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The
BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

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By

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Minister



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These things, I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

---John 15:33

"Lord of heaven and earth, who hast made the Church thy dwelling-place, and chosen it as thy rest for ever, and hast taught us in thy Word not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together: Regard us in mercy, we beseech thee, and send thy Holy Spirit upon us; that our worship may prepare us both to serve the now, and to glorify thee hereafter in thine eternal kingdom.

Members of the Ladies Aid are giving a party at the public school building next Tuesday evening. The public is invited, and tickets are being sold.

Hillside Cemetery
By Clinton E. Weston, President.

"The Hillside Cemetery Association, at its regular monthly meeting on January 22nd, will discuss plans for the coming summer on further improvements in the Cemetery. Those who live at a distance and have been unable to visit the the Cemetery since the holidays, will be interested in knowing that never before has the Cemetery been so beautifully decorated with wreaths, holly and evergreens, the sight of which, especially at a distance, was very effective and impressive. The Association is not unmindful of the universal co-operation extended almost from the time of its inception and is greatly encouraged to believe that the fine spirit that is manifested is but the beginning of an interest that is permanent and is bound to grow with the years.

We wish to inform any one who has an idea that the monthly meetings are private, that they are open to all, and a warm invitation is given to visitors to take part in the discussions."

The Oxford Public Library

Oxford has had its full share of suffering and hardship during the past years of the 'Depression' and the 'Recession' when none of our local industries operated steadily.

Yet in all that period the Public Library prospered in every way.

The number of readers increased from year to year, and new books were bought from month to month.

Probably this growth in the use of books was due to the number of persons out of work, but then those having employment regularly took out books.

The number of books taken out in the month of December last, was over 600, and the first week in January there were over 150, as Miss Frances Pittenger, the Librarian informs us.

And now through the good offices of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert B. Cox, of Winchester Mass., by which over 600 additional books have been given the Library, the great problem is a place to put them, as the shelving space is filled.

But the Library Board is planning to build additional shelves as soon as possible.

The Editor has just received a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Cox which says:

"The Library work (of the wives of the mining Engineers) is mostly starting libraries in mining districts where there are no libraries.

This work is done in memory of Mr. Rossiter Raymond, who was a very influential engineer and was for many years Secretary of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgy Engineers. So all the books our members give are marked with a book plate in his memory.

But please assure Miss Pittenger the Oxford Librarian, those books that are of no use she may dispose of in some way the Library Board may suggest--as useless books should not be kept in the Library just to clutter up."

The Library Board and citizens generally of Oxford fully appreciate the kindly interest Mr. and Mrs. Cox are taking in our local library, and thank them sincerely.

Mr. Weber and Mr. Hornbaker at Centennial Fair, 1876.

The first World's Fair in this country was the Centennial, held in Philadelphia, in 1876, one hundred years after the Declaration of Independence. It was a great and notable affair at that time. The President General Grant was present and opened it, and the poet Whittier supplied a special ode for the occasion.

But yet it was a small exhibition compared with later ones in the last fifty years.

And as this is to be a year of two great fairs, in New York and San Francisco, the account of a visit to the Centennial by Mr. George Weber, will be read with special interest. We wonder how many of old Oxford citizens still living, attended that Fair?

Doubtless Mr. Humphrey is one of them and if so, will try to recall something for the Bulletin.

But here is Mr. Weber's story:--

"It was in 1876 that William Hornbaker and I talked--in the Nail Factory-- about going to the Philadelphia Centennial.

"We decided to go to the Office and see the Paymaster, and if we could wiggle a few dollars from him; of which we had grave doubts, for it was neither Christmas nor the Fourth of July. We saw the Paymaster at noontime. He asked how much we wanted. William asked for five dollars! Now I had two dollars stowed away somewhere, and was afraid to ask for for five and said, three.

He told us to stop on the way home that night and he would see what he could do for us in the afternoon.

"Well, we got our five and three dollars, and so felt that we were among the monied men of the town.

Next morning I left home at eight o'clock, walked to Belvidere--more than five miles from my home, and tramped around the Centennial grounds all day. We got back to Belvidere late the same day and walked home--there were no auto busses running at that time."

The Editor has been very much pleased with the emphasis given to the supreme place of religion in personal and national life by those in high places.

President Roosevelt, in his address to Congress recently, put the need of religious faith and life above all other things, stating that a democracy grows out of and depends upon religion. This was said in connection with the efforts of some European nations to eradicate or repress the religion of the people. People's first allegiance must be to God, not to any human person or government, if a man or a country can enjoy true freedom.

The best thing about this pronouncement is the wide-spread comments it has evoked in this and foreign countries. Some of the writers even talk of a revival of religion to save the world from destruction. And we think they are right.

In the Memoirs of Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, widow of the President, a touching incident is related thus:-

"Early in the days after we entered the war, the President had publicly urged our troops to keep alive their faith in God, and feel that they were crusaders in a just and holy cause.

"Once he received a company of soldiers at the White House and talked along the same lines to them.

One man spoke up: 'You wouldn't promise us to read a chapter in the Bible every day, no matter how busy you are, would you?'

"I will, with all my heart,' the President answered. Then the boy said; 'Well, I know it will make it easier for us to do it if we can count on you.'

"I wonder how many of those gallant young souls kept the faith as scrupulously as did my husband.

"No matter how late the hour or how weary the brain, he never slept until he had kept the promise made."

