

Newton Mearns Church Supplement

MAY, 1947

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

Telephone—NEWton Mearns 2747.

Session Clerk—Mr. C. J. THOM, J.P., M.A.,
81 Beech Avenue, Newton Mearns.

Telephone—NEWton Mearns 2013.

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

Telephone—NEWton Mearns 2467.

Church Services

FORENOON—11.30 a.m.

EVENING—6.30 p.m. (Discontinued for the summer months)

SUNDAY SCHOOL—10.15 a.m.

YOUTH DISCUSSION GROUPS—10.30 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 the little children to come unto Me."

Arthur Johnston Spence, son of Mr. and Mrs. Coldwell,
Glendonough, Kilmarnock Road.

Robin Douglas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Todd, Larchfield Ave.

Ian Stuart, son of Mr. and Mrs. Whyte, The Home Farm,
Patterton.

Deaths

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

Mrs. Bogie, Kinfauns Drive.

Mrs. Donald, Thorndyke, Beech Avenue.

Mr. T. M. Donald, Thorndyke, Beech Avenue.

Miss Annie Lambie, Rashedale, Kilmarnock Road.

Mrs. Mackinlay, Strathendrick, Kinfauns Drive.

Mr. MacLaughlan, Eastpark, Firwood Road.

Mrs. Templeton, Crookfur.

NEW MEMBERS

By Profession of Faith

Miss Amelia C. H. Fairlie, Hazeldean.

Miss Nancy N. Lottimer, The Croft.

Mr. John Lottimer, The Croft.

Mr. Ian MacGregor, 4 Broomvale Drive.

Miss Doris M. Taylor, Morar, Beech Avenue.

By Certificate from other Congregations

Misses Jean and Isa Aitken, 29 Firwood Road.

Mr. and Mrs. John Cromar, Lindores, Netherplace Road.

Mr. and Mrs. John McPhail, Warren House, Kilmarnock
Road.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Whalley, Firdene, Firwood Road.

FINANCE

Income for the Months of March and April, 1947

Systematic Giving	.....	£245	3	6
Church Door Plate	.....	31	19	1
Seat Rents	.....	2	15	0
Interest	.....	9	0	0
Sundry Receipts	.....	1	7	6
Donation from Woman's Guild—				
Church Funds	.....	5	0	0
Church Extension—National Appeal	.....	10	0	0
		£305	5	1

CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Annual Business Meeting of the Congregation was held in the Church Hall on 11th March, and was attended by some 75 members.

The Rev. W. Murray Mackay occupied the chair and opened the meeting with prayer.

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

Mr. Walter Rodger, the Congregational Treasurer, presented the accounts for 1946 and compared the figures with those of the previous year. Mr. J. W. Jarvie, C.A., followed with his report and complimented the Treasurers on their accounts. Thereafter the Congregational Accounts were approved.

On the motion of the Chairman, the thanks of the meeting were conveyed to Mr. Rodger, Treasurer; Mr. McCance, Treasurer of the Systematic Giving Scheme; Mr. Johnston and Mr. Keir, Registrars, and the Assistant Treasurers, Miss E. A. Young, Mr. John Russell and Mr. I. Wood.

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

A synopsis of decisions of the Kirk Session was submitted by Mr. C. J. Thom, Session Clerk.

Mr. McCance proposed a vote of thanks to the leaders and helpers in all the Church Organisations, to Flower Providers, Office-Bearers, Choir, Organist and the Church Officer.

Election of Members to the Congregational Board—Miss Dorward did not wish to be considered for re-election. Messrs. R. D. Campbell and George Corcoran, also due to retire, are not now resident in the district. These retiring members were cordially thanked for their services. The following were re-elected for three years: Miss Osborne; Messrs. J. T. Anderson, D. B. Craig, H. Forsyth, A. M. R. Russell, together with the following new members: Messrs. A. B. McClure, H. A. M. Peden and T. A. Wright.

Mr. Andrew Russell moved a vote of thanks to the Minister and expressed the sympathy of the members to Mr. Mackay in his recent bereavement. Mr. Mackay in his reply referred to the deaths of Mrs. Templeton of Crookfur and Mrs. Mackinlay.

After the business part of the meeting was completed, tea was served by the ladies of the Congregational Board.

This was followed by a most enjoyable musical programme rendered by members of the Choir under the direction of Mr. G. Howard Paterson, the Organist.

Reports on the following were submitted to the meeting: Sabbath School, Woman's Guild, Girls' Association, Social and Badminton Club, Boys' Brigade and Life Boys, Brownies, Young People's Union.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

As you will see from the Year Book the Sunday School meets in the Church Hall at 10.15 a.m. for Seniors, Juniors and Primary and a class for beginners is held during the Morning Service.

We have 133 scholars on the roll, 67 boys and 66 girls. The teaching staff consists of 10 ladies and 5 gentlemen, with Mr. Nimmo as Superintendent.

Mr. Nimmo holds two examinations in the year and prizes are presented at the end of the session. We are very happy to say that more children are coming to those examinations. Prizes for attendance at Sunday School are also presented to the children at the end of the session.

As you all know Mr. Pollock left a legacy to the Sunday School to encourage the children to memorise Psalms and Hymns. Suitable passages are selected for the children according to age and prizes are presented at the end of the session.

NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

The Sunday School trip was again held at Crookfur on 22nd June, and under ideal weather conditions a very happy day was spent by all.

The Sunday School parties were held on Saturday, 21st December, in the Church Hall. The younger children from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., and the Junior and Seniors from 5.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. These parties again proved very successful.

A gift Service was held on Sunday, 22nd December, in the Church and the gifts were again sent to Stobhill Hospital and were very much appreciated.

WOMAN'S GUILD

The Woman's Guild has had weekly meetings from October till the beginning of March. During the first part of the session the attendances were good, but since the New Year sickness and the severity of the weather made the meetings much smaller.

We had speakers representing the various committees of the Woman's Guild and heard how the work of the Church is being carried on at home and overseas.

Of special interest was Dr. James Kelly's visit to us in October when he gave a most illuminating account of the work of the World Church in Europe.

A new feature, and one which was most successful, was the Song Lecture by the Rev. Duncan Macpherson. For the second year we had a joint service on the Women's World Day of Prayer.

We have been able to fulfil our usual obligations and to help with the Christmas treat for the old folks at Powfowls House.

We should like to see more of the women of the congregation at our meetings. We try to cover a wide range in our syllabus and to have something of interest for all. Many people are asking in these days "What is the Church doing?" By attending the Guild meetings and hearing speakers from every department of church work, they might find an answer to that question.

THE GIRLS' ASSOCIATION

The Girls' Association opened the session with a Pre-Dedication Service, to which the Woman's Guild and members of the Session were invited. Our speaker was Miss Effie Robertson of Cathcart, and Mr. Mackay also gave a talk. Our Dedication Service was held in the Church the following Sunday and five new members received their badges.

As the soldier we adopted was discharged from hospital last November, it was decided to write to Erskine Hospital again and see if we could help any other wounded soldier.

We had a visit from Miss Isobel Caldwell, one of the G.A.'s from the Head Office in Edinburgh, who appeared to enjoy her visit very much.

Lately we have been rehearsing for our concert which we gave on 26th, 27th and 28th February under the guidance of Mr. McLaren and Mr. Stewart.

As our funds are rather low this year, the G.A. are holding a Whist Drive and Social Evening on 24th March at 7.30 p.m.

Our A.G.M. will be held on the 31st March and we are closing our session with a night out in April. It has been decided not to carry on the G.A. during the summer months this year.

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

SOCIAL AND BADMINTON CLUB

The Social and Badminton Club meets on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and has a membership of 65. Every-second Tuesday and every Wednesday evening is devoted to Badminton, which has proved very popular this session. About 25 of our members are Badminton players and we have an average attendance of 16 on Wednesdays. We have run an American Tournament each month and on these occasions the members turn out in force. Although the Badminton Churches League will not begin till September of this year, we have played five matches, two

won, two lost, and one drawn. Quite a few of our members who only started Badminton this year have proved valuable assets to the team.

Our Syllabus for the Social activities of the Club has been a varied one, and we feel that everyone's tastes have been catered for. At the beginning of our session we had a debate, and at the beginning of November we performed a "Trial by Jury." This was our first attempt at anything of the sort, but we feel that if the audience enjoyed the show half as much as the performers, it was worth doing. On Christmas Eve we held a Fancy Dress Party and, in spite of coupons, everyone managed to wear something unusual. Perhaps our most successful venture this session was the Burns Supper which took place on Tuesday, 21st January. There was an attendance on this occasion of over 60 people, and all enjoyed the various speeches and the musical programme which followed. Towards the end of August last year we had a Bus Run to Loch Lomond and the Western Highlands. This proved to be such an enjoyable day's outing that we are having another Bus Run on the 26th April to Peebles, and hope that the weather will be as kind to us on that day as it was last year.

We are now near the end of our session which finishes on 30th April, but we take this opportunity of inviting any members or adherents of the congregation who would like to join us, to come along next session and enjoy the fellowship of the Club.

79th GLASGOW COMPY. THE BOYS' BRIGADE

Now nearing the completion of a seventh session the Company can be said to be in a very healthy state and it is quite certain that no night sees greater activity within the church premises than a Friday. To a casual visitor the continual changing of activities and variety of instruction would probably appear haphazard but the finished "jig-saw" will be presented to the public in the form of a complete Display of Company work sometime in May. It is hoped then to give the most comprehensive and attractive demonstration of Boys' Brigade activities ever presented in the village and, with a view to this end, all are working very hard. The Company has always been fortunate in securing expert instructors in all departments and, once again, this is demonstrated on the Dramatic side. Mr. A. R. Macnaughton has taken in hand the production of an excellent one-act Play and this will be embodied in the programme of the Company Display. It is also proposed to show the films taken at Camp and as these cover most holiday activities they should prove of real interest to parents and friends alike. It is felt that the support of the congregation in this effort will not be lacking.

In a letter recently received from Barrhill the writer says: "I see in the local press that you are once again visiting the School in July. Already all the village knows of the fact and a warm welcome awaits the boys on arrival." It is pleasing to note the good impression created by the boys when at Barrhill and all look forward to another happy fortnight there this year. Arrangements, which must inevitably be made well in advance, are progressing smoothly and another successful Camp is assured. One sometimes wonders if members of the congregation realise the gigantic task presented by the feeding alone of some thirty happy, healthy and perpetually hungry boys. On last year's baker's account appear the items "288 loaves" and "70 dozen buns"—enough to turn grey the hair of the habitués of the City Bakeries queue! But the ever-smiling Quartermaster takes things in his stride and after a busy morning "scrounging" in the village shops, always finds time for a bathe or a game of football with the boys. In one department alone does he find it difficult to make ends meet, and that is in respect of jam. It has been said that "A dry piece is good when one is hungry," but the Q.M. always adds "With a little jam it would be better." And this is where a little help from members of the congregation would be much appreciated. If you find you can spare a pot, small or large, would you be good enough to mention the fact to any of

the officers or boys and arrangements will be made for its collection. At Tighnabruaich, in 1942, some ninety pounds of jam were consumed. Last year we had to make do with less than 25 lbs. These figures enable one to realise how difficult the problem is and just how much a pot of jam would be appreciated.

THE LIFE BOYS

Last session was brought to a close by a successful Display when we were very favoured in having as our Inspecting Officer The Right Hon. The Lord Provost of Glasgow. Sir Hector knew most of the leaders and boys personally and had a cheery word for all. The leaders suffered the ordeal of parting with ten of the older boys to the Boys' Brigade.

In May the Team paid a visit to the Anchor Liner *Elysia* at Yorkhill Quay. Owing to wartime conditions the majority of the boys had never been aboard a large ship and they were both amazed and awed at the size of the *Elysia*. Two very obliging Officers showed us round and every corner of the ship was explored, the boys being everywhere but down the funnel!

From the proceeds of our Display we entertained some boys from a Rutherglen Team and were indebted to Mr. Thomas Craig and Mr. Courts for the use of their ground for football and sports. Our Rutherglen friends thought we were lucky to live in such a lovely countryside and enjoyed the day immensely—as did we all.

The leaders and the ten boys who had been transferred to the Boys' Brigade had a "night out" together in June. After a delightful high tea the evening was spent at the pictures and this happy event will live long in the memories of leaders and boys alike.

September saw the start of another session with 24 boys. We have now a roll of 30. Here perhaps I might add a personal tribute to the staff of the Team. During my enforced absence for 2½ months Miss McGregor and the other leaders carried on the Team most efficiently, and I was invited to a special Display at Christmas. The boys were almost angelic in their efforts to let me see how well they had been doing in my absence. On the platform was a lovely Christmas Tree and everyone present brought and received a gift.

At Hallowe'en we had a Party for boys and fathers only. With no mothers present it was a real man's night. The fathers joined in all the games and proved to be grand sports. The stairway, lit only by lanterns formed by hollowed out turnips with grotesque faces, led to the Witch's Cave which was similarly illuminated. Miss Downs acted as witch and all sat around her fire to have their fortunes told. Over the fire was a huge pot of "mashed tatties" which were enjoyed by all. We were indebted to Miss Blue, Mrs. Cormack and Miss Crawford for the successful tea arrangements.

In January, in company with the Boys' Brigade, the Team spent a very enjoyable evening at the Metropole Theatre. The entire company numbered 104 and transport arrangements were kindly made by Mr. Bell of the S.M.T. Special buses took the party to and from town.

On 3rd March a Parents' Night was held in the Hall and there was a splendid turnout of parents and friends. All entered wholeheartedly into the spirit of the evening and had a most enjoyable time.

At the invitation of Sir Hector McNeill, the Team is visiting the City Chambers on Saturday, 26th April. The Lord Provost has arranged to be in attendance to receive us.

In June the officers and senior boys of the Brigade join the Life Boy leaders in an evening bus outing to Balmaha. The programme includes tea at the Loch and thereafter, if the weather permits, small boats will be much in demand.

Plans are being made to have a Team photograph taken in a few week's time. The photographer has offered to "take" the Boys' Brigade, Guides and Brownies at the same time.

No official Display will be held at the end of the session but instead all parents and friends are invited to see the Team at work on an evening to be arranged. Fuller intimation will be made later and a warm invitation extended to all interested.

2nd NEWTON MEARNS BROWNIE PACK

There are twenty-one Brownies in the Pack at the moment, two more have left the district and five went up to Guides last September.

There are five recruits; thirteen doing second class work and three at first class work.

Last December they were all at the Theatre Royal Pantomime, and had a Christmas Party on the 26th.

The Pack attended the District Rally at Eastwood Park last June.

The collection of ship ha'pennies during the year amounted to £1 5s., which was sent to the Sick Children's Hospital.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S UNION

The Young People's Union is open to all youthful members or adherents of the congregation of eighteen years of age or over.

The place of our meetings is the Upper Hall—the time 7.45 p.m. each Sunday after the Evening Service.

The object of our meetings is to promote a feeling of fellowship and Christian communion among the youth of this Church. This we feel can be achieved by discussion, by the free expression of ideas in a congenial atmosphere clear of religious, social or political prejudice.

Our subject matter covers a wide range—this session we have dealt with the Atomic Bomb and attempted a solution of the Jewish problem. Papers are given on such topics followed by free discussion or debate as the case may be.

Our attendances have not yet attained pre-war proportions, but we are hopeful that with the return of our youth still in the Services and with the participation of more of the younger members of this Church we can restore the Y.P.U. to its former size.

We wish to place on record our appreciation of the guidance and encouragement given to us by Mr. Mackay. His has oft been the voice of reason among the babble of contention. We should also like to thank, for their interest, those members of the Session who have visited us from time to time. We noted that they took no part in the debates but whether this abstention was due to propriety or a proper sense of discretion, we cannot presume to judge.

In conclusion, we would like to take this opportunity of extending a very hearty invitation to all young people of this Church of eighteen years of age or over, to join with us in our meetings. And we hope that parents will use their influence in helping in this direction.

THE JUNIOR CHOIR CONCERT

The Junior Choir gave their Concert on the 16th, 17th and 18th April in the Church Hall to large and enthusiastic audiences which went home feeling that they had had one of the most enjoyable evening's entertainments that they had had for a long time. For sheer loveliness of music added to the beauty of execution and performance, it would be hard to surpass the production here of the Junior Choir. They set a standard in taste and choice that we hope will be maintained by all the organisations of the church. Such a performance brings credit to the name of the Church—not our congregation—but the Church as a whole.

It was, of course, a joy to many, apart altogether from the Concert to see the children and the young people being initiated into the noble art of music—to watch them and listen to them bringing out in their choral pieces the different parts, and to see the evident relish that they found as they rendered them. What lovely voices, too, some of them had. One felt that with further

training they would one day bring much joy to many through the medium of this noble art.

If one considers how short was the time that Mr. Paterson had—he only came to us in December—one marvelled at the progress they had made. He is evidently an excellent trainer and also one who has in his heart a warm love of children. He must have been a tired though a happy man with the work he put in at rehearsals added as they were to the excitement of his own domestic life in the arrival of twins in his home. We would like to express our appreciation of his work since he came amongst us, and not least for his building up of the Junior Choir. This is the best feeder of a Senior Choir and the future will reap the harvest.

A word of praise must here be given to Miss Nan Welsh, a friend of Mr. Paterson, on her training of the children in Stage deportment. Never have we seen young people stand so motionless, so naturally and so confidently on a platform. They may have been nervous, but they hardly showed it, and their actions were so graceful even down to the smallest detail, that it was a joy to watch them. She is due very great credit for her part in the show. They had also been warned to speak out, and scarcely a word at the back of the hall was ever missed.

There were many willing helpers at the back of the stage. The fact that a bouquet of flowers was given on their own initiative by the Choir to Mrs. Robertson was a token of how she had helped them. Mr. Robertson set up the stage and worked hard making and putting up the scenery. Others who were there were Mr. Stirling, Mr. Niven, Mr. Wardrop, the Misses Blue, Mrs. Niven, Miss Downs, the Misses Hay, Mrs. Cormack and Mrs. Thom. Mrs. Jane Taylor Young rendered delightful duets with Mr. Paterson on two pianos, including some of their own compositions. Altogether a delightful production.

VARIA

The Woman's Guild

This year it falls to our Guild Branch to have the Echo Meeting of the South-West Council in our Church Hall on Monday, 2nd June. At this meeting, as the name implies, reports of the Assembly meetings are given.

The attendance usually is large—200 or more. The Committee has discussed the question of providing tea for that number, as no help is available from the Ministry of Food. They have decided to ask members of the Guild to help them. We know how difficult it is in these days to provide extra food but, if each member can give a little, we think the difficulty can be overcome.

Those who are willing to help might give their names to the Secretary, Miss H. J. Osborne, as soon as possible. Further intimation of arrangements will be made later.

Flowers for the Communion Table

Once again the Flower Committee would like to acknowledge the Congregation's indebtedness to Mr. John Russell for so generously providing the flowers each Sunday during the winter months. During these months flowers were difficult to obtain and the beautiful blooms provided by him were appreciated by everyone.

The Flower List will be in the Vestibule next Sunday and, as the Daffodils and other Spring flowers are coming on again, anyone desiring to put flowers on the Communion Table in the month of May might put her name on the list for one of the vacant Sundays.

Seat Letting

Members whose names are not on their pews or any other requiring Sittings might please see Mr. Meiklejohn, or any member of the Seat Letting Committee, at the close of any Morning Service.

Changes of Address

Any members changing their addresses are earnestly requested to notify the Session Clerk so that their names may be given to the Elder of the District to which they have gone, thus preventing disappointment at not receiving Communion Cards.

Communion

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated on Sunday, 4th May. At the Forenoon Service, when the Minister officiated 427 members were present, and at the Evening Service, which was conducted by Rev. J. Adamson Finlay, of Cathcart South Church, 25 were present; making 452 for the day.

Quinquennial Visitation

On Wednesday, 14th May, the Congregation is to be visited by the Presbytery, represented by Rev. Hamish Mackenzie, of Orchardhill Church, and Rev. R. A. O. Wylie, of Hutchesontown and Caledonia Road Church, and two elders. The deputation meets with the Minister at 7.15 p.m., the Session at 7.30 p.m., and the Congregational Board at 8.15 p.m.