

Newton Mearns Church Supplement

OCTOBER, 1943

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REGISTER.

Baptisms.

"Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

Rae Louise, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fairlie, The Bield.

Douglas Charles Raymond, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cootes, Humble.

Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dobson, Raeside Avenue.

Margaret, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, Dunruden.

Helen Calderwood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stuart, Glendun.

Kenneth Liddell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tough, Knowtop.

Marriages.

"Heirs together of the grace of life."

John Richard Inshaw to Marjorie Porter Laidlaw.

Walter Clark to Rebecca Colquhoun Downs.

Donald McQueen Shaver to Catherine Graham Campbell.

Samuel Rodger to Margaret Moore Scott.

Calum Brown McIntyre to Eileen Mary Phillips.

James Neil Rodger to Pauline Pattison Allan.

Deaths.

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

Mrs. Hill, 26 Broomvale Drive.

Joseph Hughes, Barrhead Road.

Ernest Johnston, Townhead Cottages.

NEW MEMBERS.

By Profession of Faith.

Edwin C. S. Coldwell, Auldhouse Road, Newlands.

By Certificate.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Baprie, Eaglesham Road, from Plantation Church, Glasgow.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert, The Lodge, Capelrig, from Ballantrae.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert McVean, Earn View, Loganswell, from Busby East.

Mrs. Meikle, Lauriston, Hazelwood Avenue, from Sherbrooke-St. Gilbert's.

Mrs. Paton, 63 Larchfield Avenue, from Bellahouston Parish.

Miss R. C. and Miss N. F. Ramage, Brackenbrae, Larchfield Avenue, from St. Bride's, West Kilbride.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Watson, 20 Windsor Avenue, from South Shawlands.

Mr. JAMES A. ANDERSON.

It was with very great regret that the Congregational Board, at its last meeting, accepted the resignation of the Clerk, Mr. James A. Anderson. Like most business men at this time, depletion of his staff is throwing a much heavier burden on Mr. Anderson's shoulders, and he thus finds himself compelled to give up his Clerkship.

Mr. Anderson became Clerk to the Board in November, 1932, and a record of his service is for the most part a record of the Congregation's efforts in building the new Church—a work in which he took a foremost part, particularly in the negotiations with the Home Board, Baird Trust, Ministry of War Transport, The Presbytery of Glasgow, to name a few of them. Only those who were in close touch with him know how he spent himself in interviews with these and other bodies, accounting no effort too great if by it the Church's welfare were to be advanced. For all his work during the past eleven years the Board and the Congregation are greatly indebted to him, and although he had had to resign his office as Clerk, yet we are fortunate and happy in that we shall still have the benefit of Mr. Anderson's wide experience and lively personality at our Board meetings.

PRESBYTERY NOTES.

The regular meetings of the Glasgow Presbytery were resumed after a month's vacation on 10th August, when the new Moderator, Principal W. Fulton of the Glasgow College, presided. As August is generally regarded as a holiday month, there was a somewhat sparse attendance, and the business was mainly of a routine nature. A somewhat spirited discussion arose, however, on the report of the Home Mission Committee, which for some time had been negotiating with the Parks Committee of the Corporation to find suitable sites in the Public Parks where services could be held during the summer months. The report was to the effect that no action was found possible, as the sites desired had already been allocated for the season. In the subsequent discussion there was a suggestion that failure was partly due to lack of sympathy on the Parks Committee for the proposal, but at the end the Clerk cleared up the position by stating that the real reason was delay on making application. This is to be remedied for next year. Given goodwill on both sides there is no reason why a satisfactory arrangement should not be reached especially when we remember that the original and complete motto of the city was "Let Glasgow Flourish by the Preaching of the Word."

The business of the September meeting was carried through most expeditiously and the sederunt closed early.

For the National Service Committee the Convener, Rev. Alfred Brown, reported that there was urgent need for men to undertake Canteen and Hut work with the Forces. The position was indeed critical, and the help of men who could serve even for four or six months would be gladly accepted. The call-up of younger women had also made the staffing of the Church canteens and dormitories in the city increasingly difficult, and voluntary women workers

for these institutions were urgently needed. The assistance of any woman who could give help at any hour of the day would be gladly welcomed and greatly appreciated as the need was immediate.

The reports of the Maintenance of the Ministry and Foreign Mission Fund were regarded as specially satisfactory. The Rev. F. J. Maclauchlan, Convener of the former Fund, reported a considerable increase in giving not only in the Glasgow area but over the whole country showing that the Church was now sharing in the War-time prosperity of the people, especially in the industrial areas. At the close of his statement he intimated his resignation of the Convenership, and was accorded the sincere thanks of the Presbytery for his faithful services extending over many years.

The Foreign Mission Fund increase was largely due to the receipt of several large legacies, and the Convener emphasised that the need for generous support was as great as ever; in spite of war conditions the work was being carried on in all fields with the exception of Manchuria.

A Special Meeting of the Presbytery is to be held early in November to consider Section II. of the 1943 Report of the Commission for the Interpretation of God's Will in the present crisis.

The points on which the Presbytery is asked to give its views are as follows:—(1) The Courts of the Church—Presbytery, Synod and Assembly; (2) The Committees of the Church and suggestions for their improvement; and (3) The place of women in the Church, especially the proposal that the barrier of ineligibility for the Eldership be removed.

The Church Canteen.

We would in this issue pay a tribute to the splendid work that has been done by those who have staffed the Canteen in the Church Hall during the last two years. Many of us have seen a service man walking about our district and felt that there was no place where he could obtain a cup of tea and read. Had the Church failed to do what she could we would have felt that she had missed a great opportunity. Happily this has not been the case. Within the warmth of the Church hall they have in the evening been able to find this and enjoy the company of members of the Church. It has not been possible for us to be open during the day since the buildings are used by the School authorities. Those who have attended the Canteen have frequently expressed thanks for what has been done for them. They have even stated on several occasions that no Canteen they have ever entered had given them a greater welcome or more enjoyment than this one. As proof of this we frequently have men coming back to visit us and to renew old friendships. We are not trying to congratulate ourselves—far from it—but we would say these things to indicate that the Canteen has met a real need in the district. The numbers of those who have used it have never been large. At the moment they are even smaller than before due to movements of troops. Yet it provides an opportunity for a closer personal touch when such is the case. The Congregational Board has been most generous in meeting the cost of the heating and lighting and in the hall facilities they have provided. They have been content that a place was provided to which men could come and help to remove them from places of temptation. Those who have sons and daughters in other places to-day will feel glad to learn of a similar Canteen where

their loved ones will receive kindness and fellowship. Not infrequently a convoy will pass and those who are in it have been on the road since early morning and had little food. On such a night the plates are cleared. These are but a few scattered thoughts about a valuable service being rendered by the Canteens in every part of Scotland and England as well as overseas. All honour to those who are engaged in this work. "Inasmuch as ye do it unto one of the least of these my brethren ye do it unto Me."

W. M. M.

THE WOMAN'S GUILD.

The Opening Meeting of the Woman's Guild will be held on Wednesday, 27th October, at 3 p.m., when an address on the Home Mission work of the Church will be given by Miss Lawson. Miss Lawson is fully qualified to speak on this subject and, as she has done much work among the women of the Forces, her visit should be most interesting.

The meetings will be held throughout the winter every Wednesday at 2.30 p.m., and a cordial invitation is extended to the ladies of the congregation. Tea will be served at these meetings, and, as it is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain biscuits, each lady is asked to bring her own.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The Sunday School has again resumed after the usual break for the Summer holidays. We should like to point out to parents that the Junior and Senior Classes assemble at 10.15 a.m. in the Large Hall, while the Beginners' Class meets in the Upper Hall during the latter part of the forenoon service. In these days of planning for the post-war years the religious training of the young is receiving due prominence, and our Church is not behind in this matter. No parent should deny to the child the chance of taking advantage of the opportunities available. We will extend a hearty welcome to all newcomers to our fellowship.

We deplore the loss of teachers of long standing experience, Mr. Alex. Moreland and Mr. Samuel Rodger. Mr. Moreland has had fifty years' contact with Sunday Schools, and he has now thought it fit to retire. Mr. Rodger has taken up residence outwith the district, and he breaks with regret his twenty years' service in our school. Due recognition will be given to these gentlemen in the near future.

The Beginners have taken farewell, for the present, of Miss Scott, who, due to illness at home, finds it impossible to give the necessary attention to her Sunday School work. We will look forward to the return of Miss Scott, for no one is better equipped for dealing with the young than she. We are pleased to welcome to our staff three new members in Miss M'Dougall, Miss Helen M'Dougall and Mr. Menzies.

THE GIRLS' ASSOCIATION.

The G.A. commence their winter session on Wednesday, 6th October, in the Upper Hall at 7.30 p.m., and new members will be made welcome. It is hoped to include courses in Country Dancing, Keep-Fit and Handcrafts in the session's syllabus, and arrangements to this end are already being made.

THE BOYS' BRIGADE AND LIFE BOYS.

Once again the Boys' Brigade Company and Life Boy Team have resumed for a new session, and quite a few recruits have been added to the ranks of

NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

both organisations. There are still a few vacancies for enthusiastic boys, and parents are asked to encourage eligible boys to present themselves for enrolment without delay. The ages are as before :— B.B., 12 to 17, and L.B., 9 to 12.

The congregation will be interested to learn that another most successful Camp was held at Tighnabruaich during July. Each day was crowded with interesting activity, and all returned considerably benefited by their stay amidst the beautiful scenery of the Kyles of Bute. Owing to all available hall accommodation having been taken over by the military it was found impossible to present the successful pantomime "Dick Whittington," and considerable disappointment was expressed by all who had recollection of last year's show. Great interest in the Company Band was shown by the villagers who were generous in their praise of the progress made by the boys. A compliment to the Camp organisation was paid by an aged villager who stated that he always checked his watch when he heard "Cookhouse" being sounded!

Whilst the fortnight was full of interest two outstanding events may be recalled. The first was a race from the school to the top of the Duin, a prominent hill behind the pier. Almost every boy took part with unbounded enthusiasm and spartan courage. Paths were shunned as the boys scrambled through bracken, across burns and over rocks in their enthusiasm to reach the top, and, incidentally gain one of the prizes presented by Mr. M'Kay, who paid the boys the compliment of spending a few days in Camp with them. Owing to the varying ages of the competitors a system of handicapping had been introduced, but this proved too severe on the older boys who couldn't catch up the winner, Pte. Arthur Stubbs, who completed the course in the remarkable time of exactly ten minutes.

Another outstanding evening was spent on an organised Treasure Hunt. The Camp was divided into two groups, and both the intelligence and stamina of the boys was tested to the full. Setting off in opposite directions each party had to search for a clue hidden more than two miles from Camp. This, when located, was found to be in the form of a jigsaw puzzle which had to be made up before being readable. Completed, this clue directed the party another three miles across country in search of clue No. 2 which was in code and had to be deciphered. This done, the group had to proceed as hastily as possible to Auchenclochan Pier where an envelope awaited the first demand for it. In the envelope were the final directions which took the leading group of boys post haste to the jetty where the daily bathing parade was held. Once there another difficulty presented itself. The "treasure," which was a tin box containing a shilling for every boy in the successful party, was at the bottom of the sea about thirty yards from the shore, the exact spot being marked by a buoy floating on the surface and tied by string to the "treasure" itself. Try to imagine the scene. The successful group is gathered on the shore surveying the "treasure" still outwith its grasp. Suddenly one of the boys makes up his mind and hurriedly discarding his shirt plunges into the water to complete the last stage of the hunt. He swims about twenty yards but the handicap of trousers and shoes prove too much for him and he is forced to turn back. Another takes his place. Will he make it? Excitement grows as each stroke takes him nearer the prize, and a shout goes

up as he grasps the buoy and turns for the shore. A dozen others have waded to the waist to help him ashore, and all gather round to open the box and examine its contents. And so ended a most exciting and enjoyable evening.

Both of these incidents and many others, equally interesting, are contained in a film record of Camp which it is hoped to show to the congregation at a later date.

The first member of the Company to be called to H.M. Forces is Staff-Sergeant Alwin, who is now serving with the Navy. One of the original boys, he displayed tremendous enthusiasm for everything he took up and is largely responsible for the progress made by the Band. When only four weeks in the Forces he was selected for a commission, and in a letter to Capt. Robertson he says "this is in no small measure due to the training I received in the Brigade." The best wishes of all go to Staff-Sergeant Alwin, who can be relied upon to uphold the best traditions of the Brigade and display that "true Christian manliness," the basis of all its training.

Once again the generous gifts of two gentlemen of the congregation have to be placed on record. The first a complete set of drums for the Band and the other a new shilling added to the pocket money of every boy attending Camp. These gifts greatly encourage the Officers and merit the grateful thanks of Officers and boys alike.

VARIA.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be dispensed on the first Sunday in November at 11.30 a.m. and at 3 p.m.

The Thanksgiving Service will be held in the Large Hall at 8 p.m.

The visiting Minister will be the Rev. Professor John Mauchline, B.D., Professor of Old Testament in Trinity College, Glasgow.

The Preparatory Service will be held in the Upper Hall on the preceding Friday evening at 8 p.m.

A Class for First Communicants is being opened to-day in the Vestry at the close of the Forenoon Service.

Rev. A. Robertson, B.D., of Crosshill-Victoria Church, will conduct the forenoon service on the 17th October.

Rev. A. Cameron Wallace of the Broom Church will conduct the forenoon service on the 28th November.

The Week of Witness in connection with the World Wide Mission of the Church extends from Sunday, 28th November until Sunday, 5th December.

Our congratulations are extended to Mrs. Simpson, Machrie, and also to Mrs. Simpson, Greenside, on the great distinction that has been gained by Pilot-Officer James B. Simpson in being awarded the D.F.C. He has exhibited the same distinction in the service of his country as he has already shown in other fields of life. We rejoice in the honour that he has brought to our Church and our district.

The Badminton Club is meeting every Thursday evening this winter from 7 p.m. till 10 p.m. New members will be made welcome.

SUPPLEMENT.

The next number of the Supplement will appear in December, and contributions should be sent to the Editor, Mr. C. J. Thom, The Schoolhouse, Newton Mearns, not later than Sunday, 28th November, 1943.