

Newton Mearns Church Supplement

MAY, 1941

Minister—Rev. W. MURRAY MACKAY, M.A.,
S.T.M., The Manse, Newton Mearns.

Telephone: Newton Mearns 2747.

Session Clerk—Mr. JAMES POLLOCK, 7 Main
Street, Newton Mearns.

Telephone: Newton Mearns 2741.

Congregational Treasurer—Mr. C. J. THOM,
M.A., The Schoolhouse, Newton Mearns.

Telephone: Newton Mearns 2013.

Clerk to the Congregational Board—Mr. JAMES
A. ANDERSON, Balmae, Whitecraigs.

Telephone: Giffnock 462.

Sunday School Superintendent—Mr. ANDREW
RUSSELL, J.P., Newton House, Newton Mearns.

Telephone: Newton Mearns 2353.

Convener of Seat-Letting Committee—THE
SESSION CLERK.

Organist—Mr. GRAHAM Y. LINDSAY, A.T.C.L.
(On Service.)

Acting Organist—Mr. STEWART TELFER, Floors
Cottage, Newton Mearns.

Church Officer—Mr. GEORGE WARDROP, 13 Main
Street, Newton Mearns.

SYSTEMATIC GIVING SCHEME.

Registrar—Mr. D. W. JOHNSTON, 9 Redburn
Avenue, Giffnock.

Telephone: Giffnock 62.

Treasurer—Mr. WALTER RODGER, Townhead
Cottages, Newton Mearns.

Telephone: Newton Mearns 2467.

CHURCH SERVICES.

Morning—11.30 a.m.

Evening—6.30 p.m. In the Church.

Sunday School—10.30 a.m.

A Class for Beginners and for older children
living at a distance from the Church is held during
the Morning Service.

OFFICE-BEARERS AT THE CHURCH DOOR.

May 11—Mrs. Jack, Messrs. R. Armour and S. C.
Kirkland.

„ 18—Messrs. H. C. R. MacRae, J. Nimmo and
S. Telfer.

„ 25—Messrs. R. Carswell, A. Moreland and
J. Keir.

June 1—Mrs. Menzies, Messrs. W. Rodger and J.
McLaren.

FINANCE.

Collections for March.

Systematic Giving ...	£123	8	6
Church Door Plate ...	20	17	6
Special—Self-Denial ...	3	8	9
	£147	14	9

Quarterly Payments to Schemes of the Church, Edinburgh.

Maintenance of the Ministry	£25	0	0
Foreign Missions ...	27	1	3
Women's Foreign Missions	7	12	6
Other Schemes ...	11	5	0
	£70	18	9

REGISTER.

Baptisms.

“Suffer the little Children to come unto Me.”

Elizabeth Mary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fairhurst,
Alderley, Newton Mearns.

May Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paterson,
20 Broomvale Drive, Newton Mearns.

John Ferrie, son of Mr. and Mrs. Young, 4 Capel
Avenue, Newton Mearns.

Marriage.

“Heirs together of the grace of life.”

At Newton Mearns Church, Janet Baird Harvie
to Hugh Douglas Carson Austin.

Deaths.

“Christ, the first fruits of them that are asleep.”

At Main Street, Newton Mearns, Mrs. Shields.

At 23 Larchfield Avenue, Laurence Hunter.

New Members.

By Certificate.

Mr. and Mrs. Telfer Bain, 48 Larchfield Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. McCulloch, 64 Larchfield Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Kerr, 71 Larchfield Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew C. Purchase, 25 Glamis Ave.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Gray, 28 Broomvale Drive.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. L. Cameron, St. Vigean's
Avenue.

Miss Agnes Greig, Pilmuir Farm.

Mrs. W. A. Fairhurst, Service Road.

Mrs. Jardine, Service Road.

Mrs. Hill, Mr. James I. Hill, and Misses Isabella,
Jean and Jessie Hill, 26 Broomvale Drive.

By Profession of Faith.

Mr. Hugh A. M. Peden, Milroy, Glebe Road.

Miss Margaret W. Campbell, 6 Lethington Road.

Miss Catherine G. Campbell, do.

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Communion Services, 4th May.—In the forenoon, when the Minister conducted the service, there was an attendance of 368. In the evening a Thanks-giving Service was conducted by Rev. T. Loudon Cox of Cambuslang. There was a very good attendance in the Church. At the close, thirty-four members took part in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Dedication of Miss Agnes McGibbon.—In Carrick Knowe Church Extension Charge, Corstorphine, Edinburgh (Rev. Donald M. Chalmers), on Sunday, April 27th, Miss Agnes L. McGibbon, Kingarth, was dedicated as a Church Sister. The Parish of the Congregation is situated on the right hand side of the main Glasgow-Edinburgh Road as it passes through Corstorphine just before entering Edinburgh. The Congregation are at present worshipping in their beautiful hall, while at the side stands the site on which the Church is at a later date to be erected. The membership is 650.

A congregation that almost filled the hall was assembled to take part in the Service of Dedication. The Minister had invited me to take part, and I conducted the first part of the service. At the close of the sermon, Miss McGibbon took her place on the platform dressed in the official grey uniform of her office. Mr. Chalmers then gave an account of the steps which had led up to this service and hour of dedication. While she knelt, he then dedicated her to her sacred task, at the close of which prayer he gave to her the right hand of fellowship, followed by the Session, who had taken their places on the platform. The Choir then led the congregation in singing "The Lord bless thee and keep thee." In some well chosen words, Mr. Chalmers then gave the charges to her and the service closed with the singing of the 54th Paraphrase. Miss McGibbon shook hands with the people as they went out.

It was a memorable day for Mr. and Mrs. McGibbon, who were present at the service, as were also Mr. and Mrs. Pirrett and Miss Barrie Pirrett.

We give to her our best wishes in her new work as she seeks to fulfil the command of Christ. "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, baptising them into the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and lo I am with you always even unto the end of the world.—W. MURRAY MACKAY.

The services on Sunday, 27th April, were conducted by the Rev. H. L. Donaldson, M.A., Assistant Organising Secretary of the Foreign Mission Committee, who expressed the thanks of the Committee for the support received from the congregation.

It was fitting that he chose as his text "Other sheep I have which are not of this fold," John 10, verse 16. The speaker briefly recalled the beginning of the early Church, the Disciples in hiding in Jerusalem for fear of the Jews, and yet very soon,

just after six weeks, these men who had been filled with fear possessed a strong faith that enabled them to preach the Gospel and proclaim the Risen Lord. Instead of cowardice they had courage, their lives transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit; the Risen Christ made all the difference.

This miracle of power in the lives of men has always been a feature of the Christian life, said Mr. Donaldson, as he referred to the work of the mission fields, when the seed of the Gospel had taken root, forming new congregations, from among those whose parents and grandparents had been cannibals. Then immediately there was the urge to tell the glad news to others, and thus it was, that that Name which is above every name was spread the world over; these young congregations became self-supporting, themselves sending out missionaries to evangelise. Therein lies the hope of the world in the Christian Gospel, for while kingdoms and thrones have crumbled into dust and material things have passed away, the followers of the Risen Christ have that witness within, that even amid all the changes of this mortal life, "unhared upon the Eternal Rock the Eternal City stands."

Those who were present at the Evening Service also heard a very interesting address on the work of the Foreign Missions, a subject in which it is obvious Mr. Donaldson is deeply interested.

A Member's Point of View (by one of them).

"Auld-farrant folk complain of it—this sprawl
Of brick, concrete and tiles on ilka hand,
This fouth of wee laigh villas, and
Red-tappit bungalows, and all
This surgery of roads with alien names."

Many of our members, especially those who have not yet read the bi-centenary book of Dr. Boyd Scott, may be unaware of the fact that a very few years ago Mearns, owing to its geographical position, was a small, isolated village, with a way of life peculiarly its own. Here was the focus of a farming parish, which, though but a few miles from the centre of the city, was off the beaten track, as far as the railway was concerned.

The quaint outlines of its houses and shops were viewed only by motorists hurrying through to Ayrshire, or by those visitors who made it a custom to visit the annual Cattle Show.

The farmer, the blacksmith and the joiner would inform you, if you speeded, that their fathers and their grandfathers had once held sway in the respective establishments over which they themselves now presided.

Each family knew the most intimate details connected with the births, courtships, marriages and deaths of every other family in the parish, and the rewas evidence of the clannishness which is usually associated with life in a Scots village.

A stranger who had been daring enough to intrude himself into such a scene must have felt

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that he was a social outcast, for many years would pass before people ceased to say of him that "he wasna' a Mearns man, but just an incomer."

But the 'bus pioneers found out Mearns, and most things began to change. The tentacles of the town gradually reached out over the few intervening miles, and it must have been with a feeling akin to resentment that the older folks, long settled in their own way of life, saw their fair fields invaded by alien hordes from city flat and town tenement.

How would the business interests of city people blend with the activities of rural life? How would former members of city churches work and worship with those who had walked only in green pastures and beside the waters of quietness?

To those of us who came with the first of the invaders the manner in which town and country elements have met and mingled has been something of a miracle, and in no sphere has this mixing been so marked as in the Church life of the altered community. Sufficient tribute has not yet been paid to the native Mearns folks for the kindly way in which they welcomed the newcomers to their midst. Their Church habits had to be re-adjusted, and even their old building, every stone of which was dear to them, had to give place to a larger and more modern structure. It was a pleasant surprise to those of us who came from well organised city congregations to find that we had something to learn from a people who had a Church tradition going back for about two hundred years, and many of us feel proud to have entered into such a heritage. Here it was not a case of "a kirk wi' ae Sawbath service an' naethin' mair to bother ye," but of a Church which entered into every phase of the people's life, and during its long history it never lacked torch-bearers of its faith.

On more than one occasion I have heard former Mearns ministers (some of them now with important city charges) speak of the inspiration which they received in the early years of their ministry from men and women who, unknown beyond the bounds of their parish, could yet look on the whole world as God's parish.

As new needs arise with the addition of new members to our ever-increasing membership, we, old and new working together, will see to it that our Church maintains the reputation for righteousness which was the outstanding characteristic of the old Nitton kirk.—"INCOMER."

Sunday School.—On a recent Sunday, after the forenoon service, a pleasing little ceremony took place in the Hall when Miss Nettie Harvie was presented by her colleagues on the Sunday School staff with a Bible on the occasion of her approaching marriage.

Mr. Mackay, in making the presentation, spoke of Miss Harvie's devoted service both in the Sunday School and the Girls' Association and wished her every joy and happiness in her new life. Mr. Russell also spoke of the long connection of Miss Harvie's family with the Church.

Miss Harvie thanked the teachers for their gift which she would always treasure.

The Girls' Association.—The regular fortnightly meetings have now ceased, but rambles and outings are to be held every second week during the summer months.

All girls of the congregation will be made welcome at these outings.

The first ramble—a mystery one—will take place on Monday, 12th May. The rendezvous is the Cross and the time 7.30 p.m.

11th Glasgow Coy., The Boys' Brigade.

Although not yet in a position to state the definite date of the Annual Display, the Officers are pleased to announce that Major Lloyd, D.S.O., M.P., has agreed to act as Inspecting Officer. The exact date and venue will be announced next month, and meantime arrangements are proceeding apace.

It is interesting to note that the Company is quickly taking its place in district activities. At the Sports Meeting held by Pollok District a very creditable show was put up, and with a little more experience, it is anticipated that several boys will bring to the Company honours in the sports field.

The Officers of both the B.B. and L.B. were greatly encouraged by the complimentary comments made by many of the congregation in respect of their smart appearance and behaviour at the recent Church Parade. These comments were greatly appreciated.

Arrangements are now complete in connection with the Summer Camp to be held at Tighnabruaich in July. It is interesting to note that the Camp will be held within 200 yards of the site of the first B.B. Camp held over fifty years ago. It is agreed by all who have at any time attended a well organised camp that there is no finer type of holiday for a boy, and the question of Camp is commended to the parents of every boy in the Company. Full details as to date, etc. will be announced later.

THE CHILDREN'S CORNER.

How many of you were able to make out the Proverb last month? You will find it in Proverbs 18, verse 24.

Here is a form of Acrostic which used to be popular when grandpa was a boy. See if you can solve it and then try to make up some others for yourselves.

My first is in wasp but not in bee,
My second is in Coffee but not in Tea.
My third is in rise but not in sink.
My fourth is in yellow but not in pink.
My fifth is in donate but not in give.
My whole is that on which we all live.

"SUPPLEMENT."

Contributions for June, 1941, issue should be sent to the Editor, Mr. C. J. THOM, SCHOOLHOUSE, NEWTON MEARNS, not later than Sunday, 25th May, 1941.