

Irane Odsted

The Weekly Bulletin

of the

Oxford Second Presbyterian Church

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY



Rev. Andrew Gilbert Yount, *Ph.D.*,
PASTOR

One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek
after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the
days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and
to inquire in his temple.—Psalm 27:4.

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STATED MEETINGS OF THE CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday School, 9:30 a. m.
Church Worship, 10:30 a. m. - 7:30 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.

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Bulletin No. 140. November 6th, 1932.

Morning Worship

Doxology
Invocation and Lord's Prayer
Psalm 85 sel. 29
Hymn 44
Creed and Gloria
Scripture Lesson
Prayer
Solo " My Guide Art Thou."
Miss Elizabeth Zapp
Offering
Hymn 189
Sermon
Hymn 300
Benediction

Text

Come unto me, all ye that labor 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 unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. ... Matthew XI. 28-30.

"Hear Our prayers, O Lord, and consider our desires. Give unto us true humility, a meek and quiet spirit, a loving and a friendly, a holy and a useful manner of life; bearing the burdens of our neighbors, denying ourselves, and studying to benefit others, and to please thee in all things."

The Topic for the Young People tonight will be "Am I My Brother's Keeper?" Miss Adelaide Yount will lead.

Next Sabbath will be the fortieth anniversary of Elder Abram Pittenger's ordination. At the morning service his long and faithful work as a ruling elder will be recognized by appropriate exercises. He is also our oldest in point of membership, - 61 years.

All our members should be present to show their appreciation his long record in the church.

If any of his old friends now living elsewhere will write a word of congratulation, the pastor will read them at that service.

It would be very fitting for former Elders of this church to visit us at this service, and we trust some will be able to come.

The net profits of the Ladies Fair and Supper were \$161.55. The total receipts were \$208.16 and the expenses \$46.61.

Mr. G.R. Searing sent the Ladies a dollar for his supper, as he intended to be present, but could not; saying:-

"Realizing the former pleasant festivals attended with those good people, and with the sumptuous feast that followed, I am inclosing one dollar for the Ladies Aid, knowing the meal was provided and it was my misfortune not to be able to enjoy it."

The meeting of the Aid Society last Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Meyers, was a pleasant occasion. There were light refreshments, the hostess had provided a nice present for one of the company.

To determine who should have it, numbered tickets were sold for ten cents each, and the one having the lucky number got the prize. The event was so very satisfactory that the Society decided to follow the plan in the future. The rule requires that the winner of the prize entertain the Society at the next meeting and furnish the present. Mrs. Benjamin Green won the prize, and will be the hostess for the next meeting. Thus both pleasure and profit are combined for their monthly gatherings.

The Bulletin is now assured for another year. The covers and material provided a year ago have been used up, and it is necessary to procure supplies for a continuance of the paper.

Advertisers have been seen and most of them have splendidly consented to continue their support for new material. There are also several new advertisers which we gladly welcome on the list.

Not all the space has been taken, but enough to enable us to go a head with the Bulletin. We hope to get enough to meet the needs, but if not will go on in the confidence that our many readers will help us out with the expenses.

It will take at least \$125, to pay for the materials. We use high grade paper for the covers and also for the fillers, and this costs much more than cheap and unsatisfactory paper. Then the rapid and steady increase in circulation adds much to the expenses. It will require 10,000 covers and 24 reams of paper to last another year. This is 25% more than last year. When this was explained to the advertisers some said they were glad to know something was prospering.

Old Furnace Tragedy of 1857

The Editor has heard from some of our old citizens something about an explosion at the blast furnace with fatal results.

So it was a great satisfaction to receive from Mr. George Humphrey a copy of a letter written by Col. George W. Scranton describing the accident. The letter was written in New York City, at the Merchants Hotel, on Sunday evening September 27th, 1857. It is as follows: "My Dear James:-

I left home last Monday. Have been in New York since. It is very exciting here, and the end is not yet. I hope we shall succeed in some arrangement for the relief of our R.R. Company, but upon this subject I will not now write.

"A terrible accident occurred at Oxford on Friday evening. The furnace had been stopped for some repairs about 15 hours.

Gas had collected in the hearth and furnace during the stoppage, and when the blast was put on an explosion took place, which blew out the stopping in the front where the iron and cinders run out. The hearth was nearly full of iron. The iron and cinder was blown out with great force, filling the casting house with liquid fire, and burning several men dreadfully. One man David Reese, was burnt to death instantly.

Two others died yesterday, and George Champion died last night. It is feared one more will die. Uncle Charles was burned some, and Mr. Grove also, but not seriously.

The casting house burnt to the ground. The other buildings were saved. I cannot now write more of the particulars, but you see what a stroke it will be to Mr. Champion and his wife (who went up yesterday) to find their beloved son so suddenly taken away, as well as to the other families at Oxford.

No blame is attached to any one. Uncle Charles had just been standing in front helping, and barely escaped with his life!

A kind Providence has spared him, while others have been taken.

"I expect to leave here for home on Wednesday morning. If there is no objection I would like to have you come down Tuesday evening and go up with me, unless you hear from me to the contrary Tuesday forenoon.

Please say to Mr. Rice that I will send him the amount of his bill as soon as I possibly can. It's awful times for money.

I enclose \$3.00.

I shall expect your uncle Selden here tomorrow. Present my kind regards to Mr. and Mrs. Rice. Very affectionately your

(Continued from last page)

father, George W. Scranton. "

Here is Mr. Humphrey's explanatory note:- " I have been looking over some letters of Col George W. Scranton, dated from 1843 to 1857 and enclose a copy of one written to his son James (who was then at school in Stamford, Conn.) which is especially interesting. While the first and last paragraphs do not refer to Oxford, they are interesting as indicating financial conditions similar to, or worse than those through which we are now passing

" 'Our R.R. Company' is the D.L. & W. of which Col Scranton was the first President. 'Uncle Charles' is of course Col Charles Scranton, so well known in Oxford.

"I am uncertain about the name 'Grove'-- it may be Grear or Green. I wonder if any one now living in Oxford knows anything about that dreadful catastrophe which occurred 75 years ago? "

The above letter of Col Scranton definitely fixes the date of the explosion which was not known before. It was on Friday evening September 25th, 1857. Can any one give the names of the three nameless victims?

The Bulletin has received a cash contribution for expenses from Mr. Cortlan F. Cook of Hackensack. Many thanks.

Mrs. Charles Hedges sends money for postage for another year. She now lives at Red Bank, N.J. We regret that we were not informed of the change of address, and copies have been to old address.

Mr. Clinton E. Weston has sent an interesting paper on the old Charles Scranton house. It will appear soon.

Mr. G. R. Searing loans us the Infant Class book used by Miss Mary E. Scranton over sixty years ago. The names will be printed in the Bulletin.

The Bulletin is an Oxford paper devoted to the interests of our church, and the cause of Christ in the community.

But it is also deeply concerned for the welfare of Oxford in general.

It has nothing but good to say of the town and the people; strives to promote local interests of all worthy kinds.

We welcome the cooperation of all citizens to help in advancing the interests of the community.

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