

# Newton Mearns Church Supplement

OCTOBER, 1941

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

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

Telephone—NEWton Mearns 2741.

## OFFICE-BEARERS AT CHURCH DOOR.

Oct. 12—Mrs. Buchanan, Messrs. S. Rodger and  
T. M. Donald.

„ 19—Miss Hunter, Messrs. J. A. Anderson and  
J. M'Bean.

„ 26—Messrs. D. W. Johnston, J. S. Anderson  
and B. C. Maitland.

Nov. 2—Messrs. J. B. Mather, W. Craig and C. J.  
Thom.

„ 9—Mrs. Menzies, Messrs. W. Rodger and J.  
M'Laren.

## CHURCH SERVICES.

**Morning**—11.30 a.m.

**Evening**—6.30 p.m. (in Upper Hall).

**Sunday School**—10.30 a.m.

**Young People's Union**—7.30 p.m.

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

## FINANCE.

### Collections for September—

Systematic Giving	...	...	£103	1	8
Church Door Plate	...	...	25	15	6
Special M. of M. Fund	...	...	6	9	3
			£135	6	5

## REGISTER.

### Baptisms.

*"Suffer the little children to come unto Me."*

Helen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Macgregor, 4 Broom-  
vale Drive.

Robert Duncan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henderson,  
Dunruden, Glebe Road.

### Marriages.

*"Heirs together of the grace of life."*

John Irwin to Edith Dick.

William Hunter to Isobel N. Meiklejohn.

John Wylie to Marion S. Milroy.

William E. Birrell to Amelia P. M'Coll.

Gerald A. H. Winter to Georgina K. Duff.

### Deaths.

*"Christ, the first fruits of them that are asleep."*

J. A. Kennedy, Hillcrest.

W. B. Monteith, Broadlea.

## New Members.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Cunningham, Glencairn,  
Rysland Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Henderson, Redcroft, Newtonlea Ave.

Mrs. E. Davidson, Dunedin, Raeside Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Wotherspoon, Matherton Avenue.

Miss Mary E. Stewart, Matherton Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M'Gregor, 4 Broomlea Drive.

Dr. and Mrs. Aitken, Genista, Kilmarnock Road.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Henderson, 37 Beech Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Stewart, 60 Beech Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Burns, 75 Larchfield Avenue.

Miss Agnes and Miss Janet Biggar, Craigie Drive.

## The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

The Communion will be celebrated in the Church  
on Sunday, 2nd November, at 11.30 a.m., and in  
the Hall at 6.30 p.m. The Service of Preparation  
will be held on Friday, 31st October, at 8 p.m.  
Those wishing Visitors' Cards may have them on  
application to the Minister, and those wishing to  
join by Certificate should hand these in at the  
earliest convenience.

## The Clearing of the Debt of the Church.

The congregation will be interested to learn that  
the debt on the New Church has been completely  
liquidated. The Board were able to return the two  
loans of £1,000 each so generously given to us by  
two of our members. They have remained anonym-  
ous, but the congregation would like them to  
know how much their action has contributed to our  
present position to-day. The Presbytery of Glasgow  
at its September meeting congratulated the con-  
gregation on their magnificent achievement. To  
face the building of a Church of £12,200 without a  
twelfth of that in our possession was an act of faith.  
We were very generously treated by the Home  
Board, the Presbytery of Glasgow, the Baird,  
Bellahouston and Ferguson Trusts, and to them we  
would return our thanks. It is now but 20 months  
since the Church was opened and it is free of debt.  
You have done a great piece of work and may well  
be proud of it. Mr. Thom, the Congregational  
Treasurer, and Mr. James A. Anderson, the Clerk,  
have piloted the ship of our finances through many  
a stormy sea. To Almighty God we give the glory  
for all He has enabled us to do.

## Rev. Robert Small, B.D.

A word of thanks will be appropriate to the above  
for his ministration in our Church during the month  
of August. On all sides appreciation has been  
expressed of his services. Although the years may  
not be able to be denied to him, he has kept abreast  
of the thought of our time, and his way of presenting  
the Truth of God was a delight to all who listened  
to him. To him and to Mrs. Small we would wish  
a long and happy retirement in our midst.

## NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

### Presbytery Elder's Report.

The Presbytery of Glasgow has resumed its regular meetings under a new Moderator, Rev. W. J. Baxter, Dowanhill. But the holiday atmosphere still prevails, and the August and September meetings were but sparsely attended. Fortunately no matters of major importance have arisen, the business being mainly of a routine nature.

At the September meetings a very hearty welcome was given to the Senior Clerk, Dr. Harrowes, who has returned to duty after a prolonged and serious illness.

The report of the Committee on Social Problems presented by the Moderator referred to action taken in regard to the Cricket Match held on a recent Sunday in Glasgow, which had created a large amount of controversy in the public press. After hearing his statement the Presbytery decided to pass from the matter, being satisfied that the position of the Church has been clearly stated.

The financial position of the Church, as revealed by the reports of the Maintenance of the Ministry and Foreign Mission Funds, gives cause for grave concern, very large decreases being registered in each fund. So serious was the position in regard to Foreign Missions that the Committee wished steps to be taken at once to put the facts before all congregations. This led to a lively discussion, and in the end it was decided to appoint a new Committee of 20 to 25 members, representative of all the various districts, to examine the whole financial position and take whatever steps were deemed necessary, as it was felt that separate appeals from the various Committees would be largely ineffective. Various reasons were adduced to explain the serious decline in Church givings, but the heavy taxation of the present time is, no doubt, responsible in a large degree. The new Committee is to act at once so that the position may be safeguarded before the close of the year.

### The Canteen for the Forces.

It can now be stated definitely that the Canteen which has been opened in the Church Hall on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings has been a complete success. There was a certain amount of diffidence in launching out on such a venture in case it were found that there would be no real demand for it. Curiously enough the men for whose benefit it was intended in the first place—the sailors at Mearns Kirk Hospital—have made little or no use of it. This is not their fault inasmuch as regulations make it impossible for them to use it in the evening when it is open. Nor could we have altered the hours of the Canteen to suit them since the Hall is used by the School in the afternoon. There are, however, soldiers in the vicinity for whom it has proved a most valuable adjunct in their life. The numbers who use it of an evening are not large—about 20 or 25—but even if these were smaller it would be well worth while. As the longer nights arrive we anticipate that even more will take advantage of it.

The Session have now sanctioned the opening of the Canteen on Sunday. We have been told that

this is a day when the men have more spare time and would appreciate a place in which to spend it. In order to make it possible for the sailors to use it it has been decided to open at 3 p.m. and close about 9.30 p.m.

The question might be asked whether some service might be arranged in which the men might take part. It should be noted that the men have a Chaplain of their own who conducts a service for them each Sunday forenoon, and that their meal hours make it impossible for them to join with us at our morning worship. Can then something not be done in the evening hours? It should be remembered that it would be wrong to appear to coerce them in any way by the holding of a service in the actual hall of the Canteen. In the Lesser Hall, the evening service is being held from 6.30 to 7.30 p.m., and the Young People's Service from 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. An invitation will be given to any who care to join in either of these services. The Y.P.U. begins its meetings in the middle of October. We are at present in this work just "feeling our way," and if we find that certain arrangements do not suit the men then we will be ready to change them. The "feeling" at present is that some will find their way up to these meetings, and that when they are over we might arrange from 9 to 9.30 to have some singing of hymns, and a song, or a violin solo, and close with the usual evening prayers.

We would like to pay tribute to the support we have received in running the Canteen from Capt. Donald Ferguson. He has been most helpful to us in many ways. Members of the congregation have also been most useful in handing in magazines, games, etc. At present we are in need of an electric wireless set. We have been promised one through the kind offices of a friend from the Lord Provost's Fund. They are, however, difficult to procure, and we feel that someone may have one they have discarded. If so, even for a temporary time, it would be a help to us. Above all, we would like to thank Miss Rebe Downs, on whose willing and capable shoulders the full burden of organising it has fallen. She has revealed wonderful powers of organisation. There are others who have rendered continuous and valuable service, such as Mr. MacRae, the Leader of the Canteen, Mr. McLaren, Mr. Forgan and Miss E. Osborne. The young people as a whole have risen to the occasion and done their bit as we knew they would.

### The Boys' Brigade and Life Boys.

Both the Company and Team have resumed for the winter session, and the officers are pleased to see all the old boys back again. It has been encouraging to welcome several new recruits, but it is felt that there are quite a few boys eligible to join who have not yet presented themselves for enrolment. Parents would do well to send their boys along, as an interesting and carefully planned programme has been arranged for the winter, and great benefit will be derived by all taking part. Recruits will be made welcome any Friday evening—Life Boys at 6 p.m., Boys' Brigade at 7.30 p.m.



## NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

### Boys' Brigade Camp, Tighnabruaich, 1941.

"Goodbye Tighnabruaich, farewell Kyles so dear.  
It's a long, long way from Newton Mearns,  
But we'll be back next year."

So sang the boys of the Company as the *s.s. Loch Fyne* carried them on the first stage of their journey back home after a most enjoyable camp. Owing to the difficulty of canvas in war-time the boys were housed in the local school, which occupies a delightful situation on the hillside overlooking the Kyles of Bute and commanding a magnificent view of Inchmarnock and the peaks of Arran.

Favoured with good weather this, the first camp held by the Company, was a huge success, and all who took part enjoyed the experience to the full. What one would have imagined as the biggest problem, namely the food, really presented no problem at all, as careful planning spread over several months plus the generosity of many friends defeated the wiles of Lord Woolton and enabled the boys to enjoy meals above the best boarding house standard!

Boating, fishing, hill climbing, football and bathing were indulged in to the full, and great benefit was derived from the open air life.

A very pleasing feature of camp was the exceedingly friendly attitude of villagers and visitors alike, and the whole-hearted support given to efforts made on behalf of local charities. This can be gauged by the fact that in all £17 10/- was raised at a concert and football game, and this sum was gratefully acknowledged by the District Nursing Association.

All carried back many happy memories of Tighnabruaich and look forward to another visit in 1942.

Space makes it quite impossible to give a real impression of camp life, but a complete film of the various activities was taken, and it is proposed to show this, in conjunction with various other items, at a display in the hall sometime before Christmas. The display will enable those who were unable to attend the Annual Inspection at Eastwood School to witness the work done by the Company.

### The Woman's Guild.

The Woman's Guild has resumed its winter's work and meets every Wednesday at 2.30. Once every month there will be a Speaker on the various activities of the Church.

On 1st October members had the privilege of hearing Miss Dorothy Galbraith, B.Sc., whose Address was much appreciated. As in the last two winters, the Work-Party will continue knitting for the members of the Forces.

A cordial invitation is extended to all women of the congregation to attend these meetings.

During the coming weeks members of the Guild will visit the ladies of the congregation in order to

ask for donations to carry on the work of the Woman's Guild and to obtain wool for comforts. The Woman's Guild takes this opportunity of thanking all who have supported them so loyally in the past.

### The Girls' Association.

The Girls' Association have now embarked on their new session and a varied syllabus has been drawn up. Rehearsals are now in progress for the Annual Concert which is to held in December.

The Social evening held last week was most enjoyable. The usual programme of games, music and dancing took up the greater part of the evening and a pleasant cup of tea added to the enjoyment. We were indebted to Mr. Mackay and Mr. Pollock for attending, as their speeches are now a feature of the Social and are always anticipated with pleasure. There were some new members present, but if there are any girls in the Congregation who are thinking of joining, will they come along to the next G.A. meeting on Monday, 20th October, when they will be warmly welcomed.

### The Sunday School.

The Sunday School has now resumed, and the Superintendent and teachers will be pleased to welcome new scholars at the Church Hall on Sunday morning at 10.30 or at the classes held during the Morning Service.

### Young Communicants' Class.

A Class for Young Communicants will be opened next Sunday at the close of the Evening Service in the Vestry, and on each succeeding Sunday evening until the Communion. Those who are desirous of joining the Church by Profession of Faith are asked to meet with the Minister on Sunday first.

### Christmas Parcels for the Forces.

As the Session and the Congregational Board will be desirous of remembering those on Service in some way at the coming season, it is extremely important that the present address should be in their hands. We earnestly urge members of the congregation to send in this information to the Session Clerk or to put it in the box provided for the same in the Vestibule. This applies to all who are on service whether men or women, at home and abroad. You can help the Church greatly by acceding to our request since it is our desire to remember every one.

### Young People's Union.

It is expected that the Young People's Union will commence the winter's work on Sunday evening, 19th October, at 7.30 p.m. A cordial invitation is extended to all members of H.M. Forces stationed in the district.

## NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

### Varia.

Mr. Graham Y. Lindsay, our Organist, was home on leave a few days ago. Unfortunately his vacation was between two Sundays, which prevented him from officiating at the organ.

Two of the Session, Mr. James Currie and Mr. Duncan Johnston, have been on the Sick List during the summer, but are both progressing favourably.

We hear glowing reports from the boys of the B.B. of their Camp at Tighnabruaich in July. According to them it could hardly have been more enjoyable.

### Supplement.

Contributions for November, 1941, issue should be sent to the Editor, Mr. C. J. THOM, the Schoolhouse, Newton Mearns, not later than Sunday, 26th October, 1941.