PA
Lizzie Popenhagen		1855	15 SERVANT

Name	WORKS IN R R SHOP	BABT	Age
J. J. Upchurch	HEAD	1820	60 NC
Anna Y. Upchurch	WIF (Y=E)	1826	54 PA
T. F. Upchurch	SON - MALWARE EST	1854	26 NC
W. A. Upchurch	SON	1864	16 PA
Curtis L. Upchurch	SON	1870	10 OH

1900 CENSUS, CRAWFORD

CO, MO - STEELVILLE RES

HOME = MERAMEC

Name	MO WIFE FARM	BABT	Age
W A Upchurch	HEAD	SEP 1864	35 PA
Ollivia Upchurch	WIF (4,3)	SEP 1863	36 MO
Chas H Upchurch	SON	JUL 1884	15 MO
Lewis J Upchurch	SON	MAY 1886	14 MO
Juanita Upchurch	DAU	APR 1890	10 MO

BEFORE 1910 CENSUS - ST. LOUIS,

MO (INDEPENDANT CITY)

ST LOUIS W AND 23

Name	BABT	Age
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Δ George S Etter HEAD 1836 74

Sarah C Etter WIF (5,4) 1852 58

Δ Zinnie I Hammer DAU 1882 28

Δ Mettie W Hammer STEP DAU 1887 23

Laura E Upchurch STEP DAU (1,1) 1890 20

Charles H Upchurch STEP SPL 1885 25

Charles M Upchurch STEP 1909 8/12

Olivia Upchurch BOARDER 2 YRS 1868 42

Faustina M Miller BOARDER 1887 23

Name	WIFE MFG CO	BABT	Age
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Charles Upchurch 1886 34

Laura Upchurch 1890 30

Ruth Upchurch 1911 9

Lee Upchurch 1915 5

John Upchurch 1916 4

Joseph Upchurch 1918 16/12

Olivia Upchurch W D 1866 54

Name	R MO WIFE F	BABT	Age
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Charles H Upchurch HEAD 1885 45 MO

Laura E Upchurch WIF 1889 41

Ruth O Upchurch DAU 1911 19

Lee W Upchurch SON 1914 16

John J Upchurch SON 1916 14

Joseph G Upchurch SON 1919 11

Harry L Upchurch SON 1922 8

Lawrence G Upchurch SON 1925 5

Helen E Upchurch DAU 1928 16/12

Olevia E Upchurch MOTHER W D 1865 65

b F M b m o

JOHN JORDAN U

XID 4806

UPCHURCH CITATIONS FOUND ON INTERNET BY  
CHARLES JOHN PETERSON, JR & SENT TO RPU IN LTR  
22 MAR 2004. A COPY OF THIS ARTICLE APPEARS AS PG(S)  
193, 194 WITH THE LETTER AND IN EXTRACT FORM BELOW.

FURTHER IDENTIFIED AS: History of Franklin, Jefferson,  
Washington, Crawford & Gasconade Counties - Missouri 1958  
- Presents a series of biographies one of which is:

NOTE: my analysis shows  
the whole was written  
about 1895 ± 2 years  
- RPU 15 OCT 2004

CROSS FILE

JOHN JORDAN U

THEODORE FAIRFAX U

John Jordan Upchurch (deceased) was the founder of the fraternity known as the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and was born in Franklin County, N. C., March 26, 1820. His parents were John and Elizabeth (Hill) Upchurch, also of Franklin County, N. C., the former of whom died when John Jordan was but two years of age. The latter was employed as a clerk at the age of twelve years, and clerking, farming, and running a sawmill furnished him employment until 1841, when he married Angelina Green, and soon after began keeping hotel at Raleigh, N. C., where it is said he conducted the first temperance house south of Mason and Dixon's line. This venture, however, proved unprofitable; but, possessing the happy faculty of always finding something to do, Mr. Upchurch was successful as an engraver, a railroad agent, horse-tamer, locomotive engineer and master mechanic. A strike in 1864 impressed him with the injustice done to both capital and labor by the existing unions, and he began to study principles that should underlie a union benefiting both. In 1868 was created the noble order of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, of which Mr. Upchurch was the honored father. In 1873 he located in Steelville, where his family still reside. During the latter years of his life he visited, by invitation, Grand Lodges from the Pacific slope to the Atlantic coast, and everywhere was most cordially met with expressions of highest esteem. Upon his visit to Cincinnati, Ohio, he was presented with a gold medal, bearing the emblems of the order, anchor and shield, the former set in diamonds, and, on the reverse side, engraved, "Presented to J. J. Upchurch, P. S. M. W., Father of the A. O. U. W., by the members of the Supreme Lodge, 1882." Mr. Upchurch died in 1887, deeply mourned by his widow and five living children. Of his sons, Theodore F., a machinist, served nearly a year in the late war, in Company K, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, and married Sarah Millsbaugh, by whom he has one daughter; John C., a carpenter, married Emma Wheeling, and has one son; William A., an undertaker, wedded Olivia E. Adair, and has two sons; Horace C. is also a carpenter, and Curtis L. is a barber. Two of the boys, John C. and William A., are members of the A. O. U. W., and all are Democrats in politics.



Summary of Input by Nancy Louise Weems & follow-up by RPA - See her letter of 15 NOV 2003 for original documents. This excerpt has been filed with:

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD

JOHN JORDAN 4 ↑

DAVID E. 4

Nancy saw this reference in her father's copy of WOODMEN magazine. It concerns David E. 4 portraying himself as John Jordan 4. The first article → was in NOV-DEC 2002 under the heading "Woodmen News". The follow-up article (attached) appeared in the JAN-FEB 2003 issue. See Profile of Nancy Louise Weems for my unsuccessful follow-up with her - & Profile of David E. 4 is my lack of luck in reaching him as of today 15 AUG 2004 - RPA

## NFCA Holds 116th Annual Meeting

Indian Wells, Calif.—The Renaissance Esmeralda Resort in Indian Wells was the site for the National Fraternal Congress of America's (NFCA) 116th annual meeting. Officials, delegates and committee members from fraternal benefit societies across the nation met for the September 25-28, 2002, meeting. This gathering provided an opportunity for the more than 550 attendees to discuss important issues facing the fraternal benefit system.

Michael F. McGovern, president and chairman of the Board of the Catholic Aid Association, was elected Chairman of the Board of the NFCA. He replaces Past Chairman John Andrzejewski III, secretary

general of Polish National Union of America. Marvin Marek, a member of Catholic Union of Texas (The KJT), was named NFCA's 2002 Fraternalist of the Year.

As a meeting highlight, Woodmen member Keith Yates (formerly NOW member), NFCA's historian, received the first-ever John J. Upchurch Award for his more than 50 years of service to the fraternal benefit system. The award was presented at the first annual John J. Upchurch awards luncheon which will be held at future NFCA annual meetings to recognize fraternal leaders.

Woodmen is one of nearly 80 fraternal benefit societies that are members of the NFCA.

## John Upchurch Lives Again



John J. Upchurch



David E. Upchurch, FICF

Attendees at this year's National Fraternal Congress of America's (NFCA) annual meeting enjoyed an opening session where South Alabama Manager David Upchurch, FICF, recreated the "Father of Fraternalism, John J. Upchurch." David, the great-grandnephew of John Upchurch, made the dramatic presentation in period costume and told of the trials and tribulations that faced his great-granduncle and the fraternal system in its infancy.

David and his wife, Sondra, have four children and they live in Montgomery, Ala.

# Woodmen

JANUARY • FEBRUARY 2003



American Red Cross  
DISASTER SERVICES

2091

2091

10 AMERICAN HERITAGE  
Father of Fraternalism  
A Working Man With a Plan



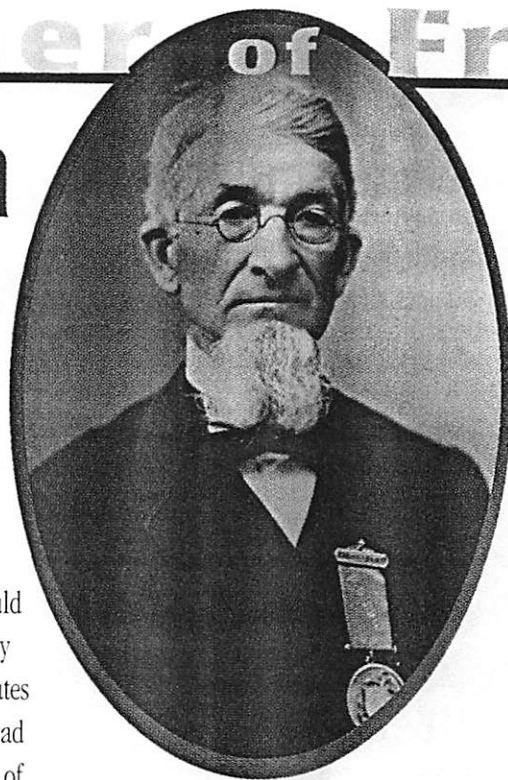
**Woodmen, American Red Cross  
Renew Disaster Relief Program**

page 5



# A Working Man With a Plan

by Kevin Warneke



John Jordan Upchurch had a great idea.

And, the most impressive part is, that Upchurch never gave up on his idea even when times were most difficult.

Upchurch is credited as the "Father of Fraternalism." His idea and his perseverance led to the formation of the first fraternal benefit society in America. Some even call him a hero.

At first glance, however, Upchurch's life appears to be filled with failure and misadventure.

He worked as a clerk and ran a power mill. He owned a hotel and bar. He tamed horses, farmed and worked as a railroad master mechanic. And he sunk his savings into oil speculation at a time when the

Instead, they often left him destitute.

"The founder of the fraternal insurance system in America would no doubt be classed as a failure by today's standards," wrote Keith Yates in *The Fraternal Monitor*. "He had to depend on the charitable spirit of the very organization which he organized in order to survive during the later years of his life."

David Upchurch, South Alabama manager for Woodmen of the World, has spent years researching his great-great-uncle's life. "He was quite a dreamer. Good with people, but a terrible businessman."

But the North Carolina native's legacy remains more than a century after his birth because of a simple idea and a dream.

"I view him as an idea man," said Yates, historian for the National Fraternal Congress of America. And he had a good one.

The Father of Fraternalism's idea led to the formation of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, or AOUW.

Yates said early fraternal insurance organizations credit Upchurch as their founding father. The AOUW was the first organization to provide death

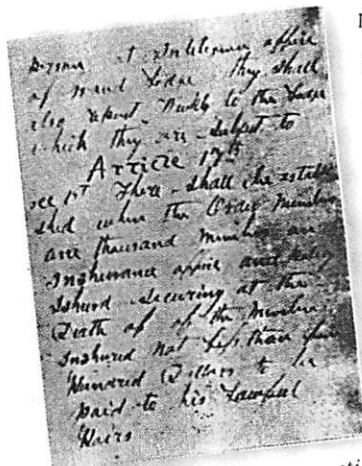
benefits to a worker's widow.

Upchurch's varied business ventures and odd jobs led him, in April of 1868, to Meadville, Pa., where he worked for the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad.

That same month, a lodge — called the "League of Friendship, Supreme Mechanical Order of the Sun" — organized in Meadville. Its object, according to Yates in *The Fraternal Monitor*, was to serve its members and serve a worthy cause. Members were mechanical and day laborers.

Upchurch joined and soon became honorable master. But the lodge was in disarray, and members agreed they needed to reorganize. Upchurch had his chance to share the plan he had formulated in his mind and in a notebook over the years.

On October 11, 1868, a seven-member committee met to give Upchurch the power to write a consti-



A portion of the first constitution for the New Order (AOUW), written by founder John Jordan Upchurch

nation was consumed with thoughts of making a fortune in petroleum companies.

None of these ventures made Upchurch his fortune.

tution for the new order. The lodge later approved Upchurch's plan, and the AOUEW was formed.

The new order's constitution included a provision regarding insurance:

"There shall be established, when the order numbers one thousand members, an insurance office; and policies issued, securing at the death of the member insured, not less than five hundred dollars to be paid to his lawful heirs."

The plan was organized, according to Yates, so when a member died, other members would be assessed \$1 each. When membership reached 2,000, assessments would be reduced as the maximum payout was to be \$2,000.

David Upchurch wrote in *Fraternal Beginnings - A Biography of the Father of Fraternalism*: "The organization was now formed and John had finally put his dream into action. The timing was right, but John would not stay in Meadville and see it grow."

Upchurch would spend the next 10 years away from Pennsylvania as he tried to provide for his wife and 15 children. He worked in Ohio and Missouri, but again found little success.

Ten years after his greatest moment, Upchurch was so poor he could not pay his lodge dues. Lodges, however, were growing.

Upchurch, despite his financial constraints, decided to attend the Supreme Lodge's meeting in St. Louis, Mo. Arriving on the second day of the meeting, he knocked for admittance.

Master Workman Samuel B. Myers welcomed Upchurch and ordered a recess.

"From this day until his death, he (Upchurch) was honored and lionized by the Order!" David Upchurch wrote. "The lost sheep had finally returned to the fold. It was a glorious day for John Jordan Upchurch."

The membership, after learning of Upchurch's financial plight, paid off the mortgage of his home in Steepleville, Mo., and gave him several hundred dollars.

Suddenly, Upchurch was recognized as a hero — and his financial worries were over. He received invitations to attend lodge meetings and banquets throughout the country.

In 1885, Upchurch, now referred to as Father Upchurch, received a telegram inviting him to travel to California. The Grand Lodge of California would pay his expenses.

The trip extended to states throughout the West, Midwest and Canada. Wherever he went, lodge members treated him like royalty.

In January 1887, Upchurch became ill with pneumonia. He died nine days later. Word spread throughout the country that Father Upchurch had died. The State of California's House of Representatives closed for the day out of respect.

More than 10,000 people attended his funeral, which was paid for by the Grand Lodge of Missouri.

It was only fitting that, through voluntary contributions, \$7,300 was collected, which provided Upchurch's widow with a \$50 monthly pension until her death nine years later.

## The "Father of Fraternalism" has a familiar look.

David Upchurch, FICE, didn't realize, until he was well into his career with Woodmen of the World, that his great-great-uncle is credited with creating fraternal benefit societies.

Upchurch, South Alabama manager, said he read about John Jordan Upchurch



David Upchurch

in his orientation materials when he came to work for Woodmen in the mid-1970s. "I didn't think he was kin." A cousin enlightened him a decade later.

And Upchurch was hooked. A friend told him there was no one more qualified to study his great-great uncle's life and to portray him.

In fact, he appeared as his great-great-uncle in period costume at the 2002 National Fraternal Congress of America's (NFA) annual meeting in September. (See the November/December 2002 *Woodmen* magazine issue, page 43.) He has also performed at various NFA State Fraternal Congress meetings and State Fraternal Insurance Counselor meetings.

He wrote "Fraternal Beginnings," a biography of John Jordan Upchurch's life and has portrayed him a half-dozen times. The two have a striking resemblance.

"I want people to know who John Jordan Upchurch really was," his great-great-nephew said. "He was a working man who wanted to help people."

*Kerin Warneke is a freelance writer based in Omaha, Neb.*



# JOHN JORDAN U

○ From: A Harris Family Journal by Robert E. Harris

- 4  
I. Thomas Harris b 1614 d 1672 - England → VA age 8
- PG 10 & A. Thomas Harris b 1636 (Charles City Co, VA) d 1688 MD ANN MARTIN in Charles City Co, VA
- 11 1. Edward Harris b 1663 d 1734 b & d Isle of Wight Co, VA
- 22 a. Edward Harris b 1698 (Isle of Wight Co, VA) d 1740  
Isle of Wight Co, VA) md abt 1719 (?) Mary Thorpe  
D/o Timothy Thorpe
- 23 i. Edward Harris b 1720 (Isle of Wight Co, VA)  
md (?) - - - . on 10 JUN 1746 Edward sold  
to DANIEL BATTEN the 240 Acres that had  
been owned by his GGP Thomas Harris &  
Ann (Martin) Harris
- 24 (J) Edward Harris b - (Isle of Wight Co, VA)  
d 1807 (Granville Co, NC) md Presulla - -  
Date of Move to NC not stated. Her  
will probated 1807 (Granville Co, NC)

NOTE: The  
journal  
provides  
no further  
information

- (A) Edward Harris.  
(B) Jonathan Harris.  
(C) Anne Harris. Anne married John Upchurch on June 21, 1790 in Granville County, North Carolina.  
(D) Frances Harris. Frances married Leo Jackson on October 5, 1792 in Granville County, North Carolina.  
(E) Elijah Harris.  
(F) Mary Harris. Mary married Samuel Bailey on June 14, 1796 in Granville County, North Carolina.  
(G) Martha Harris. Martha married Ephraim Bailey on February 24, 1797 in Granville County, North Carolina.

1) John Upchurch was John U, IV XID-170 [Head of Upchurch Clan No 12] b 1770 d - md 12 JUN 1790 (Granville Co, NC) Mary Ann Harris (XID-999) b abt 1770 (Granville Co, NC). Their only child Ambrose U b abt 1792. one of 4 GC of John & Ann was the famous John Jordan U. <sup>2)</sup> ↑

2) The name JORDAN as used by successive Harris generations may have originated when Daniel Harris b abt 1695 d 1765 md abt 1725 (Isle of Wight Co, VA) Jane Jordan - see separate extract of JORDAN-HARRIS FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS



Item in It 13 MAR 2003 Elsie See Gorman & RPU

Biographical Sketch of John Jordan Upchurch, Crawford County, Missouri

>From "History of Franklin, Jefferson, Washington, Crawford and Gasconade  
>Counties", Biographical Appendix, Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1888.

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This file was contributed for use in the USGenWeb Archives by: Joe Miller <mio@netins.net>  
Penny Harrell <Incog3678@aol.com>

NOTE:  
The father  
of John  
Jordan U  
was not  
John U  
but rather  
Ambrose  
U - RPU

=====

Ran across this on line - thought it was interesting!

CROSS-FILED:

LEIVING SONS: THEODORE FAIRFAX U; JOHN C. U;  
WILLIAM A. U; HORACE C. U; CURTIS L. U

DECEASED SONS (NOT NAMED): RUFUS W. U; CHARLES F. U

CONTRIBUTORS: JOE MILLER; PENNY HARRELL

JOHN JORDAN U



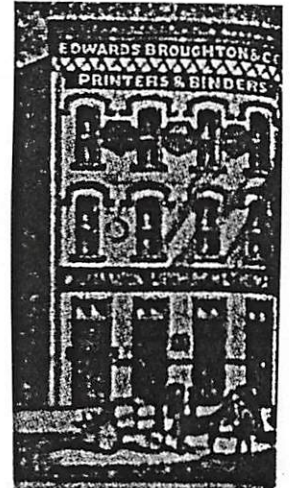
## UPCHURCH MENTIONS IN WAKE-CAPITAL COUNTY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Vol I. PREHISTORY THROUGH CENTENNIAL BY: ELIZABETH REID MURRAY

PG

- 103 - OLIVE CHAPEL CHURCH COMMUNITY IS IN EXTREME WESTERN WAKE CO. - THERE WERE UPCHURCH FAMILIES IN THE COMMUNITY BY 1780's [JOHN U, II]
- 270m. PRESENT AT JAN 1858 MERCHANTS MEETING IN RALEIGH, NC: W. C. U [William Clinton U]; UPCHURCH & ROYSTER
- 282 - JOHN J. U [John Jordan U] had a machine shop on Morgan Street in Raleigh, NC in the 1840's
- 290 - W. C. U [William Clinton U, I] was a Raleigh, NC Grocer who in the 1840's provided the Standard Newspaper with paper to be published.
- 358 In 1850, several families living in the vicinity of New Ruin organized a Baptist congregation and about midway the race track road built Olive's or Olive Chapel, named for Rev. Johnson Olive, their neighbor and first pastor. The church's influence on the community became so strong that it was not many years before the bar at the tavern closed down, the betting on races ceased, and promoters of both, in the words of a church historian, "either moved into the church or out of the community." The tavern building became a country store, operated by John Upchurch and his descendants.<sup>142</sup>
- 358m [JOHN RUFUS U ? - RPU]
- 521m In the summer of 1865 one Emily U applied for aid based on the fact that she had formerly relied on the Millwinn Paper mill destroyed by Yankees
- 562 Branson's N.C. Business Directory from 1867-1872 included Alfred U's & T.G. Jenkins Carriage & Buggy factories [Partners vs 2 companies? - RPU]
- 563 Bailey P. Williamsen & Orlando Shay opened the North State Foundry during the Civil War but dissolved the partnership in 1865
- 567 W. U, Grocer, [William Clinton U, I] was one of several Raleigh business operations that continued to operate during the Civil War or soon reopened
- 568 Pictures 3 buildings on Fayetteville Street in Raleigh, NC which housed 4 businesses in the 1870's. one of these housed Edwards & Broughton (see right) upstairs and the WILLIAMSON, UPCHURCH, THOMAS GROCERY downstairs [U could be William Clinton U, I or William George U - RPU]
- 572 Multistoried buildings started in Raleigh, NC by 4 years after the Civil War included the 3 STORY BRICK STORE AT WILMINGTON & MARTIN for UPCHURCH & DODD [W<sup>m</sup> GEO. U]
- 574 The Raleigh Board of Trade organized in 1871 included William U [William Clinton U, I or William George U - RPU]
- 607m Incorporators of the Raleigh Baptist Female Seminary in 1870-71 included W. G. U [William George U]
- 652 About 1867 lots were platted in APEX - J. R. U Broughton [JOHN RUFUS U ? - RPU]
- 664 Describer Green Jewel - was on a major road connecting Raleigh and Pittsboro. It's Post office was an early one to be reopened after the Civil War - MISS A. D. U was first post-war Postmaster [A. D. U = The area had at least 7 stores in 1872: John U [John U = JOHN RUFUS U ? - RPU] + J. W. BOLLING, HOWELL & PERRY, R. H. JENKS, W. S. JENKS, J. W. MITCHELL, B. M. YATES

<sup>142</sup> Grace Lawrence, "A History of Olive Chapel Baptist Church," 1. interview with Carl P. Holleman, Apex Town Attorney and local history researcher, based on his informal conversations with western Wake area residents, 1970s. Members of the local John Upchurch family owned the site for some years and are said to have operated their store in the tavern building, which was still standing in the 1970s.



- ① John Jordan U b 26 MAR 1822 d 17 JAN 1887 Steelville, MO  
 and 4 JUL 1841 Angelina Green of Raleigh, NC. b 8 DEC 1825  
 d 30 APR 1896, both burr Bellefontaine Cem, St Louis, MO  
 The marker shows age as 67, correct age is 65.  
 Extracts given from the book "Life; Labor and Travel  
 of Father J. J. Upchurch". John Jordan U is son of  
 Ambrose U of John/Ambrose U Clan. (29, Pg 43, 44)  
 Inter 7 children of John Jordan U. (29, Pg 45)
- ② Marriage in Crumwell Co, NC:  
 John Jordan U and 4 JUN 1841 Angelina Ziegensperger  
 Green of Raleigh, NC, dau of Salome Green. (29, Pg 44)
- ③ John Jordan U b 26 MAR 1820 d 17 JAN 1887 was son  
 of Ambrose U b 1792 & gr of John U IV (XID-170)  
 (Head of Clan).
- ④ 31 JUL 1980, checked with Jimmy Hellman. He does not  
 know about AOUW but will look up same in  
 his book at home (he later gave negative report).  
 He suggests I check with Larry Klein in the  
 School of Business.
- ④ See Book Extract "Crawford Co & Cuba, MO."  
 John Jordan U & 10 others formed a  
 Chapter of AOUW in Steelville, MO on 30 JUL 1880.  
 Called "The Founders Lodge." Purpose - to unite  
 labor & management - the greatest good for the  
 greatest number.  
 This book also lists about 200 early settlers (1818-1860)  
 of Crawford Co, MO and include name of  
 John Jordan U.
- ⑤ See Bellefontaine Cem Water St Louis, MO - made by  
 RPH in St Louis 9 AUG 80. Includes description  
 of the J. J. U monument. Includes Burial Certificate  
 and 1944 tribute recorded in St Louis Globe-Democrat.  
 Lists National Fraternal Congress

JOHN JORDAN U

XID-4202  
4806

- John J. U.
- ⑥ Of Henderson, Granville Co married to ANGELINA ZIEGENFUS GREEN of Raleigh 1 Je 1841 per Raleigh Register Newspaper 4 Je 1841 (1)
- ⑦ John Jordan U. 26 MAR 1820 - 18 JAN 1887. - born on farm in Franklin Co NC - one of four children of Abrose and Elizabeth (Wells) U. - m Angelina Green 1 JUN 1841 - They had 15 children - see reference for biography (19)
- ⑧ Per Attach #34 West Ltr 18 MAY 1975 - Wake Co Marriage Records "29 MAY 1830 John U m Angelina G. Green - witness William U, H. Williams."
- ⑨ See Attach 2 FEB 1978 Jt Elva E. Burkhalter to R04 Managers & Death Notices in Raleigh Register & North Carolina State Gazette 1826-1845. A Bulletin of the N.C. State Library Per 4 JUN 1841 R R John J. U of Henderson Granville Co NC and Angelina Ziegenfuss Green on 1 JUN in Raleigh. [The Carrie L. Braghtman book shows bride in "OF" Raleigh]
- ⑩ See Attach - Wake Co Marriage Records - Jt 31 OCT 1977 F.W. Prosser to R04 John U and Angelina G. Green. Bond Date = 29 MAY 1830. Bondsman = William X. U; witness = A. Williams
- ⑪ See Photo File 83-16 for Photo of John Jordan U & his wife & son & dau in law. This picture also appears in UB Vol 4 Issue 3 Pg 87 (1983)
- ⑫ See 1880 Census - Pettis Co, MO - Sedalia TSP  
J. J. U ↑ WM 60 b NC  
Anna U wife 54 b PA  
T. F. U son 36 b NC  
W. A. U son 16 b PA  
Curtis L. U son 10 b OH

**UPCHURCH, JOHN JORDAN** (Mar. 26, 1820-Jan. 18, 1887), founder of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, was born on a farm in Franklin County, N. C., one of four children of Ambrose and Elizabeth (Hill) Upchurch. After 1824, when the father was shot dead by his wife's brother-in-law, the family was extremely poor. In 1837 Upchurch left the farm to learn the trade of millwright. Four years later, June 1, 1841, he married Angelina Green, a Pennsylvanian, who became the mother of his fifteen children. Soon afterward, with his wife's uncle, John Zeigenfuss, he opened a hotel in Raleigh, said to have been the first temperance house south of the Mason and Dixon line. When this venture failed, he worked briefly for the Raleigh & Gaston Railroad, attempted horse taming for a time, and in 1846 moved to Pennsylvania, where he entered the employ of the Mine Hill & Schuylkill Haven Railroad, in 1851 becoming master mechanic.

In June 1864, train hands, seeking a raise, went on strike, and for two weeks, according to

his own account, Upchurch operated the road in the interest of the government with men provided by the War Department. The strike was broken, and Upchurch determined to unite employers and employees "in one grand organization" opposed to trade unions (*Life, post*, pp. 22, 24). On Jan. 1, 1865, he resigned from the railroad to engage in oil speculation, but with its collapse at the end of the Civil War, returned, off and on, to railroading. In 1868 he settled in Meadville, Pa., where he joined the League of Friendship, Supreme Mechanical Order of the Sun, one of the many secret workers' orders then springing up. The Meadville lodge soon split, and on Upchurch's initiative a section reorganized, Oct. 27, 1868, as Jefferson Lodge No. 1 of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. One of the main objects of the new order was "To discountenance strikes" (*Ibid.*, p. 57), but since the organization had the character of a lodge rather than a trade union, it proved impotent to affect strike movements seriously one way or the other. When, a year after its inception, it levied a dollar per capita assessment to pay substantial death benefits, it began to transform itself into a fraternal benefit society, and became the model for a movement characteristic of the period in America.

The demand of a rising but propertyless working class for a bulwark against sickness, old age, and funeral expenses underlay the rapid expansion of mutual-benefit societies. Impetus was given by the policies of the oldline commercial insurance houses, whose rates were very high. Indirectly, the societies were influenced by the English friendly societies of the sixteenth century and directly, although subordinately, by the secrecy, ritualism, and sociability of Freemasonry. Dozens of them went bankrupt until, late in the eighties, actuarial calculations were adopted and reserves built up. The Ancient Order of United Workmen pioneered in this field under the direction of Upchurch, who in 1873 had been made Past Supreme Master Workman, and today he is generally regarded as the founder of the mutual-benefit system, which in 1919 numbered two hundred fraternal societies in the United States and Canada, with more than 120,000 subordinate lodges and some 9,000,000 members.

Upchurch continued to work as master mechanic for various railroads until about 1881, after which time he had no regular employment. In 1885, at the solicitation of the Order he visited California, where he was fêted by many lodges, and the next year visited Boston and Philadelphia. He wrote an autobiography, *The Life, Labors, and Travels of Father J. J. Up-*

*church* (1887), which was edited and published posthumously by his fraternal brother, Sam Booth. He died in Steelville, Mo., where he had settled, and was buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery, St. Louis.

[Sources include M. W. Sackett, *Early Hist. of Fraternal Beneficiary Societies in America* (1914); Walter Basye, *Hist. and Operation of Fraternal Insurance* (copr. 1919); F. H. Hankins, "Fraternal Orders," *Encyc. of the Social Sciences*, VI (1931), 423; Arthur Preuss, *A Dict. of Secret and Other Societies* (1924); A. C. Stevens, *The Cyc. of Fraternities* (1899); *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, Jan. 19, 1887. In Upchurch's autobiog. (*Life*, p. 13), the year of his birth is given as 1822, but all other references to year of birth in the *Life*, including description of coffin plate (p. 228), give 1820.]

H. S.—w.

COPIED FROM  
P 45, 46 (29)  
FOR JOHN J. U.

AMBROSE UPCHURCH FAMILY

Children of John J. Upchurch

- 1 Theodore F. Upchurch b 5-11-1844 Raleigh, NC d 5-8-1901 Aurora, MO. He served almost a year in the Civil War in Co. K, 127 Pennsylvania Volunteers. Theodore m (1) Sarah Millspaugh (div) m(2) Mary Caroline Hogan b 1-28-1871 d 12-13-1913 dau of James (or John) and Malinda Todd Hogan.
- 2 Rufus W. Upchurch b ca 1853 md Susan Arabella Cook b 1860. Rufus was born in PA.
- 3 Charles F. Upchurch b ca 1856 PA.
- 4 Horace C. Upchurch b 8-4-1860 PA m(1) 11-14-1889 Winnie E. Fox born 5-18-1872 d 2-27-1902 m(2) Mary Carolina Upchurch nee Hogan, widow of Theodore Upchurch.
- 5 John C. Upchurch b ca 1862 PA md Emma Wheeling.
- 6 William A. Upchurch b ca 1865 PA md Olivia E. Adair b 8-18-1880.
- 7 Curtis L. Upchurch b ca 1870 Ohio.

John Jordan Upchurch, son of Ambrose, states in his book that he and Angelina had eleven sons and four daughters. Seven sons have been located but no daughters have been found.

Information about the Priscilla Lawrence family was found in the Compendium of American Genealogy, published by Virkus Co. of Chicago. Letters to the address given were returned marked "No such number". There was no listing in the telephone directory for the company.

There is satisfactory proof that Ambrose A. and Elizabeth Upchurch were children of Ambrose: the use of the names of the parents, the marriages were recorded in Granville Co., the statement of J.J. Upchurch that there were two girls and two boys in the family, and the ages on the Granville Census are about the ages the two children would have been.

Grateful thanks are given to Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Copsey and to Mrs. Killinger for their help in locating and documenting the children of John Jordan Upchurch.

JOHN JORDAN U

XFD-480

NOTE: This item & WOW NOV 79 article attached  
rec'd from Gene L. Lee in Ltr 12 MAR 1981 - RPL

UPCHURCH, JOHN JORDAN

Labor leader; b. Franklin County, N.C. 26 Mar 1820.  
s. Ambrose and Elizabeth (Hill) U.; m. Angelina Green June 1,  
1841, 15 child. Opened hotel with John Zeigenfuss, Raleigh,  
N.C. 1st temperance house south of Mason Dixon line; moved  
to Pa. 1846, master mechanic Mine Hill & Schuylkill Haven R.R.,  
1851-65, operated road in interest of govt. during strike, 1864.  
joined League of Friendship, Supreme Mechanical Order of Sun  
(secret workers' order), Meadville, Pa., 1863; responsible for  
section or Order reorganized as Jefferson Lodge Number 1 of  
Ancient Order of United Workmen, 1868, became model for frat-  
ernal movement characteristic of the period in Am.; named past  
supreme master workman, 1873; Founder mutual benefit system;  
worked as master mechanic for various r.r.s. until circa 1881.  
J.J. Upchurch (autobiography), 1887. Died Steelville, Mo.,  
18 Jan 1887; buried Bellefontaine Cemetery, St. Louis.

Above information: Who was Who in America  
Historical Volume 1607-1896

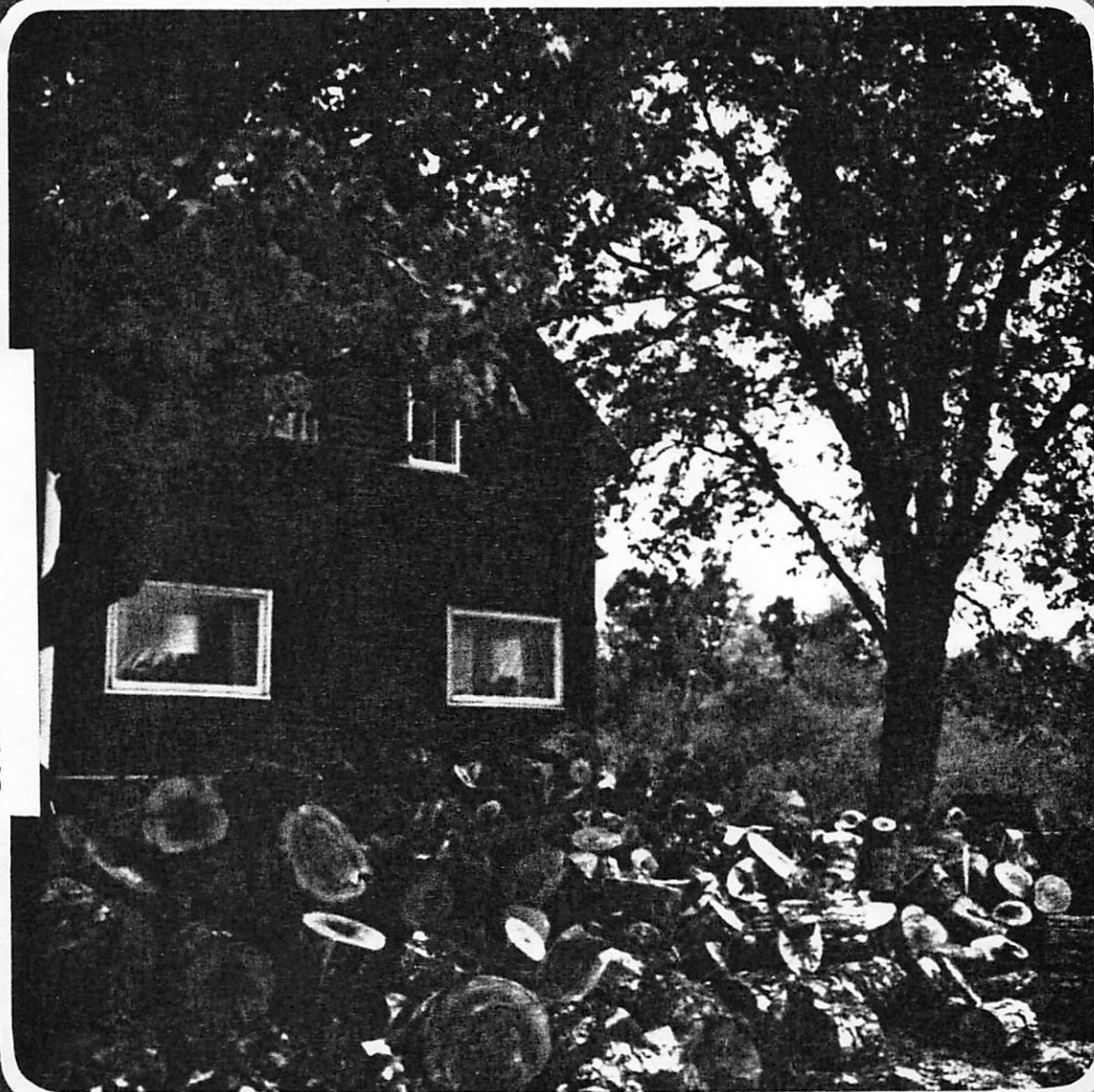
NOTE: This and the attached material  
were extracted and published in  
UB Vol 2 #2 Pg 17 - RPL



# Woodmen Of the World magazine

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

NOVEMBER 1979



NEWELL B ANDERSON  
308 E MAIN  
TOMBALL TX

2568905

77375

Five Billion In Force  
See page 3

# John Jordan Upchurch...

## America's "Father of Fraternalism"

Upchurch



*June 6, 1890, was the date your Society was founded. But some members will tell you its history actually began in the 1860s; and, in a round-about way, they are correct.*

The concept of fraternalism probably dates to the dawn of civilization when man expressed the first glimmer of concern about his brother. From their writings and teachings, we know the ancient Greeks were aware of it. They formed semi-religious societies to aid each other in sickness and death.

The early Romans also organized societies to hold funds in trust to pay for the funerals of members. Then, during the middle ages, such societies prospered in England where they were first known as "guilds." Later they became known as "friendly societies."

Most authorities credit a man named John Jordan Upchurch with originating the first fraternal benefit society in America. Upchurch was born on March 26, 1820, on a small farm in Franklin County, North Carolina. When he was but five years of age, his father was murdered. His mother tried to keep the family together by taking in sewing, but soon found she could not. John was thereupon sent to his paternal grandparents. They apparently took good care of the boy's physical needs, but could not finance his education. Thus he was forced to go to work at an early age.

Upchurch also was married when he was very young. He frequently changed jobs in different communities, serving at various times as a farmer, millwright, carpenter's apprentice, hotel manager, horse trader and railroad mechanic.

It was while Upchurch was a railroad mechanic that he was chosen to represent a group of train hands who were requesting a 50¢-per-day pay raise from the Mine Hill & Schuylkill Haven Railroad. This was in 1864 when an engineer made \$3.60 per day. Upchurch took the workers' demands to the railroad president, who directed him to offer 40¢-per-day across the board. The train hands rejected the offer. Then, after two weeks of striking, Upchurch was chosen to operate the railroad with a corps of engineers and firemen sent by the Secretary of War. In effect, for a brief period he was federal director of the railroad's operations.

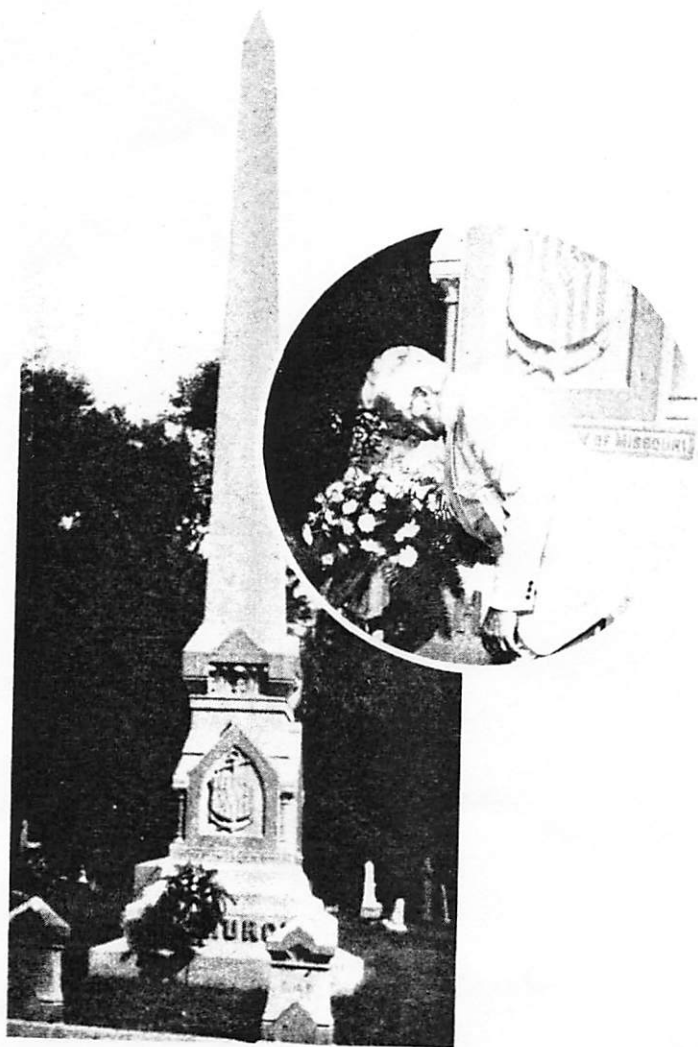
Upchurch resented government intervention in the dispute even though he was chosen to serve as its representative.

"As I thought over the subject," he said, "I saw more and more injustice done not only to capital but also to laboring men whom they profess to befriend. . . . I was convinced that something should be done to harmonize the two great interests of our country—capital and labor. They, being equal, should receive equal protection."

Upchurch decided to do all he could to unite the employers and employees into an organization which would follow the principle of "the greatest good for the greatest number."

On October 27, 1868, in Meadville, Pennsylvania, he held the historic meeting which resulted in America's first fraternal benefit society. Upchurch was employed in the lathe shop of the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad at the time. He drafted a code of laws, called a group of his friends, and sold them on the idea.

Upchurch and his associates decided on the name, "Ancient Order of United Workmen," for their new organization. Upchurch himself was elected leader with the title of "Master of Workman." The objectives of the organization as written at that time were "to unite all employed in the mechanical arts into one united body for the defense and protection of their interests against



The Upchurch Memorial in the Bellefontaine Cemetery, St. Louis. In the circular photo, George E. Owen, executive vice president of your Society and president of the National Fraternal Congress of America, places a wreath in tribute to the pioneer fraternalist. The ceremony took place during the recent NFCA convention in St. Louis (See Page 4).



all encroachments and to elevate labor to that standard it is justly entitled to."

Thus, Upchurch initially planned an organization with goals far beyond that of the labor union interested only in better pay and working conditions. He foresaw an organization which would help to elevate the mechanic and laborer from mental, moral, social and civic standpoints as well, and would provide financial assistance to any member's family when that member died.

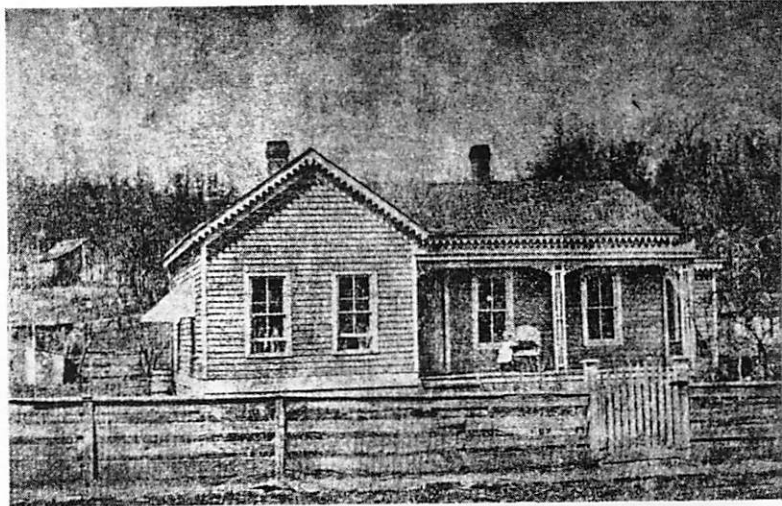
By July, 1869, Upchurch's new lodge boasted more than 50 members. By March 9, 1871, when the Governor of Pennsylvania approved the incorporation of the A.O.U.W., there were at least ten lodges in existence.

When Upchurch died in 1887, he was living in Steelville, Missouri. By that time, the fraternal benefit society idea had spread to religious, ethnic and non-affiliated groups as well as the laborers and mechanics. More than 500,000 members belonged to 16 large societies and many smaller organizations were making an appearance in the United States and Canada. The A.O.U.W. alone had more than 175,000 members in over 3,000 local lodges.

It is ironical that, although Upchurch is credited with originating the first fraternal benefit society, he died with practically no property. The A.O.U.W. paid off the mortgage on his home. After his death, an Upchurch Memorial Fund was started and \$7,300 in contributions were received. From this fund, \$50 per month was provided for his widow until her death in 1896 and enough money remained to erect the monument in his memory by his grave in Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis.

Today the A.O.U.W. is no longer in existence, even though many other societies such as ours, which was started in 1890, continue to grow and prosper. The problem with the A.O.U.W. was that instead of maintaining a strong national headquarters, the A.O.U.W. established geographical jurisdictions entitled "Grand Lodges" and gave each full control of its own affairs. Over the years, many of these jurisdictions ceased to be fraternal and evolved into or became a part of mutual or stock insurance companies. Others simply became defunct. The last society bearing the A.O.U.W. name had its headquarters in Seattle, Washington. This society merged with the Early American Life Insurance Company of St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1976. But all was not lost because Early American itself was once the Minnesota Grand Lodge of the A.O.U.W.

Today we know there are at least nine life insurance organizations which either evolved from or grew in size through mergers with A.O.U.W. Grand Lodges. Our Society is one of which grew in size because of mergers of these units. The Maine, Massachusetts and Rhode Island Grand Lodges of the A.O.U.W. all merged with the New England Order of Protection in 1941. The New England Order of Protection merged with our Society in July, 1968. Thus it is that we have Woodmen members today who were at one time A.O.U.W. members. It is in this roundabout way that we can boast that our Society's history dates back to October 27, 1868, rather than June 6, 1890, when the Wood-



The Upchurch home in Steelville, Mo.

men was actually incorporated by Founder Joseph Cullen Root and his associates. The big difference, of course, was that the Woodmen was not organized to serve a specific group.

Chisled on the 30-foot tall Upchurch monument at the Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis are the following words:

John Jordan Upchurch  
Born March 26, 1820  
Died January 18, 1887

"His Works Do Follow Him"

Today there are more than 11 million members of nearly 200 fraternal benefit societies in America. They can attest to the continuing truth of this epitaph to America's "Father of Fraternalism."

(Editor's Note: We want to thank Mr. Keith L. Yates, a past grand master and former supreme recorder of the A.O.U.W. in Seattle, for his assistance in securing research material for this article. Today, Mr. Yates is grand clerk of the Neighbors of Woodcraft in Portland, Oregon. He is also author of a book entitled "The Fogarty Years" which traces the history of the A.O.U.W. from its beginning.)

# JOHN JORDAN UPCHURCH

- ① Book "Goodspeed's History of Franklin, Jefferson, Washington, Crawford & Gasconade Counties - Missouri" - Originally Published by Goodspeed Publishing Co - Chicago 1888

This Book found in DAR Library Washington DC 16 JAN 1980 and extracted by RPH. John Jordan Upchurch (pg 1066) was the principle U in the DAR index but several others appear and were all included hereinbelow - RPH

Part I pg 13-199 - History of Missouri (No U found)

Part II History County, by County for Boone & Counties

All the Us are in the Crawford County Section

General pg 536-616

Biographical pg 1021-1070

Crawford Co - General

Formed 23 JAN 1829 (County)

Steelmills (County seat of Crawford Co)

First settler = William Britton in 1833

pg 584 Incorporated 4 MAY 1859 but lapsed until 1873 when it was incorporated again - followed by more defaults until 1879 when the following trustees were elected (5 listed) In 1880 (5 listed), In 1881 (5 listed) In April 1882 trustees elected were: Thomas R. Gibson Chairman, J. C. Whitmore, Clerk, W. T. Key, Treasurer J. J. Upchurch and Wilson Haley. In 1883 the list did not include J. J. U.

On 13 APR 1885 the Trustees took steps to promote Steelmills to a 4th Class City - This required a Census to show a population of over 500 and an election by voters to ratify the ordinance. J. J. U, J. R. Pumphrey & William M. Robinson were appointed judges of election. Vote on 19 MAY 1885 was favorable

pg 586 On April 6, 1886 for Mayor J. R. Pumphrey got 39 votes & J. J. U got 26.

On pg 586 & 587 Two Lodges are described (Different Types? - RPH) In Lebanon Lodge, No 77 A. F. & A. M. chartered October 24, 1846 (A.L. 5846) with charter members: --- (no U listed)

JONN JORDAN U.

(2)

Pg 587<sup>9</sup>

II Founders Lodge, No 224 A. O. U. W., named after  
J. J. Ugrumich

Need to copy Pg 587, 588, 589  
1066, 1067

H. Hibler, street commissioner. City officers resulted as follows: For ...; J. J. Upchurch, 26; all others ...ermen elected were: For the First ...Whitmire; Second Ward, Charles ...surer, W. H. Davis; marshal, W. ...elected president of the board, and ...19, 1886, Mayor Pumphrey asked ...allowing him \$10 per month sal- ...pass such ordinance, tendered his ...imously accepted. An election ...ed was ordered for May 4, 1886, ...ohn Roberts being chosen. A. D. ...oner, January 3, 1867, and Thomas

inance was introduced enlarging ...teelville, as follows:

e city of Steelville are hereby changed so ...and described as follows: The east half of ...lf of the southeast quarter of Section 33. ...wnship 38, Range 4 west, not heretofore ...election on the adoption of this ordinance ...ed in there being cast for the extension,

F. & A. M., was chartered October ...e following charter members: John ...son, S. W.; H. R. Edgar, J. W.; ...s could not be ascertained. The ...ers, W. M.; Thomas R. Gibson, S. ...Smith, S. D.; A. C. Coppedge, J. ...W. Matlock, Treas.; C. H. Hibler, ...Samuel Darst, J. S. The present ...fifty-one. Meetings occur on the ...moon each month. They own a ...er story of which they have a very ...-room. The lower story has been ...Christian denominations for religi-

Founder's Lodge, No. 224, A. O. U. W., named after J. J. Upchurch, the founder of the order, was organized Saturday, July 30, 1880, with fourteen members and the following officers: W. C. Evans, P. M. W.; John A. Headrick, M. W.; Fred Grueber, F.; I. P. Brickey, O.; O. Everson, Recorder; J. H. Boggs, G.; D. J. Puckett, Receiver; G. B. Holmes, I. W.; Thomas W. Holmes, O. W., and Dr. J. T. Coffee, Med. Ex. The present officers are: Henry Hibler, P. M. W.; J. C. Jadwin, M. W.; W. A. Upchurch, F.; Charles Bunyart, O.; John A. Headrick, Recorder; Thomas R. Gibson, Treas.; Charles Everson, Fin.; J. C. Upchurch, G.; Patrick Slack, I. W.; Andrew Pabst, O. W.; trustees—B. F. Russell, Henry Hibler and Rev. P. D. Cooper. The lodge meets each second and fourth Saturday evening in the month, in Johnson's building, over Dr. Gibson's drug store; the membership now is about sixty, and the financial condition good.

In connection with the sketch of the above lodge of the A. O. U. W., it is deemed appropriate to introduce a brief account of the origin of the order itself in the United States, inasmuch as the founder of it, Mr. J. J. Upchurch, for some years before his death, resided in Steelville.

In June, 1864, while Mr. Upchurch was at work on the Mine Hill & Schuylkill Haven Railroad, the train hands demanded an increase of 50 cents per day in their wages. Mr. Upchurch advised the president of the road of their demand, and was directed by him to give them an advance of 40 cents per day. This proposition was received with great derision. Their union had directed them to demand 50 cents advance and to accept nothing less, and, unless the 50 cents advance was given them, they were to go out on a strike. Mr. Upchurch at once saw the great injustice done the train men by the society to which they belonged, which thus assumed to direct them in a matter of vital importance, while the union knew but little, if anything, about the difficulty between the railroad company and its employes. However, the men went on the strike, as they were ordered to do, and were out two weeks, when the Secretary of War sent a corps of engineers and firemen and placed them in Mr. Upchurch's charge, and with this force he operated the road two weeks, in the interest of the Government of the United States. At the



end of this time the men, having lost a month's time, were ready to return to work at the advance of 40 cents per day. The questions that arose in the mind of Mr. Upchurch was, "What right has a body of men, styling themselves a union, to dictate to others what wages they shall receive?" "Whence their power to control the will of workmen?" It appeared plain that great injustice was done, not only to the laboring men, but also to their employers, and he was convinced that the societies, in the way in which they were being managed, were exercising a baneful influence on the business interests of the country. He, therefore, determined to institute an order which, if possible, should unite employer and employe, in an organization obligating them to the same great principle, "The greatest good to the greatest number."

In 1865 Mr. Upchurch mentioned the trouble then agitating the country between capital and labor to Capt. Francis J. Keffer, and disclosed to him his plan of uniting them both into one great organization. Capt. Keffer was so fully and favorably impressed with the value of the plan that, at the first opportunity, he became a Grand Master Workman. In June, 1868, at Meadville, Penn., Mr. Upchurch joined the "League of Friendship Supreme Mechanical Order of the Sun," and soon discovered that the order was working in the dark, being unable to obtain any information from the "Grand Council," without taking the degree called the "Knight of the Iron Ring" and the payment of an extra \$5, and he came to the conclusion that the entire order was of no practical benefit, that it was in fact organized for the purposes of fraud. Other members agreed with him, and hence the way was easily opened to explain to the dissatisfied ones his new idea to benefit the workingman. At a meeting of the League held September 29, 1868, the following resolutions were adopted:

*Resolved*, That a committee of seven be appointed to revise and remodel the work of the order, together with the constitution and by-laws; and that the committee correspond with the Grand Council, asking for their approval.

*Resolved*, That, if the Grand Council will not approve of our revised work, we will return to them our charter, moneys, etc., and at once proceed to the organization of a new order.

*Resolved*, That the Honorable Master, J. J. Upchurch, be the chairman of said committee.

The following members were of revision: J. J. Upchurch, Walker, M. H. McNair, H. C.

This committee on the evening of their willingness to leave the October 17, 1868, the constitution, the charter, etc., of the League was read and adopted by a first degree was administered to persons besides himself, viz: Linen, T. F. Upchurch, V. Hulse, M. H. McNair, H. C. P. Lawson, A. B. Ogden and the Ancient Order of United Workmen elected were J. J. Upchurch, A. Tracy, overseer; M. H. Upchurch, urer; Henry Deross, guide; O. W.; S. Rositer, I. W.; P. Linen, trustees.

Business in Steelville is done by the following individuals and firms: clothing, Scott, Bass & Co.; James Key and R. H. Upchurch; Eugene Trask and A. Gibson; shoemaker, Andrew Swack and J. P. We; John Starks; carpenters, kept by William D. Bass; physicians and surgeons, Dr. F. Russell; abstractors, F. Bros.; meat market, P. Hopkins; insurance and jeweler, William Hallib; cultural implements, Upchurch; land Presbyterian, a Me; Lodge, an Odd Fellows.

The Evans' Flouring

...ing lost a month's time, were ready  
...nce of 40 cents per day. The ques-  
...of Mr. Upchurch was, "What right  
...themselves a union, to dictate to  
...ll receive?" "Whence their power  
...en?" It appeared plain that great  
...to the laboring men, but also to their  
...need that the societies, in the way in  
...ged, were exercising a baneful influ-  
...ests of the country. He, therefore,  
...der which, if possible, should unite  
...organization obligating them to the  
...the greatest good to the greatest

...mentioned the trouble then agitating  
...and labor to Capt. Francis J. Keffer,  
...n of uniting them both into one great  
...was so fully and favorably impressed  
...at, at the first opportunity, he became

...In June, 1868, at Meadville, Penn.,  
...League of Friendship Supreme  
...n," and soon discovered that the order  
...being unable to obtain any informa-  
...cil," without taking the degree called  
...ng" and the payment of an extra \$5,  
...sion that the entire order was of no  
...in fact organized for the purposes of  
...eed with him, and hence the way was  
...he dissatisfied ones his new idea to  
...t a meeting of the League held Sep-  
...ng resolutions were adopted:

...seven be appointed to revise and remodel the  
...e constitution and by-laws; and that the com-  
...Council, asking for their approval.  
...ouncil will not approve of our revised work.  
...er, moneys, etc., and at once proceed to the

...Master, J. J. Upchurch, be the chairman of said

The following members were then appointed as the committee  
of revision: J. J. Upchurch, chairman; J. R. Umberger, W. W.  
Walker, M. H. McNair, H. C. Deron, A. Klock and J. R. Hulse.

This committee on the evening of October 11, 1868, expressed  
their willingness to leave the work in the hands of the chairman.  
October 17, 1868, the constitution and the first degree were ready,  
the charter, etc., of the League was removed, the constitution  
was read and adopted by acclamation, and the obligation of the  
first degree was administered by Mr. Upchurch, to thirteen  
persons besides himself, viz.: J. J. Upchurch, A. Oaster, P.  
Linen, T. F. Upchurch, W. C. Newberry, W. S. White, J. R.  
Hulse, M. H. McNair, H. C. Deron, J. R. Umberger, S. Rositer,  
P. Lawson, A. B. Ogden and J. R. Tracy, and thus was the An-  
cient Order of United Workmen organized. The first officers  
elected were J. J. Upchurch, M. W.; J. R. Umberger, C. F.; J.  
A. Tracy, overseer; M. H. McNair, secretary; J. R. Hulse, treas-  
urer; Henry Deross, guide; A. P. Ogden, chaplain; W. S. White,  
O. W.; S. Rositer, I. W.; W. C. Newberry, T. F. Upchurch and  
P. Linen, trustees.

Business in Steelville is now being conducted by the follow-  
ing individuals and firms: Dry goods, groceries and ready-made  
clothing, Scott, Bass & Co., Matlock & Haley, Davis & Hamble,  
James Key and R. H. Houston; drug stores, W. A. Martin,  
Eugene Trask and A. Gibson & Sons; harness-maker, R. H. Bau-  
com; shoemaker, Andrew Pabst; blacksmiths and wagon-makers,  
— Swack and J. P. Webb; blacksmith, — Brandle; barber,  
John Starks; carpenters, Upchurch Bros.; The Steelville Hotel,  
kept by William D. Bass; postmaster, Andrew Jackson; physi-  
cians and surgeons, Dr. J. T. Coffee and Drs. Gibson and Met-  
calf, all allopathists; lawyers, G. D. Clark, E. A. Pinnell and B.  
F. Russell; abstractors, Pinnell & Ramsey; livery stable, Bass &  
Bros.; meat market, Pinson & Myers; marble works, Cook &  
Hopkins; insurance and real estate agents, Ferguson & Russell;  
jeweler, William Halliburton; lumber yard, J. M. Sawyer; agri-  
cultural implements, Upchurch Bros. The town has a Cumber-  
land Presbyterian, a Methodist and a Baptist Church, a Masonic  
Lodge, an Odd Fellows Lodge, and a lodge of United Workmen.

The Evans' Flouring Mill is located one and a half miles

have four children; they are members of the Baptist Church. Politically, he is a Democrat. Mr. Trask was elected county treasurer in 1884, and re-elected in 1886, which position he has since filled. He is a member of the Missouri State Pharmaceutical Association.

Andrew H. Trask was born in Washington County, Mo., in 1829. His father, Putnam Trask, was a native of New York City, and was born in 1809; the latter, when a young man, came to Washington County, Mo., and for some years was engaged in mining. He met and married Polly Campbell, a native of Missouri, and of their twelve children Andrew H. was the eldest. Soon after marriage Putnam Trask settled on a farm which he conducted in connection with mining, and in 1838 located in Crawford County, on the farm now owned by Andrew H. In 1850 Andrew H. and his father went to California, and for the following ten years were successfully engaged in gold mining. Putnam Trask was a highly respected citizen, and lived to be about seventy-two years of age; his wife died at the age of sixty-six years. In 1853 Andrew H. Trask married Lucy A. Moutray, a native of Jefferson County, who was born in 1836. Of the fourteen children born to this union but seven are living, viz.: Josiah A., Henry S., Frances O., Samuel L., Napoleon B., Melvin and Julius E. Mr. and Mrs. Trask and six of the children are members of the Baptist Church. In 1862 Mr. Trask entered the Union Army in Company E, Thirty-second Missouri Infantry, and took part in the battles of Chickasaw Bluff and Arkansas Post. He held the rank of sergeant, and after one year's service was discharged on account of ill health. He is a Mason and a Democrat, has been justice of the peace for many years, and was county judge two terms, serving as presiding justice the greater part of the time. He is a successful business man and one of the heaviest taxpayers of Courtois Township.

Martha, widow of the late Jacob Treece (deceased), was a daughter of Em-mor and Mary Bails, natives, respectively, of Virginia and Pennsylvania. She was born in Ross County, Ohio, in 1809, and was married to Jacob Treece in 1828. By this union were born eight children, four sons and four daughters, viz.: George, Andy, Henry, Byron, Emily, who became the wife of E. G. Evans, Maria L. and Eliza, deceased in infancy, and Maria E., widow of the late James A. Pinnell. The parents came to Missouri in 1848, and settled in Crawford County, which country was then wild and sparsely settled. In 1850 Mr. Treece purchased eighty acres of unimproved land, and moving his family from the Meramec Iron Works, where he had previously been engaged, he turned his attention to farming. He added to his farm from time to time until he owned 217 acres, the most of which is now under cultivation. Mr. Treece was suddenly called from an active and useful life in 1881, deeply mourned by one of the oldest and most highly respected families of Crawford County. He was a Republican in politics, as are his sons, three of whom served in the late war, George as first lieutenant, Andy as major, and Henry as captain. Mrs. Treece has lived to see many changes in her adopted county, and has reared a most interesting family. Though she has long since passed the allotted four-score years and ten, she is still possessed of an active mind and takes a deep interest in all around her.

John Jordan Upchurch (deceased) was the founder of the fraternity known as the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and was born in Franklin County, N. C., March 26, 1820. His parents were John and Elizabeth (Hill) Upchurch, also of Franklin County, N. C., the former of whom died when John Jordan was but two years of age. The latter was employed as a clerk at the age of twelve

years, and clerking, far until 1841, when he married at Raleigh, N. C., where of Mason and Dixon's possessing the happy fortune was successful as an engineer and master mechanic done to both capital and principles that should under order of the Ancient Order honored father. In 1841 During the latter years the Pacific slope to the with expressions of high presented with a gold shield, the former set sent to J. J. Upchurch, members of the Supreme Lodge by his widow and five served nearly a year in seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers has one daughter; John son; William A., an un Horace C. is also a candidate John C. and William A. in politics.

Lorenzo D. Viemann, native of Gasconade County, children born to Garret and Missouri, respectively pursuits, receiving a grant for himself in the cap married Mary, daughter of 1879, the mother of one to Henrietta, daughter blessed this union. Mr. by whom she has one cantile business in Red of a general store, carried opened a store in Kn eight months. In 18 Oak Hill. The firm is handling the produce of merchandise. Mr. Viemann which office he still fills is a member of the Denmark Viemann owns a nice and about forty acres in Dakota.

James E. Walls, a native Anna Walls, nee Higdon



of the Baptist Church. Politically, he is a county treasurer in 1884, and re-elected in 1886. He is a member of the Missouri State

Washington County, Mo., in 1829. His father was born in New York City, and was born in 1809; he was in Washington County, Mo., and for some time met and married Polly Campbell, a native of Washington County, Mo. Andrew H. was the eldest. Soon after his marriage he conducted in connection with his father a farm which he conducted in connection with his father's farm in Crawford County, on the farm now owned by his father. He went to California, and for some time was engaged in gold mining. Putnam lived to be about seventy-two years of age. In 1853 Andrew H. Trask married a daughter of Jefferson County, who was born in 1836. Of his children but seven are living, viz.: Josiah A., Solomon B., Melvin and Julius E. Mr. and Mrs. Trask are members of the Baptist Church. In 1862 he was in Company E, Thirty-second Missouri Infantry, at Chickasaw Bluff and Arkansas Post. After one year's service was discharged on account of disability, and a Democrat, has been justice of the peace and judge two terms, serving as presiding judge. He is a successful business man and one of the leading citizens of the Township.

Treece (deceased), was a daughter of Emory Treece, of Virginia and Pennsylvania. She was born in 1809, and was married to Jacob Treece in 1830. They had four children, four sons and four daughters, viz.: Emily, who became the wife of E. G. Treece, in infancy, and Maria E., widow of the late E. G. Treece. She came to Missouri in 1848, and settled in the township then wild and sparsely settled. In 1850 she purchased an unimproved land, and moving his family there he had previously been engaged, he added to his farm from time to time until it is now under cultivation. Mr. Treece lived a useful life in 1881, deeply mourned by the expected families of Crawford County. He had three sons, three of whom served in the late war, as major, and Henry as captain. Mrs. Treece resides in her adopted county, and has reared a family. She has long since passed the allotted four-score years of an active mind and takes a deep in-

terest in the welfare of the community. She was the founder of the fraternity known as the Order of the Sons of the American Revolution, and was born in Franklin County, N. C. She was married to John and Elizabeth (Hill) Upchurch, also of Franklin County, N. C. John died when John Jordan was employed as a clerk at the age of twelve

years, and clerking, farming, and running a sawmill furnished him employment until 1841, when he married Angelina Green, and soon after began keeping hotel at Raleigh, N. C., where it is said he conducted the first temperance house south of Mason and Dixon's line. This venture, however, proved unprofitable; but, possessing the happy faculty of always finding something to do, Mr. Upchurch was successful as an engraver, a railroad agent, horse-tamer, locomotive engineer and master mechanic. A strike in 1864 impressed him with the injustice done to both capital and labor by the existing unions, and he began to study principles that should underlie a union benefiting both. In 1868 was created the noble order of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, of which Mr. Upchurch was the honored father. In 1873 he located in Steelville, where his family still reside. During the latter years of his life he visited, by invitation, Grand Lodges from the Pacific slope to the Atlantic coast, and everywhere was most cordially met with expressions of highest esteem. Upon his visit to Cincinnati, Ohio, he was presented with a gold medal, bearing the emblems of the order, anchor and shield, the former set in diamonds, and, on the reverse side, engraved, "Presented to J. J. Upchurch, P. S. M. W., Father of the A. O. U. W., by the members of the Supreme Lodge, 1882." Mr. Upchurch died in 1887, deeply mourned by his widow and five living children. Of his sons, Theodore F., a machinist, served nearly a year in the late war, in Company K, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, and married Sarah Millsbaugh, by whom he has one daughter; John C., a carpenter, married Emma Wheeling, and has one son; William A., an undertaker, wedded Olivia E. Adair, and has two sons; Horace C. is also a carpenter, and Curtis L. is a barber. Two of the boys, John C. and William A., are members of the A. O. U. W., and all are Democrats in politics.

Lorenzo D. Viemann, of the firm of Burchard & Viemann, Oak Hill, is a native of Gasconade County, and was born in 1848. He is the eldest of five children born to Garret and Martha (Ridenhour) Viemann, natives of Germany and Missouri, respectively. Lorenzo D. Viemann was reared to agricultural pursuits, receiving a good education in the common schools. He began doing for himself in the capacity of a school teacher and farmer. In 1872 he married Mary, daughter of Daniel and Eliza J. McMillen. Mrs. Viemann died in 1879, the mother of one child, also deceased. In 1886 Mr. Viemann was married to Henrietta, daughter of William and Sarah Fort. One daughter, Fannie, has blessed this union. Mrs. Viemann was the widow of the late Franklin Benner, by whom she has one child, Nellie. In 1878 Mr. Viemann engaged in the mercantile business in Red Bird, Gasconade County, where he was the proprietor of a general store, carrying a stock worth about \$2,000 until 1880. He then opened a store in Knob View, Crawford County, which he conducted about eighteen months. In 1882 he purchased his interest in his present business at Oak Hill. The firm is doing a splendid business, and carry a \$5,000 stock, handling the produce of the country, as well as an assorted stock of general merchandise. Mr. Viemann was appointed postmaster of Oak Hill in 1884, which office he still fills. He was also appointed notary public in 1885. He is a member of the Democratic party, and belongs to the Masonic order. Mr. Viemann owns a nice residence in the village of Oak Hill, where he resides, and about forty acres of land in the county, beside property in the State of Dakota.

James E. Walls, a retired merchant of Leasburg, is the son of Spencer and Anna Walls, nee Higdon, and was born in 1827, in Marshall County, Tenn., the



①  
Bellefontaine Cemetery Association

4947 W. FLORISSANT AVENUE

ST. LOUIS, MO. 63115

381-0750

DONALD W. MEYER  
SUPERINTENDENT

July 18, 1980

Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Heck  
12458 McKelvey Road  
Apartment 21  
St. Louis, MO 63141

RE: Grand Lodge of Missouri  
A.O.U.W. #3104

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Heck:

Enclosed is all available information on John  
and Angeline Upchurch as per your request.

We are also enclosing a copy of a newspaper  
article which may be of some interest to you.

Check for \$4.00 is acknowledged.

We are always glad to be of help. Please feel  
free to contact us if we can be of any further  
service.

Very truly yours,

BELLEFONTAINE CEMETERY ASS'N.

*Donald W. Meyer*  
Donald W. Meyer, Sup't.

DWM:cs  
Enclosures

# BURIAL CERTIFICATE,

FOR DEATHS THAT HAVE OCCURRED OUTSIDE THE CITY OF  
ST. LOUIS.

This Certificate must be fully and accurately filled out, or it will not be received and signed.

Name of Deceased

Age,

Male,

Female,

White,

Colored,

Single,

Married,

Widowed,

Cross out the words not required.

Place of Birth

Place of Death

Date of Death

Cause of Death\*

I CERTIFY that I attended the person above named in his last illness, who died of the disease stated, on the date above named.

Place of Burial

OFFICE HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
St. Louis, Mo.,

I CERTIFY that I have examined this Certificate, and find it to accord with the requirements of the City Ordinances and Charter and the Rules of the Health Department.

Health Commissioner.

Clerk of Health Commissioner and Board of Health.

Sextons receiving Burial Certificates without the Signature of the Commissioner or his Clerk, will subject themselves to a fine, as provided by Ordinance No. 10,329.

In filling out the above Certificate, Physicians are earnestly requested to conform strictly to the Nomenclature printed on the back.

Memorial services were held at the grave of John Jordan Upchurch, founder of the fraternal benefit system, in Bellefontaine Cemetery yesterday by the Executive Committee of the National Fraternal Congress, officers of the Missouri State Fraternal Congress and members of St. Louis fraternal organizations. The convention of the national group will open tomorrow at the Jefferson Hotel.

Globe-Democrat

9-25-1944

Bradley C. Marks of Fargo, N. D., president of the Ancient Order of United Workmen of North Dakota and a past president of the National Fraternal Congress, declared in a memorial address that "the great fraternal beneficiary societies of today are towers of strength to our nation." Founded by Upchurch in 1868, Marks said, there are now 103 fraternal benefit associations with a total membership of more than 8,000,000 in the United States and Canada.

Mrs. Grace McCurdy of Rock Island, Ill., president of the National Fraternal Congress, presided. Farrar Newberry of Omaha, vice president of the congress, pronounced the memorial prayer and the benediction. Foster F. Farrell of Chicago, secretary-treasurer and general manager of the congress, placed a wreath at the memorial shaft. Norman Erd of St. Louis sang solos.

A wreath also was placed at the grave of James McCash, who founded the Order of Scottish Clans in St. Louis in 1873.



**MEMORIAL SERVICES** were held at the grave of John Jordan Upchurch, fraternal benefit system founder, in Bellefontaine Cemetery yesterday. From left: Bradley C. Marks of Fargo, N. D.; Farrar Newberry of Omaha, Mrs. Grace McCurdy of Rock Island, Ill.; Foster F. Farrell and Fred Johnson both of Chicago; Walter C. Below of Fulton, Ill., Mrs. Clara B. Bender of St. Paul, Oscar A. Kottler of Philadelphia and Norton Williams of Memphis, Wis.

Series 1896.

City of St. Louis

No. \_\_\_\_\_

# Health Department

(DUPLICATE.)

## CERTIFICATE OF DEATH.

This Certificate must be fully and accurately filled out in full as provided by Section 392 Revised Ordinance, 1893.

Name of Deceased Angelina J. Upchurch

Age 70 Years 4 Months 22 Days Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Female. ☒ White. ☒ Single. ☒ Widowed. ☐ (Cross out the words not required.)

Place of Birth Pa. Time of Residence in St. Louis \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Death, No. Hooker's Mill

Exact Locality of Death. { City Block \_\_\_\_\_ North by \_\_\_\_\_ St. East by \_\_\_\_\_ St.

Ward No. \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ { West by \_\_\_\_\_ St. South by \_\_\_\_\_ St.

Date of Death April 30<sup>th</sup> 1896

Cause of Death Senile Debility

In filling the above line Physicians are earnestly requested to conform strictly to the nomenclature printed on the back hereof.)

I CERTIFY that I attended the person above named in last illness, who died of the disease stated, on the date above named.

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

## BURIAL PERMIT.

OFFICE OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT

St. Louis, May 9<sup>th</sup> 1896

I CERTIFY that I have examined the above Certificate and find it to accord with the requirements of the Charter and Ordinances of the City of St. Louis, and, therefore, permission is hereby given to inter the body of the person therein named in Bellefontaine Cemetery.

Health Commissioner.

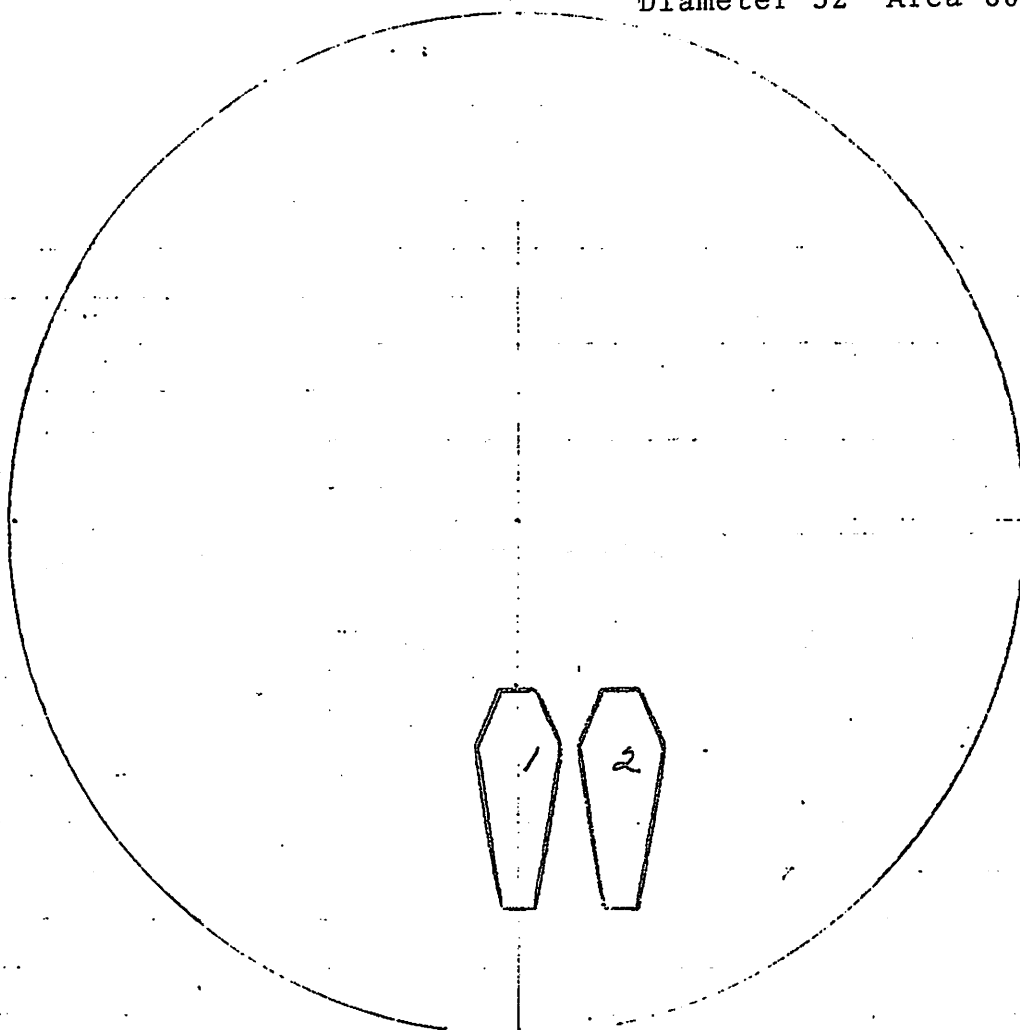
Clerk Health Commissioner.

I CERTIFY that the intended place of burial for the body of the above named person is Bellefontaine Cemetery.

Undertaker.

Sextons receiving Burial Certificates without the signature of the Commissioner or his Clerk will subject themselves to a fine, as provided by Revised Ordinance, 1893.

Grand Lodge of Missouri A. O. U. W.  
Diameter 32' Area 800'



3104

BLOCK 165

1 John J. Upchurch  
2 Angeline 3 "

Jan 23-1887  
May 3-1896

DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY  
Volume 10, Edited by Dumas Malone  
Pages 119, 120

**UPCHURCH, JOHN JORDAN** (Mar. 26, 1820-Jan. 18, 1887), founder of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, was born on a farm in Franklin County, N. C., one of four children of Ambrose and Elizabeth (Hill) Upchurch. After 1824, when the father was shot dead by his wife's brother-in-law, the family was extremely poor. In 1837 Upchurch left the farm to learn the trade of millwright. Four years later, June 1, 1841, he married Angelina Green, a Pennsylvanian, who became the mother of his fifteen children. Soon afterward, with his wife's uncle, John Zeigenfuss, he opened a hotel in Raleigh, said to have been the first temperance house south of the Mason and Dixon line. When this venture failed, he worked briefly for the Raleigh & Gaston Railroad, attempted horse taming for a time, and in 1846 moved to Pennsylvania, where he entered the employ of the Mine Hill & Schuylkill Haven Railroad, in 1851 becoming master mechanic.

In June 1864, train hands, seeking a raise, went on strike, and for two weeks, according to

his own account, Upchurch operated the road in the interest of the government with men provided by the War Department. The strike was broken, and Upchurch determined to unite employers and employees "in one grand organization" opposed to trade unions (*Life, post*, pp. 22, 24). On Jan. 1, 1865, he resigned from the railroad to engage in oil speculation, but with its collapse at the end of the Civil War, returned, off and on, to railroading. In 1868 he settled in Meadville, Pa., where he joined the League of Friendship, Supreme Mechanical Order of the Sun, one of the many secret workers' orders then springing up. The Meadville lodge soon split, and on Upchurch's initiative a section reorganized, Oct. 27, 1868, as Jefferson Lodge No. 1 of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. One of the main objects of the new order was "To discountenance strikes" (*Ibid.*, p. 57), but since the organization had the character of a lodge rather than a trade union, it proved impotent to affect strike movements seriously one way or the other. When, a year after its inception, it levied a dollar per capita assessment to pay substantial death benefits, it began to transform itself into a fraternal benefit society, and became the model for a movement characteristic of the period in America.

The demand of a rising but propertyless working class for a bulwark against sickness, old age, and funeral expenses underlay the rapid expansion of mutual-benefit societies. Impetus was given by the policies of the oldline commercial insurance houses, whose rates were very high. Indirectly, the societies were influenced by the English friendly societies of the sixteenth century and directly, although subordinately, by the secrecy, ritualism, and sociability of Freemasonry. Dozens of them went bankrupt until, late in the eighties, actuarial calculations were adopted and reserves built up. The Ancient Order of United Workmen pioneered in this field under the direction of Upchurch, who in 1873 had been made Past Supreme Master Workman, and today he is generally regarded as the founder of the mutual-benefit system, which in 1919 numbered two hundred fraternal societies in the United States and Canada, with more than 120,000 subordinate lodges and some 9,000,000 members.

Upchurch continued to work as master mechanic for various railroads until about 1881, after which time he had no regular employment. In 1885, at the solicitation of the Order he visited California, where he was fêted by many lodges, and the next year visited Boston and Philadelphia. He wrote an autobiography, *The Life, Labors, and Travels of Father J. J. Up-*

*church* (1887), which was edited and published posthumously by his fraternal brother, Sam Booth. He died in Steelville, Mo., where he had settled, and was buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery, St. Louis.

[Sources include M. W. Sackett, *Early Hist. of Fraternal Beneficiary Societies in America* (1914); Walter Basye, *Hist. and Operation of Fraternal Insurance* (copr. 1919); F. H. Hankins, "Fraternal Orders," *Encyc. of the Social Sciences*, VI (1931), 423; Arthur Preuss, *A Dict. of Secret and Other Societies* (1924); A. C. Stevens, *The Cyc. of Fraternities* (1899); *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, Jan. 19, 1887. In Upchurch's autobiog. (*Life*, p. 13), the year of his birth is given as 1822, but all other references to year of birth in the *Life*, including description of coffin plate (p. 228), give 1820.]

H. S.—w.

○ See Itt 4 OCT 1987 Amelia May Parham & RPH  
 Inscriptions in the Upchurch Bible originally  
 held by Mary Ann U who was age 9 on the  
 1850 Census of Granville Co, NC.

1. Martha Alice U b 4 OCT 1858
2. Procella M. U b 2 APR 1818
3. John U b 26 MAR 1820
4. Mary Ann Elizabeth U b 13 APR 1822
5. William H. U b 29 OCT 1824

○ See Itt 1 APR 1989 Virginia Diann Kenney & RPH  
 John J. U [JJA] of Henderson, Granville Co, NC  
 and 1 JUN 1841 Angelina Zeigenfuss Green of Raleigh, NC

○ Excerpt from Itt 10 DEC 1993 Janet Lee Lighthill & RPH  
 → JJA

I now know that he founded the Ancient Order of United Workmen 27 Oct 1868. That he was born in Franklin county, North Carolina to Ambrose Upchurch and Elizabeth Hill on 26 Mar 1820. That he did indeed spend some time in PA, that he married Angelina Zeigenfuss Green in 1841 though whether it was May 29 or June 1 I haven't yet figured out. He and Angelina had 15 children, the only one I can name is Theodore. He was in business with Angelina's uncle John Zeigenfuss as an innkeeper for a while, and he spent a lot of years working on the railroad. Right after the Civil war, he lost all his savings in oil speculation. He wrote his own biography, "The Life and Labors of Father J J Upchurch" which was published in 1887, after his death on 18 January 1887. He's buried in Balfontaine Cemetery in St Louis, MO.

Angelina is another hard one. I think she was born in PA. Her father may have been Salome Green, and I assume her mother's last name was Zeigenfuss, but so far, I haven't been able to verify any of it.

○ See Itt 15 NOV 1995 Charles John Peterson, Jr & RPH  
 JJA b 26 MAR 1820 & 18 JAN 1887. His F&M murdered  
 in 1824. JJA settled in 1873 in Steelville, MO; his grave  
 marked by a 36 foot tall monument. His burial  
 site in Bellefontaine Cemetery chosen by A.O.U.W. Grand  
 Lodge of Missouri - From St Louis South Side Journal 19 AUG 1990

JOHN JORDAN U

○ From Sta 4 FEB 1997 Janet Lee Lighthill to RAI

BUT and this is my Big News.....Having sifted through all the Franklin county records available to me, I can tell you that I'm pretty sure that our Henry Hill was the original Henry Hill, brother to Green Hill Jr. I have checked every reference mentioning the name Henry Hill at all, even just as a witness, for Franklin county, and there are only 5 different Henry Hill's there. Three of them, Henry son of Thomas, Henry son of Robert, and Henry son of Lewis, were already dead by 1808. That leaves us with just the original Henry son of Green, and his son, Henry Jr. There is no record that Henry Jr. was ever a magistrate of the court, and in fact, I find no reference at all to Henry Hill Jr. after 1798, except for the 1805 record of Elizabeth Henry Martin and her husband John selling land that Elizabeth had inherited "including 3 tracts originally granted to Henry Hill Jr." (that record was among those I sent you last time.) I have a theory about what happened to him, but I need to check it out first, meanwhile, as far as available records go, Henry Hill Jr., just drops off the face of the earth after 1798. Henry Hill the elder, however, was sitting on the bench as a magistrate in Franklin county as early as 1783. Moreover, he is the ONLY Henry Hill, I can find any record of having ever been a magistrate. It has to be the original Henry. He was born in 1740, so he'd have been 43 years old in 1783. Given the law of averages, his oldest child was probably born about 1760, which would have made Henry Jr. about 23 years old, much too young to sit as a magistrate in a county court, back in the days when gray hair and wisdom were supposed to go hand in hand. Besides, the court records distinguish between Henry and Henry Jr. So our Henry, has to be the original Henry son of Green and Grace. I cannot find anywhere even an approximate death date for either Henry Sr., or Henry Jr. Surprisingly, while the Hill family appears to have been quite wealthy for the times, they weren't real big on making out wills. I hesitated to accept the idea that the original Henry was Elizabeth's father when everything started pointing that direction because somehow I had gotten the idea that Elizabeth was Henry Hill's only child. I went back to JJU's autobiography to check. That isn't what he says. What he says, is that Elizabeth was Henry Hill's only daughter. Still, the math of the whole thing kind of bothers me too. If our Henry Hill was the original Henry Hill, he'd have been at least 50 when Elizabeth was born, and at least 93 when he deeded the farm over to her in 1834! But, if Elizabeth's father was a magistrate in the court of Franklin county, it can't have been anyone but the original Henry, son of Green and Grace. I still have a lot of the Bute county records to go through and almost all the records for both Granville and Halifax counties. And I intend to go through them as thoroughly as I have the Franklin county records, but I really think we have the answer.

IN THE ABOVE COUSIN JAN GIVES HER REASONED JUDGEMENT THAT JOHN JORDAN U FITS INTO THE HILL FAMILY OF NC AS FOLLOWS

I. GREEN HILL, SR

A. GREEN HILL, JR

1. JORDAN HILL

B. HENRY HILL

1. ELIZABETH HILL

MRL) AMBROSE U

A. JOHN JORDAN U<sup>1</sup>

○ From: The N.C. Genealogical Society Vol 27 NO3 Pg 285 AUG 2001  
(Abstracts from Raleigh, NC Newspapers for 1841 - Vital Records)

UPCHURCH: M. In this City, on Tuesday evening last, the 1st inst., by the Rev. Mr. JAMIESON, Presiding Elder of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the Raleigh District, Mr. John J. UPCHURCH, of Henderson, Granville county, to Miss Angelina Ziegenfuss GREEN, adopted daughter of John ZIEGENFUSS, Esq. of this City. (RRsw Friday 4 June 1841 3:5) /// ... Rev. James JAMEISON, Mr. John G. UPCHURCH, of Henderson, to Miss Angelina Zeigenfuss GREEN. (RaNCsw Wednesday 9 June 1841 3:5)



DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY  
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UPCHURCH, JOHN JORDAN (Mar. 26, 1820-Jan. 18, 1887), founder of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, was born on a farm in Franklin County, N. C., one of four children of Ambrose and Elizabeth (Hill) Upchurch. After 1824, when the father was shot dead by his wife's brother-in-law, the family was extremely poor. In 1837 Upchurch left the farm to learn the trade of millwright. Four years later, June 1, 1841, he married Angelina Green, a Pennsylvanian, who became the mother of his fifteen children. Soon afterward, with his wife's uncle, John Zeigenfuss, he opened a hotel in Raleigh, said to have been the first temperance house south of the Mason and Dixon line. When this venture failed, he worked briefly for the Raleigh & Gaston Railroad, attempted horse taming for a time, and in 1846 moved to Pennsylvania, where he entered the employ of the Mine Hill & Schuylkill Haven Railroad, in 1851 becoming master mechanic.

In June 1864, train hands, seeking a raise, went on strike, and for two weeks, according to

his own account, Upchurch operated the road in the interest of the government with men provided by the War Department. The strike was broken, and Upchurch determined to unite employers and employees "in one grand organization" opposed to trade unions (*Life*, post, pp. 22, 24). On Jan. 1, 1865, he resigned from the railroad to engage in oil speculation, but with its collapse at the end of the Civil War, returned, off and on, to railroading. In 1868 he settled in Meadville, Pa., where he joined the League of Friendship, Supreme Mechanical Order of the Sun, one of the many secret workers' orders then springing up. The Meadville lodge soon split, and on Upchurch's initiative a section reorganized, Oct. 27, 1868, as Jefferson Lodge No. 1 of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. One of the main objects of the new order was "To discountenance strikes" (*Ibid.*, p. 57), but since the organization had the character of a lodge rather than a trade union, it proved impotent to affect strike movements seriously one way or the other. When, a year after its inception, it levied a dollar per capita assessment to pay substantial death benefits, it began to transform itself into a fraternal benefit society, and became the model for a movement characteristic of the period in America.

The demand of a rising but propertyless working class for a bulwark against sickness, old age, and funeral expenses underlay the rapid expansion of mutual-benefit societies. Impetus was given by the policies of the oldline commercial insurance houses, whose rates were very high. Indirectly, the societies were influenced by the English friendly societies of the sixteenth century and directly, although subordinately, by the secrecy, ritualism, and sociability of Freemasonry. Dozens of them went bankrupt until, late in the eighties, actuarial calculations were adopted and reserves built up. The Ancient Order of United Workmen pioneered in this field under the direction of Upchurch, who in 1873 had been made Past Supreme Master Workman, and today he is generally regarded as the founder of the mutual-benefit system, which in 1919 numbered two hundred fraternal societies in the United States and Canada, with more than 120,000 subordinate lodges and some 9,000,000 members.

Upchurch continued to work as master mechanic for various railroads until about 1881, after which time he had no regular employment. In 1885, at the solicitation of the Order he visited California, where he was fêted by many lodges, and the next year visited Boston and Philadelphia. He wrote an autobiography, *The Life, Labors, and Travels of Father J. J. Up-*

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NOTE: Copy of this is placed in Upchurch name file.



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