

NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

JANUARY 1938

OFFICE-BEARERS AT CHURCH DOOR

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| Jan. 9. | Messrs C. J. Thom and John Russell. |
| „ 16. | Messrs G. Glegg and Samuel Rodger. |
| „ 23. | Miss Osborne and J. Hood. |
| „ 30. | Messrs J. B. Mather and W. Craig. |
| Feb. 6. | Messrs R. Carswell and J. Nimmo. |

COLLECTIONS FOR NOVEMBER

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|-----------------------------|-----|---|----|
| Systematic Giving | £66 | 6 | 10 |
| Church-door Plate | 25 | 6 | 7 |

Retiring Collections—

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|------------------------|----|---|---|
| Church Funds | £5 | 2 | 1 |
| Hospitals | 5 | 3 | 3 |

The annual collection on behalf of the Congregational Benevolent Fund will be taken on 2nd January on retiring from both Services.

REGISTER

Deaths

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| Nov. 19. | Mrs Bayne, 100 Main Street. |
| „ 21. | Walter Weir, The Croft, Kilmarnock Road. |
| Dec. 6. | William Renfrew, c/o Miss Harvie, Waterside. |

EDITORIAL

At the beginning of another year we would take this opportunity of wishing all our readers a very happy and prosperous New Year. May it bring to you all much happiness and leave no regrets in your minds—regrets, at least, that you can reasonably feel were not due to your own mistakes. We live in anxious days, and we hope that in the International Sphere, from which most of our unrest issues, it will herald in days that will be free from overshadowing clouds.

It seems strange in the middle of the Church Year to offer these good wishes. The fact is that there are two modes of reckoning Time. There is the Calendar Year which was altered on several occasions before it was finally fixed from 1st January to 31st December, and there is the Christian Year which embraces Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. This fact reminds us of the two Spheres in which we must live in the world, and which Augustine called the City of the World and the City of God. What, moreover, we do find, is that it is difficult to practise the teaching of Christ in the City of the World. It is in the latter, indeed, that we are tested in our faith and conduct; it is there that we have to suffer for the things that we believe; it is there that we must shine as lights in the world that men may see our good works and glorify our Father which is in Heaven.

In this issue we have to regret the retiral from the editorship of Mr D. W. Johnston. While retaining his other duties in the congregation he has served so well, he has been compelled to relinquish this task. We owe him a great debt for the time and diligence he has given to the Supplement. He is one of the most accurate of men and seldom has a mistake appeared in this page and never we suggest one that was due to his fault. He has shown taste in what he has allowed to appear in print and in the form in which it was set forth, and he has

the honour of having been the first Editor of our magazine. We offer to him our warmest thanks and know that in doing so we voice your feelings. We shall not reveal the name of the new Editor. "Where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise." By that we mean that the new Editor will make mistakes and it is better therefore that he should remain unknown! We regret that in literature there is such a thing as internal evidence.

Church Extension.—The Congregational Board consider that the time has now come for collecting the money promised for the building of our new Church.

By the time this appears in the Supplement, all those members of the congregation who returned Promise Cards offering a single or a yearly contribution should have received from the Registrar ONE special envelope bearing a number corresponding to that on the Promise Card, while to those who offered a monthly contribution THREE such envelopes have been sent, one for each month of the first quarter. These envelopes should be sealed, the amount enclosed marked on the appropriate line, and placed in the box at the Church Door on any convenient Sunday. The contributions will be acknowledged at the end of each quarter.

An opportunity will be given to all who wish to contribute, but who have not promised any definite amount, by means of a Special Retiring Collection on one Sunday of each month, of which intimation will be made from the pulpit.

Woman's Guild.—The attention of the congregation is drawn to the Concert on Tuesday 1st February. Once again the programme will be in the hands of members of the Orpheus Club. The proceeds will be given to the Schemes of the Guild and the Church Building Fund. Fuller intimation will be made from the pulpit at a nearer date.

The Recall to Religion.—Many of you are perhaps aware that the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland last May agreed that the time had now come to sound forth from all her pulpits a Recall to Religion. That injunction has already been obeyed in some of the Presbyteries, and the Presbytery of Glasgow has decided to do so during the month of March 1938. The area has been divided into 23 districts and the two Churches in Mearns have been linked with Giffnock South and Giffnock Orchardhill. During the week selected every congregation in the Presbytery will be concerned simultaneously in this campaign. Meetings will be held in Giffnock South Church on each night of the week, and transport facilities for the Mearns' Churches will be arranged. All of us will feel that a campaign of this kind within the Church of Scotland is urgently needed. It ought to be made clear that the aim is not to minister to those outside the Church but is concerned entirely with those who are members of the Christian Fellowship.

Varia.—On the evening of 16th January the Service will be held in the Church Hall and will be in conjunction with a meeting of the Mearns Parish Temperance Association. A film showing the value of Temperance will be shown that night.

The congregation will receive a visit on 23rd January at the forenoon Service from Rev. Donald Macdonald, M.A., of Paisley.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be dispensed on the first Sabbath of February.

Supplement.—Contributions for February should be sent to the Minister not later than 15th January.