

John Jordan Upchurch

XID – 4806

Commentary: John Jordan Upchurch was the son of Ambrose and the grandson of John IV, head of Upchurch Clan 12. He is arguably the most famous Upchurch of them all. He founded the Ancient Order of United Workmen and was known by his admirers and followers as Father Upchurch. This Biofile covers some of the more interesting aspects of his life.

Acknowledgements: The following Biofile was transcribed by Carla J. Michaels, a volunteer and tireless contributor, who administers the UAFA center in Cary, NC

(no number) Excerpt from: Historical Raleigh (NC) from 1792 by: Moses M Amil, 1902 – RPU 3 Sep 2014, Page 104

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.

Organizations:

AOUW

Ancient Order of United Workmen → Founder **John Jordan Upchurch**

(no number)

John Upchurch

North Carolina Marriages, 1759 – 1979

marriage: 29 May 1830

Wake, North Carolina

spouse: Angelina G Green

(no number) The article below on **JJU** sent to RPY by Gerald Thorp 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.

(see article below)

FRANKLIN MAN FATHERED BENEFITS FOR WORKERS

by Fred G. Mahler (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.

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.

(no number) Re: Family of John Jordan Upchurch from Ancestry.cm – 26 Sep 2008 – RPU

1870 Census, Trumbull Co, OH – PO = Warren				
Name	born about	age		
John J Upchurch	1821	49	NC	foreman in RR smith shop
Angeline Upchurch	1824	46	PA	
Rufus W Upchurch	1853	17	PA	jewelers apprentice
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		Germany, servant

1880 Census, Pettis Co, MC – Sedalia				
Name	born about	age		
J J Upchurch	1820	60	NC	head; works in RR shop
Anna Y Upchurch	1826	54	PA	wife; [Y = G]
T F Upchurch	1854	26	NC	son; machinist
W A Upchurch	1864	16	PA	son
Curtis L Upchurch	1870	10	OH	

1900 Census, Crawford Co, MO – Steelville = Res; Home = Meramel				
Name	born about	age		
W A Upchurch	Sep 1865	35	PA	head; married 17 yrs; F & M born PA
Ollivia Upchurch	Sep 1863	36	MO	wife; [4, 3]
Chas H Upchurch	Jul 1884	15	MO	son
Lewis J Upchurch	May 1886	14	MO	son
Juanita Upchurch	Apr 1890	10	MO	dau

1910 Census, St Louis, Mo (Independent City), St Louis Ward 23				
Name	born about	age		
George S Etter	1836	74		head
Sarah C Etter*	1852	28		wife, [5, 4]
Zinnie L Hammer	1882	28		dau
Mettie W Hammer	1887	23		stepdaughter
Laura E Upchurch	1890	20		stepdaughter, [1, 1], married 2 years
Charles H Upchurch	1885	25		step son in law
Charles M Upchurch	1909	8/12		step grandson
Olivia Upchurch	1868	42		boarder
Faustina M Miller	1887	23		boarder

*Since Laura E Upchurch is stepdaughter of George S Etter – Sarah must have married earlier - RPU

1920 Census, St Louis, Mo – Richmond Heights				
Name	born about	age		
Charles Upchurch	1886	34		renter, wire mfg co
Laura Upchurch	1890	30		
Ruth Upchurch	1911	9		
Lee Upchurch	1915	5		
John Upchurch	1916	4		4 2/12
Joseph Upchurch	1918	1		1 6/12
Olivia Upchurch	1866	54		widow

1920 Census, St Louis, Mo – Richmond Heights				
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Laura Upchurch	1890	30		
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Lee Upchurch	1915	5		
John Upchurch	1916	4		4 2/12
Joseph Upchurch	1918	1		1 6/12
Olivia Upchurch	1866	54		widow

1930 Census, St Louis, Mo – Richmond Heights				
Name	born about	age		
Charles H Upchurch	1885	45	MO	head; renter, married age 23, father born PA, foreman wire factory
Laura E Upchurch	1889	41	MO	widow, married age 19
Ruth O Upchurch	1911	19	MO	dau
Lee W Upchurch	1914	16	MO	son
John J Upchurch	1916	14	MO	son
Joseph G Upchurch	1919	11	MO	son
Harry L Upchurch	1922	8	MO	son
Lawrence G Upchurch	1925	5	MO	son
Helen E Upchurch	1928	1	MO	1 6/12
Olivia E Upchurch	1865	65	MO	father & mother born MO

(biofile continued below)

I. John Upchurch, IV – Head of Clan

A. Ambrose Upchurch 1792 – 1824

1. **John Jordan Upchurch** born 26 Mar 1820 (NC) died 1887 (MO) (Buried – St Louis, MO)

married 1841 (Raleigh, NC) Angelina Green born 1825 (PA) died 1896 (MO) (buried as husband)

a. Theodore Fairfax Upchurch born 11 May 1844 (Raleigh, NC)

b. Rufus W Upchurch born about 1853 (PA)

c. Charles F Upchurch born about 1856 (PA) died before 17 Jan 1887

d. Horace C Upchurch born 4 Aug 1860 (PA) died 1917 (MO)

e. John C Upchurch born about 1862 (PA)

f. William A Upchurch born Sep 1864 (PA)

married about 1883 () Olivia E Adair born Sep 1863 (MO) died after 1930

i. Charles H Upchurch born 8 Jul 1884 (MO)

married 2 Oct 1908 () Laura E Hammer born about 1889 (MO) [1910 = 1, 1]

(I) Charles M Upchurch born 15 Aug 1909

(II) Ruth O Upchurch born 3 Dec 1910 MO)

(III) William Lee Upchurch born 21 Mar 1914 (MO)

(IV) John J Upchurch born 11 Nov 1915 (MO)

(V) George Joseph Upchurch born 14 Jul 1918 (MO)

(VI) Harry L Upchurch born 15 Jul 1921

(VII) Lawrence G Upchurch born 28 May 1924 (Richmond Hts, St Louis Co, MO)

(VIII) Helen E Upchurch born 21 Oct 1928 (Richmond Heights, St Louis Co, MO)

ii. Lewis J Upchurch born May 1886 (MO)

iii. Juanita NMN Upchurch born Apr 1850 (MO)

g. Curtis L Upchurch born about 1870 (OH)

(no number) Upchurch citations found on Internet by Charles John Peterson, Jr and sent to RPU in letter 22 Mar 2004. A copy of this article appears as Page(s) 193, 194 with the letter and in abstract form below.

Further identified as: History of Franklin, Jefferson, Washington, Crawford & Gasconade Counties – Missouri, 1958 – presents a series of Biographies on of which is:

Note: My analysis proves this article was inter about 1895 + 2 years – RPU 19 Oct 1001

Cross-file:

John Jordan Upchurch

Theodore Fairfax Upchurch

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.

(no number) Summary of input by Nancy Louise Weems & follow-up by RPU – See her letter of 15 Nov 2003 for original documents. This excerpt has been filed with:

Woodmen of the World

John Jordan Upchurch

David E Upchurch

Nancy saw this reference in her father's copy of Woodmen magazine. It concerns David E Upchurch portraying himself as John Jordan Upchurch. The first article was in Nov – Dec 2002 under the heading "Woodmen News". The follow-up with her and biofile of David E Upchurch re my lack of luck in reading him as of today 15 Aug 2004 - RPU

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 E. 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. Marcin 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

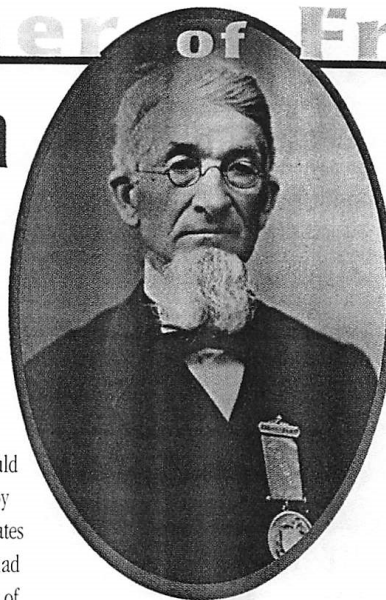


**Woodmen, American Red Cross
Renew Disaster Relief Program**

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

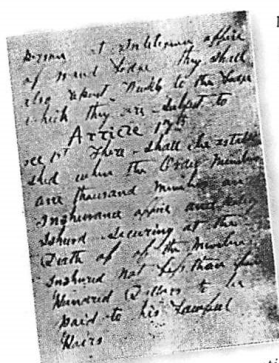
benefits to a worker's widow.

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

tution for the new order. The lodge later approved Upchurch's plan, and the AOUW 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 Steeleville, 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 (NFCA) annual meeting in September. (See the November/December 2002 *Woodmen* magazine issue, page 43.) He has also performed at various NFCA 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.

Pg 4

I. Thomas Harris born 1614 died 1672 – England → VA age 8

Pg 10 A. Thomas Harris born 1636 (Charles City Co, VA) died 1688

Married Ann Martin in Charles City Co, VA

Pg 11 1. Edward Harris born 1663 died 1734 born and died Isle of Wight Co, VA

Pg 22 a. Edward Harris born 1698 (Isle of Wight Co, VA) died 1740 (Isle of Wight Co, VA)

Married about 1719 () Mary Thorpe, daughter of Timothy Thorpe

Pg 23 i. Edward Harris born 1720 (Isle of Wight Co, VA)

Married --- --- --- on 10 Jun 1746.

Edward sold to Daniel Batten the 240 acres that had been owned by his great grandparents Thomas Harris & Ann (Martin) Harris.

Pg 24 (I) Edward Harris born --- (Isle of Wight Co, VA) died 1807 (Granville Co, NC) married Priscilla --- ---.

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) Jonothan Harris
- (C) Anne Harris. Anne married John Upchurch¹ on June 21, 1790 in Granville Co, North Carolina
- (D) Frances Harris. Frances married Leo Jackson on October 5, 1792 in Granville Co, North Carolina
- (E) Elijah Harris
- (F) Mary Harris. Mary married Samuel Bailey on June 14, 1796 in Granville Co, North Carolina.
- (G) Martha Harris. Martha married Ephraim Bailey on February 24, 1797 in Granville County, North Carolina

¹ John Upchurch was John Upchurch IV XIX – 170 [Head of Upchurch Clan 12] born 1770 died --- married 12 Jun 1790 (Granville Co, NC) Mary Ann Harris (XIX – 999) born about 1770 (Granville Co, NC). Their only child Ambrose Upchurch born about 1792. One of 4 grandchildren of John & Ann was the famous **John Jordan Upchurch**.²

² The name Jordan as used by successive Harris generations may have originated when Daniel Harris born about 1695 died 1763 married about 1725 (Isle of Wight Co, VA) Jane Jordan. See separate extract of Jordan – Harris Family Relationships.

(no number) Item in letter 13 Mar 2003 Elsie Sue Gorman to 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.

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 the 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 benefitting 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.

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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>

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Ran across this online = thought it was interesting!

[Note: The father of John Jordan Upchurch was not John Upchurch but rather Ambrose Upchurch – RPU]

Cross-filed:

Living sons: Theodore Fairfax Upchurch, John C Upchurch, William A Upchurch, Horace C Upchurch, Curtis L Upchurch.

Deceased sons (not named): Rufus W Upchurch; Charles F Upchurch

Contributors: Joe Miller; Penny Harrell

John Jordan Upchurch

(no number) Upchurch Mentions in Wake – Capital County of North Carolina

Vol I – Prehistory through Centennial by Elizabeth Reid Murray

Page

- 103 Olive Chapel Church community is in extreme wester Wake Co – There were Upchurch families in the community by 1780s [John Upchurch III]
- 270n Present at Jan 1858 Merchants Meeting in Raleigh, NC: W C Upchurch [William Clinton Upchurch]; Upchurch & Royster
- 282 John J Upchurch [**John Jordan Upchurch**] had a machine shop on Morgan Street in Raleigh, NC in the 1840s
- 290 W C U [William Clinton Upchurch] was a Raleigh, NC grocer who in the 1840s provided the Standard newspaper with prices to be published
- 358 In 1850, several families living in the vicinity of New Ruin organized a Baptist
- 358n 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 [John Rufus Upchurch? – RP] and his descendants.¹⁴²
- ¹⁴²Grace Lawrence, "A History of Olive Chapel Baptist Church," 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.
- 521n In the summer of 1865 one Emily Upchurch applied for aid based on the fact that she had formerly relied on the Milburnie Paper Mill destroyed by Yankees
- 562 Branson's NC Business Directory from 1867 – 1872 included Alfred Upchurch's and T G Jenkins Carriage & Buggy factories [partners vs 2 companies? – RPU]
- 563 Bailey P Williamson & Orlando Shay operated the North State Foundry during the Civil War but dissolved the partnership in 1865
- 567 W Upchurch, grocer [William Clinton Upchurch I] was one of several Raleigh business operators 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 1870s. One of these housed Edwards & Broughton (see below) upstairs and the Williamson, Upchurch, Thomas Grocery downstairs



- 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 [William George Upchurch].
- 574 The Raleigh Board of Trade organized in 1871 included William Upchurch [William Clinton Upchurch or William George Upchurch – RPU]
- 607n Incorporators of the Raleigh Baptist Female Seminary in 1870 – 1871 included W G U [William George Upchurch]
- 652 About 1867 lots were platted in Apex – J R U bought one [John Rufus Upchurch? – RPU]
- 664 Describes Green Level – was on a major road connecting Raleigh and Pittsboro. Its Post Office was an early one to be reopened after the Civil War – Miss A D Upchurch was first post-war postmaster [A D Upchurch =]
The area had at least 7 stores in 1872: John Upchurch [John Upchurch = John Rufus Upchurch? – RPU] + J W Bolling, Howell & Perry. R H Jinks, W S Jinks, J W Mitchell, B M Yates

(1) John Jordan Upchurch born 26 Mar 1872 died 17 Jan 1887 Steelville, MO married 4 Jun 1841 Angelina Green of Raleigh, NC, born 8 Dec 1825 died 30 Apr 1896, burial of both in Bellefontaine Cemetery, St. Louis, MO. The marker shows he was age 67- correct age 65.

(2) Marriages in Granville County, NC

John Jordan Upchurch married 4 Jun 1841 Angelina Ziegenfuss Green of Raleigh, NC daughter of Salome Green (29, page 44).

(3) John Jordan Upchurch born 26 Mar 1820 died 17 Jan 1887 was son of Ambrose Upchurch born 1792 and grandson of John Upchurch, IV (XID – 170) (Head of Clan).

(4) 31 Jul 1980. Checked with Jimmy Hillman. He does not know about AOOW 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) [repeated number – CJM 7 Nov 2020] See Book extract “Crawford Co & Cuba, MO’ John Jordan Upchurch & 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.”

(5) See Bellefontaine Cemetery Notes, St Louis, MO – made by RPU in St Louis 9 Aug 80. Includes description of the JJU monument. Includes burial certificates and 1944 Tribute recorded in St Louis Globe – Democrat. Lists National Fraternal Congress.

(6) John J Upchurch 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 Upchurch 26 Mar 1820 – 18 Jan 1887 – born on farm in Franklin Co, NC – one of four children of Ambrose and Elizabeth (Hill) Upchurch. Married Angelina Green 1 Jun 1841 – They had 15 children – see reference for biography (19).

(8) Per Attachment #34 West Letter to RPU 1975-Wake County, NC Marriage Records 29 May 1830 John Upchurch married Angelina G Green -witnesses =William Upchurch; H. Williams.

(9) See attachment 2 Feb 1978 letter Elna E Burkhalter to RPU
Marriages & Death Notices in Raleigh Register and North Carolina State Gazette 1826 – 1845. A Bulletin of the NC State Library
Per 4 Jun 1841 RR John J Upchurch of Henderson, Granville Co, NC married Angelina Ziegenfuss Green on 1 Jun in Raleigh. [The Carrie L Broughton Book shows bride is “of” Raleigh].

(10) See Wake County NC Marriage Bonds form 31 Oct 1977 Letter Mrs J W Priest to RPU Angelina G Green married John Upchurch Bond Date = 29 May 1830. Bondsman = William X Upchurch; Witness = A Williams

(11) See Photo File 83-16 for photo of John Jordan Upchurch and his wife and son and daughter in law. This picture also appears in Upchurch Bulletin Vol4, Issue 3, Page 87 (1983).

(12) See 1880 Census – Pettis Co, MO – Sedalia Township

J J Upchurch	WM	60	born NC
Anna Upchurch	wife	54	born PA
T F Upchurch	son	36	born NC
W A Upchurch	son	16	born PA
Curtis L Upchurch	son	10	born OH

(no number)

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.

(no number) Copied from Page 45, 46 (29) for John J Upchurch

AMBROSE UPCHURCH FAMILY

FOR J

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.

(no number) Note: This item and WOW Nov 79 article attached rec'd from Jessie L Lee in letter 12 Mar 1981 – RPU

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 gov't. 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 fraternal 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 Upchurch Bulletin, Vol 2, #2, Page 17 – RPU

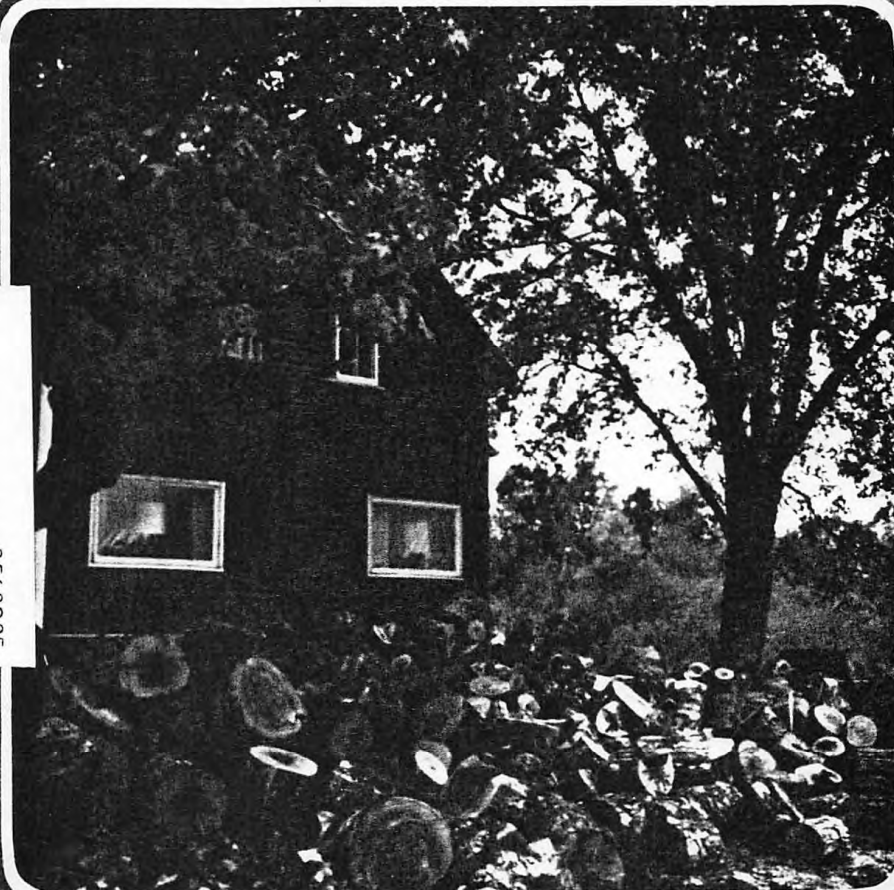
**Woodmen
Of the
World magazine**

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

NOVEMBER 1979



NEWELL R ANDERSON
303 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.

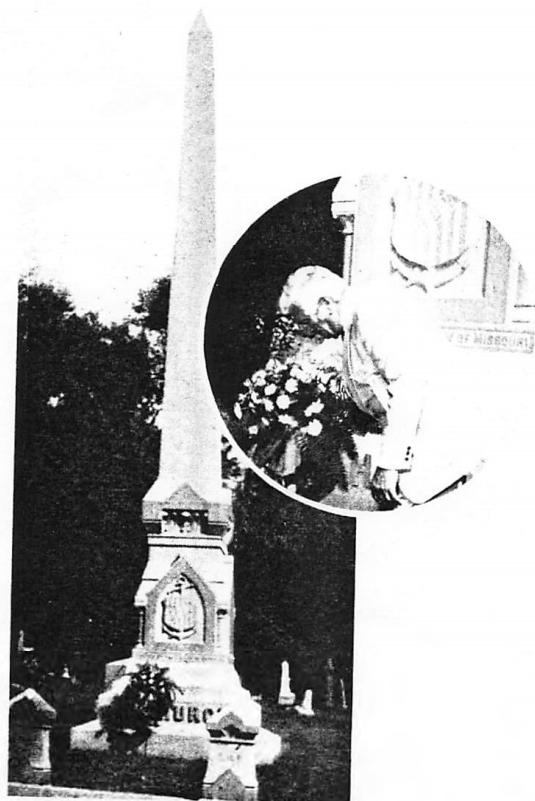
Upchurch resented government intervention in the dispute even though he was chosen to serve as its representative.

"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.

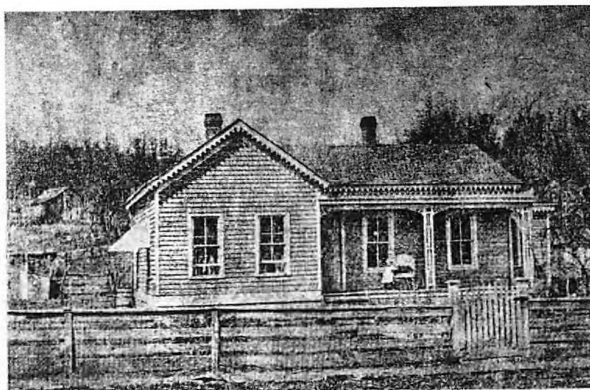
By July, 1869, Upchurch's new lodge boasted more than 50 members. By March 9, 1871, when the Governor of Pennsylvania approved the incorporation of the A.O.U.W., there were at least ten lodges in existence.

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.)

(1) Book “Goodspeed’s History of Franklin, Jefferson, Washington, Crawford & Gascombe Counties – Missouri: Originally published by Goodspeed Publishing Co – Chicago 1888. This book found in DAR Library, Washington, DC 16 Jan 1980 and extracted by RPU. John Jordan Upchurch (Page 1066) was the principle Upchurch in the DAR Index but several others appear and were all included herein below – RPU

Part I Pages 13 – 199 – History of Missouri (no Upchurches found)

Part II History County by County for above 5 counties. All the Upchurches are in the Crawford County Section.

General Pages 536 – 616

Biographical Pages 1021 – 1070

Crawford Co – General

Formed 23 Jan 1829 (County)

Steelville (county seat of Crawford Co)

First Settler = William Britton in 1833

Incorporated 4 May 1859 but lapsed until 1873

Page 584 When it was incorporated again – followed by more defaults until 1879 when the following trustees were elected (5 listed). In 1880 (5 listed), in 1884 (5 listed).

In April 1882, trustees elected were:

Thomas R Gibson, Chairman

J C Whitmire, Clerk

W T Key, Treasurer

J J Upchurch

Wilson Haley.

In 1883, the list did not include JJU.

On 13 Apr 1885, the Trustees took steps to promote Steelville 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. JJU, J R Pumphrey and William M Robinson were appointed judges of election. Vote on 19 May 1885 was favorable.

Page 586 On April 6, 1886 for Mayor J R Pumphrey got 39 votes and JJU got 26.

On Page 586 & 587 Two Lodges are described (Different types? – RPU]

I. Lebanon Lodge, No 77, AF&AM chartered October 14, 1846 (AL 5846) with charter members: --- (no Upchurch listed)

II. Founders Lodge, No 224, AOUW, named after J J Upchurch

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

(biofile continues below)

SAWFORD COUNTY.

H. Hibler, street commissioner. City officers resulted as follows: For 1885; J. J. Upchurch, 26; all others. Warden elected were: For the First Ward, Whitmire; Second Ward, Charles. Assessor, W. H. Davis; marshal, W. elected president of the board, and in 1886, Mayor Pumphrey asked allowing him \$10 per month salary to pass such ordinance, tendered his motion was accepted. An election was ordered for May 4, 1886, John Roberts being chosen. A. D. Foster, January 3, 1867, and Thomas

finance was introduced enlarging Steelville, as follows:

The city of Steelville are hereby changed so and described as follows: The east half of the southeast quarter of Section 33, Township 38, Range 4 west, not heretofore included in there being cast for the extension,

F. & A. M., was chartered October the following charter members: John son, S. W.; H. R. Edgar, J. W.; as could not be ascertained. The officers, 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 membership fifty-one. Meetings occur on the first moon each month. They own a large story of which they have a very large room. The lower story has been Christian denominations for religi-

STATE OF MISSOURI.

587

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 employees. 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 of 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 elected were J. J. Upchurch, A. Tracy, overseer; M. H. urer; Henry Deross, guide O. W.; S. Rositer, I. W.; P. Linen, trustees.

Business in Steelville is being individuals and firms: clothing, Scott, Bass & Co. James Key and R. H. Eugene Trask and A. Gibbs; shoemaker, Andrew Swack and J. P. We John Starks; carpenters, kept by William D. Bass cians and surgeons, Dr. calf, all allopathists; law F. Russell; abstractors, F Bros.; meat market, P. Hopkins; insurance and jeweler, William Hallib cultural implements, Up land Presbyterian, a Me Lodge, an Odd Fellows The Evans' Flouring

ving lost a month's time, were ready to receive of 40 cents per day. The question of Mr. Upchurch was, "What right have themselves a union, to dictate to all receive?" "Whence their power?" It appeared plain that great to the laboring men, but also to their need that the societies, in the way engaged, were exercising a baneful influence of the country. He, therefore, under which, if possible, should unite an organization obligating them to the the greatest good to the greatest

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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 Ancient 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, treasurer; 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 following 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. Baucom; 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; physicians and surgeons, Dr. J. T. Coffee and Drs. Gibson and Metcalf, 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; agricultural implements, Upchurch Bros. The town has a Cumberland 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 Emmor 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 came to 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 1848 During the latter years the Pacific slope to the with expressions of his presented with a gold shield, the former sent to J. J. Upchurch of the Supreme Court by his widow and five served nearly a year in seventh Pennsylvania has one daughter; John son; William A., an un Horace C. is also a son John C. and William A in politics.

Lorenzo D. Vieman native of Gasconade (children born to Garret and Missouri, respectively pursuits, receiving a gift for himself in the cap carried Mary, daughter of 1878, the mother of one to Henrietta, daughter blessed this union. Mr by whom she has one cantile business in Red of a general store, can opened a store in Kn eighteen months. In 1 Oak Hill. The firm is handling the produce (merchandise. Mr. Vi which office he still fill is a member of the Den Viemann owns a nice and about forty acres Dakota.

James E. Walls, a son Anna Walls, nee Higgs

(no number) See letter 4 Oct 1987 Amelia May Parham to RPU

Inscriptions in the Upchurch Bible originally held by Mary Ann Upchurch who was age 9 on the 1850 Census of Granville Co, NC.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Martha Alice Upchurch | born 4 Oct 1858 |
| 2. Proscilla M Upchurch | born 2 Apr 1818 |
| 3. John Upchurch | born 26 Mar 1820 |
| 4. Mary Ann Elizabeth Upchurch | born 13 Apr 1822 |
| 5. William H Upchurch | born 29 Oct 1824 |

(no number) See letter 1 Apr 1989 Virginia Diann Kenney to RPU

John H Upchurch [**JJU**] of Henderson, Granville Co, NC married 1 Jun 1841 Angeline Ziegenfuss Green of Raleigh, NC

(no number) Excerpt from letter 10 Dec 1993 Janet Lee Lighthill to RPU

Re: John Jordan Upchurch

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.

(no number) See letter 15 Nov 1995 Charles John Peterson, Jr to RPU

JJU born 26 Mar 1820 died 18 Jan 1887. His father murdered in 1824. **JJU** settled in 1873 in Steelville, MO; his grave marked by a 36 foot tall monument. His burial site in Bellefontaine Cemetery chosen by AOUW Grand Lodge of Missouri. From St Louis South Side Journal 19 Aug 1990.

(no number) From letter 4 Feb 1997 Janet Lee Lighthill to RPU

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 judgment that John Jordan Upchurch 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

married () Ambrose Upchurch

a. **John Jordan Upchurch**

(no number) From: The NC Genealogical Society, Vol 27, No 3, Page 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)

(biofile continues below)

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

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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.

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

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