

BAYONNE

Old and New

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GLADYS MELLOR SINCLAIR

# BAYONNE

## OLD AND NEW

THE CITY OF DIVERSIFIED  
INDUSTRY

☆ ☆ ☆

By

GLADYS MELLOR SINCLAIR

*"I like to see a man proud of the place in  
which he lives,*

*"I like to see a man live so well that his place  
will be proud of him."*

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

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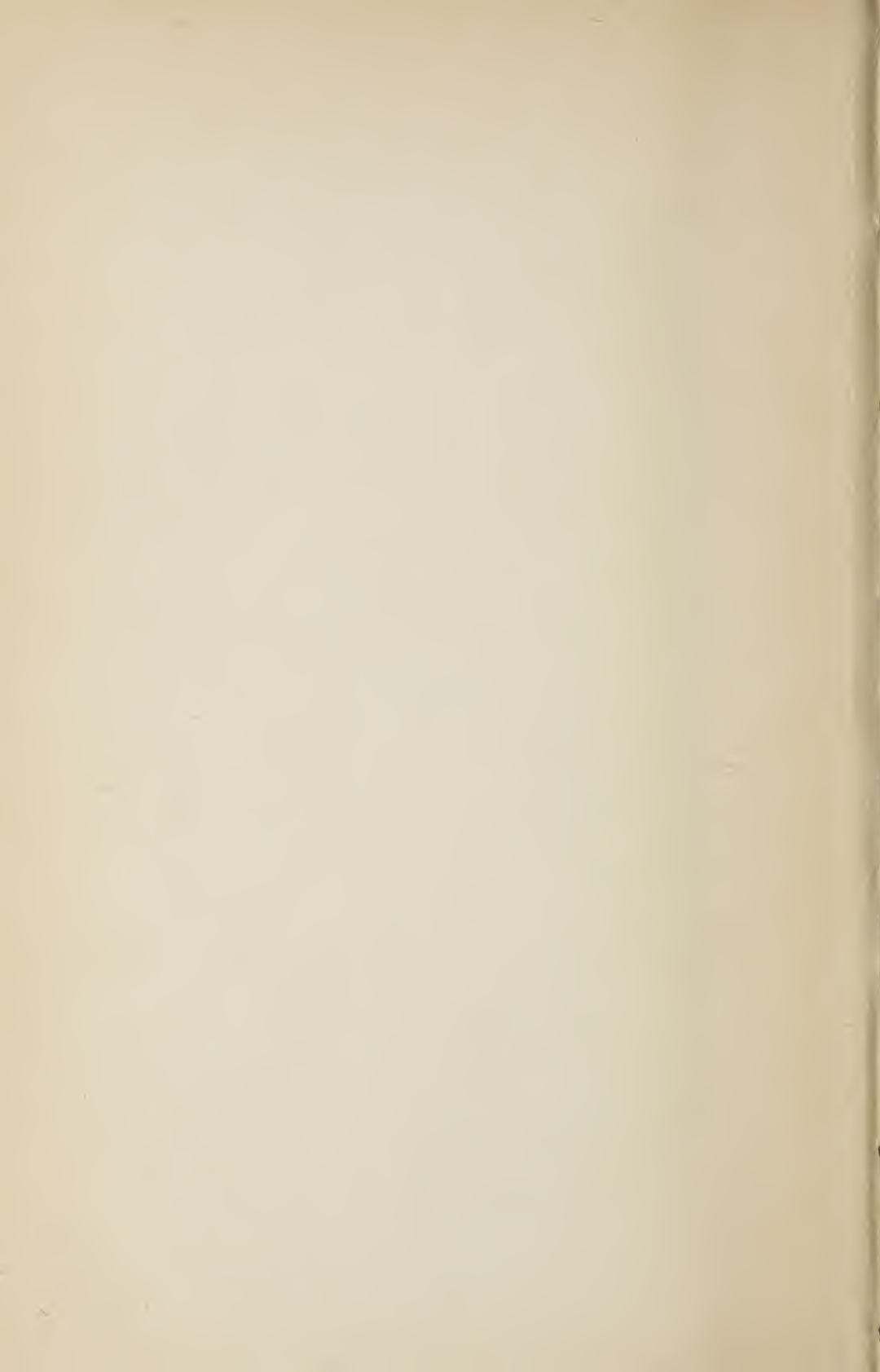
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New York City.*

*To My Beloved Father Whose Constant and Outstanding Civic Pride Has Always Been An Inspiration, and For His Sympathetic Help In Writing This History of BAYONNE OLD AND NEW, This Book Is Affectionately Dedicated.*

GLADYS MELLOR SINCLAIR





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## INTRODUCTION

By JAMES J. DONOVAN, Mayor

As Mayor of the City of Bayonne, I wish to contribute a word of recognition of the able and devoted efforts which have made this work possible.

The scholarly task, performed so painstakingly by Mrs. Gladys Mellor Sinclair, can be properly evaluated only by realizing that the author had to trace the development of this municipality back through more than four centuries of constant change and growth with but few sources of direct information available.

I feel, after having read this volume, that Mrs. Sinclair has not only succeeded in having written an engrossing book but has rendered her native City a distinguished service. I compliment her upon the strong spirit of civic mindedness which prompted her in this undertaking and I commend the reading of this historical document to every resident of our community.

JAMES J. DONOVAN.

Mayor's Office, April 1, 1940.



## PREFACE

NOTHING has been written about the City of Bayonne since Mr. Royden Page Whitcomb wrote, "History of Bayonne, New Jersey" in 1904. That the real story of Bayonne should be put into permanent form, no citizen will question.

Accordingly after a great deal of research, consulting numerous histories, archives, genealogies, ordinances, reports, maps, documents, files of old newspapers, and of interviews with old citizens and past and present city officials—we decided to write a real story, romance and history of our own beautiful Bayonne.

The author of Bayonne Old and New feels justified in saying that she has always sought the most reliable sources of information, striving to give as accurate, concise and interesting an account of the past as possible.

Although much labor has been spent in sifting statements in our search for inaccuracies, it is to be hoped that errors, if any, are very few.

The task of writing Bayonne Old and New, while agreeable and interesting, has been no light or superficial one. The author wishes to thank all those who have assisted her in the long and tedious work. She feels especially indebted to the following: Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Harwi, Miss Harriet Fish, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Henne, William F. Hogan, John McCabe, John J. Ryan, City Treasurer, Dr. Harriet T. Dexter, Miss Rhoda Walborn, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Sanford, Miss Jennie Diamond, Miss Mary G. Peters, Librarian, Mr. William Mann, Mr. Francis K. Strohoefer and Mrs. Anna Golding. Information was obtained through the History of the Municipalities of Hudson County; Winfield's History of Hudson County; Industrial Directory of New Jersey; History of Bayonne, New Jersey by Royden Page Whitcomb; The Catholic Church in New Jersey by Joseph M. Flynn;

The Bayonne Historical Society; The Bayonne Times; City Hall Records; The Public Library and Personal records and scrapbooks.

The work of writing an authentic history and a thrilling story of Bayonne has been long and has called for infinite patience, tact and care. And yet it has been a labor of love.

My reward will be in the appreciation of all the people of our own City whom I have tried earnestly to serve.

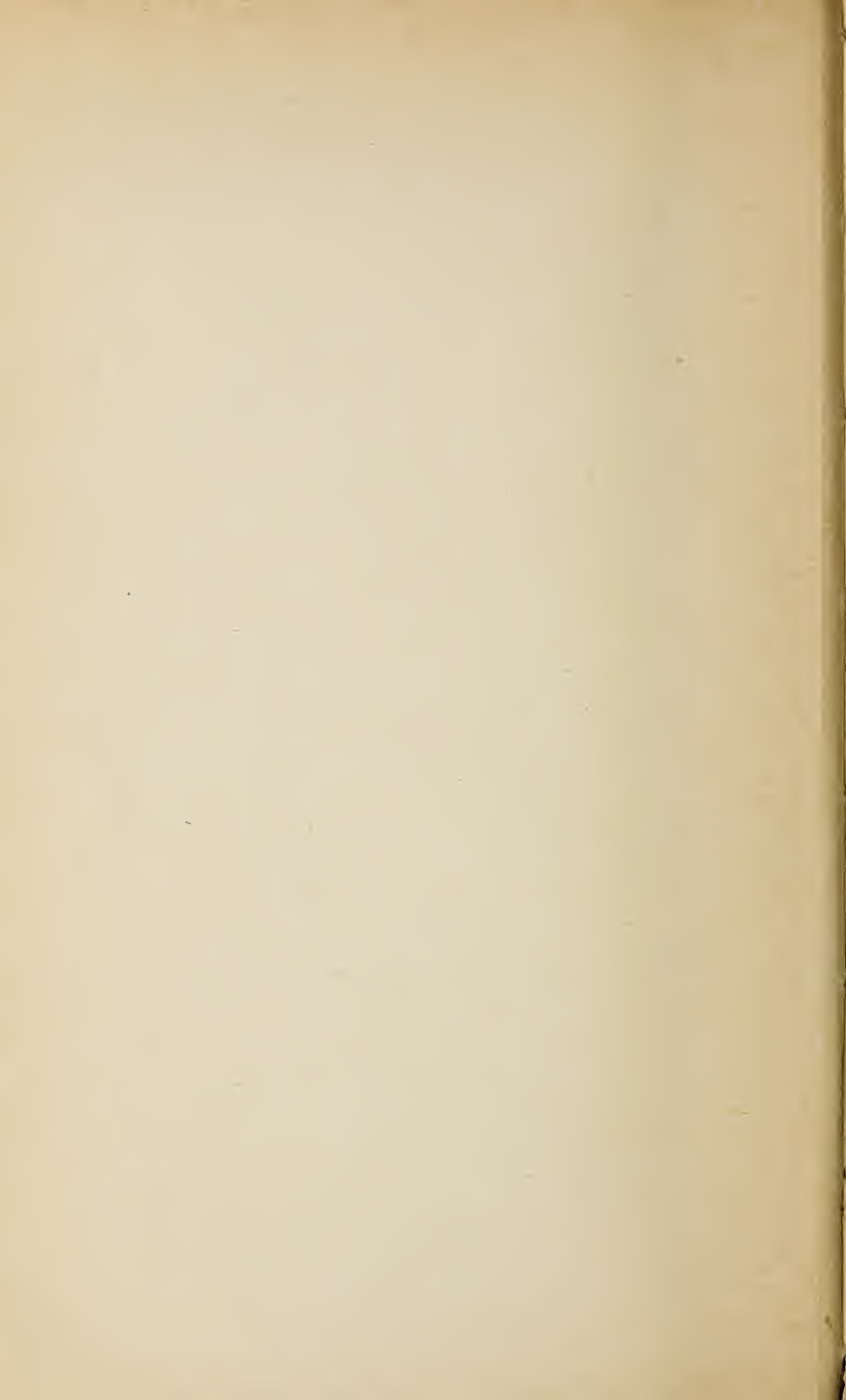
G. M. S.

899 AVENUE C, BAYONNE, N. J.

APRIL, 1940.

BAYONNE  
Old and New





## CHAPTER I.

### BAYONNE'S EARLY SETTLERS

**B**AYONNE, NEW JERSEY stands out as one of the distinctive cities of America. One may address a letter to Bayonne, no state designation, and it will be delivered to Bayonne, New Jersey. While 6,138 duplications in city names puzzle postal clerks, Bayonne has the distinction of being the only city of that name in the United States large enough to have a post office.

Bayonne is a peninsula located south of Jersey City between New York and Newark Bays and Kill van Kull on the south. Staten Island lies just across the Kills, Elizabeth and Newark across Newark Bay and New York City and Brooklyn across New York Bay.

The area of Bayonne is very small, being only three miles long and the widest part of the peninsula is one mile. It is shaped somewhat like a boot, Constable Hook being the foot part.

History tells us that Jean de Verrazzano, a Florentine in the service of Francis I, King of France, sailed into New York Harbor as early as 1524. He was, therefore, the first white person to gaze on the east shore of what is now the City of Bayonne.

Bayonne was named, according to tradition, after Bayonne in France, pronounced as Ba yon. It is said that French Huguenots settled here before New Amsterdam was settled. There is a tradition which seems to be without historical foundation that Bayonne got its name from the fact that it is located on the shores of two bays, Newark and New York—Bay-on or on the bays.

On September 3, 1609 Henry Hudson in "De Halve Maan" (Half Moon) cast anchor inside of what is now Sandy Hook. Two days later five of his crew were sent to explore the river opening to the south. Passing through the Narrows, they found a swift-flowing river to the westward between two islands, the shores of which they described as being a place of beauty, with many lovely trees and flowers.

This was Kill van Kull or "Het Kill van het Cull" meaning the creek of the bay. They went through the Kills to see Newark Bay. Upon reaching the mouth of the Kills on their return they were attacked by twenty-six Indians in two canoes, who were probably from Manhattan, and one of the seamen, John Coleman, was shot through

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

the throat by an arrow and killed. This appears to be the nearest approach to Bayonne shores by the whites at that time. A few days later Hudson passed through the Narrows and anchored at Constable's Hook. There is no record of his landing, although the natives between Bergen Point and Weehawken were very friendly and extended to him many acts of kindness. They visited his vessel daily, bringing furs, oysters, corn, beans, pumpkins, grapes and apples, to trade. The following day he continued north and entered the river which today bears his name—The Hudson River.

The tribe of Indians here at this time was called the Raritans and belonged to the stock of the Delawares called the Sanrikans. The remains of an Indian Cemetery, arrow heads, stone axe and beads through the Bergen Point Section indicate a permanent settlement of the Indian at one time.

During the early days Bayonne was covered with thick woods. Bears, panthers, wolves, wild cats, foxes, rattlesnakes, red deer, beavers, hares and squirrels were plentiful and afforded an excellent hunting ground for the Indians. The bays on both sides furnished fine fish and oysters.

The States General of Holland passed an act about this time, giving to certain merchants of Amsterdam the exclusive right to trade and establish settlements within the limits of the country explored by Hudson. Not long after this a fleet of five small trading vessels arrived at Manhattan Island. There were a few small rude huts already built here by former Indian Traders but now a fort for the defense of the place was erected and the settlement named New Amsterdam. As early as 1618 a feeble trading station had been established at Bergen but it was several years later before permanent dwellings were built in this neighborhood.

In June 1629 the States General granted a bill of "Freedom and Exemptions" to all such private persons as would plant any colonies in any part of New Netherland, except Manhattan Island. The members of the West India Company were also granted special privileges and whoever of its members would plant a colony of 50 persons should be a feudal lord or "Patroon" of a tract "sixteen miles in length fronting on a navigable river, and reaching eight miles back."

Up to this time only exploring parties wishing to trade with the Indians had visited what is now Hoboken, Jersey City and Bayonne. No one had ventured to "take up" any lands. However, under the stimulus of the bill of "Freedom and Exemptions," a man by the name

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

of Michael Pauw, then burgomaster of New Amsterdam, was impelled for speculative purposes in 1630 to obtain from the Director General of New Netherland grants of two large tracts, one called "Hoboken Haching" (land of the tobacco pipe), and the other "Ahasimus." Both of these tracts were parts of what is now known as Jersey City. The grantee gave one place the name of "Pavonia." Pauw failed to comply with the conditions set forth in his deeds, and was obliged, after three years of controversy with the West India Company, to convey his plantation back to that Company.

An official of the Company, Michael Paulesen, was placed in charge of the plantations in and around Pavonia as superintendent and it is said he built and occupied a hut at Paulus Hook as early as 1633, therefore being the earliest known White person in what is now Hudson County. He was followed by more settlers and in a few years quite a number of plantations were established.

During these early days a member of the Van Vorst family in this settlement was shot and killed supposedly by an Indian. This resulted in the Massacre of Pavonia on the night of February 25, 1643. Soldiers from Manhattan Island crossed the Hudson River and attacked the Indians at Communipaw, slaughtering nearly one hundred. The northern tribes took to the warpath and burned and destroyed this settlement. The settlers, who survived, fled across the river to New Amsterdam and for a number of years no white settlers lived here.

The first available record pertaining to the Bayonne section is dated March 1646 when Jacob J. Roy, a gunner of Fort Amsterdam, received a grant of land at Constable Hook.

The place was formerly called Nipnichsen by the Indians but was later called Konstapel's Hooch, deriving its name from the occupation of its first European owner. The Dutch word for gunner is konstapel; hence Konstapel's Hooch, or Gunner's Point. It is not known for certain whether Roy settled here or not, but the possibilities are that he did not.

The Van Buskirk family settled on Constable's Hook and their homestead which was built of brownstone was said to be the first dwelling built here. This was approximately in 1646 and the old house stood until 1910. The Van Buskirk family had a farm where it was said the finest watermelons in the country were grown and there were also fine orchards. They had their own burying ground, the remains of which is still marked although there are no bodies there now,

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

the last was removed in 1905. Sand and dirt has drifted over the plot so that today it has very little resemblance to a cemetery as it is entirely surrounded by oil tanks. This cemetery was located at White's Lane where a Mr. White lived in a very large house adjoining the property.

Patents were issued for land in the southerly part of Jersey City and Bayonne about the year 1654. Most of these were for twenty-five morgens lying within the district afterwards known as Pembrepogh (Pamrapo).

Grants were issued to: Jacob Wallingen, Jan Cornelissen Buys, Jan Lubbertsen, Jan Cornelissen Schoenmaker, Garrit Piertersen, Lubbert Gysbertsen, Jan Cornelissen Crynnen, Bysbert Lubbertsen and Hendrick Jansen Van Schalckivvyck.

Most of these were owners of land in Pamrapo and in the spring of 1655 sailed from New Amsterdam and erected rude huts on their new possessions. Here they opened up extensive trade with the Indians and cleared some of the land in order to build suitable homes for their families. These were said to be the first white settlers and founders of Bayonne.

Their stay was short because once more the Indians attacked the settlement and the survivors fled to New Amsterdam.

Some years later settlers came to these shores, this time to stay and it is believed that most of them settled close to the New York Bay shore between 43rd Street and the Morris Canal where it was easy access to New Amsterdam by water. The settlement grew slowly at first but new settlers stimulated the growth and prosperity was everywhere evident.

The first municipality within the limits of New Jersey was erected by order of Director-General Stuyvesant and his council on September 5, 1661 and christened "The Village of Bergen."

New Netherlands was captured by the English from the Dutch under Colonel Richard Nicolls about 1664 but the citizens of Bergen Neck were not disturbed. Constable's Hook was practically unoccupied at this time. Governor Nicolls gave a patent, October 26, 1664 to Samuel Edsall and Nicholas Johnson "for a Neck of land called Nip Nickon lying at the mouth of Kil van Kul." This grant was for five hundred acres and included part of Bergen Point, at that time called Constable's Hook.

In 1668 Pernerpoch was applied to that section which lies between the Morris Canal and 33rd Street. The word "Pernerpoch" comes



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from Indian words meaning "Big Rock." No doubt the Indians referred to the massive rock on which a great portion of Pamrapo and Greenville rests, and which is visible in the vicinity of Avenue C and the Canal. This rock, the foundation of the Palisades, is the foothills of the Catskills.

Johnson sold his interest on Constable's Hook to Edsall in 1670 for 4,620 guilders, wampum value. Edsall is supposed to have erected a log house at the Hook, cleared and tilled the land and in a short time had a flourishing plantation.

Edsall is credited with being the first white settler of Bayonne by George Scott, in a brochure entitled, "The Model of the Government of the Province of East Jersey in America," published in Edinburgh in 1685.

It is estimated that at this time there were about thirty families in Pamrapo and Greenville. Pamrapo was considered quite a settlement. The Dutch settlers were thrifty and they carried on an extensive trade with the Indians. Money was almost unknown and they traded for beaver skins, bits of clam and periwinkle shells deftly cut and polished. They were honorable and gave and received fair values. These people were slow to form new friendships but when really well known were very firm friends. About once a week, in the early morning, it was a common occurrence to see a group of Dutchmen with their sugar-loaf hats and leather breeches with their wives in their petticoats and other paraphernalia, entering skiffs on the New York Bay shore going to New Amsterdam, where they would spend the day trading their fruit, vegetables, oysters and fish for clothing, beer, tools and other things and where they gossiped with their friends. Their homes were built of logs and stone with mud filled in the cracks. The people were contented for the most part, not asking a great deal. As long as they had a fire to sit by, a pipe to smoke, a bed to sleep in and plenty of clams to eat, they were perfectly satisfied.

Among the pioneer settlers were Joost Van der Linde who owned property and lived in Pembrepogh in 1674, and William Douglas who was elected to represent Bergen in the General Assembly of New Jersey in 1680 but who was ruled out of that body because of his being a Roman Catholic. Gerrit Gerritse (Garretson van Wagenen) an Associate Justice of the Court of Bergen in 1681, also lived here at this time. In 1696 Cornelius Jansen (Vreeland) purchased William Douglas's land where he afterwards lived. Other early settlers at Bergen, Pavonia, Pamrapo and Bergen Neck were: Van Voorst,

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Jansen (Vreeland), Andriessen (Van Buskirk), Tomassen (Van Riper) Cornelissen (Van Horn), Van Niewkircke (Newkirk), Harmense, Claesen (Garrabrant), Brinckerhoef (Brinkerhoff, Van Schuyler, Planck, Sip, Gautier, Deidrick (Cadmus, Jacobse (Van Winkle). A great majority of these early settlers were emigrants from Holland. The rest were English, French, German and Scandanavian.

The recapture of New York by the Dutch in 1673 and the final surrender to the English the following year, affected this territory very little.

Around this time a charter was granted to the town of Bergen. The Charter granted that the keeping of a free school be maintained for the education of youth, and liberty regarding the worshipping of God in their own way.

In 1682 the school taught the girls to sew and read—needlework in those days being more important than the three R's which came a century later.

(As a guide to the reader many names appearing herein have variable ways of spelling in the early chapters of the book).

## CHAPTER II.

### BAYONNE IN THE COLONIAL DAYS

**B**AYONNE's oldest house (Cadmus Homestead) was her first dressed brownstone homestead. The Southwest wing was built by Joris Cadmus about 1730 and the main part which was two and one-half stories high was built later. Some of the fireplace brick came from Holland and on the front of the fireplace was a coat-of-arms. The house was situated on the shorefront of New York Bay at 41st Street and was the first Bayonne home for the Pavonia Yacht Club. The building was demolished in 1939. A good farm surrounded the home from which supplies were provided for the soldiers in 1776. Fine celery, cabbages so large they were called the Governor's Head, and oysters for the same reason were known as the Governor's Foot. Justin McCarthy, whose son wrote, "If I Were King," leased the property in 1864 and lived in the house two years.

In 1750 a public ferry between Bergen Point and Staten Island was established by Jacob Corsen. The boat was a small open scow and was propelled by oars. The ferry location has not been changed unto this day.

In 1764 a Jersey City Ferry was established as an important part of the new stage route to Philadelphia via a road connecting Jersey City and Bergen Point called the Kings Highway, thence across the Kills. This was said to be a short, safe, easy and convenient way for all travellers passing to the City of New York from any of the southern governments. These stages were first set up in 1764 and did a thriving business. The vehicles used were covered Jersey wagons without springs. A trip to Philadelphia required three days only and for that reason was proudly referred to as the "Flying Machine." By 1772 the time for the trip had been reduced to one and one half days.

#### BERGEN NECK DURING THE REVOLUTION

Bergen Neck was important territory during the Revolutionary War. In the spring of 1776 it was learned that the British were preparing to sail for New York. Lord Sterling was in command of the American forces at Bergen and he undertook the defense of Bergen and Bergen Neck. Defenses were erected to prevent invasion from Staten

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Island at which place Colonel Ford was stationed. He had about three hundred men. The British fleet with General Howe arrived and cast anchor off the mouth of the Kill van Kull and landed troops on Staten Island. Later General Mercer was ordered to place five hundred men at Bergen Neck. At this time troops were occupying Fort Delancey which was situated on a high piece of property between what is now 51st and 52nd Street and a short distance from the old Speedway. This fort was named in honor of Oliver Delancey, the great Tory of Westchester. It was the scene of several severe attacks, both when in control of the Americans and the British. The Fort was burned and evacuated by the Refugees in September 1782.

### GROUP GATHERS TO SEE GEORGE WASHINGTON

In April 1789 when George Washington journeyed to New York on the occasion of his inauguration as first president of the United States, he traveled through New Jersey to Elizabethport and then on through the Kill van Kull and New York Bay to New York City. The local inhabitants and those in Bergen weren't much different than people are today and early in the day began to arrive at Bergen Point so as not to miss the opportunity of seeing their beloved leader and cheer him on his way. This was a day of triumph and his reception here was enthusiastic and gay. The barge used by General Washington was beautifully decorated. He was royally received. Music filled the air. As he entered the Kills between Staten Island and Bergen Point the procession was met by other boats from the shores, all gay with bunting. He was greeted with the booming of cannons, waving of flags and loud applause of the people.

In the summer of 1796 another road was built which entered Bayonne at what is now Avenue C and the Morris Canal. This road led on to Bergen Point. The old Vanderbilt Stage Coach line used this route to Staten Island.

In 1798 homeseekers from different parts of the State began to locate at Bayonne and farms greatly increased in number. Grounds were cleared of timber, fields were cultivated and a thriving section soon appeared.

The wise old Dutchmen and Englishmen were not slow to realize that their children needed education and those near Bergen Town sent their children to the rude school house erected there while those in Pembrepogh and along Bergen Neck taught their children the best they knew at home.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

In the early 1800's Pamrapo had a district schoolhouse. It was erected at Avenue D (now Broadway) on a triangle formed by the intersection of Grand and Center Streets, two thoroughfares which have long since passed away.

The old sandstone house, which is still standing on West 48th Street between Avenue C and B was built by David Salter in honor of whom Saltersville was named later on. This house was built about 1810 and was the home of David Salter for many years. Afterward the folks of retired Captain William Keegan of the Police Force, lived in the house.





### CHAPTER III.

## BAYONNE IN THE WAR OF 1812

Excellent Fish and Oyster Enterprise—Natives Live Quietly.

THE WAR OF 1812 disturbed the settlers in this section very little. There were no burial grounds in Hudson County in 1812. Private burial grounds on the farms were used. Those who were buried in a cemetery were taken across the Kills in a rowboat to Staten Island where they were buried in St. Peter's Cemetery.

In 1821 there was an extremely cold wave and New York and Newark Bays froze solid and many persons crossed on the ice from New York. Good skating was enjoyed. Newark Bay at that time was called Oyster Bay, named so because of its abundant supply of fine oysters.

Came 1830 which found the people well established on flourishing farms. There were many small farmhouses along the shore. Constable's Hook was Van Buskirk property and several farms were cultivated there. Fruit growing flourished. Terhune's grist mill was at the Hook and the farmers in the neighboring country took their grain to the mill to be ground. There was a general store at Bergen Point kept by Frank Miller where groceries and tobacco were sold. All mail had to be gotten from Jersey City as no post office had been established in Bayonne. When someone went to town and returned with a New York newspaper, that person was usually surrounded by a group, eager to learn the news, as news was scarce, although the citizens gossiped about local affairs.

Hartman Vreeland's Tavern was situated at about 49th Street.

Abraham Van Buskirk and Colonel Cadmus each kept a few slaves and John Van Buskirk, of the Hook, kept about a dozen slaves.

The livelihood of the settlers at that time was chiefly agriculture, although shad fisheries were the finest in the country and the oyster grounds furnished fields for busy enterprise and a profitable employment.

The folks of those early days enjoyed life, too. Currie's Woods was the picnic ground where gay occasions were entered into with great zest and pleasure.

During the 1830's this section was swept by an epidemic of Cholera

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and many deaths resulted. Tradition attributes the scourge to the fact that bedding and other material, which had been in some ship infested with Cholera, lying in the harbor, had been thrown overboard and had drifted to the shores of Bayonne. The scourge swept over the entire neck and left devastation in its path.

By an act of Congress in 1834 the boundary line between New Jersey and New York was settled. This gave New York exclusive control over the waters of New York Bay, Bedloe's and Ellis Islands and the waters of Kill van Kull, while to New Jersey was given land under the waters west of the middle of the bay and Hudson River.

In 1835 John Carragan, who conducted a little school somewhere around Avenue D and 24th Street, started a store known as a general store and it was patronized freely. This store was located in the vicinity of Broadway and 22nd Street, as it is known today.

In 1836 the Morris Canal, bounding Bayonne on the north, was put through and for many years it served as a means of transportation and shipping. There were two section boats drawn by horses used at that time and while it was slow, was in keeping with the tempo of early days. The Indians used the Morris Canal as a canoe portage and a part of a canoe was found on it as late as 1908.

In the Colonial Days it was a favorite skating pond. Refreshment resorts abounded. The surrounding area was known as Currie's Woods. Fidler's Elbow is on the eastern side of the canal and was so named because the engineers did not have blasting facilities and thus followed the old Indian trail rather than straightening it. The last canal boat (with mule) to pass through the canal was in 1902.

The building known today as the Old Stone Hotel at 33rd Street and Avenue E with E. B. Baxter, as proprietor, was the Vreeland house, originally built by Cornelius Van Buskirk in 1839. When the Central Railroad of New Jersey extended its tracks to the Jersey City Terminal, it was thought the house would have to be demolished, but instead, it was raised off its foundation, the foundation moved stone by stone, and then after being turned around so that it faced west instead of east, was placed on the reconstructed foundation.

The first steamboats to dock at Bergen Point were the Richard Stockton, Wyoming, Kill van Kull and Red Jacket, renamed the Chancellor. The dock was in front of the LaTourette Hotel. The boats were in the service of the Central Railroad Company of New Jersey and ran from Elizabethport to New York. This mode of travel began in the year 1840 and was the railroad extension to New York



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until 1865 when railroad bridged Newark Bay and continued through Bayonne to New York. In the meantime the Central Railroad had built a dock at the foot of Avenue C where the Bergen Point Ferry to Port Richmond, Staten Island, is located. The Kill van Kull and the Chancellor continued to dock here until the year 1896. This dock extended out to the channel and was known as the Chancellor Dock. There was a large waiting room and freight shed. The boys used the dock as a recreation pier for swimming, fishing and boating in the good old summertime. The boats from Bayonne to New York took 25 minutes.

In 1840, with the creation of Hudson County by an act of the Legislature, the inhabitants of the peninsula began to take more interest in organized government, but it was not until 1861 that the movement came to fruition in the election of township committeemen. The first school house was built in 1840 and was known as the little red school house located on the Plank Road which is now Broadway between 27th and 28th Streets, where Engine Company Fire House now stands. In 1855 Brooks, father of Police Inspector Brooks of New York was the teacher. John E. Andrus, later Mayor of Yonkers, taught this school a few years later. Mr. Andrus was known in New York in later years as the Millionaire Strap Hanger, as he rode in the subways to and from business. He owned a large drug business in New York and it is said that he was the means of bringing the Standard Oil Company to the Hook which made 21st Street the business street for some time.

Before the Civil War the present 22nd Street was a residential street. All the way back to Newark Bay at the shore on Avenue A lay Captain Behline's Estate, one of the show places, afterwards owned by Conrad Muller who built the first large brick apartments at Broadway and 7th Street in Bergen Point. The Close Estate was located at 19th Street adjoining Mr. Andrew Cadmus's Farm. The first artisian well was driven on the Knoll or terrace upon which stood the Close Homestead. The Carteret Gun Club was on the Cadmus Farm in Centerville. The Club was enclosed by an eight foot fence and was located north of 16th Street to 19th Street, a row of trees dividing the Close Farm from the Cadmus Farm between Avenue C and A surrounded by trees. Shoots for live birds (Pigeons) were held here twice a week and on holidays to the delight of Pot Hunters and small boys, who with sawed-off muskets and even revolvers crowded about the fence waiting for a bird to escape. After a protest from the public,

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due to accidents, the club house was moved to First Street, and Center-ville lost its shooting grounds.

John Goodheart, who lived on the shore, ferried people across the Kills in a skiff, for considerable time, and Nicholas Cubberly also conveyed passengers over whenever required. A horse boat was in operation between 1840-50.

### THE IRISH COME TO TOWN

The vigorous, jolly Irish began to invade Bayonne after 1840. And of course, they made themselves powerfully felt as wide awake and progressive citizens.

At that time Bergen County extended as far south as Constable's Hook. By Legislature enactment, part of Bergen County, including the Bergen Neck was changed to the County of Hudson, named in honor of Henry Hudson.

Bayswater Yacht Club at the foot of East 44th Street and New York Bay shore was another occupant of quarters that are of historical interest to the city.

A few years before the Civil War Captain William B. Elsworth resided, when not at sea, in South Jersey near Freehold, making Barnegat his port. The trip home was made by stage coach and the road leading through woods over fallen trees and other obstructions thus making his home-coming rather difficult. Captain Elsworth commissioned David B. Salter, a builder of those days and grandfather of Counsellor William D. Salter, to secure a site somewhere in Pamrapo and erect a residence thereon for him and his family. Neither Captain Elsworth nor his wife saw the building before it was finished. When the Captain, returning from a trip at sea, came with his wife to inspect their new home, it was said by a surviving member of the family that they were not pleased with the selection of the site. as Mr. Salter apparently thought Captain Elsworth loved the sea, built the house as close to the water as he dared; in fact, the water came within a few feet of the kitchen door at high tide and during storms it washed into the house many a time. This building is the left hand portion of the four buildings composing Bayswater Yacht Club. Captain Elsworth owned the lot next door to his own residence and he had a boon companion, Captain Kramer by name, who wanted to be near his friend, Elsworth, and so had Mr. Salter duplicate the first structure on the north of the Elsworth property and these two families resided there for many years. To hold back the sea, Captain Elsworth constructed the wall which still stands.

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Soon after reaching the age of sixty years, Captain Elsworth retired from the sea, expressing his belief that no man over sixty should sail the seas. It was then that he started some of his sons at farming and with others he started what had grown to be the great Elsworth oyster business.

Afterwards, Captain Elsworth and his family removed to the building which stood until a few years ago at the foot of East 36th Street and New York Bay. Later on Bob Fish purchased the lot between the Elsworth and Kramer residences and constructed thereon a boat shop in which he manufactured a type of boat which he made famous called "The Smoothing Iron." He had as his partner in this venture, Edward Morton, who a few years later lost his life by drowning, owing to an accident on a boat. The history of this building then consisted of three units and it lacked further interest until about the year 1880 when Dorrington & Hogan who came over to New York from England with a theatrical troop, took over the property and conducted a public hall or hotel erecting a dining room on the north of the Kramer home thus making the fourth section of the building. Here many dances and entertainments were held and some of the best talent in vaudeville of those days appeared.

In 1908 David Allen and others incorporated the Bayswater Yacht Club and after conducting it for two years, surrendered the stewardship in 1910 to Fred Lumbreyer. He resigned later on and passed the stewardship over to Fred Ulrich.

During the stewardship, Lumbreyer who did gilding at Barnegat during the winter months, provided the clubhouse with many trophies of the hunt, both on land and water. Canvasback duck, English pheasants and many others of the feathery tribe were at the clubhouse as well as a mermaid from the Indian Ocean, porcupine fish, swordfish and a large dolphin which he shot in front of the clubhouse. This finny monster measured over eight feet and was one of the sights of the clubhouse.

Cholera broke out again in 1849 and there were so many deaths, that James Van Buskirk of the Hook, laid out new burial grounds on Constable's Hook, East 22nd Street and Avenue I.

About 1850 a stage route was established by George Anderson and was operated by him from Centerville, at the Mansion House, corner of the Hook Road and the Plankroad to Jersey City and New York. This was the only means of public conveyance between these sections in use until the construction of the "Dummy Railroad" by

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the Jersey City and Bergen Point Railroad Company in 1860. This two-horse stage brought mail from Jersey City to Mullaney's Post Office in Pamrapo.

Around 1850 pleasure boats sailed on the Kills and a ferry from Elizabethport, which stopped at Bayonne and then proceeded to New York, Pier 14, Washington Market, were in existence.

White's Hotel stood where Wigdor's Jewelry store now stands. The rear of the present store is part of the hotel and can still be seen. This hotel was the scene of many dances and minstrel shows. Stage coaches left from this corner. The hotel was later known as Fitzpatrick's, Charles Fitzpatrick a southerner acquiring it. He built an addition to the building in the early 80's for rollerskating which was the rage at that time.

Bayonne was the first place in the United States to manufacture artificial teeth. The first person to introduce the process of enameling teeth was Dr. Jahiel Parmley in 1850. Dr. Parmley's windmill stood at 40 Avenue C at the corner of Second Street.

In 1853 there were only four or five New York families in Bergen Point and the lower portion of the Plank Road from Third Street to the post office was occupied entirely by oystermen and boatmen, who had but limited ideas of improvements. They styled New Yorkers as "foreigners."

At the annual town meeting in the spring of 1855, it was decided to hold the spring and fall elections at Egbert Wauters' hotel on the Plank Road, to elect three constables and to raise \$3,300 for support of schools, \$500 for repairs to roads and \$300 for the poor. James H. Farrant, George Anderson and Aaron Y. P. Jones were elected as Town Constables.

In 1857 an act was passed by the Legislature authorizing the appointment of commissioners for the laying out of streets and avenues in that part of Bergen Township south of the Morris Canal in Hudson County and the Commissioners thus appointed were: Andrew D. Mellick, Jacob A. Van Horn, Jacob M. Vreeland, Hartman Vreeland and Egbert Wauters who were required to complete their work within two years from the passage of this act. By a supplement to this act, approved April 7, 1868 Hiram Van Buskirk, Solon Humphreys, Henry Meigs, Jr., John Combes and Erastus Randall were appointed Commissioners and their powers were prescribed "to cease on the first day of May, 1873."



## CHAPTER IV.

### CAPTAIN ROBERT FISH

Pre-Civil War Days and the La Tourette Hotel, Prominent Families.

CAPTAIN ROBERT FISH, a yacht modeler and designer, came to Bayonne from New York in 1860. His original home at 98 East Forty-fourth Street is still standing. Fish's Lane, named in honor of Captain Fish is located in Pamrapo in the vicinity of Forty-fourth Street and New York Bay. It was a pretty little settlement at the shore in those days. Some of the houses located here were the O'Brien house (since moved and taken over by the Bayswater Yacht Club), the Taylor home; Mrs. A. S. Hatch lived in the Gunther place which was where the American Radiator plant now stands. Mr. Spates, who was a New York official used to land at the waterfront coming to Bayonne in a boat. Pat McGiehan was a boat-builder here and John Lang had a boat-yard.

New York Bay, during this era, was said by world travelers, to be more beautiful than the Bay of Naples. The people living here had their own docks and private boats and bathed on the beach all along the shore.

Captain Fish later built the Tower house which is still standing. Some say he built the tower on the house to get away from the mosquitoes while others say his wife liked to sit up there and look over the Bay. He built a couple of other tower houses, one of which was occupied by the Chamberlain family. Miss Harriet Fish, his only surviving daughter, is still living in Bayonne although she has traveled extensively and spends most of her summers in California and she can tell many interesting stories about the growth of Bayonne. She enjoys telling stories about Bayonne when it was a pretty little suburban village. She lived on the Isle of Wight for three or four years while her father was designing some yachts.

Mr. J. F. Loubat, an American gentleman who made his home abroad, bought the yacht "Enchantress" from George Lorillard who had had her built in this country after a model used by Robert Fish. At the close of the yachting season of 1873 in American waters, Mr. Loubat went abroad, his yacht having preceded him. He engaged the services of Mr. Fish who went to England to superintend and

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direct the alterations he proposed making on her. She was lengthened and otherwise improved at an expense of more than twenty thousand dollars. During the long cruisions of the "Enchantress," she visited the principal ports and capitals of the Old World and wherever she anchored she was received with "all honors" her generous owner receiving and dispensing unstinted hospitalities and courtesies. She was sailed by Captain Fish whose handling of the "Sappho," to whom England's best lowered their colors, is a matter of yachting history. The "Enchantress" it is believed, was the first American yacht to visit Stockholm.

Captain Fish lived on the Isle of Wight with his family for about three years. He also designed other yachts, among them were the "Challenge," built from one of his models and Louis Lorillard's yacht, "Wanderer" which was built at Greenpoint. Among the famous open boats built or modeled by Mr. Fish were the "Fulton" and the "Bob Fish." The Fulton won in the famous races of New Jersey against New York. The "Bob Fish" was built for Bergen Point owners but afterward she became the property of Colonel Varian of this city. She won a number of races.

TAKEN FROM "THE SUN," NEW YORK, JANUARY 20, 1883

At Captain Robert Fish's Funeral, "The Snow was falling yesterday when Captain Fish the yacht-builder, was buried in New York Bay Cemetery, Pamrapo, New Jersey. "We were sailing," said the Rev. R. M. Alysworth, who conducted the services in the Pamrapo Methodist Church, "over the troubled ocean from which Captain Fish has landed. His life, filled with activity, was a romance. Travelling in many lands, in different classes of society, he made friends wherever he went." He was 70 years old.

On the coffin lay a wreath and an anchor of white flowers, one of which was the gift of J. F. Loubat, formerly the owner of the schooner "Enchantress" which Captain Fish modelled for Mr. Lorillard. Captain Fish sailed with Mr. Loubat for three years. The pall-bearers were Captain Joe Ellsworth, owner of the sloops "Admiral" and "Captain" and other yachts; William Ellsworth, E. C. Allaire, Jr., Daniel and Jasper Cadmus of Pamrapo and Peter Stewart, sailmaker of New York. Present were Messrs. J. F. Loubat, Samuel H. Pine, shipbuilder of Brooklyn; W. J. Jones of Jones & Dobb, ship painters in New York; James Stewart of New York; Phillip Ellsworth, who modelled the yacht "Montauk," A. Cary Smith, yacht designer; Elia Morton, W. Bishop, of New York and W. B. Nichols of East 74th

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Street in New York for whom Captain Fish built the "Julia," the "Summing" and other yachts and for whom at the time of his death he was about to build a yacht of which he has left the model.

In April 1887 Mr. J. F. Loubat compiled a scrap-book of his cruises and races in the "Enchantress" and he dedicated it to the memory of her designer and sailing master, the late Captain Robert Fish.

Captain Fish is survived by a daughter, Harriet, who for the past twenty years has lived at 6 Avenue B with her niece Rhoda Walborn who is a granddaughter of his and who is a Librarian in the Public Library. Another granddaughter, Mrs. G. Alfred Esty lives at 14 Wesley Court and also has a very beautiful home in Uplands, California, where she spends most of her summers. Edward Walborn is a grandson who resides in Plainfield, New Jersey.

### PRE-CIVIL WAR DAYS

In 1860 a Lyceum and Lecture Hall was built at the foot of Newman Avenue and First Street, on the Mackie Estate.

In 1861, by an act of Legislature, the township of Bayonne was set off from the town of Bergen. This same year Albert M. Zabriskie was appointed the first Chosen Freeholder of Bayonne.

The first elected Committeemen of the Township of Bayonne held their first meeting for the transaction of business April 13, 1861 at the home of H. B. Beaty in Centerville, named so by reason of its being in a central location. Mr. Beaty was a former Sheriff of Hudson County.

At this time Bayonne was composed of Saltersville, which is now known as the Third Ward; Centerville, Bergen Point and Constable's Hook. There were only three stores in this entire section. One was kept by Michael Mullaney at Saltersville. Another was in Centerville and kept by Hansan Carragan. Robert A. Ansart was the proprietor of the third which was located at Bergen Point. Later G. D. L. Zabriskie opened a country store on the Old Plank Road opposite the La Tourette House stables. These stores kept a supply of everything from wooden buttons, to hardware, tinware, dry goods, boots, shoes, clothing and tobacco. A post office was in most of these stores and the folks would congregate for their mail and gossip about the oyster war. A two horse express operated by Jacob Mersalle carried the mail to and from New York each day and was the only



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public conveyance to Jersey City and New York at that time. The ride on the stage was a rather long and tiresome one and very bleak in winter. In the summer, however, it was most delightful, especially along the old Plank Road, which wound around and through the woods most of the way.

Hess Sharrett erected the building in 1830 which was later sold to Mullaney and where the post office was located.

"Mike" Mullaney, who was the proprietor of the general store in Pamrapo was usually a very jolly Irishman joking and telling stories with those who came into the store but there were times when he became angry, too. The old-timers tell how soda crackers were kept in a barrel and usually when a customer wanted some, the cat had to be chased off the barrel to get to the crackers. Some of the town sports often dropped into the store and Mullaney kept whiskey in the back shed and had a glass tube to get into it and often times when these sports got together and had a few drinks they would wind up by racing on the old Speedway and bet on the races.

### THE LA TOURETTE HOTEL

The La Tourette Hotel, which stood at the foot of First Street and Kill van Kull, was built at the close of the Revolutionary War by the founder of the Du Pont Family and named (Bon Se Jouis) or "Good Stay." The Center building was the original and this was the chateau where the Admiral Francis S. DuPont of the United States Navy was born. The DuPont family made their home here until 1806 when it was sold to Raphael Duplanty and in turn Duplanty sold it to Elias Burger in 1808. Burger, by will dated March 1, 1816, proved March 17, 1827 gave the property to his daughter, Maria, wife of James R. Mullaney, and it was sold by her heirs to David La Tourette in 1845. La Tourette added the north and west wings to the old chateau and in 1857 he replaced the original name by the center structure and afterward built the east wing and called it "The La Tourette Hotel." For over a century New York's oldest and wealthiest residents enjoyed many pleasant sojourns at this famous resort which for years was the center of social life.

The fame of the old La Tourette spread far beyond Bayonne. In 1840 it was visited by President Chester A. Arthur, General Sherman, Garibaldi, U. S. Grant, Mark Twain, Mrs. Leslie Carter and other celebrities.

The La Tourette was a highlight in the 60's. It was the first

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large hotel on the Jersey coast in the 19th Century having more than 200 rooms. There was a small house located back of the hotel which was the home of the slaves who served the hotel before Civil War days. Slavery was accepted in Bayonne at that time. Abraham Lincoln had not arrived on the scene. Back of the hotel were carriage sheds where pre-Civil War dandies helped their bustling ladies from their carriages. A road to the hotel grounds led from Avenue D, now called Broadway.

At that time the shore front of Newark Bay was dotted with beautiful estates which were occupied by very wealthy people. They had their coachmen and teams of horses and all the luxuries that go with wealth. They had their individual boat houses and pleasure boats and bathed from their own grounds. The setting was picturesque. The lower end of Bayonne was one of the choicest of New York's environs. It was sometimes called, "The Newport of New York." Society folk from New York, Jersey City, Staten Island and Elizabeth were guests at the La Tourette for the summer and many men commuted to their places of business in New York by boat, "The Red Jacket," which left about nine in the morning and brought them back about five in the afternoon. Bayonne ranked with Saratoga as a watering place.

High black hansom, drawn by fine thoroughbred horses and driven by fat-beer-drinking coachmen were used by fine gentlemen who came home on the ferry weary, from a hard day at the Stock Exchange. Among these eminent gentlemen who "commuted" to New York in the good old days was the president of the Stock Exchange himself. He lived in the fine old La Tourette Hotel, which was regarded as the swankiest place to be found. The Kills provided the finest resort places to be found in that era. Magnificent old houses lined the shore with their beautifully kept green lawns which slipped down to the water. The Winants place stood at the end of Lexington Avenue.

Many social events were held under the La Tourette roof. Balls, regattas, musicals were amusements of Bayonne Society when large mansions occupied much of the peninsula up to what is now Sixteenth Street. Nearly every home had its private ballroom and affairs too large to be held in private residences were given at the famed hotel overlooking the Kills or at one of the aristocratic clubs of those days. Quite a number of millionaires have been residents of Bayonne during the last century.

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### PROMINENT FAMILIES

Many notable families who made noteworthy contributions to America as well as Bayonne made their homes in our healthful city in the early days. Among others were: George B. Spearin, Jr., Avenue A at Eighth Street called "Crow's Nest"; Solon Humphreys "Pepperidge"; T. Y. Brown; M. R. Cook; Geo. Spearin, Sr., on Third Street between Lord and Lexington Avenues; Bainbridge Smith Sixteenth Street and Avenue A; Mayor Stephen K. Lane's mansion was between Fourteenth and Fifteenth Streets on Avenue A; Captain LaTourette had property on the Kills near Rabineau Street; Benjamin T. Kissam of the Vanderbilt family of Manhattan; Daly's Point opposite the lighthouse, old mansion with orchards all around; Charles Beach; E. S. White lived at First Street and Avenue C which became Meister's shorehouse; T. R. Jennings; Mose Van Horn; Gunther's Point (who are the New York fur people) where Babcock dock now is; Col. Doubleday lived at 94 Avenue C. He was the originator of baseball in America.

General William L. Morris, who served in the Mexican War (1846-48) and also later in the Civil War, had his home on Newark Bay between Eighth and Ninth Streets.

Rufus Story, a New York importer, came to Bayonne in 1850 and built a mansion on First Street and Broadway. He was the father of four daughters and the house was the social center for many activities of the Post Civil War period.

Jacob R. Schuyler came to Bayonne in 1860 and lived in one of the show places of the Newark Bay shore front at Eleventh Street. The Schuyler family were direct descendants of General Philip Edward Schuyler who helped General Gates win the battle of Saratoga, in the Revolutionary War. Philip Schuyler was the father-in-law of Alexander Hamilton. It was in this home that the wedding of Susanna Edwards Schuyler and Nicholas Murray Butler, then of Elizabeth, and now President of Columbia University, took place. P. Cran, local florist furnished the decorations for the wedding.

## CHAPTER V.

### BAYONNE DURING THE CIVIL WAR

THE COMING of the Civil War greatly disturbed the citizens of Bayonne. Everywhere the war was the one topic for discussion; in the fields, at the meeting houses, by the fireside at home. The excitement was so intense that farming and other business was neglected. Finally in the spring of 1861 war broke out and so high was the public feeling that every young man in the community was either enlisted or was in training to enlist as a soldier or sailor. Only old men and boys remained at home to work the farms.

For some years previous to the outbreak of the war of the Rebellion, there was a military organization known as the Close Light Guards named in honor of Joseph Bailey Close who organized and outfitted the Company at his own personal expense. James B. Close was a son of Joseph Bailey Close by a first marriage. The Close Light Guards were a well-trained outfit and when news was received of the bombardment of Fort Sumter, its ranks were doubled with patriotic recruits and on May 1, 1861 the organization was mustered into service as Company E, of the Second Infantry, New Jersey Volunteers.

The Close Light Guards drilled at the Mansion House which was then located on Fifty-third Street and the Plank Road now Avenue B owned and managed by Thomas Churchill. Mr. Churchill then gave this up and it was occupied by John Mitchell and his family. Mr. Churchill then opened a Mansion House at Avenue D and Forty-seventh Street which he ran for some time. This building stands today and it looks just as it looked then with the exception of the removal of the shed over the sidewalk. It is now a tavern owned by Henry Muller.

Captain John T. Van Buskirk, who had been in charge of training the Light Guards was soon after to become a Major with his cousin Hiram Van Buskirk becoming officer of Company E. Joseph B. Close was included in the roll of those who enlisted for service at the start of the hostilities.

The command left for the south almost immediately, being transported by canal boats and barges to Annapolis. Later the Company



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was moved to Washington, D. C. The Command was returned to Trenton at the end of three months, the period for which the men had first enlisted, but most of the members soon re-enlisted in the Twenty-first Infantry and again were sent to Washington. They took part in the Battle of Antietam and later served with distinction in the bloody battles that were fought at Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Salem Heights and Franklin's Crossing.

Many of the Bayonne soldiers were singled out for exceptional bravery and courage in battle. The unexpected lengthening of the war called for longer enlistments. Bayonne men re-enlisted for the duration of the conflict and participated in other major battles that were fought before General Robert E. Lee surrendered in 1865. The story of the patriotism and bravery displayed by Bayonne's veterans in the Civil War will always remain a bright spot in the City's history.

It is estimated that Bayonne sent 500 of its finest and best to the battlefields during the four years of strife in the Civil War. The passing years have taken their toll of those who survived the conflict and the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic have gone to join the Great Emancipator.

There was only one Bayonne officer in the Confederate Army, Major Alexander Redwood who lived at 23 Schuyler Court. Serving as officers of the North were Abney Doubleday, Colonel Hiram Van Buskirk, Captain John Van Buskirk, Lieutenant Alexander Lawson, Captain Andrew Van Buskirk. Some of the privates were: John Carragan, Hanson Cadmus, George W. Odell, Charles B. Salter, Peter Garrabrandt, Thomas J. Sharott, John R. Tuttle, Samuel M. Odell, Lawrence Gill, Richard McDonald, John O. Vreeland, Archie G. Welsh, Richard Chaffer, Andrew Ford and others.

Food prices soared during the war; milk was sold at 30 cents a quart, yeast as high as 20 cents and tea was \$1.50 per pound.

For several years following the Civil War, the veterans of the Close Light Guard held an annual "rally round the flag pole" on the Close Estate. Open house was kept upon such occasions and refreshments flowed freely. These consisted of sandwiches and home baked foods, prepared by the ladies of the Close family.

A Military Company, wearing the French uniform, called the Wilson Zouaves, camped for nearly a year on the property which later became a picnic grove on the Newark Bay shore in Pamrapo. This Company was not composed of local men. They were full of fun and tricks and always in mischief. The French Company never

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did any real harm but they did seem to have a great liking for chickens which they appropriated whenever a chicken house was available. Anyone ever having the opportunity of seeing the Zouaves drill will never forget it, and the writer had this opportunity at the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the Blues and the Grays at Gettysburg July 4, 1938.





## CHAPTER VI.

### BAYONNE IN THE RECONSTRUCTION DAYS

**I**N 1865 Bayonne boasted of 1,700 population. The Jersey City and Bergen Point Railroad Company operated a line which was called the "Dummy Line" which consisted of a combination engine and passenger car, something on the order of the old steam cars famed in New York City legend. This line began just west of the La Tourette House in Bergen Point and ran through private property between Avenue C and D to where Garrett's Hotel now stands at 32nd Street and Broadway from which place it crossed the old Plank Road and continued north, close to what is now Broadway, thence to the Junction in Greenville. At that point passengers for Jersey City and New York changed to horse cars for the ferry. The time of travel was from one and one-half hours one way, according to how the engine *felt*, and the fare was 25 cents. The passengers were often obliged to walk in mud owing to the fact that the engine was always breaking down. By ordinances passed by the Town Council of both Jersey City and Bergen the steam dummy was forbidden to operate. The Jersey City ordinance went so far as to direct police to enforce the rule by taking the dummy from the track and extinguishing the fires. The Dummy Road ceased operation in 1872.

#### "RETIRED SEA CAPTAINS"

Bayonne was a popular residence for retired sea Captains. Among these were Captain Winant who settled at Bergen Point, Captain Ward who built a home on Avenue D between 2nd and 3rd Streets and Captain Bailey, who had a very beautiful home on 25th Street and Newark Bay shore.

#### "THE FIRST SUBMARINE"

The first submarine was tried out in the Kills historic waters. It was invented by an Irishman named John Patrick Holland. At first it would not work. It was built in Elizabethport secretly and was first tried out in Newark Bay. Holland tried to sell the patent to the United States Government but they wouldn't buy it and later the German Government bought it. The first time it went through the Kills, crowds of people gathered along the shore and watched that funny

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

cigar-shaped thing with the tube projection, out of which Holland stuck his head, as the crowds stared and cheered. In one of the first tests a hen and a dog were put into the submarine and it was lowered under the water for 15 minutes and when it came up the hen and the dog were still alive, so it was pronounced safe. The original submarine is now in a park in Paterson, New Jersey.

Bayonne's first public hall, was Derby's Hall. It was a frame building constructed in the 60's. Dr. Derby, who was an old army surgeon had his office in the building. It also housed Ayer's Drug Store. Mr. Ayer would never sell anything but drugs in his store. He believed that a druggist was a druggist and a merchant a merchant. His store was believed to be one of the most typical drug stores in the country. It was a monument to an idea as far removed from the modern idea of a drug store as it is possible to be.

The first coal dock at Port Johnston on the Kills was completed and in operation in July of 1866. This place became one of the principal coal depots in the country. It was named in honor of the President of the Central Railroad Company of New Jersey at that time. Today it is a graveyard for discarded vessels and because it is such, artists are seen there frequently with their easels.

Squire Miller, Justice of the Peace, was a familiar character in the 1880's. He rode a white horse and wore a plug hat and was always ready to try a case on the street. He was a dignitary of the first order.

The Bergen Point and Staten Island Ferry Company came into existence in 1868. There were various managements and old-timers will recall the "Seneca," "West Point" (later the Bergen Point), the "Lark" and the "Shanley" as some of the boats that plied between Bergen Point and Port Richmond.

Alfred W. Booth and Brother transacted a general lumber, timber and coal business including the manufacturing of doors, sash, mouldings and all kinds of mill work. The business was started by William K. Smith in 1868. He was succeeded by the firm of Barney and Booth and subsequently in 1877 by A. W. Booth and Brother. The concern was the oldest of its kind in Bayonne or in the County of Hudson. In June 1912 a new and larger mill was erected which contained the most modern machinery and has been described as the finest, most complete and up-to-date plant of its kind in eastern New Jersey. The trade was not confined to Bayonne but extended to all parts of Hudson County and other parts of the state and Staten

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Island. The plant included a dock located at tide water, where lumber and timber were received and shipped. By this method, material passed from the manufacturer to the consumer with only one handling.

Emmett Smith was a native of Hudson County. While in his 'teens, he entered the office of Mallory and Muller a firm of Jersey City civil engineers as a junior assistant surveyor and engineer. He went into business for himself while still a young man establishing an office in the Greenville section of Jersey City in 1866. After coming to Bayonne he built the brick building which still stands on Avenue E and the corner of 30th Street across from the present City Hall, the first or ground floor of which served as the offices of Smith and Weston.

He became City Surveyor in 1868 and thoroughly revised the plans for laying out and mapping the prospective streets, avenues and squares of Bayonne Township. He was named City Surveyor and Engineer by the councilmen and with the exception of several short intermissions, he held the position until his death. He was one of the organizing directors and President of the Bayonne Trust Company, a director of the Bayonne City Hospital and Dispensary, one of the founders of the Democratic Club, a member of the Newark Bay Boat Club, the Bayonne Rowing Association and New Jersey Athletic Club and Bayonne Lodge F. & A. M. No. 99. At the time of his death John J. Cain was the Mayor.



## CHAPTER VII.

### BAYONNE BECOMES A CITY 1869

First Board of Education; First Board of Health; Fire Department Organized 1870.

**B**AYONNE was incorporated a City March 19, 1869 by an overwhelming vote of the citizenry. At this time the population was 4,000. The new Charter provided for the election of a Mayor and Aldermen every two years.

The first election, under the city charter took place Tuesday, April 13, 1869 when Henry Meigs, Jr., of the First Ward, a wealthy business man in New York, was elected Mayor. He served for five terms from 1869 to 1879. Rufus Story, William L. Beaumont, Charles C. Hough, Jacob R. Schuyler, John Combes and Joe Elsworth were elected members of the Common Council. William Meyers, Principal of one of the Public Schools was elected Recorder. The initial meeting of the Common Council took place Monday, April 26, 1869 in Carragan's Hall, Broadway and Twenty-second Street. This later became the City Hall. Jacob R. Schuyler was elected President of the Council, Francis T. Smith, City Clerk; Samuel T. Brown, who was a rich merchant doing business in New York, was elected Treasurer; John H. Carragan was Collector of Revenue; Col. Hiram Van Buskirk, Street Commissioner; Emmett Smith was City Surveyor and City Engineer; William H. H. Johnson, City Attorney; Leon Abbott, later to be elected twice as Governor, was City Council; Edward Perry, Overseer of the Poor.

Members of the Board of Education appointed by the Council were: Dr. Frederick G. Payn, who served for ten years; David C. Halstead, Charles Davis, Nathan Bartlett, John W. Russell, William D. Meyers, Secretary; John Van Buskirk, Jr.; Cornelius V. H. Vreeland, and Joshua H. Jones.

Horseracing was one of the chief sports during that period and the Plank Road was the scene of many a lively contest.

The last meeting of the Board of Committeemen for the Township was held April 26, 1869.

The first Bayonne newspaper published was the *Bayonne Herald and Greenville Register* established December 25, 1869, a weekly pub-



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

lication with Russell Graves, Editor, and who was succeeded by Col. Harry Page.

On August 31, 1869 an ordinance was passed to establish and regulate a Police Department and ordered that this should be appointed by the Council of the City of Bayonne. It should be composed of one person from each ward to be called Policemen, one of whom should be designated or called Chief of Police. George B. Whitney was appointed the first chief. He was the man who for years campaigned to get the railroad through Bayonne. Michael Connolly and C. Van Dorn were the first policemen, being appointed by Mayor Meigs.

On December 7, 1869 an ordinance was passed to grade Avenue D from the Morris Canal to Cottage Street and on June 22nd of the same year, the first Board of Health was created in the City.

Harry Meigs, son of Bayonne's first Mayor was a member of the first Board of Health. In those days women's skirts were long, dragging the ground and there were no pavements. Purely from a sanitary standpoint, Harry Meigs advocated short skirts. His campaign for this innovation gained nation-wide notoriety and newspapers both complimented him and condemned him for his project. The *New York Times* gave a whole page to the subject in one issue.

*Taken from Bayonne Herald and Greenville Register, 1869*

### SCHWARTZ'S HOTEL

3rd Ward is quite a place of resort and entertainment.

*Every Week Something Going On.*

The enterprising proprietor on Sept. 1, 1869 presented

BENJAMIN'S VARIETY AND MINSTREL TROUPE

Which Gave Much Satisfaction.

---

(August 14, 1869)

### SALTER'S HOTEL

Pamrapo

Prop., MR. A. SALTER

*Picnic Grounds                      Dancing Platform*

*Music Every Wednesday Evening*

*The Most Glorious Woodland of New York*

*Tents, Swings, and Every Moral and Physical Enjoyment Are to Be*

*Found in These Grounds of This Family Hotel*

*Preaching in the Woods Every Sunday Afternoon*



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

### WILLOW HAVEN HOTEL

OVERLOOKS NEWARK BAY

Presents A Range of View That Takes in Large Picturesque Territory  
*Building Surrounded by Ancient Willow Trees*  
(There were 50 guests at hotel at this time)

---

### DR. DERBY'S DRUG STORE

ADVERTISES

*Paints and Brushes*

Rice, Flour, Spices, Soda, Cornstarch, Oatmeal, Mustard, etc.

---

### TOM TAYLOR'S SHOREHOUSE

REGATTAS

*Dinners, etc.*

---

On December 14, 1869 the Council moved to new quarters in the City Hall room (Hendrickson's Building) on Avenue D corner of Maple Avenue (now 31st Street and Broadway) and they continued to hold their meetings at that place for the next five years.

Hansen Carragan built the building where Hendrickson's now stands where there was a grocery store and two floors above. The City Council met on the second floor. Egbert Mellick ran a grocery store after Carragan and in 1878 Peter Wolff opened a saloon there, which he ran until around 1887 when he sold out to Charles Hendrickson. The building was completely renovated a few years ago and converted into a modern one where many activities take place.

*Taken from Bayonne Herald and Greenville Register, March 23, 1870*

### SALTER'S MISSION

*M. E. Sabbath School Exhibition*

SALTER'S HALL

Door Opens 7 P. M.

Exercises to Commence at 7 1/2 P. M.

*Tickets 25 Cents*

---

Saturday, August 13, 1870

NEW JERSEY

BAYSIDE HOTEL

at

BERGEN POINT

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

*Is Now Open for the Entertainment of Guests*  
Will Keep Constantly on Hand

LITTLE NECK CLAMS AND OYSTERS, STEAMED TO ORDER  
Meals Got Up to Order at All Hours      Soft Crabs Served to Order  
G. W. WHITE, Prop.

---

### STRINGHAM'S HOTEL

*Ice Cream, Ices, Soda and Mineral Water, etc.*

Opp. Bergen Point Railroad Depot

BAYONNE CITY

The subscriber respectfully announces to the public that he keeps on hand the best quality of

ICE CREAM, LEMON ICES, SODA AND CONGRESS WATERS  
also that he has fitted and furnished the new building throughout in the most complete manner with all the conveniences and comforts of a home for travelers or regular boarders

*Ice Cream Supplied Promptly to Order to Families or to Parties Upon Notice*

J. STRINGHAM, Proprietor

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### WYKEHAM INSTITUTE

BERGEN POINT

Sessions September 15th to June 20th

*For Particulars Apply to Mrs. W. Townsend Ford*

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*Taken from "Local Items"*

April 16, 1870

An old negro named Uncle Joe, once a slave of the Van Buskirk family of New Jersey, voted last Tuesday under the 15th Amendment for the first time.

Mrs. Robert Lewis was electioneering last Tuesday on an Independent Woman's Rights ticket. She anticipates the 16th Amendment.

The new North Shore boat "Staten Island" will not be completed before August. In the meantime the "Pomona" "Hunt" and "Huguenot" will make ten trips each way daily.

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*Taken from "Local Items" August 13, 1870*

Mr. G. H. White of the Mansion House at Centerville, has purchased the Van Horn Estate at the extreme end of Bergen Point and

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

will open this week a first-class retreat for fishing, boating, bathing, etc. the facilities for which are excellent.

---

In August 1870 the Hudson County Times Weekly was established by Edward Gardner and published at Bergen Point by the Times Printing Company of Jersey City.

The first annual tax assessment under City Charter was fixed by an ordinance passed in September of this year and amounted to \$31,620.

On August 30, 1870 an ordinance was passed to regulate swimming and bathing within the limits of Bayonne, that no person, unless clothed from the neck and armpits to the knees shall bathe or swim within 400 yards of the shore front.

The Bayonne Times was established in 1870.

An ordinance was passed to establish, regulate and control a fire department and the first one was organized November 15, 1870 in Pamrapo with a membership of about 35 and this was called the Bayonne Hook and Ladder Company. Other companies followed and every ambitious citizen identified himself with some one of the volunteer fire department companies and the membership lists contain the names of Mayor, councilmen, school trustees, health commissioners, county freeholders, etc. In 1870 there were three equipments with a total of about one hundred and twenty men. Fire alarms were sounded by the church bells. Steel locomotive tires, cut and hung by chains were struck with sledge hammers just as one still sees in the rural sections of the country today.

A match factory known as the Standard Match and Sulphur Works was located here under leadership of C. T. White.

There was a saloon in the Fifth Ward owned by William Early and later run by McGeehan. Dick Dorsey who was known as the "Mayor of the Sixth Ward" took it over at a later date. John Trollan ran a saloon known as "The Mad House."

The firm of William Laubenheimer & Bros. was established in the city in 1870 and is still serving the city with the best anthracite coal, coke, fuel oil, charcoal, fertilizers, etc.

The fares charged on the Dummy Road in 1870 in Bayonne to or from Jersey City was 14 cents or 9 tickets for \$1.00. Bergen Point to Jersey City 15 cents or 7 tickets for \$1.00.

The Chemical Works and Reynolds Paint Works were established here and reported good business.

Donnell's Shorehouse was well known and yachting parties often

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

had dinners in this famous place which specialized in oysters and clams. It was in Bayonne that clams were first cooked by steaming. The shorehouse was located on the Kills where it operated from 1850 on. There was a large turtle here for years. It had been caught in Staten Island. The date carved on its shell indicated that it was 60 years old when picked up at Donnell's. Mr. Frank Dobson was the last owner of the shorehouse.

The first sewer main known as the Cottage Street sewer was built in 1870-1.

The Mollineux Paint Works located in Bayonne in the year 1871 at the Hook and the small brick building which was their office is still standing.

The cost of living in 1870 may be indicated by the following: Oolong tea 70 cents per lb., Roasting beef 19 cents per lb. and potatoes \$1.02 per bushel.

James Brady's Sons Company dealers in masons supplies for wholesale and retail trade was established in 1872 by Mr. James Brady and in 1907 was incorporated as James Brady's Sons Company. The company has two docks, one at the foot of Lexington Avenue on the Kills and one at the foot of West 23rd Street and Newark Bay. It also has a yard on the Central Railroad at Avenue C and 7th Street.

In 1872 a revised charter was approved which provided that all the powers and authority vested in the so-called Map and Grade Commissioners, upon the expiration of their term should then be vested in the Mayor and Council. Their terms expired in 1873.

This same year the first street gas lamp for public use was lighted and a number of the streets in the first ward were lighted by gas, under contract. It was a great occasion for Bayonne and was the subject of a great deal of favorable comment.

The Port Richmond and Bergen Point Ferry Company came into existence during the year 1873 and the "long dock" was filled in.

Alvin C. Schroeter was the first florist in Bayonne having come here in 1873. He had his own green houses and raised his own flowers but as manufacturing came along the gasses killed the flowers and he had to discontinue this part of the business. His son, F. W. O. Schroeter has been carrying on the business popularly and successfully for many years.

"Local Items" taken from *Bayonne Herald and Greenville Register* June 14, 1873: "Donnell's Bayonne Shore House is daily the

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

visiting point for hundreds of Jersey City people who come to eat clams and enjoy the pure air."

*Bayonne Herald and Greenville Register*, Saturday June 14, 1873:

"Hereafter the license fee of an Inn or Tavern will be \$15.00; for a hotel \$30.00 per year. The former fees were \$20.00 and \$40.00 respectively."

Brady's Hall was erected in 1873 at Cottage and Orient Streets. It thrilled the residents and many activities were held in this hall.

### GERMAN ADVANCE

Early after the Prussian War, many Germans came to America. Quite a large number adopted Bayonne as their new home and they were soon known as the most progressive and forceful builders of the city.

The first Jewelry store in Bayonne was established by a Jersey City man at Avenue D opposite Dodge Street.

---

### BAYONNE AND GREENVILLE GAS LIGHT CO.

Oak Street corner Hobart Avenue  
Bergen Point

A. B. Warner, *President*

J. R. Schuyler, *Vice-President*

A. C. Humphreys, *Secretary*.

Parties wishing to connect with the Company's Mains, will please make application at the office or notify the Secretary by letter. Where grounds have to be opened to make connections, the company agrees to leave everything in as good condition as found.

---

*Bayonne Herald and Greenville Register* Saturday October 11, 1873:

### OLD MANSION HOUSE AT PAMRAPO ON PLANK ROAD IS STILL STANDING

Wm. Martin, the proprietor is still on hand.

The Squire always makes it a point to be at home. He belongs to the Point and makes a point of serving up all the delicacies of the season in such a pointed way that when you come to "point up" you are surprised that you have made such a "point of it:" but that is nothing



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

for everybody "smiles" when Martin leads off. Call and see for you know how it is yourself. Martin has always been just there at Saltersville.

---

*Saturday, November 8, 1873*

At Mankins' Hotel last Wednesday a large sale of valuable harness took place. The horsemen were largely represented and bidding was brisk.

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Hope Hose Company No. 2 was the second volunteer fire company in the city and was organized in 1873 on Avenue D at 27th Street and later moved its quarters to West 34th Street. This company was named after Colonel Hope of the Central Railroad Company of New Jersey. Other companies which followed were:

Bayonne Engine Co. No. 1 organized May 25, 1875 at West 7th Street.

Independence Fire Association organized June 26, 1876 at Broadway between 6th and 7th Streets.

American Engine Co. No. 2 organized June 29, 1882 with quarters on 22nd Street.

Columbia Hook and Ladder Co. No. 3 organized December 11, 1882 and was located on Orient Street.

Enterprise Hose Co. No. 1 was organized September 4, 1883 at East 22nd Street near Avenue I.

Hudson Engine Co. No. 3 organized June 25, 1884 between 27th and 28th Streets on Broadway.

Protection Engine Co. No. 5 organized March 1, 1892 Broadway near 50th Streets.

Washington Engine Co. No. 6 organized 1893 had neither house nor apparatus but met at Enterprise headquarters.

These ten companies participated in extinguishing some of the greatest conflagrations the city has ever seen. Among its memorable fires were the great Standard Oil Company blaze in July 1900; the Standard barrel factory fire and the Reformed Church fire on Lord Avenue in 1902.

The force of 600 men with its hand drawn machinery gave way to professionals and to horses, as in 1906 the city took over the department and made it a paid institution. Steam replaced hand pumps and buckets and the old volunteers yielded to professionals. However, spirit

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

of the volunteers lives on. They are with us today and will be remembered. Among those who did a great deal for the volunteers were: W. K. Smeaton, John McAdie, Edward Mullaney, John J. Gardner, W. Sembler, James Keegan, Charles Dougherty, James Hickey, Hugh McGeehan, William Barnes, William F. Hogan, James Gleeson, Joseph Stillger, William F. Roberts, George Mellindick, Chris J. Schmidt, William B. Scofield, Chris Rickett, Jesse Coles, George Deubert, William Keegan, Mortimer Clark, John P. Clark, Fred Bowman, Henry Harris, S. L. Osborn, William T. Ford, Joseph B. Heraty, George W. Mellor, John Cubberly, Ex-Chief Alfred Varian, John McCabe, John Byers, Richard Darcy, Robert Scott who served 8 years as President and many others too numerous to mention.

The Association of Exempt Firemen of Bayonne was organized September 23, 1892 with 16 charter members as follows:

Jesse K. Vreeland	Alvin C. Schroeter	Wolfram Flugel
Ebenezer C. Earl	Bloomfield Gardner	Jas. W. Laughlin
Henry Winkle	Wm. H. La Tourette	Thos. J. Clark
Elijah S. Dowe	Wm. H. Frevert	Wesley Salter
P. S. MacGillivray	Joseph B. Slaughter	Z. F. Donnell

Edward M. Griffin who was first detective of police and is now retired ex-police Captain is the only surviving charter member of the association. Jesse K. Vreeland was one of the Chief Engineers of the Volunteer Department and was named the first president. The membership is confined to men who served seven years with the old volunteer fire department which was abolished September 3, 1902 when the paid department was established.

The Exempts first quarters, after organization in 1892 were in the old building located on the southeast corner of Boardway and 30th Street and when they were relieved from service, the city provided quarters on West 34th Street which they occupied for many years.

Much credit is due Dr. George W. Mellor and his committee, consisting of Ex-Captain William Keegan a Trustee and to Samuel Odell, John Byers and George Deubert, building committee, for acquiring from the city in 1929 the present quarters for the Exempt Firemen. The new house on West 47th Street is a favorite gathering place of oldtimers for social times. Its walls are a veritable art gallery of rare and valuable photographs of many fires fought by the volunteers many years ago, of parades they have participated in and of other historic events. Also adorning the walls are helmets form-

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

erly worn by departed chiefs and foremen of the volunteers, memorials and tribute to fire fighters who were heroes of another day.

In 1884 the Bayonne Volunteer Fire Department came into possession of the carriage which today stands on exhibition in their headquarters of which the members are very proud. It is the oldest carriage in the state and is used only on special occasions. It was in service in 1862 at the Lady Washington Hose Company on Cedar Street, New York City, and in 1885 was sent to Georgia. The Bayonne Fire Department paid \$48.76 for it and it is all hand made. It saw active service in the Hope Hose Company No. 2 on West 34th Street until 1897 and many times the volunteers trundled the carriage to fires in the Bergen Point area and the Constable Hook Oil Yards. This was quite a trip in those days since it was rushed along the streets by man power. At the fires the men attached the hose to a steamer which pumped the water.

In the center of the main lower hall in the headquarters stands the old hose cart, painted cream color in recent years and trimmed with goldleaf. This vehicle contains about 600 feet of hose, steel tires, and carries axes and crowbars among its equipment.

There are billard and card tables around which the men gather every day of the week. Upstairs in the meeting room is a massive showcase well filled with cups and trophies won by the association.

The Exempts have many social affairs and reunions and today have a Ladies Auxilliary headed by Mrs. Kathryn Welcher. The members assemble there and live old times again and there's a lot of smoke in the headquarters that isn't due to a fire. Chief James G. Hogan is the present head of the city department, and William F. Hogan who was a second Asst-Chief of the volunteers in 1903, are active members. Chief Hogan had been a member of Columbia Truck and William Hogan was with Engine No. 1.

Other active members were: William N. Hutchinson, prominent local real estate dealer who had served with Independence Fire Company, William Laubenheimer who was with Protection Engine Co. No. 5, Frank Dobson, who served with Independence and John P. Byers who served with Enterprise Hose Company No. 1.

The volunteers were very loyal to their duties in the old days. A story is told about Foreman Samuel Goldenhorn of the Bayonne Hook and Ladder Company, who conducted one of the local dry good stores. He was in the chair of Dr. Mellor's office having his teeth looked after. A fire alarm was sounded. He sprang from the chair and ran to the

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

firehouse. The dentist did not have time to finish his work and as a result Goldenhorn could not close his mouth all night. Many stories similar to this are told daily at the headquarters.

In 1873 the city purchased Carragan's building for \$10,000. On June 30, 1874 the Council first met in the new City Hall.

The Woodbine Tavern and picnic grounds flourished at that time. The tavern was a small old-fashioned frame house and was operated by John Salter. There was a large grove with swings and a dancing pavillion where many jolly parties took place.

Willow Haven was a large hotel located near the Woodbine. This building was removed, divided into two parts, one of which became a tenement house at 48th Street and Broadway and the other went to Salters Hall at Center Street.

In 1875 an assessment was collected for support and maintenance of public schools, street repairs, salaries of city officials and for the lighting of streets.

In this same year the first chief engineer, E. Berry of the Fire Department was appointed.

Chestnutting was popular pastime at this time and many came from neighboring towns to enjoy the sport. There was an abundance of chestnuts grown in Bayonne.

*Taken from Bayonne Herald and Greenville Register 1879*

### ENGLISH CLASSICAL AND ART

BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL

FOR YOUNG LADIES

at

Bergen Point

Alfred E. Sloan, M. A. formerly President of the Kentucky College  
at Pewee Valley near Louisville

La Tourette Building

September 18, 1879

Day Scholars \$40. a half year

Advanced Course \$50. a half year

Modern Languages, Music, Drawing and Painting, extra

A. E. SLOAN, M.A.

LEPHA N. CLARK, A.B.

*Principal*

*Lady Principal*

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Constable Hook Cemetery advertises lots for sale



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

P. W. CONNELLY

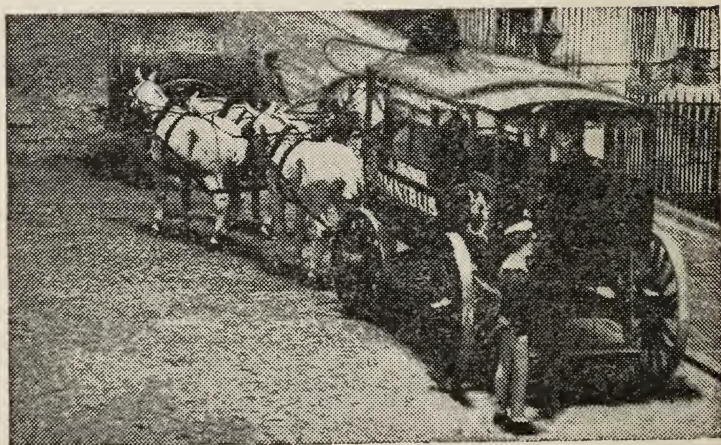
Furnishing

Undertaker

16th Street near the Depot

Bergen Point

Hearses and carriages to let.      Bodies laid out and preserved



FROM A MINIATURE GROUP BY NED J. BURNS IN THE  
MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.



## CHAPTER VIII.

### THE GLORIOUS 80's IN BAYONNE - 1880-1890

Oil and Other Industries Bring People From All Parts of the World to Bayonne: Contract for City Water; Avenue D Macadamized; Stage Coaches Bought From New York 1883; Horse Cars in 1885; First Apartments and First Bank; Streets and Houses Numbered; Electric Lighting; Free Delivery of Mails; Bayonne Hospital.

**S**TEPHEN K. LANE was elected Mayor in 1879 succeeding Henry Meigs. Mr. Lane served two terms, 1879 to 1883.

The Police Headquarters and Prison occupied the basement of the former Library, then the City Hall. The Fourth Ward Police Station occupied the old No. 4 school on Dodge Street.

Bayonne was divided into four wards and there were five public and three private schools. The Central Railroad of New Jersey had four depots and train service was adequate. Real Estate was on a boom and there was a remarkable increase in business. Many large manufacturing concerns were located at the Hook which gave employment to hundreds of men.

The oil works and industries at the Hook brought people from all parts of the United States and Europe. Ships from every nation began to arrive at Constable Hook. Ruhlman established a flourishing butcher business and served the surrounding territory. Cottage Street was the business street in the 80's. Charles Worth and Frank Ernst kept the first bakeries on this street and later Becker's and O'Neill's Bakeries were popular. Moloney's and Mahnken's Butcher Shops were located on this street. John C. Gibson and Otto Rasch had hardware stores. Adam Kunsman ran the first express to New York. This was called "Adams" express. It was taken over by O'Brien's Express and later became Masterson's Express. There were such dry goods stores as Rouses' and Brown's, the later being kept by Edward G. Brown's mother. Kreck, the shoemaker and Mahnken's Saloon flourished on Hobart Avenue. Mahnken was the City's leading pump dealer. One of the popular lawyers in town was Tom Clemens, who was a drummer boy in the Civil War. Dr. Fred Payne had a fine residence on 4th Street and Broadway and Dr. Hickman lived between 4th and 5th Streets on Broadway.

Bayonne became almost over night an Industrial City. The woods

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

and orchards began to disappear. New streets were laid out and shaded lanes and drives were cut away and Centerville grew to be the business center as it still remains today.

Oliver's Express boasted of the largest and best truck in the city.

### POSTOFFICES

The Post Offices within the boundary of the city were located at Bergen Point, Bayonne, Pamrapo and Van Buskirk's (Constable's Hook). The first named was on 16th Street, now 8th Street opposite the Central Railroad Station and C. T. Munn was the Postmaster. The second was on Avenue E, corner of Bayonne Avenue, now 33rd Street, with J. Murphy, Jr. as Postmaster. The third was the Saltersville Postoffice of years past, with M. Mullaney as Postmaster. The 4th was at Constable's Hook with G. Christians as Postmaster.

In 1879 the Police Department consisted of one Chief who was John Van Buskirk, and there were eight patrolmen.

Two weekly newspapers, the *Herald* and *Times* supplied the local news.

Proubsky's Hall was located at 22nd Street and John, which is now a Power house of the Standard Oil Company.

*Taken from Bayonne Herald and Greenville Register, 1880*

CONRAD MULLER & SON

Dealers in

*Fine Groceries and Provisions*

At New York Prices - For Cash

COTTAGE STREET

BERGEN POINT

---

WM. D. ALPERS

*Druggist and Chemist*

AVENUE D, NEAR CITY HALL

(CENTERVILLE)

Deutsche Apotheke - Pharmacie Francaise

A Full Stock of

*Drugs and Medicines*

*Imported and Domestic Cigars*

*Stationery - Fancy and Toilet Articles*

Prescriptions Prepared at All Hours of the Day and Night

GERMAN AND FRENCH SPOKEN

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

### MULLANEY

*Fine Teas      Wines      and Groceries      and Canned Fruits*

Choice Liquors for Medicinal Use

Genuine Havana Cigars

COR. OLD PLANK ROAD AND CENTER STREET

PAMRAPO

---

### BERGEN POINT

OYSTER & CHOP HOUSE

COTTAGE STREET, NEAR AVENUE D

*Oysters - Steaks - Chops - Etc.*

Served to Order

*Pickled Oysters a Specialty*

Families Supplied with Oysters by the Quart or Hundred, Year Round

The Best the Market Affords

JOHN S. FOWLER

---

### *"Local Item March 1880"*

A Democratic meeting was held in the 4th Ward at Toumeys Hall. A Ward Club was formed. John Bull was elected President and John Donohoë, Secretary. The club organized with 40 members and regular meetings were held Monday and Thursday evenings.

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At this time some of the following were located in the city:

Alfred Booth, Consumers Coal & Ice Co.; C. D. Ayers Drug Store;  
A. A. Smith; Conrad Muller & Sons; Alpers Drug Store; Julius A.  
Stegmair, Pharmacist, Cottage Street.

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*Taken from Bayonne Herald and Greenville Register, 1881*

### C. D. AYERS

PHARMIST

*Drugs and Medicines - Paints, Oils, Brushes*

*Perfumery and Fancy Articles*

Prescriptions Prepared at All Hours

*Confectionery      Cigars      Stationery*

AVENUE D, NEAR DEPOT

BERGEN POINT

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

LOCKWOOD

*The Undertaker*

Ave. D, Opposite Dodge Street

BERGEN POINT, NEW JERSEY

All Orders Will Receive Prompt Attention

*Open Day and Night*

---

JOHN MANZ

*Dealer in Men's - Ladies' and Children's Boots and Shoes*

Rubbers and Rubber Boots A Specialty

*Repairing of All Kinds Promptly Attended to*

COR. 27TH AND WILLIAM STREETS, CONSTABLE HOOK

BAYONNE CITY

---

JOHN A. SHEPNER

*Tonsorial Artist, Etc., Etc., Etc.*

27TH STREET, NEAR LUTHERAN CHURCH

CONSTABLE HOOK

---

H. HEINEKEN

Dealer in

*Cigars and Tobacco*

*Wooden and Clay Pipes - Fancy Goods, Etc.*

AVENUE D

NEAR 27TH STREET

CENTERVILLE

In 1881 Bayonne made a contract with Jersey City for water supply and in 1882 the first water main was laid at a cost of \$61,860.50. This water was unfit to drink but was used mostly for manufacturing purposes.

Prior to 1880 Bayonne was mostly a fishing and agricultural center, but at that time manufacturing took quite a spurt. Carr and Hobson, located at First Street and Boulevard, became very famous as manufacturers of agricultural implements. They employed as high as 500 people which was regarded as a very large business at the time.

The Coney Island steamboats plying between Newark and Coney Island became the time pieces for the oystermen along Newark Bay shore. The Magenta passed at 10:30; the General Sedgwick with a steam calliope passed at 11:30 and the Thomas P. Way passed at 12:00. Some of the oystermen of that time were, Ed. Mullaney, John

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Cubberly, William Keegan, later Captain Keegan of the Police Force, Tom and Sandy Keegan, Celus, Tom, Pete and Jim Van Buskirk, whose ancestors were Van Buskirk slaves.

In 1883 Avenue D, from Cottage Street to the Morris Canal, was macadamized at a cost of about \$108,000.

David W. Oliver was elected Mayor on the Democratic ticket in this same year and he served two terms, from 1883 to 1887.

The outstanding estate of this period was that of the Currie family. It consisted of a large brownstone homestead, a beautiful drive, a large acreage which extended from one bay to the other and lay just beyond the Morris Canal in the Greenville section.

The Currie family was very wealthy at one time and every Sunday the coachman took them to church in Greenville to services in the Reformed Church.

In 1883 when the old stage coach system on Broadway, New York, was replaced by the electric cable, James Cassidy bought six of the New York coaches from the New York Line. He also bought forty of the New York horses. Thomas Brady also bought some and they ran in competition to Greenville and return at regular intervals. Later James Cassidy sold out to Brady who ran the route for some time after.

An ordinance for the better observance of the Christian Sabbath was passed in October 1884. Public parades were prohibited, with the exception that military organizations were permitted to parade with appropriate sacred music on funeral occasions.

### GROVER CLEVELAND

In 1884 Bayonne was honored by a visit of Grover Cleveland, who delivered a campaign address two months before he was elected President of the United States.

Benjamin Franklin Butler, a General in the Federal Army, who was one of the Presidential candidates who was defeated by Cleveland, appeared in Bayonne on Dodge Street in a campaign address.

Some may recall: The Rosemont Cigar Store on Avenue D and Center Street, Pamrapo, was one of those famous old time cigar stores with the wooden Indian in front; Van Natta's Grocery Store: Doyle's Saloon; Harris' on Avenue D and 48th Street, a general store with feed, etc. and a rendezvous for shoppers; Manken's Eagle Hotel where many boarders were always on hand; Frank Harris' town house on Avenue D and 49th Street and Currie's Woods with its beautiful dog-



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

wood and lovely trees, mostly locust. All through the woods along the Newark Bay shore were silver maples (never seen today) oak trees and willow. Field's Coal Yards on Avenue D and the Morris Canal where the coal came in on canal boats from Mauch Chunk and the coal unloaded in buckets with derrick operated by horsepower; and at Bergen Point; the St. Charles Hotel opposite the railroad station, Charles Munn; the Bergen Point Athletic Club; Alonzo Stagg; Lovers Bridge on Avenue A and Mose Van Horn fishing off Rabineau Avenue.

Klein's Tourist Agency, noted for its enjoyable cruises, has given the people of Bayonne continuous service for 55 years, having been established in 1884.

In 1885 the Jersey City Bergen Point Railway was authorized by Bayonne to lay tracks on certain streets and to run horsecars thereon. The main line extended on Avenue C to Kill van Kull. Work of laying tracks on Avenue C from 46th Street to Bergen Point was started in the summer of 1886 and completed in November. On November 6th cars were operated between Bergen Point from whence they transferred by the Greenville stables to Jersey City Ferry. There was a through five cent fare operated on a 30 minute headway. Mules were used and the crew consisted of one man who acted as both conductor and motorman. Horses later replaced the mules. The 5th Street line was added in 1888. The service gradually improved as to rolling stock and speed and in August 1893 a change to electricity propelled vehicle was authorized. Double tracking for the electric cars was begun through Avenue C to Jersey City from Greenville, in September 1893.

Electric cars to Constable Hook were installed February 1893. There was a break in the line at the Central Railroad crossing as no tracks had been laid over the railroad and transfer of passengers was necessary; however, this was remedied later.

The Jersey City Bergen Company leased its lines in 1893 to the Consolidated Traction Company which continued the operation of trolley line including those in Bayonne until the North Jersey Street Railway Company took control in 1898. Public Service followed in 1903.

In 1885 the annual assessment included \$25,597. for support and maintenance of public schools; for salaries \$11,200; for support of Fire Department \$3,000. and for street improvements \$15,000.

Bayonne's first swanky apartments were built during the year 1885 at 201 Avenue D at 7th Street. These apartments, known as the

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

"Florence Flats" were built by the late Conrad Muller, who was a fashionable New York tailor as well as a resident of Bayonne.

On September 15, 1885 an ordinance was passed to authorize the Jersey City and Bergen Point Railroad Company to lay tracks in certain streets and avenues of the city and to run horsecars thereon. Sec. 7 of the ordinance read: "It shall be the duty of said company to provide and keep upon their horses attached to cars, while in motion, suitable and proper bells, to give warning of their approach and they shall not run their cars or suffer them to be run, at a greater speed than eight miles per hour."

The Mechanics Trust Company, which was the first bank in Bayonne, was organized in 1886 and was located at Bergen Point. It was founded under charter obtained from Legislature in 1872. The incorporators were Henry Meigs, Solon Humphreys, Jacob Schuyler, Rufus Story, Francis I. Smith, Hiram Van Buskirk, James W. Trask, Erastus Randall and George Carragan. The bank opened for business March 1, 1886. DeWitt Van Buskirk became Secretary and Treasurer in 1902 and three years later became President, upon the resignation of Charles S. Noe.

Julia Marlowe was trained by Ada Dowe of Bayonne. The Dowe studio was near 33rd Street where they labored many hours each day for a long time.

John Newman became Mayor in 1887. He was elected on the Republicans Citizen's ticket and succeeded Mayor Oliver. He served two terms, from 1887 to 1891.

Centerville needed a picnic ground and dance floor at this time. Columbia Park was, therefore, built in a chestnut grove on Avenue C and 23rd Street. It was an ideal spot. One Thanksgiving Day in 1889 or 90 an organization of target shooters came out to the park, started an argument with the proprietor and wrecked the park and beat up the police. The chief gathered up his reserves and some deputies and drove them out of the city.

On April 2, 1888 a meeting was held at Schuyler Hall under the joint auspices of the Land and Labor Club and the Bergen Point Debating Club for the establishing of a public library. Speeches were made by prominent citizens and resolutions were adopted favoring the establishment of a library under provision of an act of the Legislature passed in 1884.

In 1888 the great blizzard struck the east and Centerville was cut

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

off from the rest of the city for several days. All traffic was suspended.

During that year an ordinance was passed to number the streets consecutively from one to sixty-seven, many names of avenues being changed to letters of the alphabet. Before this time and after, during periods of rapid development, many streets were named for prominent families of the city. Among them being Trask Avenue; Humphreys Avenue, Schuyler Court; Story Court; LaTourette Place, etc. For convenience and identification, the houses were also numbered by consecutive numbers.

During this same year an ordinance was passed authorizing the Bayonne Electric Company to erect and maintain a system of poles and wires for electric lighting in the streets and public places in the city.

In February 1889 free delivery of the mails was established. Thomas Brady was postmaster and the city took on the name of Bayonne throughout; the names of Panrapo, Bergen Point, were permanently dropped.

Wigdor's Jewelry store was established in 1889. The store is located on Broadway and 21st Street and is managed by Isaac Wigdor and Dr. Louis Wigdor and is now serving the third generation.

The firm of J. M. Johnson & Co., Real Estate and Insurance, was established in Bayonne in 1890 and is still serving the people.

C. Haggerty & Sons grocery store was established on Broadway and 14th Street in the early 90's and is still doing a flourishing business with a branch store at Broadway and 41st Street.

The Bayonne Hospital and Dispensary was incorporated in 1888 and opened March 3, 1890 in the building on East 30th Street which was donated to the institution by Mrs. Alice Story Rowland and Mrs. Abbey Story Marshall in memory of their father, Rufus Story, with accommodations for forty patients. No restrictions as to age, sex, race or religious belief were imposed. It was to be supported by contributions, endowments, etc.

Mrs. J. Herrick was the first president of the auxiliary board. Mrs. Luther S. Cadogan and Mrs. Anna Van Tine were among the charter members.

The new hospital building, erected in 1927, has been enlarged in the past decade to meet the needs of the city. The main building is six stories high.

A new brick fireproof building to be used as a home for Nurses was

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

also added. There are twenty-five graduate nurses and eighty-four students nurses in the personnel in addition to a large staff of doctors. Two dieticians daily prepare the meals for the many patients. The institution maintains two ambulances which are in service twenty-four hours a day.

The population of the city in 1891 was 19,035. A contract for a new City Hall was awarded December 2, 1890 and a large two story and basement brick building was built at the corner of Avenue E and 30th Street for \$46,999. This is the same building which is being used today as the City Hall.





## CHAPTER IX.

### BAYONNE IN THE GAY NINETIES - 1890-1900

New City Hall: The Musical Till Family and Rockaphone: Shorehouses: Craft & Company Established, Now Creighton: Eddy's World Record Kite: Mayor Farr Reelected Without Opposition: Contract for Pure Drinking Water: Egbert Seymour Elected Mayor: Berry Guard Formed: Social Events: Arlington Park: First Thermometer Factory: Dr. Bert Daly A Leader in Baseball: Sports. . . .

ONE evidence of real progress in the "Gay Nineties" is the fact that in 1891 garbage was first removed by the city by ordinance. William C. Farr was elected Mayor in the same year and the Board of Trade was organized.

In 1892 the railway spur which was operated between Constable Hook and Communipaw for the purpose of carrying oil and other products from the Hook, was completed.

In the Fall of that year the new City Hall was completed at a cost of \$55,236.15. The grounds, however, costing \$9,046.43 brought the total cost to \$64,282.58. The building was occupied on October 21st. That was a great day for the city and the citizens celebrated the event as a gala day. Churches, schools, stores and dwellings were tastefully decorated with flags and bunting. A large military, civic and trade union parade was staged. The Fire Department and 4,000 school children participated in the event. The following day the City Hall was thrown open for inspection. Police Headquarters was transferred from the old City Hall to the new and additional patrolmen were added to the force. The citizens were aglow with civic pride and Bayonne was on its way to big and better things.

The Till family of Bayonne were very prominent in musical circles both here and abroad in the gay nineties.

In 1868, when William Till was 13 years old, his father returning from work as an engineer on a reservoir told him of the musical tones produced by striking the rocks with the picks of the laborers. The next day the father and son went into the mountains and hewed great slabs which they carried seven miles to their home in Derwentwater, England. These stones were sorted and chiseled to proper size. About one in every twenty carried into the village, proved satisfactory for their purpose and the Tills trudged up and down the mountains until

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

more than 50 satisfactory stones were found. William and his father labored in that lake district of England, where he was born, for twelve years in the manufacture of a musical instrument called the Rockaphone. This instrument consisted of a gigantic pianoforte keyboard of hand chiseled stone mounted on a wooden stand from which the keys are insulated by straw. The instrument has a scale of five octaves.

In 1881 the father with his two sons, William and Daniel, Jr. started on a concert tour of Europe. The first time the Rockaphone was heard in the Crystal Palace in London, the concert was attended by John Ruskin, the critic, who later sent Mr. Till a letter commending it. William Till was hailed everywhere with his instrument and his "stand" at the Crystal Palace consisted of 156 concerts. He gave 108 concerts at the Royal Polytechnic in London, 4,000 heard him at the Town Hall in Birmingham; 4,500 attended at the City Hall in Glasgow and 5,000 crowded into St. George's Hall in Liverpool to attend the concert. He gave 300 concerts in Ontario, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, Canada. Before the World War he made a concert tour of this country. In later years his daughters, Esther and Mildred, toured with him. One sang contralto and the other soprano. For a time, Mr. Till conducted a music school in Bayonne and for 27 years he was organist at the Reformed Church on Avenue C and 33rd Street. The Till family left Bayonne several years ago and now reside at 101 Park Street, East Orange, N. J. Mr. Till still has his Rockaphone in his possession.

During the 90's the shorefront was dotted with Shorehouses. Among the popular ones were Wheeler's, The Two Pines, McDonalds and Meisters. Every winter, when there was a blizzard, one of these shorehouses would put up a bottle of champagne as a prize for the first cutter arriving at the shorehouse.

The Two Pines was a large roomy house with a French roof, which was formerly owned by Mrs. Annette and located at the Boulevard and the Kills. It was operated at one time by Al Beling of the five corners in Jersey City and it later changed management and was called "Wheeler's," being run by a Mr. Wheeler.

McDonald's Shorehouse was located on Avenue C and the Kills, on one side of the Public Service Ferry and Meister's was on the other side.

These shorehouses were rendezvous for people who liked shore dinners and sea food. Chowder parties were popular entertainment for clubs.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

The lower end of Bayonne was a beautiful spot in the mid-nineties. Tallyhoes and other equipages were driven along the Jersey shore, their occupants enjoyed a gay luncheon at the La Tourette or the Riverside Casino or one of the shorehouses. They watched the boating from the porches and drove home again. The Kills, spotted all day with tiny white triangle of sails, with rowboats and puffing little tugs and steamers, was an interesting spot. Beyond its churning tide lay Port Richmond and the green rolling expanse of Staten Island, with one lovely home adjoining another, surrounded by gardens, lawns and graceful trees, was a picturesque sight. Bayonne in those days had a quality of peaceful beauty, of trees and shady roads, of flowers and bees, of "countryness," of lovely gardens and serenity.

Prosperity produces leisure and leisure produces social, sports and enjoyable life. The Newark Bay Rowing Association and the New Jersey Athletic Club, which later became the Knickerbocker Club of New York, sprung into existence in the 90's. The latter club house stood where the "Best Foods" plant now stands, and was used by the very best people. Ray Ewry, the great high jumper (he was Olympic champion) and Willie Day, the champion runner of the world, were often present.

Even though prosperity prevailed there were social upheavals, labor agitations and trouble. The Great Bayonne strike occurred, at which time the strikers marched. Their slogan was "22½ cents an hour or no surrender."

An insurance business was established in 1892 by Elijah R. Craft under the firm name of Craft & Co. They were identified with a New York house but set up the Bayonne office in order to handle the real estate business of the late Solon Humphreys. From a sideline business this was built up by the efforts of Louis N. Creighton, who became associated with Mr. Craft in 1893 to what is now said to be the largest real estate and general insurance business in Bayonne. This office conducts a general real estate business which specializes in factory property. They are active and outstandingly popular and reliable. Through the efforts of Mr. Creighton, large concerns have located here, among them were:

TAINTOR MFG. CO.

BAYONNE STEEL CASTING CO.

WALTER F. SYKES & CO.

BAYONNE CASTING CO.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

FLOUR WASTE & PACKING Co.  
CRANE MOTOR CAR Co.

In March 1893 the Common Council granted the Board of Trustees of the Public Library a ten-year lease of the old building (which was Council Hall) at a nominal rent, with the privilege of removing.

### EDDY'S WORLD RECORD KITE

Mr. William A. Eddy, whose residence was at 32 East 3rd Street, invented what is known as the box type of kite. The highest altitude reported was 5,595 feet which was made November 7, 1893. This was a world record. On December 5, 1895 a telephone and telegraph message was sent by wires attached to his kites up in the air. Because of this outstanding fete, the United States Government (Military) commandeered him and his kites as a signaling medium. Mr. Eddy died in 1910.

The City Dock was built at the foot of Ingraham Avenue at a cost of \$9,000. in 1893.

Mr. M. F. Freel edited and published a weekly newspaper called "The Democrat" during this year.

A franchise authorizing the Jersey City and Bergen Point Railroad Company to use electric motors as the propelling power of their cars, to erect poles and string the necessary wires therefrom, was granted August 16, 1893. Horse cars were abandoned and an electric trolley system adopted.

Mayor Farr was re-elected being the first Mayor ever elected without opposition as he was endorsed by both Republican and Democratic parties.

During Mayor Farr's administration the city obtained the property at the Boulevard and Newark Bay and from 14th to 16th Streets to be used as a public park at some future time.

In 1894 the reading room of the Public Library was opened to the public and a short time later the circulating department was opened with nearly 4,000 volumes on the shelves.

During this year a contract was made for Bayonne to receive water from the New York and New Jersey Water Company for pure drinking water.

On February 28, 1895 the Charity Organization Society was organized.

There was a fire in the old Combs Homestead on New York Bay, later occupied by the Pavonia Yacht Club. Mrs. Claffy, a music



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

teacher in New York, was living in the homestead for the summer. She later made her home in the city occupying a red brick double house on Avenue C and 38th Street where she conducted a music school.

*Taken from Bayonne Herald and Greenville Register, 1895*

"Mr. W. B. Fisk of Plainfield purchased the stock of the A. A. Smith Company and in addition has bought the property on Evergreen Street and Linnet Street, formerly occupied as a coal yard by Mr. W. J. Haver, consisting of 16 lots, coal trestle and feed building.

A new trestle and buildings will be erected on the property. Mr. A. A. Smith who established the business in 1876 will retain the management and his twenty years experience together with ample working capital will, no doubt, give the firm the success it deserves and which Mr. Smith's friends wish."

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### O'LEARY'S OWL INN

51ST STREET AND AVENUE D

*Large Hall for Lodge Meetings*

---

### PROFESSOR HOFFMAN'S DANCING CLASS

HALL OF B. R. A.

Tuition in all classes will embrace the latest and most fashionable dancing, deportment, etiquette, physical culture, cotillion practice, developing grace in pose, walk and carriage and the German..

*Inquire Brown's Music Store for Information*

747 AVENUE D

---

### ROWSES DRY GOODS STORE

COTTAGE STREET

JERRY LISK — FISH STORE

---

### ROBERT GUY & SONS

*Livery and Boarding Stables*

803 AVENUE D

Coaches to Let for All Occasions

---

March 23, 1895

PROF. S. J. LOWELL

*Director*

LOWELL'S MILITARY AND ORCHESTRA



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Music of Every Description Furnished on Application

*Also Pupils Taken*

36-38 W. GRAND STREET - NEAR AVE. C AND 50TH ST.

---

J. HERMAN MAHNKEN

*(Butcher)*

21 COTTAGE STREET

---

SUNDERMAN'S DRUG STORE

8TH STREET

---

March 23, 1895

"No fires in the trolley cars on Thursday and the mercury was in the vicinity of the freezing point; even the conductors kicked while some non-conductors swore."

---

The Postal force of Bayonne in 1895 consisted of:

*Postmaster* Edward O'Farrell.

*Chief Clerk* E. H. Whitney.

*Clerks*, William H. Hinchman, Nellie O'Farrell and Effie Donnelly.

*Carriers*, William Mann, Thomas Reilly, Charles H. Westendorf, James M. Ryan, Thomas McGinnis, C. B. Mettler, T. E. Sloat, John W. Carduff, Fred Schmidt, Arthur Butcher, Wm. J. Denton and Bartholomew Brown.

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During Mayor Farr's administration, more than \$350,000 was paid for street improvements alone, for which bonds were issued and sold as high as \$110.

The completion of the labors of the "Martin Act" Commission and its discharge by the Circuit Court occurred during Farr's term of office. This was the means of saving an expenditure of about \$12,000 per year in fees and salaries.

The organization of the detective bureau, the adoption of the fire alarm signal system and the paving of East 22nd Street from Avenues D to I, making it fit for public travel were also accomplished.

Egbert Seymour was elected Mayor on the Democratic ticket in 1895 and he served 4 terms and 8 months from 1895 to 1904.

In May of 1895 the Bayonne section of the Hudson County Boulevard was completed at no expense to the city. At this time electric

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

lights were placed on every corner of Avenue D illuminating the city from one end to the other.

In 1895 a Militia Company was formed mostly from the Center-ville section. This was called Company I, 4th New Jersey. The first Captain was Wilcox from 24th Street. Other officers were Lieut. McFarland from Greenville and 2nd Lieut. George C. Rhoderick from Bergen Point. This Company was known as the "Berry Guard" named in honor of Ed Berry, assemblyman from Bayonne, and followed in the footsteps of the Close Light Guards by going to the Spanish War in 1898, the Mexican Border in 1912 and to the World War in 1918 when it and the Fourth Regiment were merged into the 113th.

### BAINBRIDGE SMITH ENTERTAINS GRANDDAUGHTER

A notable event of 1896 was a Costume Ball at which Bainbridge Smith was host at his home on the Newark Bay shore front. The home and surrounding grounds were purchased by the city in later years and finally became a part of the City Park.

The guest of honor at Mr. Smith's Ball was his granddaughter, a daughter of the French Count Paraff. Many distinguished men and women from New York and other cities attended in costumes representative of every part of the East. Rich Turkish, Chinese and Malayan outfits were seen at the affair and Stephen Massey, famed music critic, William H. Savage, writer, and George Law, Millionaire Railroad man were among those present.

Colorful Japan lanterns were along the driveway on the spacious piazza which extended around the entire house.

The ballroom was 50 feet in length and 20 feet in width and had a beautiful corniced ceiling about 12 feet high. There were two ornamental fireplaces in the room and on the north side were four windows extending to the floor. The ballroom had three entrances, two on the main hallway and one on the piazza which dancers often used as a promenade. A library, reception room and cloak room also were on the first floor, with the family's living rooms upstairs.

### OLON HUMPHREYS ENTERTAINS

Another famous social event of the season was given by Solon Humphreys at his estate, "Pepperidge," which was on Avenue A between 10th and 11th Streets. This was an outdoor garden party and was a beautiful affair. An international motif marked the function, at which tents were erected on the grounds. The different pavilions were

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

reserved for guest of various nationalities, English, Irish, German and American.

Bayonne was a farmer's paradise in the 90's. Flourishing farms were in evidence everywhere. Cows in the pasture, fields waving with corn, the birds singing merrily in the woods, the occasional bark of a dog, the neigh of a horse, the crow of the rooster and "Gee-up" and "Ho"; these were the things that were familiar to all traveling along the Old Plank Road in the days of yore. Bergen Point was "the town" and all north of 14th Street was two-thirds woods; it was called "The country" with just a few scattered settlements here and there.

### OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THIS PERIOD

A lecture hall was located on 1st Street. For many years it served as a school. The Bergen Point Lyceum met at this hall for several seasons. The institution was organized to promote mutual instruction among the members. The exercises consisted of debates and lectures. Straw rides, sleighing parties, corn husking parties and singing classes occupied the time of the younger set, many of the events took place at the La Tourette House, especially during the summer.

Brady's Hall on Cottage Street was a dancing center for the working people of the city. Affairs held there were often elaborate. A fountain in the center of the floor which sprayed perfume on the dancers throughout the evening was a feature of one gala event, and the "order of the dance" or program was an expensive item, often costing as much as \$2.50. Wax hands with a ring on a lady's finger, ornamented the cover of one of the booklets.

Outdoor dances were held four or five times a year in the picnic grounds on the property of Henry C. Meigs.. Two platforms were erected there—one for modern dances and the other for folk numbers.

Water sports were of prime interest to a city surrounded by water. Excellent fishing and boating were available to all.

William D. Salter built the Arlington Park Dancing Pavillion at Newark Bay. During the summer of 1897-8 several baloon ascensions were made.

There were remarkably few fires during the year 1896. The report of Hyman Lazarus, Chief Engineer of the Fire Department for the year ending January 6, 1897 showed a total of nineteen alarms in the whole year.

In 1897 there were 41 miles of streets and 14 miles of sewers in the city.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

1897-99 the first Thermometer factory in the State of New Jersey and the City of Bayonne was opened. A. J. Tagliabue manufactured thermometers, hydrometers and barometers at No. 1030 Avenue D.

On December 3, 1898 St. Luke's Hospital on East 22nd Street was opened.

When Mrs. Rowland, one of the Story girls, left the old home to make her home elsewhere, she turned the house over to Professor Sloan who used it as an annex to his school which he conducted in the La Tourette Hotel. As late as 1921 the house was used as a boarding house called, "The Homestead" for genteel old ladies. At this time Miss Harriet Goddard was in charge. She died in Los Angeles in 1935.

### DR. BERT DALY, A LEADER IN BASEBALL — SPORTS

Dr. Bert Daly, one of the most popular leaders of the time, was quite a baseball player. He was manager of the Connecticut League and Captain of the team. His brother, Walter, played with the Baysides. The Westsides started where No. 12 school now stands and it was here that boxers were also developed, among them Larry Baker, light-weight champion. The Westsides had the best basketball team in the east.

The Centerville Athletic Club, which was a semi-professional baseball club, developed some first class players, among them were Jack Dunn, who later became famous in the baseball world, being called a styled utility player who played any position on the team and who later managed the Baltimore team and became its owner and it was from his camp that Babe Ruth came. Other players were Jim Fitzpatrick who won a medley championship in the 90's at the New Jersey Athletic Club on Avenue A. Morris Hickey was another outstanding player in the baseball world.





## CHAPTER X.

### THE BEGINNING OF A NEW CENTURY - 1900-1908

Historical Hook Fire; Democratic Clubhouse; Drakes Business College Started; First Automobiles; Thomas Brady Elected Mayor; First Police Trial Board Created; Pierre Garven Elected Mayor; David Horsley's Film Studio; Early Theatres; Gus Suckow, Jr. and Melville Hussey Juvenile Entertainers; Vounteers Supplanted By Paid Fire Department; Melville Park; William Jennings Bryan Visits City; Republican Club.

THE POPULATION of the city at the turn of the century was 32,722. On July 4, 1900 a destructive fire started at the Hook. It raged for five days consuming millions of gallons of oil. Several oil tanks exploded. The homes in the vicinity, which were mostly poor, were threatened and many took their household belongings and camped on the meadows to escape danger. The local fire department worked heroically day and night, many being severely burned and taken to St. Luke's Hospital. Fire tugs from New York assisted the local forces. The fire was estimated to be the most devastating in the history of the nation.

In 1901 the Democrats were holding meetings in Gallagher's Hall on Avenue E and Twenty-first Street and also in Quinn's Hall located at 418 Avenue D. They were planning to build their own clubhouse and all wards were banding together to that end. The clubhouse, located on Broadway and Twenty-seventh Street was erected in 1905.

Drakes Business College was started in Bayonne in 1901 with seven day students and six night school students. Charles Dell was Principal and Manager, aided by Mrs. Dell. The school was founded by William Drake in Jersey City in 1886 and incorporated under management of A. J. Gleason as President. This was the largest organization of its kind in America and the biggest private school buyer of commercial and text books.

In 1901 Smallpox broke out in the city and there were over seventy cases reported. Dr. Alvah Forman was the City Physician at the time and several other doctors were kept busy night and day vaccinating people.

On January 1, 1902 Mayor Seymour began his fourth term as Mayor. This year St. Luke's Hospital was totally destroyed by fire. Avenue C, from Fifty-fourth to Twenty-fifth Street was a dirt road and the contract was awarded to have this section asphalted with the

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

result that this improvement was made by the winter of 1902-3 at the cost of \$88,661.65.

When phonographs were in their early stage and a rare novelty, Dr. George W. Mellor, who had one of the first, was invited to Wake's Hall to give a demonstration. The people marveled at the new wonder as much as we of recent years have marveled at radio and television.

Automobiles were also in their infancy at this time and about the newest things in town. William D. Salter, was, no doubt, the first one to be seen riding around in this new gasoline contraption of which all the horses and people were afraid. One got into the first automobiles through a door in the rear and they were very noisy. The majority of people vowed and declared they never would ride in one and felt pretty much about automobiles as some do today about flying. Dr. Lucius F. Donohoe was also one of the first automobile owners.

The City Park was laid out during 1903 on the Boulevard and Newark Bay from Sixteenth to Nineteenth Streets.

Thomas Brady was elected Mayor in 1903 on the Democratic ticket.

By an ordinance passed January 19th and approved January 20th 1903 the first Police Trial Board was created. Egbert Seymour, Samuel Graham and John J. Cain were appointed a Police Trial Board to hear, try and determine charges preferred against members of the police force.

The Public Service Company took over the operation of the North Jersey Street Railway Company and ran trolleys from Bayonne thru to the Jersey City Ferry.

At the end of January 1904 Miss Phoebe Ketcham, Librarian, reported that the Public Library had a total of 12,898 volumes with 7,027 registered borrowers.

John J. Rooney, Clerk of the County Board of Health, reported that the population had increased from 32,722 in 1900 to 43,014 in 1904.

On the evening of October 29, 1904 the new Carnegie Library building was formally opened with appropriate ceremonies, the event being recorded as a most notable one in the history of the city.

Owing to the increase in population and the business at the City Hall, the City Fathers held a meeting in the early part of August for the purpose of obtaining a new building for Police Headquarters and a site was selected at the northeast corner of Avenue C and

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Twenty-sixth Street where a four-story brick building was erected and which is used today.

In 1904 there were twenty-six churches representing many denominations viz: seventeen Protestant, seven Catholic and two Hebrew and two Sisterhoods..

One of the first moving picture theatres in the city was located at 467 Broadway. John Byers, Jr. equipped the building as a moving picture showhouse but it was unsuccessful and was operated only a short time.

In 1905 Pierre Garven was elected Mayor and served two terms, from 1905 to 1909.

### DAVID HORSLEY

David Horsley, who ran a bicycle shop on Avenue C and First Street with his brother, William, opened the first and only film studio that Bayonne ever had. Their studio was located at 686 Avenue E. They were the originators of the Universal Moving Pictures of the silent days. They also had a moving picture theatre on Broadway between Forty-second and Forty-third Streets, where the City Market now stands.

Horsley's studio operated from 1905 to 1910 and Fatty Arbuckle's first pictures were taken here.

Mr. Horsley directed camera and filming about town. Many of his pictures were taken where the Hudson County Park now stands which was at that time mostly woods which were enjoyed for their beautiful rural scenery. The first Universal pictures were Western. Francis X. Bushman was often the leading man in the pictures of the silent picture days. Mr. Horsley often used someone's home to take scenes. The neighbors were thrilled. Sometimes the pictures were of Indians and Cowboys. This added to the interest. The fake fires often frightened people as smoke could be seen coming out of the doors and windows of homes which he obtained permission to use for scenery. The studio on Avenue E actually burned and many lives were lost as a result. Later Mr. Horsley became a prominent producer in Hollywood, when in 1912 with his brother he went to the coast and opened the first film studio there with a capital of \$2,500. They made such a success that many other studios were opened and made Hollywood what it is today.

David Horsley later bought the Hagenback Animal Show and he anticipated using the animals in movies but this was never successful.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Mr. Horsley made a great success in his adventure but, like many other over-ambitious men, he died broke a few years later.

The Bijou Theatre was built on Broadway and Twenty-third Street, where the Hudson County National Bank building now stands. For a while New York shows were produced. Rose Coughlin of Broadway, New York, fame played at this theatre, in "The Red Feather" and "The Ninety and Nine" was a feature advertised as coming direct from the New York Academy of Music. During the season of 1908, Manager Rusk arranged the best bills that could be secured with novelties in vaudeville. Neil Farley was booked as an illustrated Song Artist.

### WASHINGTON PARK THEATRE

On First Street at the foot of Avenue C, which was known as the Apple Orchard owned by the Dempsey Estate, the Washington Park Theatre was located. Washington Park, an amusement park was also located there. The opening of this theatre was in May of 1905 under the management of Mr. E. A. Schiller. The theatre was a small, peaked roof, frame building. To this little theatre, many leading lights from New York came, among them were Jim Corbett, famous heavyweight champion of the world; Maggie Cline of "Throw'em down, McClusky" fame; Harry and John Kernell; Lottie Gilson, Dorothy Russell, the beautiful and gifted daughter of Lillian Russell; Pat Rooney and his fifteen Street Urchins in singing and dancing specialties; Louis Granat, the world's greatest finger whistler and many others. The Park Gardens opened at this time also.

Little Gus Suckow, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Gustav Suckow of the uptown section, was making quite a hit as a juvenile actor. He appeared in Arlington Park where vaudeville was shown as well as Edison's newest moving pictures and where dancing was enjoyed to the strains of Prof. Siefert's music. He also appeared many times at the Park Casino where a weekly series of amateur nights, innovated by Manager Schiller, proved to be an attractive sideline. Little Gus gave impersonations of George M. Cohan, the song and dance man, with his high hat and cane. He was as much at ease behind the foot-lights as a veteran and his catchy songs of the day, interspersed with topical hits, never failed to tickle the fancy and excite the enthusiasm of his hearers. He was a drawing card at various entertainments at clubs and social affairs. Dorothy Purdy dancing the Cake Walk, accompanied him often.



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Theodore Roberts, who played, "The Squaw Man" on Broadway several seasons and also toured on the road in the play, lived on Avenue E and Forty-first Street for many years. He owned a boat the "Toby-wanna" at the Pavonia Yacht Club and participated in the activities of the club. He later went to Hollywood, where he was a great success playing character parts in the movies.

During 1905, Samuel H. Guy, a prominent citizen about town for several years, branched out in the Undertaking business. He secured offices formerly occupied by Undertaker N. B. Lockwood on Broadway and Thirty-third Street. He had been in the livery business many years at which time he furnished Mr. Lockwood with coaches and hearses and otherwise assisted him in funeral work. Mr. Guy later erected the building on Thirty-seventh Street and Broadway which is now the home of the Bennett Auto Sales Co.

### VOLUNTEERS SUPPLANTED BY PAID FIRE DEPARTMENT

The paid Fire Department supplanted the Volunteer Department on September 3, 1906 with Captain Sherwin as Acting Chief until January, 1907 when Alfred Davis was appointed Chief.

The Department consisted of five Engine Companies and two Truck Companies.

The manual force was five permanent men and five call men to a company including a Captain to each Company.

Christ Presbyterian Church became interested in outdoor life and sports and obtained permission in 1907 from the owners of the property at Avenue C and Forty-first Street to make a tennis court where for several seasons tournaments were enjoyed.

### BAYONNE OPERA HOUSE

The Bayonne Opera House building was erected in 1907 and was considered a very fine theatre. E. A. Schiller was manager for several seasons and stock companies were popular with the people of the city. Some may recall when Irene Timmons and Franklin Munnell were the leading actors at this theatre and some years later Lorna Elliott and Robert Le Seuer. Another prominent leading man was Roger Prior, the bandmaster's son, who has since those days made a success in the movies in Hollywood.

In the early spring of 1907 Otto Meister's Bergen Point Casino opened for the season with its usual fine cuisine. An orchestra of young ladies, whose playing was a feature of the previous season, continued to be a feature.



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

In 1907 Melville Hussey delighted hundreds by his singing at entertainments. He is remembered by many as wearing long curls and kilts as he sang, "I Love a Lassie." He was popular and was loved like Shirley Temple is today. In 1909 he played all the larger cities on Keiths circuit.

At a meeting held at the home of Mrs. Solon Humphreys the officers for the ensuing year were elected for the Bergen Point Lawn Tennis Club as follows:

Miss Humphreys, President; Mr. Janeway, Vice-President; Percy Borough, Secretary; Edna Brown, Treasurer.

The Ground Committee was composed of: Harry Eddy, Chairman, Roy Mulford, Austin Meigs, Margaret Winants and Margaret Meigs.

Another theatre of the early 1900's was the Bayonne Theatre. In December 1907 fire broke out in the theatre while a show was going on and the actors remained on the stage until all were out of the house. The damage was estimated at \$6,000.

At that time Donnell's Dancing Class, under the direction of Prof. Z. F. Donnell, was held at the La Tourette Hotel on Tuesday evenings.

Frank Melville took over the proprietorship of Arlington Park from Frank Kimmerly and called it "Melville Park." There were amusements, dance floor and restaurant and it was a popular center during the summers and free displays of fireworks were frequent. One of the features in the advertisements of the park was "30,000 electric lights."

*Taken from Bayonne Herald, Saturday Morning, Nov. 16, 1907*

### BAYONNE BUSINESS BREVITIES

S. J. Weidenhamer is selling not only pure drugs but pure Huylers candies.

A. E. Harris has put in a complete new stock of wall paper and picture moulding.

A. D. Woodruff is selling roast beef of unusual quality for 18 cents per pound.

E. G. Brown's Pianos are the joy of music loving people of Bayonne.

J. B. Gartley is selling a great many pairs of La France shoes for women. They come at \$3.00 and \$3.50.

Strauss Bros. are putting in a fine line of Christmas holiday novelties.

W. C. Oliver is a busy man and lucky enough to be busy always.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

In 1908 Bayonne again had the honor of having a Candidate for President of the United States visit the city. This time it was William Jennings Bryan who spoke at the Bijou Theatre on Broadway and Twenty-third Street.

During this year the office of Assistant Chief of the Fire Department was created and Lewis S. Bonney was appointed.

On July 1, 1908 the call system was abolished in the Fire Department and a full paid department established, 15 men being appointed to make the change, making 8 men to Engine Company and 6 men to Truck Company.

The Republican Club held the formal opening of their new clubhouse on Broadway and 29th Street with a dance on December 16, 1908.

Mr. Preston H. Smith was principal of the High School in 1908 and James H. Christie was Superintendent of Schools.

A new bridge over the Morris Canal was completed in December of 1908. While the bridge was being built, passengers had to change cars and walk across the old bridge at all hours of the day and night and in all kinds of weather. The old bridge had been condemned as unsafe.

*Taken from Evening Journal, Jersey City, Saturday Dec. 12, 1908*

### CAR DOOR BALKS AT MERRY WIDOW HAT

"A lady wearing a wide brimmed "Merry Widow Hat" attempted to enter by the narrow door leading into the pay-as-you-enter-car, when hat became wedged in door barring her entrance and holding up several other passengers. The incident occurred in front of Police Headquarters. Lawyer James McCabe who was getting off the car, came to the young lady's rescue."



## CHAPTER XI.

### 1909 TO 1914

John J. Cain Elected Mayor: Bergoff, The Strikebreaker Comes to the City; S. J. Harwi, City Engineer: Matthew T. Cronin Elected Mayor: William P. Lee Succeeded William Hamilton As City Clerk: Fire Department's First Steps in Motorizing: City Visited By Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft and Woodrow Wilson: Lyceum Theatre: A Municipal Flag Adopted.

**J**OHAN J. CAIN was elected Mayor succeeding Pierre Garven and he served one term, 1909 to 1911.

Pearl Bergoff was the third and reigning "King of Strikebreakers" who started life as a private detective and bodyguard for the late Stanford White. He accumulated a fortune by breaking strikes as a business. Probably no other man has influenced the fate of American labor more during the last quarter of a century. In three weeks "King Bergoff" earned \$700,000. from the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company; from the Erie Railroad he collected more than a million. He came to Bayonne in 1909 with the fruits of his earnings as a strikebreaker. The Red Demon, as he was called, started to build a place for himself in the community. He built a three-story, gabled roof, sixteen room house on the Boulevard. His place had the atmosphere and surroundings of plenty. He hired servants, and as the sun of prosperity continued to shine upon him, these were supplemented by a chauffeur and a part-time gardener. With his accumulated fortune, Bergoff began to feel the need for greater recognition than a big city like New York would afford him. Bayonne offered a better opportunity for display than the metropolis. He assumed the role of a leading citizen soon after his arrival in the city. He mixed with politicians of such prominence as the city could afford. Sporting circles began to know him. Imitative and gifted with a flare for the spectacular, he adopted Jim Farley's habit of patronizing the races. When golf became the proper pastime of the newly rich, he appeared on the links and played for stakes of a hundred and five hundred dollars. He golfed at the various Golf Clubs with Floyd Ramsay and Louis Creighton, the town's wealthiest realtors, and with Edward I. Edwards, Governor of New Jersey and United States Senator.

Bergoff built some residential houses in 1914 for the purpose of identifying himself as a local business man. He bought the old

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Schumaker farm in Greenville and made it ridiculous by placing upon it one hundred and six, two and three family houses. They were so poorly constructed that within three years they were an eye sore. As the crowning achievement of this building episode, he erected the Bergoff Building, which still bears his name at Twenty-second Street and Broadway. This was a conventional four-story office building, and was at the time, the largest in the County. It was the height of modernity, with marble and terrazzo walls in its lobby, and a terracotta exterior. Eleven stones at the top of the building bear in large Gothic, gilt letters, the insignia "P.L.B." He gave the Red Cross nine rooms in the Building when it was new and untenanted and Mrs. Bergoff raised a Red Cross flag on the roof in the presence of Mayor Pierre Garven, a Standard Oil Lawyer and two hundred militiamen. Bergoff Bros. & Waddell with a \$2,500. gift led the list of contributors to the Red Cross in 1916. He gave several hundred dollars a year to the Democratic and Republican parties, on the principal that it was best to be friendly with both.

Bayonne accepted Bergoff with no serious questions asked. He was a dashing, active, glad hand about town. With his marriage, he had cut the slender strands that bound him to Judaism and had joined the Catholic Church. Religious and charitable drives of all denominations called upon him and received help. Thus he passed across the Bayonne horizon, a blazing meteor. But his star went down and he quietly disappeared from the scene. On the Boulevard, where the Bergoff family once announced its advanced social and financial status, is now the ornate but depressing mortuary, Snell's Funeral Home.

Under the Cain administration, Mr. S. J. Harwi was appointed City Engineer, which he held under the administrations of Mayors Cronin and Daly. He succeeded Mr. Dalrymple who served as City Engineer under the administrations of Mayors Brady and Garven.

In May of 1910 Bayonne Park, formerly Melville Park, opened for the season under the management of Mr. William Strelsin. In addition to the amusements already in the park, new attractions were added. The open air theatre, Chinese Restaurant and roller skating rink were new features. Other stirring features were Mlle. La Belle and "Dare Devil" Hurley. The park ran for a few years until a Jewish Hospital group bought the property. The hospital enterprise, however, failed to materialize.

During this year Ed Mason's Vaudeville and Picture theatre which



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

occupied the Arcade Building on Avenue C near Twenty-third Street, was totally destroyed by fire of mysterious origin.

The Cavaliers Fortnightly Dances at the La Tourette Hotel were very popular with the younger set for several years and during this winter they had a Shirtwaist Dance, their usual Masquerade and a Cotillion at the end of the season.

Siegel Seeman, one of the brothers of Seeman's White Rose fame, disposed of his home on West Thirty-third, after the death of his wife, and with his three children left Bayonne. He moved to Riverside Drive, New York City. In later years, William Seeman, the son, married Phyllis Haver of movie fame and the daughter, Irma Seeman, married Rube Goldberg, the famous cartoonist.

Matthew T. Cronin was elected Mayor in 1911 and served for one term.

William P. Lee succeeded William Hamilton as City Clerk. Mr. Lee was first named an Assistant City Clerk on June 1, 1895 and served for eleven years. On October 10, 1911 he became City Clerk which office he held until his death. He was also Custodian of the flag and seal of the City of Bayonne.

In 1912 steps were taken to motorize the Fire Department. The Chief's automobile was purchased and placed in service on November thirteenth.

During that year Teddy Roosevelt made a campaign speech at West Eighth Street. The station resounded to great cheers of Bull Moose followers, the ticket on which "Teddy" was waging his fight for election to the presidency.

The Lyceum Theatre was built on Broadway and Thirty-eighth Street about this time and it was indeed a thrill to the uptown residents to have a theatre in their midst. This theatre was very attractive when new. The walls and ceiling were trellis work painted white with pink roses entwined around about and enriched by pink lights. It was regarded as a sort of rose paradise. One of the first serials offered was "The Perils of Pauline" with Pearl White. Young and old alike were fascinated with it as serials were a new thing at that time.

William Howard Taft, who was President of the United States from 1909 to 1913 visited Bayonne while running for re-election on the Republican ticket and made a speech in Constable Hook near the Standard Oil Company gates. This was near the "Chinese Wall." He was welcomed enthusiastically by the people.

Woodrow Wilson, Democratic candidate for president of the

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

United States, visited Bayonne at this time and delivered an address at the Bayonne City Democratic Club. He was given a very cordial welcome by the people of the city.

Up to 1914, Bayonne had no municipal flag. Accordingly Mayor M. T. Cronin, wishing to correct the oversight, requested Mr. T. F. Parker, then Chairman of the Library Board, to furnish some suitable flag designs for the city. Mr. Parker submitted one, a tricolor, red, white and blue, with a sailing vessel on the white space. William Mann presented a design showing a white flag with a deep blue border converging on each corner. In the center a Schooner-rigged sailing craft, emblematic of the fishing and oyster industry that once flourished in the waters that ebbed and flowed along the shores of our city. The tricolor design by Mr. Parker was adopted and so became the flag of Bayonne.

Joseph Neidorff has served the city by providing excellent electric equipment during the past twenty-five years, having set up in business in 1914. The store is located on Broadway between Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Streets and carries a large assortment of the finest variety of lamps, lighting fixtures and appliances.

## CHAPTER XII.

### A NEW CENTURY OF PROGRESS 1914-1918

Commission Government Adopted: Jitney Bus Service Inaugurated: Hudson County Park Completed in 1916: Two Platoon System Inaugurated in Fire Department: Mrs. William M. Wauters Praised for Executive Ability: Bayonne Day Nursery Founded By Henry Wilson in 1917: License Granted to Bayonne Athletic Association for Boxing Bouts.

**D**R. BERT DALY was elected Mayor and served from January 1, 1914 to April 21, 1915. In 1915, by popular vote the city adopted a Commission form of Government. The first five Commissioners elected were: Mayor Pierre P. Garven, Hugh H. Mara, Henry Wilson, Matthew T. Cronin and Horace Roberson.

William C. Hamilton served as City Clerk for more than forty years—April 1869 to May 1915. His signature appeared on thousands of official documents. Beside drafting the City Charter, Mr. Hamilton prepared numerous laws pertaining to municipalities and institutions of Bayonne and other cities. He was the custodian of records and the directing power in the municipal machinery for two score years.

Jitney Bus service was inaugurated in 1915. The first buses, Ford touring cars with elongated bodies, were operated in rather a slip shod manner. They rattled along in a very shakey way operating between Bergen Point and Fifty-fourth Street and Broadway. They were amusing sights, especially when jammed with passengers so that the bodies rested on the axles. They were of great service to the people, however. The Hook lines were a source of considerable confusion and complaint. The jitneys carried people from the Hook as far as Avenue E where the driver shouted, "All out." An ordinance was finally passed whereby both jitney bus operators and the public were benefitted.

In 1915 Mrs. William M. Wauters wrote the words of the Convention song, "New Jersey's Daughters" and she was made "National Flower" Chairman for the General Federation.

Dr. William W. Brooke was appointed Health Officer by Commissioner Henry Wilson, and served until the time of his death in December 1937.

Bernard McPhail, a sort of hermit, lived in a shack near Dressig's Grove at that time. He was a painter when he worked and became a sort of neighborhood character or curiosity before his death.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

The Hudson County Park, with entrance on Avenue C between Fortieth and Forty-first Streets and extending to Newark Bay, was completed in 1916. This is one of the beautiful garden spots of the city. Its beauty is enhanced by the fact that it is a natural park with lovely old trees. At the time the park was laid out, several homes were removed but the fruit trees, such as cherry, apple and peach, make the park a thing of rare beauty in the spring. There was a farm called Wyman's on Avenue C before the park was laid out. The large farmhouse stood far back from the street and the apples were an attraction to boys who could not resist a desire for fruit even though the landlord seriously objected. Bender's Farm was adjoining this and extended to Thirty-eighth Street. The park has a fine playground for the children and a wading pool with sandy beach. It has fine tennis courts and a baseball diamond. During the summer months, some of the churches band together and hold union services in the park on Sunday evenings.

In 1916 a dancing class for married people, of which Miss Geneva Walker was the instructress, was inaugurated at Geibel's Hall and was very popular.

August Kress made a reputation as a monologist and entertainer and was especially popular with the younger set.

On August 24, 1917, the two platoon system was inaugurated by the Fire Department and thirty-eight men were appointed to the Department to make the change and the Department was divided into two platoons. The working period was from ten to fourteen hours. Changes were made every fourth day. The office of Lieutenant was abolished and all Lieutenants were made Captains, thus creating uniformity throughout.

On March 31, 1917 in an open letter to the members of the State Federation of Woman's Clubs, Mrs. William M. Wauters was praised for the wonderful work accomplished by her. She was highly praised for her executive ability, her poetic and literary skill. She was endorsed by the six Federated Clubs of Bayonne (The Athena, Music and Literary Study Club, City Betterment Club, Woman's Club, Political Study Club and the Alpha Literary and Musical Club) for the office of Vice-President at large of the New Jersey Federation.

The Bayonne Day Nursery was founded October 1917 at Forty-one West Twenty-third Street by Director of Public Safety, Henry Wilson. Mrs. Luther S. Cadugan was the first President. Mr. Wilson, who died during his term of office, had charge of the City's Welfare



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Department at the time of its organization. Miss Lillian Buisson has been Matron since the opening of the Nursery. Only one child was entered on the opening day but attendance increased and a larger building was needed. Accordingly by 1919 the aggregate attendance was, for the month of November, six hundred fifty-eight children with an average daily attendance of twenty-five. The Day Nursery dedicated a bronze tablet memorial to Mr. Henry Wilson on October 20, 1933. The officers at that time were:

Mrs. Luther Cadugan, President; Mary J. Donohoe, Vice-President; Margaret Dennison, Secretary; Minnie C. Anderson, Treasurer; Mary A. Brooks, Corresponding Secretary; Mary T. Kavanagh, Maude V. Brady, Sophia A. Jozwiak, Frances G. Keenan, Anna Rubine, Rachael G. Smith, Marguerite Woodruff.

In August 1918 the office of Lieutenant in the Fire Department was restored. Provision was made for one Lieutenant for each Company and also for an additional twelve men.

At a meeting of the New Jersey Boxing Commission in 1918 held in the State House in Trenton a license to conduct boxing bouts was granted to the Bayonne Athletic Association. This news was welcomed by many Bayonne fistic enthusiasts who had patiently awaited for some action towards the establishment of an up to date boxing club in the city. Otto Levy, proprietor of a local meat market, Henry Grossman, who owned a successful moving picture house here as well as others throughout the State, and Stanley McCullough, Secretary of the Department of Public Safety, were named in the incorporation papers of the organization. Plans were made for bouts to take place at the pavilion in Bayonne Park, Fifty-first Street and the Boulevard, which had been leased by the Bayonne Athletic Association. The seating capacity was approximately eighteen hundred and this was enlarged to accommodate about five hundred more..





## CHAPTER XIII.

### 1917 TO 1923

Bayonne Plays Part in the World War: James J. Donovan and Cornelius Gallagher Received Croix De Guerre: Homer Axford Elected Mayor: Eamonn De Valera Welcomed to City: Alpha C. Jarvis Appointed Sub-Registrar: Transportation Improved: Robert Talbot Elected Mayor: De Witt Theatre Premiere Performance in 1923: "A Poem of Early Bayonne," By Peggy Guest.

THE call to arms for the World War was heard in 1917 and once again the citizens of Bayonne answered it and marched away to fight to save democracy. Some joined the Army and some joined the Navy. Train load after train load went through Bayonne to be transported to boats for overseas. The people cheered them as they went and it wasn't until the meatless days, heatless days, and lightless days came that they realized they were in war.

Naval boats often landed in Bayonne waters and the fair maidens of the town did everything they could to make the stay of the officers and sailors as pleasant as possible by giving parties and dances. They were glad to do this as their own boy friends were away at camps or overseas. Mrs. Lynn Jennison was a fairy godmother to the girls and chaperoned them from place to place as they were often invited aboard the boats for entertainment. The girls furnished home-made cakes and coffee to treat the boys who were away from home.

Bayonne's part in the World War was one in which every citizen should take pride. In addition to giving over 4,000 of her sons, nearly two hundred of whom made the supreme sacrifice, Bayonne over-subscribed the Liberty Loans by about \$6,000,000 and went over the top in every other war "Drive." The city contributed refined nickel in such vast quantities that they were practically able to equip the armies of the United States and the allies and also the navies of Great Britain and the United States. Bayonne boilers, to the vast total of 1,845,000 horse power, were used by the United States Army, Navy, Merchant Marine, Shipping Board and other Government agencies. Over 25,000,000 barrels of gasoline, kerosene, fuel and gas oil used by the United States and her Allies during the war were sent from Bayonne. Hundreds of ships were supplied with Naval guns, made in Bayonne, as protection against submarines. Nearly 11,000

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miles of wire cable for communication, field, mine and outpost were manufactured in Bayonne. We also sent out seven hundred and twenty-three finished submarine chasers, a total greater than all other yards of the world combined. Nearly seven thousand tons of steel castings and eight thousand tons of iron and steel rivets were made in Bayonne and used for war purposes. Silk for gas masks, many articles used for sanitation purposes, a constituent part of TNT, chemicals used in the manufacture of bombs, poison gas shells, and heavy projectiles, as well as doors for hangers, torpedo boat parts, refrigeration plants, and materials for the United States Ordnance Department were also "Made in Bayonne."

On July 1, 1917 wartime prohibition went into effect.

On July 3rd, Lieut. Col. Lucius F. Donohoe was welcomed home from the war by 10,000 citizens.

On July 4th the entire populace turned out to welcome local ex-service men in a big fourth of July parade.

An entertainment given at Opera House Hall for returned service men was attended by 1,500 people.

### THREE LOCAL GIRLS GIVE WELCOME HOME DANCE

A pretty welcome home dance was given at the Pavonia Yacht Club, foot of 11th Street and Newark Bay, by the Misses Dorothy and Gladys Mellor and Lillian Gillespie. The ballroom was tastefully decorated with signal flags, flags of all nations and American flags. It was a gala occasion. There were forty-five couples present and Prof. Roach's band of five-pieces furnished the music.

Among those present were:

Emma Applegate, Mildred Applegate, Ruth Darvell, Katherine Ince, Anna Grazing, Margaret Raichlen, Gladys Kern, Florence Sheehan, Helen Woodward, Evelyn Marley, Clara Nichols, Olive Loschnitz, Marion Dennis, Clara Hering, Helen Hagen, Hazel Thatcher, Rhoda Woodward, Lillian Geery, Mildred Rowe.

May Balfore of New York; Belle Harris of Freeport, L. I.; Madeline Nicholson of Brooklyn; Frances Kelly of Jersey City; Hilda and Helen Renbold of Jersey City; Alice Young of Jersey City; Mollie Begans of Jersey City; Laurette Begans of Jersey City; Laura Morgan of Pittsburgh, Pa., and the Messrs: Elmer Woodward, Junior Raphael, Harry Hayfield, Bert Stephens, Albert Urie, Earl Kenny, Lester Kern, Victor Conklin, Arthur Shaw, Lester Robertson, Griffin Pharo, William Morton, Chris Smith, Kenneth Foster, Edgar Collier, Chas.

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Fulshaw, James Doran, Raymond Hovell, William Burchell, H. B. Woodward, John Lowry, Luther Bunn, Alex. MacAdie, Ted Hagen.

Joe Harris of Freeport, L. I.; Chas. Stephens of New York; C. Rockwell of New York; Chas. Kinsel of New York; Jack Morrison, Westfield, N. J.; Clarence B. Maguire, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Dr. and Mrs. George W. Mellor; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Price; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tillou; Mr. and Mrs. John Gillespie; William McGovern of Jersey City; Frank Bonner of Jersey City; Arthur Muller of Jersey City; Warren Rhinhart Merrill of Jersey City; G. Anderson of Jersey City; B. McCabe of Jersey City.

A Memorial dedicating the Portraits of Our Boys who gave their lives for their Country in the World War took place in the Bayonne Public Library June 27, 1925. Those who made the supreme sacrifice were:

John H. Ahfeld, Harold T. Andrews, Florence Athay, John Alexander, Stanislaw Barcyk, Roy A. Beach, Walter Branscombe, Dennis V. Boyle, James Boyle, Timothy Coughlin, John Chulu, Theodore Cadmus, Wadislaw Chrzamowski, Edward Cronin, Anthony Cirbus, James Cuff, Harry Connolly, William Carner, Constantino Cavallo, William De Carnis, Harry Deering, Thomas Degnan, Colin R. Doane, Dennis F. Donovan, John J. Esker, James Egan, John G. Erwin, Morris Epstein, Frank Freeman, Patrick J. Fitzpatrick, Michael Forfe, George F. Freader, Amos R. Gonder, Samuel Greenstein, Stanley Gebrosky, Joseph Golzaboski, George Gross, Alfred T. Germond, Joseph Heidelberg, John Hinnners, John Harcher, John A. Harz, Frank W. Higgins, William Herbert, Michael Holmes, Joseph Honan, Timothy Harrington, Jeremiah Haggerty, Thomas M. Hayden, Howard Humphrey, Martin Joyce, Thomas Johnson, Patrick Kearney, James Joseph Keating, P. J. Kane, Peter Edward Leddy, William A. Lauenstein, Thomas J. Lynch, Michael C. Lefante, Max Levine, Joseph Musante, Fred A. Mackenzie, Joseph Mangialomini, Walter McCormick, Michael Micklosh, Ralph Cushing Morse, Edward Macklin, Joseph Macisecko, Joseph Leonard, Matteson, Joseph McCarthy, Carmino Mazzullo, Jack McGrath, John G. Nagengast, George A. Neal, Michael Nickolos, Andrew Orlando, Charles O'Donnell, Walter Orlek, Joseph J. Passuth, William J. Pauser, John Rearden, William C. Ring, John J. Reilly, Felix Ramatowski, John Ransa, Frank Richards, Howard Suckow, Abraham Staller, Edward F. Syrop, John Shellhorn, Charlton Suydam, Michael Sullivan, Martin Stanton, John Spavin, Edward Service, Jesus Sanchez, George H.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Saunders, Jr., John Edward Vanca, William Wauters, Joseph Wade, Joseph A. Walsh, William Westlake, James Ward and Joseph Tkac.

### AN OUTSTANDING GOLD STAR MOTHER

Mrs. Josephine Harz of 894 Avenue C is a very active Gold Star Mother. She had the honor of being the State President in 1939 of the American Gold Star Mothers of the World War.

Mayor James J. Donovan is the only living man in Bayonne who received the Croix de Guerre in the World War. He was also decorated by the Italian Government for bravery. Cornelius Gallagher also received the Croix de Guerre but he has since passed away.

Bayonne Post No. 19 American Legion honored twenty-six veterans at a meeting on February 12, 1940 when they were presented with 15 and 20 year Legion star cards indicating length of time of affiliation with local post. Among those honored were Mayor James J. Donovan; former Mayor, Dr. L. F. Donohoe; District Court Judge Aaron A. Melniker; Francis K. Strohoefer; Dr. M. J. Weiss; Dr. Leo Cooper; Counselor Bart R. Boyle; Dr. Sidney Chayes, John F. Doolan, Harold E. McCullough; Harrison S. Nichols; Andrew F. Pavlick; John M. Lang; John E. Schroder, Harry Rockmaker, Edwin W. Johnson, Thos. M. Hamilton, John Calverley, Jr., Theodore Winterhalter; A. V. Ripps, W. F. Johansson, Samuel Lipschitz, Edward B. Sweeney, Daniel J. Vasser; Demetrio Foti and Joseph Rutkowski.

On February 24, 1940 F. A. Mackenzie Post No. 165 celebrated its twentieth anniversary with a dinner-dance in St. Joseph's Hall. A feature of the program was the reading of the history of the Post by George S. Syme.

W. Homer Axford was Mayor of the City until May 14, 1923.

Eamonn De Valera was welcomed to the City and spoke at the High School where he was given a big ovation.

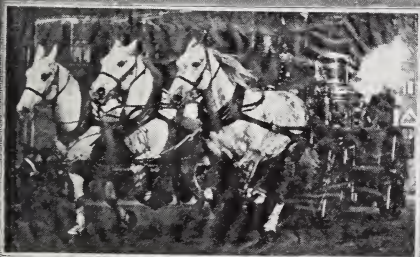
At this time a four-story storage warehouse of the Southern Cotton Seed Oil Company at the Hook was destroyed by spectacular fire.

Captain Sunstedt made a trial flight in Hydroplane "Sunrise" from the Pavonia Yacht Club.

On October 4, 1919 Commissioner Talbot urged fire inspection of all factories, halls and houses. He also urged Chief Alfred Davis to get in touch with Supt. of Schools and ask him to instruct the Principals of the several schools to talk to the children on the subject.

The Police Force in 1919 consisted of:







## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

One Chief; 1 Inspector; 14 Lieutenants; 6 Detective Bureau men; 110 Patrolmen; 1 Captain; 1 Superintendent.

During the year the complete motorization of the Fire Department was accomplished by the purchase of the last required piece of motor apparatus replacing all horse drawn apparatus. Fourteen men were added to the department.

In 1919 the Jitney bus line split into two routes pushing into Jersey City making it possible to reach Summit Avenue (now Journal Square) on the buses of the same line by changing at the city line from Broadway buses to the newly instituted Boulevard bus.

A \$20,000 bonus was distributed among the employees of the Mechanics Bank in January 1920.

The old house at Constable Hook was torn down to make room for Standard Oil extension.

During January a glue pot in a barrel factory of the Standard Oil exploded resulting in the death of one man and injury to two others.

The plant of the Flower Waste and Packing Company was wiped out by a \$60,000. blaze.

Alpha C. Jarvis was appointed Sub-Registrar on May 25, 1920, a post he held until his death in 1939.

On Decoration Day 1920 veterans of three wars took part in an impressive Memorial Day parade.

During the year a special train bearing foreign born residents left Bayonne on a two day Americanization excursion to Washington, D. C.

In 1920 the Broadway and Boulevard bus lines divided under a gentlemen's agreement to adhere to their own particular routes. From that time on splendid service was enjoyed between Eighth Street and Journal Square. The Bus terminal has since then been shifted to Second Street, and the Boulevard. The ever-growing popularity of bus travel boosted the industry from the use of seventeen seat buses in 1923 to thirty-three and thirty-nine seat buses, while the number of vehicles has been greatly increased.

The South Hudson County Boulevard Bus Owner's Association was organized in 1922 and is composed of private bus owners who have banded together for uniformity in service and other advantages.

All night service was inaugurated in 1922, buses running every half hour on week days and Saturday night every 15 minutes after 2 A. M.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

During the year 1921 the famous Old La Tourette Hotel, which played such a spectacular role in Bayonne history, was condemned and torn down and the land was converted into what is now known as La Tourette Park as a sort of a memorial to the old shrine.

An ordinance for the purchase of land and the construction of a Junior Vocational High School costing \$1,200,000 was passed during the Axford administration, 1919-1923.

Old Jim Jackson, as he came to be familiarly known, a negro who lived in a hut on the New York Bay shore at the foot of 41st Street was a character that all fishermen knew. He lived in an abandoned boat locker for 40 years. It was covered with tar paper on the outside and looked like a big packing box, much the worse for wear. From the lean tin chimney on the roof, a thin stream of smoke was the only sign of life and the stinging, howling wind that came tearing across the bay made the shack seem frail indeed, as a shelter of a human being. But Jim Jackson, who never could remember how old he was, thought perhaps he was 85, sat at his stove contented because he was in nobody's way. He was born in Bergen Point. For the first 40 years of his life he worked at various jobs from farming to driving a coal wagon. He was a fisherman, too. He earned his livelihood catching oysters, eels and crabs in the bay. The fishermen were kind to him and always remembered him at Christmas. When asked about what he would like, he always said he would just like something good to eat and maybe a little chewin' tobacco.

May 15, 1923 Robert Talbot was elected Mayor to serve until May 17, 1927.

At this time the Jewish population in the city was estimated to be about 25,000.

During this year nine men were added to the Fire Department.

In 1923 the City Commissioners were:

Mayor Robert Talbot, Dr. Bert Daly, Homer Axford, Patrick O'Connell, Harry Hosford.

On Thursday, December 20, 1923 the De Witt Theatre gave its premiere performance, with the finest motion pictures that could be had and vaudeville (6 acts) supplied by B. F. Keith. A very fine \$35,000. Wurlitzer organ was installed in the theatre and the patrons were entertained with a combination of organ and orchestra. The managing director was David Keizerstein.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

A POEM OF EARLY BAYONNE

I often heard Old Grandad relate  
Of old Bayonne in its infancy state.  
Seems not so long ago, but I have no date,  
Pioneered before my days at any rate.

Changed are the scenes on thy verdant shore,  
Spacious homes of wealth are seen no more,  
Nor the La Tourette House, where society reigned,  
And with pompous splendor entertained.

Changed are the paths we used to know  
From Bergen Point to Pamrapo,  
Gone are the gardens and shady trees  
That filled the air with scented breeze.

Gone Lover's Bridge where oft were told  
Sweet tales of love that never grow old.  
The farmer's cottage in summer time  
Was decked with climbing roses and columbine.

Gone are the Apple trees which added joys  
To climbing spirit of daring boys,  
And luscious berries we used to seek  
Along the banks of Patty-Kill-Creek.

The steamer "Red Jacket" is seen no more  
Tooting its merry whistle on reaching shore. .  
No fishing now from convenient rock,  
Or the better place at Humphrey's dock.

Now all is changed to hustle and toil,  
Sounds of factories and smells of oils,  
With rushing cars and hurrying feet  
Along each busy well paved street.

PEGGY GUEST.





## CHAPTER XIV.

### 1924 TO 1930

Garden Apartments Built in Campaign for Industrial Housing: Hermeneau-Rogow Stadium Built in 1925: Vincent Lopez in Bayonne: Walter Clarkson, City Engineer: Standard Oil Company Won Suit Over Burial Grounds at Hook: Goldman Band Presented By Kiwanis Club: Dr. Bert Daly Elected Mayor: Bayonne's New Postoffice: Fire in Old City Hotel: Frank McPherson, Chief Engineer of Commander Byrd's Antarctic Expedition: Charles A. Lindbergh Visited Elco Works: Bus Line Operated Between New York City and Bayonne: Dr. George W. Mellor Honored at Smoker.

THE Board of Commissioners passed three separate ordinances on August 20, 1924, to borrow money for the Board of Education. One of the ordinances provided for \$1,614,000 for the Junior High School; a second for \$192,780. for the grading of the grounds and equipment of the Junior High School and a third for \$45,000. for the purchase of additional land for playground purposes for the Mary J. Donohoe School. This unusual educational activity was evidence of keen interest along those lines.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller supplied the money for five apartment houses called the Garden Apartments. The first building was completed in 1924. These apartments were erected in a campaign for Industrial Housing and the last of the buildings was completed in February 1925. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and his wife both visited the city to inspect the apartments.

During the 1925 season the Bayonne Players Stock Company put on many very fine attractions and plays at the Opera House. The leading lady was Dagmar Linnette and the leading man was Walter Greaza, who a few years later appeared in New York plays. Others in the company were William Green, Hal Munnis, Hazel Hilliard, Joan Kroy, William Marr, Joseph Lawrence and one of our local girls, Miss Florence Stillwell, daughter of former District Court Judge Peter Stillwell, who joined the company and was a great hit. She was especially good in, "The Trial of Mary Dugan." Miss Stillwell is a graduate of the Boston Conservatory of Music and displayed great talent for the stage.

A new stadium, the Hermeneau-Rogow Stadium, which was at that time the second largest open air arena in New Jersey and located

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

at Bayonne Pleasure Park on West First Street, had its formal opening with a set of boxing bouts on May 8, 1925. It was estimated that the stadium had seating capacity of 12,000. This made it twice the size of any open air club in the State with the exception of Boyle's thirty acres in Jersey City.

Vincent Lopez and his symphonic orchestra, composed of twenty-five soloists, played before a capacity audience at Bayonne High School on October 13, 1925. The Kiwanis Club brought the Monarch of Jazz to Bayonne. "Good Evening Folks, this is Lopez speaking" and with the same salutation that thousands of radio listeners have heard, he raised his baton, and saxophones and trombones, piano and fiddle joined in a musical outburst which even grand opera patrons have come to acclaim as the folk music of the land.

Sally O'Neill appeared in person at the De Witt Theatre on January 22, 1926. Sally O'Neill is the stage name for Virginia Noonan, daughter of the late Judge Thomas F. Noonan. After leaving Bayonne, Miss O'Neill became a Hollywood star.

The population of the city was estimated to be 91,000 in 1926, an increase of about 14,000 in six years.

Walter Clarkson served as City Engineer with some intermission from 1926 to his death in 1938.

During 1926 forty men were added to the Fire Department.

Drakes Business College grew with great rapidity to three hundred students and occupied the entire floor of a large brick building on Broadway and Thirty-third Street. Charles Dell was principal and was ably assisted by a corps of efficient teachers.

The Standard Oil Company won a suit over the Van Buskirk Cemetery located at Constable Hook in October 1926. It was said that the last interment was made in the old cemetery in 1866 and that all bodies had been removed by 1905. The court said that the family vault had disappeared and that sand and dirt drifted over the plot until it bore no resemblance to a cemetery. The court held that the two hundred year old plot lost aspects of a burying ground since it was surrounded by oil tanks which barred the family from visiting the grounds.

The Bayonne Kiwanis Club presented the famous Goldman Band of sixty musicians led by the eminent conductor, Edwin Franko Goldman in person, for a concert in the Junior High School, October 21, 1926.

Mayor Robert Talbot, Director of Revenue and Finance, Harry

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Hosford, Lieut.-Col. Lucius F., Donohoe, Major A. A. Melniker and Recorder Eugene T. Sharkey were speakers at exercises held for Armistice Day in front of Washington School in connection with the unveiling of Memorial Name Plates placed on the Memorial Trees planted along Avenue B in memory of Bayonne's War dead on November 5, 1926. Services consisted of musical selections, recitations of "Flanders Field" by Commander Neil Gallagher of Leddy Post, Salute to the dead by the Municipal Firing Squad, Sounding of Taps by Bugler Franklyn Steckert and addresses by the prominent men mentioned above.

Bayonne's oldest woman died on February 16, 1927 at the ripe old age of one hundred and two, after a long illness. She was Mrs. Margaret Appleton of 15 Avenue B. She was also the oldest member of St. Thomas' Protestant Episcopal Church in New York City, and lived in Bayonne for many years.

Dr. Bert Daly was elected Mayor on May 17, 1927 and served to May 19, 1931.

The cornerstone for Bayonne's new postoffice was laid in 1927. The building is located on Broadway and Twenty-sixth Street. In addition to handling mails destined for all parts of the world, it also conducts various other departments affiliated with the postal service and has other government offices.

Fire broke out in the old City Hotel on Broadway and Thirty-second Street on February 2, 1928. The loss was estimated to be \$30,000. The City Hotel, which was managed for many years by the late Thomas F. Garrett, was one of the foremost gathering places in Bayonne. It was here that many social functions were held and the first political meetings were held. The passing of Bayonne from a residential city to a great industrial center was the doom of the old landmark as a hotel. It was converted into a manufacturing plant.

April 7, 1928 a twenty-four hour fire destroyed the Bolt and Nut Factory with a \$300,000. damage and a loss of jobs for one hundred seventy employees.

When Commander Richard E. Byrd's Antarctic expedition sailed aboard the "Eleanor Boling," named in honor of the Commander's mother, on September 11, 1928, Frank McPherson of 247 Avenue E was the Chief Engineer. Mr. McPherson was recommended by Mr. George Hooks, Assistant Superintendent of the Dollar Steamship Line. Mr. McPherson served on the Standard Oil Company and Vacuum Oil Company boats from the west coast of Chile to Buenos Aires and

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

traveled around the Horn and spent four years in China and the Philippines.

An outdoor swimming pool and open-air gymnasium on the Boulevard and Sixty-third Street was constructed in the spring of 1929 at an estimated cost of \$65,000..

Charles A. Lindbergh visited Bayonne in 1929 for the purpose of obtaining a boat from the Elco Works for his wedding trip. Many of the employees had the opportunity of speaking to him and he impressed everyone as being a "regular fellow."

In the early part of 1929 The Owners Association formed a corporation to operate a bus line between Bayonne and New York City at lower rates than charged by the Commuters Coach Corp. Fifteen new buses were purchased. The new company was known as the Boulevard Transit Company. They cut the price to thirty-five cents one way to New York.

The personal effects of the late Mrs. Lydia A. Elsworth, last member of a family that had been in Bayonne for one hundred years, were sold at auction in 1929. The old home, located at Avenue C and Thirty-third Street was sold at auction. One of the pioneer families of the Peninsula, the Elsworths came to Bayonne before 1830 from West-creek, Ocean County, and were engaged in seacoast fisheries. The late Joseph E. Elsworth, brother-in-law of Lydia, had great yacht racing ability and raced against the internationally known British sportsman, Sir Thomas Lipton.

William C. Smith was elected president of the New Jersey branch of the United National Association of Post Office Clerks at the 29th Annual convention held at the Woodrow Wilson Hotel, New Brunswick, N. J. on June 1, 1929. It was the first time a Bayonne man held the office.

On June 3, 1929 four Bayonne women were listed on the first enrollment of prospective jurors open for women to serve in Hudson County Courts. They were Mrs. Mary Boyd, Mrs. Agnes D. Germond, Mrs. Amile Du Bois and Mrs. Cecelia M. Pritchard.

State Commander August H. Bahr of this city, presided at the 31st annual encampment of the Department of New Jersey, United Spanish War Veterans, held in Camden on June 5, 1929.

Announcement was made, that for the first time in four hundred years, since the Society of Jesus came into existence, twins were ordained as Jesuit priests. The twins were Charles A. and Albert C.



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Roth, thirty-two years old, the sons of Conrad Roth of 79 West Fourth Street. They were ordained on June 23, 1929.

A freak thunderstorm lashed Bayonne and the entire metropolitan district with a fury of hail stones as big as marbles on June 15, 1929.

At the annual convention held in Atlantic City on June 15, 1929, Dr. Lucius F. Donohoe, Commissioner of Parks and Public Property at that time, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Medical Society of New Jersey.

On June 26th of that same year, detectives from Prosecutor John Drewen's office, descended on West First Street and confiscated a truck load of wheels and other alleged gambling devices, besides placing thirteen men, eleven of them Japanese, who were operating the stands, under arrest.

Bayonne does not own its own water supply system. It does own the pipe line from Arlington to Bayonne and the piping stations that give us the necessary water pressure. The water is from the Passaic River and is taken in at Little Falls, N. J. The East Jersey Water Company has a dam and reservoir at Little Falls and the water is filtered at that point. We buy the water from the East Jersey Water Company on contract and Bayonne enjoys very fine drinking water.

On Decoration Day 1930 very few Civil War Veterans took part. William Turbett, one of the three remaining members of Mansfield Post G.A.R. was grand marshal. All the survivors rode in carriages. Many organizations of veterans of the Spanish-American and World Wars were in line along with other organizations, Boy and Girl Scouts and school children.

Michael Donnelly, former steward of the Democratic Club, rode in a carriage. James Fitzpatrick, of Camp Gerardin, Spanish War Veterans, was chief of staff and active head of the procession. A good number of members of the Exempt Firemen's Association were in line, each in the regulation parade attire. William H. Keegan, was Grand Marshal. The old hose cart was pulled along in front. Dr. George W. Mellor, President, marched at the head of the line.

Other organizations whose members took part included Peter E. Leddy and Fred A. Mackenzie Posts, American Legion; Joyce Herbert Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Jewish War Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Bayonne Life Saving Corps. A party of Red Cross workers were also in line.

Grand Marshal Turbett and Chief of Staff Fitzpatrick and City

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Officials reviewed the marchers from the steps of School No. 3. Subsequently, graves in Jersey City cemeteries were decorated.

On November 10, 1930 Dr. George W. Mellor, retiring president of the Association of Exempt Firemen, was honored by more than two hundred members at a smoker and entertainment held at the Association headquarters on West 47th Street.

Five three-round boxing bouts featuring local pugilists was the outstanding feature on the program. The combatants included Johnny Toye vs. Young Adams; Carman Roman vs. Tony Carcelli; Fireman James Guarine vs. Harry Crosby; Young Shifty vs. Dave Sarg and Mickey Ross vs. Joey Girard.

Timothy J. Brosnan, the new president at that time, on behalf of the members of the Association, presented Dr. Mellor with a solid gold regulation Exempt badge. Mr. Brosnan reviewed the record of the retiring president and told of the latter's unselfish efforts in behalf of the organization.

Dr. Mellor told the gathering that he would continue to render his services for the local association.

The entertainment program included vocal selections by the Bayonne Elks Quartet: William Scully recited many humorous stories and Daniel Kelly sang several of the latest song hits and recited a poem which he composed for the Association.

The entertainment committee included George Mellendick, Chairman, Daniel Laverty, Henry Harris, John McCabe and Mortimer Clarke.

## CHAPTER XV.

### 1931 TO 1933

Dr. Lucius F. Donohoe Elected Mayor: Bayonne Symphony Orchestra Makes Debut: Kill van Kull Bridge: Captain Gibson, Who Towed Statue of Liberty into Harbor, Passes. General Joseph Haller, Polish Military Leader Visited City.

**D**R. LUCIUS F. DONOHOE was elected Mayor of the city May 19, 1931 and served for two terms, his time ending May 16, 1939.

In 1931 there were 41 churches in the city, viz:

Baptist 4, Christian Science 1, Episcopal 3, Jewish 8, Lutheran 5, Methodist 4, Presbyterian 1, Reformed 3, Roman Catholic 9, Greek Catholic 2, Roman Orthodox 1, Salvation Army Post 1.

There were 8 banks, 9 Building & Loan Associations with assets over \$12,000,000.

March 10, 1931 The Bayonne Symphony Orchestra made its debut at a concert in the Auditorium of the Junior High Vocational School before a large and appreciative representation of Bayonne people. Nunzio Pintauro was the founder and director. Miss Doris Boden was the Assistant Soloist and was called back to the footlights several times. Some of the members of the orchestra were: Harry Perlman, Pearl Abraham, Theresa Abramson, Peter Bernaducci, Raymond Blanc, Jos. Cali, Jos. Garretta, Mildred B. Cathers, Sidney Dauer, Floyd Denton, Sadie Halpin, Elizabeth Hoagland, Richard Johnson, Edw. Levine, Frank Livi, Vincent Nieli, Leopold Malinowski, John Olenik, Jas. Orrico, Albert Pasquini, Wm. J. Paulsen, Erna B. Rooney, Sigmund Sakowski, Catherine Smith, Jos. Smith, Sarah Solomon, Miram Tepper, P. Troisano, Madeleine and Marie Eddie, Wm. Hlad, Stephen Powell, Chas. S. Havens, Alphonso Massarelli, Alphonse Orrico, Anthony Pintauro, Wm. Burbella, Clara Gardner, Louis W. Lenk, Edw. R. Sage, Boyer Allen, Sam Cordosta, Paul Britt, Michael Gabrian, John Gebrhardt, Wm. Gotch, Edw. Amend, Harry Elly, A. Gehrhardt, Jos. Morris, Chas. Young, Stephen Kramer, Silvia Tannenbaum and Fanny H. Morganstein.

The Kill van Kull Bridge across the Kills from Bergen Point to Staten Island was built by the Port of New York Authority. This is the largest bridge of its kind in the world. The main span of the bridge is approximately 700 feet longer than that of the famous Hell

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Gate arch and slightly longer than the Sydney Harbor Bridge in Australia. It was completed and dedicated November 14, 1931 with proper ceremonies. The Governors of New York and New Jersey greeted each other, the city was decorated with bunting and flags and hundreds turned out in a parade.

Mrs. Virginia Richards, well known soprano of the city, appeared in a recital in the Salon de Musique in 1932 in the Barbazon Plaza in New York City. She is Choir Director of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Jersey City and she and her husband conduct a school on Thirty-third Street, Vere Richards being located in New York.

The Inaugural Ball, which marked the Anniversary of Washington's inauguration as First President of the United States, took place in the ballroom of the Knights of Columbus Victory Memorial Building on May 3, 1932. This was an important part of the celebration of the city's observance of the Washington Bicentennial.

Old Tug Captain, John C. Gibson, for many years a familiar figure in marine circles, passed away on August 13, 1932 after sixty years residence in the city. His sturdy tug boat, "Jersey Boy," towed the Statue of Liberty into New York Harbor, June 1885, aboard the French steamer, "Isere," which arrived here from Rouen, France. Captain Gibson did a large portion of the towing work for the Standard Oil Company for a long time.

In 1933 the Manual force of the Fire Department was as follows:

One Chief, 1 First Deputy Chief, 1 Second Deputy Chief, 1 Superintendent Fire Alarm, 2 Chaplains, 1 Secretary, 1 Superintendent of Apparatus, 1 Master Mechanic, 25 Captains, 3 Mechanics, 33 Chauffeurs, 2 Engineers and 127 Firemen.

On December 9, 1933 General Josef Haller, one of Poland's most brilliant military leaders, visited the city as the guest of local Polish Societies. Bayonne officialdom, military groups and more than 40 Polish organizations joined in welcoming the distinguished army officer.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### 1934 TO 1935

Mechanics Bank Closed Doors: Reminiscing With C. J. O'Neill: Poem By Mary W. Boyd: Taxable Property Values Declined: Record-Breaking Number of Students Received Diplomas From High School: First P.W.A. Loan Granted to City: Bayonne Celebrated 66th Birthday: Miss Hannah J. Shafer Honored: Bayonne Boasts of Two Women Physicians: Mrs. Shaw Celebrated 100th Birthday: Public Institutions.

ON JANUARY 2, 1934 The Mechanics Bank closed its doors. About six million dollars of funds of approximately 17,000 depositors and mortgage certificate holders were tied up. This was a severe blow to the business activities and interests of Bayonne. However, as evidence of the great recuperative powers of the city, the shock was soon overcome and business went on as usual. The Bank, which was never opened, paid dividends from time to time to probably fifty per cent.

January 19, 1934, (from clipping in *Bayonne Times* by Cornelius J. O'Neill):

#### HOW MANY REMEMBER?

The strike on the coal docks in the early eighties? Slogan: "Twenty-two and a half cents an hour or no surrender? Compare this with later day demands.

Dan Moran reading the *Argus*, newspaper of that day, to the assembled strikers? Father Killeen's activities in settlement of the dispute.

The recent heavy snow recalled many queer incidents of storms of other years. None so queer as the experience of Captain Tom McGrath, who had his eyelids frozen together while carrying dinners to the Hook in the early nineties.

Time was when Bayonne and Saratoga were the only watering places in the East. Bayonne actually led such places as Atlantic City and Coney Island.

E. A. Schiller got his start in the Big Time Vaudeville at Apple Grove, Avenue C and First Street and today he is a Vice-President of a big theatrical firm.

Some of the old-time saloon keepers who stood out as unusual citizens and of whom it should be said, no one ever apologized for them,



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

were: Dick Flood, Jack Reilly, Mike Freyder, Paul Suchorski, Patsy Dillon, Charlie Hendrickson, John McCarty, Adam Nuller, Ben Eggers, Paul Norwich and Din Herlihy. The present day fellows could easily profit by their example.

### FLASHBACKS

Harry Mainhard, manager of Bayonne's first showhouse, the Casino.

Bayonne's famous eating places, McDonald's, Wheeler's and the Two Pines . . . Meister's came later . . . Eddy, the Kite Flyer, taking weather observations . . . Bayonne's first Excise Board, Doc Mellor, Tom Meaney, Frank McCue, Val Bernhardt and Con O'Neill . . . All Democrats and Organization men.

Doc Mitchell answering all fire alarms before the organization of the paid department . . . Stage coach line along Avenue D from Bergen Point to Saltersville. Street planked entire length . . . Mayor Donohoe's horse and buggy. Some stepper!

Doc Hickman and Doc Payne. Stepping stone was in front of Payne residence, Broadway and Fourth Street until a year ago. . . . O'Brien's Express between Bayonne and New York. Goods called for and delivered. Tom Masterson carried on with equal fame and vigor! Barney Burn's hack stand at West Eighth Street Station. None but the real aristocratic could ride. . . . Dick Sunderman's Drug Store, Avenue D and Eighth Street. Worthy successor is present proprietor, Max Strauss. . . . Talking about horses, how many today remember Dick Butler and his thoroughbreds?

Fine horses call for fine blacksmiths and shoers, Bayonne had both. The expert shoers were Con Desmond and Pat Payton. . . . Veterinarians were also necessary, Joe Hooker, Man or Beast. . . .

St. Charles Hotel on Eighth Street was the gathering place for those in the limelight . . . long before Al Smith introduced his brown derby Mike Freel of Bayonne had glorified his brown derby. Do you remember the spectacular Colonel Page of the Bayonne *Herald* hurrying to the pressroom with copy. Bayonne in retrospect presents an absorbing and interesting spectacle.

\* \* \* \* \*

William W. Turbett died at his home at the age of 87, on March 20, 1934. He was a pioneer in the oil industry in the city. His going left only one Civil War Veteran, Michael J. Donnelly, who has since also passed to the great beyond.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

April 23, 1934 the Chairman of the Legislative Department of the Bayonne Woman's Club submitted the following report for the year 1933-4.. In making the report she said, "Apologies are made to the great poet, Longfellow, who wrote, "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere."

Listen, fellow members, and you shall hear  
Of the Legislative Department's wonderful year,  
A tale it will be, as far as I know  
Just as things happened each month, as they go.

The opening of the School of Politics,  
Was full of sincerity and no political tricks.  
Our purpose was of only one endeavor—  
To give our women a chance to be more clever. .

City affairs were brought to us  
By Judge Horace K. Roberson, who is so just,  
Workings of our city government he did tell  
Which made us feel that all is well.  
County affairs were also discussed  
By Supervisor John O'Neill, so august,  
He told of the doings of the C. W. A.  
How to get a new high school without any pay,  
Not only that, but he gave us a treat,  
A trip of interest hard to beat.  
Thirty-two by bus did go  
To visit our county institutions we all should know.

In December, Miss Maloney of State Fame,  
Spoke of the legislative game,  
And invited us to be her guests,  
At Trenton, where some legislators feather their nests.

In January no speaker arrived  
But the chairman spoke and made a drive  
For the 29th an interest to create  
As the Trenton luncheon was on the slate,  
By bus was gaily started off  
With freezing temperature and wind from the North,

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

But when reaching the capital, Oh, what fun!  
With lots of good eats and more to come,  
Through the city we did drive,  
Waiting for the clock to point half past five.

To Hilderbrecht's we did go  
To entertain our assemblywoman, who is not so slow.  
In the evening, we saw the workings,  
Of the Legislature and its jokings,  
The chairman was given the right to speak,  
And what she said was not so weak.

In February the program was great,  
Two clergymen furnishing a suffrage debate,  
One for us, the other against  
Made us feel we were of some consequence.

The annual luncheon served to one hundred twenty-five  
Demonstrated the group was well and alive,  
The menu served by the women of the Y.W.C.A.  
Was one we'll not forget for many a day.  
With Dr. Fitzgerald, Mrs. Platt and Keith  
True and Harlan gave words of belief  
That we, as a group, count for a lot  
In making the club worthwhile or not.

Rumors afloat, so Mr. Decker arrived  
And discussed the county consolidation drive.  
We listened and thought, and if we take care  
We know the plan won't get anywhere.  
In April at the Raynor home,  
A white elephant card party was all our own,  
With a little help here and a little there  
We were able to meet our financial share.

And now that you've listened and heard our tale  
Come next year and make the department your avail.  
And now for a time we'll close the door  
On the season of 1933 and '34.

(Mrs. Jas. D.) MARY W. BOYD.



Mike Mullaney's old Post Office  
West 49th St.

Inset—William Mann, Bayonne's Letter Carrier No. 1 (By courtesy of William Mann).





## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Mrs. Anna M. Sanford, aged 87, a member of one of Bayonne's oldest families, died at her home 691 Avenue E on June 10, 1934. She was born in Bayonne in 1847.

Thirty-one students from Bayonne were awarded degrees at the 102nd commencement exercises held at New York University on June 13, 1934.

Taxable property values in Bayonne declined \$2,936,228. from 1933 to 1934. Values in the County as a whole declined \$16,577,203. A survey of total 1934 ratables in the various municipalities disclosed the above figures.

Local retail stores displayed the Code Eagle on June 16, 1934 in observance of the first anniversary of the N.R.A.

July 1, 1934 Bayonne was granted its first loan from the Public Works Administration—a grant of \$600,000. with which to replace four miles of old and leaky water mains running from Arlington to Bayonne.

The Twilight League All-Stars walloped the Meadow-Brook Club by a twelve to four score before four thousand fans at the City Park Stadium. The proceeds were turned over to the family of the late Robert McCusker, founder and President of the Twilight League which was responsible for the most successful athletic programs the city ever had.

The population of the city in 1935 had grown to 88,979.

Mayor Lucius F. Donohoe, Bayonne's sixteenth Mayor, at a celebration of the sixty-sixth birthday as a city, greeted Henry Meigs, the fourteen year old great grandson of Bayonne's first Mayor, Henry Meigs. Bayonne became a city in 1869. The boy was accompanied by his father, Willis N. Meigs, grandson of the first executive.

Miss Hannah J. Shafer, former Vice-Principal of Henry E. Harris School, was honored on May 24, 1935 by the Fifth Street Reformed Church for her sixty years of outstanding service. Miss Shafer had taught in the Fifth Street Reformed Sunday School for more than half a century.

On May 27, 1935 the management of the three New Jersey refineries of the Standard Oil Company announced, at joint conference, that the employees would receive a 5% bonus, beginning with the first of June.

June 3, 1935 Miss Juliana C. Swiney, daughter of Dr. Merrill A. Swiney, well known local physician who operates the popular Swiney Sanitarium at 325 Avenue C, was awarded the degree of Doctor of

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Medicine at the 181st graduation exercises of Columbia University. Only one other Bayonne woman, Dr. Harriet Tracey Dexter, whose office is located at 903 Avenue C, it is believed, has ever been awarded an M. D. Degree.

Mrs. Rossa W. Shaw celebrated her one hundredth birthday at the home of her grandson, Louis W. Shaw of 66 West 35th Street on December 28, 1935. Governor A. Harry Moore sent a telegram reading: "Congratulations upon your hundredth birthday. New Jersey is proud of you and I hope you will be with us many more." The family had a dinner party and Mrs. Shaw received many gifts, flowers and congratulations. There was a twenty-five pound birthday cake with one hundred candles. Mrs. Shaw, at the celebration, said she enjoyed good health, never having had a severe illness, that she read without glasses, never danced, had never been to a movie and that the younger generation met with her approval.

In 1935 Bayonne ranked fourth among the manufacturing cities in New Jersey, the chief industry being oil refining.

### PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN 1935

Bayonne is amply provided with public institutions, both secular and religious, of which she is justly proud. Among these are:

Fourteen Elementary Schools, 1 Binet, 1 Junior High, 1 Senior High, 6 Parochial, Police Department of 172, Fire Department of 199, 41 Churches, 1 Hospital, 1 Private Sanitarium, 1 Large Library with several Branches, 750 School Teachers, 125 Acres of Public Parks and Playgrounds, 115 Clubs and Organizations.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### 1936 TO 1938

Firemen Discontinue Old-Time Uniforms For New: President Franklin D. Roosevelt Visits Bayonne: Statue of Liberty Ceremonies: John F. Lee Becomes City Clerk: Mrs. E. C. Woodward Gives Illustrated Talk On California and Mexico: Reinald Werrenrath Presented By Teachers Association: Lady Drummond Hay Visits City: Memorial To Gustav F. Ruh Unveiled: Federal Housing Authority Grants Money to City: Port Terminal Started: Captain Betsworth's Family Remembered: Mr. and Mrs. George Bayne Celebrate Golden Wedding: Last Trolley Rumbles Out Into History: Paul Wandelt Constructs Modern Radio System for Police Department.

**O**LD-FASHIONED uniforms were used by the Fire Department until 1936 at which time a beautiful, new design was created and adopted. The old uniforms had the peculiar distinction of being decorated in the back by an array of brass buttons. Chief Hogan said he never could figure out what purpose they served and said he thought they may have been a hold-over from uniforms worn by Generals in the Civil War days.

October 28, 1936 will long be remembered in Bayonne as the day when we were honored for the first time in twenty-four years by a visit of a President of the United States. On the above date, President Franklin D. Roosevelt paid Bayonne a visit. The event was held at Avenue C and Eighth Street. The occasion witnessed one of the greatest popular demonstrations in the history of the city. The people came to pay tribute to President Roosevelt, who, at that time, was extremely popular with Bayonne citizens. The city spared neither money nor pains in the effort to make the occasion one long to be remembered. Eighth Street and the entire vicinity was a mass of color adorned with flags and bunting and thousands of pictures of the President looked out upon the crowds from windows everywhere. A twenty-five piece American Legion Band played at the railroad station to entertain the crowd while waiting. A grandstand and bleachers, which in all, seated about eight hundred people, bordered the railroad grounds. President Roosevelt stepped from his train, coming from Washington, and got into his automobile and the machine drew up before the grandstand where a microphone was set up. The President delivered a brief address and then proceeded over the Bayonne Bridge to Staten Island, accompanied by Mrs. Roosevelt.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

After leaving Bayonne the President drove through Staten Island and then took a boat to Bedloe Island to participate in the ceremonies of the Fiftieth Birthday of the giving of the Statue of Liberty to America by France. There were radio hookups connecting France and the Statue of Liberty and Dr. Donohoe of Bayonne greeted Mayor Simonet by radio in Bayonne, France. Both American and French National Anthems were played. The Statue of Liberty, designed by Bartholdi, was made entirely by hand, and stands one hundred and fifty-one feet in height measuring from base to torch. The foundation of pedestal to torch is three hundred and five feet; the length of right arm is forty-two feet. There is a spiral stairway inside the Statue which is twenty-two stories high.

Miss Gleason, daughter of the founder of Drake's Business College, which closed its doors upon the death of the founder, organized Drake's Secretarial College and started a branch of the Journal Square school in the De Witt Theatre Building on Broadway and Twenty-fifth Street, of which Mr. Kipp of Jersey City is the Principal.

During the year 1937, John F. Lee, son of the late William P. Lee, succeeded his father as City Clerk. He was the youngest man ever to fill this office, being only 32 years of age.

In 1937 Former City Attorney, James Benny, a resident of the city for sixty-seven years and who served as Lamp Lighter boy, died at his home at the age of 81. He was long one of New Jersey's foremost lawyers. He was admitted to the bar of the State of New Jersey at the November term of Supreme Court in 1879. He became a partner of Thomas Clemens, who was related to Mark Twain and who was father of Miss Lillian Clemens, Vice-Principal of the Bayonne High School. Their law office was located on the south side of Cottage Street. Mr. Benny served as City Attorney under the administrations of Mayors Farr, Seymour, Garven, Talbot, Daly and Donohoe.

Mrs. Mollie Allaire, wife of the late Edward Allaire died at the age of 97, on July 18, 1937 having been a resident of the city 75 years, 65 years of which she spent at the last address 88 West 46th Street. She was a member of the 46th Street Methodist Church.

On October 22, 1937, at a meeting of the Art Department of the Woman's Club, Mrs. Elmer C. Woodward gave an illustrated talk on her recent trip to the Pacific Coast. She had a splendid exhibit of Indian and Pacific potteries, in which she had become particularly interested. The rare quality of the collection elicited a great deal of local interest and praise. Mrs. Woodward visited the Pasadena Bridge



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

and some famous old Missions including the "Wee Kirk o'er the Heather," a description of which was appreciated as they were informing. She compared Western life and opportunities with those of the East.

In October of 1937 the Teachers Association sponsored a lecture-forum course at the Senior High School at which time the noted American Baritone Reinald Werrenrath was presented in a lecture-recital "Story of American Song." Mr. Werrenrath, in tracing its history from earliest Negro and Indian Folk Songs, through the first Colonial settlers to the music of today, presented a romantic story.

On November 4, 1937 Lady Drummond Hay was presented by the Bayonne Teachers Association at the High School at which time she gave a talk on, "Dictators I Have Met." Lady Hay, a very charming personality, also told of some of her experiences as an aviatrix.

Also in November of 1937 a bronze tablet, in memory of the late Gustav F. Ruh, who served as Clerk of the Bayonne District Court for thirty years, was unveiled in the new Court on West 22nd Street with appropriate ceremonies. He was appointed clerk of the Court in January of 1907 by the then Judge, Frederic E. Chamberlain.

In May 1938 Mrs. Louis Knecht, Mrs. George W. Mellor and Mrs. Samuel Hackett were representatives and delegates of the Woman's Club to the spring convention of the New Jersey State Federation of Woman's Clubs which met at Haddon Hall, Atlantic City.

May 27, 1938, Frank S. Turbett of 816 Avenue A and James Halleran of 123 West Third Street were honored at a luncheon held in New York by Edward L. Shea, Executive Vice-President of the Tide Water Associated Oil Company, for completing fifty years of service each at the Bayonne plant.

On the eighth of June the Federal Housing Authority through its state office in Newark, earmarked \$1,800,000. for Bayonne's use in construction of low-cost dwellings in the city. The local housing board, named by Mayor L. F. Donohoe, consisted of Frank C. Davis, Cornelius Haggerty, Richard Vreeland, Joseph Topoleski and Joseph Golush.

On the 12th of June President Roosevelt approved a WPA appropriation of \$27,946.00 for the completion of the north Bayonne Park project.

City officials conducted patriotic ceremonies in the stadium of Veterans' Park, West 26th Street and Newark Bay on the 15th of June,



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marking the unveiling of a bronze plaque which commemorated the 150th Anniversary of the signing of the Constitution. Two thousand high school students assembled at the stadium to witness the school's Flag day meet, cheered as an American flag was lifted from the Tablet by Director of Parks, Michael J. Griffin.

The Bayonne Medical Society held its annual outing at the Blue Hills Golf and Country Club at Orangeburg, N. Y. on June 16, 1938. Dr. George H. Sexsmith was the winner of a silver loving cup for winning the "blind handicap" at golf.

On June 26, 1938 Bayonne Merchants and business houses held an intensified "Sales Mean Jobs" campaign to increase employment. The opening of the campaign took place at a luncheon sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce at the Industrial Y. M. C. A.

In July of the year 1938 the population of Bayonne was estimated by the Hudson County Board of Health to be 94,397.

On July 1, 1938 employes of the Tide Water Oil Company, who are members of the Employes' Association, re-elected six men as employe representatives for six of the twelve divisions at the plant. Those renamed were Edward Foerst, who is chairman of the trustees employe representatives, George Tenety, Patrick Gallagher, George Rawden, John May and Bernard Wood.

On July 3, 1938 President Roosevelt approved a Works Progress Administration allotment of \$61,083 for the improvement of the storm sewer system in Bayonne.

On July 11, 1938 the excavating work in preparation of the new Port Terminal was started by the Naples Excavating Company of Passaic. This work took five and one half months to complete and in addition to the excavating work, the Naples concern did the grading at the terminal.

On August 2, 1938 Miss Laura Betsworth, said to be the oldest native of Bayonne, died at her home. Her nephew, Mr. Harry Beltz of 161 Broadway, has photographs of the Old Dutch Reformed Church on Lord Avenue as it was burning. His grandmother's house, which stood at 56th Street and Broadway, for 120 years and known as "The Homestead" was torn down about two years ago. Mrs. Betsworth also has a facsimile of the Declaration of Independence printed in 1860 and a note written during the Civil War telling his grandmother of the death of her husband at sea. The note reads in part: "Fears are entertained for the safety of the schooner Mary Wesley of Deal Island, Chesapeake Bay. Stephen Betsworth, Master, cleared at Baltimore

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about December 21st with a cargo of 3,500 bushels of corn and 50 barrels of flour for Mr. Seth Adams, Jr. of Provicence—Captain Betsworth belonged to Bergen Point, New Jersey, where he leaves a wife and four children.”

Mrs. Marguerite Sopher, who is now eighty-four years old and who was born six months after her father's death in 1856, is another daughter who survives Captain Betsworth. She is a remarkably well-preserved woman. Her home is a treasure-house of old relics, books, odd pieces of china, souvenirs of bygone days. Her intellect is still very clear and she remembers Bergen Point, where she was born, as a little suburban village. Her most interesting recollections, however, are of Old Bayonne—the Bayonne of the Gay Nineties. Among some of the experiences of her career, Mrs. Sopher performed in early motion pictures at Studios located at Fort Lee, N. J. She played with Mary Pickford, Lionel Barrymore and many other famed stars who made pictures there. She married William Sopher, a conductor on the Central Railroad of New Jersey in 1879. He died in 1908 after a long illness. Mrs. Sopher, is no doubt, one of the oldest natives or one who has lived here uninterruptedly for so long a time.

Mr. and Mrs. George Bayne of 863 Avenue C, celebrated their Golden Wedding at a family dinner at the home of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Broome of West New Brighton, Staten Island on October 8, 1938. They were married in New York City, the birthplace of Mrs. Bayne, in 1888 and spent their honeymoon in Newburgh, N. Y., the birthplace of Mr. Bayne. They have lived in Bayonne for forty-four years and have two daughters, Mrs. Broome and Mrs. Marjorie Taylor and two sons, George of Bayonne and Howard of Roselle and three grandchildren, Mrs. Bert Starlin of Staten Island, Dorothy Bayne and Evelyn Taylor of Bayonne.

The last trolley car rumbled out into history for Bayonne on October 23, 1938 as rubber tired buses supplanted them on the Public Service route along Avenue C. This route has been one of the city's principal avenues of transportation, antedating the advent of the bus lines on Broadway. A solitary figure cast a professional eye on the passing of the old and the advent of the new—he was William Silberg of 84 West Tenth Street, who has been the Public Service road supervisor in Bayonne for thirty years.

The most modern two-way radio communication system in the world went into operation at Bayonne Police Headquarters on December 29, 1938. The new system supplants what was first municipal two-

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way system in the nation installed here June 15, 1933. Operation of the new set began as it was formally turned over to Chief of Police, Cornelius O'Neill, by Paul Wandelt, Bayonne radio expert, who has grown up with radio and was the manufacturer's supervisor during its installation. Beaming with pride, Mr. Wandelt proclaimed the system further advanced than any hereto installed in any city on the face of the globe. The new system was purchased by the city at the cost of \$7,600. through the Sheppard Supply Company of Bayonne and was installed by the Fred M. Link Company of New York City, the manufacturer. Mr. Wandelt, an employee of the Link concern constructed every part of the system himself. In addition to the main station at Police Headquarters mobile units were installed in a dozen police automobiles. Reception units are also installed in the Chief's office and in the desk of the Lieutenant's room so that they may be in touch with all alarms and other conversations at all times.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

1939

Lieut. Commander Edward Ellsberg Gives Talk at High School: Elissa Landi Presented By Teachers Association: New Fire House and Drill Tower: Bayonne Substitutes As Birthplace of Grandson of Mayor of Bayonne, France: First Cargo Discharged at Port Terminal: Historical Society Holds Dinner: Poem of Old Bayonne By Peggy Guest: Hobby Show Held By Womans Club.

**D**URING the winter of 1939 Lieutenant Commander Edward Ellsberg made an appearance at the Bayonne High School sponsored by the Teachers Association to deliver an address on the problems of war and peace. Lieut. Commander Ellsberg, who was Chief Engineer at the Bayonne plant of the Tide Water Oil Company for nine years, is the man under whose direction the S-51 was raised after it had sunk in a collision with the steamer, City of Rome, September 26, 1925. He is also the author of several books, among them being: "Hell on Ice," "On the Bottom," "Thirty Fathoms Deep," "Pigboats," etc.

In the spring of 1939 the Teachers Association presented Elissa Landi who gave a talk on "The Difference Between Stage and Screen Acting." She is also an author and some of her books are: "The Helmers," "House for Sale" and "The Ancestors."

On March 8, 1939, by approval of President Roosevelt, an additional grant of \$64,247.00 was given the W.P.A. for construction of Bayonne's new firehouse and drill tower, report of which was given on this date by United States Senator William Smathers. The project has been completed on City property at Sixteenth Street and Avenue A. The firehouse is two stories high and the tower five stories and is of brick construction.

On March 12, 1939 Bayonne, New Jersey substituted for Bayonne, France, as the birthplace of the grandson of the French City's Mayor. The child, a boy, was born at 2 P. M. at Bayonne Hospital to Mrs. Marie Simonet Pelanne, daughter of Mayor Pierre Simonet of Bayonne, France. The couple live on Tenth Street, New York City and Mrs. Pelanne explained that she chose Bayonne as the birthplace of her child because she was born in Bayonne, France, and since she was unable to return there, decided to come here. To make the kinship of



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the two Bayonnes complete, Mayor Lucius F. Donohoe, Medical Director of the Hospital and a Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor, brought the newcomer into the world. Immediately after the baby was born, Mayor Donohoe sent a cable to Mayor Simonet, reading: "Bayonne welcomes your grandson. Congratulations and best wishes."

### VIVE LA FRANCE!

Although hundreds of babies have been born at Bayonne Hospital, the arrival of this one had the institution astir. Some of the nurses strongly advocated raising the French Tricolor over the building to honor the event.

The Pelannes of Bayonne, France and Dr. Donohoe of New Jersey's Bayonne met upon the occasion of the Statue of Liberty birthday celebration at Bedloe Island. Mr. and Mrs. Pelanne were the Mayor's guests here in 1937 at the dedication of the new Senior High School, Mrs. Pelanne bringing her father's greeting from across the sea for the occasion. She was her father's secretary up to the time of her marriage.

On March 13, 1939 the first cargo destined for use in a local industry to be received at the new Port Terminal was fifty thousand bags of Castor Oil beans consigned to the Baker Castor Oil Company at 35 Avenue A. The S. S. Ayuroca of the Brazilian Steamship Company was the cargo ship. The vessel was a ship of 6,872 gross tons. She flew the Brazilian flag and makes regular trips between New York harbor and Santos, Brazil.

The Southern Cross and the Western World were tied up at the Port Terminal for some time. They were formerly operated by the Munson Line and have been turned over to the War Department by the Maritime Commission and will be used for Army transport service.

On March 21, 1939 the Bayonne Historical Society held its fourth annual dinner at the Industrial Y.M.C.A. at which time it commemorated the seventieth anniversary of the incorporation of Bayonne as a city. Approximately one hundred guests, including former Bayonne residents now living in nearby cities, were present at the affair which was marked by informality and good fellowship. The occasion turned out to be a delightful event characterized by pleasant reminiscences. Much laughter and fun was provoked by Royden Page Whitcomb of Westfield, who while living in Bayonne about thirty years ago wrote the book, "History of Bayonne" which is now out of print and considered valuable.



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Mr. Whitcomb paid tribute to the Historical Society for its work and especially commended John L. Collins, its president, who presided at the dinner. Arthur L. Hahn, Secretary-Treasurer of the organization presented a leaflet written for the occasion, entitled, "Historical Tour of Bayonne," and served as narrator while forty-six slides of historic local spots were shown on a screen. Arthur Houtz, instructor in visual education in Bayonne operated the machine in the place of Dr. Walter F. Robinson, Principal of Roosevelt School, who was present at the dinner but was called away. In addition to Mr. Collins, President of the society, other officers are William S. Donnelly, Vice-President, Mr. Hahn, Secretary and Treasurer, William Mann, Librarian, and Andrew Walsh, Charles Kelly and Mrs. Charles Dell, Trustees.

Mr. Walsh had on display Bayonne maps which he constructed. He and Miss Mary Walsh provided the decorations for the affair. Mrs. Sydney Chayes and Miss Walsh were members of the dinner committee. A musical program was presented by the Royal Grenadiers.

### OLD BAYONNE (Abracadabra)

Said Mike to Jim, let's spin a yarn  
Down at the Old Trolley barn.  
So on they went about Mrs. McGree,  
Trying with one fare to ride her whole family.

There was Mrs. Mulligan on the Old Plank Road  
Whom we heard with her flock using a code  
She'd the finest of geese and ducks in town,  
With nary a goat to run one down.

Then our loyal friend Miss Donohoe,  
Who has always kept No. 4 in view,  
With a heart as big as a barn,  
Who watched o'er us to keep us from harm.

There were the Brady's and Cronins of might,  
Who "soap-boxed" the corners at night,  
To show how to run the town,  
And keep the Republicans down.  
I saw old Doc Donohoe there too,  
He helped care me when I was two,  
I heard he is quite a politician,  
Can he care those ills too—here's wishin'!

March 21, 1939.

PEGGY GUEST

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Family heirlooms, handicraft exhibits and arts of all kinds were seen at the Hobby Show which the Art Department of the Woman's Club held at the Masonic Temple on March 24, 1939 under the direction of the Art Chairman, Mrs. Henry Allan Snow. Outstanding among the displays were a number of Batiks and other items from Java, Japan and China collected by Mrs. Snow while living in the Far East some eight years.

A fine collection of old photographs and paintings was displayed by Mrs. George Elterich of Jersey City. Some of the paintings were by her father, August Will, and were of such scenes as Morris Canal, Currie's Woods, Old Bergen Road and other local scenes as they appeared in 1895.

Mrs. Charles Sumner Havens displayed 1850 black walnut chairs. These chairs were covered in needlepoint done by her.

Two other antique chairs each 150 years old were exhibited by Mrs. S. J. Harwi and Mrs. John Gallagher.

Mrs. Harry Dunlap exhibited a quilt sixty years old and Mrs. Frank A. Beardsley showed a China Tea Pot, a family possession for the past one hundred years.

Mrs. Jesse Nielson exhibited a one hundred year old doll's head from Denmark, and Mrs. John Holding displayed two shawls, one worn in 1836 and another of the Civil War period. Mrs. A. C. Smith displayed silver spoons seventy-five years old and Mrs. William P. Stuart showed a hundred and fifty year old plate.

Mrs. Wayne Sinclair displayed Irish Lace from Dublin, an embroidered shawl from Havana, a Nightgown Sachet from England and other objects collected abroad as well as favors, nutcups and place cards which she made herself.

Mrs. Leidy R. Shellenberger showed a painting which she had done in 1889. Some original paintings were shown by Mrs. Frances Tingle, Mrs. Walter Gregory and Mrs. Meta Nielson.

Mrs. Percy Haring exhibited a 175 year old kettle, Mrs. Edgar Snell showed a 100 year old quilt.

Mrs. William M. Wauters showed a collection of original songs, one entitled, "Herbert Hoover" written in 1928 and also an American Flag made by her grandmother, Mrs. Garret Wauters, before the Civil War, and a silver dish 120 years old.

Tea was served during the afternoon with Mrs. Robert Lindsley in charge and Mrs. Silas Morse presided at a home-made candy hobby booth assisted by Mrs. Augustus Hargan.

## CHAPTER XIX.

1939-1940

Reproduction of Washington's Journey From Mt. Vernon to New York for Inauguration: Election of Commissioners May 9, 1939: Old Car Barns Razed: Exempt Firemen with Women's Auxiliary Maintain Laurels for Bayonne in State Parade: First Freight Cars Shunted Over Spur at Port Terminal: New Public Address System for Fire Headquarters: Boy Scouts Hold Camporee: John Armstrong Receives Patent on Golf Ball Holder: Bayonne Times Carriers Vacation at Camp: Shooters Island: Arline B. Cassidy Wins Contest in New York University School of Commerce: Ukrainians at World's Fair: New Super-Highway Along Newark Bay Shore: Benmore Development Dedicated: Mrs. George W. Mellor Directs Successful Garden Party for Woman's Club: Port Terminal Fishermen's Paradise.

GEORGE WASHINGTON passed through Kill van Kull on his way to New York for his inauguration on April 30, 1789. The event was re-enacted on April 23, 1939 when Denys Wortman, Cartoonist, played the role of Washington in a very remarkable drama which will be long remembered. He traveled by stage coach and four and upon his arrival in Elizabeth received the most noisy and colorful welcome of his 235 mile journey. He boarded a forty-foot barge and thirteen oarsmen rowed him fourteen miles through Arthur Kill, Newark Bay, Kill van Kull and the New York Harbor to the Battery. Cannon salutes, harbor craft whistles and display of flags and pennants hailed the "President elect" as his barge put in at the Battery at Pier 1 shortly before noon. There he was met by "Governor De Witt Clinton" played by Austin Strong, and General Henry Knox, Secretary of War." The impersonator of Washington took part in a ticker tape parade up Broadway to City Hall where Mayor F. H. LaGuardia received him. A luncheon followed at one P. M. at the Metropolitan Club, Fifth Avenue and Sixtieth Street. Mr. Wortman, as Washington, wore a white wig, boots, scarlet lined cape and other Eighteenth Century equipage all the way from Mount Vernon. The actual inauguration re-enactment took place April 30th at the opening of the New York World's Fair.

During his journey, Mr. Wortman, impersonating Washington, was more impressed by the welcomers in the little towns and at rural crossroads than the larger cities, where committees worked for success-

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

ful receptions. People waited in the rain at side roads, farmers ran across fields from their work just to catch a glimpse of the coach and bare their heads in unashamed reverence for the memory of Washington. Children fought to touch his cloak or to grasp his hand. Behind the scenes aspects of the long coach ride were tedious. Captain A. R. Willey of the 112th Field Artillery at Trenton, the coachman, was sunburned and windburned to the point of physical pain upon arrival and he said that hard modern highways and such hazards as street car tracks made the trip just as hard on the horses as it was in 1789 when mud bogs and other inconveniences abounded.

New Commissioners for Bayonne were elected on May 9, 1939. For the first time in the history of the city, there were twenty-seven candidates and everyone in the city seemed to be intersted in the race. Speeches were broadcast nightly on the radio and the Elks Quartette composed of Amos Harker, Jazz Johnson, Frank Arlington and Frank Kelly sang. Their theme song was, "Lend a Helping Hand."

With the heaviest vote ever cast in a municipal election in Bayonne, James J. Donovan, James A. Mullanaphy, Henry W. Murphy, Horace K. Roberson and Joseph J. Topoleski, candidates on the Home Rule ticket scored the most decisive victory ever registered in a Bayonne City Commission election. The margin of victory was overwhelming, with the winners leading their opponents by an average of 9,000 votes. For the first time since 1919, the voters of Bayonne put into office as City Commissioners, five men who ran on the same bracket. Joseph J. Topoleski was the first Polish citizen to be elected to the City Commission.

Fourteen firemen were hurt and one narrowly escaped death on May 11, 1939 when a fire engine was destroyed at a \$75,000. three alarm fire at the plant of the Woodward Lumber and Coal Company at Orient and Oak Streets. Thousands of spectators were attracted to the scene as the flames ate their way through piles of lumber and the wooden buildings. The throng jammed the streets and hampered the firemen as they strove to confine the flames to the yard.

Among the Bayonne delegates to the Convention of the New Jersey State Federation of Woman's Clubs at Haddon Hall, Atlantic City May 17th to 20th were Mrs. Louis Kuecht, President of the Bayonne Woman's Club, Mrs. Percy F. Haring, Mrs. Wayne Sinclair and Mrs. Oliver C. Klinger. Mrs. Jerome G. Stabile and Mrs. Theodore Kerner represented the Bayonne Municipal Christmas Tree Association.

The old car barns, built in 1863, when the Jersey City and Bergen



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Point Railroad Company received a franchise to run from the ferry to the Canal, were razed in May 1939. Thus another of the old landmarks disappeared. The only reminder left are the old tracks along Avenue C which remain as a reminder of the old trolley car days. The Public Service office in Newark had no further use for these old barns since the trolleys are gone. It is supposed that prior to the building of the barns in 1863, Dr. J. Parmley, the first dentist to make artificial teeth in the country, had his office and a small factory on this site.

Members of the Association of Exempt Firemen of Bayonne and the members of the Women's Auxiliary maintained the laurels for the city when they marched in Irvington in the annual parade of the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association. There were 100 of the old volunteers in the local delegation and they accomplished just what they said they would. They won two trophies, one donated by former Governor Harold G. Hoffman to the Association having the largest number of men in line and presenting the finest appearance, and the other tendered by the Order of Moose of Irvington to the Association having the oldest hose-carriage in line. The Bayonne Exempts readily won this prize because they paraded with their old carriage which they value very highly. The Exempts make a fine appearance in their red shirts, blue trousers and white gloves as they pull the old carriage painted cream color with gold trimmings. Former volunteer Chief Alfred Varian, who with his distinguished looking snow-white beard, never fails to march with his companions. He came down from his home in Connecticut for the parade.

Leading the delegation of Auxiliary members were Mrs. Kathryn V. Welcher, the President. The F. A. Mackenzie Squadron Drum Corps, Sons of American Legion, Post No. 165 served at the band unit for the Exempt Firemen while a girl's corps from Union City appeared with the Auxiliary.

On May 26, 1939 a new phase of activity of the port terminal began when the first freight cars were shunted over the spur along the causeway and out to the transit shed to load the 50,000 sacks of castor beans which arrived here on the Brazilian vessel Auyuroca last March 14th. The beans, consigned to the Baker Castor Oil Company had been stored in the transit shed since arrival. As shipping at the terminal increases, both trucking and railroad operations will be called into use for the handling of cargo. Spurs along the sides of the transit shed will permit the discharge of cargo directly from the vessels into freight cars when rapid handling is necessary.



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

A new public address system which will enable officers at fire headquarters to maintain a two-way conversation with all fire houses in the city was installed in May 1939, under the direction of Chief James G. Hogan and Joseph A. Geiger, Superintendent of Police and Fire Alarm systems.

The two-way system provides for better coordination in moving apparatus from one station to the other to protect the city in the event of a general fire alarm.

May 31, 1939 was said to be the hottest day of the year. Unofficial readings in factories and at public buildings in various parts of the city recorded the heat as high as 96 degrees, as the unseasonable weather wilted everyone from school children to workers in the Constable Hook industries.

On June 2nd Captain Charles Swanson of 46 East 46th Street, skipper of the Lehigh Valley Railroad tugboat "Athens," saved a Jersey City woman who attempted to commit suicide by leaping from a ferry boat in Jersey City.

June 3rd and 4th, 1939 were dates set aside for "Camporee" to be held by the Bayonne Boy Scouts at the County Park. It was estimated that approximately 400 scouts participated. The Camporee was held on the bulkhead at the foot of 46th Street. Officials of the Scout council and scoutmasters were in charge of the boys.

A labor saving device for golfers is really one for the books. John Armstrong of Bayonne has received a patent on a golf ball holder that should eliminate a lot of bending and stooping. His invention is a tube mounted at a 45-degree angle on a pole. The golf ball is placed in the tube from which it rolls to the ground, where it is held in driving position by means of a hangar. As the golfer drives, the hangar is lifted from the ball, leaving it free. Armstrong's invention involves five new ideas. He filed the patent application in 1938.

Industry was rewarded in 1939 when sixteen carriers of the Bayonne *Times* enjoyed a week's vacation as guests of the newspaper at a camp in the Pennsylvania mountains. The vacation with all expenses paid was arranged through the circulation department of the paper to those boys who rated highest in building up their routes.

Divided into two groups, the carriers reaped rewards for their labors in fishing, boating, swimming, playing tennis and baseball. Campfire rallies and other typical camp life activities were on the vacation program. The camp, which was reserved for the exclusive use of the carrier boys, is about a hundred and sixty miles from the city.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

### SHOOTERS ISLAND

Little more than a good stone's throw from the southwest tip of Bayonne, sprawls a gray, rotting hulk of an island. Only two people brave the situation to make it their home. It is all that remains of what was once the center of shipbuilding and shipping activity of Bayonne. It was the scene in bygone days of many political harangues at election time. The place is known as "Shooters Island" part of which belongs to the City of Bayonne.

Like a sore toe, it has been a nuisance for a long time. There are but few who have seen more of it than the bird's eye view afforded from Bayonne Bridge.

Only the fishermen and the followers of the yachting and boating sport, passing its stub of a skyline on trips through Kill van Kull, know it for the God-forsaken spot it has come to be.

No buildings that may be called such remain on Shooters Island—eighteen years after its desertion in 1921. Only the splintered heaps of the old buildings remain.

The eight old buildings, which have stubbornly resisted time and the winds, look with cavernous eyes on the remains of their companion structures. Crookedly, they still stand through the years, which have gnawed away their roofs, eaten into the foundations and dug hollows where windows once were.

It is not only through them that a dead era of bygone prosperous and busy days sighs for the past. The ghost of good times also whispers through the tall, shriveled grass and in the forlorn slap of water against the crumbling mass of decayed wood that are the piers. Technically, no living being inhabits Shooters Island for the two remaining residents make their home on the water, one in an abandoned barge and the other in a craft tied to one of the many scarecrows surrounding the island's edge.

The more comfortable of the two recluses seems to be an Indian woman, whose home is in a boat that might have seen life as a yachting vessel, tethered to a pier in the shadow of a wooden tramp steamer riding its last at anchor a few hundred feet away.

A frequent visitor to the shores of Staten Island, she has grown into a legendary figure for Bayonne boating folk who have seen her as she pilots her rowboat on her rare shopping excursions. Despite her contacts with the outside world, according to shore workers, she remains a recluse giving few a chance to engage in conversation with her. She is said to be a magazine writer, but none were found along

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

the water's edge who know her name or who have read her works. The "Squaw," as they call her, guards her solitude fiercely, visitors to the island are warned. The "Squaw" is a woman about thirty-five, heavy set, with black hair and a skin that might pass for a heavy sunburn. She clings tenaciously to Indian ancestry, former residents of Shooters Island say and she furnishes her quarters with articles such as tourists buy. Even an Indian bark, it is said, graces the interior of her domain. Her English, is perfect and faultless and it gives no clue to her identity. No one knows her antedecents or forebears. Though the Indian woman has grown to be part of the Island legendry, the other inhabitant is an older resident than she and qualifies for the title of Citizen No. 1. He is Al Anderson, sixty-three, grizzled veteran of literage boats and scows, who has been watchman at Shooters Island for the past twelve years with a snarling watchdog named, Mickey, as his only companion. "Old Al" as they call him lives in a barge near a catacomb of crumbling shipping sheds within calling distance of his neighbor. His job is to keep an eye on the scows of the firm of Edward McAllister of New York which anchor there between runs.

Another firm having much to do with the fading history of Shooters Island is the Tide Water Associated Oil Company which nightly sends a man over to light danger lights on the piers as guides for passing ships. The same man has been doing the job for sixteen years and has seen the Island sink from its prime to its present haunt for bats, owls and other nocturnal creatures.

Years ago, before the World War set into motion feverish ship-building operations, the land on the Island was rich and fertile and truck farmers tilled the soil and made their livelihood by gardening. Industry however made inroads, and gardeners and farmers retreated. Shipbuilders took advantage of the surrounding water facilities for the construction of boats. During the war twenty-eight ships were built on the Island.

With the close of the war, the shipping business was transferred to more metropolitan centers and decline marked the spot. The official end to the Island's era of prosperity was proclaimed in 1921 when the Island was shut down industrially.

Shooters Island was made a campaign issue here in 1927 and again in 1931 when Dr. Donohoe, as a candidate for the City Commission attacked what he called "fake ratables." The property at that time was assessed at \$1,121,065 and carried on the administration's books as an asset to the city.

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The effect of such a listing was a decrease in the tax rate although taxes on the property were not collected. Dr. Bert Daly is credited with having discovered long ago that a part of Shooters Island belonged to Bayonne.

### ARLINE B. CASSIDY WINS CONTEST

Miss Arline B. Cassidy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cassidy of 67 West 41st Street was selected as one of the most beautiful girls at the New York University School of Commerce in a contest conducted by the 1939 "Violet" the school yearbook. Cecil B. DeMille, moving picture producer-director was the judge in the contest. Miss Cassidy, who is a junior at the School of Commerce, was elected to Sigma Eta Phi, junior honorary fraternity, and also to the Violet Scroll Honorary Society. She is Vice-President of Phi Omega Phi, national social sorority, sorority editor of the Commerce Violet, a member of the staff of Commerce Bulletin, school newspaper and a member of the Newman Club, Management Club, Christian Association and Psychology Club.

On June 12th the German freighter, "Hein Hoyer" completed its second voyage from Europe docking at the Bayonne Port Terminal. The ship brought in 10,000 tons of Swedish wood pulp. The Hein Hoyer, a coal burning ship, averages twelve knots an hour and usually trades between Germany and South America. She called at Norfolk for coal before returning to Europe.

On June 18th, hundreds of Bayonne Ukrainians attended the festival of Americans of Ukrainian descent in the Court of Peace Building at the New York World's Fair. The Bayonne Boyan Choir of St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church took part in the musical program given by the United Ukrainian Folk Choruses of the Metropolitan area consisting of 500 voices. The mass chorus was under the direction of the Ukrainian composer, Professor Alexander Koshetz. Over 400 young dancers under the direction of Audrey Kist, former ballet master from the state school of folk dances in Carpathe-Ukraine, presented a memorable program of Ukrainian dances, some of which were more than a thousand years old.

### SUPER-HIGHWAY ALONG NEWARK BAY SHORE

A new super-highway is being constructed along the Newark Bay shore. A bridge is being planned opening the way to Elizabethport. This will take care of a great deal of the traffic leading to points in



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South Jersey. This highway is a continuation of the Jersey City Route 100 which connects with the Skyway.

Route 100 will yield many benefits to this city and far-seeing residents regard it as one of the most important highways to be constructed for the benefit of Bayonne traffic in many years.

Among the foremost benefits, it has been pointed out, will be the creation of a new residential area for the city, which in turn, is expected to inspire renewed home building activity.

The new home section, it is believed, would be created through the fill that would be deposited along the Newark Bay shore front, between the marginal highway and the present shore line. Under present plans, the extensive new acreage would be landscaped with lawns, trees and walks and made a most attractive section for new building.

### WOMAN'S CLUB GARDEN PARTY

On June 21st the Woman's Club gave a very successful Garden Party with cards on the lawn of Mrs. Thomas F. O'Brien's home on the Boulevard and Thirty-sixth Street. Umbrellas and attractive garden furniture decorated the lawn as well as a large American flag loaned by Dr. Mellor for the occasion. One of the features of the party was the presence of a Gypsy Fortune Teller dressed in costume. Mrs. Percy F. Haring and Mrs. Silas L. Morse were in charge of the refreshment booth which was prettily decorated with crepe paper, and from which, during the afternoon ice cream, cake and punch were served. The occasion was one long to be remembered. Prizes in the form of Ice Box Corsages were given. Another surprise of the afternoon was the door prize which was a seven-piece shell Toilet Set donated by the Chairman, Mrs. George W. Mellor and which was won by Mrs. James B. Brooks.

### BENMORE DEVELOPMENT DEDICATED

Mayor James J. Donovan, members of the City Commission, and other prominent leaders attended the dedication ceremonies held at the Benmore Development, Avenue A between 34th and 36th Streets on June 24th.

Two new streets, Roosevelt Terrace and Benmore Terrace, which have been run through the property formerly owned by Edwin Bennett, the Singer Sewing Machine executive, was dedicated and turned over to the city by the syndicate which has been developing the five and one-quarter acre tract for the past year. The development was open to



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public inspection and large numbers visited Bayonne's newest home site.

The land was acquired from the Bennett heirs last August and during the Fall and Spring work on the grading of the two new streets progressed. Construction of houses began in the late Spring and brought work to many carpenters, plumbers, brick layers and other building workers.

Gas mains, electric facilities, water mains and sewers are already completely installed so that the lots will be sold to home builders free of all assessments. All houses built in the development will have a uniform set-back of twenty-five feet from the curb, thus insuring front lawns for every home. Considerable landscaping is planned to make the site an attractive one. The lots which will be sold to the public are thirty-six by ninety-eight feet, the size of the lots allowing ample room for about forty dwellings, all of which will be one family houses.

The Benmore development is the first such project here in more than ten years. The syndicate is headed by Harry Levy as President, Harris Boorstein, Vice-President, Julius A. Rose, Treasurer and Abraham Turtleaub, Secretary.

### PORT TERMINAL FISHERMEN'S PARADISE

Bayonne's new port terminal is a fisherman's paradise with many varieties of fish running. Sand sharks (one man caught nine large ones in one afternoon) ling, fluke, whiting, eels and crabs are caught daily. Nice catches of striped bass are to be had off the end of the terminal but a boat is needed as these fish are caught by trolling. When the tide is in, the water averages forty to fifty feet depth and fishermen casting from the edge of the terminal bulkheads allow their lines to go to the bottom for eels.

The bow of the whaler, Frango, which was tied up at the terminal for some months, furnished a sheltered spot where boys swim. A ladder has been rigged over the bulkhead so that they may climb up again after a dive. The lads have christened this swimming hole "Frango Strait."

On the north side of the causeway about midway out to the terminal proper, a stretch of sand has been converted into a beach. Here both boys and girls bathe and play various beach games every bright day throughout the season.

It is reported that since New York City is burning refuse instead of dumping it at sea as once was done, the water is much cleaner than

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it has been in the past. Certainly at Frango Strait it looks clean, although a chemical analysis might disclose another story.

Anyway, fishing is good, and the boys say that the swimming is "swell!" So come on in, boys the last one in is a monkey's uncle!

## CHAPTER XX.

### THE CHURCHES, PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS, HOLY FAMILY ACADEMY

The Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Bergen Neck, New Jersey—The First Church in Bayonne.

THE Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Bergen Neck, New Jersey was the first church to be formed in Bayonne. It was organized December 9, 1828. One of the founders of the church was Mrs. Penelope Post Wauters, great grandmother of the late Mr. William M. Wauters of 820 Avenue A. The church building was erected on land donated by Mr. Richard Cadmus, at Twenty-ninth Street, East of Broadway (then Middle or Plank Road) and was a one-story frame building with a small bell tower. The first building stood where the present Republican Club is now located. It was moved at a later date near the Boulevard and Twenty-ninth Street and became part of the edifice of the Eleanora Swedish Church. The present church edifice is located on Avenue C and Thirty-third Street where it has been since 1866. This church has made a very fine contribution to the life and culture of the city.

Mrs. Alexander Dallas, wife of Dr. Dallas, launched a Mission of the first church in the Centerville section in a one-story wooden store. The land where the building was erected was donated by Mr. Close, father of Mrs. Close-Sleesman and grandfather of Mrs. George S. Syme, now of Staten Island. A Fair was held for the benefit of the Mission at the Church on one occasion and Alice Roosevelt was asked to name a doll. The person guessing the name of the doll was to win it. The doll was named "Margaretta" and since no one guessed the name, the doll was sold to Mr. William Till for his little girl, Greta.

The church is now known as, "The First Reformed Church" and the present pastor is Rev. George J. Becker.

#### THE FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

This church was organized in 1831 when Rev. Thomas G. Stewart was appointed pastor of the Bergen Neck Mission. For one hundred and seven years work has been carried on. On June 22, 1844 the society was incorporated as Bergen Neck Methodist Episcopal Church.

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Father McDonald and Father Garrett Vreeland, as they were affectionately called, were the founders and main supporters. The early house of worship was located on the west side of Avenue D (now Broadway) at Twenty-fourth Street. This was once known as the "Bee Hive" the name arising from the fact that honey bees had lived in the peak of the building. Several pounds of fine honey were removed each year and sold for the benefit of the church treasury. In 1854 the "Bee Hive" was sold and the cornerstone of a new building for worship was laid at Broadway near Twenty-ninth Street. The Bergen Neck Church was then on a circuit, the pastor of Greenville preaching there also. After twelve years the Society moved to a new location, this time to the southwest corner of Avenue D and Oakland Avenue, known now as Broadway and Thirty-second Street. In 1866 the name of this Society was changed to the Mattison Methodist Episcopal Church, named after Dr. Hiram Mattison, the pastor. Upon the erection of the present building, the name was changed to "First Methodist Episcopal Church." The tower and other improvements were added by Rev. Alexander Craig's capable management who put the church on a paying basis.

Old time workers in the church were George Cozine, John Rowland, Father Abraham Simmonds, Mother Ruth Bristed and Thomas Cubberly, W. C. Vivash and W. E. Hollingshead.

James Coward was appointed Superintendent of the Sunday School on January 1, 1886 and was an active worker until his death. He came to Bayonne a young man and had a shoemaking shop on Greenwich Street, New York. As time went on the Coward Shoes became famous. John Coward, a son, entered into business with his father. James Coward's home, which was located on Avenue C between Thirty-second and Thirty-third Streets was torn down only a few years ago. In the early days Mr. Coward could be seen daily driving to the Thirty-third Street Station of the Central Railroad of New Jersey in the mornings and returning in the evenings from New York, with his colored coachman and fine team of horses. When he died he left a fortune of eight million dollars. The people of the city were very much surprised. He had been quoted as wealthy and some ventured to say that he was worth nearly a million. He left his fortune to his son who carried on the shoe business with his grandson, Mortimer, and his daughter, Harriet who is Mrs. Alfred D. Woodruff now of Hillside, N. J. The home of the late John Coward is now occupied by the family of the late former Mayor John J. Cain.

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The present pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church is Rev. Norman F. Champlin.

### THE ORGANIZING OF THE FORTY-SIXTH STREET METHODIST CHURCH

In 1853 Saltersville Methodist Episcopal Sunday School was organized with John Elderson as Superintendent. The first meeting place was in a small building occupied by the Advent Church, next door to the firehouse now occupied by the Exempt Firemen. Meetings were also held over a grocery store at Forty-ninth Street and Avenue D, now Broadway, afterwards Flannery's Saloon, then at Harris' Hall (L'Estrange Drug Store) and they later built the church on East Forty-sixth Street which they sold to the present Angelic Baptist Church. A new church was then built on Forty-fourth Street and Avenue D which was known as the Monroe Church of which Rev. Grant was the preacher and after they bought a site on Avenue C and Forty-sixth Street and moved the building from Avenue D and remodelled it. It is known now as the Forty-sixth Street Methodist Church.

Mrs. Philip Allaire, who came to the city in 1876 deserves much credit for this church organization.

The first Board of Trustees elected June 25, 1877, were: President, Edgar Wilson; Clerk, R. H. Freer; Treasurer, Philip Allaire and George W. Connell, David B. Sanford, Benjamin Duryee and Simon Keegan.

### EPISCOPAL CHURCHES ORGANIZED

Trinity Church was organized in 1859. A porch conversation on a Sunday afternoon in July 1859 resulted in the organization of the parish. The discussion took place on the porch of "Pepperidge" the home of Solon Humphreys, who was a member of E. D. Morgan & Co., Wall Street Brokers and for whom the downtown street is said to be named. Sessions were first held in the district school, then the old No. 4 on what is now Dodge and Fifth Streets. They secured a supply preacher for the following Sunday and issued a call to residents of Bergen Point for a meeting at the La Tourette Hotel for further consideration of the project. A Staten Island clergyman, whom the records identify as the Rev. French, conducted the first service. The details were the outgrowth of the porch conversation. David La Tourette and Mr. Humphreys both donated land on which Trinity Church was built. On the list of the first subscribers are David La Tourette, Solon Humphreys, John Van Buskirk, A. L. Rowe, J.



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Van Saun, John Watson, S. T. Brown, T. Y. Brown, Robert Mackie, Henry Meigs, Henry Paret, Charles Davis, Joseph Hewlett and the Dobson and Earle families.

In 1879 the church was destroyed by fire. Immediate plans for a new church were drawn and in 1881 a new church was opened for public services. The bell of the old church which was totally damaged, was buried on the grounds. The altar, pulpit and chancel chairs were gifts of Solon Humphreys.

The memorial windows in the Baptistry were given by Mrs. Lavinia La Tourette. The Litany Desk is a memorial to D. W. Van Natta, given by his son D. Alden. The pulpit light is a memorial to Dr. Thomas Dobson given by the family. The altar cross is a memorial to Henry Meigs given by his widow. The light over the font is in memory of Cas. W. Cutting. The vases for the altar are memorials for Georgia E. and Catherine C. Schuyler, Anna C. Cook, Myrtella N. Dan and R. P. Arrowsmith. The corona is a memorial to Rev. Dr. George Walsh.

The present pastor of Trinity Episcopal Church is Rev. George L. Crambs who came to the church in the early part of 1940. He replaced Rev. William C. Kernan who took charge from 1935 to 1940. Rev. Kernan came from Washington, D. C. where he had completed a fellowship at the College of Preachers in Washington Cathedral.

### CALVARY IS ORGANIZED

Calvary Episcopal Church was founded in 1859 when the upper part of Bayonne was known as Saltersville. The first service conducted in this parish was on August 24, 1859 by the Rev. Robert F. Travis, Rector of what is now St. Mark's Church in Jersey City but what was then known as Trinity Church. Since August 24th is St. Bartholemew's Day, the Mission was called St. Bartholemew's Mission. Trinity Church in Bergen Point was a very wealthy parish and gave the new Mission considerable help. In April 1866 Mr. Hartman Vreeland presented a plot of ground for the erection of a church in Saltersville. The building was a small frame structure and was first located on Avenue D and 51st Street. In 1899 the building was moved to Avenue C and 45th Street where it now stands. The church was erected with money supplied by Trinity parish. The cornerstone was laid November 3, 1866 and the building opened for services on June 29, 1867. The first couple married in Calvary Church was Mr. William Sanford and Miss Anna Vreeland. The property was later conveyed

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to the Rector, Wardens and Vestry of Calvary Church of Bayonne. A great deal of credit is due to Mr. George Wevill who was Superintendent of the Sunday School and to whom much of its present prosperity is indebted. This church did not succeed in clearing itself of debt until 1921 when it was consecrated, although it had secured much property now valued at approximately \$50,000. St. John's Episcopal Church merged with Calvary in 1935. Since Calvary was free of debt, it was decided to sell St. John's property which is located on Avenue C and 34th Street and continue services in Calvary Church. The oldest living member of Calvary in 1940 is Mrs. Edward M. Griffin who has been a very faithful parishioner. The present pastor is the Rev. Revere Beasley.

### ST. MARY'S STAR OF THE SEA, THE FIRST CATHOLIC CHURCH IN BAYONNE

The memory of the oldest parishioners goes back to the year 1852, when Mass was celebrated in the home of John Welsh, on Lord Avenue, by the Rev. John Kelly, of St. Peter's Church in Jersey City. Before that time Catholic residents of the peninsula made the journey to St. Peter's Church in New Brighton, Staten Island.

Mrs. Phoebe Adams Gibson of 24 Cottage Street, who will mark her eighty-third birthday in August, claims to have been the first Catholic child to be confirmed in Bayonne, having been the youngest in the initial group of confirmants.

Rev. John Kelly was succeeded in his semi-monthly visitations by the Rev. Benjamin F. Allaire and the Rev. James Callan, of St. James's Church, Newark, the latter erecting the first St. Mary's Church in Evergreen Street in 1860.

Shortly after that date the spiritual interests of the Catholics of Bergen Point were entrusted to the Passionist Fathers from the Hoboken Monastery, Fathers Vincent Nagler, Timothy and Thomas O'Connor making weekly visitations from January 1862 until August 1, 1865, when the growing mission was made a parish by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Bayley, who named Rev. Peter P. Neiderhauser its first Rector. Father Neiderhauser had been a Redemptionist and was admitted into the diocese December 13, 1862. He assisted Father Rogers in New Brunswick, looking after the Germans, until he was chosen first pastor of Bergen Point, July 17, 1865. He labored with great fruit among the Catholics of this mission until he was transferred to St. John the Baptist's German Church, New Brunswick August 1871. The Rev.

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P. McGovern was the second pastor serving from 1871 to 1876 when he was succeeded by Rev. James Dalton. Rev. Dalton, who was in poor health, collapsed while celebrating his first mass and was replaced by Rev. Thomas M. Killeen of Newark who remained until he retired from active duties.

In 1880 Father Killeen erected the present church on Fourteenth Street and Avenue C and built the Sisters' house on Fourteenth Street as well as the old frame school, which in 1898 was removed to make room for the present commodious brick structure erected by his successor, the Rev. Isaac P. Whelan under whose guidance St. Mary's was one of the best-equipped and most flourishing parishes in the Diocese of Newark. In 1905 Rt. Rev. Msgr. Andrew M. Egan became rector of St. Mary's. The church was consecrated July 17, 1909 during Msgr. Egan's pastorate and the Convent of St. Joseph's on Fourteenth Street was erected.

Msgr. Lawlor came to the local church in 1929 after Msgr. Egan's death. Complete renovation and redecoration of both the upper and lower churches were completed in 1933. The Gothic beauty of the two places of worship has won admiration from many.

Outstanding among new additions to the church are two mosaic altar shrines and a hand-carved polychrome wooden Crucifixion group, given by Miss Helen Dennehy in memory of her parents.

Msgr. Lawlor was ordained at Immaculate Conception Seminary, Seton Hall, June 1, 1912 and shortly thereafter was drafted to assist the Rev. John A. Dillion, LL.D. then diocesan superintendent of schools. He succeeded Rev. Dr. Dillion seven years later and now is senior in service of all Catholic Diocesan school superintendents of the United States. He has offices in the Chancery Building of the Archdiocese at 33 Mulberry Street, Newark.

### THE GERMAN EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH

The German Evangelical and Reformed Church was organized December 1, 1871. At that time the group met in a private dwelling on Lord Avenue between 2nd and 3rd Streets. The property on which the church now stands was purchased from Ann M. Zabriskie which was deeded in 1873. It was said that "one dollar and a pledge to work for the welfare of the church of Christ" bought part of the land at Lord Avenue and 4th Street. In 1888 the congregation split, the majority establishing the Third Reformed Church at West 25th Street and the minority remaining in possession of the downtown property.

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About a year later the church was incorporated. One great change recorded in the church's history occurred only last year when the denomination which had originally been Evangelical was united with the Reformed faith.

The fifty-first year in the ministry of the pastor, the Rev. Carl Schauer, finds the church free of all debt and with a membership of about 150. The Rev. Schauer began services here in 1903 when he led the congregation of St. Paul's Evangelical Church as well as the Bergen group. Illness forced his retirement in 1909 but in 1910 he resumed his pastoral duties solely at the German Evangelical and Reformed Church and has been in that pulpit ever since. His assistant for the past year has been the Rev. Walter Fuhrman.

Gifts to the church include an organ presented by Gail and Louise Suhl in memory of their mother; a lectern and baptismal fountain from the estate of Mrs. Theobald Happ and a painting by J. J. Kuder in memory of his wife.

The Trustees are Mr. Albert Beck, Jr., Emil Schauer, son of the pastor who is also Sunday School Superintendent; Mr. August Englehardt, Adolph Gurka, Alfred Filsinger and Carl Schauer. Honorary trustees are Albert Beck, Sr. and Rudolph Voigt.

### ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH IS ORGANIZED

In 1872 a group of Lutherans crossed the Kills to worship in Port Richmond, Staten Island, as there was no Lutheran Church in the Peninsula. Sometimes in the winter months they had to face severe snow storms which delayed them a great deal. On January 1, 1877 they were forced to return to their homes due to a storm and it was not possible for them to attend church, so they decided to build a church of their own. A meeting was held to discuss the matter. Those present were: William C. Farr, John Hollenbach, Sr., G. Kullich, John Lange, D. Osbahr, Jacob Rausher, Charles Reimers, Jacob Scholz, William Scholz, Christopher Schmidt, Jacob Schmidt and H. Weinreich.

Two lots were secured on 22nd Street between Avenue H and I and on May 27, 1877 the church was dedicated under the guidance of Rev. C. J. F. Frinke, pastor of the mother church in Port Richmond, Staten Island. The first pastor to take charge here was Rev. A. T. Pechtold, who began work on August 4, 1878.

In 1889 the church was sold to the Hungarian-Slavish Catholic Church and property was then secured on East 25th Street near Ave-



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nue E where a new church was begun. The Ladies Aid and Sunday School and Junior Class were organized in 1899.

In 1918 the church was sold, this time to the Ukrainian Catholic Church. The Lutherans were homeless so they conducted services in the Swedish Church on 29th Street until the present church was built on the Boulevard and 31st Street. The present pastor is Rev. Irwin W. Gietz.

### THE THIRD REFORMED CHURCH (GERMAN)

The Third Reformed Church was organized in 1872. The first pastor was Rev. Gottlieb Andrew of Jersey City. The first church stood at West 21st Street and Avenue C and was removed to another site after being sold to a Hebrew Congregation. The present church is on the northerly side of West 25th Street near Broadway and was erected in 1911. The pastor is Rev. William Bailey Horvath.

### SECOND ADVENTIST CHURCH, ALSO CALLED THE MILLERITE CHURCH

The Second Adventist Church, also known as the Millerite Church, financed by Davey Salter, was located on Forty-seventh Street between Avenue C and Broadway. The preacher was Jasper A. Cadmus. Old-timers still tell us of occasions when the Adventists, full of faith and great zeal, would get out on the roofs and give all their belongings away and declare the end of the world was coming.

### THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The First Baptist Church, which is now located on Avenue C and Thirty-third Street was organized October 22, 1882 with about twenty-five members. Rev. J. N. Folwell was the first minister. The Mission Chapel started at Twenty-eighth Street and Avenue D was dedicated July 25, 1883. The present building on Avenue C and Thirty-third Street was made possible by the generosity of Mrs. M. A. Sirrell. In 1892 the Sunday School building was completed and in 1906 the parsonage purchased. The present pastor is Rev. John Muntz.

### POVERTY AND INCONVENIENCES OF EARLY CHURCHES

In the early days, home-made candles were used in all churches for many years. Then followed oil lamps. The churches were heated by Gothic stoves that at times filled the churches with smoke. Reed organs were used. A collection above a dollar and a half was considered very substantial. The minister's salary averaged from Four hundred to Nine hundred dollars per year. This was augmented by



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gifts of vegetables, wood and other necessities donated by members of the congregation.

### SALVATION ARMY

The Salvation Army opened new quarters at 926 Broadway in 1920. Prior to this establishment of a permanent home, the Army met in rented stores in various parts of the city. At one time it occupied a building on East 22nd Street donated for its use by the Standard Oil Company.

The Bayonne branch of the Salvation Army is one of the first to be organized in this country. It followed by two years the New York Corps which was formed March 10, 1880. The movement in America was fostered by seven Salvation lassies who journeyed from England to that first meeting to spread the gospel of the organization. Newark followed the New York group and the Bayonne organization was third. In 1903 Commander Ballington Booth, national head of the Salvation Army, lived in Bayonne. Adjutant and Mrs. Howard Fritz who replaced Captain Thusa Martine in November of 1938 are now directing the Army work in this city.

### BAYONNE'S FIRST SYNAGOGUE ORGANIZED

Beth Abraham Synagogue, center of worship for more than 700 Jews during special holidays, is the oldest of the Jewish Congregations in the City. Chartered in 1886 it celebrated its golden anniversary in 1936, and finally burned its mortgage Sunday, March 31, 1940.

About a dozen worshippers, most of whom left marks of achievement in the city, were responsible for its organization. Among them were the late Hyman Lazarus, police recorder and publisher of *The Bayonne Times*; his father, Louis Lazarus; Herman Klein, founder of the Travel Agency; Jacob Cohen, father of Harry Cohen, the furniture merchant and Solomon Newman. Of the handful of men, David Grossman of 146 Prospect Avenue is the sole survivor. The first meeting was held at the home of Jacob Cohen, then located on 72 Cottage Street.

The present synagogue, located on the south side of West 21st Street between Avenue C and Broadway, was built 42 years ago after a small frame building, which had been its predecessor, was razed. The total outlay was \$40,000. Hyman Lazarus was first president. Harry Levy is present head.

Services were held three times daily under the leadership of Rabbi Aaron R. Charney, who is also chaplain of the police and fire depart-

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ments of Bayonne. Rabbi Charney came here in 1924 from a small town near Boston. Born in Poland, in territory which had once been a part of Russia, Rabbi Charney received his education in European rabbinical colleges, among them the Kovno Slabodky Seminary, one of the oldest institutions of its kind. Before he assumed duties in Massachusetts, Rabbi Charney led congregations in London and Birmingham, England, where he wrote for British newspapers.

He is also the author of three books, "Lectures from Life and Nature," published six years ago. "Visions of an Elder" was written two years later. Both deal with religious, moral and social problems. His latest book is titled, "Rosuf Ahava," released a short time ago and published through the efforts of friends, officers of which were Harris Boorstein, Harry Levy, Harry Cohen, Isaac Wigdor and David Ber-  
man.

The Hebrew Free School at 17 West 23rd Street is but one of the congregations' activities for the education of Jewish youth of which Harris Boorstein is President.

### BERGEN POINT BAPTIST CHURCH ORGANIZED IN 1887

The Bergen Point Baptist Church was organized in January 1887 and was an offspring of the Baptist Society of Bergen Point. The first service was held February 1, 1887 in the German Church, Lord Avenue and 3rd Street with the Rev. Robert E. Farrier preaching. The late E. R. Craft, father of Lula Craft, Missionary at Rangoon, Burmah, was one of the founders.

### ANGELIC BAPTIST CHURCH

THE ANGELIC BAPTIST CHURCH, a colored church, was founded in 1887 and was organized by the late Rev. John T. Thornton. The organizing took place at the home of Deacon Harry Thompson and as the membership grew, larger quarters were needed. Salters Hall was the second place of worship which was used until the present church building at 9-11 East 46th Street was purchased. In 1912 it was remodelled and a basement installed. The present pastor is Rev. T. L. Jones.

### BERGEN POINT METHODIST CHURCH

Frank M. Reynolds as class leader of the First Methodist Episcopal Church on 31st Street and Avenue C organized a class in Bergen Point section and on August 5, 1888 a Sunday School was formed which later became the Bergen Point Methodist Church. It was incorporated in May 1890. The first pastors were Rev. A. C. Turrell and Rev. W.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

A. Deaton. A new building was erected in 1892 and the old building became the Sunday School Chapel. The first officers of the school were Mr. Reynolds, Supt.; Mrs. L. W. Thompson, Asst. Supt.; F. E. Thompson, Secretary; Miss Anne Proctor, Treasurer; John H. Hurley was another early leader of the group. This group incorporated the Sunday School into a church and called it the Bergen Point Methodist Episcopal Church of Bayonne. The present pastor is Rev. Richard C. Swift.

### ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

St. Joseph's Church is the second oldest Catholic congregation in the City. The first church was bought from a Lutheran congregation in 1888 for the sum of \$7,500. to be used for the Catholic Slovaks of Bayonne. The first pastor was the Rev. Samuel Bela who remained until 1895 when Rev. John Hlebik became his successor. On Christmas morning of 1908, with the Rev. Father George Szikora, the first mass in the new edifice on Avenue E and 25th Street was celebrated. The new church was built at a cost of \$54,000. and at that time was the largest in the city having a congregation of 4,000. The old church, which was located on East 22nd Street, was turned over for use as a parochial school. The present pastor is Rev. A. L. Adizima.

### THE ELEONORA EVANGELICAL CHURCH

The Swedish Lutherans first held services in 1888 in Trinity Episcopal Church on 5th Street. They later met in St. John's Lutheran Church on West 27th Street and later on in St. Paul's Lutheran Church on 25th Street.

The building which is now the Eleonora Church was originally constructed for the First Reformed Church, then sold to St. John's Episcopal Church and then sold to the city after several years occupancy. The city used the building for the first high school and later used it as an annex to School No. 2. A contractor later bought it from the city and sold it to the Bayonne Republican Club which occupied the place for five years until the new clubhouse at Broadway and 29th Street was entered.

In June of 1908 the Republican Club sold the building to the congregation of the Eleonora Church and on July 2nd of that year, work of removing it to its present site was started. It is now located on West 29th Street near the Boulevard and the present pastor is Rev. A. A. Wilfred.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

### ST. HENRY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH STARTED AS OFFSPRING OF ST. MARY'S

St. Henry's Parish was organized in 1889 by about fifty German families. On December 8, 1889 the cornerstone of the frame church was laid which was on the site of the present postoffice. Father Shandle was in charge. The church was dedicated on April 2, 1890. The first Pastor, Alloys Heller, was appointed May 1890. In the summer of 1891 St. Thomas' Church on West Thirtieth Street (the present site of St. Henry's School) was dedicated. This was used by those who found it inconvenient to go to Fourteenth Street to St. Mary's Church. In March 1895 the two churches merged with Father George Meyer in charge and formed the present St. Henry's Parish.

The first child baptised in St. Henry's Church was Adam Fink on May 13, 1890; the first funeral was a child of Isidore Rolling and the first marriage was that of John Huber and Helena Hock on July 25, 1890.

On Decoration Day, 1915 St. Henry's new church was dedicated. The new edifice is located on Avenue C and Twenty-ninth Street.

St. Henry's Church is a modified treatment of the early decorated English Gothic architecture and its general ground plan is Cruciform, consisting of Naves, Aisles and transepts. The exterior is Bedford Indian Limestone. The structure is said to be one of the most beautiful examples of church architecture in New Jersey. It is a permanent monument to the energy and determination of the Rev. Peter E. Reilly, who was in charge of the parish from October 20, 1905 until the time of his death. In 1905 there were about sixty families in the parish.

Father Reilly purchased the present site for \$27,000. and ground was broken June 17, 1911, the cornerstone was laid by Bishop O'Connor on September 5, 1912 and the church was dedicated on Memorial Day 1915. Today the parish has 1,100 families and about 5,000 parishioners. Rev. Dr. Michael J. Mulligan is the present pastor.

St. Henry's school has an enrollment of four hundred. Sisters of St. Benedict of New Jersey have charge.

St. Henry's Catholic Women's Association had a house-warming in the new clubhouse 93 West Thirty-fifth Street in January of 1940. Previous to this the headquarters was in the old Butter Smith homestead and before that on East Thirty-third Street. There is seldom a day or night that passes without some social activity in the clubhouse.



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### ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. John the Baptist, Greek Catholic Church, was organized on East 22nd Street in Constable Hook 1897. The present church is located at 15 East 26th Street and the present pastor is Rev. Emil Burik.

### PEOPLE'S BAPTIST CHURCH

In 1897 a small band of worshippers met in open air meetings in the neighborhood of Sixteenth Street, in cooperation with the Rev. S. J. Betts, a Baptist minister from Raleigh, N. C. So zealous was the handful of the faithful, that their ranks grew and a temporary home was ultimately established in a small store at 310 Broadway and then moved to a rented chapel at Twenty-first Street. After a year of meeting here a Mrs. Serell turned over to the infant congregation a Chapel on West Twenty-third Street. This was augmented by a liberal financial contribution. Payment for the property was arranged for in Mrs. Serell's Will. Thus with enthusiasm and assistance the People's Baptist Church was organized and later united with the regular New Jersey Baptist Association of Churches. Under the leadership of Rev. Betts the church prospered and grew. After eight years of service the first pastor retired in 1905 returning to his southern home and his work was taken up by the Rev. J. H. Troy.

Three lots were secured at the present location on West 27th Street during the Rev. Troy's pastorate, the move for a new building receiving further impetus when the Rev. M. T. Shelford was called to the pulpit in 1906.

The cornerstone for the present structure was laid December 27, 1908 and dedicated in May 1909. The parsonage adjoining the church building was erected during the pastorate of the Rev. John H. Clark, who followed. The present membership of 250 men and women is guided by the Rev. James Rowe, Jr. who came to Bayonne in August 1927 joining his parents after years of separation. The Rev. Rowe began his schooling in Staten Island moving to Bayonne with the family in 1898. Rev. Mr. Rowe is one of the most active and beloved ministers in Bayonne, everyone having a good word for him. Not only does he say he wishes there were ten days in a week, but he should have that many to attend to all his activities. Aside from his pulpit and parish duties he periodically spreads the Gospel at the Rahway Reformatory, the Trenton State Prison, the Middlesex County workhouse and the Newark City Jail.



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Pastors preceding him in addition to the pioneers named were the Rev. Arthur Potter, the Rev. Gerard M. Case, the Rev. Charles Mer-crong, the Rev. J. Williams and the Rev. Thompson.

### THE SACRED HEART POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH ORGANIZED IN 1898

The Sacred Heart Polish National Catholic Church was a wooden structure near what is now 17 East 22nd Street in 1898 when it was built by a group of Polish immigrants shortly after their arrival in Bayonne. The chapel was built by the hands of the parishioners after working hours in the local industries. The same driving spirit which was the forerunner of the present church would not call a halt when several years later fire twice demolished their house of worship.

The church which supplanted the chapel was erected on the site of the present edifice on October 15, 1903. The cornerstone was laid January 1, 1903 with the Rev. Francis Hodue, organizer of the Polish National Catholic movement, officiating.

Of the special church building committee of eight, Leon Pejkowski is the only survivor. Others were John Szulc, Francis Pysz, Maximilian Milkowski, Peter Gejza, Walter Benish, Dominic Kucharski and Louis Kubizna.

Construction of a rectory followed that of the church and following in turn was the purchase of a two-acre tract of land on Willow Brook Road near Forrest Avenue in Staten Island for use as cemetery grounds.

During the pastorate of Rev. Anthony Korona the church building was destroyed by fire—December 12, 1912. Misfortune again visited the church on May 30, 1915 while Rev. Jos. L. Zawistowski was rector. The house of worship was destroyed by fire.

It wasnt long, however, before the Poles, imbued with religious fervor, rebuilt the damaged building. Latest of the major additions to the equipment is a new pipe organ installed in 1928 and blessed on July 15th of that year by the late Most Rev. Walenty Gawrychowski, Bishop of the New England Diocese and former rector of the Sacred Heart Parish.

Guardian here of the beautiful and rich traditions, customs and literature of the Polish people, the church uses the Polish language instead of the Latin in its liturgy. Hence, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the administration of the seven sacraments, vespers and all sacred liturgical functions are performed in the language of the parishioners.

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Sacred Heart Parish comes under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Most Rev. Francis Hodue of Scranton, Pa., first Bishop of the Polish National Catholic Church who was consecrated September 29, 1907 in St. Gertrude's Cathedral Utrecht, Holland by Archbishop Gerard Gul of Utrecht. The present pastor is Father Tengowski, who was ordained July 29, 1934 by the Most Rev. John Z. Jasinski, Bishop of the Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese of the Polish National Catholic Church and appointed as the latter's secretary for his initial duties as priest.

Sacred Heart Church is the sponsor of many parish organizations, among them the Echo Choir, described as one of the most prominent Polish Choirs in the New Jersey metropolitan area.

### ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church was launched in 1898 by representatives of a number of families of German nativity in a small wooden house of worship at 26 West 27th Street between Avenue C and D. The present house of worship was erected and dedicated that year. Pastoral charge of the congregation was held for two years by Rev. William Sanft who was then minister of a church in Greenville. The parsonage at 35 West 26th Street was purchased and occupied and the meeting room addition to church was constructed during the incumbency of Rev. Echumm who was succeeded by Rev. A. Holthusen who served for five years. Rev. John H. Volk came next, being installed January 8, 1906 and at this time the congregation numbered 201 communicants and almost 400 persons, the church being crowded to capacity during services. The Sunday School had 115 pupils. The present pastor is Rev. J. Frederick Boehling. A German service is conducted at 9 A. M., English service at 11 A. M. and Sunday School at 10 A. M. On July 3, 1939, the congregation celebrated the twenty-fifth wedding anniversary of their pastor and his wife.

### OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL, Polish Catholic Church located on West 22nd Street started in a wooden structure. Incorporated January 25, 1898 with 300 families, and blessed in 1899. It was the smallest in the Diocese at the time but today the parish is one of the largest. Rev. Sigismund Swider was appointed in 1900. In 1902 the school was started in the upstairs of the building which was the church, then later the new church was built and the old building was turned into a modern

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school which at the present time has approximately 1,100 students of elementary and grammar grades. The present church is a handsome brick edifice and also included in the church property is a commodious auditorium which was built in 1926, a home for the Sisters and the Rectory was built in 1930. The property was cleared of debt many years ago and is worth over \$200,000. The present pastor is Rev. Anthony Tralka.

### THE FIFTH STREET REFORMED CHURCH ORGANIZED IN 1901

The Fifth Street Reformed Church of Bayonne, N. J. was organized in the Fall of 1901 by the South Classes of Bergen. It was a result of the consolidation of the congregations of the Bergen Point Reformed Church which stood on Lord Avenue which was organized in 1854 and the First Presbyterian Church on 5th Street and Newman Avenue which was organized in 1884. When the Reformed Church building was destroyed by fire in the winter of 1901 a movement was started in the interest of a union of the two churches. Rev. Ferdinand Wilson began his duties in the church on December 2, 1902 and remained until 1920.

The congregation erected a hall which was useful to the community as well as the congregation. The Neighborhood Club met in this hall. The club had members of all denominations and was a very active social center, having bowling teams, dances, minstrel shows and many other affairs. Rev. Musty who came later called a meeting in the church and while the meeting was being held, bowling was going on also. He objected to this and also objected to having all denominations as members and finally after finding no suitable meeting place, the club was broken up.

The present rector is Rev. John J. Van Strien.

### CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sealed in the cornerstone of Christ Presbyterian Church, Avenue C and 42nd Street is a little boy's nickel, the nucleus of the fund which resulted in the church's construction in 1902. The history of the present house of worship had its origin in a Sunday School taught by Miss Mary E. Gardner, believed to be deceased, who one Sunday morning suggested that her students bring in a small donation for a new church promising at the same time that she would match their contributions with a donation of her own. The following Sabbath she called for the donations, but forgetfulness had taken its toll during the

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week and no one remembered to bring a contribution except a little boy sitting in the rear who after searching in his pockets produced a five cent piece. Adding a nickel of her own, Miss Gardner sent the youngster with the coins to the pastor, the Rev. Harry Nesbit, second of the church's clergymen, who related the incident to his congregation that morning with a strong plea for the construction of a new church. This church was actually started in 1899 and the first prayer meeting was held July 2, 1899 at Lowell's Hall located at Grand Street. The meetings were conducted by Rev. Floyd L. Cornish. They later moved to Avenue D and 40th Street.

The new church came into existence in March 1902 at which time the little boy's nickel coupled with that of Miss Gardner's became history, the full story of which was placed in the cornerstone for posterity. The Rev. Harry Nesbit was pastor for eleven years and when he resigned, his post was filled by the late Rev. Alexander Terhune, who in turn was followed by the Rev. William Pope. Next in succession were the Rev. William Kaufman, the Rev. Paul Wagner and the Rev. Franklyn Artly. The present pastor, Rev. John A. Hutchison, is the youngest clergyman in the city being only twenty-eight years old.

### THE TALMUD TORAH, BAYONNE'S SECOND SYNAGOGUE ORGANIZED IN 1902

The second Jewish congregation formed in Bayonne was organized in 1902 and is the largest numerically in the city. The Synagogue is named The Talmud Torah. It is a brick structure on West 20th Street between Avenue D and Avenue C. The congregation has a Free Loan Association and the Hebrew Sheltering Aid Society. It supports a Hebrew Free School. The Rabbi is Jacob Danishefsky.

### OHAV SHOLOM

Ohav Sholom is the third congregation which was formed in the city and was organized about 1902 and now owns the building on West 20th Street. Jacob Zwick and Samuel Baer, Gabis.

### GRACE ENGLISH EVANGELICAL CHURCH

The Luthern Church now located on Avenue C and 37th Street and called the Grace English Evangelical Church started in Cadugan's Hall on Broadway and 33rd Street. On July 6, 1907 the congregation moved to a meeting place at 40th Street and Broadway. Here the Ladies Aid was organized. Charter members were Mrs. Geo. Burrows, Mrs. A. Davis, Mrs. Maria De Freitas, Mrs. Louise Gogel, Mrs.



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H. M. Gold, Mrs. Anna Hall, Mrs. Lerch, Mrs. Jacob Markey, Mrs. K. Murphy, Mrs. Ida Schlegel, Mrs. John P. Smith, Mrs. Bertha Vreeland and Mrs. Bernette.

In 1908 the present site was bought and ground was broken and consecrated September 1909 and the church was dedicated April 25, 1910. The present pastor is Rev. F. Hampton Berwager.

### TEMPLE EMANU'EL

A group of about twenty men met to form the nucleus of what is now one of the larger Jewish Congregations in the city in the year 1910. They were the pioneers in the move which resulted in the construction of Temple Emanu'El and the office of the late Judge Hyman Lazarus in the Opera House Building Avenue C and 26th Street, was the scene of their first campaign plans.

Interest in fostering a move for a synagogue in the community that would meet the needs of the second and third generation of American Jews, the men after a preliminary conference held their first regular session on April 25, 1911. Two years later, in July, the cornerstone for Temple Emanu'El was laid. Even before the structure was completed, however, worship was conducted there on the high holy days of 1913. The building is located at 735 Boulevard. A site at the southeast corner of 28th Street and Avenue C had been the original choice but was sold to the City of Bayonne at the municipality's request. The architect for the Temple was Samuel Horowitz, who with Leon Lazarus, lawyer and chairman of the building committee, supervised its construction. The first Temple Emanu'El officers were the late Judge Lazarus, publisher of *The Bayonne Times*, President; Simon Elbaum, First Vice-President; Dr. Morris Tepper, Second Vice-President; Dr. Charles J. Larkey, Secretary and Max L. Solinsky, Treasurer. The trustees were Judge Lazarus, Leon Lazarus, Dr. Tepper, Simon Elbaum, Jacob Herman, Charles Grotzky, Morris Hirson, Jack Cohen and Samuel Goodman. At the time of the first session a ladies auxiliary had already been organized under the presidency of Mrs. Simon Elbaum and had its first social function, a bazaar at the Opera House.

The synagogue, established in accordance with the principals of conservative Judaism, has been in charge of the following clergymen: Rabbi Louis Berman, Rabbi Bernard Rosengard, Rabbi Louis Schwefel, Rabbi Benjamin Plotkin and Rabbi Kohn. The membership of the Temple Emanu'El is 150 at the present time. There are several organizations affiliated with the Temple.



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### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

The Bayonne branch of the Christian Science Church, or the First Church of Christ, Scientist, was organized in June 1912, first services being held in the Republican Clubhouse, Broadway and 29th Street. Membership and attendance at meetings grew so steadily that the group was regularly chartered as a church in April 1919 and re-incorporated in June 1925, under the New Jersey Religious Society Act.

With its expansion of membership and growth of interest, larger quarters became necessary. This problem was solved in 1929 when the Masonic Temple Association offered the use of its headquarters for service and lectures and it is there that the congregation has been meeting ever since.

A reading room is a part of the new home, use of which is available to all members desiring to read or study the Bible, the works of Mary Baker Eddy, the Christian Science Monitor, or other authorized Christian Science literature.

Mrs. William Soden is the church reader and Miss Dorothy Meyers is the second reader. The Board of Trustees is composed of the following:

Mrs. John Collins, chairman who also serves as Treasurer; Mrs. Val. Meyers, Mrs. Carl Tanzer, Mrs. Oris Eisenberg and Dr. Samuel Eisenberg. Other trustees are Mrs. Mathilda Wychoff who is also clerk and Sunday School Superintendent and Miss Mary C. Coles, also the librarian.

### ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX RUSSIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Nicholas Orthodox Russian Greek Catholic Church on the Boulevard and 24th Street is the home of Russian born parishioners who were organized as a distinct parish in 1913, the church being erected in 1915. They also have their own parochial school. The present pastor is Rev. Paul Bezkishkin.

### ST. ANDREW'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church was named in honor of Monsignor Egan and was erected in 1914. The Rev. Charles Doyle of Roselle, a former Assistant to Monsignor Egan, at the latter's request, was appointed the first pastor of St. Andrew's in December 1915. The cornerstone of the church on West 4th Street was laid in 1913. The parish was incorporated in December of the same year. The parish consisted of the southern section of St. Mary's Star of the Sea Parish, the mother parish and church of the denomination in the city. A paro-

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chial school is attached to the church. The present pastor is Rev. Charles Doyle.

### OHAB SHOLEM CONGREGATION OF UPTOWN

Ohab Sholem of Uptown is the most recently organized Jewish congregation in the city. The Synagogue is at 48th Street and Avenue C and was erected in 1920. Judah Alpert is the Canter. A Community Center Hall is also attached to this organization. All synagogues in Bayonne are chartered under the name of the United Hebrew Congregations.

### FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

Friendship Baptist Church started with five baptized believers who formed the nucleus of the congregation on May 10, 1925. The quintet met with the Rev. William J. Jones, Missionary secretary of the New Jersey Baptist and Afro-American Baptist State Conventions, and the Rev. F. W. Means, pastor of the Salem Baptist Church of Jersey City. These five worshippers, organized as a regular Missionary Baptist Church, and assumed its present name and rented, for worship, quarters at 47 West 19th Street. The pastor was the Rev. J. W. White, another of the group's first leaders. He resigned March 10, 1926 and at that time the congregation moved to 545 Boulevard where Rev. D. G. Dunkins was pastor. Shortly after, he resigned on April 6, 1927, the church was incorporated as a legal religious institution with former District Court Judge Horace Roberson drawing the papers.

The next pastor was the Rev. Walter R. Burton under whose leadership the church grew and they contracted and purchased premises at 90-92 West 20th Street. This property consisted of an old three-story frame building, a small old brick house and a brick building in the rear formerly used as a factory.

The cost price of \$15,000 however proved too much for the young church and the mortgage was ultimately foreclosed in 1934. Rev. Burton resigned on February 22, 1934 and the future looked dismal. Continuing to meet in the former factory building through rental a group of forty-five members extended a call to the Rev. Tibbs a year after Rev. Burton left. Having resigned from the Second Baptist Church in Keyport, the Rev. Tibbs accepted and took charge March 2, 1935. With the arrival of the new pastor the affairs of the church grew and new members joined and the congregation, in a short time, boasted of 200 members.

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In line with the brightened outlook, the congregation purchased the present church site in December 1935 at 22 West 20th Street the ground breaking ceremonies followed June 21, 1936. The old building on the new site was razed leaving only parts of the two side walls to serve as the nucleus for the present structure and the cornerstone was laid October 16, 1937 by the then United States Senator A. Harry Moore, when he was campaigning for the governorship. A host of city and county officials as well as many Christian ministers from various parts of the state attended. Although, incomplete, worship in the new church was held for the first time on Christmas day 1937.

Estimated at a cost of more than \$25,000 Friendship Baptist Church was built by voluntary contributions of members, assisted by friends and People's Baptist Church, First Reformed, First Baptist, Fifth Street Reformed and Bergen Point Methodist Churches.

### GLUCKMAN HEBREW HOME FOR THE AGED

In the early part of 1925 the Gluckman estate was donated for a Jewish Home for Aged by Mrs. Rose Gluckman. The building is located at 735 Avenue C. Joseph Penchansky-Gabi.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Vincent De Paul's parish was formed from the parishes of St. Henry and St. Mary and incorporated June 16, 1894. Rev. Father Meyer started St. Vincent's Mission in Salters Hall and the first Mass was celebrated July 7, 1895. Bol Farrell and his wife were the first to attend.

The parish was attended from St. Henry's Church until the appointment of the Rev. Joseph Gately, July 2, 1900. The congregation met from 1895 to 1906 in the small frame building on West Centre Street. In 1906 they moved to a wooden structure where the present church stands. Father Joseph Dolan who became pastor in August 1919 journeyed to Europe for ideas on the new building to be erected and he visited all famous churches of the Old World for suggestions.

Ground was broken in 1927 for the new church at a cost of \$535,000. The new church structure, replica of St. Georges, Venice, is of Lombardo Romanesque architecture, the tower is campanile two hundred feet high, the body of structure is of Plymouth Granite and steel and the seating capacity of the church is 1,100. The Manual organ is by the Hinners Company of Peking, Ill. The stations of the

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cross, of which there are fourteen, are of hammered bronze and in mediæval design.

The pews are carved in harmony with the circular Roman Windows and the shield lights in the transept have been copied from the Hall of Knights in Windsor Castle, England. Each bears the likeness of a Coronet symbolizing as Father Dolan, pointed out, "that the church is the house of Christ, King of Kings." The Altars are of Roman design, the stained glass windows are the work of Clarke Bros. of Dublin, Ireland and they represent progressively the story of the Mass. This fine new granite edifice was completed in 1930.

St. Vincent's School was first organized on September 8, 1919 with 250 students. In 1940 there are 501 students and a faculty of 11.

### SS PETER'S AND PAUL'S RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

On April 11, 1938 SS Peter's and Paul's Russian Orthodox Church on West 28th Street near the Boulevard was dedicated. The congregation was organized in 1922 and the new church marks a high point in the history of the church. Eastern architecture with three cupolos facing the front, the church is the nearest approach to pure Russia the city has ever had, although no part, either fixtures or materials were brought from abroad. It is a replica of St. Isaacs church in Moscow. The Mosque from which a view can be had for miles around, is faithfully copied.

Mr. Feldman, Brooklyn Artist, constructed the church in addition to copying the architecture. He has painted a picture of a scene from the Old Testament for the Altar. He was at one time, according to information given by the Rev. John Kopistiansky, a professor of Arts in a Petrograd Art Academy.

Funds for the structure of the church were obtained mainly from the congregation with some donation from Russians not belonging to the church. The church carries no mortgage, its debts are solely those undertaken by members of the congregation who have provided the money for it on a simple no interest basis.

The church seats about 250 with spacious aisles and roomy balcony permitting 150 more. This church is known for its fine music.

The Parish Hall is back of the church and the property that joins that of 95 West 27th Street is where the pastor makes his home.

### ASSUMPTION ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

The cornerstone of the Church of the Assumption on West 23rd



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Street was laid November 16, 1902 and the church dedicated in December 1902 by Bishop O'Connor.

In April 1939, ground was broken for a new parish school of the Assumption Church, which is a dream come true for the Italian population of Bayonne. From a tiny hall on West 24th Street where 39 years ago about 500 families came to pray, grew the Assumption Roman Catholic Church and plans are now being made for expansion to accommodate more than 5,000 families now in the congregation. This church was started from a private dwelling and today 15,000 young and old come within the influence of the Assumption Church. Other buildings to be erected in the \$200,000 expansion program are a convent building and an addition to the present church. Facilities for recreation as well as education will be provided in the parish school and an increase in seating capacity of 500 is planned for the church addition. The school and the convent will be of fire-proof construction, equipment in plumbing, heating, ventilation and electrical systems. The floors and stairs will be of terrazzo and the walls of tile and the school auditorium and convent chapel artistically decorated. Rev. Michael Mercolino is pastor.

Other denominations in the city, not before mentioned are:

The New Zion, located at 60 West 22nd Street, which is a Baptist Church with the Rev. B. J. Mainor as pastor.

First Slovak Church of Christ at 28 Andrew Street with the Rev. M. S. Mateyka as pastor.

St. Mary's Ukrainian on East 25th Street with the Rev. Demeter Gulyn as pastor.

Wallace Temple A. M. E. Zion, Avenue C and 17th Street with the Rev. R. B. Frazier as pastor.

Italian Christian Pentecoastal at 131-33 West 24th Street.

Christ the King Church of Jersey City, Bayonne Branch meets at K. of C. with Rev. Joseph A. Shovlin as pastor.

St. Michael's R. C. Church at 15 East 23rd Street with the Rev. Joseph Petraitis, as pastor.

The non-denominational are: Church of God in Christ at 83 West 19th Street with the Rev. Gabbe Prunell, as pastor.

### HOLY FAMILY ACADEMY

The Holy Family Academy which is located on West Eighth Street, is the largest private school in the city. It opened on September 10, 1925 with a faculty of six the first year and 138 students. It started



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as a commercial school, then developed into High School preparatory for college. The teachers are Sisters of Mount St. Joseph's College in Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia.

Diplomas were presented to fifty graduates at commencement exercises in 1934 which were held in St. Mary's Church. At that time, Miss Kathryn Cronin, daughter of the late Matthew T. Cronin, one time Mayor of the City, valedictorian, was awarded a scholarship to Mount St. Joseph's College at Chestnut Hill, Pa.

At the present time there are twenty-two in the faculty and 518 students.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN BAYONNE FROM THE EARLY DAYS TO THE PRESENT TIME: THE BAYONNE PUBLIC LIBRARY

**I**N Bergen Point the district school was on Dodge Street and Broadway. At a later time the villagers of Bergen point completed arrangements with Roswell Graves, a public spirited citizen, for the purchase of a plot of ground for the site of a new school to be situated more centrally. This ground was at Fifth Street and Dodge and it contained about thirteen and three-quarter lots and was obtained May 25, 1857. A building committee was appointed and a school building constructed. This was District School No. 5 and cost the sum of \$2,190.86 for building and furniture. The price paid for the site was \$831.50, the total expense being \$3,025.36.

This old wooden structure, decapitated of its imposing square turret and altered into a two-story tenement house and so used for many years, had a rather remarkable career for so small and insignificant appearing a building. Abandoned for school purposes after the erection of Public School No. 4, the old frame building was utilized for a long period as the police station for the Fourth Ward and was finally sold to the late Thomas Toumey, who converted it into a public hall.

During the administration of the first Mayor, there were five brick school buildings constructed.

The winter of 1869-70 Public School No. 2 on Avenue D between Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth Streets was completed at a cost of \$12,000. The opening of Public School No. 5 on East Twenty-second Street, Constable Hook occurred in the autumn of the year 1870. The cornerstone for the new No. 5 Elementary and Binet School was laid in 1919. This school is located on 30th Street and Prospect Avenue and is a large, modern fire-proof school with a capacity for eight hundred students although there is an enrollment of approximately only three hundred students at the present time. Miss Marguerite Cran is the Principal.

No. 4 School on Fifth Street costing \$16,000. was completed

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

shortly after No. 2 and was opened in September 1871. The old frame schoolhouse on Dodge Street was then converted into an Engine House.

No. 3 School in Pamrapo, on Center Street, was completed at a cost of \$17,000. One thousand children attended the public schools at that time.

The first night school for the city was established by the Board of Education during the winter of 1873-4 in Public School No. 4.

The seating capacities of the several public schools were: No. 1, 217 pupils; No. 2, 317 pupils; No. 3, 315 pupils; No. 4, 438 pupils and No. 5, 155 pupils.

In 1876 No. 1 School, which was built on Fifth Street between Avenue C and Newman Avenue was opened. The cost of this school was \$20,000. The school served for many years but finally outgrew its usefulness and a new building was needed. The new building, which is located on Avenue C and Fifth Street, at the laying of the cornerstone October 27, 1920, was named the Henry E. Harris School, in honor of Henry E. Harris, who was Principal of the old No. 1 School for forty-three years. School Trustee George Greenly was the Chairman of the exercises. Charles S. Havens succeeded Mr. Harris as Principal and Miss Anna J. Herbert was Acting Principal until No. 8 School closed its doors on February 1, 1940. Mr. Francis K. Strohoefer, who had been Principal of No. 8 School since 1921, assumed the post as Principal. This is a Junior High School with Kindergarten and first grade.

No. 6 School was completed on Thirty-eighth Street between Avenue C and D in 1888 at a cost of \$21,000. Mr. Ebenezer Earl was Principal for many years and Miss Jessie Wheeler, later Mrs. Thomas Agnew, and the Misses Helen and Josephine Ramsay were connected with No. 6 for many years. Thomas Agnew became Principal after Mr. Earl retired. The population increased in the uptown section so that the school became over-crowded and in 1920 an addition in the form of a new building adjoining the old one was completed. The new building was called the Horace Mann School. The present Principal of the school is Mr. Joseph T. McCormack.

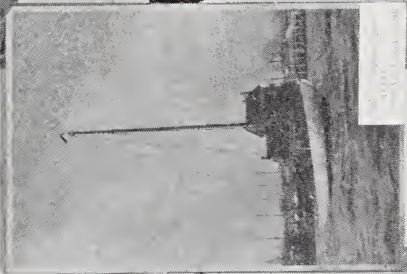
The first High School was organized in a frame building in 1892. The academic classes, which had previously been held in Schools Nos. 2 and 4 and 6 were transferred to the old church building on Avenue D and 29th Street and termed the High School. Due to the increase in the population the High School became cramped and on December 6, 1897 the school was transferred to Schuyler Hall at Bergen Point. In



Old City Hall, 1871.  
 Jan. 1871.



Old City Hall building



Old City Hall tower



Old City Hall building



Old City Hall building

1, 2, 3 and 4, courtesy of Cealus Van Buskirk. Center picture, courtesy of Dr. George W. Mellor.





## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

1910 the first building for the High School was completed on Thirty-first Street between Avenue C and the Boulevard. The administration of School Superintendent, John W. Carr began September 1, 1909 when he succeeded James H. Christie who had been Superintendent of Schools for several years. Preston H. Smith was Principal of the High School at that time which position he held until Mr. Carr left Bayonne to act as President of the Friend's School for Girls in Philadelphia. At the present time Mr. Carr is connected with Murray State Teachers College in Murray, Ky. Mr. Smith thus became Superintendent of Schools on November 15, 1915.

The new Senior High School, located on Avenue A and Twenty-eighth Street was completed in April 1937. It is said to be one of the finest schools in the State. The Library, one of the finest in the country, gives one the feeling of being in the solarium of a fine hotel, as it is beautifully located overlooking Newark Bay. The cafeteria is second to none and the chemical laboratory is the last word in modern improvement. Mr. Howard E. Merity is the Principal. The old Senior High School on Thirty-first Street is now used as the High School Annex and the principal is Mr. John J. Mullen.

In 1894 old No. 3 School in Panrapo was condemned, having been cracked in the process of moving it from Center Street to Forty-seventh Street. A new No. 3 was completed on Avenue D between Forty-ninth and Fiftieth Streets and was opened for use April 28, 1897. It contained sixteen rooms. The land cost \$6,400., building \$44,888. Mr. George A. Atwater was the first principle of the new No. 3 School. During 1936 the school was torn down, having outgrown its usefulness.

On April 15, 1898 a contract was awarded for the erection of a new twenty-room school, No. 7, on property between Seventeenth and Andrew Streets; price of land was \$12,400. building \$71,300. This school was opened for use September 5, 1899. The principal at the present time is Mr. Harold Levy.

School No. 8 was built on Avenue C between 27th and 28th Streets in 1903. Mr. Francis K. Strohoefer was the principal, until it closed its doors February 1, 1940.

During 1909 Lincoln School was erected at East 26th Street. Miss Catherine McGrath is the present principal.

In 1912 Roosevelt School, located on West 23rd Street, was built and at the present time Mr. Walter F. Robinson is the principal; No. 12 School, located on West 10th Street was also erected that year and Mr. Harry Schaul is the present principal.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Philip G. Vroom School on Broadway and 26th Street was completed in 1915 and at the present time Mr. A. E. Lovett is the Principal.

On February 7, 1919, at the recommendation of Supt. of Schools, Mr. Preston H. Smith, all local teachers of public schools who had seen service abroad, upon their return to duty, were to receive an increase of \$500. to their regular salary, providing the increase did not overstep the maximum. Mr. Smith said that the increase was a just action and richly deserved by the boys. The teachers who saw foreign service were: Profs. Hookway, Burns, Tucker, Jacobs, Strohoefer and Brenen.

On June 12, 1919 the new Washington School on the Boulevard between 47th and 48th Streets was dedicated. The principal at the present time is Mr. A. Thomas Hookway.

In January of 1920 lip reading classes were established in No. 12 School under the charge of Miss Agnes Lenox.

In 1921 the Mary J. Donohoe School, named in honor of Miss Mary J. Donohoe who for many years was principal, was erected on 5th Street. Mr. James H. Christie is the present principal, Mary Donohoe having retired a few years ago.

During 1924 the Junior High School was completed and it was considered as fine a school as any in the State. The Junior High, with its fine swimming pool and the Vocational with its modern machinery and industrial outlook which gives a point toward a broader interpretation of the meaning of the word "education." Miss Lucy McDermott is Principal, of Junior High and Edward Berman is Principal of Vocational High.

The Superintendent of Schools, Preston H. Smith, submitted his statistical report for the month of May to the Board of Education on June 17, 1927 with an enrollment in the elementary schools of twelve thousand, three hundred fifty-eight; in the Junior High, one thousand four hundred seventy-three; in the High School one thousand three hundred fifty-four making the total of fifteen thousand, one hundred eighty-five students in the day schools. There were 355 pupils in the continuation classes and 168 in the evening high school.

On September 2, 1927 the Bayonne Public School Buildings, lands and equipment were worth \$6,560,330 according to the annual report of the Secretary submitted to the Board of Education. Prepared by Joseph Sklenar, Secretary to the Board, the report was complete, comprehensive and detailed containing a summary of the receipts and disbursements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1927.

The Bayonne High School Orchestra gave a highly commended

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public concert in the High School Auditorium on June 16, 1929. More than one hundred students made up the orchestra which was under the direction of Ben Levy, instructor of music in the school.

The cornerstone for the Woodrow Wilson School was laid October 1930. The impressive school is a model of its kind and represents, with equipment, an investment of close to \$1,000,000. The school was formerly dedicated May 12, 1932 with impressive ceremonies in the school's spacious first floor auditorium crowded to overflowing, with members of local fraternal organizations, parents of pupils and the general public. Miss Elizabeth Duffy is the principal.

The Board of Education initiated a movement in September 1932 calculated to bring about one hundred per cent local residence of Bayonne teachers by influencing faculty members who live out of town to move into the city or resign from their positions.

In 1933 Soup Kitchens were established in the city schools in an effort to aid hundreds of school children, who because of conditions at home, were probably suffering from malnutrition.

Because of the record-breaking number of students, (412) the largest class in the school's history, 1934 attendance at the exercises at High School were limited to families of the graduates.

Six hundred pupils of the Elementary and Junior High Schools of Bayonne were heard in a music festival at the Junior High School Auditorium on June 3, 1935. Miss Josephine G. Duke, director of Music, was in charge.

On April 30, 1938 the memory of the late Emily A. Williams, former principal of School No. 8 and first president of the Mt. Carmel Guild, was perpetuated in a memorial presented by the Guild to the Woodrow Wilson School. The Memorial, a shrine of the Constitution of the United States was accepted on behalf of the school by the Principal, Frank K. Strohoefer and on behalf of Miss Williams by Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Anna J. Herbert.

On October 8, 1938 there were 14,083 students enrolled in the day schools in the city and 6,593 of those students were in the Senior and Junior High Schools.

On June 5, 1939 the date which would have been the birthday of the late Principal Daniel P. Sweeney, was commemorated with the dedication of the Bayonne Senior High School Library of the nucleus of a memorial collection of books. In a simple, quiet ceremony, the tribute was paid to the late educator in the presence of members of Mr. Sweeney's family, former associates, faculty members and the

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school's student participation committee. The shelves are adjacent to the Library fireplace, where it was said Mr. Sweeney frequently stood to gaze out into Newark Bay.

Vocational High School at Avenue A and 30th Street is a fine school.

The Vocational High School, for the first time in its history, planned to issue a yearbook, 1939. The following staff members were appointed: Joseph Bernstein, editor-in-chief; John Leight, Business Manager; Thadeus Oltarzewski and Donald Sharkey, associate editors.

Open house was also observed at the end of the season of 1939 at the Vocational High School when the public was invited to witness demonstrations of studies conducted in the classrooms. One of the highlights was the science show at which time a demonstration was given including exhibits of man-made lightning, the uses of the photo-electric eye, new advances in gas and electric welding, pictures of the human voice, reaction-time oil testing and numerous uses of automatic controllers. Guests were invited to inspect all classrooms, shops and laboratories. Among those which have won attention in previous observances of open house are the electronic laboratory with its licensed sending station, the material testing laboratory, air conditioning, refrigeration and beauty culture rooms, heating and oil burning laboratory, machine and pattern shops, drafting rooms, electrical maintenance shop, internal combustion engine laboratory, automotive shops, the printing shop and the electrical laboratory.

As the population of the city grew, larger schools were built and today our public schools, from an architectural and educational standpoint, compare favorably with those in the largest cities of our country.

### THE BAYONNE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Bayonne Public Library came into existence April 8, 1890 when voters of the city, in an overwhelming majority, decided in favor of a library for the city. On August 4th a Library Board was chosen in accordance with the State Law. The first Library Board, appointed by Mayor Newman was: Joseph H. Wright, Bartholomew R. Cahill, William J. Morrison, John H. Bruns, William B. DuBois, the Mayor himself and Nathaniel W. Trask, at that time President of the Board of Education, being Trustees ex-officio.

Mrs. Solon Humphreys had started a library a few years previous to the establishment of the city library for the workmen at the Hook



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and when the city started the library the books of the Workmen's Library were given to it. Thomas J. Parker, who was President of the Workmen's Library became afterwards a trustee of the City Library.

Andrew Carnegie presented Bayonne with \$50,000. for a Public Library in April of 1903. The site for this building had previously been selected on Avenue C and 31st Street and work was started in the Fall of that year.

An addition to the Public Library was completed in 1933 at a cost of \$300,000. Mary Peters, head Librarian, has been connected with the library for nearly 32 years. She announced at that time that the circulation of books for the year was 680,618.

Miss Peters attended the public, high and the Normal Schools of New Jersey, the University of Pennsylvania, Amherst and the New Jersey Public Library Commission Library schools. She taught eight and one-half years in the public schools of the state. Leaving the teaching profession, she reorganized several libraries, and later was appointed librarian of the Bayonne Public Library.

Miss Peters then entered into the professional life of the library profession, being an active member in three state, two special and one national library associations; for eight years was treasurer of the New Jersey Library Association, also president of the Library Works' Association for two terms, officially visited libraries and library conferences throughout this country and abroad. Entering the life of the community, Miss Peters served as president of the Woman's Club, Athena Club, was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Y.W.C.A., of the Girl Scouts, Secretary of the Hudson County Tuberculosis League, Chairman of the International Institute, and Secretary of the Salvation Army Advisory Board and at the present time is one of the officers of the Ex-President's Club of the New Jersey State Federation of Woman's Clubs. During the war, Miss Peters was active on numerous boards and committees, representing the American Library Association in the United War Work Drive. Miss Peters belongs to numerous organizations in the state, including historical societies, country clubs, etc.





## CHAPTER XXII.

### 1812 TO 1940

#### Bayonne As An Industrial City.

PRIOR to and during the Civil War Bayonne was the Newport, the Atlantic City of the East, ranking with all the others as the most fashionable and popular resort and fashion center of the East.

But nature had done a great thing for our City. Fine waters, rugged coast line, accessibility to water and to the great metropolis presented an irresistible lure to industry. Accordingly the great companies, the leading industries of the nation found their way to Bayonne where factory after factory sprang into existence. Bayonne became a city of beating hammers of industry, whirling wheels of machinery and quivering needles of trade. Thousands upon thousands of laboring people followed industry. Population grew by leaps and bounds. And we have the Bayonne of today. Before, it was a quiet and peaceful retreat and rendezvous for leisure and plenty; today it is a busy crossroads of industry.

The Hazard Powder House was located at Allen's Point, Constable Hook in 1812 and according to the records, it was the first manufacturing concern in this locality. It supplied great quantities of gun powder to ships and to Fort Jay on Governor's Island and forts on Ellis and Bedloe Islands. After the building was discarded as a factory it was used for prize-fights, dog fights and general like sports.

Prior to 1848 the Bergen Point Copper Works was established and White's Sulphur Works located in the city in 1850. These industries preceded the oil industry by nearly twenty-five years.

Louis Cohn's Ship Chandlery Shop was located on Twenty-second Street and Avenue I and it was torn down later for Standard Oil Tanks.

The advent of the oil refineries stimulated Bayonne as a shipping center. The first plant was that of the Prentice Refining Company. This was established on Constable Hook in 1875.

In 1876 Lombard & Ayers established a plant at the Hook and about ten years later sold out to the Tide Water Oil Company.

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### STANDARD OIL COMPANY

The Standard Oil Company erected an oil refinery on Constable Hook in June 1877 and on May 30, 1887 took over the Prentice Refining Company. Soon thereafter the longest oil pipe line in the world was put down from Bayonne to Oklahoma and Texas. From that beginning Bayonne has become a great oil centre with city proportions. Many ships come into their docks daily and millions of gallons of gasoline, oil and derivative products are shipped to all parts of the world.

The 2,200 inflammable acres of stills, cracking units and storage tanks at Bayonne and Bayway are the first glimpse that the immigrant entering New York harbor receives of American Industry.

In 1913 the Standard Oil Plant shipped 2,608,660 tons of oil and oil products by water. There were received into this plant by water 797,240 tons making a total amount of business done by water over their docks 3,405,907 tons. This does not include the materials used in the preparation of oil and oil products, such as tinplate, boxes, steel pipe machinery, etc.

The plant is equipped with four large docks capable of handling the largest commercial vessels in the world. Fifteen large ships can be accommodated at these docks at one time. To do this large business 496 ship loads were received and sent out, 410 being loaded and 86 brought in, laden with oil, 293 barges, oil laden, were also received and 1,704 barges, an average of six a day, released. The ships and barges vary from a capacity of 3,000 to a capacity of 15,000 tons. They go to all parts of the world, many cargoes reaching the far interior of China, the Pacific Ocean and interior of Africa, Australia, South America, Scandinavia and as far north as the Arctic Circle. Just how well the company looks after its employees and their interests may be gleaned from the fact that it maintains a private hospital and a corps of physicians and surgeons with every modern convenience for the treatment of the sick and first aid to the injured. Also a pension system has been introduced by which a person having worked for the company for twenty years and having reached the age of 60 years is entitled to retirement on half pay for the remainder of his life. The men are employed on eight hour basis, day and night shifts, the shifts being so arranged that a man on nights gets on to day work every third week, and no man works over six days without a day of rest.

The health and welfare of the men when inside the plant are looked after in a most careful manner and in this respect it is one of the safest

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industries in the country. George Mettam is the General Manager of the Bayonne plant.

### THE STANDARD OIL STRIKE IN 1915

During the Standard Oil strike in 1915, the New York *Times* carried the following headline. "Standard Oil's Aliens Strike." The walkout started in mid-July when nine hundred coopers quit the barrel department. A day or two later, the still-cleaners joined them, 6,000 men walking out at the Standard Oil Plant and 2,000 more at the Tidewater Refinery. Wages were at the top of the list of grievances. The barrel-makers had been earning \$3.40 a day, while the still-cleaners enjoyed a wage of \$1.75.

Mayor Pierre Garven, a Fink executive, who acted as a Tidewater attorney even while he occupied the mayor's chair, advised the companies to import armed guards. John Ryan, a renegade union man employed as a pumpman by the Standard Oil, was the informant for Bergoff, the strike-breaker, called the "Red Demon." On the basis of his reports, Bergoff received an order for five undercover men. The workers, however, were making no secret of their dissatisfaction and when Bergoff came to George B. Gifford, General Manager of the Standard Oil Refinery, he had nothing new to impart.

"Get me two hundred and fifty husky men who can swing clubs," Gifford told Bergoff. "If that's not enough, get a thousand or two thousand. I want them to march up East 22nd Street through the guts of Polacks."

East 22nd Street wound up at the fences and gates of both plants. Here the strikers gathered for their picketing. Gifford's plan to march the guards "through the guts of Polacks" was abandoned, it seems, for the nobles were shipped on covered barges from New York City to the bay entrances of the plants. First the rifles and ammunition were shipped in, making arsenals which, according to the Bayonne *Times*, would suffice for a month of warfare. Waddell and Leo Bergoff were in charge of the distribution of the nobles. Jack Eller was made Captain of the Guard at the Tidewater Plant, while Jew Stoney was given command over Standard Oil nobles. Several of the nobles who had taken part in the Roosevelt, New Jersey, shooting early in the year were among the guards. According to John J. Rigney, detective in charge of the Bayonne Police Department's Bureau of Identification, the guards included also a number of drug

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addicts, "who were eager for the chance to fire their guns." The United States Commission on Industrial Relations said that even Alexander Simpson, attorney for Bergoff, had "referred to the guards as a lot of thugs" and the commission added, "Their appearance amply justified his use of the term."

The Bergoff guardsmen appeared on East 22nd Street on the evening of July 20th. One striker was slugged on the head. In the first disturbances, the police of Bayonne were also on hand. Police Inspector, Daniel Cady, seated in a buggy, charged a strikers' meeting and shot and killed a young striker, John Starachak, according to the findings of a coroner's jury. Seven were wounded by police fire. Then came the Bergoff nobles, and the police retired.

The guards were heavily armed and instructed to use their own judgment. Early on July 21st they sallied forth to clean East 22nd Street of strikers. The killing of Starachak and the slugging of the striker had left the strikers in no mood to give way. With bricks and stones and a dozen old revolvers, they forced the guards back into the plant. At 10 A. M. one hundred of the nobles, Winchesters in their hands, began the attack again; and again they were driven back. Fifteen of them ran into the plant of the Tidewater Company while another party led by one-armed Bush, took refuge in a firehouse. They left twelve wounded strikers in the streets. A mob intent on revenge surrounded the fire-house, and permitted the guards to leave only after Sheriff Kinkead had arrived from Jersey City and placed them under arrest for their attack on the strikers.

From July 22nd on, the nobles did their fighting from behind walls that surrounded the plants. They sniped at strikers, poured shots into windows and walls of homes opposite the plants, tried to shoot Kinkead and did kill three strikers. Soon after eight o'clock on the 22nd, Tony Bedlarski was walking on a dirt embankment that rose near the stockade wall of the Standard Oil Plant. A shot came from within, and he rolled down the incline, a bullet in his left side. The strikers saw this incident and, as the *New York Times* said "realized the attack had been unprovoked." Led by John Surgen, a former Austrian war veteran, two hundred strikers rushed to hurl stones and sticks over the parapet whence came volleys of gunshot. Surgen was wounded and died later. Bullets rained into the upper stories of tenements across the street from the plant. Newspaper reporters endangered their lives by binding up the wounded and rushing them off in trucks. Again Kinkead intervened.



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Shortly after, gunfire sputtered again from the Tidewater Plant, aimed at a group of boys gathered on 22nd Street. As Kinkead urged the boys to leave, he turned and saw a guard inside the plant with a gun leveled at him. Kinkead dodged, but the shot took effect, killing Vasil Merozekow. The boys and strikers retreated in haste and hid behind buildings. While peering out from behind Mydosh's Hall Mikolay Ewoski was killed by a sniper. Others in the Bergoff sharpshooters fired at newspaper men. One shot pierced the hat of a reporter, though he bore not the slightest resemblance to the strikers. Kinkead, meanwhile, had telephoned the Tidewater office and demanded that the shooting cease. His order was ignored and sniping continued until interrupted by a downpour of rain. When the rain slackened, an oil fire started in a swamp near the Tidewater Plant and crowds of men, women and children rushed to watch the engines at work. The Bergoff nobles poured a volley of shots into the crowd and then called it a day.

On the 24th of July, the nobles at the Tidewater Plant under command of Captain Jack Eller, sniped all night at the buildings across the street, and tried to pick off strikers who ventured to stand in front of Mydosh's Hall. Powerful searchlights from the plants flashed on the streets, roofs and huge oil tanks to pick out possible targets. The light in front of the union hall was smashed by a well-aimed shot. Bergoff, in hushed tones of admiration, said that the best of his sharpshooters was Speiser, alias Stoney, who, according to the Red Demon, was responsible for two of the four deaths.

The work of the Bergoff guards served but to intensify the strike, and on the fifth day chances of breaking the walkout were farther away than ever. Sheriff Kinkead now outlined a new plan—one which the companies were forced to adopt, and Bergoff was compelled to accept.

The central figure in the new strategy was to be Kinkead, a young, tall and handsome Irishman. A former Congressman, had built up a reputation as a friend of labor. He was an erratic but effective orator, as impressive to the Polish strikers who did not understand him as he was to others who could comprehend his language. He had made a show of friendship for the strikers by his arrest (and rescue) of the guards trapped in the firehouse, and by demanding that the Tidewater guards cease their shooting. Now he was entrusted with the task Bergoff had failed to accomplish. With great dramatic skill, he went to work.

The Sheriff of Hudson County went to the Standard Oil stockade

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and with loud oaths arrested the Red Demon, and eight of his nobles, including Stoney. Piling them into a patrol wagon, the Sheriff then went to the Tidewater plant, where he took Captain Eller, Supt. Samuel H. Edwards and eighteen guards into custody on charges of inciting to riot. With the newspapermen at his heels—they had been informed hours before of the Sheriff's plan of action—he denounced "paid assassins in the employ of big business" and said their period of service in Bayonne was at an end. Two days later, Kinkead arrested one hundred more of the Bergoff nobles and denounced them as "gunmen" and "assassins." He promised they would be prosecuted for murder.

Having won the confidence of the strikers, Kinkead proceeded to demoralize them. First he attacked their leaders, Frank Tannenbaum, an I. W. W. member, and Jeremiah Baly, a young Socialist from Elizabeth, N. J. The Sheriff and his deputies, whom he had sworn in willy-nilly throughout the city, carried Baly to the yard of the Standard Oil Company and beat him so badly he was laid up for weeks. Both Baly and Tannenbaum were thrown into jail, one as an intruder and a Socialist, the other as an I. W. W. agitator. Kinkead then tried to capture a strike meeting. When he was defeated by a show of hands, he split the meeting into factions and forced the strike committee to resign. He promised that the companies would give some measure of increased pay.

Having jailed the strike leaders, split their ranks and sworn in hundreds of local deputies, Kinkead announced that the strike was over and the plants would be opened on the morrow. The next morning he appeared on East 22nd Street hatless, coatless and without collar or tie. He had planned his theatrics to the last act. The first two strikers who appeared were hesitant about entering the plant. They were seized and kicked by Kinkead, and thrown headlong into his car, which then raced off while hundreds of astonished strikers looked on. In ten minutes Kinkead was back on the scene, shouting to the strikers, as they returned to work, his promises to prosecute the armed guards.

The conservative newspapers of the entire nation gloried in Kinkead's direct action. They had hailed him as "The Mad Sheriff" and proposed him as a fitting candidate for Governor of New Jersey and even as presidential timber.

Bergoff, Fink Mayor Garven, the courts and the oil companies gave Kinkead complete cooperation. Under the circumstances it would not have been wise to release the arrested guards at once. Several Bayonne officials and the Red Demon, in conference at Police Headquarters,

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decided to play the tragi-comedy a while longer. But the hundred and thirty-one nobles were beginning to resent their imprisonment. Bergoff and the oil companies had refused to furnish bail for them.

While Recorder William J. Cain said, "there is evidence here of murder and I can see no reason why the charge should not be changed to that effect," one hundred and twenty-one nobles were released on their own recognizance and left the city. Ten were held for the grand jury on charges of inciting to riot. They included Captains of the guard Eller and Stoney. Though Bergoff compelled, under the circumstances, to play the part of the sacrificial lamb and endure the tongue-in-cheek denunciation of Kinkead and Mayor Garven, the remaining nobles were unwilling to stay in jail, and were finally admitted to bail.

Soon after the arraignments, a coroner's jury met. It found Police Inspector Cady responsible for the killing of Staranchak. Peter Blakelee was identified by a witness as one of five guards who had fired shots which caused two of the deaths. When the jury reconvened to consider the deaths of Mikolay Ewoski and Vasil Merozekow, five persons testified that the fatal shots had come from the Tidewater plant. Fred Smart, a boy employed by the Tidewater Company to keep watch for fires in the plant, testified that he heard Superintendent Edwards give the orders to shoot. The coroner's jury came to the conclusion that the two had been "killed by persons unknown." At the end of September a new grand jury was sworn in and received the cases of the ten guards. Justice Swayze instructed the jury that the parties responsible for the deaths were to be indicted for murder—"unless the facts justified their acts." The grand jury duly inquired into the facts and wound up its affairs with no indictments.

Meanwhile, Bayonne's upper strata had become a happy family again. Simpson was urging Kinkead for governor, and Mayor Garven, as counsel for Bergoff and the Tidewater Oil Company, successfully fought a suit for \$100,000 brought by the widow of John Surgen, another of the slain strikers. Long before this the Rockefellers had washed their hands of any responsibility by stating that neither of them had any connection with the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey except as owners of its stock.

When the United States Commission on Industrial Relations studied the findings of its investigators, George P. West and C. L. Chenery, the pulses of its chairman and a majority of its members beat fast. They made public a report which branded the guards as criminals, a statement which was predicated in part on direct word from Waddell.

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"Waddell, the most experienced member of the firm," said the report, "admitted that he has no prejudice against ex-convicts, but, on the contrary, finds many of them particularly valuable for the work in hand."

The commission's investigators underscored Simpson's description of the men he was defending as a "lot of thugs." "Most of them are recruited from the scum and dregs of the city," said the United States Commission. The riots, they said, had been caused by the arrival of the strikebreakers. The strikers, it was found, "had armed themselves with cheap and ineffectual revolvers which they futilely returned the deadly fire of the Winchesters." Kinkead's full course of conduct, Chairman Walsh said, had "the cordial approval of the Standard Oil officials." The Sheriff broke the strike when he "overawed and discouraged the strikers by assaulting their leaders." His attack on Baly was not the one, swift punch reported in the newspapers, but a "vicious beating" administered when the youthful strike leader was in no position to defend himself or strike back. For the labor policy of the Standard Oil Company the commission had unmeasured disapproval. The ending of the strike "was a complete victory of the Standard Oil Company as to its vital policies."

During the strike, one of the detective agencies in New York furnished for the protection of the Tidewater Oil Company's plant, men who were so vicious and unreliable that the officials of the company themselves said that their presence was sufficient to incite a riot. These men shot without provocation at anyone or everyone who came within sight and the killing of at least three strikers in Bayonne and the wounding of many more was directly chargeable to these guards.

The winter of 1916 brought a new oil strike to Bayonne and there was more killing and bloodshed. Bergoff Bros. & Waddell, however, were not called upon for their "expert" services.

The 1916 strike brought Bergoff a changed situation in Bayonne. He was erecting the Bergoff Building at the time, and employing union labor, in complete disregard of the prescription he had always written for his clients. But his employment of union men made no difference to the oil workers. He was building just at the border line of the foreign quarter, and a report got about and persisted that the Red Demon was supplying guards in the 1916 strike as he had done a year before. Crowds of strikers menaced construction on his building. Ignobly he was forced to insert a full-page advertisement in the Bayonne *Times* avowing that he had no connection whatever with the cur-



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rent disturbances at the oil refineries. When the strikers refused to be convinced, the Red Demon was compelled to plead for police protection. Police were placed at the Bergoff house, as well as on the site of the Bergoff building, but their presence was of no avail. The strikers persisted in flocking about the construction in menacing numbers until Bergoff was forced to discontinue work.

After the 1916 strike was over, the Bergoff Building was completed. The letters "P.L.B." were duly chisled on eleven slabs of marble and filled in with gold leaf. But instead of puffing with pride at the thought of having "the largest building in Hudson County" within their fair city, the larger part of the populace took the name of Bergoff in vain—it became a perpetual byword, cause for scorn and profanity. Finally, Bergoff left what was to be a monument to his boasted, if vain, achievements. A cowed and probably wiser man, he left Bayonne to the pleasure of all.

### TIDE WATER OIL COMPANY ORGANIZED IN 1878

The Tide Water Oil Company of Bayonne has played a very important part in the development and expansion of the city since its organization in 1878. As it stands today it is a monument to that courage and perseverance which has marked the progress of the petroleum business in Bayonne. The company derives its name from the fact that its founders were the first to conceive the plan of piping crude from the interior to tide water.

The Tide Water Oil Company pioneer six-inch trunk line from Pennsylvania for the transportation of crude petroleum was started in January 1879 and was the first to cross the Alleghanies and on May 23, 1887, after eight years of continuous fighting, against competitors, railroads and every conceivable obstacle the completed line reached Bayonne. This underground system has been developed to such an extent that by this means there was delivered into the Company's terminus in Bayonne 10,000 to 11,000 barrels of crude oil every twenty-four hours during the year 1916. (In 1859 the world's output of crude oil was only 1,977 barrels for the whole year.)

The great storage tanks, stills, filters, steam plants, coal bunkers, laboratories and workshops of the company employed in storing the crude oil and finishing the different products occupy more than 122 acres of land. The various parts of the works are connected by an industrial railway eight miles in length where, three switch engines and



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two locomotive cranes are required to handle the freight on the four miles of standard gauge track within the limits of the plant.

The property of the company includes more than one and one-half miles of water front, included in which are the private docks, capable of accommodating five or six ocean-going steamers drawing thirty feet of water, from which a large percentage of the finished product is shipped to every corner of the inhabited globe.

It would require more than a day to walk through and visit each part of the refinery at Bayonne. It would take many days to follow out the various complicated processes whereby the petroleum from its crude state is transformed into the more than 350 different products with which all civilization is familiar and in the producing of which a permanent army of over 1,800 workers are daily employed.

In 1916 there were 500 steel tanks with an aggregate capacity of 1,500,000 barrels. These tanks are required to store the crude oil, the oils in process and the finished product. The steam plant, which furnishes the power for the works and the steam used in distillation, has a capacity of 5,400 horsepower. This plant and the oil stills consume about 150,000 tons of fuel a year. The great pumping plant is capable of drawing each day from the bay 40,000,000 gallons of water, for use in the cooling condensers and in case of fire.

The refrigerating plant is equivalent to that required to make 300 tons of ice a day. The barrel factory turns out 3,000 hardwood oil barrels a day. The testing laboratory is devoted mainly to testing and experimenting with automobile lubricating oils. By the means of many ingenious machines with which it is equipped, every condition of use for all standard types of motors is accurately ascertained. The laboratories, where all products are tested through various stages of refining and also just before shipment, are equipped with every device known to modern science and in charge of chemists and engineers of international reputation to insure their quality and uniformity.

The location of this great plant on New York harbor has played an important part in its success and has justified the efforts of its founders incident to reaching tide water by bringing the markets of the world within its reach.

In Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia, on the Equator, within the Arctic Circle, wherever man has knowledge of the comforts and conveniences of civilization, some of the manufactured products of the Tide Water Oil Company are found.

On April 20, 1939 the Tide Water Associated Oil Company pur-



1. Foot of West 38th Street near Newark Bay. Taken in 1910 by John H. Dow.
2. Completing "Inaugural" Journey from Mt. Vernon, Denys Wortman, New York cartoonist, in role of Washington, on trip of 150 years ago, arriving at Battery, New York.
3. Bayonne Bridge.
4. Mt. Carmel School (by courtesy of Rev. Anthony Tralka).
5. Dr. George W. Mellor with his flag (courtesy of Bayonne Times).



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chased property on Old Hook Road, Central Avenue and East 22nd Street which will be used for the refinery plant purposes of the Company. Elizabeth Cummings of Jersey City was the seller and the title to the property was insured by the New Jersey Realty Title Insurance Company of Newark. The company is planning a \$15,000 addition to its present boiler house. The Bayonne plant is in charge of Mr. H. S. Chase.

### THE BAYONNE CHEMICAL WORKS BUILT IN 1879

The Bayonne Chemical Works was built in 1879 at the instance of Martin Kalbfleisch's Sons at that time a prominent firm in the chemical business in New York. They bought for that purpose the old Van Buskirk Farm. The company began in a small way with an output of 30 tons of oil of Vitrol per day which it soon increased to 60 tons and by 1899 to 100 tons. In addition to Sulphuric Acid the following acids and chemicals were manufactured in volume; Muriatic Acid, Nitric Acid, Mixed Acid, Aqua Ammonia, Concentrated Ammoniacal Liquor, Sulphate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, Potash Alum, Aluminus Cake, Sulphate of Soda, Tin Crystals, Zinc Chloride, Magnesium Chloride and some minor chemicals. The first production of Alum commercially from Aluminite obtained from Italy was made at these Works.

This very interesting mineral is now found in the west, and may be a source of Potash as well as Aluminum Salts. The Zinc Chloride, which burnetized the ties of the Southern Pacific Railroad in the alkali desert through which their tracks pass, was made at these Works. Some of these ties are in use today. The failure of Martin Kalbfleisch's sons in 1886, did not injure this company. The company, through its treasurer, and with the financial assistance of Mr. Alexander Gilbert, then cashier of the Market & Fulton National Bank, successfully financed the company through all the period of the firm's receivership. Later on, through the able management of Mr. Charles Robinson Smith, who incorporated the Martin Kalbfleisch Chemical Company, this company continued successfully in operation up to its absorption by the Martin Kalbfleisch Chemical Company. By the company, the plant was thoroughly modernized in accordance with the chemical knowledge of the day. About 1889 or 1890 Mr. T. J. Parker was made President of the Bayonne Chemical Company and continued in active charge of the manufacturing operations until 1896 when he became connected with the business end in New York.



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In 1899 when the General Chemical Company, a New York Corporation, whose offices were at 25 Broad Street, New York City was formed, the Bayonne Chemical Works was one of the properties taken over directly by it. Since that date the works have been practically rebuilt from top to bottom and greatly enlarged and a variety of additional chemical products have been added to the manufacturing capacity. This plant, now as it always has done, forms an important element in the manufacturing life of New York harbor and the Metropolitan district.

### CLARK'S IRON FOUNDRY

Clark's Iron Foundry was founded in 1888 by William Mortimer Clark. Moulding, range castings, manhole covers for the city, grates for steamers, etc. are manufactured. After the death of William M. Clark, his son, William Mortimer Clark, Jr. took over the Foundry and it is still running today at 79 West Forty-fourth Street. The father of the founder of the concern cast the first plow in Gilbertsville, N. Y.

### THE BABCOCK & WILCOX COMPANY

The Babcock & Wilcox Company started construction work on their Bayonne works in 1899 with Mr. S. J. Harwi as the Construction Engineer who had entire charge of building the Babcock & Wilcox Plant. The Plant was placed in operation on January 1, 1901, and Mr. Harwi had charge of the Marine Department. Prior to that time the plant of the Company was located in Elizabethport, N. J. When originally built, the Bayonne plant consisted of forge, drum and machine shops, stock and power plant buildings. The increased demand for the products of this company necessitated the doubling of the forge, drum and machine shops and stock and power plant buildings and the building of new pattern, foundry, marine boiler and office buildings. In 1916 the plant covered 47 acres of which floor space in all buildings amounted to approximately 13 acres. One of the interesting features of the plant was a fully equipped athletic field for the use of Babcock & Wilcox employees. The first B. & W. boiler was built in 1868. The present company was formed in 1881 and up to 1916, 19,000,000 horsepower boiler power had been installed in all parts of the world. Of this over 3,500,000 horsepower had been installed in the merchant marine service in the different navies. Approximately 1,000 men were employed in the Bayonne works. The general offices



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of the company are located at 85 Liberty Street in New York City. A few years ago the works left Bayonne for Barberton, Ohio.

### THE ELECTRO DYNAMIC MOTOR COMPANY

The Electro Dynamic Motor Company at North Street and Avenue A is furnishing auxiliary motors for practically every ship now in the course of construction for the navy and is well equipped to handle Navy specifications. So carefully are the motors constructed that they may remain in the blueprint state for as long as two years before they get the final O. K. Blueprints travel back and forth between Bayonne, the shipyard where the vessels involved are under construction, and the Navy Department in Washington for many months before a tap of work is done on the actual motor itself. Checking, rechecking, criticism and counter criticism over a long period of time make certain that the equipment will do the work required of it and that it will be sturdy and dependable.

When the United States aircraft carrier Wasp, launched at Quincy, Mass. joined the battle fleet, she was fitted with a full complement of electric motors designed to perform practically every kind of work necessary on the big ship. These motors, 282 of them, were all built by this local concern. The motors supplied for the Wasp range from one horsepower to 450 horsepower, each ready to do a special job and do it with maximum efficiency. This firm has been in Bayonne since the turn of the century, completing its sixtieth year of growth. It is the oldest electric motor company under one name in the country.

Located in Philadelphia, prior to 1900, the concern moved here after a disastrous fire in the Pennsylvania city. The Bayonne concern is a branch of a parent company, the Electric Boat Company of Groton, Conn. The Elco Boat Works manufacturers of small boats, also a Bayonne industry, is another branch of the parent company. The Electric Boat Company builds submarines and has eight under sea boats in construction at Groton at the present time. In this connection, it is interesting to learn that the motors for the first successful electric motor-driven submarine were built in Bayonne by the Electro Dynamic Motor Co. This concern has supplied the motors for more than 200 American and foreign submarines. Other achievements of this local industry include the development of the first interpole electric motor, which revolutionizes adjustable speed motors; and the first ball-bearing type of electric motor. The ballbearing type, pioneered by the Bayonne

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concern is an anti-friction motor which requires less lubrication than the regular sleeve-bearing motors. Specimens of early models of both of these motors are on display in the Ford Museum.

Electrical motors for the America, sister ship of the steamships Manhattan and Washington, now under construction at Newport News, Va. will be supplied by the Electric Dynamic Motor Company as will all electric motors used in the construction of the new Maritime Commission fleet of ships, known as the C-2 and C-3 types.

The plants of the two concerns, Elco and Electric Dynamic, cover some eight or ten acres with frontage on Newark Bay and branch railroad spurs provide adequate shipping facilities. In late 1939 a \$5,000,000 contract for building a mosquito fleet of twenty-three motor torpedo boats and submarine chasers for the United States Navy was awarded the Electro Boat Company of which the Elco is a subsidiary. On December 11, 1939 the Elco started plans for a one story brick and steel boat building. In the plans there is also an office building two stories in height. The Elco has an all year-round showroom at Park Avenue and Forty-sixth Street, New York City.

Howard Johnson, noted restaurant owner recently purchased a \$40,000. 57-foot yacht and Major Edward Bowes, of the radio, is having a boat built at the Elco Plant. New appointments recently made at the plant are Irwin Chase, General Manager of the Elco Works has been elevated to managing constructor in charge of both the cruiser works and the new naval plant. Mr. Chase has been with the Bayonne Plant thirty-five years. Mr. Preston L. Sutphen has been named general manager of the plant while still retaining his position as sale manager for Elco cruisers. Glenn S. Tremaine, naval architect, has been appointed to the position of works manager. Harry Curtis is head of the New York Showroom, Port Elco, and Charles Case is in charge of the new Florida headquarters, Port Elco-Miami located at the Miami Beach end of the Venetian Causeway.

The new addition to the plant is expected to start this Spring and with this addition the Elco Works in Bayonne will be the largest plant for wooden boat construction in the world.

## THE GULF REFINING COMPANY

The Bayonne Terminal of the Gulf Refining Company is located on Kill van Kull, east of Ingram Avenue and comprises 13½ acres. The property was formerly owned by the Gunthers of New York and

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was favored for the beauty of its location, its large homestead, and an orchard of the very choicest fruit trees. The homestead still stands, its exterior little changed from old days but the interior has been altered to suit the purposes of an office and within the firebanks that surround several of the large oil tanks, still may be seen a tree or two of the old orchard.

The Gulf Refining Company started to build on the property during the early part of 1901 and from the few tanks and buildings of that day, the plant has expanded to its present importation position as one of the larger industries of the city. The wisdom shown in the selection of this location for a terminal is today proven in many ways. The deep waterway directly up to the wharf permits the larger ships of the Gulf fleet to dock at any stage of the tide for the discharge of their cargoes of oils from the refinery at Port Arthur, Texas; the handling of the freight in and out of the plant by barges and the lighters and the fact that the location is within the New York free lighterage limits gives the advantage of New York freight rates without the cramping and congestion consequent upon a location in that city. The important waterway, Kill van Kull, in conjunction with the four spurs of track running into and through the plant, makes its location from a shipping point ideal.

## THE SAFETY INSULATED WIRE AND CABLE COMPANY

The nature of the business of The Safety Insulated Wire and Cable Company is stated in the Company name. The concern was founded in 1888 and for 14 years its operations were conducted in a factory in New York City. In 1902, however, the business had grown to an extent which demanded larger space and the plant was moved to Bayonne. The present property at First Street and Avenue A was acquired and two buildings erected. As the business of the company grew, new buildings were added until the present factory includes over twenty buildings. In connection with its plant, the Safety Company owns and operates the Bayonne Terminal Railway and the Bayonne and New Haven Transportation Company for the better handling of its output by land and water. The Safety line includes everything in the way of insulated conductors for electrical transmission—from the smallest telephone wire to the largest lead-encased power cable and the longest submarine telegraph cable. The United States Government in its various departments is among the largest

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users of Safety products, the Army Signal Corps alone having used between five and ten thousand miles of deep sea submarine cable, included in which is over a thousand miles laid between Seattle and Sitka, Alaska. A large percentage of the ships of the Navy are equipped entirely with Safety Wire and cable. The cable used in submarine mining operations, and for firing and controlling the guns and search-lights in fortifications by the Coast Artillery, has also been largely the product of the Company's plant at Bayonne. A notable achievement of the company and one not heretofore attempted by any American manufacturer, was the making and laying of a submarine cable six hundred miles long for the Mexican Government which has now been successfully operating for a period of many years.

### SCHWARZENBACH-HUBER COMPANY SILK MILL

In the year 1902 the Schwarzenbach-Huber Company found the West Hoboken Plant inadequate to cope with the increasing business of their firm and were thus induced to entertain the establishment of an auxiliary plant. Their eyes focused on the factory of the Underwood Typewriter Company in this city and after a five years' lease had been effected, with the option to buy, the Schwarzenbach-Huber Company began operations on March 1st of the same year. Originally the company planned merely to utilize a part of the rented building for their own purposes with a limited number of hands, and to rent out the other part. But within a short time after opening the factory applications for work were so numerous that the company finally decided to use the entire building for itself and thus the established winding plant developed gradually into a thriving and complete weaving establishment. Encouraged by this result the firm made use of the option after the five years had expired and in the year 1909 decided upon a further enlargement of the plant by a five-story annex, so that the factory by 1916 represented a complete unit of 600 looms. Much of the success achieved by the company was due to the foresight and intelligent handling of its affairs by the local superintendent, Mrs. G. Albach, who opened the factory in 1902 and whose able managership guided the same safely through every stage of development to its efficient state. This company left town several years ago. The Maiden Form Brassiere Co., Inc., now occupies the building.

### DODGE & OLCOTT COMPANY

In 1904 Dodge & Olcott Company came to the city, the manufacturers of Essential Oils, Oleoresins, Aromatic Chemicals and Kindred



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Products. The plant occupies approximately four acres located at 69 Avenue A and the business has been going on for 141 years. Mr. Charles A. Myers is an officer of the company.

### THE BERGEN POINT IRON WORKS

The Bergen Point Iron Works was incorporated in the latter part of 1906 by organizing the principal members of the staff of Augustus Smith, Engineer and Contractor of New York into a company to carry on the same general line of work in which Mr. Smith had been engaged for the preceeding thirteen years. After investigating sites all around New York, on the Hackensack Meadows, in Jersey City along the Hudson, in Long Island, Brooklyn, Staten Island and along the Kills in Bayonne, it was finally decided to locate at the foot of West Fifth Street in Bayonne. The company began business in February 1907, the first job being a small extension to the Narragansett Bay Coal Depot. Another early job that created some local interest was the construction of a large Excavating Machine intended for railway work in Africa.

The company has made several improvements in coal handling machinery, especially in electrically operated coal excavating machines for taking coal out of boats. Another department of the business is the construction of sugar factory buildings and many thousands of dollars worth of this class work has been exported. Mr. John Frolin is an officer.

### BAYONNE STEEL CASTING COMPANY

About 1906 Mr. William D. Sargent who for many years had been identified with the large steel interests of the country and who also had been a pioneer in the steel casting industry, conceived the idea of establishing a steel foundry at some central point to supply manufacturers in the northeastern states, New York, New Jersey and vicinity immediately tributary thereto with their requirements in the way of high grade steel castings. All of the sites available for foundry purposes were inspected and considered and Bayonne was selected as it offered such desirable advantages regarding shipping facilities, labor and location. Mr. Sargent and his associates then formed the Bayonne Steel Casting Company of which he became president and Mr. A. E. Williamson, general manager. Operations were commenced immediately and the plant was accomplished in record time. Exactly three months elapsed between the time it was decided to build in



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Bayonne and the day on which the first heat of steel was poured. The foundry was so designated that raw materials were taken from the company's own direct connection with the Central Railroad Company of New Jersey and passed through the shop in progressive stages. The company was so proud of its location on account of its ready access to all the railroad and steamship lines and because of its motor truck service to the Metropolitan district and other nearby points that for a number of years it used the slogan "Note the Location."

### SOME OF THE INDUSTRIES IN BAYONNE IN 1906

Babcock & Wilcox who employed about 1,500 persons; Barnes Lock & Foundry Co. employed 25; Bergen Point Chemical Works employed 150; Bernard Tucker & Co. (Manufacturers of shirts) employed 70; Blackman & Treeman, Cap Mfgs. employed 10; Alfred Booth & Bro. Mill Products employed 18; Bressler Bros. Mfgs. of Men's Coats employed 100; Brooks Bros. (Wrappers) employed 17; James Brady, Cement & Plaster, employed 20; Columbia Oil, Refineries of Oil, employed 60; William M. Clark, Iron & Brass Castings employed 12; Dodge & Olcott, Drugs, employed 60; Electric Launch Works, Electric motorboats, employed 85; Electric Dynamic Company employed 95; General Chemical Company employed 176; Goubert Manufacturing Co. employed 22; Herman Bros. Mfgs. of Hats & Caps employed 35; Holland Torpedo Boat Co., Builders of Submarines employed 25; Max Levin, Shirt Mfgs. employed 25; Oxford Copper, Refineries of Copper & Nickel, employed 650; Pacific Coast Borax Co. employed 100; R. G. Packard & Co. employed 112; Jos. Replan & Bros. employed 50; Safety Insulated Wire Cable Co. employed 500; Schwarzenbach-Huber Co. employed 350; Standard Oil Company employed 3,250; Tidewater Oil Co. employed 1,005; William Wiggins employed 6.

The H. F. Taintor Manufacturing Company commenced business around 1881 and came to Bayonne in 1908 and located at First Street near Lexington Avenue where a modern and spacious plant was laid out and a pier built, suitable for the accommodation of ocean vessels. The latter brought chalk and cliffstone from England and discharged their cargoes into the company's cars on the wharf, whence it was run into the storage sheds and used in the manufacture of Whiting and Paris White respectively, the chief products of the company, The Bayonne factory covered an area of over 100,000 square feet and was

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located directly on the waterfront. They imported upward of 25,000 tons of chalk and cliffstone yearly from England by their own process refined these raw materials. Their several brands of whiting and paris white were well known throughout the United States and extensively used by manufacturers of many industries such as rubber, linoleum, paints, pottery, china, etc. The company had an office on Rector Street, New York City and agents in Detroit, Chicago, St. Paul and Kansas City, also representatives in London, England. The officers in 1916 were C. M. Tainter, President; Starr Tainter, Vice-President and General Manager; Herbert T. Spooner, Secretary and Treasurer; Oliver R. Strunck, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer; Walter J. Garlick of Bayonne, Superintendent of the factory. This company left Bayonne some years ago.

### THE BAYONNE SUPPLY COMPANY

The Bayonne Supply Company which deals in plumbing, steam and mill supplies as a jobber was formed in 1908 and its business grew so rapidly that on January 1, 1914 it became necessary to move into a new brick building with a floor space of about 25,000 square feet. Since then the company's machinery and other equipment have been increased steadily. Twenty people are employed. The President is Mr. W. F. Higgins and the Treasurer is G. E. Keenen.

### THE TEXAS COMPANY

The Texas Company came to the city between the years 1909 and 1910 and is located on Avenue A and First Street. This plant is the largest of the deep water terminals operated by The Texas Company on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. Its growth, in common with the company's growth in all directions has been amazing. Due to the rapidly increasing demands from domestic and foreign oil users for Texaco quality and service, the capacity has been increased continually to keep the facilities in line with the sale development.

The Texas Company finds it necessary to keep five refineries going to supply the hundreds of distributing stations in this country and the requirements of foreign organizations all over the world. Its service has been extended into all fields. An aggressive lubrication organization has built up a business of great value and high standing in the industrial world for Texaco service and the records of Texaco quality is being maintained wherever oil is used.

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New vessels are being added to the fleet of boats required to supply the export trade and conduct the necessary coastwise supply between terminals. For years the oil products from Port Arthur reaching Bayonne by its tank steamers have been received with the regularity of an express service.

The Bayonne terminal is typical in its construction and operation of the policy which has contributed so much to the success of The Texas Company. Permanent concrete construction of buildings, fire-proof warehouses, careful and efficient methods of handling and inspection, are in line with the manufacture of high grade petroleum products which have made Texaco the mark of quality for oil. Mr. E. O. Perkins is a popular officer in the company.

### THE BAYONNE CASTING COMPANY

The Bayonne Casting Company was organized in 1909 by a group of eight men all of them either residents or in business in Bayonne for the express purposes of producing Monel Metal castings. After six months of operation in an experimental plant at East 9th Street, the present plant was built at Oak and East Tenth Streets.

Monel metal is a natural alloy of approximately six per cent nickel, twenty-eight per cent copper and five per cent other metals and is obtained from mines located in Canada owned and operated by the Canadian Copper Company a subsidiary of the International Nickel Company who is the sole refiner of Monel metal. The ore is reduced to the form of matter at the Canadian smelter and is then shipped to the Oxford Works of the International Nickel Company, Bayonne, where it is refined. The metal is then ready for conversion into rods, forgings, tubes, wire, strip stock, sheets, etc.

At the time the new plant of The Bayonne Casting Company was built, two great Battleships, "Moreno" and "Rivadavia" were being constructed in this country for the Argentine Republic and the first few months the new plant was devoted principally to the production of 12 one-piece propeller wheels of 16,000 lbs. each for these ships. Since that time propellers have been cast for ships of the United States Navy including the North Dakota and Florida also for a number of the Torpedo Boat Destroyers. In addition to propeller wheels, shafts, stern bushings, rudders, struts, etc., for marine service, the product of The Bayonne Casting Company is used in various parts of the equipment of battleships and other vessels, such as pump rods, valve seats,

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discs and stems for superheated and high pressure steam, turbine, blading, etc.

The industries to which the Bayonne Casting Company contribute are too numerous and varied to be covered in this book. To illustrate the variety of applications of Monel Metal, we might mention that the vaults in the Morgan Bank Building are trimmed with Monel Metal. This metal enters into the construction of many of the high grade automobiles manufactured in this country. The transmission supports at the Panama Canal are Monel Metal castings of which the Bayonne Casting Company furnished upward of 100,000. The valve stems in the high pressure fire hydrants in the city of Boston are Monel Metal. Kitchens are now being equipped with Monel Metal.

### THE J. EDWARD OGDEN CO.

The J. Edward Ogden Co. whose plant is located at Old Road and Center Street with executive offices at 147-9 Cedar Street, New York City, was established by its present president, Mr. J. Edward Ogden, during the year 1893 and incorporated in New Jersey in 1909. Its manufacture consists of freight handling specialties, electric winches, power ramps, cargo doors, wharf drops, railroad transfer bridge machinery, also equipment for car barns, transfer tables, wheel changing hoists, car hoists, turntables and mechanically operated doors.

Its products have been adopted by practically all of the large steamship and transportation companies, by the municipalities of New York, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Boston, Providence, Seattle, Los Angeles, Montreal and other ports, also by the Panama Canal where installations are being made having begun (1916) by the Ogden Company on Piers at Balboa and Culebra.

Sebco Products, consisting of Expansion Bolts, Toggle Bolts, Drills and a general line of fastening devices handled by hardware stores throughout the United States and Canada, are also manufactured in its plant at Bayonne, of which Mr. J. C. West is an executive.

### THE NUCOA BUTTER COMPANY

The Nucoa Butter Company originated from an agency established in this country for the sale of vegetable butters manufactured in London and sold under the trade names of "Nucoa Butter" and "Nucoline."



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The sale of these products in this country reached such a point as to make it advantageous to manufacture them here and in 1903 the Nucoa Butter Company was incorporated and acquired a plant at Soho Park, Belleville, N. J. in which to manufacture the butters.

Nucoa Butter and Nucoline are vegetable butters made wholly from the oil extracted from the cocoanut and highly refined. The refining process produces the oil perfectly white, and removes from it all taste and odor. The process employed is the most scientifically hygienic possible, and the oil is naturally sterilized.

The business grew so rapidly that it soon outgrew the capacity of the Soho Park factory, and in 1910 the company acquired the property in the Bergen Point section of Bayonne extending from Avenue A at the foot of West 4th Street to Newark Bay. On this property, consisting of 7½ acres, a modern plant was erected comprising twenty buildings.

The demand for the product continued to increase and from time to time improvements were made to cope with this demand, until today the plant has a capacity exceeding by far that of any other similar plant, and its appointments are the most up to date possible.

Late in 1915 the company introduced into this country a new product called "Nut Margarine." This class of goods is widely known and has been highly appreciated for many years in Europe, but heretofore was practically unknown in this country.

In 1916 the name of the concern became The Best Foods, Inc., and in its development absorbed the Fanning Bread and Butter Pickle Company and The Hellmann Mayonnaise Company.

At the present time the plant is producing, in addition to the above named products, Hellmann's Mustard, bulk shortening and refined edible oils. Best Foods have additional plants in Chicago, San Francisco, Dallas, Norfolk and Toronto. The Bayonne plant has just completed construction of a new \$100,000 research and control laboratory. The total personnel at the present time is 300 in Bayonne. Officials at the Bayonne plant are: Mr. C. H. Haurand, Plant Manager; Mr. T. A. Marshall, Vice-President in charge of manufacturing in all plants; Dr. H. W. Vahlteich, Director of Research; Mr. G. S. Barker, Superintendent; Mr. P. J. Dingwall, Superintendent; Mr. F. A. Parente, Superintendent; Mr. W. L. Schaub, Superintendent; G. Rucker, Personnel Director.



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### THE VACUUM OIL COMPANY

One of the largest industrial enterprises in the city is the Constable Hook plant of the Vacuum Oil Company. This plant, which is for the finishing of lubricating products, is one of the largest of its kind in the country and is an important shipping point of the Vacuum Oil Company, to foreign points. From Bayonne the Vacuum Oil Company's fleet of steamers and other vessels transport Gargoyle Lubricants to all corners of the globe.

The Bayonne plant was established in 1911 and since then the rapid growth of the company's plant has necessitated material increases in the plant's capacity. It covers seven acres of ground and gives employment to more than three hundred men. This company was organized in 1866. From its beginning the Vacuum Oil Company has specialized in the manufacture, sale and correct application of high grade lubricants for all classes of machinery, which accounts for the authoritative standing and unquestioned leadership of the company in the field of lubrication.

To this cardinal principle also may be laid the world-wide sale of their more than 350 products, of which the best are grouped under the Gargoyle Brand, including such specialties as Gargoyle Mobiloils for automobile lubrication, Gargoyle Cylinder Oil 600 W for steam cylinder lubrication, etc.

Wherever, throughout the world, lubrication is required, there Gargoyle Products will be found.

### THE SOUTHERN COTTON OIL COMPANY

The northern factory of the company, the main office of which is at 24 Broad Street, New York City, is located at East 22nd Street on the tracks of the East Jersey Railway & Terminal Company. The Southern Cotton Oil Company is engaged in the business of refining cotton seed oil and shipping annually, to all parts of the world about a million barrels of edible oils and also other food products from cotton seed oil.

Cotton is raised for two reasons—its fibre and seed. Very little was ever done with the seed until about 1870, because few realized how valuable it was. From then, on, new uses were discovered and the seed became a valuable part of the cotton crop.

The first methods of extracting and refining the oil were very crude and the product suffered accordingly. As the business grew,

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however, better ways were discovered and in 1900 Dr. Wesson, after experimenting for years, found a method of refining oil which retained its valuable food qualities and yet gave to it a very delicate flavor. The use of the products obtained from cotton seed is increasing every year and today the making of these products is one of the big industries of the United States. There are various grades of cotton seed and consequently there are various grades of cotton seed oil. Wesson Oil is the highest grade manufactured. It is refined by a special process discovered by Dr. Wesson so that when it has passed through the refining process it is an oil of such flavor that it can be used for the finest salad dressings, the cooking of many foods and other uses. For the convenience of those people who like a solid shortening, a way has been discovered for hardening Wesson Oil. This is known as "Snowdrift" the "Perfect Shortening."

### THE PRINCIPAL MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS IN OPERATION IN BAYONNE IN 1915

Babcock & Wilcox Co. water tube steam boilers, etc. employ 1,400; Barclay & Co. Soaps and Perfumes employ 55; Bayonne Bolt & Nut, employ 150; The Bayonne Casting Co. Monel Metal, steel and bronze casting employ 35; Bergen Point Iron Works, coal and ash handling machinery, employ 50; John Boyle & Co., Inc., waterproof cloth canvass employ 18; Centaur Film Co. motion picture films, employ 75; Clark's Iron & Brass Foundry, castings employ 12; Columbia Oil Co. of N. Y., petroleum products employ 80; Crane Motor Co., automobile bodies employ 90; Cumberland Shirt Mfg. Co. employ 200; Dodge & Olcott Co. chemicals employ 50; Edible Products Co., lard substitute and refined cotton seed oil employ 600; The Elco Co., motor boats and marine engines employ 125; Elco Dynamic Co., motors and dynamos employ 164; General Chemical Co. employ 261; Herman Bros., cloth and leather hats and caps employ 25; The International Nickel Co. employ 1,000; Knickerbocker Metallic Bed Co. employ 85; Leolastic, elastic webbing employ 200; The National Sulphur Co. employ 30; John J. Nealon & Co., elastic braided armbands employ 25; Nucoa Butter Co. employ 80; Oil Seeds Co., vegetable oils employ 50; Pacific Coast Borax Co. employ 307; R. G. Packard Co., dredging machinery employ 25; Reading Bayonne Steel Casting Co. employ 175; Safety Insulated Wire & Cable Co. employ 600; The Schwarzenbach-Huber Silk goods employ 600; Standard Chemical Co.

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employ 10; Standard Oil Company of New Jersey employ 5,400; H. F. Taintor Mfg. Co. Whiting & Paris white employ 90; Tide Water Oil Co. employ 1,500; Vacuum Oil Co. employ 275.

### THE AMERICAN RADIATOR AND STANDARD SANITARY PLANT

This plant lies wedged in between the murk of New York Harbor and the railroad that skirts the city. During the World War, 1917, 1918 and 1919 four-inch Naval Guns were made in this plant. The plant came to Bayonne in 1912. A new plant was opened in 1921. Every week day morning approximately 575 men file into the plant to begin another day's work. Unlike most radiator factories, which are hand operated, this American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Plant is highly mechanized. The Bayonne Plant has a capacity of more than 80,000 square feet of radiation per 2-shift day (the average radiator contains about 35 square feet), and today accounts for over half the company's domestic radiator production.

The American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Plant, the world's largest manufacturer of plumbing and heating equipment has sixteen European plants—seven in France; three in Germany; two in Italy; one each in Belgium, England, Spain and Switzerland.

Henry M. Reed is President and Chairman of the Board of this enormous Company. He has three sons who are working their way up in the Company. Mr. Gross is the manager of the Bayonne Plant.

### THE BAKER CASTOR OIL COMPANY

The Baker Castor Oil Company originated in Jersey City where it still operates. In an expansion program this Company bought the Oil Seeds Company plant in Bayonne at 35 Avenue A in 1920. The Company has recently completed construction of two new steel tanks forty feet in diameter and seventy feet high, which will be used for castor beans or oil storage. This Company had the distinction of being the first local company to receive cargo at the Bayonne Port Terminal. At the present time the company has approximately 125 employees. Mr. A. M. Detrick, Jr. is the Bayonne Plant Superintendent.

### THE BAYONNE BOLT AND NUT COMPANY

The Bayonne Bolt and Nut Company is located at Second Street and Trask Avenue. The company employes about 90 people. The Manager is Mr. Ackerson.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

### INTERNATIONAL NICKEL COMPANY

The International Nickel Company has a foundry in Bayonne at 15 Oak Street. This company is a Canadian corporation. A small fabricating plant was completed at the Bayonne laboratory for the casting, forging and rolling of steel, iron and non-ferous alloys. This plant permits further study and confirmation on a semi-works scale of laboratory developments and inventions. In addition to its foundry in Bayonne, the company maintains a central research and technical laboratory. It has one other such laboratory at Copper Cliff, Ontario, Canada. Research and development effort on products and processes continue through the year.

### THE MAIDEN FORM BRASSIERE COMPANY, INC.

Alongside the tracks of the New Jersey Central, Reading and B. & O. fifteen miles as the crow flies from the offices and sales rooms at 200 Madison Avenue, New York City, is located The Maiden Form Brassiere Company, Inc., the world's largest brassiere factory, where Maiden Form creations are made and from which they are shipped to all parts of the United States and to forty-five foreign countries.

This plant began in 1924 in a private house on Broadway near Twenty-ninth Street with three machines. Due to the growing business the company took over the factory building of Schwarzenbach-Huber Company on Avenue E which covers three and one-half acres of ground and contains 100,000 feet of floor space. Over 1,300 workers are steadily employed the year round, keeping pace with the world-wide demand for these exclusive, sculptured-perfect foundation garments, identified by the internationally famous trade mark which appears in all advertisements. Mr. William Rosenthal is President, Founder and Designer. While Mr. Rosenthal is not a resident, he has Bayonne at heart and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club. He donated "Camp Lewis" in Jersey for Boy Scouts. Aside from his business activities he is a very fine sculptor. Mr. Moe Rosenthal is the Bayonne Plant Manager.

### THE MARGON COMPANY

The Margon Company has been in Bayonne since April 1936 and is located at 717 Avenue A. They manufacture dolls eyes, brown eyes, blue eyes, green eyes, eyes that sleep, big eyes, naughty eyes that have a flirtatious roll—they're all the product of the Bayonne firm



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and the result of the ingenuity of Samuel Marcus who originated the idea thirty years ago.

Marcus, known to the personnel as "the father of the movable eye industry" is the concern's secretary-treasurer. The firm also manufactures for shipment to all parts of the United States and Canada the "mammas" "cry dolls", as well as the teeth and tongues of the toys.

The name Margon was coined from the names of the Secretary-Treasurer and the President, Alexander Knoff. Before another company was added to the original plant, the business was known as the Markon Company. To distinguish it, however, from the old one, when the change was made, the "k" supplied by the first letter of the president's surname was changed to "g." The first syllable furnished by Marcus remained.

Knoff and Marcus also control the *Conmar Products Company* located at the same address and housed in the same building. This firm, the title of which was also coined from the names of the executives, manufactures zippers or slide fasteners. According to Herman Blume, who is general manager of the two plants, the zipper field is widening and prospects of increases to the list of workers are bright.

The Margon Corporation plant here is the only one maintained by that firm, but its sister company has spread its branches to principal cities of the country. Conmar offices may be found in Baltimore, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia and Los Angeles. The principal Conmar address, however, is in Bayonne.

The Bayonne address appears in its advertisements in the leading magazines of the country in the intensive campaign, the firm is conducting at present. According to Blume, the aid of Conmar is to make the British Guard, the trade mark symbol of its slide fastener, instantly recognizable throughout the country.

Normally, the Margon Corporation employs 300 and Conmar 600 workers.

### GEIGY COMPANY, INC.

Geigy Company, Inc. located at 39 Avenue C, manufactures dye stuffs for the entire world. The nucleus of the Geigy Company was formed in Switzerland in 1764. In 1859 a branch was formed in New York which in 1904 moved to Jersey City and finally came to Bayonne in 1936 where the company is housed in a fine, new, fire-proof building.



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### BAKERIES AND SUNDRY ENTERPRISES

In 1937 there were more bakeries operated in Bayonne than any other single type of classified industry, it was learned from a report by the United States Census Bureau.

The eighteen active Bayonne bakeries employed an average of one hundred eleven wage earners during the year and paid them \$155,339. They turned out products valued at \$672,500. and in manufacturing these products increased their value by \$282,047. Cost of materials used in the bakeries was \$390,513. during the year.

And here's how other industries in Bayonne stacked up according to the Census Bureau.

Four manufactures of non-alcoholic beverages had products valued at \$82,276. adding \$45,298. to that value in manufacture. Five job printers and publishers of books and music had products valued at \$147,268. and added \$98,169. to that value in manufactures. Seven dress manufactures contract factories turned out products valued at \$361,269. enhancing this value \$341,150 in manufacture.

### THE ASIATIC PETROLEUM CORPORATION

The Asiatic Petroleum Corporation secured the plant of the Socom-Vacuum Company about 1938 as part of its plan to expand its operations in the city and its first task was to raze several old buildings and clear the property. They are planning to build ten new steel oil storage tanks at its refinery at the lower Hook. A permit to construct the tanks at a cost of \$200,000. was issued to Patrick J. O'Brien, the Superintendent. Five of the tanks will have capacity of 80,000 barrels each, while the other five will be of 37,000 barrels capacity.

In 1938 Bayonne ranked fourth among the industrial cities of New Jersey and the following industries are located in the city:

Ace Printing Co. employes 4; American Radiator Co., cast iron radiators, employes 635; Arenofsky, Max, Men's and Boys' caps, employes 6; Associated Printing Co. employes 3; Atlas Repair Shop, repair bowling balls, employes 2; Atlas Steel Barrel Corp., steel drums, employes 196; Austrian Cleaners & Dyers Inc., employes 18; Babcock & Wilcox Co., boiler superheaters, etc., employes 216; Baker Castor Co. Castor oil employes 96; Bayonne Bolt Corp., bolt, nuts and rivets, special forging employes 66; Bayonne Economy Laundry Co., Inc. employes 20; Bayonne Nipple Co., brass and iron pipe nipples, employes 17; Bayonne Printing Co. employes 4; Bayonne Quality Laundry Co.,

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Inc. employes 30; Bayonne Sawdust Supply Co. employes 1; Bayonne Silk Mill, broad silks, employes 7; Bayonne Welding Co., steel products employes 1; Bergen Neckwear Co. employes 42; Bergen Point Brass Foundry, employes 60; Bergen Point Fur Dressing Co., Inc., employes 37; Bergen Point Iron Works, fabrication of light plate and structural steel work, employes 83; Harry Bershadsky, children's dresses, employes 36; Best Foods, Inc., oleomargarine, cook, vegetable and salad oils, employes 300; Bestmaid Dress Co., Inc., house dresses, employes 30; Boyle, John & Co., Inc., cotton duck and awning material, employes 16; Breger & Weiner, Inc., children's dresses, employes 97; Broadway Trim & Lumber Co., employes 4; Brooks, J. & Sons, children's dresses, employes 146; Cadmus, E. H. Fire Escapes, employes 2; Capital Neckwear Co., neckties, employes 31; Carbo Oxygen Co., Inc., oxygen and hydrocarbon, employes 20; Century Printing Co., Inc., employes 1; Chonko Printing Co., employes 1; Clark Iron Foundry, range castings, employes 5; Columbia Mattress Co., employes 5; Community Pride Laundry, Inc., employes 6; Consumers Lumber Co., employes 2; Country Club Beverages, Inc., employes 3; Dalack Bros., embroideries, employes 6; De Vita, Edward O. & Sons, printing, employes 3; De Waters & Hoffman Laundry, Inc., employes 35; Dodge & Olcott, essential oils, oleoresins, perfumery, synthetics, employes 64; East Washing Fluid Co., employes 1; Eisenberg & Trotsky, men's and boy's neckwear, employes 34; Electric Boat Co. (Elco Works) motor boats, yachts, employes 78; Electric Boat Co. (Electro Dynamic Works) electric motors and generators employes 198; Ershler & Krukin, Inc., kitchen and cafeteria equipment employes 56; Evening Times Printing & Publishing Co., employes 73; Farhat, A., embroideries, employes 3; Fitch F. W. Co., shampoo and hair tonics employes 75; Frank & Fisher, commercial auto bodies, employes 1; Friedberg Beverages, employes 2; Geigy Co., Inc., dyes, employes 50; General Cable Corp., electric conductor cables, employes 269; Globe Iron Works, Inc., fabricated structural steel, employes 4; Goldberg Garment Co., Inc., ladies' garments, employes 23; Greco, Frank W. novelty jewelry, employes 2; Herman Bros., caps, employes 11; Herrick & Voight Chemical Co., textile oils, gums, starches, employes 6; Hochman-Kramer Co., Inc., men's and boy's neckwear, employes 100; Holland Laundry, Inc., employes 223; Huber, J. M. Inc., printing inks, employes 20; Hudson County Marble Co., employes 2; Hudson Iron & Metal Co., iron supplies, etc., employes 8; Hudson Pants Co., trousers, employes 65; Hudson Pipe &

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Supply Co., employes 11; Hyben Shirt Co., Inc., men's shirts, employes 24; I. & H Dress Co., ladies' dresses, employes 54; International Nickel Co., employes 155; Jersey Printing Co., Inc., employes 12; Joachim, L. Keys, employes 1; Kavanagh, Charles T., Building materials, employes 4; Key City Bolt & Spike Works, employes 7; Kitzis, Abe, cotton dresses, employes 17; Knickerbocker Ice Co., employes 3; Knickerbocker Laundry Inc., employes 45; L. & L. Dress Co., employes 90; Latendorf Conveying Corp., employes 31; Law, Wm. S. & Bros., printing, employes 4; Lillian Sportswear, Inc., ladies' dresses, employes 42; Lummus Co., experimental laboratory work, employes 18; Maiden Form Brassiere Co., Inc., employes 950; Margon Corp., doll's eyes and doll supplies, employes 298; Miller Auto Gear & Parts Co., Inc., employes 4; Mongiello Bros., Inc., employes 21; National Bottling Works employes 6; National Sulphur Co., sulphur refining grinding, employes 40; Novelty Neckwear Co., men's neckwear, employes 13; Ogden, J. Edward Co., employes 117; Palmer Asphalt Co., roofing materials, employes 3; Penner, A., mattresses, employes 1; Pharma Chemical Corp., dyes and intermediates, employes 71; Posnock M. Inc., lumber, millwork, mason material, employes 7; Progress Printing Co., employes 5; Prospect Neckwear Co., men's neckwear employes 18; Prospect Planing Mill Co., millwork, employes 5; Royal Laundry, employes 47; Ruby Mfg. Co., Inc., cotton dresses, employes 36; S. & B. Dress Co., ladies' silk dresses, employes 29; Schwartz, Adolph, men's neckwear, employes 15; Service Soda Mfg. Co., employes 3; Schacter, B., men's neckwear, employes 19; Shalhoub Bros., laces, scarfs, ladies' dresses and negligees, employes 25; Sharp Bros., wood patterns, employes 2; Siegel Dress Co., employes 20; Smart Maid Dress Co., employes 61; Solar Mfg. Corp., radio and electrical condensers, employes 20; Southern Cotton Oil Co., edible oils, salad and cooking oils and shortenings, employes 95; Standard Oil Co. of N. J., employes 3,698; Starr Dress Co., employes 35; Sternad, Wm. J. Electric Co., employes 1; Sunshine Laundry, employes 72; Super Neckwear Co., men's neckwear, employes 34; Superior Printing Co., employes 7; Taintor Co., whiting and paris white, employes 42; Texas Co., petroleum and its products, employes 150; Tide Water Associated Oil Co., petroleum and its products, employes 1,686, Tierney Bottling Works, employes 5; United Tank Car Co., employes 54; United Sheet Metal Co., employes 5; Van's Printing Service, employes 1; Wachsberg Pickle Works, pickle products, employes 3; Walker, Charles P. Co., venetian blinds, employes 5; Weld-Rite Co., acetylene

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welding, employes 1; Well Made Frocks, ladies' dresses, employes 39; Weller, F. A. Foundry Co., brass, bronze and aluminum castings, employes 6; White Rose Laundry, Inc., employes 36; Woodward Lumber & Coal Co., employes 5.

(From N. J. State Chamber of Commerce) Industrial Directory of N. J., 1938.

### THE BAYONNE PORT TERMINAL

The Bayonne Port Terminal is one of the biggest undertakings Bayonne has indulged in for many years. The terminal is a combination bulkhead and is filled with docks, railroad tracks and a motor causeway which extends almost two miles into New York Bay. When entirely completed, it will provide for rail and motor truck connections with the docks, said to be large enough to handle eighteen vessels at one time. The end of the terminal is practically even with the Statue of Liberty and Constable Hook. Ocean liners could land here without getting into any of the traffice of the North River coming directly in from the ocean. This project was constructed with P.W.A. funds—the city sharing in the cost of the construction.

The port terminal is the greatest constructive achievement of any administration in the history of the city. It is the only one which has ever brought a dollar into the city treasury. It has opened new hope for the future by creating terminal and industrial facilities which will be a magnet for the world's shipping. It is the city's surest prosperity insurance, and it will bring a steady increase in municipal revenue, employment for workers and business for the merchants.

January 17, 1939 Bayonne's modern port terminal is a far cry from the old docks along the Kill van Kull and other old-time shore front shipping points and as such is beginning to offer a picture of the shipping industry in modern dress. The distinction is especially noticeable when some of the new modern whalers dock at the port terminal. No full rigged sailing vessel is the S. S. Frango, as in the olden days, one of the whaling ships operated by the American Whaling Co. of New York laden with romance, and reeking with whale oil, but it is rather a floating factory, replete with all the machinery required to handle a job comparable only to that done by the packing house ashore. Here is a ship that must not only be self-sufficient during an eight-month voyage but in addition must be able to work night and day for a period of three months. It is during this period that the whales are killed, hauled aboard and converted into whale oil. In order to do



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this the Frango is equipped with machinery of all kinds ranging from winches able to drag a 50-ton whale aboard as easily as if it were a minnow to cookers which convert the entire carcass into oil within an hour. A typical whaling trip aboard the Frango, such as its last one to west Australian waters, begins in April. Leaving the home port, New York, the modern whaler heads for South Africa. On this leg of the trip there are no whale hunters aboard, only an average crew of seamen plus a crew of workmen whose task it is to turn the whales into the tons of oil with which the ship is laden on the return voyage. The Frango had, upon landing at the port, more than 7,000 tons of oil aboard and the ship rides deep in the water with its heavy cargo. At Cape Town, the Frango stops to pick up the hunters and a small flotilla of steam launches used by the hunters in chasing and killing the whales. Most of the hunters, like the crew of the Frango, are Norwegians, for it is this race that has traditionally followed the whaling industry. Despite many tales, whales only appear on the surface of the water for about three seconds. This is when the telling shot must be fired and the whaler of 1939 has no time for romantic cries of "Thar she blows." It's a bustling, hustling business that turns the placid waters of West Australia into a turmoil of activity. For, although, on this Whaler, the crew is a hard working gang, the mate is the direct antithesis of the story-book type. Harry Songdahl, the mate, is a quiet but capable ship's officer whose tastes run more to the Scriptures than profanity. His father is a deacon of a Brooklyn church and he himself was a Sunday School teacher for many years. His religion does not interfere with his job, however, and his orders are backed by a physique that commands the respect of all. He is honored and highly respected as a man of integrity and dependability.

The Captain is very cordial to visitors aboard his ship and is always anxious to prove that his ship is more than a floating factory equipped with machinery for sordid commercial enterprise. Captain Smith showed a party, of which the writer was one, his quarters just aft the bridge. Here there was a neat galley with shining pots and pans, everything in place and as neat as the most meticulous housewife could desire. One cabin serves as sleeping quarters and another is used by him for an office. All are spic and span and comfortable.

Quarters for the crew are below decks, fore and aft of the ship. Naturally these are not as cheery as those provided for the officers, nevertheless, they are clean and more habitable than one would expect



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on a ship engaged in such an industry. Likewise, they are probably far better than can be found on the average tramp steamer.

The first paying vessel to make use of the new \$4,500,000 ship-rail terminal at Bayonne, docked at Bayonne on February 14, 1939. She was the freighter, *Gunda*, owned by A. B. Transmarine and is a coal burning cargo vessel of 3,460 dead-weight tons. She is capable of carrying 3,000 tons of cargo and her average speed is 7 knots per hour. She arrived after a rough and stormy voyage from Swedish ports and Rotterdam with a cargo of 2,600 tons of wood pulp. The terminal provides for direct transfer of a ship's cargo to the freight trains, the shipment from the *Gunda* was stored in the 1,000 foot long transit shed which has been designed as a warehouse for cargoes which do not lend themselves to immediate transfer by rail. Captain Robert H. Anderson, Master of the *Gunda*, was greeted at the port by Harper Holt, President of Central District, Inc. operators of the new terminal.

The first vessel to actually dock at the Port Terminal without the use of tugs was the Swedish vessel, *Facto*, 259 feet in length, bringing a cargo of Canadian wet wood pulp. Although ability to dock without tugs is an important feature of the new terminal, the *Facto* was the first ship which took advantage of the new facilities. John J. Cunningham, Superintendent of the Terminal, pointed out that due to "turning basin" and the quay type of piers, it is entirely feasible for all ships to berth at the terminal without any assistance from tug boats.

Ships of all nations have been moving in and out of the Terminal in recent weeks with various kinds of cargo but the latest addition to the Terminal is the Norwegian Liner "*SS Oslofjord*" a trans-Atlantic luxury liner of the Norwegian-American Line which tied up at the north side on January 8, 1940. It was said that the 20,000 ton vessel would remain here for the duration of the war.

The new Port Terminal receives from all ports of the globe and extends a welcome to all. But just now, April 1, 1940, "*Big Joe*", and the Russian Pavillion of the 1939 World's Fair, a mass of fabricated steel rests on a great barge ready to be taken away "to Red Square" Moscow. The "*Farewell*" will meet with the approval of multitudes of patriotic American citizens, who from Portland to Portland, prefer that it shall rest on Red Square in Moscow rather than in the United States.

"*Big Joe*" was never popular in the United States and became a

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matter of deep controversy and severe criticism. Even so the mass is still a matter of speculation, curiosity and uncertainty . . . and no doubt will be so until it clears from the Bayonne Port Terminal.

### NEWEST ADDITION TO BAYONNE'S INDUSTRIAL FAMILY THE GENERAL CABLE CORPORATION

The General Cable Corporation maintains a Bayonne Plant on West First Street, and is at the present time supplying the government materials for rearmament programs and also in participating to some degree in foreign business. The General Cable Corporation owns thirteen acres of land at Kill van Kull and is planning to erect a building, within the next few months, which will when completed be the largest cable research and testing laboratory in the world. This will not increase employment, however, as Mr. S. A. Smith, Jr., Plant Manager has said, because the present laboratory staff in Perth Amboy will be moved to Bayonne.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

# ORGANIZATIONS AND CLUBS IN BAYONNE

### The Ancient Order of Hibernians

THE oldest organization on record in Bayonne is The Ancient Order of Hibernians which was organized in the early 1860's with one hundred and twenty-five uniformed men. Other divisions were Nos. 6, 9, 17 and 20. They met in Connelly's Hall on Evergreen Street in the early days. No. 9 Division which is the only division in existence today was organized in May 1903. The organization now meets in the Knights of Columbus Building.

The present officers are: President, Michael Flannery; Vice-President, Dennis O'Leary; Recording Secretary, Timothy Sullivan; Financial Secretary, John Bruton; Treasurer, William F. Hogan (which office he has held for twenty-five years); Marshal, Andrew Dalton.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians, Women's Auxiliary Division No. 17 is headed by Mrs. Julia Solomon, Division President.

### ORGANIZATION OF THE MASONS

In the hall over Dr. Derby's store, the exterior of which still stands at 211 Broadway on the west side and opposite Cottage Street, Bayonne Lodge No. 99 Free and Accepted Masons the night of April 2, 1869, received its dispensation. Twenty men demitted from lodges in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois and formed charter members, who gathered in the hall and witnessed, by oil lamp light, the ceremonies of establishing a Masonic Order in Bayonne, when Senior Grand Warden William F. Pine acting for the Grand Master, delivered the dispensation, assisted by Grand Lecturer William Mead. Judge John H. Besher, Master of the Lodge, received the dispensation. Those members were:

George Taylor, Hiram No. 17; Frederick G. Payne, Crawford No. 234; Nathan Bartlett, Richmond No. 290, Pa.; John W. Swope, Richmond No. 290, Pa.; John H. Besher, Long Island No. 382; John G. Armour Atlas No. 316, New York; John Van Buskirk, Jr., Bergen No. 47, New Jersey; Hiram Van Buskirk, Bergen No. 47, New Jersey; William W. Gilbert, Astor No. 603, New York; Edward C. Atwood,

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Manhattan No. 62, New York; George F. Eveland, Mansfield No. 36, New Jersey; Reese Hughes, Mountain No. 281, Pa.; William Smith, Essex No. 49, New Jersey; Martin R. Cook, Valley No. 109, New York; Joseph A. Haynes, Stewart No. 34, New Jersey; Leonard J. Johnston, Caesarea No. 64, New Jersey; George Marshall, Dundee No. 190, Illinois; Edward C. Bramhall, No. 31, Varick, New Jersey; Thomas Ibbotson, Dundee No. 190, Illinois; William C. Hamilton, Varick No. 31, New Jersey.

The following month the lodge began initiating candidates who were John Tewman and Chas. S. Roe. They were raised July 1, 1869 at which time Bergen Lodge No. 47 of Jersey City paid its first visit. For the first sweltering summer months the new lodge decided to purchase three dozen palm leaf fans, six goblets and a table. No bill for refreshments, however, is to be found until after the Washington Lodge No. 33 of Elizabeth visited, the night of October 7, 1869. The expenses amounted to \$4.25. When the lodge received its warrant from a member of the Washington Lodge on February 17, 1870, a celebration was staged in an elaborate fashion. The wives of the lodge members made aprons for the officers, the Reformed Church loaned its organ and the Enterprise Society sang. The next worshipful master was John H. Beshier.

Before any "black balls" were purchased the lodge had been meeting more than a year. Applicants were apparently being received for May 4, 1871 the Secretary was ordered to purchase "one dozen black balls." Modest furnishings for the first year for the lodge room cost but \$116.43. Snowstorms sometimes kept members from venturing from their homes and the 83rd regular communication of January 26, 1871 was not held owing to a snowstorm.

Negotiations began October 13, 1870 to move from Dr. Derby's Hall to a building being planned by J. R. Schuyler. These came to naught, however, it seems for he paid \$250. six days later to release all claims to the room.

Finally the lodge abandoned Dr. Derby's Hall for the meeting of December 14, 1876 was held at their rooms in Masonic Hall, corner of 16th Street and Avenue C (now 8th Street) the rooms being the entire top floor of the building, as a matter of fact later formed the vocational school. At that time the present 8th Street was 16th Street due to reorganization of the streets later on.

When the 99th Mason was raised by the new lodge, Alex. Dallas who received the 3rd degree February 1, 1883, the members collected



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\$99. for a "collation." The collation actually cost \$218.10 a generous amount for 1883, to say the least.

The Masons bought Schuyler Hall from the Schuyler Estate executors on February 24, 1896 for \$13,000 and six years later sold it to the Mayor and Common Council for \$14,500.

Sharing Schuyler Hall with the Masons was the Post Office and the first building and loan association in Bayonne.

When Schuyler Hall was transferred to the City, the Masons went to Woodruff's Hall, which was on the top floor of the grocery store owned by Alfred D. Woodruff, son-in-law of James Coward, which was located between 33rd and 34th Streets on Broadway. The Masons continued to meet here until 1912 when they moved to the new Odd Fellow's Hall at 29th Street and Broadway. The first meeting was held here May 9, 1912 and the first member initiated was W. H. Marion. One of the rarest distinctions came to Bayonne Lodge during the meeting of the Grand Lodge in 1908 when Leslie A. Burritt was made Junior Grand Warden. A reception was given by his fellow lodgemen who presented him with a 33rd degree Jewel.

The cornerstone was laid for the new Masonic Temple on Avenue C and 40th Street on May 22, 1926. After seventy years of dreaming by the Masons, they realized their ambition of having their own home.

A parade started down Avenue C and 30th Street, led by five mounted patrolmen, followed by Police Captain William Keegan at the head of two platoons of policemen commanded by Lieut. Saul Katcher and Patrick J. Donovan. Mayor Robert Talbot and Commissioners Hosford and Dr. Bert Daly reviewed the parade from the platform where the ceremonies were performed. Jesse Service was Master of the Bayonne Lodge at that time. The Most Worshipful Brother William B. Mackey, Grand Master of Masons for the State of New Jersey from Collingswood was present at the ceremonies for the \$125,000 Temple.

The present Worshipful Master of the Lodge is Mr. M. David Haynes.

### THE ARGONAUTA ROWING ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED APRIL 5, 1870

The Argonauta Rowing Association was organized April 5, 1870 and was located on First Street and Trask Avenue. They had a



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boathouse and large, spacious grounds and it was considered a fine club having many of the best people on its membership list.

The Argonauta Regatta, July 5, 1880, races started at 3:30 P. M. The boats started from Chancellor Dock.

The first race was for 4-oared gigs and the crew was as follows:

WHITE—C. H. Davis, E. P. Allen, R. C. Annette, C. W. Trask, Stroke, E. M. Benton, Cox.

RED—W. Southard, S. L. Mackie, J. T. Gilchrist, Jr., N. H. Day, Stroke, F. D. Voorhees, Cox.

The second race was for 4-oared shells and the crew was as follows:

WHITE—W. Man, J. M. Duane, A. C. Humphreys, N. W. Trask, Stroke.

RED—Ed. Smith, A. Duane, E. R. Peck, C. B. Greene, Stroke.

The Reds were the victors in this race.

The third race was for 4-oared gigs and the crew was as follows:

WHITE—R. C. Annette, Ed. Vreedenburgh, A. C. Humphreys, S. B. Trask, Stroke, Walter Man, Cox.

RED—J. T. Gilchrist, Jr., G. A. Fuller, J. A. Lowdwick, E. R. Craft, Stroke, Ed. Smith, Cox.

The Reds won the third race also.

In the evening a dance was held at the La Tourette Hotel and badges to the winners were presented by Col. Fuller.

In 1886 the Argonauta Rowing Association became the New Jersey Athletic Club.

### THE BAYONNE ROWING ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED 1872

The Bayonne Rowing Association came into existence in 1872 and had for its contemporaries the famous Argonauta Rowing Association, Bergen Point Athletic Club, Viking Rowing Association and the Newark Bay Yacht Club. G. S. Boyce was the first President and Joseph W. Elsworth was the first Captain. In 1886 the officers were: President, E. H. Bennett; Vice-President, Joseph Elsworth, Jr.; Treasurer George A. Squire; Secretary, J. A. Phillips; Captain, E. E. Van Buskirk; Lieutenant C. O. Stillman; Board of Trustees were: E. H. Bennett, Chairman; George A. Squire, E. E. Van Buskirk, Ernest C. Webb, J. T. Field, I. A. Gard, W. C. Nicholson, W. H. Jasper and J. H. Allaire.

In 1888 Bayonne Athletic Association with membership of one

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hundred, consolidated with the Bayonne Rowing Association. The property owned by the Athletic Association was disposed of and a new site purchased on the shore. The building of the New Jersey Central's new line in 1891 necessitated a change in the location of the clubhouse. It was moved to the corner of East 32nd Street and Prospect Avenue. Of all the oarsmen who have won honors for the Bayonne Rowing Association, none stand out more prominently than the four-oared crew which was kept together from 1889 to 1896. The members were: Thomas Garrett, Charles Cook, Edward H. Scofield and E. A. Schumacher and the banners and cups they won, long adorned the clubhouse. Social life in the clubhouse was as popular as athletics and the bi-weekly dances of the eighties were popular with New York as well as Bayonne Society.

Bayonne People's Regatta under the auspices of the Bayonne Rowing Association was held August 19, 1916 on the Newark Bay Course. The Regatta Committee was composed of: John McGilivray, Chairman; A. M. Young, Treasurer; Charles E. Jaeger, Secretary, others were Jos. H. Boylan, Herbert Smith, Kenneth Mackenzie, Oscar Gunther, Frank Brooks, Robert L. Mackenzie, Kenneth M. Reed, Edw. Boorman, Edw. Staunton, Frank Johnson, F. F. Ockershausen, Fred A. Mackenzie, Floyd Landon and John Kenna. In the evening a dance at the La Tourette Hotel took place at which time, prizes were given out.

### INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was organized in Bayonne October 28, 1873. Their meeting place was Schuyler Hall in the Bergen Point Section. The Charter members were as follows: William B. Douglas, Noble Grand; Thomas Moore, Vice Grand; George G. Lehman, Recording-Secretary; Henry Zimmerman, Financial Secretary and Thomas Warren, Treasurer. The Odd Fellows were very strong and prosperous and in the year 1911 they erected a building on Broadway between 29th and 30th Streets. Appropriate ceremonies marked the laying of the cornerstone of the new building October 15, 1911 by Mt. Vernon Lodge, No. 176. A parade preceded the cornerstone ceremonies in which were about 200 members and guests. The Boys' Band of the German Odd Fellows Home of New York headed the procession, led by William Thompson. The ceremonies started with the playing of "Nearer My God to Thee." The address of the occasion was delivered by Dr. Frank W. Crouthers of

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Perth Amboy, N. J. who was Past Grand Master of N. J. and Grand Representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge. He sketched the objects of the Odd Fellows Organization which was started, he said, in the United States in 1819.

### INSTITUTION OF PALM REBEKAH LODGE NO. 34 I.O.O.F.

On February 26, 1901 at 15 East 21st Street in Odd Fellows Hall, a group met for the purpose of instituting a Rebekah Lodge. The first name suggested was Concord, but this was not met with approval. Guiding Star was mentioned but this grand name was taken from another lodge so was turned down. Finally the Grand Master suggested the members giving names: Lady Goethe, Lyndhurst and Palm were suggested and the Grand Master decided on Palm No. 34. Grand officers present were: E. O. Bussing, Grand Master; August Grassmann, Grand Representative; Henry J. Melosh, Past Grand Master; Harry Pine, Dep. Grand Master; President of Assembly Mary Davis; Vice-President of Assembly, Charlotte Morris; Secretary of Assembly, Mary Fullen; District Dep. President Isabel Lawrence and Staff of Hudson No. 1, also Staff of the Rebekah Lodge.

Meeting was called to order by Grand Master E. O. Bussing and an application for a charter was received, accompanied by nine withdrawal cards. They were as follows:

Annie Farber, Myrtle No. 10; Annie Koch, Myrtle No. 10; Margaret Garbs, Myrtle No. 10; Annie Harris, Myrtle No. 10; Emma Buell, Evergreen No. 3; Fanny Cohn, Evergreen No. 3; Minna Lauer, Evergreen No. 3; Pauline Schaub, Evergreen No. 3; Henry Harris, Evergreen No. 3.

The following dismissal cards were received and then admitted: Alice Evans, Selma Rasch, G. Colling from Myrtle No. 10, the lodge was then instituted according to the laws and regulations of the order.

Since 1901 the order has lost and gained members and at present is doing nicely. Many of the members daughters are joining. There is a beautiful home in Briele, New Jersey for sisters of the order, also a home in Newark for the orphans. At the present time there is only one lodge in Bayonne but there are 97 lodges in the State of New Jersey and five junior lodges. The juniors are from 12 years of age to 18 at which time they are eligible to join the Rebekah Lodge.

Members and officers of Palm Rebekah Lodge No. 34 are:

Gertrude Johnson, Noble Grand; Maude Barker; Vice Grand; Anna

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L. Golding, Past District Deputy, present Secretary; Carrie Covert, Past Noble Grand; Gertrude B. Johnson, Past District Deputy, present Treasurer; Chaplain, Adah J. Humphrey; Outside Guardian, Florence Gallett; Inside Guardian, Maude Ebenau; Conductor, Elizabeth Barth; Warden, Charlotte Freer; Right Supporter to Noble Grand, Catherine Mervis; Left Supporter to Noble Grand, Elizabeth Detels; Past Noble Grand and Past District Dep. President, Elizabeth Schulze; Pianist, Selma Fimbel; Past President of Assembly, Minnie M. Kugler, Brother Berger; Bro. and Sister John Boltz; Bro. and Sister Manning; Mrs. Beck, Mrs. Eliz. J. Meyers, Bro. Detels; Bro. Nelson Dunn, Miss Margaret Manning.

### THE NEW JERSEY YACHT CLUB ORGANIZED IN 1879

The New Jersey Yacht Club was organized in 1879 with a clubhouse on the shores of Communipaw section of Jersey City alongside Pavonia. In 1911 the club moved from Communipaw to West 30th Street and Newark Bay. The building took fire in 1914 and burned, they then went to Schultz Park on West 27th Street. After that the club was suspended. It was then reorganized, taking advantage of the dispute among the members of the Newark Bay Yacht Club which was then located at the foot of West 54th Street and Newark Bay. A faction of those members belonging to the New Jersey Yacht Club and who still had possession of the Charter, made arrangements for the leasing of the quarters located there and succeeded in ousting the Newark Bay Yacht Club and flung New Jersey's pennant to the breezes.

### THE BAYONNE CLUB ORGANIZED 1880

The Bayonne Club was organized in the summer of 1880 by a group of young business men. They leased what they called "The Nine Row" consisting of nine houses situated on the east side of Avenue A near 33rd Street. On the opposite side of Avenue A were open fields and beyond a clean sandy beach, on the shore of Newark Bay.

Bathing was good and fishing plentiful. The leading spirit was Ernest C. Webb, a young and prosperous lawyer who was elected President. George Jewett was first Secretary-Treasurer, and others were: J. A. Phillips, Henry Garretson, W. A. Holmes and E. MacDonald and numerous others. In the summer of 1907 the Newark



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Bay Boat Club, as it was called at that time, opened their new home on 33rd Street and Newark Bay with a Regatta followed by a dinner. This Club built the building which now is the home of the Elks for a winter quarters but later on sold it to the Elks and the 33rd Street club served as their only clubhouse. A few years ago the Club was broken up.

### THE YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED 1887

The Young Men's Association, one of the oldest organizations of its kind, social and athletic in Bayonne, was instituted in 1887 by seven young men of the Bergen Point section, who considering the idea of banding together into a society, met under the old railroad bridge that spanned Avenue D at West 8th Street on the evening of August 10, 1887 and organized the present Young Men's Association. Of their charter members, three, Cornelius Reagon, Dennis Hennessy and James J. Devlin have joined the society where the motion to adjourn is never in order while the others Thomas M. O'Brien, Patrick Kenny, John J. Reilly and the late City Clerk William P. Lee are respected and prominent citizens of the city.

Headquarters were established in the Telephone Exchange building on West 8th Street. The membership increased to such an extent that the club moved to a more comfortable building, then the property of the late Judge P. W. Connelly. Here, within a year, the members felt cramped for room and shelter was sought on the second floor of 243 Avenue D near 9th Street where they remained for two years, when an entire building was rented on 9th Street, next door to the Bayonne *Herald*, the former Bayonne paper. In 1897 the association, its membership large and having prospered by good management, decided that the time had come when it should have a home of its own. Accordingly, a committee was appointed to bring about this happy result. How well they accomplished their mission may be judged from the fact that inside of eight months property had been bought on West 10th Street, funds obtained and an up-to-date clubhouse erected. After eleven years of wandering from one home to another the members enjoyed the facilities of a handsomely equipped building and what good old times did follow these exciting bowling matches which were frequently captured by the Y. M. A.

On February 9, 1908 the club suffered a severe loss. That evening fire destroyed the building to such an extent that the next morning nothing was left but the lot. This was a blow to the mem-



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bers, everything of value was destroyed, including numerous trophies won by the baseball and bowling teams. The disaster was only an impetus to greater efforts. A committee was at once put to work to arrange for the rebuilding of the clubhouse. After careful consideration the site on 10th Street was sold and a plot of ground on the Boulevard near 14th Street was purchased and the building which now stands on said plot was erected in less than a year. The success of the Y. M. A. is due largely to the strict adherence to the laws laid down by its founders and carried out by the officers who were at the head of the organization from year to year. The association has had many presidents including John J. Lynch, William F. Gray, Sr., Police Chief Cornelius J. O'Neill, Jere D. Lynch, Joseph P. Devine, Daniel Sweeney, John A. Cook, William Hurley, James Flynn, George Powers, Frank Hughes, Peter A. Donovan, Arthur Sullivan, James E. Ellis, John Nix, William Shanaghan, Louis Lang, Arthur Flanagan, Michael Coughlin and Anthony Cashman.

### THE POLITICAL STUDY CLUB ORGANIZED 1888

The Political Study Club, which is the second oldest club in the State of New Jersey, having been founded by Mrs. Alexander Christie and organized in 1888, was started by a number of mothers in Central Bayonne to object to school conditions in that vicinity and Mrs. Alexander Christie was elected President. Later the club took up women's suffrage movement and had a number of prominent speakers on the "New Woman Cause," among them Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, author of "The Woman's Bible"; Mrs. Antoinette Brown Blackwell, the first woman ordained minister in the State; Miss Mary Philbrook, the first woman admitted to the Bar in New Jersey; Senator Helen Ring Robinson, sister of the late former President, Theodore Roosevelt; Mrs. Julia Goldzier, a member of the club, who started the movement for police women and Mrs. Lillian Feickert, the state suffrage leader who later became the first President of the Women's State Republican Club and State Vice-Chairman of the Republican Party.

The club joined the State Federation in 1894 when the Federation was organized. At that time it was called "The Ladies' Social and Political Advancement Society" but later changed to the Political Study Club. The club has taken a part in almost every movement in the progress toward better conditions in the city and state.

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Members of this club were among the one hundred women who stormed the offices of the County Park Board to demand a County Park for Bayonne, which was successfully carried out later. They assisted as a woman's auxiliary in helping to raise funds for a soldier's monument in the County Park at a cost of \$1,500. These pioneer women, with banners flying, marched in every suffrage parade on Fifth Avenue, New York. In 1912 with three other Federated clubs, this club joined in assisting for the movement for a community Christmas tree and formed the Municipal Christmas Tree and Mrs. Santa Claus Association. They did their part during the World War days in the sale of Liberty Bonds and Red Cross Work.

In the beautifying of the Lincoln Highway of New Jersey, which was conducted by the conservation department of the State Federation of which Mrs. William M. Wauters was Chairman, they planted a tree at Camp Dix in memory of Major E. P. Reichhelm and at Lincoln Park, Jersey City in honor of Mrs. Alexander Christie and in an effort to have a national flower adopted, a member of the club was on the committee which interviewed Mrs. Woodrow Wilson at the White House, who spoke in favor of their chosen flower—the Laurel—and also Admiral Dewey, who explained to the Committee how he had been successful in having the National Anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner" adopted by the United States Navy.

They were also members of a committee that participated in a tree planting on the Lincoln Highway at Princeton, April 25, 1916 when President Woodrow Wilson planted a tree and a large shrub of flowering Laurel in memory of Abraham Lincoln.

Many of the pioneer members have passed on but many of them were made happy, when in 1920 the right to vote was granted the women of America, following the World War. The club continues its interest in civic affairs today and stands ready to further all bills pertaining to civic improvements and better working conditions for women. At its 50th Anniversary meeting Mrs. John Drucker was elected President and Mrs. Charles Dell, a daughter of Mrs. Alexander Christie, the founder, was elected Vice-President and Mrs. Claude Day, daughter of the late Major E. P. Reichhelm, was elected Secretary.

## THE PENINSULA YACHT CLUB

The Peninsula Yacht Club was located at the foot of West 24th Street and Newark Bay and was erected in the year 1889 by Chester

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D. Ayers, who is still residing in the Point section, formerly occupied by club located there until 1893 when it was succeeded by the Essex Yacht Club of Newark as their Bayonne branch and the building became the property of one Jacob Ackerman. In 1896 the property was acquired by the Nelson family but the Essex Yacht Club still had their quarters there until 1908 when they disbanded and the Bayonne Yacht Club, which was located at Meyer & Dressig's foot of West 27th Street moved to the Nelson building where they worked until 1914. They also disbanded and were succeeded by the Peninsula Yacht Club, the present occupants of the clubhouse.

### THE PASTIME ATHLETIC CLUB

The Pastime Athletic Club was in existence in the 80's and was located on Broadway and 46th Street. The building which later became Wake's Hall was their clubhouse and it was the center of many social gatherings as well as political meetings, dances, etc.

### THE ELSWORTH BOAT CLUB

The Elsworth Boat Club was also in existence in the 80's and this club was located at the foot of East 37th Street and Newark Bay. A group got together and built a clubhouse on what is still known as Elsworth's Island, a pile of rocks about one hundred feet off the shore. The club became famous in boat racing circles of those days as the Elsworth's possessed small craft of every description and were entered in all nearby regattas and brought home many trophies. Captain Joe Elsworth sailed the "Puritan" against the British Yacht "Genesta" in 1889 in the International Yacht races and won. The boathouse was destroyed by storm about 1893 and the piles on which the house stood are still seen on the Island.

### THE ATHENA CLUB ORGANIZED IN 1892

The Athena Club, which is one of the oldest of the Woman's Clubs in the city, was organized in 1892 by Mrs. M. Close-Sleesman, who was also the first President. Mrs. S. I. Myers of Bayonne is the only charter member who still holds her membership. This club is a charter member of the State Federation, having affiliated with the Federation in 1894. Mrs. A. C. Smith is President.

### THE WOMAN'S MUSICAL AND LITERARY STUDY CLUB ORGANIZED 1893

The Woman's Musical and Literary Study Club was organized by Mrs. Mai Close-Sleesman in 1893. Some of the active members

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later were: Mrs. W. W. Anderson, Mrs. E. B. Annett, Miss A. M. Captain, Miss Lillian Clemens, Miss Sara Du Bois, Mrs. H. S. Germond, Miss Josephine G. Duke, Mrs. Vitalis Himmer, Mrs. J. A. Rumrill, Mrs. S. V. Anderson, Mrs. Doris Whipple, Mrs. Messner, Mrs. Lucy Houghton, Mrs. Welantz, Mrs. Plante, Mrs. C. A. Browne and Miss Sprague.

### THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ORGANIZED 1895

The Knights of Columbus was organized about 1895 when a group of 43 men were initiated into the mysteries of an unknown and unheralded society that was regarded with suspicion by the clergy and whose members trod a thorny path until the work of the organization proved its worth to the community. The membership has swelled to approximately 750 members. Star of the Sea Council, No. 371 Knights of Columbus is regarded as one of the foremost fraternal Catholic organizations in the city.

They met for the first time in what was first known as Masonic Hall, later Schuyler Hall, Vocational School and what is now an annex of the Holy Family Academy on West 8th Street.

Heading the first roster of officers was the late William M. O'Neill, brother of the late Rev. Geo. Doane O'Neill, for several years Chancellor of the Newark Diocese and brother of the Rev. Fred O'Neill, pastor of the Church of the Blessed Sacrament in Newark.

Not only did Grand Knight O'Neill expend his energies toward the fulfillment of his duties as highest officer of the group, but when the council had to be equipped with suitable paraphernalia, it was he who advanced the money on a personal note at a local bank.

Others who were active in those first stages of the council's development were former Mayor L. F. Donohoe, the late Judge Thos. F. Noonan, William C. Devlin, Joseph B. Heraty, Thomas M. O'Brien, William Mann and Joseph P. McCormack, for some years supervisor of the State Prison at Trenton.

Before the council finally located at its present home which was built in 1922 through loan shares bought by the members, meetings were held in Woodruff's Hall, Odd Fellows' Hall, St. Mary's Hall and the Knights of Columbus annex. The annex of the K. of C. headquarters which faces Avenue C was purchased May 1914 and was was the former home of the Hocke family. It was the first permanent home of the council after sixteen years of gypsying around the city in rented halls.



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Due to the ever growing membership, however, the building became inadequate and the new Memorial Building was built at a cost of over \$140,000. This building was called the Victory Building in honor of those who served in the World War, and is located on West 30th Street. The recreational needs of the boys of this city were a large consideration in the plans of the building committee with the result that the K. of C. is able to pursue boys' work activities on its present large scale.

The K. of C. Boys Club for all boys of the city from ten to eighteen years of age was organized by Francis K. Strohoefer who began the center with volunteer leaders among whom were James McGeehan, executive director and the Columbian Squires under Wm. K. O'Brien.

Besides accommodating boys of all religious faiths and races by placing the building recreational equipment at their disposal, the council also sends younger boys to Camp Columbus at Culver's Lake during the summer months.

Mr. Joseph F. Nugent is the present Grand Knight and the Rev. Joseph F. Dolan, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul's R. C. Church is Chaplain.

Although the council has no official women's auxiliary, there is a group of women representatives of the various Catholic parishes who cooperate in staging the council's yearly charity ball.

### THE MUTUAL CULTURE CLUB

The prime organizer of this club was Charles H. Davis in 1895. Early members were: John Eadie, Sr., William Eddy, Walter N. Gay, Horance Roberson who was City Treasurer from 1894 to 1896; Frederic E. Chamberlain, Dr. John W. Carr, Major Reichhelm, Dr. S. I. Myers, S. J. Harwi and later down to the present time are: Chas. S. Havens, Darnell Brittin, John L. Collins, Samuel Roberson, D. R. Santomena, D. H. Garrison, Aaron T. Gould, F. E. Cotter, Raymond Filsinger, A. S. Westneat, R. Thornton, Joseph Brady, George J. Becker, Vere S. Richards. Frank Hallberg is the President.

### THE BAYONNE WHEELMEN, INC.

On September 30, 1896 a fine group of leading Bayonne citizens met at the home of James H. Thomas, 122 West Twenty-second Street to organize a Bayonne bicycle and pleasure club. The following enterprising young men were present:



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James H. Thomas, Dennis Maguire, William Douglas, Antone Kratz, M. Gibbons, Joseph Herring, Edward T. Jones, Daniel Walrod, Conrad Beltz, John J. Shaughnesay, Willis Thomson, John Barb, Gus Eppson, Adolph Graf, Thomas Shaw, John Parker.

The name chosen for the club was "JAMES H. THOMAS BICYCLE AND PLEASURE CLUB." The following officers were chosen:

James H. Thomas, President; John Barb, Vice-President; Edward T. Jones, Financial Secretary; D. M. Maguire, Treasurer; Daniel Walrod, Sergeant-at-Arms.

On May 3, 1898 the name of the Club was changed to "BAYONNE WHEELMEN, INC."

Edward T. Jones served as Secretary until October 10, 1936, the date of his death.

The present officers of the Club are:

Joseph Minton, President; Dennis McGee, Vice-President; John F. Foley, Financial and Recording Secretary; William B. Clarke, Treasurer; Stephen McCarthy, Sergeant-at-Arms.

John Minton has been President since January 4, 1912. Dennis McGee has been Vice-President since January 8, 1914. William B. Clarke has been Treasurer since January 8, 1914. The present membership—1940, A. D., is 110. And the Charter is a closed instrument and is only opened on rare and unusual occasions. The Club has its own headquarters at 559 Boulevard (free and clear), with Bowling Alleys, Pool room, Dance hall and Offices.

### ELKS LODGE FOUNDED 1898

In 1898 the Elks Lodge was founded by James W. Shannon, George De Waters and Edward Griffin. The Lodge was instituted at the Old Masonic Hall Avenue D and 8th Street. The installation rites were directed by District Deputy Richard Fort of Camden who was assisted by members of the Jersey City and Hoboken Lodges. Some of the Charter members were:

Edw. Bryce, Dr. L. F. Donohoe, Thos. Magner, F. F. Martinez, Jr., Geo. Bradford, Chas. A. Wake, Louis O'Leary, Thos. Beattie, Emmett Smith, Egbert Seymour, Fred E. Mettam, Thos. Fletcher, Wm. Tifft, J. W. Empie, Richard C. Annette, Edw. A. Urner, Jas. T. Brady, Peter J. Brady.

Thomas F. Garrett was the first exalted ruler of Bayonne Lodge. He served two years and was succeeded by George M. DeWaters.

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The new Elks Club Building was dedicated and taken possession of on May 29, 1907 at which time there was a parade followed by a dinner in the evening and Elks came from all over Jersey to be present at the ceremonies. This building was formerly the quarters of the Newark Bay Boat Club. John N. Fitzhenry is the present Exalted Ruler.

### BAYONNE CHAPTER NO. 21, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR ORGANIZED IN 1898

Bayonne Chapter No. 21, Order of the Eastern Star was organized in 1898. The charter members were:

Miss Elizabeth F. Allan, Mrs. Helen Bryce, Mrs. Jennie Bradford, Mrs. Julia G. Clark, Miss Eugenie Clark, Mrs. Harriet Chambers, Mrs. Eleanor Kenny, Miss Annie Meyer, Mrs. Elizabeth Meyer, Mrs. Isabelle Morrison, Mrs. Martha J. Seamon, Mr. Horace Scull, Mrs. Mary Wright, Miss Mildred Windas, Mrs. Cecil Wilson, Mrs. Ida Deyo, Mrs. Sarah Fry, Mrs. Prudence Guy, Miss Mamie Guy, Mrs. Elizabeth Greglett, Mrs. Della Hicks, Mrs. Lydia Lawder, Miss Isabelle Yates, Mrs. Rebecca Metam, Mrs. Emiline Paynton, Mrs. Wilmina Scull, Mrs. Johanna Vreeland, Miss Charlotte Wright, Mrs. Cornelia Worden, Mrs. Sarah Yates.

The only surviving members of the above are Mrs. Mildred Windas Osborne and Mrs. Elizabeth Meyer.

The first Matron of the Chapter was Mrs. Lydia Lawder.

The first Patron of the Chapter was Mr. Horace Scull.

The present Matron is Miss Gertrude Hallberg.

The present Patron is Mr. Albert Lindberg.

Mrs. Susan Connover and the late Jennie Bolton were the only members from Bayonne to be Past Grand Matrons of the State.

### THE ZONTA CLUB ORGANIZED IN 1900

The Zonta Club was organized in 1900 as a business and professional club for women of the city. Mrs. Christine Doherty was the first president. Charter members were Mrs. John Blanchard, Rose Brady, Mrs. Edythe Broome, Miss Dena Chayes, Mrs. Sophie Dooley, Miss Mary Driscoll, Katherine and Florence Gorman, Anna Herbert, May Lanstree, Elizabeth Meehan, Fannie Morris, Mrs. Virginia Richards, Mrs. Catherine Schroeter, Mrs. Samuel Cooper and Miss Edna Vreeland.

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### THE BERGEN POINT LAWN TENNIS CLUB

The Bergen Point Lawn Tennis Club, between 9th and 10th Streets on Avenue A was popular in the late 80's and early 1900's. Their membership was composed of names like Days, Schuyler, Browns, Meigs, Humphreys, Sidney Smith, Ida Voorhees, the National Champion and later the Shaw family showed great skill on the tennis courts.

### THE HARRIERS ATHLETIC CLUB

William Mann organized the Harriers Athletic Club, which was first called St. Mary's Temperance and Athletic Club, in the year 1900. About 1904 the Harriers became the Jersey Harriers Athletic Club. The 4th of July of this year marked the 30th Anniversary of games under the Harriers.

### THE PAVONIA YACHT CLUB

The Pavonia Yacht Club, the second oldest yacht club in the United States, was organized in 1869. By a special act of the State Legislature approved March 6, 1873 the club was granted a charter of incorporation. The charter provided the club be located in Jersey City or some other convenient point in Hudson County. Originally it was located at the foot of Pavonia Avenue, Jersey City, from which it got its name, in what was then called "The Gut." In 1883 the club moved to the beach at the foot of Jersey Avenue at Communipaw. It was called the Catboat Club in those days because most of the boats were rigged with centerboards and sandbag ballast.

In 1888 the Pavonias received official recognition from big yacht clubs and this meant to participate in all regattas. At a regatta in 1892 they had the honor of receiving a salute of a hundred guns from the various boats gathered and every craft in the harbor saluted the Pavonia flag as they passed.

In 1890 the club secured property at Atlantic Highlands and in 1891 ran off a regatta that had one hundred and two boats. Captain Joe Elsworth won a prize. In 1892 on August 31st, there was an awful storm. There were seventeen boats at their moorings and the following day all but one was blown to shore and more or less damaged. That one belonged to Ex-Commodore D. W. Kohn of New York who had been at the head of the club for some fourteen years. Alex. Roe, always kidded him about having enough rope and chain to anchor a

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fleet, but in this case the storm showed his wisdom. Mr. Kohn said he always believed in having a good mooring.

In the early 1900's the club moved to Bayonne and located at the foot of 41st Street and New York Bay in the old house owned by the Combs estate which was said to be about 200 years old. The small house to the left was the original house and the other part having been added to it. In the original house there was a trap door whereby during the time of slaves the slaves were put up in the attic by a ladder and by the time the inspectors came, there was no sign of a slave. The doors throughout the house were in two parts.

The club had a large membership from neighboring cities. Decoration Day always marked the opening of the season and tables were set under the trees and chowder served to everyone. The members of the club took parties out sailing on the bay and in the evening fireworks were displayed and dancing enjoyed. At this time some of the active members were: former Commodores, David Kohn, William Throne, Sheldon Decker, Anthony Sneider, William D. Salter who was Treasurer for some years, John F. Schmidt of the Bayonne Trust Company who was Treasurer, the Harz Brothers (Carl and Claudius) Dave Woodruff, Dr. George W. Mellor who served in many offices and Frank Baker with whom Dr. Mellor sailed for years. In Baker's boat "The Squaw" with Dr. Mellor at the wheel, they won ten prizes in nine races, one prize being a time prize. At this time the club had many fine yachts and motorboats.

The brick dock in front of the clubhouse was where the Shad fishermen landed.

Some years later the club took up its present location at the foot of 11th Street and Newark Bay known as Pavonia Court.

The present site, which many years ago was one of the show places of the Newark Bay shorefront was acquired June 25, 1913 when Anthony Schneider was commodore. It had been the residence of Jacob R. Schuyler. Later years interest in the property finally went to Schuyler Imbre and Angelica V. R. Haight, who were lineal descendants of Jacob Schuyler and they conveyed the property to the Pavonia Yacht Club. Prominent among its membership were Governor Abbott and Senator McPherson. The club has only two life members and they are Louis Mittelsdorf and Ex-Commodore D. W. Kohn. There are four honorary members and they are Congressman Eugene Kinkead, Gov. Leon Abbott, Dr. George W. Mellor and Hon. Matthew T. Cronin, one time Mayor of Bayonne.



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

### THE COUNTY CORKMEN ORGANIZED IN 1903

The County Corkmen, one of Bayonne's leading Irish Societies was organized in 1903 and incorporated on January 3, 1905 by the late Hudson County Common Pleas Judge Hyman Lazarus. It is affiliated with the County Corkmen in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Richmond County, Staten Island. The Bayonne Corkmen, organized as a non-sectarian and non-political society met at Cornelius Murphy's Hall, Broadway at 19th Street; Lynch's Hall, Broadway at 12th Street and at 298 Broadway before moving to their present quarters at 710 Avenue C. Among the incorporators were John Sullivan, Richard Walsh, James O'Leary, John Crowley, Thomas M. O'Brien, Sr., Thomas O'Connor, Michael Henessey, John Mahoney, Daniel Foley and Jeremiah O'Connor. John Sullivan, who served eight terms was the group's first president. Today there are over 464 members and the Ladies' Auxiliary of which Mrs. Thomas O'Connor was the first president, has about 247 members.

### ROBBINS REEF YACHT CLUB ORGANIZED 1903

The Robbins Reef Yacht Club was founded in 1903 by a group of men who belonged to the Pavonia Yacht Club. The founders of this club were Donald Mackenzie, Sr., Fred S. Muller, Louis Raichlen, James Casey, Amos Harker, Albert Gottringer, Thomas J. Prior, Fred Golding, J. Austin, Edward Walborn and David Allen, Jr., Donald Mackenzie, Sr. was the first Commodore. Others were John Crowley, John P. Dunn, J. P. McDermott, W. F. Muller, J. Jacobus and William Luebbers. The Commodore at the present time is Edward Schuller who is serving his ninth term. The club now has 140 members and 62 boats in its fleet.

### Y. M. C. A.

The first thought and effort to bring the Y.M.C.A. to Bayonne was at the turn of the century. On December 18, 1900 a group of eight men met in the Sixth Street Methodist Church and organized as the "Executive Committee of the Y.M.C.A. Project of the City of Bayonne." The group consisted of Pierre P. Garven, Chairman, H. Bernard, F. Whitney, F. Oliver, J. Houghton, A. Gartley, T. Tyler and S. B. Hoes, Secretary.

Others joined the group including Horace Roberson, who is still a member of the Board of Trustees, Herman Kern and M. V. String-



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

ham, who were hard and faithful workers until their deaths. The meeting rooms were changed to the Republican Club which was then located on Avenue D and Thirty-second Street.

The Knights of King Arthur, organized by John G. Eadie for the boys of the First Reformed Sunday School in 1906 grew to such an extent that they felt the need of a clubhouse.

On December 16, 1908 a group of fifty young men assembled together and called themselves the "Young Men's Federation." John G. Edie was President of the group and John Munroe, Secretary and Rolland Howell, Treasurer. A Dutch Reformed, A Presbyterian and a Baptist to start—a good combination. They started in a small wooden shack around 38th Street and Avenue B. At the end of the first year, the membership list grew to 154.

The Board of Trustees for the first year was: R. G. Castleman, Walter Hay, John Munroe, Rolland Howell, Kenneth Myers, William Seeman, Clarence Capes, Hal D. Chapman, Douglas Couden, Carl Hermon, E. R. Edie, J. G. Edie, George Titus, Willis Alexander, Harry Drucker, Herman Kern. A woman's auxiliary was formed June 14, 1909 with Mrs. James Munroe, President.

Money was made at Fairs and other social events given by the Auxiliary and the boys gave an amateur circus at which time Charles E. Geibel, Jr. who owned a small horse "Dandy" became a circus rider to entertain the guests at the affair, donning tarleton skirts, blond wig and grease paint.

*The Federation News* was set up by Royden Page Whitcomb which later became the *Association News* and was continued until 1926.

In January 1912 it was decided to incorporate the Federation as the Young Men's Christian Association of Bayonne, to acquire property for a building and to secure an executive secretary. The building now owned by the organization on West Thirty-third Street was dedicated March 1916.

The present board consists of: President, Edwin Ogden; Vice-President, Arthur Evans; Secretary, Dr. Stanley Woodruff; Treasurer, Walter Turnbull, John L. Collins, J. Munson Johnson, James Custer, G. Waldron Holck, William Welch, Warren Roy, Edwin Allaire. Honorary members: D. Herbert Garrison, Dr. George Sexsmith.

MRS. HUGH C. COLVILLE ORGANIZED NEIGHBORHOOD CLUB IN 1910,  
LATER CALLED BETTERMENT CLUB

Mrs. Hugh C. Colville organized a club during the year 1910

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

which was called the Neighborhood Club of 33rd Street. This club carried on for some time doing charity work and in 1911 the name was changed to the Betterment Club, due to the fact that there was another neighborhood club in the Bergen Point section. The charter members of the club were: Mrs. John M. Coward, Mrs. Frank A. Beardsley, Mrs. William T. Ford, Mrs. Hyman Lazarus and the late Mrs. T. N. Davey. Mrs. Colville was the first president and acted in that capacity for eight or nine years after which Mrs. William M. Wauters became president. The Betterment Club affiliated with the Bayonne Woman's Club in 1924 but still remains as a Betterment Department which does Welfare work. They try to find jobs for worthy persons, if possible, and donate food, clothing, medicine, etc. to the unfortunate of the city. They sell Red Cross Seals and at Christmas time give a party in one of the local theatres and each child receives an orange, toy and candy and moving pictures and other entertainment are provided. The children are mostly patients of the anti-tuberculosis clinic and special prizes are awarded the children who carefully follow rules of the clinic during the year and who attend regularly. The Betterment Club originated the Annual "Clean Up Week" in the city which in the last few years has been taken up by the Civic Club.

### THE BAYONNE CITY YACHT CLUB ORGANIZED 1910

The Bayonne City Yacht Club organized in January 1910 had quarters at the foot of West 27th Street, later taking the old quarters of the New Jersey Yacht Club at the foot of 30th Street. The first officers selected were: Henry F. Snarke, Commodore; James B. Gibbons, Vice Commodore; Phillip W. May, Secretary; William Meyerholz, Treasurer; Arthur Bender, Sergeant-at-Arms. Former City Comptroller, J. J. Ryan was Commodore during the year 1911 and he presented a large silver cup to the club to be competed for by the boats in races each Labor Day. Others who served as Commodore were: Gus Ruh in 1912; H. F. Snarke in 1913; William Smalley in 1914-15-16 and Charles B. Waldron in 1917.

### THE MUNICIPAL CHRISTMAS TREE ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED DECEMBER 1912

The four federated Bayonne Clubs for Women got together and organized The Municipal Christmas Tree Assn. in December 1912.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Mrs. William M. Wauters was one of the organizers and was elected the first president and has been president until the present time.

### THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF BAYONNE, N. J. ORGANIZED 1915

The Woman's Club of Bayonne, N. J. was founded by Mrs. Myers, wife of the late Dr. S. I. Myers in 1915 and Mrs. William M. Wauters was the organizing chairman. Mrs. Thomas Agnew was the first President. The club was federated in 1916 and incorporated in 1918. The City Betterment Club consolidated with the Woman's Club in 1924. The club colors are blue and gold and the club flower is the Laurel.

The object of the club is to establish in Bayonne a center for the development of the member's responsibility to one another as citizens and neighbors and to the community and to the country. The club started with forty members of which some of the honorary members are: Mrs. William Arbuckle, Mrs. Thomas N. Carey, Mrs. Hugh Colville, Mrs. H. S. Eddy, Mrs. William H. Goodwin, Mrs. F. C. Gray, Miss Clara Hathaway, Mrs. E. P. Jenkins, Mrs. D. F. Ramage, Mrs. Christie Ricket, Mrs. Harry Stevens, Mrs. Ralph Templeton, Mrs. James L. Thomas, Mrs. Lee Toadvine, Mrs. John M. Coward and Mrs. A. A. De Bonneville.

The organization is a departmental one covering literature, art, music, drama, legislative, City Betterment and American Home.

The present officers are: Mrs. Louis Knecht, President; Mrs. Robert H. Lindsley, First Vice-President; Mrs. S. W. Hackett, Second Vice-President; Mrs. Horace Roberson, Recording Secretary; Mrs. T. F. O'Brien, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Geo. Hayfield, Financial Secretary; Mrs. Frank Hallberg, Treasurer; Mrs. John C. Gallagher, Federation Secretary. Department Chairman; Mrs. Louis Gehring, American Home; Mrs. Wayne Sinclair, Art; Mrs. John Flockhart, City Betterment; Mrs. A. M. Tozzi, Drama; Mrs. W. P. Stuart, Legislative; Mrs. John Lemay, Literature; Mrs. David Kay, Music.

### THE JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB

The Junior Woman's Club was organized in November 1929. Miss Phyllis Brown served as the first President.

The 1940 officers are: Senior Advisor, Mrs. Mason Spofford; President, Miss Gertrude Hackett; Vice-President, Mrs. Walter Thorn; Recording-Secretary, Miss Gladys Davis; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Alma Hanover; Treasurer, Mrs. William Stuart.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

### THE KROY WRENS

The Kroy Wrens was a popular group which participated in many social affairs during its existence. The members of this club were: John Erickson, President; Chester Thompson, Vice-President; Ethel Guest, Secretary; Mathilda Toadvine, Treasurer and other members were: Miss Gladys Ford, Mildred Anthony, Lillian Guest, Angela Walsh, Ethel Davis, William Martin, Richard Guest and E. Vreeland. On New Year's Eve of 1916 they gave a dance in Geibel's Hall and at various times held dances in the La Tourette Hotel.

### THE GIRL SCOUTS ORGANIZED IN 1917

The Girl Scouts were organized by Calvary Church in 1917 with about 15 members. On March 12, 1937 the Girl Scouts celebrated their Silver Jubilee, having reached their 25th year in existence. At that time there were about 250 registered Girl Scouts and 8 Troops. The local troops held an exhibition in the Bayonne Public Library which consisted of objects familiar to scouthood, basketry, weaving, scrapbooks on birds, trees and animals dominated. An especially interesting item was a knot board on which were tacked all the different knots taught to Girl Scouts. Many pieces showed ingenuity in their fashioning. An ash tray made of ribbon confetti paper, rolled, shel-lacked and shaped when wet, engaged the interested attention of many who inspected the articles. Girl Scout equipment was also on display. In this category were included a compass, an axe in leather casing, signal flags, girl scout whistles hung on lanyards made of pyratex lacing, and jack knives.

### THE BOY SCOUTS ORGANIZED 1918

The Council of Boy Scouts was organized in the city by about a score of men at the Bayonne Club, 33rd Street and Newark Bay in March 1918. Thomas Agnew, Principal of Horace Mann School, presided at the meeting. Others present were Samuel H. Edwards, H. Hill, Francis Brick, Recorder William J. Cain, J. T. R. Collins, Rev. J. Haight, Harry Hall, Hyman Lazarus, Walter Clarkson, District Court Judge Peter Stillwell, W. J. Davis, Max Levy, E. V. Dwyer, Robert Ring, W. A. Meakin and E. Newham. The Tide Water Oil Company subscribed \$1,500 in a drive for the scouts.

### Y.W.C.A. STARTED IN 1918

The Y.W.C.A. started in Bayonne about 1918 in a very meager way but it finally got growing to such an extent that by June 1, 1920



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

the group, leased the Stanton Home on Avenue C and 40th Street where they held meetings for a while. The Industrial Department was maintained at Broadway and 22nd Street with an additional International center at 87 West 22nd Street.

The first board of directors were: Mrs. George H. Sexsmith, Founder and first President; Mrs. J. E. Pinkney, Mrs. S. J. Harwi, Mrs. S. I. Myers, Mrs. G. Crosby, Mrs. Preston H. Smith, Mrs. Frederic E. Chamberlain, Mrs. Lee Toadvine, Mrs. George E. Van Winkle, Mrs. T. W. Ellsworth, Mrs. Aaron Gould, Mrs. John M. Coward, Miss Mary Peters, Miss Dora Budd, Miss Christie, Miss Minnie Uske and Miss Emelia Huey.

Miss Alice Mahnken and her sister donated a new building for the Y.W.C.A. in place of the old house standing on the property at Thirty-second Street. The cornerstone for the new building was laid September 28, 1925. The building is of English Colonial architecture, of red brick structure with colonial pillars and trim of white stone. The first floor is devoted to offices, administration rooms, reception hall, while upstairs has two double rooms and seven single rooms for permanent guests, also kitchenette, laundry, etc. for the convenience of the girls.

The new building was dedicated March 16, 1926 with five hundred guests present. At that time a Tablet was unveiled above the brick fireplace in memory of John Herman Mahnken by his sisters.

Mr. W. C. Koehler, General Manager of the Standard Oil Company in a brief address eulogized the late Mr. Mahnken and on behalf of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, presented to the Y.W.C.A. a check for Five Thousand Dollars to cancel the debt on the old building.

The trustees have chosen Mrs. Edward M. Roeder as their President for the year 1940. She succeeds Mrs. Horace B. Wait who was President for the past four years and who has retired as a Trustee after six years on the board. Mrs. John A. Hutchison was elected Vice-President; Mrs. John Flynn, Recording Secretary; Miss Bessie Swane and Mrs. Stanley Woodruff were re-elected Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Miss Margaret Duryee is the Secretary of the Y.

### THE ROTARY CLUB

The Bayonne Rotary Club received its charter June 14, 1920. George E. Keenan was the first President.



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The officers at the present time are:

Boyd D. Henderson, President; Louis Gehring, Vice-President; Charles Dell, Secretary; Herman Dittmar, Treasurer; Arthur L. Hahn, Governor of 182nd Rotary District.

### THE INDUSTRIAL Y.M.C.A.

The property for the Industrial Y.M.C.A. was deeded by Hudson County Recorder's Office, October 17, 1922.

Land was worth .....	\$ 68,196.00
Building .....	565,249.00
Equipment .....	96,445.00
Total.....	\$729,890.00

The money was contributed, in addition to Mr. J. D. Rockefeller, Jr. and Sr. and fifteen different company's for mental, spiritual, physical and social development of employees of industry and their families.

1939 the organization was out of debt and has added camp site for under-privileged boys of the city to its list of assets. The camp runs four to five weeks in the summer with fifty boys on average in camp.

The last report of the Secretary indicates approximately one thousand a day participate in various activities.

The building stands out as the largest industrial building in the country (Y.M.C.A.) requiring a staff of forty to fifty different people to maintain its services.

The Dormitory capacity is 100 men.

The Restaurant and banquet serving hundreds.

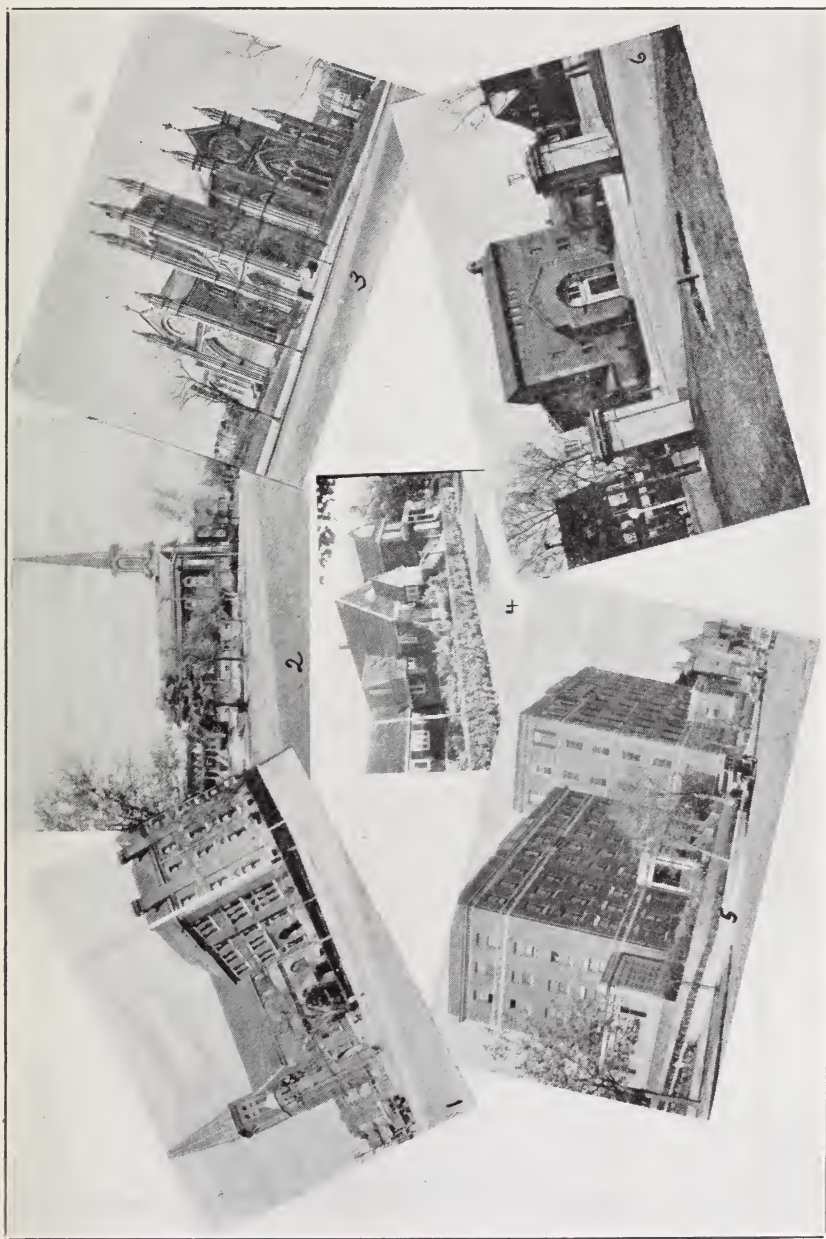
The Committee Class and Club rooms serving scores.

The building is equipped with gymnasium, locker room shower baths and swimming pool.

Many have developed physically as well as many have learned to swim under proper instructions.

The building is situated on Avenue E and runs from 22nd to 23rd Streets and is of four stories and basement.

The boys department accommodates 150 boys under 18 years of age. This is entirely separate from senior department which serves 1,200 from 18 years of age and up. In its community programs it serves approximately 1,500. Industrial men are entirely independent of membership. Every baseball diamond in the city is used immediately after working hours during spring, summer and fall to



1. St. Mary's Church.  
2. First Reformed Church.  
3. St. Henry's Church.

4. Calvary Episcopal Church.  
5. Bayonne Hospital  
6. Masonic Temple



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

accommodate the various soft ball leagues in which there is an enrollment of 1,000 players. The six bowling alleys are so popular for leagues that it is difficult for unassigned players to get a period to use them. The building serves as a community center in cooperation with other organizations such as: Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, Kiwanis, Zonta, Anis Club, Milos Club, Orreas Club, Standard Oil Glee Club, Standard Oil Band, Boy Scouts, Salvation Army, Bayonne Hospital, Red Cross, U. S. Life Saving Corps., Bayonne Foreman's Club, Civic Council, etc.

Among the major company interests in the organization are:

Standard Oil Co. of N. J.; Tide Water Associated Oil Co.; International Nickel Co.; Babcock & Wilcox Co., The Texas Co.

### FERN CHAPTER NO. 188 ORDER OF EASTERN STAR ORGANIZED 1923

In May of (1923) Fern Chapter No. 188, Order of the Eastern Star was organized. Mrs. Elizabeth Hussey got the members and material together for the organization and Mrs. Emma Clay, who was at that time the Grand Matron of the State of New Jersey, instituted and initiated the members. Some of the charter members were Mrs. Clifford Nelson, Mrs. Rena Mettam, Mrs. J. Laird, Mrs. Hellinger, Mrs. Agnes Creswick.

The first matron of the chapter was Mrs. Bertha Swick and the first patron was Mr. S. Melville Hussey. Mrs. Minnie Evans is the present matron and the patron is Mr. Fred Morgan.

### DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION ORGANIZED 1924

The order of the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized in Bayonne on April 8, 1924 by Mrs. Adelaide Slesman Syme who acted as the first Regent of the organization. Other officers were:

Vice Regent, Miss Estelle Brooke; Registrar, Mrs. Frank Ganong; Recording Secretary, Mrs. LeRoy Burrows; Historian, Mrs. Chas. Barnes; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Pearl Brooke; Treasurer, Mrs. Arthur Floyd Norcross.

The organization started with seventeen members and today there are twenty-three.

On the second birthday of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Dr. Bert J. Huntzelman presented the chapter with a book of



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Revolutionary prayers compiled by King George III of England pitying the colonists for desiring their liberty.

### BAYONNE KIWANIS CLUB ORGANIZED 1924

The local Kiwanis Club was organized in February 1924 as the result of a visit to the Chicago Kiwanis Club by James McNamara, Vice-President of the Monel Metal Co. which is no longer in existence here. With the receipt of its charter, the club started a program of civic service. First officers were Percival G. Cruden, President; William A. Conway, Vice-President; Louis N. Creighton, Treasurer and I. J. Hatton, Secretary. The last three named are deceased. Serving on the board of directors were McNamara, Carl A. Ruhlmann, the late DeWitt Van Buskirk, Thos. M. O'Brien and the late Francis A. Brick. Other old-time members were: Dr. Howard J. Gould, James J. Donovan, Dr. James H. MacGregor, Stephen E. Evans, William F. True, Alex. Seclow, Thomas J. Kernan, Michael V. Stringham, Frank E. George, Wm. R. Arbuckle, Theodore C. Ballou, Richard W. Baxter, William T. Cronin and John J. Heiser. The weekly meetings of 1940 still find Horace Roberson, the white-haired former District Judge and one of its oldest members, at the luncheon tables.

Present officers are: Francis K. Strohoefer, President; Moe Rosenthal, Vice-President; Joseph Ferguson, Treasurer, and H. Darnell Brittin, Secretary a position he has held for about 15 years.

### MENORAH LODGE F. & A. M.

In 1925 Menorah Lodge F. & A. M. purchased the Sneddon mansion at Lincoln Parkway and Newark Bay for a Masonic Temple for the sum of \$25,000., which is said to be about one-fifth of the actual value.

### ADELPHI LINK OF GOLDEN CHAIN

On October 10, 1929 Adelphi Link of Golden Chain formed in Menorah Lyceum by Celia Goldstein, Matron and Irving Sachs, Patron. About fifty joined the new organization which was formerly the order of Eastern Star but since the ritual in the Eastern Star was against the Jewish religion, they broke away and formed their own organization.

### THIRD WARD ROD AND GUN CLUB

The Club was officially organized in 1932 and became incorporated November 17, 1933. The first officers were:

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Axel Miller, President; Samuel Roach, Vice-President; Harry Muller, Treasurer; Fred. J. Hunt, Financial Secretary; John W. Cook, Recording Secretary; John A. Nicol, Sergeant-at-Arms.

The headquarters is 971 Broadway, the same building which many years ago, was known as "The Mansion House." The purpose of this organization is to promote and advance sportsmanship in gunning and angling. The club is affiliated with the Hudson County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs. The organization has a large, active membership.

The officers for 1940 are:

Joseph Hackett, Sr., President; Charles McGee, First Vice-President; Arthur Britt, Second Vice-President; John A. Nichol, Third Vice-President; Harry Muller, Treasurer; Fred J. Hunt, Financial Secretary; William Geraghty, Recording Secretary; Jack White, Corresponding Secretary; John McCabe, Sergeant-at-Arms; Thomas Dayon, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms.

### BAYONNE ESSO ASSOCIATION

The World War did many good things for America. During the war the "Y" men visited industrial plants and indulged in what was known as "Community sings." The Bayonne Ezzo Choral Club grew out of that situation and in 1934 a permanent organization was set up and the first rehearsal was held February 23, 1934. The officers selected for what was to become one of Bayonne's fine groups were:

John O. Scott, President; Stanley A. Wuchter, First Vice-President; John Schaub, Second Vice-President; Joseph Orlouski, Treasurer; Fred J. Schafer, Secretary; Fred Battleson, Jr., Librarian; George Stuck, Director; Paul Norman, Pianist.

A reorganization was perfected in the fall of 1934 and the Club dedicated itself to serious work in the realm of music.

During the past few years many notable events have been given under the leadership of the Association, among them being the appearance of the singers at the World's Fair where they united with the combined clubs Associated Glee Clubs of America with approximately four thousand voices participating. Other notable events of the Association have been such as participation in American Legion Americanization programs, Every Man's Bible Class, Newark, the Bayonne Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the United States Constitution (1937).

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

The Bayonne Esso Association has become one of the outstanding and popular organizations of the city. The Federation is extensively engaged in Welfare, Social Service, Baseball, Bowling, Softball, Basketball, Plant Equipment, Golf and other activities.

The present officers are:

William O. Welch, President; Lawrence J. Cummings, First Vice-President; Fred B. Lauenstein, Second Vice-President; Ernest H. Hurtzig, Treasurer; Joseph F. Senec, Collector; William B. Maloney, Secretary.

### THE BAYONNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bayonne Historical Society was started as a result of the interest engendered by the "Charter Day" celebration of March 19, 1935, the aim of which is collecting, recording and preserving facts relative to the "history" of Bayonne and its predecessors "Bergen Neck" later, the villages of Saltersville (Pamrapo) Bayonne, Centerville, Constable Hook and Bergen Point.

The membership, at present, is a small but earnest coterie, seeking to secure and authenticate information regarding original settlers, noted citizens, churches, clubs (social, athletic and cultural) military organizations, industries and all like factors influencing the progress of the community from the time of the Dutch farmers to the present Industrial City.

It is the aim of the Society to ultimately put at the disposal of the Educational Department of our city, a record of these investigations to the end that the schools may have a reliable source of information regarding our City's history, and the achievements of its citizens, that cannot fail to stimulate an interest and pride in our "Home Town."

### THE UNITED STATES VOLUNTEER LIFE SAVING CORPS

During the year 1938, the United States Volunteer Life Saving Corps., of which Bayonne is the State Headquarters, answered four calls from the Police Department to recover bodies. They rendered assistance to eight persons in distress and aided three boats in need of help.

Two thousand first aid cases were treated and in seventy-nine of them the Corps sent the injured persons to the hospital. On two occasions they removed wreckage from the water which might have been a menace to navigation or the cause of injury to a swimmer.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

They also keep beaches regularly cleaned of glass and rubbish. There was one rescue from drowning in 1938 and oddly enough, it was not made by a member of the Corps, showing even with their splendid record the volunteers do not have a monopoly on the good neighbor spirit.

On August 3, 1937 Joseph Halowenski, 41, of 95 West 45th Street jumped, fully clothed, into Newark Bay to rescue a small boy who had fallen in while crabbing. The name of the lad saved is unknown because with small boy indifference, he ran away while his rescuer was drying his clothes. The small boy had a close call, however, as he was already sinking when Halowenski got to him.

The U. S. Volunteer Life Saving Corps boasts of an able group of men with traditions extending back through forty years—men who are ready to serve day or night, winter or summer, without the fanfare of glory or parades and without one cent of salary.

It is not every man who can become a member of the Corps, however, as its requirements are rigid. There is a little matter of swimming one hundred yards with all of your clothes on, including shoes, and picking up bottom in eight to ten feet of water, which is only one of the tests an aspirant is required to pass. Other tests include swimming a distance of two hundred yards in a swimming suit, the ability to handle a boat and the breaking of three of the grips which drowning men, who are not choosy as to whether they clutch at a straw or at a would-be rescuer, are likely to clamp on the hero with disastrous results to all concerned. So the candidates for the volunteer life saving corps must demonstrate his ability to break these grips and bring his man back alive.

Commodore Fred Keller, acting state director of the corps, is a quiet, taciturn fellow, employed at the General Cable Corporation, who, like his fellow corps members, spends most of his spare time engaged in the splendid pursuit of saving lives and rendering assistance to those in distress. He likes to talk about the corps or to show a visitor the equipment in the headquarters located at City Park Building at the foot of Sixteenth Street on Newark Bay. The headquarters office is an interesting place filled with musty records of the organization and modern well-kept equipment used for rendering first aid to the injured, saving lives or recovering bodies. The equipment includes a diving suit and helmet, an underwater lamp and an air pump and hose. There are also grappling hooks and a motor used when a motor boat is called for. Money for the gear is sup-



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

plied through an appropriation by the city. Beside Commodore Keller, the corps has five other commodores including Joe Holloran, Leo Kale, Otton Christerson, John Magara and Jack Cranpton. There are four captains, each in charge of a station. Bob Haley heads the City Park Station; Richard Keller is in charge of the station on Kill van Kull; Edward Flannagan is captain of Pavonia and Jack Kemple runs the Bayview station.

### BAYONNE ORGANIZATIONS

Acme Club; Adelphi Link No. 7 Order Golden Chain; Alpha Club; Alpha Gamma Chi Sorority of St. Henry's Catholic Women's Assn.; Alpha "R" Club Chapter 97 of the Federated Russian Orthodox Clubs of America. American Legion: Fred MacKenzie Post No. 165 and Ladies Auxiliary, Peter E. Leddy Post, Bayonne Post No. 19; American Lithuanian Citizens Club; Ancient Order of Hibernians; A.O.U.W. Lodge No. 109; Athena Club.

Babcock & Wilcox Employees Assn.; Bay Y Club (Girl Reserve Dept. Y.W.C.A.) Bayonne Aerie No. 604 Eagles F.O.E., Bayonne Aid Progressive Assn.; Bayonne Bar Assn.; Bayonne Battery Dealers Assn.; Bayonne Boy Scout Council; Bayonne Boy Scout Council (Woman's Auxiliary); Bayonne Boy's Club (Colored); Bayonne Chamber of Commerce; Bayonne Democratic Club; Bayonne Republican Club; Bayonne Council for Preservation of Americanism; Bayonne Council of Social Agencies; Bayonne Dentist's Assn.; Bayonne Esso Choral Society; Bayonne Girl Scouts Council; Bayonne Grocers Assn.; Bayonne Hebrew Benovolent Assn.; Bayonne Hospital Alumni; Bayonne Hospital and Dispensary; Bayonne Hospital Board Women's Auxiliary - Bayonne Hospital Guild; Bayonne League of Woman Voters; Bayonne Liquor Dealers Assn.; Bayonne Maennerchor; Bayonne Masonic Club; Bayonne Medical Society; Bayonne Pharmaceutical Assn.; Bayonne Real Estate Board; Bayonne Rentpayers & Taxpayers Assn.; Bayonne Schoolmen's Club; Bayonne Symphony Orchestra; Bayonne Teacher's Assn.; Bayonne Wheelman Assn.; Bayonne Woman's Club; Bayonne Woman's Glee Club; Bayonne Choral Society; Bayonne B.P.O.E. No. 434 (and Ladies Guild); Bayonne B'nos. Sfard Free Loan Society; Bayonne Board of Education; Bayonne Braemar No. 36 Daughters of Scotia; Broadway Merchants Assn.; Business Girls Club (Y.W.C.A.).

Carpatho - Russian American Citizens Club; Carpenters Union

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Local No. 383; Catholic Daughters of America, Court of Isabella No. 202; Catholic Nurses Assn.; Citizens Patriotic Observance Committee; Civic Council of United Service Clubs; College Club; Companions of the Forest, Star of Winfield Circle No. 880; Connaughtmen's Assn. - Ladies' Auxiliary; County Corkmen's B. P. & P. Assn.

Daughters of America, Loyalty Council No. 38; Daughters of America, Star of Bayonne Council No. 26; Daughters of American Revolution, Kill van Kill Chapter; Daughters of Isabella, Joan of Arc Circle; Daughters of Israel; Day Nursery; Disabled American Veterans Assn. Post. No. 5; Downtown Democratic Club; Downtown Ladies Democratic Club.

Employees Assn. Inc. (Tide Water Oil Co.).

Federation of Veterans Assn.; First Ward Ladies' Democratic Club; Foremen's Club; Foresters of America Winfield Court; F. & A. M. Lodge No. 99; F. O. Eagles, Aerie No. 604; Free Public Library.

George Metro Assn.; Girls Friendly Club; Good Cheer Circle; G. A. R. Mansfield Post No. 22.

Hadassah Bayonne Chapter; Happy Workers; Hebrew Ladies' Aid Society; Holy Name Society of Assumption Church; Holy Name Society of St. Mary's R. C. Church; Hudson County Tuberculosis League, Bayonne Auxiliary (inactive).

I.O.O.F. Mt. Vernon Lodge No. 176; I.O.R.M. Pamrapaugh Tribe No. 187; Independent Political Club; Italian American Democratic Club.

Jewish War Veterans; Jewish Welfare Board; John J. O'Donnell Assn.; Jos. Bailey Close Chapter - National Society Daughters of Union 1861-1865; Joseph J. Topoleski Assn.; Joyce Herbert Post No. 226 - (Auxiliary V.F.W. No. 226).

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Daughters Unit Joyce Herbert Auxiliary No. 226.

Judean Buds; Junior Chamber of Commerce; Jr. Debs of Girl Reserves; Jr. Hadassah; Jr. League of Hebrew Orphans Home; Jr. League of Temple Emanuel; Jr. O.U.A.M. Bayonne Council No. 119; Jr. O. U.A.M. Peninsula Council No. 251; Jr. O.U.A.M. Kill van Kull Council No. 170; Junior Woman's Club

Kiwanis Club; Knights of Columbus, Star of the Sea Council No. 371; Knights of Pythias, Arion Lodge No. 68.

Labor Lyceum; Ladies' Aid Progressive Assn.; Ladies' Auxiliary

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

of the Assn. of Exempt Firemen; Liederkrantz Society; L.O.O. Moose Lodge No. 572.

Menorah Lodge No. 249 F. & A. M.; Men's Club (5th Street Reformed Church); Ministerial Assn.; Modern Priscillas; Mt. Carmel Guild; Mt. Carmel Lyceum; Mt. Carmel Parent Teachers Assn.; Municipal Christmas Tree; Mutual Culture Club.

National Assn. Letter Carriers Branch No. 22; National Council Jewish Juniors No. 671; National Council Jewish Women, Bayonne Section.

Odd Fellows Lodge No. 34; Ohab Sholem; Ohab Zedek; Order of Amaranth Bayonne Court No. 26; Order of De Molay, Accolade Chapter; O.E.S. Fern Chapter No. 188; O.E.S. Bayonne Chapter No. 21; Faith Assembly No. 26 (Rainbow Girls); O.S.C. Clan MacKay No. 201.

Palm Rebekah Lodge No. 34; Parent Teachers Assn. (Horace Mann School) (Washington School); P.O.S. of A. (Patriotic Sons) Washington Camp No. 151; Patrolmen's Benevolent Assn.; Pelican Athletic Club; Pequona Craft No. 46; Pocahontas Pequonia Council No. 115; Polish American Chamber of Commerce; Polish American Citizens Club; Polish American Citizens Club, Ladies' Auxiliary; Polish American Democratic Club; Polish American Veterans Assn.; Polish American Women's League, Inc.; Polish Women's Political Club of the First Ward, Inc.

Red Cross; Republican Veterans Assn.; Rex. Political Club; Roosevelt Rep. Club; Rotary Club; Royal Arcanum No. 695.

St. Henry's Catholic Women's Assn.; St. Henry's National Council of Catholic Women; St. Joseph's Lyceum; St. Theresa Club; St. Stephen, the King, Branch No. 36 of the First Catholic Slovak Union; Salvation Army; Second Ward Civic Club; Senior American Hungarian Welfare Club; Senior World Wide Guild; Sicilian Citizen's Club; 16 D - 1 W Democratic Worker's Assn.; Slavish American Political Club; Slovak Welfare & Political Club; Slowacky Club & Echo Choir; Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children; S. of B. Star of Nativity; Sons of America, Camp No. 50; Sons of Veterans, Phil Sheridan Camp No. 13; Spanish American City Club; Spanish War Veterans, Geradin Camp.

Temple Emanuel; Temple Emanuel Sisterhood; Third Ward Ladies' Democratic Club; Third Ward Polish American Citizen's Club; Third Ward Regular Democratic Club; Third Ward Rod & Gun Club, Inc.; Thrift Shop.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Ukrainian Workingmen's Assn. Branch No. 167; United Hebrew Congregation; United Sons of Erin; Uptown Business Men's Assn. Uptown Cultural Club.

Veritas Club; Veritas Club, Ladies' Auxiliary; Visiting Nurse Assn.

Welfare Committee; Woman's Musical and Literary Study Club; Woman's Political Study Club; Women's Alliance of America; W. C. T. U. No. 1 Bayonne Branch; W. C. T. U. No. 2; Woman's Club of Garden Apartments; Woman's Home Missionary Society; Woman's Hoover Club; Woman's New Deal Republican Club of Bayonne; Woman's Republican League; Women's Social of Bergen Point Baptist Church; Workmen's Circle, Branch No. 46; Workmen's Civil League.

Young Judea; Y.M.C.A. - 33rd Street, Industrial, (and Ladies Aid); Y.M.H.A.; Young People's Social (Bergen Point Baptist Church); Y.W.C.A.; Young Woman's Club of First Presbyterian Church.

Zionist District, Zonta Club.





## CHAPTER XXIV.

### LOCAL PERSONALITIES WHO MADE GOOD

The Famous Firsts: Lighthouses: Landmarks, Old-Timers, The Governor Parker Pen: Dr. George W. Mellor Sets Example for Patriotism: The Old Safe in the City Hall: The Passing of the Hooper-Coopers: City Officials of the City of Bayonne for 1940.

DVORA NADWORNEY: Formerly of 51st Street was under contract with the Chicago Civic Opera Co. and sang over WEAf as guest artist with San Carlo Opera Co. She also sang feature role of Azucena in "Il Trovatore" for San Carlo Opera Co. at Century Theatre. On September 15, 1921, she sang before Vice President Dawes at the Radio Industry of America Banquet, grouped with Mary Lewis and Reinald Werrenrath.

FLORENCE HENDRICKSON: Of 31st Street, is among Bayonne singers who has won renown in musical world. She possesses a splendid contralto voice and for a number of years was soloist at 5th Avenue Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City and also the Orange Presbyterian Church. She is a member of the Public School Faculty.

HANS BARTH: Lived on Willow Street at one time and played before the Athena Club and some of the other musical clubs in the City. Today he is ranked among the noted pianists.

VIRGINIA AND SUSANNE NOONAN: Daughters of the late Thomas F. Noonan, made fame in Hollywood in the movies as Sally O'Neill and Mollie O'Day. Sally O'Neill is at present playing on Broadway in the cast of "When We are Married", starring Alison Skipworth.

ALFRED BRICK: Who rode about town in a racing car, made fame by stunt flying for Fox Brothers in Hollywood and today is an expert camera man. He formerly lived on 38th Street.

BILL BACHER: With degrees of Dentist, Lawyer and Architect made great success in Hollywood in radio programs.

VICTOR HERMAN: Had the honor of lecturing at Columbia University on Puppetry on Dec. 3, 1932. He is the youngest puppeteer in America and only boy to pursue this unique hobby in Bayonne.

LOUISE BAVE: January, 1926, the Bayonne Woman's Club presented a Concert in the High School at which time music lovers had the rare opportunity of hearing Miss Louise Bave, Coloratura Soprano of New York City and a former Bayonne girl. Miss Bave studied abroad and had her debut in Milan, Italy, where she was called the "American Nightingale."

VIRGINIA RICHARDS: In 1929 Mrs. Virginia Richards made her Metropolitan Debut in Steinway Hall, accompanied at the piano by Myrtle Aldridge. The N. Y.

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Times said, "The Singer showed substantial gifts of natural musicianship, a low voice, rich and velvety in the mezzo register and skill in controlling its high tones." Her selections were, "Addio" from "La Boheme" and "Debussys delightful "Beau Soir".

MARGARET BRADY: Of 94 West 35th Street organ pupil of Prof. James P. Dunn, made her debut in February 1928 as a concert organist at the Wanamaker Auditorium in N. Y. C. Her pleasing manner won her audience from the start and the applause was spontaneous.

HELEN M. WAKEFIELD: Pianist, made her debut on Dec. 1, 1931 in a recital at Steinway Hall in New York City. She appeared, not as an untried student, but as a musician, who had taught in the New York University and the University of Virginia, given lecture-recitals for the young and published original part songs for women's voices. The audience was a large one and there were many friendly tributes of flowers. Apart from good technical precision, Miss Wakefield, pleased her crowded house, both through her gracious manner on the stage and a poise of ripe musicianship in her playing, alike in melodious classic arrangements and in the tone pictures of the realists of today.

TRUSIANA MARINELLA: Young local soprano and

HELEN M. WAKEFIELD: Concert pianist and instructor of music at Bayonne Senior High School were heard March 1, 1940 in a program of Italian music at the Anderson House in Washington, D. C. The concert was sponsored by the Italy-America Society of Washington and was attended by members of the Italian Embassy. Miss Marinella presented three groups of songs accompanied by Miss Wakefield. Miss Wakefield was heard in two groups of piano selections.

MICHAEL BEZZEG: Made his debut on April 21, 1936 at a classical concert sponsored by the German Society for Literature and Arts at the New York Turn Hall. Assisting the violinist were Carlo Martinelli, lyric-tenor, formerly with Columbia Broadcasting System and St. Michaels Monastery in Union City and Richard Cameron, Concert Pianist of Washington, D. C. Mr. Bezzeg, who is the former Assistant Concert Master of the Prague Symphony Orchestra and a former member of the La Scala Opera Orchestra in Milan, opened his recital with Bach's Sarabande in D and Caprice by Paganini, which were enthusiastically received.

FRANCIS R. POPE: Of 20 East 38th Street has exhibited many of his paintings at various places. His latest painting "Sunlight and Flowers" will be shown in the Museum of the State House in Trenton in April 1940 and it was previously shown in New York.

BEN BERNIE: Started life in Bayonne and today is one of the top notch band leaders and entertainers in the country appearing on the stage, on the screen and on the radio.

JACOB J. GAINS: Of 880 Boulevard has the distinction of exhibiting one of his oil paintings in the 114th annual show of the National Academy at its galleries at 215 West 57th Street, New York City, in April 1940.

HOWARD W. OSBAHR: While only nineteen years of age, has already made a name for himself far beyond the limits of Bayonne. He is a member of the Lenz

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Club and has been honored for his production of "Why" which is 14 inches by 17 inches in size and has been displayed in the Pictorial Photographers of America in the Museum of Modern History, New York City and also in Pittsburgh. He expects to make Photography his life work.

FRANK CURRIER: Who was an actor living in Bayonne, married Ada Dow who trained Julia Marlowe, later went into movies and played with Nazimova and also played the part of the Italian Organ Grinder in "The Poor Little Rich Girl."

ARTHUR KALLET: The author of many books, among them, "One Hundred Million Guinea Pigs" lived in Bayonne and married Miss Boston.

MRS. MARY ANTOINETTE DE NAVARRO: Now residing in England, who will be remembered best as Mary Anderson the beautiful and artistic young American actress ingenue interpreter of Wm. Shakespeare's girl characters and creator of similar roles, against who no scandalous story was ever breathed, lived in Bayonne, while still a girl, in the Third Ward east of the New Jersey Central Railroad tracks.

JULIA MARLOWE: Child of theatrical folk and born in England. She was christened Sarah Frances Front but when performing in juvenile parts during her early teens she was called Fanny Brough. She was brought to Bayonne by Ada Dow, a well-known English actress who continuously tutored her in strenuous study for several years while living here. And when the girl made her debut as "Parthena" in "Ingomer" in the Bijou Theatre, New York City, the specially invited included about a score of Bayonnites.

ROSE EYTINGE: Famous several decades ago as the creator of many parts and an impersonator of Shakespeare's heroines, Pearl Eytinge whose beauty aided her in establishing a reputation as an accomplished stage favorite and Belle Archer, an English actress of fair repute, all resided in Bergen Point.

WILLIAM FERGUSON: A prominent leading man in numerous companies and character role performer remembered as the originator of "Capt. Redfern, the detective" in "Jim the Penman".

FRITZ NOLAN: A Bayonne boy, a first class variety or vaudeville actor.

MAJOR ALLEN C. REDWOOD: Once an officer in the Confederate Army and artist who made his home for a number of years on the Newark Bay shore at Bergen Point.

ARCHIBALD GUNN: A portrait and figure painter and popular newspaper cartoonist.

GEO. B. LUME: British born caricaturist for newspapers and periodicals.

KIRK ESTEY: Who was very clever with his pencil at cartoons and sketches.

CHAS. W. TREMBLEY: A sculptor resided at Bergen Point.

SOL EYTINGE: Originator of many humorous sketches which had a constant sale when produced as colored lithographs. He was for a long time a favorite artist of the Harper Bros. publications.

JOHN C. MCRAE: Native of Scotland accounted one of the most expert and artistic engravers in America. His group pictures were especially admired.



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A. CARY SMITH: Resident of the 3rd Ward noted as Marine artist and designer of fast sailing yachts and other pleasure craft.

PATRICK AND CORNELIUS MCGIEHAN: Modelers and builders of small boats of remarkable speed.

PHILIP ELSWORTH: Recognized as an expert designer of yachts which won hundreds of trophies at sailing regattas and in long distance races with his brother.

JOE ELSWORTH: Who, in 1885, piloted the Puritan with British Genesta in International yachting prize the America's Challenge cup.

MARGARET WINSHIP EYTINGE: Whose nom de plume was "Madge Elliot", wife of Sol Eytinge the artist. Her hundreds of stories and poems appeared in scores of magazines and newspapers.

MARY STUART CUTTING: Wife of Chas. Weed Cutting and daughter of Brigadier-Gen. U. Doubleday, her mother's maiden name having been Mary Stewart. The Cutting-Doubleday families lived for a considerable period at Bergen Point. Mrs. Cutting won her literary reputation with "Little Stories of Courtship" "Heart of Lynn", etc.

SOPHIE BLEDSOE HERRICK: Of Schuyler Place who for many years was editorial writer for the Scribner and Century Co. publications.

DOROTHY FICKEN: The originator of "Sunny Jim" and similar novelties in advertising and designing.

FRANK N. BARRET: Editor of the American Grocer.

GEORGE W. HATCH: Editor of an insurance periodical.

DOUGLAS ZABRISKIE DOTY: Writer of short stories and fairly good poetry. Editor of and reader of monthly magazines.

EDWARD GARDNER, SR.: Editor of Bayonne Times, who conducted during his long editorial career various weekly papers in New Jersey and New York.

HENRY C. PAGE: Of the Bayonne Herald with like experience.

ALEX CROMBIE HUMPHRIES: While living in the first Ward served as school trustee and who was for considerable period President of the faculty of Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken.

WILLIAM H. JASPER: Before being appointed to public school in New York lived here.

COL. CHAS. W. FULLER: Soldier, lawyer, politician and post-prandial orator was New Jersey Supt. of public instruction.

PROF. JAMES G. MONAGHAN: Was another educator and publicist who resided in the Bergen Point Section.

JACK DUNN: A member of the Centerville Athletic Club which was a semi-pro baseball club developed first rate players, later became the owner of the Baltimore team from whose camp came the famous Babe Ruth.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

**OCTAVUS ROY COHEN:** The famous author of detective stories at one time lived on West 32nd Street. From 1910 to 1912 he wrote for the Bayonne Times and Newark Morning Star.

**JOHN AND WILLIAM MOODY:** The two brothers who compiled Moody Investors Service Manuals so useful today in Bayonne. Zeta Abbott married William Moody.

**JACOB GINSBERG:** Was the first artist to exhibit at the Bayonne Library May 26, 1938. He was the winner of cash prizes and of a medal from the National Academy of Design. His display was of oil paintings, etchings and portraits of children. Member of N. Y. Artist's Union.

**MAURICE ABRAMSON:** Of 729 Avenue A was also a prize winner. He painted a picture in the Public Library from James Trusloe Adams "Epic of America", caricaturist for New Theatre and Film Magazine of New York.

**PAUL J. KLOPSCH:** Of 43 West 53rd Street has made many chemical discoveries and is known throughout the chemical world. He invented synthetic marble from which such products as book ends, etc. are made, cigarette trays, lamp bases, novelty boxes and many other things which are sold under the trade name "Gemstone" art products.

**LOUIS R. FERRARO:** Who has won fame as an artist on the concert stage as a nationally known violinist. For three successive years he carried off first prize of \$100. at Kneisel's Music Colony at Blue Hills, Vt. He has given concerts in Aeolian Hall and is now second soloist in the Roxy Theatre orchestra and also conducts a studio at 148 West 72nd Street, New York, where he now lives having married Miss Mary Lubbock a contralto.

**SAMUEL M. CRAWFORD:** Of this city invented a device claimed to prevent disasters on submarines.

**HARRY EDDY:** Is a well known artist of the day and at one time resided on Avenue C and 36th Street. He gives annual exhibit of his works in New York at various galleries and specializes in landscapes in oil

**DR. GRAY:** Who invented explosives used by the Russians in the World War, lived on Avenue C.

**ELSIE FERGUSON:** Who became famous on the stage lived on the southeast corner of Linden Street near Avenue A. The house she occupied is still standing. At that time her father, was the oldest surviving actor of the play "Our American Cousins" which President Lincoln saw the night he was assassinated in Ford's Theatre.

### THE FAMOUS FIRSTS

Dr. William H. Mitchell was a canoe enthusiast and was the first man to circumnavigate Bayonne in a canoe.

At the Old Shore House at the foot of the Boulevard on the Kills, William Donnell was the chef and the first man in this country to steam clams.

## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

Henry Meigs, Jr. who was interested in rifle shooting, which was one of the sports of that day, produced the first cartridge which used a center contact instead of the entire outside rim. It was the first in the United States.

The Tide Water Oil Company, in the early days, had a chain bucket conveyor with which to fight fires and it was supposed to be the first chain bucket convey in the country.

Solon Humphreys originated the trunk line system which was applied to railroads.

Mr. Welsbach on Eighth Street, experimented with and produced the Welsbach gas light burner.

Dr. Parmely, was the first maker of enamel artificial teeth.

Abney Doubleday originated the game of baseball and the announcement of the invention came from and has always been claimed by Cooperstown, New York, but Doubleday experimented with it while living in Bayonne, before going Cooperstown. He also planned the baseball "Diamond."

The Standard Oil Company brought in the first of the oil pipes to pump large quantities of oil, rather than having it delivered by rail or otherwise.

Henry Winterhalter was the first man to produce a mechanical, automatic oil barrel filler. This had a trick trigger arrangement which caused the oil to cease flowing when the barrel was full.

Monel metal was first produced in a small experimental shop in Bayonne.

William Donnelly and some others, who were playing football at a time when the drop kick was the only kick that was known to football, used the place kick before the football teams began to use it.

Captain Seabury of the United States Navy, who lived on West Eighth Street, invented the Seabury Breech Block for guns.

Mr. William A. Eddy, whose residence was 32 East 3rd Street, invented what is known as the box type of kite, the highest flight of which was made in 1893, reaching an altitude of 5,595 feet for the first time in the world's history. On December 5, 1895, a telephone and telegraph message was sent by wires attached to his kites up in



1. Muller's Tavern, Broadway at 47th Street.
2. Hogan Home, 16 Silver Street.
3. Bronze Elk in yard of Strohoefer Home, 813 Avenue C.
4. Dr. George W. Mellor's Home, 899 Avenue C.
5. "Black Boy" hitching-post in front of Dr. Mellor's home.
6. The Diamond Home.
7. Captain Robert Fish's original home, 98 East 44th Street.





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the air. Because of this the U. S. Government (Military) commandeered him and his kites as signalling medium.

Admiral S. F. duPont invented the repair ship at sea, which was called "the floating machine shop."

### LIGHTHOUSES

"Lighthouses are the altar lamps of Integrity, burning before the sacrament of commerce," Captain Felix Reisenberg, noted American authority on shipping, declares in his book, "Standard Seamanship for the Merchant Marine."

Danger shoals, prominent land marks on which the mariner can take bearings, and jagged rocks on which a fog-bound vessel might come to grief are marked with buoys, lightships and lighthouses. In addition to welcome beams of light, stabbing through the dark of night, the lightships and houses send regular radio signals and in thick weather sound sirens or fog horns to warn the mariner of danger.

On August 7, 1889, the first United States Congress in the Ninth Act which it passed provided that lighthouses, etc., which had previously been erected and maintained by the various colonies, be henceforth supported by the Federal Government.

Bayonne, ideally situated to become a prominent seaport, will, with the continued arrival of the world's water-born commerce, become increasingly lighthouse minded.

Ships approaching this port from Europe will be likely to take their first bearings from the Nantucket Shoals Lightship located about 194 miles east of Ambrose Light, which marks the entrance to New York harbor. If bound for the Port Terminal they will pass Robbins Reef Light before reaching their destination.

The Bergen Point Lighthouse in the Kills, now in its eighty-first year of service, is another famed light which guides ships safely to Bayonne's waterfront and is an invaluable aid to tankers arriving at night or in foggy weather. This lighthouse is just 50 feet off the New York-New Jersey line. Solid and trim Bergen Point Light stands upon an historic rock ledge at the junction of Newark Bay and Kill van Kull. The lighthouse keeper, Hans Beuthe and his wife, Marie, suffer no loneliness at home in the Kills having lived there since 1921. Their domain is a perfect circle about 60 feet in diameter with a 54 foot light tower made of concrete and a six room

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frame house, two and a half stories high. Around the outer edge of the circle is the lighthouse promenade, a four foot walk.

Their mail is delivered to Staten Island and they have to row to shore for their groceries and supplies. They like this life because it is quiet. Mr. Beuthe tells about a time when the bay was frozen and he could walk to shore.

There is neither gas nor electricity in the house and their radio is operated with a storage battery. They use kerosene lamps and drink rain water caught in casks and pumped into the kitchen. Some years ago a furnace and steam heat were installed. The same powerful lamp with the same two powerful lenses, made in Paris, France, and installed in 1858 still furnish the light, although in recent years an innovation has been the substitution of an oil vapor system for kerosene lighting. The result is a 5,000 candlepower glow, brighter than an electric globe, which alternates between five seconds of light and five seconds of darkness. Beside the light is a huge bell which tolls a mournful tune every 15 seconds in foggy weather—a tune that doesn't disturb the sleep of the Beuthes.

Mr. Beuthe went to sea when a boy of 14 and in 1898 came to this country from his native Germany. During his years on the sea he visited every important port in the world on picturesque old square-riggers like those that greeted old Bergen Point Light 80 years ago. From these adventures, he moved to the more prosaic life aboard pilot boats in New York harbor, then to lightships and finally to that tiny speck of Bayonne that is so far away from and yet so much a part of this peninsula.

Dennis McCashin was the last lighthouse keeper of the Lehigh Valley Lighthouse in Newark Bay. Mr. McCashin was a veteran of the Civil War and when he died in 1912 his wife, who was a second cousin of President McKinley, and son ran it for a time but the government demolished the house and installed a light run by motor which is there now.

### LANDMARKS - OLD-TIMERS - THE GOVERNOR PARKER PEN ONE LITTLE PICKANINNY CITY'S MOST PICTURESQUE LANDMARK

Grinning "Black Boy" has adorned his corner for many years. He holds his place, unmoved an inch, and watches Bayonne's "Big Parade" from his grand stand in front of the home of Dr. George W. Mellor at 899 Avenue C and 41st Street.

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Every winter during the past years he has stood there in his bare feet, chest exposed through unbuttoned shirt, while the wind and snow sends men and women scurrying past him to their homes. Babies reach from their carriages to wave kisses to him, small boys delight in spitting in his face and kicking him in the shins, the sun beats down on his head, big boys play leap frog over him, men under the influence of liquor have argued with him and cursed him—but kissed and kicked, through winter and summer, "Black Boy" maintains his calm indifference.

"Black Boy" is undoubtedly the best known little statue in the city. He is said to be the only hitching post left in Bayonne. There is hardly a man, woman or child, who has lived in the uptown section, who does not know him. Everyone is attracted by the cast iron colored boy with his right arm extended in the air, by which he held many a Dobbin and Bess in the days of horses and buggies.

One use which Black Boy serves, and to which he is just as faithful as that of holding troublesome horses, is that of a direction post. Many years ago when the Pavonia Yacht Club was located on Forty-first Street and New York Bay and attracted many people from all parts of the metropolitan district, the directions given to the new comer always was, "get off the trolley car at "Black Boy." Everyone in the neighborhood gives his friends the same direction. Some years ago, when Dr. Mellor moved the statue to the side of his home, there was a general wave of friendly protest, with the result that "Black Boy" took up his old stand again.

Like all other famous land marks, he has had numerous interesting experiences. About three o'clock, one morning several years ago, Dr. Mellor was awakened by a noise in front of his home. Looking out he saw three men desperately trying to get Black Boy into a cart to carry him away. The doctor foiled the attempted theft and anyone who would attempt to steal Black Boy now is advised to bring along a derrick. It is cemented in the ground and weighs three hundred pounds. Many times boys had attempted to break off the right arm with baseball bats but the sting to the boys' hands is always more injurious than that suffered by Black Boy. There may be other hitching posts in Bayonne that have seen the dirt roads become passe, and likewise gas lamps but it is doubtful if there is one in the entire city as well known and as well liked as "Black Boy."



## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

### DR. MELLOR SETS EXAMPLE FOR AMERICANS IN DISPLAYING FLAG ON NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

On October 21, 1939, The Bayonne *Times* acclaimed Dr. George W. Mellor as public citizen No. 1, citing him for his patriotism. With the word patriotism heard so frequently in these days of war, Americans are thinking more about their country's history than ever before.

The Bayonne *Times* cited the prominent dentist as one of those who never fails to unfurl the flag on the holidays. The dentist's record is something outstanding, for he has been hoisting the banner in front of his home at the northwest corner of Forty-first Street and Avenue C since first coming to Bayonne, many years ago. Each time that Dr. Mellor has brought out the red, white and blue bunting, he has done so with a feeling of enthusiasm, for, in his own words, he is a "great believer in civic pride."

### THE BRONZE DEER

The bronze deer on the lawn of the late Dr. Field's home, which is located on Avenue C and Thirty-sixth Street is indeed a landmark and the property is often referred to "as the house with the deer in the yard." This well known house has stood for a long time and the late Killeen Strohoefer lived in it for many years. It is now occupied by one of his sons, Francis K. Strohoefer, Principal of Henry E. Harris School.

### OLD CHERRY TREE 75 YEARS OF AGE

Beauty always leaves a memento and, this time, it's an old cherry tree standing in the grounds of a private home owner on Broadway and Second Street where it once was skirted by parties of guests bound for the old La Tourette Hotel. The tree is 75 years old and still bears cherries. It is the only ghost of the old days, when Bayonne was a flourishing center of gayety and social life, known for miles around.

### LAST OF BAYONNE'S VIRGIN OAK TREE FOREST

Between Tenth and Eleventh Streets on the Boulevard there is an old oak tree, which is about 200 years old and represents the last of Bayonne's virgin oak tree forest.

### THE OLD DIAMOND HOME

Miss Jennie Diamond who is 84 years old, and her brother Frank, 71 years old, live in the house where they were born. This house

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stands facing the Old Plank Road and the address is 90 West Forty-eighth Street. It was built by their father, 85 years ago, is of architectural design of that period, brown shingled and weather beaten. Their radio runs on batteries because there is no electricity in the house and the old couple think electricity unnecessary. Oil lamps are used throughout the house which has low ceilings and small windows and originally comprised only one floor. But about 60 years ago the house was enlarged so that there are now four rooms downstairs and three upstairs. One goes outside to get into the cellar, and a stove still stands in the living room. The house stands on what was once known as Salter's Farm and Miss Diamond says, that when she was a little girl, Bayonne was nothing but a little village called Saltersville, later called Pamrapo. There were two other villages at that time, Centerville and Bergen Point. The Hook belonged to the Van Buskirk family.

In the early days the stage coaches passed the house going from Jersey City to Bergen Point, and all the surrounding country was woods. Mullaney's post office was nearby.

Miss Diamond is never lonesome because she is surrounded by books and she enjoys sewing. She just finished making a patchwork quilt, no two pieces of which are alike. It is composed of more than 500 pieces. The quilt is a "double-wedding ring." Frank does all the heavy work, repairing the house, makes the fires, carries off the ashes, chops wood and, in the summer time, does the gardening. Both are extremely agile at handicraft work.

Miss Diamond went to the little red schoolhouse, which had as its teacher the father of Counsellor R. Lewis Kennedy, but she never went to high school as they didn't have any in those days. She joined reading classes and majored in history and later earned a degree in history from the Chautauqua Society of which she was a member. For forty years she taught Sunday School in the Forty-sixth Street Methodist Church where she has held membership since the first church was built. She was president for a time of the Ladies' Aid Society.

Their father, James Diamond, was a wheelwright and blacksmith and, at one time, had a shop on the old Plank Road near the old house but later moved to Fortieth Street and Broadway.

## THE HOGAN HOME

The Hogan home, which was built in 1866 at 16 Silver Street, was constructed by Sam Mowry for Matthew Hogan when he returned

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from the Civil War, where he was connected with the 88th Irish Brigade in the Union Army. The house looks just the same today from the front as when it was built but there have been several additions on the back and improvements have been made inside.

William Hogan, former Freeholder for Hudson County, was born in this house three years after it was built and he still lives in it with his eleven children who were also born there. Members of three generations live in the old homestead. The trees that used to line the sidewalks thickly are gone and asphalt has replaced the dirt road in front. The country area west of Broadway has grown into a district alive with people, houses and stores.

### THE OLD SAFE IN THE CITY HALL

A safe, built almost a century ago, is still in use in the City Hall, although it is hardly as important an adjunct today as it was when first purchased by the city.

Built of iron, the safe is about five feet high and a little more than four feet wide and occupies an inconspicuous corner in the huge vault, built a number of years ago in order to safeguard the many volumes of valuable city records which the City Clerk has in his charge.

There is no record as to just how long the city has owned the safe, but it probably was in use long before Bayonne was incorporated as a city in 1869. City Treasurer, John Ryan, veteran city official, is of the opinion that it was used by all the city clerks, starting with F. I. Smith, the first township clerk; William C. Hamilton, who filled the office of city clerk for more than 40 years; the late William P. Lee who served about 20 years; Police Chief C. J. O'Neill, who resigned as city clerk to assume his present position, down to the present incumbent. No combination is needed to open this safe, as it is opened by inserting a key in a very narrow slot in one of the doors. The safe was patented in 1823, but according to the lettering on the two picturesque panels on the two doors, it was built in 1842. Each panel shows a clerk in a high silk hat and the formal office attire of the day standing alongside the safe, while another clerk kneels before the open safe, with a heavy chain connecting it to a stanchion. A small boy sits idly by holding a hoop, while a laborer is seen at work nearby and in the right hand corner two firemen are pictured battling a blaze in a building.

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"Patent, Salamander Safe, New York 1842 Rich & Co.'s. Improved, A. S. Marvin, Agent, 138½ Water Street, New York," reads the lettering on the panels, which have been gilted. The safe, originally black, has been painted a maroon color.

There are two knobs on the doors, with a bar that can be bolted to further protect the contents of the safe. On each side is a handle bar to make it easier to shift the safe.

Inside is a small strong box, which is opened with a key. Flower designs are painted on the inside of the two heavy doors and are believed to be the original designs placed there when the safe was built.

Probably, in the early days of the city, it was large enough to hold all the official papers and any monies that were collected, but with the growth of the city, it plays a very insignificant role alongside the huge safes and vault now in use in the City Hall.

Safes were a trifle more ornate in the days when this one was made, and as the years have rolled by, office equipment and articles that really are needed to give service, have become very plain and simple.

### THE PASSING OF THE OLD "HOOPER-COOPERS"

The days of the "hooper--coopers" rough, rollicking days when men sang songs of brawn and drank their beer in pails-full are now thrown further into the limbo of the past, as the landmark of the Standard Oil Company plant in Constable Hook was closed in February 1939. It was the old factory where wooden barrels were made and, full of oil, were stored in full-rigged ships that came from all parts of the world and stood in long rows at the Hook piers.

Use of the wooden barrels began to dwindle in the early 1900's with the entry of steel barrels, and drums and tanker ships, but the Standard Oil Company continued to manufacture them and also sold them to other firms. However, the company was unable to keep the factory in operation principally because of competition from other barrel firms where lower wage scales prevail. The job of eliminating the factory was completed in April of 1939.

The old barrel factory filled an important niche in the building of the great oil plant in the Hook and some of the men who worked there in the early days, and today are retired or at work in other jobs, will tell you that muscle counted in that job.

The factory, a two story brick building, was erected in the early 1880's with John Wiggans as first superintendent and sometimes there



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were as many as 500 or more men at work there. The daily output of the barrels, which were of 50 gallon capacity, usually ran over 5,000 and they were put up in high stacks to await use.

The wood for the barrels came from the West and was dried in a large kiln at the factory. It was then passed on to joiners who made the staves and next the staves were placed on barrel moulders and held in shape by iron hoops. The barrels were then turned over fires for further drying and to prevent leakage and, after glueing and riveting, were ready for the headers who fitted the tops and bottoms on them. Finishing touches were put on the barrels by the "hooper-coopers" who knocked off the preliminary hoops and replaced them with special iron hoops. In the beginning, the workers drove on the hoops with sledge hammers but this method was later discarded in favor of machine drivers. The "hooper-coopers" were principally Hungarian and Slavic workers who possessed a special knack for the business. In the early days they were paid thirteen cents each for every barrel they turned out. Boys were often hired to help them. These men were a hardy lot and they liked their beer, which in those days, sold for seven cents a pint. There's a favorite story told that some of the "hooper-coopers" used to trade their barrels at a nickel apiece to Old Pat Gannon, a popular worker at the factory. Thus, the coopers were able to get their beer without waiting for their pay, while Gannon made a neat profit on the deals.

They once staged a "Strike" at a saloon near the plant where the owner raised the price of the beer to ten cents. To show how they felt about it, the barrel workers rowed over to Staten Island, where the price was still low, and brought their "suds" back to the Bayonne shore. It is also said that about the time of the "strike" they decided they had been spending too much of their money in taverns so they pooled their cash and bought a saloon of their own.

One of the old-timers who worked in the barrel factory and who remembered the days vividly, was Thomas Warnock, who was retired as fire chief from the Standard in 1938. Deputy Chiefs Wm. F. Garrity and Thos. E. Fitzmaurice of the city fire department also spent their early days in the Hook with Warnock.

And some of the men, recalling those days, tell that former Mayor L. F. Donohoe was a crackerjack at piling barrels at the factory. Supt. John J. Rigney of the police department's bureau of identification also showed "steam" in handling the barrels, so the story goes.

There were lots of others well known at the factory in former

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years. Among them were the Miller boys, Jess, Pete and Ray; Charles Agel, Sam Levine, Dave Grossman, Tommy Halpern, John Norgent, Tim Barrett and Fred Schaefer. They, and the others, all made up a grand lot; you can take it from the old-timers, because they know.

### THE GOVERNOR PARKER PEN

John J. Ryan, City Treasurer, has a pen in his possession which was used by Governor Parker in signing the Revised Charter of the City of Bayonne in March 1872. This pen was presented to the city by Mr. David C. Halstead.

### SOME OLDTIMERS - 1940

Born in Bayonne: John O'Dell, 84 years old; Jennie Diamond, 84 years old, lives in the house where she was born, 90 West Forty-eighth Street; William Hogan, 71 years old, lives in the house where he was born, 16 Silver Street.

Others are: William Hunter, 88 years old; Henry McCabe, 87 years old; Cornelius Haggerty, 85 years old; William Gogelein, 85 years old; Robert Scott, 85 years old; Edward Griffin, 85 years old; Truman W. Lilly, 85 years old; George Wake, 84 years old; Sylvester Long, 82 years old; Ed. Mullaney, 82 years old; Al. Sayles, 82 years old; Judge Horace Roberson, 82 years old; Alfred Davis, Ex-Chief, 80 years old. Mrs. Catherine Donovan has lived at 53 East Thirty-third Street for 67 years.

### CITY OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF BAYONNE FOR 1940

James J. Donovan, Mayor and Director of Public Safety

John J. Heiser, Deputy

James A. Mullanaphy, Director of Public Works

Dennis Coughlin, Deputy

Henry W. Murphy, Director of Public Affairs

J. J. O'Leary, Deputy

Horace K. Roberson, Director of Revenue and Finance

George J. Prenderville, Deputy

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Joseph J. Topoleski, Director of Parks and Public Property

Edward Poplawski, Deputy

John F. Lee, City Clerk                      T. F. McCarthy, Collector of Revenue

John J. Ryan, City Treasurer                      Wm. Keating, Tax Assessor

Wm. F. Connors, City Comptroller

Amos. Harker, Supt. Water Department

Maurice A. Cohen, City Attorney

James L. Sweeney, Recorder                      Jos. A. O'Brien, Clerk to Recorder

Cornelius J. O'Neill, Chief of Police

James J. Hogan, Chief of Fire Department

Mary G. Peters, Librarian

Dr. Charles J. Larkey, Health Officer

Lloyd B. Palmer, Registrar of Vital Statistics

Walter Flynn, Supt. of Weights and Measures

Kathryn V. Welcher, Overseer of Poor

Irving Meyers, City Prosecutor

Aaron A. Melniker, District Court Judge

Joseph A. Sklenar, Secretary, Board of Education

Morris L. Brodman, Secretary of Board of Health

Henry Winterhalter, Sanitary Inspector

Harry Jaeger, City Engineer

Dr. Ben Lipschitz, City Physician

Joseph Geiger, Supt. of Police and Fire Alarm System

Louis Giordano, Street Commissioner

James P. Magner, M. D. Police Surgeon

## SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Stanley R. Woodruff, President; Richard C. Walsh, Charles J. Larkey, James J. McGrath, James J. Murphy, Thomas Beirne, John Dzubeck, Edgar F. Snell, Caesar F. Ciaburri.

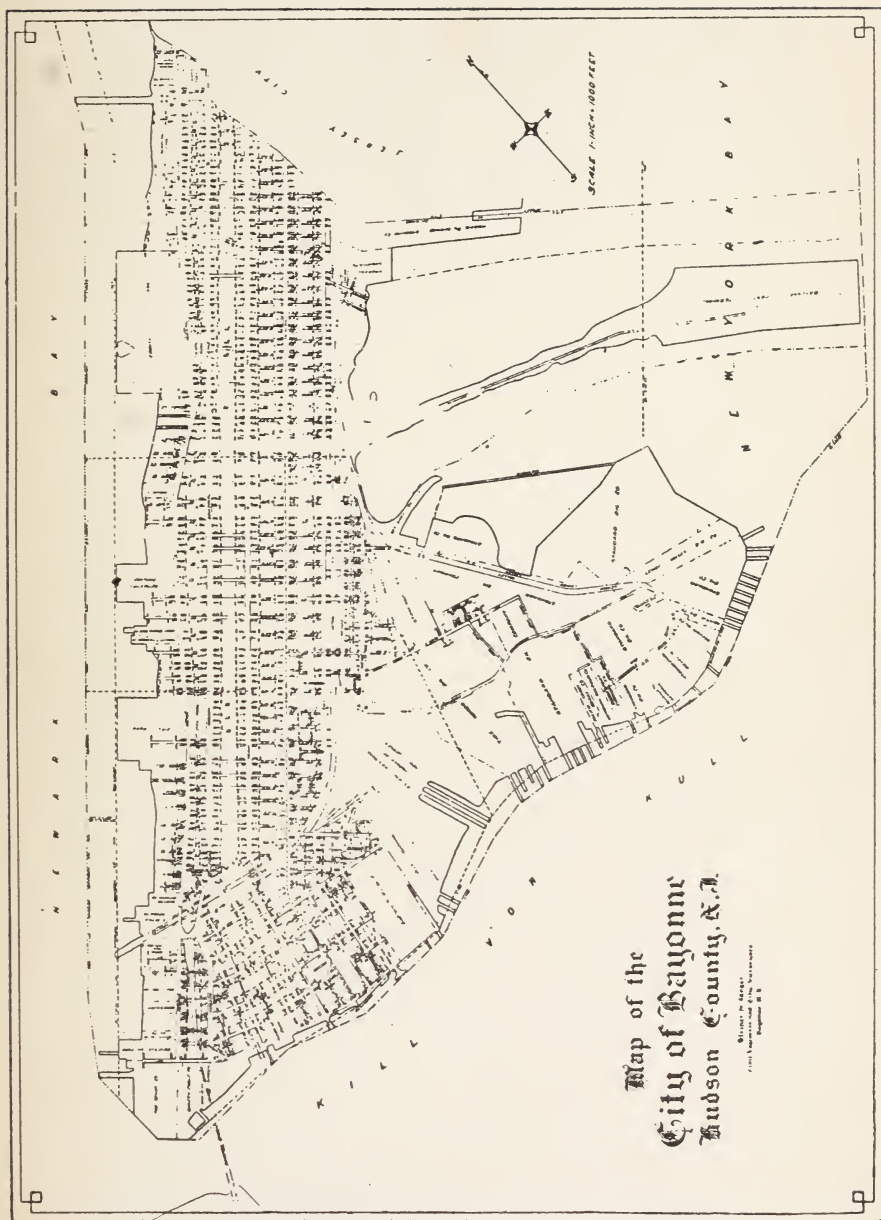
## BAYONNE OLD AND NEW

The Pension Board of the Police and Fire Department consisting of 5 members, two of which represent Police, two firemen and 1 civilian, are as follows: Randolph Sluter, President; Mayor Donovan, Horace K. Roberson, Lieut. Masterson, John Bauer.









By courtesy of Harry Jaeger, City Engineer











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