

238

THE BULLETIN
OF THE
OXFORD SECOND
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY



Rev. Andrew Gilbert Yount, Ph.D.
Pastor

*Come unto me, all ye that labour and
are heavy laden, and I will
give you rest.*

*Take my yoke upon you, and learn of
me; for I am meek and lowly in
heart: and ye shall find rest
for your souls.*

*For my yoke is easy, and my burden
is light.*

Matthew 11:28-30

STATED MEETINGS OF THE CHURCH
SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday School, 9:30 a. m.
Church Worship, 10:30 a. m.
Young People's Meeting, 7 p. m.
The Trustees meet on the first Tuesday of the month.
The Ladies Aid Society meets on the first Wednesday of the month, at 2:30 p. m.
The Lord's Supper is observed at Easter, and on the second Sundays of July, October and January.
The Annual Business Meeting comes in last week of March.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Elders—Abram Pittenger, Elisha B. Foss, Edward T. Green, Lewis Bergenback.
Trustees—Harry Miller, James Radel, George Docker, Jr., Charles Renner, Fred K. Sarson, Lewis E. Green, Edward Sharps, Charles Dux, Benjamin Green.
Treasurer—Lewis E. Green.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent—E. B. Foss.
Asst. Superintendent—Mrs. Edward T. Green.
Treasurer—Miss Ida Smith.
Secretary—Alvin Renner.
Organist—Elizabeth Zapp.

LADIES AID SOCIETY

Honorary President—Mrs. Charles Renner.
President—Mrs. Benjamin Green.
Secretary—Mrs. Clark Wilkinson.
Treasurer—Mrs. Lewis E. Green.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY

President—Emily Austie.
Treasurer—Chris Seiple.
Secretary—Helen Snyder.

CHOIR

Leader—Mrs. Edward T. Green.
Organist—Mrs. Benjamin Zapp.

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Bulletin No. 238. November 18th, 1934

Second Presbyterian Church

Oxford, N. J.

We made a prayer unto our God, and set
a watch against them day and night.
Nehemiah 4:9

" Into thy hands we commit ourselves,
O God. We say of the Lord: Thou art
our refuge; our present help in time
of trouble; our hiding-place from
the wind and covert from the tempest;
our God, in thee will we trust; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

The Annual Fair, Friday, December 7th.

The Ladies are working up
their plans for the annual fair and
Supper. Solicitors will soon call upon
the members and friends for donations
of all kinds for the occasion. They
will have a fancy work table and a crab
bag and will welcome even small and
inexpensive gifts for these items.

There will also be a prize contest
for cash donations. The contestants
are the Misses Ruth Snyder and Irene
Mehawk.

The treasurer reports money received
since last report for the new church
Heater as follows

Mrs. Ed. T. Green's S. S. Class	\$36.17
John P. Cook	1.00
Mrs. Laura Seiple	2.00
Mrs. Margaret Hunt	1.00
Mrs. Tunison	1.00
Mrs. Emma Myers	1.00
William Bush	1.00
Mrs. Emma J. Anderson	1.00

The whole Church is grateful for
these and the other gifts to this
fund. Success is now certain.

(concluded from page four)

So, to Miss Person we all send greetings
and as a personal reminiscence I may add
that in an autograph album before me,
there is enscribed by her hand in 1883
"Always your true friend."

Centenary
First Presbyterian Church, Belvidere.

On November 25th, one week from today, the First Presbyterian Church of Belvidere will celebrate its one hundredth anniversary. The Session has sent an invitation to our congregation to attend the evening service next Sunday. The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. will preach the sermon. The Rev. Dr. William C. Covert is one of the outstanding ministers of our Church, and it will be well worth the effort to attend this service.

There is a special reason why we should take a part in this anniversary. We are sister Churches, having the same mother Church, The Oxford First at Hazen. The original members of the First Church of Belvidere were members of the Oxford first Church. The Belvidere Church was organized Nov. 25th, 1834, nearly 29 years before the Oxford Second was organized with members of the Oxford First Church. This was on May 8th, 1863.

The invitation urges us to come saying, "We believe the visit of the Moderator will be an inspiration to Presbyterianism in our whole community."

"We will be delighted to have you bring along also your young people that the Moderator may inspire them."

Let all plan to go.

The Bulletin invites our readers to contribute more articles or letters of a personal or historical nature.

Many who could tell of interesting events and personalities of other days have not yet contributed their information for this paper. The wide circulation of the paper among former members of the church and citizens of Oxford has been brought about by such contributions, and the interest can only be sustained by fresh articles of the same kind. We hope those who have been helping in this will continue, and that new writers will send in their reminiscences.

Mr. and Mrs. George Weber spent last Tuesday in Oxford visiting their old friend, Miss Ida Smith, who we are glad to say, is very much improved in health.

Old Oxford Days
by
Clinton E. Weston

It was indeed a pleasure to read the reminiscent letter in the Bulletin from the former teacher at the public school, Miss Fannie D. Person. It recalled the time when scholars came in contingents from Church street, Jonestown, Mine Hill and Tunnel Hill and other way stations, togged out in various assortments of stream-lined upholstery, to the seat of learning; some of us to get it on the seat in days to follow, for those were the days of corporal punishment which was freely given and obstinately received.

When Miss Person was a teacher there, about the first thing we were told was that the earth was round, but outside of the school people continued to tell about the four corners of the earth, which to our young minds was rather confusing, and when the subject was brought up at the supper table for explanation, it would suddenly be changed to the state of the weather. The curriculum, of course, has greatly changed with the passing years, as it would be expected to do. The present-day problem undoubtedly would be, "How long would it take five men to dig a ditch in four days, provided 90% of the men loafed on the job 100% of the time under N.R.A. rules, not counting day-light saving time"

Such a question in our day would have brought about a silence that would have been deafening.

The old school was ideally situated in the edge of the woods. Whether the authorities selected this spot as a convenient place for collecting switches, deponent knoweth not; but they certainly had an eye for location. Standing on the parapet, anent the school, a panorama spread out before you that was a feast for the eyes and perfect digestion for the mind.

Sharply and at some distance to the left were the ore mines of which we have had interesting and illuminating articles by friend Patrick Kempsey. I think it was Patrick who told me he wanted to start in a business where he could be at the bottom and rise quickly to the top; so he chose mining; in which he subsequently became an expert. The mines, to be sure, did not enhance the beauty of the scenery, but they were essential to the industry that gave employment to a number of fine men.

The quietness that sometimes pervaded the school rooms would frequently be broken

by the rumbling echo of the little cars rolling on the narrow tracks carrying ore from the mines to the furnace, and the sound must have been similar to the thunderous ~~echo~~ made by Rip Van Winkle when he rolled the game of nine pins, awakening the good people for miles around.

This does not, however, imply that there was any sleeping in Miss Person's room, for as near as I can recall she kept the pupils busily engaged, so that there was no chance of even one's foot going to sleep.

Looking across the valley to the right arose Scott's mountain with an elevation of 1277 feet. At the proper time of the year fields of matured rye could be seen waving to and fro like the waves on a restless sea. The rocky formation would give one the impression that the locality was especially designed for rock and rye.

Further to the right was Mt. No-More with an elevation of 1140 feet. This was delightfully described by partner Scribe, Sammy Cooper, with a tradition sometime since. It seems however that there was another tradition current some years ago according to which an Indian who answered to Gee-What-A-Name, besides his wife had an extremely refractory mule.

One morning as he tried to get on the mule he suddenly found himself hanging from a limb of a near-by tree, and to the pleadings of an amused audience that he was in a good position to mount the mule, he replied, "Nix-kimo-no," which in the parlance of the New Deal would mean (with several prefixes) Mount-No-More. The mule with its two rear cylinders still suspended in the air let out a "Hoo-Haw" from which a famous expression was derived which is occasionally heard to this day. When a hilarious occasion arises, the remark usually follows, "It's funny enough to make a mule laugh."

Mt. No-More became a favorite expression and it was said that the dwindling tribe seriously considered changing the tribe name to Mt. No-More's. Sammy's version is no doubt correct, but it would be interesting to have them checked up by the expert on traditions, George Humphrey.

A view of scenic beauty is the gap farther to the right, made by the river centuries ago. Arising just beyond where the Pequest furnace stood is Mt. Mohepinock 1056 feet, which declines to the valley lost in the far distance where it and the northern sky seem to meet. How vividly memory has etched the picture and perhaps our former teacher will recall them as in the halcyon days of yore.

(see page one)

EDWARD T. GREEN

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