

# Newton Mearns Church Supplement

APRIL, 1946

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

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**Session-Clerk**—Mr. C. J. THOM, J.P., M.A.,  
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**Treasurer**—Mr. WALTER RODGER, Townhead  
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## Church Services

FORENOON—11.30 a.m.

EVENING—6.30 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—10.15 a.m.

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

## REGISTER

### Baptisms

*" Suffer little children to come unto Me "*

James Maxwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sharp, Ferndale, Neilston.

Robert King, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace, Barrhead Road.

Ian Macfarlane, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wright, Muir-edge, Edzell Drive.

### Death

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

Mrs. James Craig, Ashview Terrace, Newton Mearns.  
Income for the months of February and March, 1946

## FINANCE

Systematic Giving	....	£284	11	6
Church Door Plate	....	38	3	11
Retiring—Home Missions	....	7	4	2
Retiring—Assembly Schemes	....	2	1	9
Seat Rents	....	29	15	0
Interest	....	10	7	7
Donations	....	15	0	0

£387. 3 11

## Attendance of Office-bearers at Church Door

April 7—Messrs. R. Bone, G. M'Vean and P. R. Wood.

„ 14—Miss Hay, Messrs. A. Moreland and J. P. Robertson.

„ 21—Miss Osborne, Messrs. W. Menzies and A. S. M'Cance.

„ 28—Mrs. Thom, Messrs. H. C. R. MacRae and C. Pirret.

May 5—Messrs. J. Keir, J. E. MacLaren and J. Rodger.

„ 12—Messrs. R. Anderson, J. MacCallum and S. Telfer.

„ 19—Messrs. T. Donald, A. Morton and J. T. Anderson.

„ 26—Miss Connell, Messrs. J. M. Peden and A. Russell.

June 2—Miss Dorward, Messrs. W. Craig and J. H. Murray.

## PRESBYTERY NOTES

### Place for Women in the Church

Within comparatively recent date, a consensus of opinion was taken as to the suitability of women taking their place in the Eldership. In our own Church, both the congregation and Session voted in favour of the proposal, but throughout the Presbytery, the consensus of opinion was overwhelmingly against. At the last Presbytery meeting, Dr. John White gave notice of a very interesting motion, which he desired to move for adoption and transmission to the General Assembly. This motion was in the following terms :—

*Whereas* the Returns on Overture anent Eligibility of Women for the Eldership do not appear to justify legislation being passed to make women eligible for the eldership :

*Whereas* the ascertained opinion of Kirk Sessions and congregations is contrary to the proposal :

*Whereas* there is a strong continuing desire on the part of a large section of the membership that some more definite and official recognition of the great and growing services of women should be granted : and

*Whereas* the best interests of the Church in its Life and Work call for a sympathetic and clear and positive policy with regard to the claim for further recognition rather than a bare refusal :

*It is humbly overtured* by the Presbytery of Glasgow to the Venerable the General Assembly to appoint a special Committee to consider and to report to next General Assembly whether or not a place, definite and official, can be made for women in the counsels and councils of the Church without raising doctrinal questions of women serving in the Eldership, or supplanting men in the Eldership, or doing hurt to honoured features of the Constitution, or jeopardising the unity and peace of the Church.

Or to do otherwise as to your Venerable Court may seem good.

In support of this motion, Dr. White took cognisance of the fact that Churches had voted against admission, but, at the same time, he felt that the question could not rest in that position, but that some recognition of the work of women in the Church should receive the attention of the General Assembly.

His motion received the unanimous approval of the Presbytery, and will now go forward to the Assembly meeting in May.

### Open Air Meetings

A very interesting address was given by the Rev. D. P. Thomson, Organiser of the Seaside Services of the Church of Scotland, intimating that such services would be resumed throughout this summer, and at the same time bringing to the attention of the Presbytery the need for open-air services in the centre of Glasgow on Sundays and week-days, to offset the many other forms of meetings which now



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appeal to the community. The proposal was remitted to the Home Missions Committee for consideration and report.

### Nursing Profession

Dr. A. Neville Davidson drew attention to the anxiety about the long lists of patients awaiting admission to hospitals and infirmaries, and submitted a motion, which was approved, urging that young women throughout the Church should consider the immense opportunities for public service that were offered in the nursing profession.

For the interest of members, it is noted that the new Moderator of Presbytery, who enters office from June, 1946, is the Rev. G. Kerr M'Kay, Balshagray.

### CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Annual Business Meeting of the Congregation was held in the Church Hall on 20th March. There was an attendance of over one hundred members.

The Rev. W. Murray Mackay occupied the chair and, in his opening remarks, extended a welcome to men and women returning from service with H.M. Forces. He suggested that the Church should consider some form of Memorial to those who had made the supreme sacrifice.

The chairman referred to the great loss sustained by the Church in the deaths of James Pollock and John B. Mather, who had both rendered distinguished service to the congregation.

Mr. Mackay spoke of the last ten years as a period of transition through which the Church had passed. The comparatively rural life of the community had been invaded by a suburban development which had necessitated the building of a new church. The old church had many hallowed memories to the older members, and its replacement by a larger building marked an epoch in the changing life of the district. He mentioned also the change in Office-bearers, and spoke of the new men who had taken over the duties so faithfully and diligently carried out by their predecessors.

The Minister made an appeal to Youth to support the Organisations of the Church, where a warm welcome would be extended to newcomers. All Church members were reminded of the great opportunities for worship and work which were offered within the fellowship of the congregation.

A synopsis of Board decisions was read by Mr. W. T. Davidson, Clerk, and approved by the members present.

Mr. Walter Rodger, the Congregational Treasurer, then presented the Accounts for 1945, which, after the reading of the Auditor's Report, were adopted. On the motion of the chairman, the thanks of the meeting were conveyed to Mr. Rodger, Treasurer; Mr. M'Cance, Systematic Giving Treasurer; Mr. Johnston, Registrar; and the Assistant Treasurers.

Mr. J. W. Jarvie, C.A., and Mr. James A. Anderson were re-elected Auditors.

Synopsis of decisions of the Kirk Session were presented by Mr. C. J. Thom, Session Clerk.

Election of Members to the Board :—the following were elected for three years—Miss N. Blue, Miss F. Hunter; Messrs. Bone, Donald, Wood, M'Vean,

John Rodger, and James Hamilton : Mr. A. Morton for two years, and Mr. Andrew M. R. Russell, for one year.

The chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Collectors, Flower Providers, Office-bearers, Choir, Organist, and Mr. S. Telfer; also the Church Officer.

Mr. Andrew Russell moved a vote of thanks to the Minister for his conduct of the meeting and for all his work during the past year.

During the evening, tea was served by the ladies of the Congregational Board. Solos were rendered by Mrs. Keir and Miss Hunter, while the choir, under Mr. Lindsay, gave four part songs—"All in an April Evening," "The Old Woman," "My Love is like a Red, Red Rose," and "Afton Water." A vote of thanks to all who had contributed to the success of the evening and the Benediction brought the meeting to a close.

### REPORTS READ AT THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

#### The Woman's Guild

During the past session, the Woman's Guild returned to evening meetings. These, naturally, have been better attended than the afternoon meetings were. We have had a considerable number of new members, especially among the younger women of the congregation. Our syllabus has been more varied this year, and, while keeping the aim of the Guild always foremost, we have had some subjects of general interest.

We were fortunate in enlisting the services of several members of the congregation :—Miss M'Coll, who gave a most interesting cookery demonstration; Mr. Nimmo, from whom we had an exceedingly able lecture on Burns; Mr. Murray, who told us something of that all-important subject of town planning and housing; Mr. John Russell, who gave us a talk on spring flowers and bulbs; and Mr. John M'Callum, who assisted him by giving a demonstration of bulb planting. We have also several speakers from Glasgow, who dealt with the work of the various Guild committees.

Our special schemes for this year were the Fund for the Reconstruction of Churches in Europe, the Church Extension Fund, and the Sale organised by the Woman's Guild Temperance Committee for the purpose of starting a Club in Glasgow for girls and young women. Thanks to the generous response of the congregation, to the collectors, and to the Bring and Buy Sale, we have been able to give £60 to the first, £10 to the second, and £20 to the third of these schemes. We have continued our usual Guild schemes, and our annual donation to the Christmas treat for the members of the Eventide Home at Powfowlis House.

A new departure this year was the service held in our church on the Women's World Day of Prayer. This service, which was a joint one with the Woman's Guild of Mearns Parish Church, was well attended. A most helpful address was given by Miss Muir, the Council Secretary. As it is largely through the Woman's Guild that we learn of the wider work of the Church, we look forward to having many new members next session, and extend a hearty invitation to all.



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### The Girls' Association

The Girls' Association meet every Monday in the Church Hall at 7.30 p.m. The meetings are opened with Bible reading and prayer. There are 24 girls on the roll, and we have an average of 20 at each meeting. The subject we studied this year was "Women of the Bible."

At the beginning of our session, we had our Dedication Service, to which we invited the Woman's Guild. Seven new members received their badges, and the speaker at the service was Miss Jean Troupe of Glasgow.

We had a Hallowe'en Party, to which we invited the sailors from Mearnskirk and some friends. During the evening, Mary Johnstone received a presentation on the occasion of her marriage and leaving the G.A.

At the beginning of November, we went to the Old People's Home at East Campbell Street and repeated part of last year's concert, which was greatly enjoyed and appreciated by them. The girls served tea, and the evening was completed by a short service by Mr. Mackay, who accompanied us.

We decided to purchase netball posts from our funds, and Miss Betty Smith came up and instructed us on the game. Miss Smith also gives us "keep fit." We hope to arrange a netball match with the Boys' Brigade at the beginning of May.

We had a New Year Social and invited a number of friends and the sailors from Mearnskirk and the soldiers from Eastwood Toll, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Since the beginning of the year, we have been very busy rehearsing for our concert, which we produced with the help of Mr. McLaren and Mr. Stewart. £47 was made from the concert.

Last summer, the girls decided to adopt a wounded soldier, and we wrote to the Superintendent at Erskine Hospital, who wrote back thanking us and giving us the name of a soldier who required our help most at that time. The G.A. was divided up into groups of four, and each month one group is responsible for a parcel and a letter being sent to this boy. Four of the girls went to Erskine one Sunday to visit him, but unfortunately he had been removed that week to Larbert. We were told, however, that he had lost his left leg, but the doctors hoped to save this right one, only they had to wait till he was stronger before they could operate. It was with much pleasure we heard last month that the operation had been successful and he is progressing satisfactorily.

The Welcome Home Fund asked the G.A. if they would act as waitresses at their Burns Supper, which was held last month, and most of the girls managed to go.

At our Annual General Meeting, held last week, it was decided to carry on until the end of June, and a very full syllabus has been made out for the summer months, including walks, netball, baths, picnic and a mystery tour.

A very interesting and enjoyable session has been voted by all members.

### The Social and Badminton Club

On 18th September, 1945, the Social Club and the Badminton Club decided to join forces and

became the Social and Badminton Club. A committee, consisting of members from both Clubs, was formed and has met once a month throughout the season.

Club activities include ping-pong, games, etc., but badminton has, of course, proved the most popular form of indoor sport, and we have several enthusiastic players who come up regularly every Wednesday evening. So far we have not managed to form a team, but we hope to be able to do this next session. The procuring of shuttles has proved our greatest difficulty, but by using only one shuttle a night, we have managed to make them last out. At the beginning of the session, we succeeded in buying two rackets, which are kept in the hall for the use of members.

The social section of the Club meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month. On the first Tuesday of the month, the evening is given over to a military whistle drive, to which members of the congregation are invited. Patients from Hairmyres Hospital are usually guests on these occasions, and always enjoy the evening very much.

On the third Tuesday of each month, a social evening is held, and sailors from Mearnskirk Hospital are our guests on this occasion. We have a varied programme with something in it to suit everyone, and this is always a very enjoyable evening. Tea is provided by members, who bring enough to supply themselves and their guests.

There are 56 members in the Social and Badminton Club, and we have been pleased to welcome back, during the past month or so, several of our old members, who have been in the Forces.

### The Boys' Brigade

It is pleasing to report that the Boys' Brigade Company continues in a healthy state. Although slightly smaller numerically than last session, this is accounted for by boys leaving the district and has in no way lowered the standard of efficiency. As usual the boys have entered successfully for the various Battalion examinations and tests.

By an unfortunate chapter of circumstances, it was found impossible to hold a Summer Camp last year, but arrangements are fully in hand for the coming summer, when it is hoped to revisit Barrhill, Ayrshire, during the second two weeks in July.

At the end of the session, a Display will be given in the Hall, and full intimation will be made at a later date.

JAS. S. ROBERTSON, *Captain.*

### The Life Boys

It is pleasing to report that the keenness and enthusiasm of the Team is at present greater than ever before. This is possibly due to the very varied and comprehensive nature of the programme undertaken during the session, and the congregation will have an opportunity of seeing this at our Display on 26th April. Fuller intimation of this event will be made later.

At a District Sportagama held last month, our Team was represented by a ring bell squad, and favourable comment was heard on the smartness of turn-out and efficiency of the boys.

There are presently 30 boys on the roll of the Team, and of these, 10 have reached the age of 12



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and will be transferred to the Boys' Brigade. It will be seen that there will be ample room for recruits next session, and, on behalf of the Leaders, I would extend a very warm welcome to all boys between the ages of 9 and 12 years.

### The Girl Guides

The 2nd Mearns Company, Girl Guides, restarted after the summer break on Thursday, 11th October, 1945, at 7.30 p.m., with only 13 girls. By the end of the year, the numbers had increased to 24, and a steady influx of recruits was anticipated.

Marguerite Campbell and Isobel Morris both took the pre-warrant training course at Eastwood School, Giffnock, and are proving enthusiastic and helpful lieutenants.

Test work has been going ahead steadily, but we have also managed to include in our programmes—country dancing, games, drill, singing, handicrafts, and discussions, as well as ceremonial roll-call and inspection.

We have had one joint meeting with the Brownies, after which everybody appeared to be eagerly looking forward to some future date when we could arrange to meet together again.

The year 1945 finished happily for the Guides, when we celebrated the end of a successful term with a most enjoyable Christmas party.

A display of some of the work we have been doing during the session was held on Thursday, 7th March, 1946. This seems to have met with a fair amount of success, as both visitors and Guides appeared to enjoy the evening's entertainment.

EUDORA EADIE, *Lieutenant.*

### The Brownies

There are nineteen Brownies on the register, and they more or less regularly attend the meetings. In 1946 already, seven have passed their second-class badge, and five their recruit test.

The meetings so far have chiefly been comprised of test work and games of all kinds. We have also a Pack library.

The Christmas treat was the Walt Disney show in the Cosmo Cinema.

MARION RODGER, *Brown Owl.*

### MUSICAL NOTES

The weekly Choir rehearsals have been stopped for the season, but the members of the Choir have decided to continue the rehearsals throughout the summer, on the last Thursday evening of each month. This decision proves the interest and enthusiasm of the Choir members to make the praise in our church worthy of the building in which we worship. It is thought that there may be some members of the congregation who would like to recognise this interest by joining the Choir at the monthly rehearsals.

It will have been noticed that our numbers have increased steadily since the beginning of the year, but we are still anxious to welcome more sopranos and more tenors. The monthly rehearsals throughout the summer will give new members an opportunity to join us and to find out, in a "quiet way," if they would care to take up this very important work next winter.

Please make a note of the last Thursday evening of each month. A great deal of joy can be realised from the music itself, from the sense of comradeship with the rest of the team, and from the sense that one is really helping in the service and worship of the Church.

G. Y. L.

### FLOWERS

With the approach of spring, flowers are becoming more plentiful, and, in a few Sundays, it should be possible to put up the list with the names of those ladies who are willing to provide the flowers. As in former years, the Flower Fund is available when they have to be purchased. Our church is particularly fortunate in having two such keen gardeners and great flower lovers as we have in Mr. John Russell and Mr. John MacCallum, who, during the winter months, have given their finest blooms to adorn the Communion table. To many in the congregation these lovely flowers have been a great delight and inspiration, and we should like to thank Mr. Russell and Mr. MacCallum for their great kindness.

### THE BOYS' BRIGADE

Once again, arrangements are in hand for Summer Camp, and the Company hopes to again visit Barrhill during the second fortnight of July. Although the war is over, the problem of feeding the boys is as great as ever, and once more an appeal is made to members of the congregation to pass on any spare jam they may have tucked away in a cupboard. In the past, the response to this appeal has been generous, and it is hoped that once again many friends will rise to the occasion.

### THE LIFE BOYS

The Team is forward with a date to note—Friday, 26th April. On this evening, at 7.15, a Display will be given in the Hall, and all interested are cordially invited. The Display will cover all sides of Life Boy work, and should prove both interesting and colourful. Fuller intimation will be given from the pulpit later.

### SEAT LETTING

Members whose names are not on their pews might please see a member of the Seat-Letting Committee at the close of any morning service.

### VARIA

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be dispensed at 11.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. on the first Sabbath of May.

The Preparatory Service will be held on the preceding Friday at 8 p.m.

The Thanksgiving Service will be conducted by the Rev. T. Angus Fraser, M.A., Shawlands Cross Church.

A Class for young Communicants will be opened in the Vestry at the close of the forenoon service on Sunday, 7th April.

The preacher at the Preparatory Service on 3rd May will be the Rev. George Dryburgh, M.A., Battlefield East, and a good attendance at this important service is expected.