

# Newton Mearns Church Supplement

APRIL, 1944

**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.

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

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**Clerk to the Congregational Board**—Mr. W. T.  
DAVIDSON, 1 Raeside Avenue, Newton  
Mearns.

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## Church Services.

FORENOON—11.30 a.m.

EVENING—8 p.m. (in the Canteen).

SUNDAY SCHOOL—10.15 a.m.

BIBLE CLASS—5.30 p.m.

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

## REGISTER.

### Baptisms.

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

John, son of Mr. and Mrs. M'Cormick, Chaurnley,  
Larchfield Avenue.

Charles Ferrie, son of Mr. and Mrs. Young, 4 Capel  
Avenue.

### Death.

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

Annette Isobel Thomson Mackay, The Manse,  
Newton Mearns.

## In Memoriam.

It was with deep sorrow that the Congregation learned of the illness of the Minister's little daughter, Annette Mackay. They had hoped and prayed for her recovery but that was not to be. On Sunday afternoon, 26th March, the Gentle Shepherd, who carries the Lambs in His bosom, called her into His gracious presence.

The Congregation extend their sincere sympathy to the sorrowing parents, believing that they will receive that sufficient grace promised in every time of need.

Jesus said, "Of such is the Kingdom of God."

## FINANCE.

Collections during February and March, 1944—

Systematic Giving	£238	12	5
Church Door	22	8	2
Special—Retiring	4	13	5
	£265	14	0

Amounts forwarded to the General Treasurer,  
Edinburgh, for First Quarter—

Maintenance of Ministry	£37	10	0
Foreign Missions	37	10	0
Church Extension Scheme	25	0	0
Women's Foreign Missions	8	15	0
Other Assembly Schemes	18	15	0
	£127	10	0

## ATTENDANCE OF OFFICE-BEARERS AT CHURCH DOOR.

- April 9—Messrs. R. Bone, J. Keir and J. P. Robertson.  
 „ 16—Mrs. W. Rodger ; Messrs. B. N. Baird and D. W. Johnston.  
 „ 23—Messrs. R. Carswell, H. C. R. Macrae and A. Moreland.  
 „ 30—Miss Dorward ; Messrs. H. Forsyth and J. MacLaren.  
 May 7—Messrs. R. Anderson, W. T. Davidson and J. MacCallum.  
 „ 14—Messrs. T. Howie, A. C. MacKirdy and W. Rodger.  
 „ 21—Mrs. Buchanan ; Messrs. T. M. Donald and S. Rodger.  
 „ 28—Messrs. J. Brownlie, J. Nimmo and J. Russell.  
 June 4—Mrs. Jack ; Messrs. R. Armour and J. Pollock.

## CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.

The Annual Business Meeting of the Congregation was held in the Church Hall on the evening of 8th March. The Minister, the Rev. W. Murray Mackay presided, and in his opening remarks referred to the absence of Mr. Pollock, the Session Clerk, who had not missed an Annual Meeting for about fifty years, and also of Miss Osborne, both of whom were representing the Congregation at the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the Rev. A. B. Dykes of Pollokshaws Church. Speaking of Church attendance Mr. Mackay said it had been well maintained during the past year, and he spoke of the excellent work being done in the Sunday School by the Superintendent Mr. Nimmo, and his staff of enthusiastic teachers. Though still in its first year, the membership of the Bible Class was 25 and the average attendance was good. He congratulated the Woman's Guild on a very successful session and mentioned that the Girls' Association and all the uniformed organisations—the Guides, Brownies, Boys' Brigade and Life Boys—had been engaged in very useful and profitable work.

In referring to the resignation of Mr. James A. Anderson, the Clerk to the Congregational Board, Mr. Mackay thanked him in the name of the Congregation for the valuable and efficient services he had rendered, especially during the time of the building of the new Church. A welcome was also extended to the new Clerk, Mr. W. T. Davidson. In conclusion he said that though the Congregation seemed to be in a very healthy state he hoped that

## NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

that would be an indication of still further effort and striving.

The Congregational Treasurer, Mr. C. J. Thom, then presented the Annual Statement of Accounts and after some explanations had been given the Accounts were adopted and the Treasurer thanked for his services.

The Clerk then read a Synopsis of the decisions of the Board during the year. These were homologated by the meeting.

Thereafter Reports were heard of the work of the various organisations. These are printed below.

The following were re-elected to the Board :—Miss Osborne ; Messrs. John S. Anderson and Henry Forsyth, and Messrs. James Taylor Anderson, R. D. Campbell and George Corcoran (all on Service), while Miss Dorward was elected in place of Mrs. Menzies, and Mr. D. B. Craig in place of Mr. Todd, neither of whom desired to be re-elected. Mr. A. Edmond was elected to take the place of Mr. Stirling Kirkland who has left the district and still had one year to serve.

Votes of thanks were proposed to the Minister for his work in the Canteen by Mr. MacLaren ; to all workers in the Church, Collectors, Flower providers, Office-Bearers, Choir, Organist, Church Officer and Canteen workers by the Minister ; and to the Chairman for his conduct of the meeting by Mr. Nimmo. Thereafter the meeting was closed with the Benediction.

### Reports of the various Church Organisations read at the Annual Business Meeting.

#### THE WOMAN'S GUILD.

*Secretary*—Miss HELEN OSBORNE.

The meetings have been fairly well attended during the past session with the Work Party once a week and a Speaker once a month. By this means we have been kept in touch with the work of the Woman's Guild as a whole and of the various Committees in our own Council.

Donations to the usual Guild Schemes have been continued and in some cases increased. We were again able to help with the Christmas treat for the old people in the Eventide Home at Powfowlis House.

Guild members helped in the house-to-house collection in aid of the Churches' Huts and Canteens. In this area nearly £100 was collected.

With regard to the Work Party, wool has not been so plentiful this year, but 339 garments were knitted, of which 35 were pullovers, making a total of 2,963 since the beginning of the war.

We should like to see a greater representation of the ladies of the Congregation at our Guild meetings, especially when we have a speaker. We know it is difficult for many in these days, but the hour on Wednesday afternoons will be a pleasant change from housekeeping and its worries, as well as a means of getting to know each other and to know something of the work that is done by the women of the Church of Scotland.

#### THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

*Secretary*—Miss MARY HAY.

The School meets each Sunday at 10.15 a.m. The Superintendent, Mr. Nimmo, holds examinations twice a year and attendance at these is voluntary. The questions are based on ten problems set to the

scholars every Sunday. These questions make the pupils think and the examinations are growing in popularity. Prizes are given for those pupils who do well and awards are also given for attendance.

The Annual Parties were held on Saturday, 18th December, and these were enjoyed by all who were present.

Mr. Nimmo and the teachers felt very grateful to all those kind friends who helped with the catering.

The Beginners' Class meets in the Upper Hall during the Forenoon Service.

There are 123 children on the roll, 65 girls and 58 boys with ten ladies and three gentlemen to give them instruction.

The Offerings of the scholars are very generous and Mr. Telfer was able to hand over at the end of the year the splendid sum of £30 which was distributed among organisations selected by the teachers.

#### THE GIRL GUIDES.

##### 2nd Mearns Company.

*Captain*—Miss LESLEY STUART.

The Guide Company's first year has been very successful, and there are now four Patrols, eagerly competing with each other, week by week to be the best Patrol of the year.

The Guides have worked hard at their general training, and twenty Service Stars, and Tenderfoot and Second-Class Badges were awarded. Proficiency Badges in the following specialised subjects were won :—Gymnastics, Laundress and Child Nursing. Though the fact that the Company is still without Lieutenants somewhat restricts the Guides' choice to the more popular badges, the fact that there are girls working at present for Artist, Cook, Horse-woman, Needlewoman, Gymnast and First-Aid Badges shows that there is no thwarting of private ambitions. Needless to say the Guides showed as much enthusiasm for Games and Competitions throughout the year as they did for work. We have enjoyed learning new Country Dances taught by a kind friend, and we are trying very hard to improve our singing.

We have done our best to help others whenever possible, and the Guides have played an active part in collecting for local Flag Days.

We should like to take this opportunity of thanking an unknown friend for a most generous donation, which will be spent on equipment, as soon as this is available. In spite of the difficulty of obtaining equipment, badges and books, all alas in short supply, our training has been as wide as possible so that like the Chief Scout we may "Be Prepared" to help in emergencies.

#### THE BADMINTON CLUB.

*Secretary*—Miss HELEN RITCHIE.

The Badminton Club meets on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. There is a membership of 30 which includes members of the Parish Church Badminton Club. An invitation has been extended to members of H.M. Forces.

The Annual Party was held on Thursday, 17th February, when members entertained sailors from Mearnskirk Hospital and soldiers from Patterton and Rouken Glen.



## NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

### THE GIRLS' ASSOCIATION.

*Secretary*—Miss MARGARET MCGREGOR.

The Girls' Association meets each week on Mondays and Wednesdays alternatively at 7.30 p.m. There are 22 members on the roll and a good attendance has been upheld at all our meetings.

This year we have had a course of Keep Fit with Miss Betty Smith as our instructress, and in spite of a few pains and aches the following day after the first lesson, all members turned out for the next one.

We hope to have a course of Country Dancing after our Concert.

On Hallowe'en we held a Social Evening to which we invited some sailors from Mearnskirk and soldiers from Pollok Castle and Patterton Camp. We succeeded in securing apples and everyone voted the "dooking" a great success. A very enjoyable evening was had by all.

We have been very busy practicing for our Concert, which will be held on 29th, 30th and 31st March. All members are taking part one way or another. We are also giving our Concert at Mearnskirk Hospital the following week. This year many of our younger members make their first stage appearance and we hope the Congregation will give us their usual magnificent support.

We expect to carry on the G.A. through the summer but so far a syllabus has not been arranged.

We have had several new members during the past session and are looking forward to welcoming some more.

This session has proved a very happy one and the friendly spirit existing at all our meetings has made a very enjoyable year for all members.

### THE SOCIAL CLUB.

*Secretary*—Miss ETTA DORWARD.

During 1943 the above Club had a membership of 40. As the main activity of the Club under war conditions is the running of the Church Canteen, I am glad to state that most members take an active part in this important work.

During the first six months of the year the Canteen was very well patronised, but owing to the local camp being unoccupied for a considerable time, our turnover for the latter part of the year has slightly decreased, but it is gratifying to know that we are having such loyal support from Mearnskirk Hospital and from troops further afield. As regards the Canteen accounts, a financial statement is sent to Head Office, Edinburgh, each month—a copy of which is given to our Church Treasurer, Mr. Thom.

The value of the Canteen as a Social Centre has been very much appreciated by the Servicemen in this area. During the year we have entertained the troops to a Social Evening every fortnight. The average attendance at these functions varies from 80 to 90, including men from Mearnskirk Hospital, Patterton and Rouken Glen Camps. These evenings are very much enjoyed, and eagerly looked forward to by members of the Forces. Special mention should be made of the Christmas Eve Party, at which, through the generosity of a member, of the Church, who wished to remain anonymous, together with gifts from Social Club members, we were able to provide a well-furnished Christmas tree, from which gifts were distributed to approximately 70 Servicemen and women present.

The Social Club, in turn, have been entertained in our own Hall on two occasions. First of all by Pollok Castle Camp, and then towards the end of the year by the 62nd Company, Patterton Camp, to show their appreciation of the service given them in the Canteen.

During the winter, Social Club members have had an opportunity of meeting every Saturday evening in the Canteen. A small sub-committee was formed to organise these evenings, the arranging of Billiard and Table Tennis Tournaments, Game Competitions, Whist, etc. These evenings have also been very well attended.

In closing, I should like on behalf of the Club to thank the members of the Board for the co-operation and support they have given us in this work, especially the financial arrangements made by them regarding meeting the cost of heating and lighting.

### THE BOYS' BRIGADE.

**79th Glasgow Company.**

*Captain*—Mr. J. P. ROBERTSON.

The year 1943 was a very busy and most successful one for the Boys' Brigade Company. After a prominent part had been taken by the boys in Battalion Examinations a most enjoyable Pantomime was produced and it says much for the success of this venture when it is considered that the show ran for an entire week with additional performances at Mearnskirk Hospital, and on behalf of the local "Wings for Victory" effort. It is estimated that more than 2,000 people witnessed the show—a tribute to the high quality of the entertainment provided.

The first two weeks of July were spent at Camp amidst the lovely scenery of the Kyles of Bute, and a most enjoyable and beneficial time was had by all. An interesting film record was taken and this has been shown to the parents of the boys.

The Congregation will be interested to learn that throughout the year the attendance at Bible Class and Drill averaged well over 90 per cent. This can be taken as an indication of the keenness and enthusiasm of the boys. In Battalion examinations and tests several boys figured with distinction and four N.C.O.'s gained the King's Badge, the most coveted of all B.B. awards. It is interesting to note that never before in the history of the Brigade in the village had these Badges been gained by Mearns' boys.

Probably the most noteworthy event of the year was the inauguration of the new Pipe Band. The Company has been exceedingly fortunate in securing the finest tuition possible and great things are looked for in this department of the work.

The Officers take this opportunity of thanking the many parents and friends in the Congregation who, by interest shown throughout the year, greatly encouraged them in their efforts to uphold the best traditions of the Brigade and promote its great object, "The advancement of Christ's Kingdom among boys."

### PRESBYTERY NOTES.

In addition to carrying through the regular routine business the Presbytery during the past two months has been giving serious attention to problems which the Church will be called upon to face in the



## NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

post-war period. The first and greatest of these is Church Extension, the provision of Church buildings in the projected new housing areas. It has been decided to appoint two separate Committees for this work instead of the present Home Mission and Church Extension Committee. "Church Extension Sundays" also "Extension Weeks" are to be held in all districts of the Presbytery in order to stimulate public interest in the matter, and each Congregation is urged to appoint a special representative who will be responsible for putting the needs of the scheme before the members.

On the motion of the Rev. Dr. White a Special Committee has been appointed to deal with problems arising out of the demobilisation at the conclusion of hostilities of the men and women at present in the Services. It was agreed that these problems might be of a formidable and difficult nature, and that the Church must be prepared to play a leading part in meeting the situation.

A Report on the working of the parochial system throughout the area of the Presbytery was submitted at the March meeting. Generally speaking, it was to the effect that the system worked well in the rural areas, fairly well in the landward districts but failed to function efficiently in the city and in industrial towns. As the Report raised important issues, it was decided to print it and so make it available to members.

A pleasing feature of the last meeting was the enthusiastic welcome accorded to the Rev. A. B. Dykes of Pollokshaws, who is well known to our Congregation, when he appeared to receive the congratulations of the Presbytery on the attainment of his Diamond Jubilee as a minister. The Moderator, Dr. Fulton, in felicitous terms conveyed these congratulations to him, and at the same time commented on Mr. Dyke's acknowledged reputation as an expository preacher as well as to his remarkable efficiency in administrative business to which he brought a keen sense of humour. Mr. Dykes, in a brief reply, thanked the Moderator and the Presbytery for their kind appreciation of his work during the fifty years of his ministry. He was deeply touched by their kindness.

The Rev. John Anderson who succeeded Dr. Harrowes as Clerk to the Presbytery nearly two years ago is to receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from the University of Aberdeen at the forthcoming Graduation Ceremony.

### DIAMOND JUBILEE OF REV. A. B. DYKES OF POLLOKSHAWS CHURCH.

On Wednesday, 8th March, a large company gathered in the Hall of Pollokshaws Church to do honour to the Rev. A. B. Dykes who was celebrating his Diamond Jubilee as a minister. As Mr. Dykes had been on several occasions connected with this Congregation it was decided by the Kirk Session that representatives should be sent, and Mr. Pollock, our Session Clerk, and Miss Osborne were appointed to convey to Mr. Dykes our good wishes and also to present to him a token of our affection and esteem. At the meeting Mr. Pollock spoke in the following terms:—"Mr. Chairman, Mr. Dykes, Ladies and Gentlemen: Somewhere, we are enjoined

to rejoice with those that do rejoice, and to-night the Congregation of Newton Mearns appreciates very highly the opportunity you have so kindly given of being represented at this very happy gathering in celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of your worthy minister, the Rev. A. B. Dykes, for the Newton Mearns Congregation rejoice with you in a joy they feel they share.

We recall with great gratitude memories of the time when Mr. Dykes came frequently to Newton Mearns. It was in 1910 that Mr. Dykes was appointed Interim Moderator of Session in a vacancy when he fulfilled all the duties so admirably to the satisfaction of every member of the Congregation, so much so, that again in May, 1918, in the Session records we find the name A. B. Dykes, Interim Moderator. The 'penalty' of doing something well is that you get it to do again, so in 1923 the Session invited Mr. Dykes to become Interim Moderator in another vacancy. When he left us on that occasion we were settled with one of the finest young ministers we ever had, and all the thanks are due to Mr. Dykes. Some of you, especially the ministers present, may be wondering why we have had so many vacancies in Mearns. The reason is easy to find. We do not treat them so well as you do in this Church. To-night my colleague, Miss Osborne, and myself are to convey to Mr. Dykes the warmest thanks and deepest affection of the Congregation of Newton Mearns for all he has done for our Congregation during the intervening years, taking a Communion, a Preparatory Service or on any occasion he was always ready with his willing assistance. We look upon him as a stalwart in the Christian Church, a wise counsellor, with a sound judgment and sanctified common sense. He might aptly be described in the words of a little girl of whom I heard recently. Her father, a Clyde pilot, was hurriedly called out with his boat to take the place of another boat which had broken down. As he was leaving the house, his wife said to him, 'What will you do if your boat breaks down too?' Jokingly, he replied, 'I'll walk home on the water.' Their little daughter, listening to the conversation, said, 'O, daddy, you could not walk on the water.' When he replied, 'Well, Jesus walked on the water,' the wee girl at once answered, 'Yes, but He was a relation of God.' So we regard Mr. Dykes 'a veritable ambassador of Jesus Christ.'

And now, sir, in the name of the Kirk Session and Congregation of Newton Mearns, I would ask you to accept of this cheque, as a sign and symbol of our deep regard and affection for you, praying that you may be long spared in good health to enjoy the activities of congregational life."

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

The Anniversary Services of the Church will be conducted by Rev. Dr. Jarvis of Wellington Church, Glasgow, on Sunday, 23rd April.

The Services at the May Communion will be conducted by the Rev. Roland M. Boyd Scott of Dundee.

**Supplement:** Contributions to the June issue of the Supplement should be in the hands of the Editor, Mr. C. J. Thom, The Schoolhouse, Newton Mearns, not later than Sunday, 28th May, 1944.