



SHOOTING THE BREEZE



HISTORY OF OLD SCOTCH PLAINS

It's Churches

(This is the second of two articles on the Scotch Plains Baptist Church)

The Scotch Plains Baptist Church has borne wonderful fruit for it is the mother of five other churches -- the First Baptist Church of New York City, Mount Bethel, N.J., Lyons Farms, Newark N. J., Mays Lick, Kentucky, and Samptown (now South Plainfield) N. J., Dr. James Manning who became a founder and first president of Brown University and pastor of the First Baptist Church in Providence, R. I. is always considered a child of this church. He was ordained to the ministry here on April 19, 1763.

The original manse was burned and was replaced in 1786 by the impressive, inviting one which stands opposite the church today. For a while the parsonage housed the library of the Scotch Plains Reading Society formed in 1800, many of its members being members of the church.

"A history of the Church,
A history of the Cemetery,
They are twain, one and inseparable."

Within the confines of the sacred and hallowed cemetery on the church grounds, lie the remains of four former ministers. The trustees many years ago reserved and set apart some adjacent lots for the burial of any who may have served the church as pastor as well as their immediate families. Rev. Benjamin Miller, the first pastor is buried just to the north of the old church. Rev. Joshua E. Rue and his good wife, Dr. Parks and Rev. Bracker also rest here after their labors on earth were ended.

And here too lie many brave soldiers of many wars - Stanberry, Oliver, Pierson, Line, Clark, Dorcy, Stites, Darby, Swan and Caesar heroes of the Revolutionary War; Conger, Walpole, Clark, Moffett, Osborn, Hand, Brown and others who served in the Civil War; Johnston and Anson of World War I.



THE MANSE

Ministers of the Church have gone out to take their places in the conflict when wars were being fought; Rev. John Gano served as Chaplain in the American Army of the Revolution; the late Dr. J. Madison Hare served overseas as Chaplain in World War I, and the present pastor, Rev. E. E. Peterson, also served in that conflict as a Chaplain with the Y M C A.

The entire church grounds and cemetery are surrounded by an attractive

iron fence made possible through the generosity of Mrs. Albert B. Darby and the congregation.

Sons and daughters of the church, many of them descendants of members who have made the church a living and lasting reality, have taken their places under arms for their country. A service flag beside the altar contains 75 stars, three of them gold stars commemorating the sacrifices made by Carol R. Meyer, Alfred Bor-mann and Hugh MacLennan Jr.



MEMORIAL HALL

Our memory tour is over but life's clock ticks on. The first two centuries of this church are almost gone, the centuries to come are in the hands of Him who has been

"Our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come."

THREE RENAMED TO SCHOOL BOARD

In an uncontested election, three members of the School Board whose terms expire this year, were reelected for three year terms.

Of the 75 ballots cast, Alexander Muir, veteran member of the board and district clerk, was high man, polling 72 votes. Herman Gottwald polled 70 votes and James Hale Jr. received 65 votes. Opposition to the budget was very light.

At their organization meeting following the election, the board unanimously reelected J. Donald Shreve of Fanwood president of the Board. Richard B. Gendall was elected vice-president unanimously, succeeding James Hale Jr., who nominated Mr. Gendall to that office.

Plans for an expanded scope of education to include programs for returning service men were discussed by President Shreve. He also stressed the importance of laying a ground work, within the next few years, for an enlargement to the present school system to accommodate a rapidly growing outlying section.



No 1 in This War

The big figures of this war are not always the best ones to consider. Millions have died, but the meaning of one death if it is that of your son or husband may be greater. Millions have contributed their effort to win the war, but it is your own effort that counts to you.

The Germans and the Japs have been responsible for destruction and agony beyond computation. Very well, do not compute it in big figures. Say to yourself: Something or someone I valued has been destroyed.

Or say: I can do this, and I will do it to the limit of my capacity. I will buy twice as many War Bonds as I planned to buy; I will give to the Red Cross and to my Community and War Funds more generously than I had intended; I will volunteer as a nurse's aid; I will give my blood to the blood bank.

The war is personal to us or it is nothing. It is not the history of others; it is what has happened and is happening to us. The big figures have their place.

But so has NUMBER ONE. It is -- YOURSELF.

DONALD VAN DEUSEN, Prisoner of War in Germany wrote to his parents:

"Don't worry about me. As long as the Red Cross continues to send us packages of food, we won't be hungry."



GEE, I ---

Sitting on my G.I. bed,
My G.I. hat upon my head,
My G.I. pants, my G.I. shoes,
(Everything free, nothing to lose!)
My G.I. razor, my G.I. comb
G. I. wish that I were home!

They issue everything you need:
Paper to write on, books to read,
Your belt, your shoes, your G.I. tie
(Everything free, nothing to buy!)
They issue food that makes you grow
G. I. want a long furlough.

You eat your food from G.I. plate;
Buy your news at G.I. rate;
It's G.I. this, and G.I. that,
G.I. haircut, G.I. hat;
Everything herein G.I. issue
But YOU, and G.I. want to kiss you!

(Sent by a G. I. in France with the 473 AAA (AW) Bn.)

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