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The
BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

A. G. YOUNT
Minister



Oxford Historical Record

O Lord, I have heard thy speech and was afraid: O Lord, revive thy work in the midst of the years; in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy.

--Habakkuk 3:2

(The ancient greek version, the Septuagint, reads, "between two animals," for "in the midst of the years." Some old latin versions followed the Septuagint, and the great painters in the time of Raphael and later in their paintings of the birth of Christ always showed the ox and the ass present at the birth. The names of the two animals were taken from Isaiah 1:3, "The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider." This made the text a prophecy of the birth of Christ.)

"O Thou eternal God, Creator of all things, who makest all things new, and abidest for ever the same; Grant us to begin this year in Thy faith, and to continue it in Thy favor; that, being guided in all our doings, and guarded in all our days, we may spend our lives in Thy service, and finally, by Thy grace, attain the glory of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our next Communion Service will occur in two weeks, on Jan. 14th, the second Sabbath of the new year.

The Sunday School Christmas exercises were held on Friday evening Dec. 22nd, and proved to be a most delightful event. The children performed in a charming manner. Those taking part were:-- Shirley Ward, Patsy Delaney, Bruce Broad, Wayne De Fries, Jean Anderson, Helen Poch, Mabel Ritzer, Hazel Ward, Frances Metroke, Nicky Bayliss, Elizabeth Gero, Katherine Ritzer, Jerry Bedell, Bobby Miller, Alice Anderson, Bobby Davison, Jean Foss, Jean Nunn, Arlene Frey, Margaret Poch

The music was beautiful, and with the help of the Foss Orchestra, made a stirring service. Supt. E. B. Foss directed the exercises.

--Notes--

The Editor cannot sufficiently express the gratitude, for himself and family, he feels toward the multitude of friends who have sent cards and letters during the past few days. He cannot well reply to them all and so takes this opportunity to thank them all.

But some refer so kindly to their appreciation for the Bulletin, that we like to print them, chiefly for the reason that we know they are more intended for the many who contribute articles and letters to the paper, than for the publisher.

Nevertheless it is a pleasure to get them, and appropriate a due part to ourselves; for we often get discouraged about it, and a kind word does cheer us up and helps a great deal.

Miss Nellie Estler writes:-

"It is not too late to add our greetings to the great number you must have received from all the readers of that wonderful little paper which comes to us each week.

"And with every copy I wish you might know how much gratitude we feel that you have spent so much time to bring together the old friends who once lived at Oxford.

"Mrs. Little is in New Hampshire, but will return to Oxford in the Spring I hope and join the ever increasing group at the Reunion."

Mrs. Julius Gleichmann renews her subscription and says: -

"May you and your Church have a prosperous new year; and God bless you for all the comfort you have given to all who receive your Bulletin."

In the last three weeks the following subscriptions to the Bulletin fund have been received:-

\$5.00 from Benjamin R. Pittenger,
\$2.00 each from Abram Pittenger,
Edwin C. Perkins, Mrs Jay B. Rust
Mrs Henry Paulson (by G. S. H.)
Miss Florence Bennett (Mrs. H.)
Mrs Julius Gleichmann
\$1.00 each from George Docker Sr.
Mrs Hilda Courtright, Mrs C. Norgaard,
Mrs Ritzer, Mrs Isabel Jepson

If any name has been omitted it will be a kindness to notify the ED.

Old Oxford Days by Clinton E. Weston

I was interested in the accounts of Prof. Kluppelberg written by Edwin C. Perkins and Caroline Zulauf, for they brought to my mind vivid recollections of that energetic and competent instructor, for those times, of music. Ed. gave such a lucid description of the personal appearance of the Professor that anything I could say in that regard would be but a repetition. So let us see what led up to my introduction into that realm of magic influence which induced Lowell to say "Music is one of God's great charities."

A suggestion was made right in the midst of our small family circle that it would be a nice thing to start the two offsprings on a career of music, and added that the medium selected would be nothing less than a piano. Not for me, says I, for if it is the first thing I get it is the last thing I want.

Right away came the question, "Well what do you want?" and without any hesitancy I gave notice then and there that I wanted a banjo. That was as far as the argument got, for we compromised and bought a piano—a George W. Steck square, and little did I realize at that time what a number of headaches were confined in that rosewood case.

On the way home from school one day some boys excitedly informed me that there was music breaking out all over our house and that there was a crowd both in and out. After a few leaps and bounds I landed on the front porch and peering in saw Edwin C. Perkins (the redoubtable Ed's father) playing his cornet accompanied on the new piano by Edmund T. Lukens. In a few days who should appear on the scene but Prof. Kluppelberg. I could not enlist any enthusiasm over his errand, but I was impressed with the idea that with his rosy cheeks, merry twinkling eyes, droopy gray mustache and a prominent bulge amid ship commonly designated as a bay window, that he would make an ideal Santa Claus.

Now for the lesson. The Professor started in with a monologue at the preliminary of my execution, at the same time punctuating (over)

his remarks with a baton which he sometimes used for a bat-on my fingers, and after the applause had died away he told me to get my fingers right down there on the keyboard. Bang! I brought 'em down so hard we thought the piano would go through the floor. And then he let out another monologue - all in German. For the life of me I couldn't translate it, but from the expression on his face I knew that it was not complimentary to my genius.

Here is where his tact as well as his ability showed up, for he soon had me for months going through the monotony of scales and more scales, aided and abetted by parental threats, until that grand day came my first real piece entitled, "Mary's Pet Waltz." And with it came a deeper understanding and a more intimate relationship with a delightful personality that continued for about four years.

I still have the manuscript of the first piece that I wrote, on which the Prof. made some notations and corrections, and like Caroline Zulauf memento it brings back happy thoughts of the man who by his charming manner won a place deep in our affections.

DeNee --- Wilkinson

Miss Marion Hamilton Wilkinson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clark Wilkinson, and Mr. Charles Warren DeNee, were united in Marriage on December 23rd, 1939, in the home of the bride's parents in Washington, N.J.

The attendants were Miss Marion L. Haim, of Reading, Pa. and Mr. Donald C. Vescelius, of New York City.

The bride was born and lived in Oxford until recent years, and is a member of our Church. For many years she has been in charge of the school in the State Sanatorium in Glen Gardner, and has been so successful that the Officials there have persuaded her to continue in that capacity.

The Bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. DeNee, of Hackettstown, N.J. He has a position with a large trucking company with the headquarters at Chicago, Ill.

Over forty guests were present at the wedding. Mrs. Bessie Henderson of Oxford presided at the piano.



CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session

A. G. YOUNT, *Moderator*

Elders

ABRAM PITTENGER	ELISHA B. FOSS
EMMANUEL KELSKY	LEWIS BERGENBACK



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<i>Secretary</i>	ALVIN RENNER
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Ladies' Aid Society

<i>President</i>	MRS. DELMAR GREEN
<i>Vice-President</i>	MRS. LELAND BAYLISS
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Young People's Society

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<i>Organist</i>	FRANCES PITTENGER

