

THE FOOL'S PRAYER

The royal feast was done; the king
Sought some new sport to banish care,
And to his jester cried: "Sir fool!
Kneel now and make for us a prayer."
The jester doffed his cap and bells,
And stood the mocking court before;
They could not see the bitter smile
Behind the painted grin he wore.

He bowed his head and bent his knee
Upon the monarch's silken stool;
His pleading voice arose: "Oh Lord,
Be merciful to me, a fool!
No pity, Lord, could change the heart
From red with wrong to white as wool,
The rod must heal the sin; but, Lord,
Be merciful to me, a fool!"

"Tis not my guilt the onward sweep
Of truth and right, O Lord, we stay;
'Tis by our follies that so long
We hold the darts from Heaven away.
These clumsy feet still in the mire,
Go crushing blossoms without end;
Their hard, well-meaning hands we trust
Among the heart-strings of a friend.

"The ill-timed truth we must have kept
Who knows how sharp it pierced and stung?
The word we had not sense to say—
Who knows how grandly it had rung?
Our faults no tenderness should ask,
The chastening stripes must cleanse
them all

But for our blunders—O, in shame
Before the eyes of heaven we fall.

"Earth bears no balsam for mistakes;
Men crown the knave and scorn the fool

That did his will; but thou, O Lord,
Be merciful to me, a fool!"

The room was hushed; in silence rose
The king and sought his gardens cool,
And walked apart and murmured low
"Be merciful to me, a fool."

—SELECTED.

With the Churches

Christian Church.

By H. F. JONES.

Mrs. Shepard, a national character in W. C. T. U. and Chautauqua work will speak at the morning service next Sunday. A great treat is in store, do not miss it. The communion and morning service will be at 11 o'clock.

Spend an hour with us in the evening service, beginning at 7:30.

Change of time will be made April first. All evening services will be one half hour later than now.

Christianity is a world power. Come to the C. E. meeting next Sunday evening at 6:30 and hear something of the extent and success of Christian missions.

All live things grow. The midweek service is constantly increasing in interest. Wednesday evening at 7:30.

You are going to miss it if you are not in the Bible school next Sunday morning. Begins promptly at 10 o'clock.

Heredity is responsible for some things, but is not to blame for the bulk of downright meanness in the world today.

More aliens entered the United States during 1913 than any year since 1907. 1,197,892 is the total footing.

The Upper House of the Massachusetts Legislature has a bill before it providing for state inspection of all public and private institutions, such as schools, nunneries, convents and charitable institutions. Good for Massachusetts. Good law for Oregon.

Baptist Church.

By A Member

Mr. Editor.—Your readers will remember that some weeks ago it was noted in your columns that our pastor, Rev. G. A. Pollard, took a two weeks vacation, he providing for the preaching services through supplies, while he hid himself away to Kansas City, Missouri. This scribe intimated then that it was a suspicious circumstance that he was going to "Missouri." Well!

whether this trip had any thing to do with future events the writer of these notes will not say, but it is an accomplished fact that he has recently taken unto himself a wife of the native daughters of "Missouri." Success and abounding happiness to them.

Rev. George Campbell, a missionary at Ki-a-ying, China, was a visitor at the home of J. K. P. and Mrs. Carson, Monday afternoon and night, returning to McMinville Tuesday morning, where he temporarily resides. He and wife are planning to return to their field of labor in August.

It was recently stated in some of the secular papers, when pretending to give the net increase of the different religious denominations in the United States, that the Baptist had increased 64,000 in the past year. By reference to the Baptist Year Book, the inquirer will learn that the actual increase has been 204,000 and the total membership is nearly 6,000,000, of which Texas, the Lone Star state, has more than 600,000.

Services next Sunday: Sunday school 10 a. m.; preaching 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Come everybody.

Subject for 11 a. m.: "David's Credentials." 7:30 p. m.: "The Sower."

WEEKLY INDUSTRIAL REVIEW

Oregon Development News In Line of Industries, Payrolls, Products of Labor, Etc

Tillamook county cheese factories produced 4,101,962 lbs. in 1913, as against 3,996,250 lbs. in 1912.

Cars on the first interurban streetcar line at Medford began to operate March 20th.

Hillsboro commercial club is backing the Boecker wickerwork factory, and a project for a new sawmill.

A meat packing plant with cold storage facilities on a large scale are assured at Redmond.

H. J. Firchan of the Albany bakery has the backing of Montana capitalists for establishing a cracker factory.

The Oregon Welfare Commission is considering raising the apprenticeship period for women learners to eighteen months.

Contracts have been let for the construction of eight concrete bridges on the Columbia river highway.

The state peddler law, held to be in restraint of trade, is being attacked in the federal courts at Portland by a tea company.

West Linn citizens have decided to support the erection of two new school buildings to cost \$12,000 each.

Astoria Masonic lodge will erect a fireproof office building and lodge hall.

The shipbuilding industry at St. Helens increases in activity.

The Oregon Supreme court sustains the minimum wage and eight hour laws enacted by the last legislature for women.

A favorable sign all over Oregon is the establishment and extension of local packing plants with cold storage facilities.

Roseburg and Eugene report prospect for a very favorable building season.

Development organizations are campaigning against the Blue Sky Law.

Calipooia grange has adopted resolutions strongly opposing the proposed eight hour laws.

Engineer Fontaine of the

Willamette Pacific says 2,000 men will rush the railroad between Eugene and Marshfield to completion by fall.

A steel and wood truss bridge will be built across Chetco river in Curry county.

A ten hour law for men is sustained by the recent decision of the Oregon Supreme court.

A Salem bank capitalized at \$100,000 pays \$6,000 taxes—six percent on its capital stock.

The Eugene Commercial club will make securing factories and payrolls of first importance in its publicity work for the coming year.

Cottage Grove business men have a committee raising ten thousand dollars stock subscription for a cannery.

The shipping that went over the Coos Bay bar in 1913 aggregated 465,000 tons.

Clackamas county is to have a new jail.

The historical courthouse of Marion county is being remodelled for about the fifteenth time.

The case of Frank C. Stettler vs. the Oregon Welfare Commission will be appealed to the Supreme court of the United States.

A new armory is to be built at Portland on the East side, to cost \$50,000.

The Knights of Pythias will erect a two-story lodge building at North Plains.

Pendleton will vote on \$50,000 water bonds to complete its gravity system.

It is generally considered that the \$1500 tax exemption proposed would cause the great burden of taxation to fall on employing industries.

The Phoenix Stone Quarry of Douglas county claims to have moved the biggest block of stone on record—14 by 14 by 125 feet unbroken.

In the Paulina and Des Chutes reserves, 400,000 acres of public lands are to be thrown open to bonafide settlers.

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