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The
BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

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Minister



Oxford Historical Record

He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

And Simon Peter answered and said: Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

And I say also unto thee, Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it

---- Matthew 16:15-18

"Almighty God, we commend to Thee our families and our children.

Dwell in our homes, we beseech Thee; protect our dwellings from all evil both outwardly and inwardly, and fill them with peace and holiness.

We pray for all who are dear to us, that they may be delivered from all the dangers of this present life, and kept by thy grace unto salvation. United in one household of faith and love, may we live in the blessed hope, that when the day dawns and the shadows flee away, we shall meet with the loved ones gone before, and with all the redeemed, in thy presence, where there is fulness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

The Young People's Bus party to the World's Fair on Tuesday, August 15th, is now assured. More than half the number have paid in their fare, and others have promised.

It will be well that all expecting to go hand in their fares soon as the number is limited and when enough have paid, it will be too late for others, even though they have spoken for places.

Mr. Weston was in Oxford last Monday to attend the funeral of Alvin W. Stout, and informs us that arrangements were made for perpetual care of the grave of Mr. Stout. The number of perpetual cares for graves in Hillside Cemetery is steadily growing.

Alvin W. Stout passed to his reward on July 28th, 1939, at his home in Harrisburg, Pa. The funeral was held in Oxford Second Presbyterian Church last Monday, July 31, with interment in Hillside Cemetery.

Mr. Stout was born in Oxford February 21st, 1869, the son of John R. and Sophia M. Stout.

His immediate survivors are Mr. Edwin F. Stout, of Cleveland Ohio, and Mr. Harvey H. Stout, of Waterbury, Conn., Caroline C. Stout (Mrs. Henry Zulauf).

The Stout family is one of the oldest in this community.

We find the names of John and Joseph Stout in the old Furnace Ledger now in the Congressional Library in Washington, D. C.

We suppose they were ancestors, and if so, would be glad to have some one furnish the genealogy down to the present.

The uncles of Alvin W. Stout were Theodore, William, Charles and Jacob; the last two left Oxford in early life.

Alvin W. Stout spent the first half of his life in Oxford. For many years he was engaged in business in New York City. As he was unmarried he spent his week ends and spare time at the home of his sister Mrs. Zulauf, and her daughter Mrs. Fred Wert, to all whom he was deeply devoted.

Mr. Stout never lost his love for Oxford and the Presbyterian Church, of which he was a life long member, and a faithful supporter to the last.

The annual reunions were happy events to him and no one enjoyed them more.

He was one of the earliest subscribers to the Bulletin, and his love for this weekly messenger was indicated by the fact that if he failed to get it at the usual time he sent a card to have another copy mailed. His family reports that in his last days when he was too feeble to read anything else he insisted in reading the Bulletin, keeping it on his lap or in easy reach. He was of a retiring and modest disposition and greatly beloved by all who knew him well.

Reunion Address By Miss Matilda Dreisbach

I should like to tell you about three memories that I have in connection with my early experiences in this church. The first memory concerns the church music as it was played and sung by Mr. Lukens, Mrs. Searing, Mr. and Mrs. Fowler, Mr. Ferlins and Mrs. Walton. They were real musicians and they gave to their interpretation a musical and spiritual quality which I have not forgotten.

I wonder if you can hear with me some of the grand old hymns ringing out of the choir loft: -"Holy, holy, holy, God Almighty;" "Jesus, Saviour Pilot me"; "Abide with me fast falls the eventide"; "All hail the power of Jesus' Name." I have very little musical ability but I know such ability as I have to appreciate and enjoy good music had its inception in the music of this Church.

My second memory concerns Mr. Maxwell's sermons. Those of you who are familiar with them will recall how clearly thought out they were, how logical, how apparent the central thought was and how all the material they contained related to the central thought. Those sermons came to be a yardstick by which I measured all other sermons and formal addresses. I still think that a sermon or formal address is good so far as it has the qualities that characterized Mr. Maxwell's sermons and poor insofar as it lacks those qualities. I have forgotten the subject matter of the sermons but they undoubtedly had a great influence on my way of thinking.

My third memory concerns an impression I have that there were in the church at that time a number of men and women who had a very high ideal of service.

I have already spoken of the choir. Mr. Lukens gave his gift as a musician to the service of the church.

The members of the choir gave their gift of song. In the Sunday School there were those who served with great faithfulness and devotion.

(over)

Mrs. Lukens was an outstanding example. You remember how much time and thought she gave to the preparation of her programs so that her lessons would be interesting and effective. You will think of many others who served in various ways; each gave according to his ability whether he had ten talents or five or only one.

In this connection I would like mention the name of Mr. Abram Pittenger with his long term of service as an Elder in this Church, to say nothing of the other ways in which he has served. I believe that this spirit of service was transmitted to others who were at that time younger members of the Church.

As some of you know Mr. E. C. Cline was the first pastor of the Church to which I belong in Phillipsburg. We have had and now have several members who were formerly connected with this Church. We find these men and women acting as teachers and officers in the Sunday School, or singing in the choir, or filling offices in church societies, or officiating as trustees or elders; thus carrying on this high ideal of service.

As I leave my memories with you, I should like to pay a tribute of honor and affectionate thought to all these men and women who gave so generously of their time and talents, serving with such faithfulness and devotion that they are still a vital influence in the lives of many of us.

Since last issue the Editor has been searching records for more data on the Furnace history. At Belvidere important finds were made.

Arrangements were made with the custodian of the old records in Burlington to examine them for the first surveys of furnace lands.

At Newton several points were cleared up, which had been overlooked. These will be reported later.



CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session

A. G. YOUNT, *Moderator*

Elders

ABRAM PITTENGER
EMMANUEL KELSKY

ELISHA B. FOSS
LEWIS BERGENBACK



Board of Trustees

JAMES RADEL
GEORGE DOCKER, JR.
FRED K. SARSON
BENJAMIN GREEN

HARRY MILLER
CHARLES RENNER
LEWIS E. GREEN
CHARLES DUX

HAYDEN DOCKER



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>	ALICE BELL
<i>Vice-President</i>	WILBUR JOHNSON
<i>Secretary</i>	JEANE ORAM
<i>Treasurer</i>	MRS. ELLA RITZER
<i>Organist</i>	FRANCES PITTENGER

