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The
BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

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Minister



Oxford Historical Record

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The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

---Psalm 34:7,8

"O Lord and Saviour make perfect our love toward thee; give us a true and genuine love to all virtue and godliness, and to all thy people everywhere; increase in us strength and victory against all temptations and assaults of the flesh, the world and the devil, that according to Thy promise we may not be further proved or tempted than Thou wilt give us the strength to overcome. Give us the grace to keep a good conscience, a pure heart and mind, and renew a right spirit within us. Amen

A covered dish luncheon will be served at the chapel next Tuesday noon, by the Ladies of the Church. This will be followed by the monthly meeting of the Aid Society.

The Ladies will have a Cafeteria Supper in the chapel on Friday evening, March 17th.

The Annual Canvass for subscriptions for the current expenses for the year beginning April 1st, will be held on Sunday March 19th two weeks from today.

The financial year closes on March 31st, and all pledges for the past year should be paid in full. The church is much behind in its obligations in this matter and a prompt response will be of much help.

The offerings to our general church boards of Benevolence are much less than they should be, and it is hoped all members will take it upon themselves to do their part in supporting these great institutions of the Church.

In re Furnace Appropriation

Old Oxford Days
By Clinton E. Weston

A letter to Mr. Humphrey from the State Senator, Charles E. Loizeaux, Chairman, Joint Appropriations Committee:-

Dear Mr. Humphrey:

In response to your letter of Feb. 17th, please be advised that this year the Appropriations Committee approved \$16,000 for the budget of the Commission on Historic Sites (which has jurisdiction over the furnace at Oxford), whereas only \$15,000 was appropriated last year.

I recognize the splendid work that Mr. Keim and his Commission are doing and am sorry that we could not be more generous, but we are doing our level best to balance the State's budget, which means that only absolute necessities can be included in the Appropriations Bill.

Sincerely,
Charles E. Loizeaux.

The Editor wishes to thank Mr. Humphrey for sending us the original of the above letter.

Some comments seem called for, and first that the Appropriations Committee have already taken action and have "approved" the sum of \$16,000 for the Commission of Historic Sites, which is \$1000 more than last year. So that if the Legislature accepts this increase, the Com. will have some extra over last year, and we hope it will be possible to at least begin work on the restoration of the Furnace.

We have not as yet been so informed by Dr. Keim, but we infer his letters to us that the Com. has this in mind.

So that on the whole the outlook for us is rather encouraging than otherwise. But we can be sure of nothing until the final action is taken by the Legislature some weeks hence.

Another comment is the pleasure we get from the fine spirit of Mr. Loizeaux's letter, in appreciation of the Commission's work, and the purpose of balancing the State's budget. The latter objective if attained will be gratifying to all the citizens of the State.

One of the original nailers (one I inadvertently left off my list in Bulletin No. 441), was the well-liked and always genial James Kean.

Mr. Kean was born and reared in Boston, and when the gold rush to California took place he was one of the men who joined in the procession. Deciding there was not enough gold to go around, and also realizing that about the only thing to be seen in gold was the Golden Gate, he returned to the city noted for its beans, cod and Bunker Hill. He then decided to take up the nailing business, and in the course of time became identified with the Old Colony Iron Works in East Taunton, Mass. On learning that a factory was being built in Oxford, N. J. he went there to give it the once over; and returning to Taunton he gave glowing accounts of it to his associates. And thus it was that many of them were induced to migrate to New Jersey.

On the evening of October the 12th 1866, the contingent arrived, bag, baggage and what have you. I am told of an amusing incident that occurred the evening before on a Fall River Line boat while they were at supper, — my own folks and also the Perkins and Winkley families among them, — when Clara Kean kept calling, "More chicken, more chicken," until all the waiters were run ragged. It pleased my father so much that for years afterwards Clara was known as "Chicken."

Being born in Oxford myself, and after I commenced to sit up and take notice, I was attracted to Mr. Kean — indeed all children were, — by the merry twinkle in his eyes, his kindly nature and by his ever solicitous regard for his fellow workers and his neighbors.

The Kean residence on Mechanic street was the meeting place of the representative young men and women of the town — a social center as it were —, and that is easily accounted for by the three attractive daughters, Isabel, Clara and Ella. They had one of the first pianos in the place
(over)

and what a treat it was to hear the old songs rendered by the many fine voices for which the town was then noted!

It was just such people that created and promoted in Oxford the high standard of citizenship with which the community was blessed.

And it is the memories of those days which bring so much pleasure to all the former residents that are brought to you through the courtesy of the Bulletin.

We have been sent a clipping from a Portland, Maine, news paper giving an account of "the second annual Hymn Festival of the Federated Choirs of Portland and vicinity held in St. Luke's Cathedral, at which the Rev. Howard D. Perkins the Dean, made an address in which he said:--

"A choir fulfils its highest function when it sings praise to God in divine service. In hymn singing the choir shares in the ministry of the church, both because such praise is acceptable to God, and because the congregation is edified.

" I believe that hymn singing is valuable to the church service. The Prayer, the Scripture, the anthem, the canticles, the sermon and the hymns are of great value to the service, and happy is the congregation that finds these component parts in balance.

"The function of hymn singing being to afford the worshipper an opportunity to express their emotions, it is the duty of the choir members to uphold the highest standards

in this the highest ministry of the church."

Dean Howard D. Perkins, as most readers know was born and bred in Oxford, being the younger brother of Edwin C. Perkins, and Dr. Frank H. Perkins, and Mrs. Amanda Perkins Nelson..

The full report of this Festival and extensive quotation from Dean Perkins' address indicates that it was most favorably received by the large audience. The many old time friends of the Dean will rejoice to hear of his prominent place in the Church.



CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session

A. G. YOUNT, *Moderator*

Elders

ABRAM PITTENGER
EMMANUEL KELSKY

ELISHA B. FOSS
LEWIS BERGENBACK



Board of Trustees

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Church Treasurer

LEWIS E. GREEN



Sunday School

<i>Superintendent</i>	E. B. FOSS
<i>Assistant Superintendent</i>	KENNETH BELL
<i>Secretary</i>	ALVIN RENNER
<i>Treasurer</i>	VIRGINIA ZAPP
<i>Organist</i>	FRANCES PITTENGER



Ladies' Aid Society

<i>President</i>	MRS. DELMAR GREEN
<i>Vice-President</i>	MRS. LELAND BAYLISS
<i>Secretary</i>	MRS. VIOLET BELL
<i>Treasurer</i>	MRS. LEWIS E. GREEN



Young People's Society

<i>President</i>	WILBUR JOHNSON
<i>Secretary</i>	JOSEPHINE MEYERS
<i>Treasurer</i>	MRS. ELLA RITZER
<i>Organist</i>	FLORENCE WILDRICK

