

Dr. Colfelt's Pastorate in Philadelphia.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

By Rev. L. M. Colfelt D. D.

OXFORD CHURCH.

My pastorate at Oxford church began and continued under the most auspicious circumstances. No more rolling of the stone of Sisyphus uphill only to roll back again as at the 1st church. The tide of migration was in our favor. Palatial homes were built along Broad street to domicile the incoming Captains of industry, the great manufacturers and ship builders. This was the golden age in the history of Oxford church when with such men as Judge Ferguson, Stephen Colady, George Hensell, Samuel Cramp, Elihu Irwin, Hamilton, Disston in the board of trustees, T. B. C. Burpee, Samuel London, Horatio Kern, Mr. Loomis, Jassa Hayes in the eldership with George S. Graham Superintendent of the Sunday school of 1000. Israel P. Black head of the primary department of 300 and some; 25 different men and women organizations, Oxford church presented the spectacle of a model church in organization and efficiency. But its Christian Endeavor society headed by James H. A. Brooks and composed of more than 100 young men and women, every one of whom could conduct a meeting as well as an ordained preacher and scores of whom became men and women of mark in the after history of the city, as judges, manufacturers, teachers, chiefs of Y. M. C. A. work, organizers of suburban churches this company of young people, in their practical effectiveness was the pride and joy of the pastor. The \$29,000 indebtedness remaining upon the church as the aftermath of the fire that had destroyed it and necessitated its rebuilding was easily cleared off. Its gifts for running expenses and innumerable benevolences totaled as much as sixty thousand annually. Those were indeed happy days of labor and accomplishment when after the Sabbath evening or Wednesday service I often accompanied Mr. George S. Graham and Mr. Edwin S. Cramp to one or the other's home and relaxed the tension of the mental excitement in genial companionship and conversation. While a minister should hold all his people in equal impersonal regard I am sure none of them will begrudge his finding succor from his highly exhausting forensic work in familiar companionship with a few friends for whom he may have natural affinity. There is no "respect of persons" about it only like seeking like. Even the Master of us all had a predilection of Peter, James and John. Mr. Joseph E. Smaltz and wife, Miss Elizabeth and brother John Smaltz were especially near friends and efficient workers for the church unweariedly devoted to its welfare in auspicious and dark days alike. Mr. Joseph E. Smaltz was a stalwart and noble character, widely traveled and broad minded who left a monument of his great business capacity in the imposing Smaltz building and the manufacturing organization which his son now carries on with such a high reputation for its products. At his death Mr. Smaltz surprised me with a gift of \$1000 in his will. I determined not to use a penny of it for my own benefit but devoted it to the foundation of a weekly journal at Bedford, Pa., for the exclusive purpose of public education and political reform. Oxford church during my pastorate was always equipped with a noble band of young men such as William H. Hensell, George Camp the Ferguson brothers and William S. Furst, John Shametz and hosts of others just as devoted to the best interests of the church, as well as scores of young women who made the Christian Endeavor society notable in the city for its benevolence and varied activities. But the youth whose memory abides through the year surrounded with a sacred halo of brilliance and pathos was James H. A. Brooks, whose career was indeed a romance of meteoric business success. About the time of his majority the firm with which he was associated went into forced liquidation. His testimony in the bankrupt court was characterized by such lucidity and transparent honesty that one of the creditors who suffered loss at the conclusion proffered him \$1000 to begin business for himself. He said the failure left him stranded, without a position, engaged to be married to Miss Doak, the day set and his total capital \$35. But he rejected the kindly offer as not fitting in with his ambitions and daring plans. He went to a young man who had just inherited a small fortune and who he felt was not any too friendly to himself. Ringing the bell at young Mr. Neeley's home, upon being ushered into his presence he made his proposition, with great trepidation and anxiety, which was, that Neeley should furnish the capital \$50,000, and Brooks the experience and capacity to manufacture kid leather which was then coming into vogue. It was a stroke of fortune and a good days business when Neeley was sagacious enough to close then and there with the offer. They launched together the business of manufacture and sale of "20th Century kid" and were phenomenally successful as an inventory of the business after two years revealed the assets to be \$425,000. Brooks grew in every direction, not merely as a phenomenon in the business world, but a dynamo in church activities, in all forms of benevolent efforts especially the Sunday breakfast association and prison services, and came to be a trusted adviser and friend of Mayor Weaver. He furnished a type setting machine for my Reform weekly at Bedford Pa., and cooperated with its aims to the limit of his ability. Though a self made man no one would have dreamed that he had been deprived of the benefits of all but a meager education. He had such a brilliant intellect and was such an

omnivorous student in all leisure hours that he could readily pass for a highly educated Collegian surpassing any man I have ever known in his capacity for apt quotations from the great poets and the choicest literature. After some years Mr. Neeley, having acquired a fortune decided to sell his interest to Mr. Brooks and retire. The evening the business of transfer was completed and the papers signed in William S. Furst's office in the Betz building. I happened upon Mr. Furst and Brooks on the pavement opposite City Hall and we engaged in a few minutes conversation upon the closure of the transaction which made Mr. Brooks owner of the flourishing business. I shall never forget as we parted how Mr. Brooks took my hand and wringing it said solemnly "Dr. I feel as if I was going to get an awful jolt, things have been going too prosperous by me." This was quite the most clairvoyant presentiment I ever experienced or have had knowledge of. Two days later taking up my newspaper I read that James H. A. Brooks, and his amnager Mr. Price were auting to Atlantic City with their respective wives and Mr. Price at the wheel, no doubt for needed rest and to celebrate his important business event. Several miles from Atlantic City the auto skidded turned completely around and pinned Mr. Brooks under it. Mrs. Brooks, was the only one unhurt. Mr. and Mrs. Price being hurled with such force as to become unconscious. Her feeble strength was too small to extricate her husband. A farmer was espied at a distance and came to Mrs. Brooks' assistance. Her husband was lifted from beneath the car but it was found his neck was broken and death instantaneous. Thus ended in this untimely tragical fashion this promising and useful life of my very dear friend whose memory is still as green as in the hour I pronounced his funeral discourse so many years ago and still evokes the profoundest emotion. God rest his soul! If one could not believe that the deaths of such eminently useful men are but for higher promotion and to spheres of worthier activity, such tragedies would appear unexplainable indeed and plunge us into stark atheism.

Prisoners Learn Farming by Mail.

Forty-four inmates of the eastern penitentiary at Philadelphia are studying agriculture by mail, according to T. L. Mairs, director of correspondence courses in agriculture at the Pennsylvania State College. Poultrying interests the majority of the prisoners but bookkeeping has a fascination for many of them. Plans now are being made to have the Philadelphia county agent, C. K. Hollowell, and one of the extension poultrymen of the Pennsylvania State College visit the class of prisoners periodically to supplement the training they are receiving by mail.

Litter on the poultry house floor should be clean and dry and from four to six inches deep.

533,000 Hunters' Tags Ordered for '27 Season.

Harrisburg, Pa.—The increase in the hunters' license fees to \$2 will prevent the normal yearly increase in the number issued unless present expectations of officers of the game commission fail. The bureau of publications today announced that it has ordered the printing of 533,000 license tags for the 1927 season, the same number as was printed in 1926. In former years there was a steady increase in the demand for license tags. In 1924 there were 503,850 printed with a 4,000 increase in 1925. In 1926 the number had grown to 533,000.

The bureau has ordered the printing of 15,000 special licenses in addition to those allocated to each county. In case a shortage should develop the special licenses will be sent there for issuance.

The number ordered printed for each county revealed that those counties which boast the best hunting issue but a small percentage of the licenses which appear there during the season.

Potter county, the mecca of thousands of thousands of resident hunters and most of non-resident hunters who come into the State will receive but 2,800 licenses for issuance. Cameron will get 1,000, Forest 1,400, Pike 1,400 and Clinton, another famous hunting county, but 4,400.

The largest number of licenses, 34,200, will go to Allegheny county, while Luzerne county will get the second largest number, 23,000. Philadelphia is third on the list with 19,600. Centre county will have 6,100.

Tennessee to Put Stop to Highway Sign Peril.

At the heels of the general warning that unrestricted billboard advertising on highways is a menace to the motorists comes the announcement from Tennessee that a campaign is under way in that State to clear the roads of the sign peril. It is under the direction of the department of highways and public works of that State. For some time the department has been removing disfiguring signs from the state roads, in accordance with the law created by the State Legislature in 1925, which makes it unlawful for anyone to erect a sign of any character on the right of way of all sections of the state highway system outside the limits of incorporated towns.

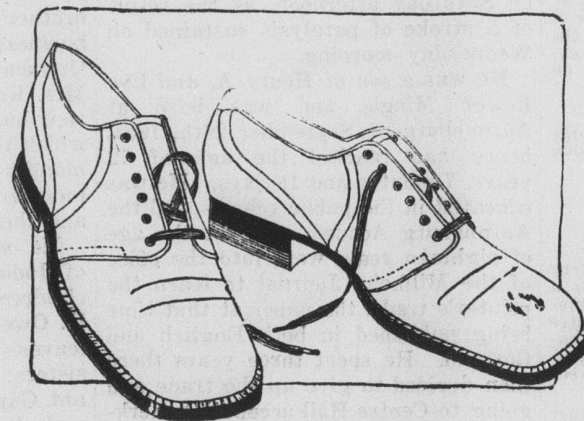
Investigation of this type of outdoor advertising with the idea of ascertaining how it may best be controlled in the interest of conserving the beauty and desirability of residence districts in cities and of scenic countryside will be undertaken by the National Association of Real Estate Boards following a conference on city planning held by the association in connection with its recent annual convention, at which conference the advisability of such control was discussed.

If you want a nice Porch Rocker, FREE, The Watchman will help you get it. Come in and find out how it can be done.

LUMBER?

Oh, Yes! Call Bellefonte 432
W. R. Shope Lumber Co.
Lumber, Sash, Doors, Millwork and Roofing

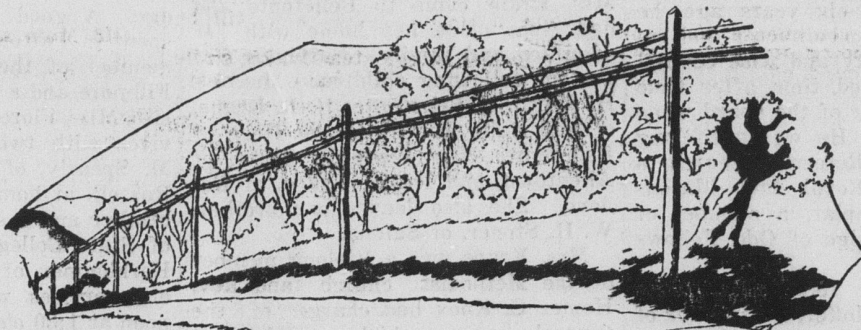
Two Kinds of Shoes



We have two sorts of Shoes for men—the light weight single sole styles for dress wear—the heavy weight double soled styles for street wear. Your choice of black, tan and some styles in patent leather. Some with rubber heels, others with leather

NITTANY SHOE STORE

BELLEFONTE, PA



Three Toll Cables

When your bell rings

WHEN THE BELL on your telephone rings, somebody has a personal message for you.

It means that someone is making use of a personal equipment which we have provided, and that he has secured connection with the personal equipment reaching to you.

More than this, he has secured the personal use of the necessary connecting equipment in a central office and the personal services of one or more telephone operators.

When you are talking with him you are using hundreds or even thousands of dollars' worth of telephone equipment.

Every time you talk with anyone by telephone you have the personal use of equipment worth as much as a fair-sized automobile.

And in order that this equipment may always be ready for your personal use, it is closely watched, tested, checked.

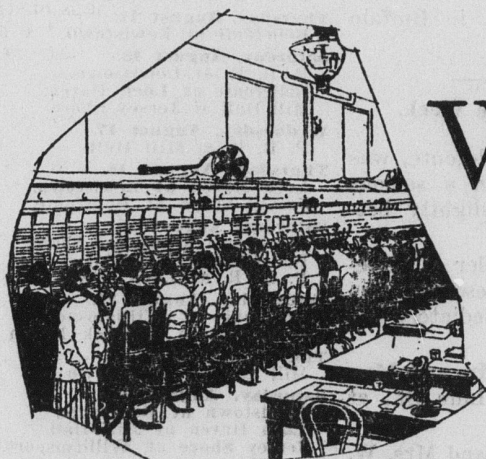
It's a personal service.

THE BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY OF PENNSYLVANIA

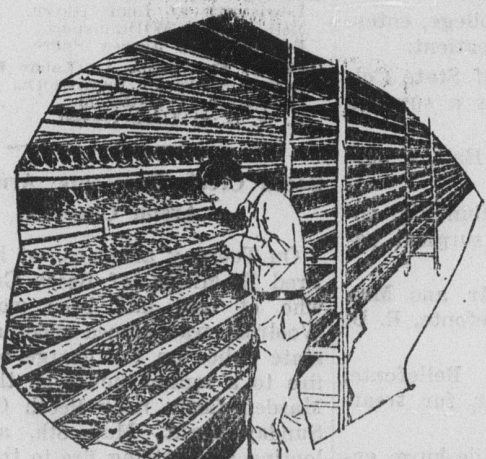
AN ORGANIZATION DEVOTED



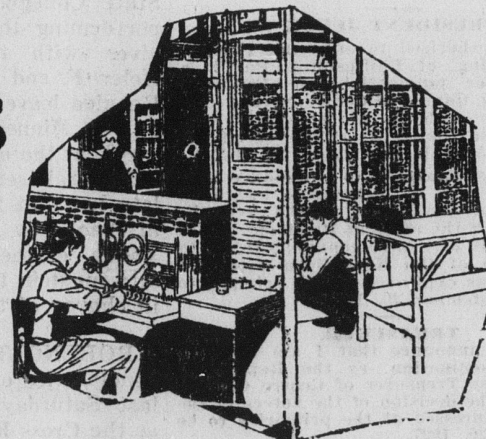
TO PERSONAL SERVICE



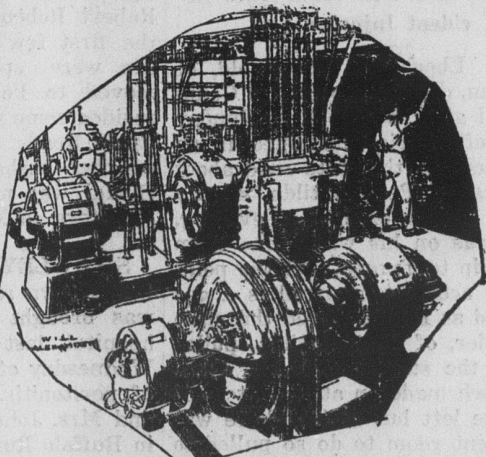
In a "Manual" Central Office Where Calls Are Handled by Young Women Operators



In the "Terminal" Room Where the Wires From the Switchboard Are Connected to the Wires From Your Telephone



In a Dial Central Office Where the Telephones Are Connected by Machine



Power Plant and Ringing Machines in a Telephone Central Office