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The

# BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

A. G. YOUNT

*Minister*



*Therefore every scribe who is instructed in the kingdom of heaven, is like an householder who bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old. Matthew 13:52.*



The heavens declare the glory of God ; and the firmament showeth his handiwork. Psalm 19:1

The open secret of the universe stares every body in the face.--Goethe

"O Lord, from all good things do come Grant to us thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that are good, and by thy merciful guiding may perform the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen".

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#### Halloween Party, Friday 25th.

The Woman's Sunday School Class will conduct a Halloween Party in the Chapel on the evening of October 25th.

These events have always been enjoyable and popular, and this will be no less successful. A small admission will be charged.

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#### Vote on Sunday Liquor Selling

On November 5th, at the general election the voters of Oxford will have the opportunity to express their wishes on the question "Shall the sale of intoxicating beverages be permitted on Sunday in this Community?" This question will be on the ballot to be answered by yes or no.

After the repeal of prohibition the state made the enforcement of Sunday selling a matter for local municipalities to determine, either by local government or by vote of the citizens.

A year ago the Town Committee made an ordinance forbidding Sunday selling, but last July, amended this by permitting sale from 2 P.M. on Sunday. But with the understanding that the matter should be determined by popular ballot at the November election.

Legal steps to provide for this have been taken, and the question will appear at the bottom of the ballot for all the voters to express their convictions.

Every body says this is the right way to settle the question, and if all voters act upon it, there will be no doubt as to the result.

U.S. Steel Examines Jersey Iron Mines. Causing Hints of New Plant at Tidewater.

(Under the above headlines the New York Times had the following item on its financial page last Thursday).

Engineers of the United States Steel Corporation have been examining for several weeks the iron ore mines of the Warren Foundry and Pipe Corp. near Dover, N.J. These mines constitute one of the largest ore bodies in the Eastern part of this country.

If the Steel Corporation should purchase these mines it might eventually erect a tidewater plant near New York as part of its \$140,000,000. expansion program, it was said in Wall Street.

Warren Foundry and Pipe, it is understood, no longer produces its own pig iron.

It has leased certain of its iron ore properties in New Jersey to the Alan Wood Mining Company, under a royalty contract that will expire in 1944.

The corporation holds 5,001 acres of iron ore land near Wharton, N.J., of which 4000 acres are owned in fee simple, with mineral rights held on the remainder.

In addition, it owns 750 acres of mineral land in fee and mineral rights to 6,000 acres near Oxford, N.J.; 1600 acres of mineral land in fee and 200 acres of mineral rights near Mount Hope, N.J."

As it is not the custom of big corporations to publish their plans before deciding upon them, there is much reason to believe the negotiations are well advanced. Oxford mines would necessarily become a part of the purchase. At any rate the rich iron deposits here will be in great demand soon or later.

Mr. Thomas Marple, Director of the State Historic Commission sends us a copy of a letter he has written to "Mr. Macfarlan, who is a correspondent for the New York Times and other large metropolitan papers." Referring to Oxford Furnace which the State is taking over, he says to Mr. Macfarlan, "As soon as the title is placed in the State of New Jersey, it is our intention to restore the furnace to its former state, using WPA and local relief labor. Plans for restoration of the furnace are being prepared under the direction of Mr. Seymour Williams, director of the American Historical Survey."

The first known effort to have the old furnace preserved as a monument was made in 1919 by Mr. Charles Johnson Post, a nephew of Mrs. Dr. L.B. Hoagland of Oxford.

A month ago we were looking through the reports of the New Jersey Historical Society in the Newark, public library, and found the following item of the date 1919:-

"The American Historical Association of Washington, D.C. referred to our Society a communication from Mr. Charles Johnson Post, Director of the 'Publishers Advisory Board' of New York City, which related to the furnace and foundry at Oxford Furnace, where most of the cannon balls used in the Revolution were manufactured. He stated that the building was still in a fair state of preservation and that (quoting from the letter) 'it was one of the most important factors of the Revolutionary period, and that the British were unable to capture it, although several expeditions were sent into northwestern New Jersey for that purpose.' He said that it was liable at any time to be torn down and that local interest would not attend to its preservation; that it ought to be preserved by the American Historical or some other Association. We were asked if we did not feel sufficient interest to take some action."

On reading the above we surmised that Mr. Post might be a relative of Mrs. Hoagland, and brought the matter to her notice and she wrote to her nephew and his reply confirmed our guess. He wrote saying, "First about the old furnace in Oxford.

I am the man your minister saw mentioned in the Report of the Corresponding secretary (Mr. A. Vandoren Honeyman) of the New Jersey Historical Society.

"I had forgotten all about it. I remember when I came back from a trip to you that I sat down and wrote as quoted. That was that; although I think I got a formal postcard or acknowledgement of its receipt. And I am glad they are doing something about it— it ought to be preserved.

"It is unique and will visualize Revolutionary history to many who will pass Oxford, or stop a bit, on account of the furnace.

"That highway marker for the furnace sounds all right— and there should be a number of them on the roads leading to Oxford for ten or fifteen miles in any direction; it makes traffic signs anyway."

Although nothing came of this (over)

laudable effort of Mr. Post to have the furnace preserved, yet Oxford will always remember him as the first to realize its value historically and try to have it cared for properly.

Mr. Post is now one of the Assistants of Miss Perkins, Secretary of Labor, Washington, D.C. His present duty is to help settle strikes throughout the country, as representative of the Secretary of Labor.

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Oxford 50 years ago.

In 1885 Mr. G. K. Searing ran a bicycle shop, and got out a business card on one side of it was a summary of Oxford's industries, etc. It is as follows:--


Oxford, Warren County, N. J., is 1000 feet above sea level and has a population of 3600. It is beautifully situated, has abundance of spring water, is one of the healthiest towns in Northern New Jersey and is the greatest "Iron Town" in the state. It is located along the main line of the D. & W. R. R., two and one half hours ride from either New York Philadelphia or Scranton, Pa.

It is 5 miles from Belvidere, 4 miles from Washington, 12 miles from Hackettstown, 9 miles from Hope, 2 miles from Buttzville, 5 miles from Green's Pond and 15 miles from Easton, Pa. We have the best roads to develop strong riders. Wheel men must pass through Oxford in taking a direct course from New York to Delaware Gap.

Our village contains 5 churches, 2 graded schools, 1 Hotel (Temperance House) several boarding houses, 5 Secret Societies all in good financial condition, 3 butchers 2 jewelers, 3 physicians, 1 drug store, a bakery and cigar manufactory, furniture and undertaking establishment, saw-mill, Machine shop, foundry, mines furnaces, copper shop, grist mill, and the Oxford Iron and Nail Co.'s works--one of the largest plants in operation today; taking the ore from the mines and manufacturing it into pig iron, merchant iron or nails.

These were not all the mills and industries in Oxford in 1885 but there was no more room on the card to print all of them, but it made a good boosting business card.

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CHURCH OFFICERS

*The Session*

A. G. YOUNT, *Moderator*

*Elders*

ABRAM PITTENGER	ELISHA B. FOSS
EDWARD T. GREEN	LEWIS BERGENBACK



*Board of Trustees*

JAMES RADEL	HARRY MILLER
GEORGE DOCKER, JR.	CHARLES RENNER
FRED K. SARSON	LEWIS E. GREEN
EDWARD SHARPS	CHARLES DUX
BENJAMIN GREEN	



*Church Treasurer*

LEWIS E. GREEN



*Sunday School*

<i>Superintendent</i>	.....	E. B. FOSS
<i>Assistant Superintendent</i>	....	MRS. EDWARD T. GREEN
<i>Treasurer</i>	.....	MISS IDA SMITH
<i>Secretary</i>	.....	ALVIN RENNER
<i>Organist</i>	.....	MISS ELIZABETH ZAPP



*Ladies' Aid Society*

<i>President</i>	.....	MRS. BENJAMIN GREEN
<i>Secretary</i>	.....	MRS. EDMUND ORAM
<i>Treasurer</i>	.....	MRS. LEWIS E. GREEN



*Choir*

<i>Leader</i>	.....	MRS. E. T. GREEN
<i>Organist</i>	.....	MRS. BENJAMIN ZAPP

