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THE ASTORIAN PUBLISHING CO.,

DO WE NEED CHURCHES.

A new and handsome church edifice has been completed and will be dedicated to the worship of Almighty God to-day. While everything compliments its builders of the successful result of their labors, there are those who say: "We have too many churches already; why put more money in churches? What we have are not filled." If no more churches were built until those now standing were used to their utmost capacity there would be no more churches erected. Under the same rule there would be no more stores or factories put into operation but such a rule does not apply and will not work. The need of more and better church buildings and societies in Astoria is just as pronounced as is the need of any other product of civilization. That a low grade of morality, lax virtue, a couple of saw-mills and a few canneries have marked Astoria in the past is no evidence that it always will be so. We will grow and expand in all departments, and the growth and expansion of the religious life of the city will be no small factor in the development of the whole. No more, public spirited, patriotic and wholesome educational influence can be fostered in any city than that of Christianity, and no institutions will attract to a city a more useful and desirable class of citizens than those which it encourages. For the welfare of the city from any right point of view, the erection of a slightly and substantial building, by a society able to support it, is a desirable and laudable consummation, worthy the assistance of every citizen.

HAVE YOU READ IT?

When Benjamin Franklin was ridiculed in Paris for his defense of the Bible he determined to find out how many of the scoffers had read it. He informed one of the learned societies that he had come across a story of pastoral life in ancient times that seemed to him very beautiful, but of which he would like the opinion of the society. On the evening appointed Franklin read to the assembly of scholars the book of Ruth. They were in ecstasies over it, and one after another begged that the manuscript might be printed. "It is printed," replied Franklin, "and is a part of the Bible."

On another occasion he copied and read to a company of freethinking wits a remarkable "ancient poem." It was received with extravagant admiration. "Who was the author?" "Where did Franklin discover it?" He informed them that it was the third chapter of Habbakuk.

Wholly apart from its religious and ethical value the Bible is the one book of which no intelligent person can afford to be ignorant. As Charles Dudgeon Warner says: "It is a question of general intelligence. Voltaire, who died in 1777, prophesied that with 100 years the Bible would be an unknown book. The number of volumes of holy scripture that come from the press now every 12 months is about 8,000,000, more than the total number that saw the light during the first 18 centuries after Christ. The Bible, which in Voltaire's day existed in only 38 tongues, is now being read, in whole or in part, in over 400. One hundred and fifty of these languages were for the first time reduced to writing by Bible translators.

SKIN DISEASES THE OUTCROPPING OF BAD BLOOD

And while not always painful are aggravating beyond expression. With few exceptions they are worse in spring and summer when the system begins to thaw out and the skin is reacting and making extra efforts to throw off the poisons that have accumulated during the winter. Then boils and pimples, rashes and eruptions of every conceivable kind make their appearance, and Eczema and Tetter—the twin terrors of skin diseases—Nettle-rash, Poison Oak and Ivy, and such other skin troubles as usually remain quiet during cold weather, break out afresh to torment and distract by their fearful burning, itching and stinging. A course of S. S. S. now will purify and enrich the blood, reinforce and tone up the general system and stimulate the sluggish circulation, thus warding off the diseases common to spring and summer. The skin, with good blood to nourish it, remains smooth and soft and free of all disfiguring eruptions.

SSS

Send for our free book on diseases of the skin and write us if you desire medical advice or any special information. This will cost you nothing.

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BEER ALCOHOLISM.

Another alleged fact arrived at in the recent anti-alcoholic congress in Berlin is that beer drinking as a means of combatting alcoholism is a failure. The conclusion was that beer leads often to the use of distilled liquors, but in itself it produces all the evils of whisky. "Of 140 patients who were treated in a north German private asylum for drunkards, 41 had been alcoholized," said Dr. Delbruck. "By drinking spirits, 29 by wine drinking and 78—or more than half—by the excessive consumption of beer. The belief that delirium tremens was unknown among beer drinkers was a mistake. It was impossible to convey by statistics the extent of the misery caused by what he described as 'beer alcoholism.'" Professor Cram of Göttingen held that the alcohol habit is curable if taken in time and treated at a suitable drunkard's asylum—London Post.

AS ROME DOES.

Here is an interesting bit of information concerning the old city, which is evidently much in need of modern missionary methods:

In Rome there are one pope, three cardinals, 35 bishops, 1269 priests, 2832 monks, 3212 nuns, making in all 7479 persons charged with spiritual callings among a population of 400,000. So there is in Rome one spiritual to every 54 inhabitants, while in the large Protestant cities of Germany there is but one spiritual to 10,000 inhabitants. Although Rome is a city given to the sciences, rich in art, high schools and academies, still 100,000 grown people exist there who can neither read or write. Rome also has within her limits the largest number of lawbreakers—53 to 1000 citizens. Of 453,082 engaged couples in the whole of Italy in the year 1897, only 204,698 could sign the marriage contract, that is, only 450 out of each 1000.

According to Miss Susan B. Anthony, the welfare of the American people demands that they shall have fewer children and better-bred ones. Miss Anthony is thoroughly convinced that many of the miseries of life arise from the reckless propagation of humanity. If men and women had a better perception of the criminality of bringing children into the world whom they are unable to care for and educate as they should be, Miss Anthony thinks they would limit their offspring in numbers.

Boys with hats on the back of their heads and cigarettes and smutty words in their mouths are cheaper than old worn-out horses. Nobody wants them at any price. Men will not employ them; girls will not marry them. They are not worth their keeping to anybody, and they will not keep themselves. If any boy who happens to read this answers this description let him take a look at himself and do what his conscience says is best to do.


ROBBED THE GRAVE.

A startling incident is narrated by John Olliver, of Philadelphia, as follows: "I was in awful condition. My skin was almost yellow, eyes sunken, tongue coated, pain continually in back and sides, no appetite, growing weaker day by day. Three physicians had given me up. Then I was advised to use Electric Bitters; to my great joy, the first bottle made a decided improvement. I continued their use for three weeks, and am now a well man. I know they robbed the grave of another victim." N. one should fail to try them. Only 50 cents, guaranteed at Chas. Rogers' drug store.

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8:00 a.m.	Portland Union Depot	11:10 a.m.
7:00 p.m.	For Astoria and Way Points	9:50 p.m.
ASTORIA		
7:45 a.m.	For Portland and Way Points	11:30 a.m.
6:10 p.m.		10:20 p.m.
NEARSHORE DIVISION		
7:45 a.m.	Astoria for Warrenton, Plavel, Fort Stevens, Hammond and Astoria	7:40 a.m.
8:15 a.m.	Hammond and Astoria	7:40 a.m.
9:30 a.m.	Plavel, Hammond, Fort Stevens and Astoria	12:50 p.m.
2:30 p.m.	Astoria and Astoria	7:25 a.m.

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