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The
BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

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Minister



Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will show thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee.—Deuteronomy, 32:7.

And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.
Matt. 23:12

"Lord God of Heaven and earth, who hast made the Church thy dwelling-place, and chosen it as thy rest forever, and hast taught us in thy Word not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together; Regard us in thy mercy, and send thy Holy Spirit upon us; that our worship may prepare us both to serve thee now, and to glorify thee hereafter in thine eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

The importance of regular attendance at Church Service cannot be over emphasized, especially in Churches where attendance is purely voluntary. There has of late years been a great falling off that is really alarming. But there are now evidences that a turn for the improvement in this respect. Church members are beginning to realize that it is dangerous to neglect this vital duty. Not only for the lessening of their own religious interest, but for the example and influence upon their children and the the community in which they live. They feel that unless their children begin regularly to attend Church in their youth that they will never form the habit in later life.

An encouraging item on the habit of youthful religious worship has been made by the Government relating to the CCC camps:-

"Last year, 5,668,667 attended religious services conducted by chaplains in 57,916 camps. On the invitation of chaplains, civilian clergymen conducted 120,599 services with a total attendance of 5,503,011.

As these camps are made up of our young men we feel that it is a gratifying sign of a renewal of a religious interest that is sure to tell for good in the coming years.

A new version of George Washington and the cherry tree comes from an English traveller in Palestine and, as it found in a new book, we think that few if any of our folk have heard of it. The author calls it an extremely good story, told him by a distinguished officer of the Palestine Government, and we agree with him. Here it is:-

"In the mountains of the Lebanon there are many wild-looking men who will astound you by breaking into a few words of American. Some of these Arabs have actually ventured to the States, where they manage to save up a little money, and then they return to boast about their experiences for the rest of their lives.

"One Arab is very fond of telling his friends about the United States.

And this is what he says while they sit drinking coffee. 'Now the country of the United States is a very great country and full of men and motor-cars. This nation worships a man called George Washington, who was a great chief. At his birth all the good djinns (fairies) were present to endow this George Washington with the good things of life. They bent over his cradle and gave him, one by one, their blessing. But one bad djinn gained admittance, and he took away from this George Washington the ability to tell lies. Ever afterwards, O my brothers, this great man, this George Washington, could not help speaking the truth.'

(From In the Steps of St. Paul by H.V. Morton, Page 371. It is a companion book to In the Steps of the Master, by the same author.

They are new books and are very delightfully written, and of course, intensely interesting to Bible students.)

Mr. Weston asks the Bulletin to state to the friends of the Hillside Cemetery, that he is working on plans which he will report as soon as completed. He finds it practically impossible to get any men in Oxford who will work on clearing the Cemetery, even at regular wages.

The Company Store by Mrs. Elise Zapp

The Company Store used to be a very busy place, especially after pay-day when there would be such crowds of customers that the clerks had difficulty in attending to them all.

The rambling nature of the building had something to do with this, for besides the main room in front, the place for general merchandise, dry-goods and groceries, there were the back room with the butchershop and the entire upstairs where hardware carpets, wall-paper etc. were kept. And in the basement were all the different barrels for pickled-meat and fishes, molasses, vinegar and sauerkraut. The meat also was cut up in the cellar, for the cattle at that time were bought alive and killed in the slaughterhouse back of the furnace.

When I came to this town, in 1890, Mr. Creveling was the store Boss. The clerks were Fred Bigelow Fred Fowler and Jacques Zapp. Victor Thompson was the bookkeeper and later on Edith Childs. The butcher, old Mr. Lomasson came over daily from Belvidere, and was assisted by Tom Kempsey. Mr. O'Brien was the store wagon driver

The clerks were quite a jolly lot in those days, and up to all kinds of pranks. One April Fool's Day they sent the boy-helper up to the mines to ask them to send down "a barrellful of hot air!" After the Oxford iron and Nail Company was dissolved, an Association took over the store business, consisting of the same personnel as before, with Fred Angle and the Misses Carrie Zapp and Amanda Haycock Daniel Pittenger was the butcher and Miss Edith Childs bookkeeper.

Henry Scharrer was, I think, the store driver. During the illness of the watchman Joe Docker undertook his job. One of the watchman's duties was to sweep the store. They told Joe in order not to raise so much dust to sprinkle a little kerosene on the floor. Joe entered into this with a will, using a watering pot but minus the sprinkler. This resulted in serpentine lines of kerosene all up and down the floor, and a very penetrating odor which caused Miss Martha Fowler to exclaim, "My! It smells like an old country store."

(over)

Joe was only a young boy then, and if, as I read in a recent Bulletin, it made an older man nervous to watch in the dead of night, it was no wonder that it affected him in the same way. He told me at the time "It is all right while the clerks are around, or you hear the fellows on the store porch, but when all is quiet outside, it gets 'buggerish' Why even a cat coming up the steps sounds like a man."

When the Empire Iron and Steel Company took over the works there was a succession of bosses and clerks in the store. The bosses were Jacques Zapp and Fred Fowler, Mr. Daily, Theodore Watters, Mr. Davies, Mr. Hulziser, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Skinner, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Mershon, Mr. Burrows and Edward Green.

The clerks were Mr. Mershon, Ed. Green, Tom Cryan, Jack Balfour, and the Misses Beulah Frome, Katie Barry, Anne Dougherty, Ada Docker, Nelly Green and Mrs. Annie Kreiss.

The bookkeepers were Miss Carrie Zapp, Herbert Wright, Goegre Solt, Simon Cummins and Miss Florence Vosseller.

The butchers were Harry Melberger, Jim Schaeffer from Washington and Richmond Dillman.

Store drivers were Frank Watters, Frank Docker, Miller Mershon, Irwin Petty and Frank Belkie.

After the Empire Steel and Iron Company gave up the works, there was a sale of all the store goods, and the Company Store was closed for good; sic gloria transit! --in plain English, All past and gone!

Mrs. Lizzie Hummer has written the Editor a nice letter in which she expresses her abiding interest in the Bulletin, for which she inclosed one dollar. She has been away on a visit for some weeks, and her health has not been the best, but we trust she will soon regain it fully.

We also have received one dollar for the Bulletin from James Radel.

The Ladies of Axford Ave. have sent \$4.75. for the Repair Fund, making a total to date of \$16.

