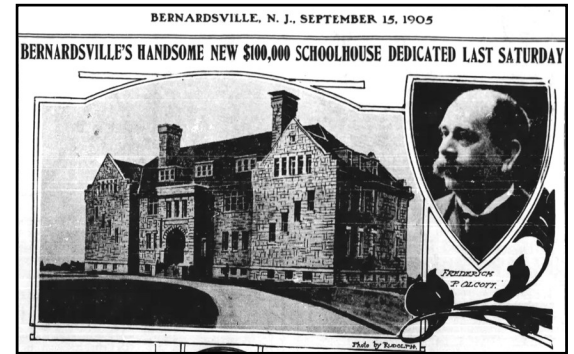


## SEPTEMBER 1905 ~ 120 YEARS AGO

### **BERNARDSVILLE'S HANDSOME NEW SCHOOL DEDICATED** *Bernardsville News, September 15, 1905, p.1*

Last Saturday afternoon witnessed the dedication of the new school building presented by Frederick P. Olcott to the people of Bernardsville and of Bernards Township. ... In view of the deep interest felt in this great educational departure the attendance was large and appreciative. ... The initial feature of the program was the unfurling of a handsome flag ... Shortly before the ceremonies began, strains of approaching music gave notice that Voss' First Regiment Band, of Newark, was en route to the grounds. The band was escorted from the station by the Bernardsville and Basking Ridge fire companies in full uniform. Soon after the hour appointed for the opening, Rev. J. T. Reeve, president of the Board of Education, called the assemblage to order. ... Prayer was offered by Rev C. H. von Glahn, after which Richard V. Lindabury, of Bernardsville, and William H. McElroy, of New York ... brought out the significance of the occasion in very impressive addresses. Professor James T. Schock, the new principal, made the acquaintance of many of the citizens of Bernardsville, who were glad to greet him... [An] ode, written by Rev. J. A. Mets on the dedication of the new schoolhouse, was read by Rev. T. A. Conover. ... The new schoolhouse, situated on the property formerly known as the Wolfe tract, stands upon one of the prettiest and most commanding sites in Bernardsville. It faces Olcott avenue, with one hundred feet of lawn intervening. ... The land comprises about 27 acres and was purchased by Mr. Olcott in April, 1904, at a cost of \$10,600.



## SEPTEMBER 1925 ~ 100 YEARS AGO

### **CHURCH CELEBRATES 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY** *The Courier-News, September 10, 1925, p. 9*

The Reformed Church at North Branch is today observing the one hundredth anniversary of its organization with an appropriate program. Members of the church from far and near are present to join in the celebration and many of its former pastors will be there to take part in the services. / The church was organized September 10, 1825, at the house of James Ten Eyck by a committee from the Classis of New Brunswick, out of families belonging mostly to the old church at Raritan, the First Reformed Church of Somerville. / George H. Fisher, of the New Brunswick Seminary, was called and settled November 25, 1926, as soon as the church edifice was completed and prepared for service. He served for four years and proved himself a successful pastor ... The first church edifice was built of brick after the pattern of the Somerville Church. The corner stone was laid without ceremonies and whether or not the first church was ever formally dedicated is not known. It stood and continued to be the place of worship until 1863 and was taken down to make room for the present commodious edifice. The church was dedicated with a sermon by the first pastor, Rev. G. H. Fisher.

### **FAIR AND HORSE SHOW OPENS AT FAR HILLS** *Bernardsville News, September 17, 1925, p. 1*

The Far Hills Fair gates open today at 1 o'clock to the public. The unique and colorful appearance of the Chinese booths this year adds much to the brightness of the picture against the green grass and foliage of the trees on the grounds. The first building to meet the eye is a large restaurant and dance pavilion. Beyond this are the other buildings and booths arranged with an eye to convenience and beauty... A large tent houses the circus where at 3:30 and 8 p.m. performances are offered daily. Nearby is a real merry-go-round which has become more or less a novelty in these parts... Adjacent to the Midway is the Psychic Theatre, where one may delve into the future, the Chinese shops ..., and other booths where all sorts of wares and novelties are displayed for sale. Across the way are the various exhibitors tents and the displays of business men, from which it is but a short trek to the vegetable, fruit, flower, and poultry exhibits. The cattle show, which is a feature, ... includes more entries of prize cows and bulls than ever before shown at a county fair in the state. ... Among the many valuable prizes offered this year are a Chrysler roadster, a saddle and fittings, a genuine hooked rug and a hope chest [in which] are already ninety articles of various kinds varying from an order for a ton of coal and a cord of wood, with cloth for a suit of clothes, to bed linen, groceries, a long list of household utensils, a set of china. ... As in former years, the proceeds of the Fair and Horse Show will go to the Somerset Hills Visiting Nurse Association for the continuance of their most worthy work. ... Suffice it to say that the support of the Fair is a contribution to the health of the community at large.