

NEWTON MEARN'S CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

MAY 1939

Baptisms

- Apr. 2. Anne Kathleen Glenday Corcoran, Floakside.
,, 9. David Allan Wilson, Analan, Newtonlea Avenue.
,, 23. James George Neil M'Intyre Robertson, Calvine, Glebe Road.
May 2. Norma M'Kenzie, Dodsie.

Marriages

- Mar. 25. Agnes Cumming Hamilton to James Hamilton.
,, , Janet Dunlop Clews Craig to William Lindop Law.
Apr. 28. Elizabeth Lambie Craig to George Strang.

Death

- Mar. 31. Mr Bruce, Torpheen.

The Following Joined by Certificate

At the May Communion: Mr and Mrs Mackenzie, Dodsie; Mr and Mrs Blakely, Karebo, Kilmarnock Road; Miss M'Laughlan, Eastpark, Firwood Road; Mrs Anderson, Greystones, Whitcraigs; Miss Ritchie, and Miss Helen Ritchie, Kirk Lane.

By Profession of Faith

At the May Communion: Miss May Blue, 5 Hill Avenue; Mr Arthur Anderson, Springbank; Mr Ian Brown, Whitebarns, Glebe Road.

OFFICE-BEARERS AT THE CHURCH DOOR

The following will be on duty at the Church door:

- May 14. D. W. Johnston and James Meiklejohn.
,, 21. R. Carswell and J. Nimmo.
,, 28. A. Moreland and R. Campbell.
June 4. Miss Pratt and S. C. Kirkland.
,, 11. R. J. Miller and R. Armour.
,, 18. A. Russell and G. W. Lambie.
,, 25. J. A. Anderson and J. M'Bean.

It has been decided to form a branch of the Y.M.C.A. in the district, and at a meeting held on 6th April in the Lesser Hall of the Parish Church, and attended by the local ministers and other interested people, it was decided to hold a public meeting in the village in September to which all who desire to see such a branch formed will be invited. There is a real urgency that an effort should be made by Christian people to get into closer touch, or indeed to get into touch at all, with many in our district who are not associated with any branch of the Church. It is hoped that some of the younger men of the Church, both single and married, will come forward and make this part of the service they can render to Christ. Public intimation

will be made in the district regarding the place and date of the meeting. Mr Robert Armour, Dunmohr, Hazelwood Avenue, has been appointed President.

NOTES OF THE MONTH

The Anniversary Services were conducted on 30th April by the Rev. John L. Riach, B.D., of Largs, and were most warmly appreciated. Mr Riach has inaugurated in Largs in the summer the Broadcast Services on the Promenade, and thousands of holiday makers on the Sunday evening take part in the Service that is relayed to them.

The Communion Service on 7th May taxed the Hall to capacity, 255 sitting down at the Forenoon Service. The Elders are to be congratulated for the manner in which they overcame the difficulties of the occasion. The Rev. John S. Malloch, B.D., conducted the Service at 3 P.M., when 145 were present. The total of 400 communicating equalled the record set up at the Communion in May 1938.

A Census of the Congregation is at present being taken regarding the hour of the Morning Service. It has been recognised by the session for some time that some of the congregation felt that 12 o'clock was rather late. They have not been indifferent to the problem, but considered that with the building of the new Church being imminent they should wait until it was opened before facing the question. The Elders were asked to obtain the feelings of the members in the distribution of their cards at this time, and the result of the voting will be made known at an early date. The alternative hour which they were asked to suggest was 11.30 A.M.

The New Church.—To those of us who have never before seen a Church being built, the erection of the new building is proving most fascinating. We have discovered that there is far more work in such an edifice than we ever anticipated. Building a house does of course involve a considerable amount of labour and of time, but there is a vast difference between the construction of such and that of a Church. We feel very happy about the placing of the mason work with John Train and Sons. They have given us a most excellent piece of work, and the beauty of the building is going to enhance greatly the Kilmarnock Road at the Cross. The interior of the Church also promises to be very beautiful with the massive stone arch over the chancel, the stone pillars down each side, and the two stone-faced windows in the chancel and the gallery. We are at present engaged in the fitting and furnish-

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ings of the building—the pulpit, the font, and the pews. The congregation owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to the voluntary work which is being done at present by Mr M'Bean in connection with the electrical heating and lighting of the building. An expert in this branch of business, he has spared no pain in setting forth what he considers the requirements of the building, and we feel that the extraordinary care which he is taking at this time will be of lasting benefit to the Church. It is a venture that we are making in resorting to this kind of heating, but we are confident that we have taken a step that we will never regret.

It is expected that the Church will be opened at the end of November, and, indeed, the architects are aiming to have it finished by the end of October.

A friend has offered to the Board to put a stained-glass window into the back of the Church, a gift which has been very willingly and gratefully accepted by the Congregational Board. The window is to be installed in memory of one who was killed in the Great War.

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The Invalids' Corner.—"To-day I went to Church unintentionally, by which I mean that I put aside the

church-going clothes when I got up, and put on the others, intending not to go. Then after breakfast I changed my mind though not my clothes, and went and enjoyed it. It seemed to be Harvest Thanksgiving when I got there. The Church was decorated with chrysanthemums and oats, and an occasional beetroot and carrot; and we had four harvest hymns. Do you remember the touching simplicity of harvest hymns? They make me wriggle and purr with enjoyment.

" And keep us in His grace
And guide us when perplexed
And save us from all ills
In this world and the next."

The simplicity gave me such a 'douce attendrissement' that I felt as if I could kiss the whole Choir for singing it. But they missed out one verse of 'We plough the fields and scatter,' and I nearly made a fuss and interrupted the Service then. We had, too, the 118th psalm and a fine chant for it; do you know that psalm? It is splendid and buoyant and says things two or three or four times over because it is so glad." (From "Grey of Falloden," by Trevelyan).