

Newton Mearns Church Supplement

JUNE, 1948

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Church Services

MORNING—11.30 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—10.15 a.m.

A Class for Beginners and for children living at a distance from the Church is held in the Upper Hall during the Morning Service.

IN MEMORIAM.

At the forenoon service, Mr. Mackay said:—

It is with very deep regret that I intimate to you the death of Mr. John Hamilton of Tahoe, Ayr Road, Newton Mearns, an elder in the congregation and one greatly esteemed and loved. It is but three weeks ago since he was in his accustomed place at the services of the Lord's day. On the following Thursday he had a severe heart attack, and died early on Friday morning in his 64th year.

If one were in a few words endeavouring to sum up his character, one would begin by saying that he had a genius for making friends. It is only five and a half years since he and his family removed to our neighbourhood from the Tollcross district, where he was born and brought up, but in that short space of time he had gathered around him a host of friends. He was not afraid to speak to people and it was not long before he knew all about the stranger, and had often discovered a mutual friend through the conversation. Nor was there anything inquisitive about the approach. It was simply a genuine desire to be friendly and to give of himself freely to others. He was interested in his fellow members in the congregation. People have testified to the warmth of the welcome he gave them when on duty as an office-bearer at the door. Friendship was to him a precious possession and he found great happiness in the pursuit of it.

Another of his fine qualities was his generosity. "When-ever he gave he gave willingly, and did so with all his heart." This was one of the tributes a friend paid to him and no truer words were ever spoken of Mr. John Hamilton. He was always thinking of others, and many will testify to the innumerable kindnesses that they received from his hands. His giving was not niggardly but spontaneously and fulsomely.

Perhaps we shall remember him best in his love for the Church.

"I joyed when to the House of God
Go up they said to me:
Jerusalem within thy gates.
Our feet shall standing be."

He loved the House of God with his whole soul, and there was no day of the week to which he looked forward

with greater expectation than the Lord's Day. The words of the 69th Psalm could well have been applied to him: "The zeal of Thine House hath eaten me up." To persuade others to come to the Church, that was the dominating passion of his heart. He spoke to people everywhere about it. He pled with them to come to the Evening Service or to the Preparatory Service, and he was never satisfied until they had given him their promise. He, himself, gave them, of course, a magnificent example in this respect in his own life. He was present every Sunday at the Forenoon and the Evening Services. He wanted to bring people into touch with Christ, and when he had accomplished that, he had done all that he could. "If I be lifted up from the earth will draw all men unto Me."

He was elected an elder in Tollcross Central Church and filled the position there for a considerable number of years, also occupying the office of Roll-keeper. We were only privileged to have his services for a few years, but in that time he visited his district most faithfully, ever pleading with the backslider to amend his ways. For the young he had a special care.

One of his last acts of generosity was to provide the baskets with which the cups are collected after the Communion Service. It was at his request that we sang last Sunday the hymn "Rock of Ages cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee." Even as he lay dying his thoughts were ever of the Church. Rarely have I heard that beautiful hymn more finely rendered than it was that day. It was his thought that inspired it.

To his widow and family who have won such a place in our esteem and love we extend our deepest sympathy, sorrowing also with his brothers and sisters in their sore bereavement.

"When I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eye lids close in death,
When I soar through tracts unknown,
See Thee on Thy Judgment Throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee."

REGISTER.

Baptisms.

"Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

James Ross, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Close, 19 Moorhill Road.

James Cameron, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ian Fulton, 84 Beech Avenue.

Marriage.

"Whom God hath joined together, let no man put asunder."

James D. Fyfe and Elizabeth King.

Deaths.

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

Mrs. Robert Maclean, 1 Moorhill Road.

Mr. John Hamilton, Tahoe, Ayr Road.

New Members.

By Profession of Faith.

William Campbell, The Lodge, Capelrig.

Mary G. Forbes, Ashtree Grove, Ayr Road.

Isobel Hodge, 116 Alexandra Parade, Glasgow.

Elizabeth McM. Hamilton, 1 Moorhill Road.

Alexander Ingram, 12 Torridon Avenue, Dumbreck.

Edward A. Munro, 87 Main Street.
 Marianne K. Richmond, 4 McLennan Street, Mt. Florida.
 James A. H. Nicoll, The Lodge, Capelrig.
 Annabella W. Rodger, Netherplace Farm.
 William Wardrop, 13 Main Street.
 Douglas Gordon Watson, 20 Windsor Avenue.
 John B. Wood, 119 Beech Avenue.

By Certificate from other Congregations.

Mr. and Mrs. John Campbell, The Lodge, Capelrig.
 Mr. and Mrs. R. Close, 19 Moorhill Road.
 Mr. and Mrs. James G. Fairman, 29 Hazelwood Avenue.
 Mr. and Mrs. Pollock, Malletsheugh Farm.
 Mrs. Thompson, 5 Gilmourton Crescent.
 Miss Elizabeth C. Wallace, Garvie House.
 Miss Adaline M. Wallace, Garvie House.

FINANCE.

Income for the first Five months.

	1948.			1947.		
Systematic Giving	£635	11	3	£712	18	6
Open Plate	115	9	11	95	9	7
Seat Rents	70	15	0	61	0	0
Mission Envelopes	33	12	0	29	4	6
Retiring Collections	23	1	0	17	5	6
Collection (Mission to Lepers)	8	0	0	—		
Sundry Items	65	5	10	61	2	0
	£951	15	0	£977	0	1

SUNDAY GAMES.

For the guidance of Church Members we draw attention to the following points:—

1. The Sabbath was set apart by Almighty God for the worship of His Name. Without such worship the Christian Church cannot live. No worship, no Church.
2. The Sabbath Day is the only day the majority of Christians worship God. Here we see the wisdom of God in setting a day apart.
3. What the rest of the world does on Sunday is not our concern. We are Christians and stand in life for the Way of Christ.
4. The principle that must govern our behaviour on Sunday is to do nothing that will "break" the mood of worship.
5. To suggest that people might spend Sunday in a worse way, is, for a Christian, no justification for spending the day in a wrong manner.
6. To encourage others to behave otherwise on Sundays, *i.e.* by voting for them, is to aid and abet what we as Christians know to be wrong.
7. The Commandment of God, verified in our own experience, is that Sunday should be used for (a) Rest and (b) Worship. "Wherefor the Lord blessed the Sabbath Day and *Hallowed* it"—Ex. 20.

THE WOMAN'S GUILD.

On Wednesday, 12th May, a service of a unique nature was held in Ward 39 of the Southern General Hospital, Govan. The patients in that ward had expressed their desire to form a branch of the Woman's Guild. Mrs. MacLauchlan, Assistant Hospital Chaplain had agreed to act as President for the first year, and two of the women as Secretary and Treasurer. As the Hospital is in the South-West District of Glasgow, the Dedication Service was held under that Council.

Mrs. Macdonald, City President, Mrs. Macfarlane, Council President, and the Vice-President took part. They were accompanied to the ward by the Assistant

Medical Superintendent, the Assistant Matron, the Ward Sister and the Rev. Mr. Kirk of Linthouse, Hospital Chaplain. The service was short and impressive. After singing the 23rd Psalm, Mrs. Macdonald gave a short address. She stressed the fact that though their circumstances were different from those of the ordinary Guild member there was some bit of service which they could do, in this, the largest organisation of women in the world.

Mrs. Macfarlane welcomed the new branch in the name of the S.W. Council, and gave them their membership cards. The 2nd Paraphrase was sung and the chaplain offered the Dedication Prayer.

The Badges—a gift from the Council Committee—had not come from Edinburgh, but each member received a small posy of primroses and Lily of the Valley.

It was an unforgettable service. All but a few of the women are bedridden, and one is totally blind. None of them will ever be out of Hospital. The Secretary and Treasurer lie in adjacent beds, the latter, a bus conductress, has been in bed for four years. Considering all this, it is not surprising, that at the close of the service, the doctor should remark—"For the first time, these women have an interest in life."

We extend to these, our newest Guild members, our warmest wishes for their happiness and success.

DELEGATES' REPORTS OF WOMEN'S MEETINGS DURING THE ASSEMBLY WEEK.

1. The Woman's Guild Meeting, Usher Hall, 18th May, 1948.

The Hall was completely filled when the members of the Woman's Guild of the Church of Scotland assembled for the mass meeting.

The splash of colour on the platform lined with Hydrangea of every colour, mixed with white Margurites, and green fern was reflected from the Grand Tier by the "New Look" hats of many hues.

The Lord High Commissioner, Mr. George Mathers, commented rather subtly on this in his speech later.

It was with deep emotion we sang the Hymn:—

"Soldiers of Christ arise.

Gird you with your armour bright."

Dr. Bauerbeck of Berlin, a small, plainly-dressed woman minister, one of three German Church women guests of the Woman's Guilds, conveyed the thanks of her countrywomen for our material and spiritual help in an excellent speech in faultless English.

Mrs. G. S. Duncan, retiring Vice-President, who had just returned the night before from Germany, advocated a linking up of Guild Branches between the two countries by a system of correspondence.

From a women's meeting at which she had been overwhelmed with messages of good wishes, she brought the greeting—"He who sows love—reaps love." This received a great ovation, an indication of the earnest desire for friendship with our ex-enemies who are of the same faith.

The Lord High Commissioner, Mr. George Mathers, in his speech referred to the fact that this was his third official visit to the mass Guild Meeting, and to the inspiration it never failed to arouse in him.

He spoke of the strength of the Woman's Guild, 136,343 members, and of their total contributions amounting to £199,331.

He was followed by Miss Florence Hirstburgh, who spoke of the place of Churchwomen in the world of to-day, and urged us to a greater sense of individual responsibility. We must "snap out" of this "can't be bothered" attitude, and the all too prevalent "easy way out": a new world could be built to-day on Faith, and listening to the voice of God for inspiration.

Mrs. Walter Sutherland, the President of the Woman's Guild, who had previously greeted the Moderator in the "Old Tongue," concluded the Meeting, and as we left the hall, the sunshine and the flowers in Princes

Street Gardens seemed to smile on our good intentions.

Will they be carried out into the world?

2. The Women's Foreign Mission, Usher Hall, 19th May, 1948.

Miss Allison Harvey, President of the W.F.M., presided, and the theme of the Meeting was "As the Father hath sent me, even so send I you."

The Meeting opened with praise and prayer, and the President extended greetings to Missionaries on furlough and to other friends in the hall. We then heard most interesting and inspiring reports from round the fields, given by various delegates from Manchuria, India, China, Gold Coast, Nigeria, Kenya, etc. Every report was full of inspiration and stories of devotion and sacrifice.

The afternoon session was opened by Miss Cowie of Aden, who gave an account of her work in S. Arabia.

Dr. Foster's address was on the theme of woman's part in spreading the Christian Faith. He said "No nation can rise above its women and women can only find the fullest life through Christ."

The Moderator and his suite visited the Meeting, and the new Missionaries were presented—16 of them this year. One of the most impressive moments of the Meeting was when that great throng of 4,000 women stood up and sang "The Lord bless thee and keep thee."

The African Secretary of the Foreign Mission Council closed the Meeting with prayer and the Benediction.

3. The Women's Home Mission, Usher Hall, 20th May, 1948.

The Meeting was visited by the Moderator, who commenced on the good work being done for the homes of Scotland by the Church Sisters, whose salaries, he was pleased to note had been increased to £250 per annum.

Mrs. Coutts, the Home Mission Convener, appealed to Guild Members to do something definite during the coming year to try and take the Gospel into the homes of Scotland.

Miss E. M. Fraser, in presenting the Annual Report, stated that at present 92 Church Sisters were on the roll, including Probationers, and 8 Students in training. There was a balance of £8,000, but a large part of this sum would be used to meet the increase in Church Sisters' salaries. She pointed out that there was a time not far distant when it was safe to assume that most young people came from homes where they received at least some Christian teaching, but that is now the exception rather than the rule. Sometimes the child and adolescent has never seen a Bible and knows little or nothing of its contents.

Miss Laird, Secretary of Edinburgh Association of Mental Hygiene gave an address on the Enhancement of Personal Welfare.

Mrs. Coutts, retiring Convener, after introducing Mrs. T. W. Lund, Convener for 1948, presented her with a brooch, which took the form of the Iona Cross.

The Meeting ended with the presentation of badges to the new Church Sisters.

THE JUNIOR CHOIR.

Another Session of the Junior Choir ended with their Concert on the 14th, 15th and 16th April in the Church Hall. Although nearly two months have elapsed since

then, we have not forgotten the thrills of these evenings and the delightful choral and solo singing, and acting given to us in them. Mr. Paterson and Miss Welsh co-operate most admirably in their work and production, and we would extend to them both our most cordial thanks for their work amongst the children all through the session and for the Concert that ended it in a blaze of glory. It is not too much to say that the children felt that something had gone out of their life when the Junior Choir closed for the season.

First of all, we would refer to the Choral singing which is the foundation of the Choir and say how much we enjoyed it. In future productions we could do with more of this. To hear all the parts coming out is a delight, and the children seem so happy in being able to do this. It should inculcate in them a real love of music.

The Wedding Scene was gorgeously produced. Where the dresses came from one can scarcely imagine. Many fathers will have few coupons for weeks to come. The solos and duets were also beautifully rendered, and the little sketches most attractive and entertaining. The plays "Michael" and "The Duchess of Alebazong" were both very different from the other and very well acted. "The Gendarmes" was most tuneful and colourful. The whole show blended well together, and embraced a large number of enthusiastic children.

Mr. Paterson and Miss Welsh shouldered the main burden of the work, and to both of them our thanks must be given. They work well together, and we would like them to know how much we appreciate their willing work for the Church. It may have caused them some sleepless nights, but the result was a tremendous success. They had able assistance from Miss Isobel Corrance at the piano, Miss Jessie Forgan, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Niven, Mr. Alan Laing, Mr. Gordon Robertson, Mr. Stirling, Mrs. Cormack, Miss Mary Hay, Mrs. Thom and other ladies, Mr. John Russell, Mr. Telfer and Mr. Ian Wood. You can see from such a list that they were well supported. An excellent production. Well done!

THE BOYS' BRIGADE DISPLAY.

This was held on Thursday and Friday, 27th and 28th May, in the Church Hall, to excellent attendances. The programme was fully worthy of them. Mr. D. J. MacPhail was in the chair the first night and acquitted himself admirably, and the Minister on the closing evening.

We have been accustomed to a high standard in the entertainment provided by the 79th, and the fact that it continues to be maintained year after year reflects great credit on the Officers. The actual display is, of course, only one small item in the work of the year, and what is of pre-eminent importance is that the boys are being trained all through the winter in drill and other accomplishments. Their muscles are being developed, their minds sharpened to obey a command, and the team spirit being imbued in them. In all these respects the display revealed a real measure of attainment.

As regards the Display itself, the evening was varied with items showing the drill being given, and humorous interludes such as the "Knob-Twisters" and "This Freedom." We also heard the Pipes and Drums, a special feature of the Brigade. The Play was produced by Mr. A. R. Macnaughton, and was magnificently acted. As usual in all the producer gives us, a very high tone was maintained throughout.

The Captain will, elsewhere, refer to the awards won by the boys. Mrs. Niven presented the prizes most graciously, and the evening closed with the hymn "Abide with Me," the Benediction and the National Anthem.

To Mr. Robertson, the Captain, and the Officers, Mr. and Mrs. Macnaughton, Mr. Russell of Mearnskirk, Mr.

Robertson, Mr. Alan Laing, the Life Boy Leaders and the ladies behind the scenes, we extend our grateful thanks.

We might mention also the meetings of the Adolescent Groups on Sunday morning at 10.30 a.m. in the Church, in which the Boys' Brigade have shared, and how successful they seem to have been. In the first part of the session we studied the Life of Christ, and in the second the Commandments. Mr. Robertson, Mr. Hall and Mr. Armour co-operated with the Minister in these.

BOYS' BRIGADE AWARDS.

Young Cup for best boy of the year—
Sgt. Ronald Jamieson.

Recruit Medal—
Pte. Douglas Russell.

Kintail Cup for best piper of the year—
Pte. George Brandie.

Squad Medal—No. 4 Squad—
Sgt. Martin Hodge.

Two years' Perfect Attendance—Sgt. R. Jamieson, Sgt. Martin Hodge, Cpl. J. Gardiner, Cpl. S. Russell, L/Cpl. M. Cranna, Pte. R. Blue, Pte. F. Robertson.

One year's Perfect Attendance—Sgt. G. Watson, Sgt. N. Todd, Pte. D. Barrie, Pte. G. Brandie, Pte. C. Riddet, Pte. A. Stewart, Pte. G. MacKinlay.

Best Boys in Squads—Ptes. D. Barrie, F. Robertson, D. Russell and G. McKinlay.

Three Years' Anchors—Ptes. C. Riddet, A. Stewart, R. Blue and H. Macdonald.

The Officers take this opportunity of thanking all, and they are many, who assisted in any way throughout the session or contributed by their help to the success of the Display.

THE LIFE BOYS.

The Lifeboys commenced their Session in September, and meet every Friday night at 6 o'clock.

At the beginning of the session we welcomed to our Team quite a number of new recruits, which altogether makes 28 boys on the roll. The attendance nightly has been approximately 26 which, considering weather, illness, etc., is remarkably good.

We were very sorry to say goodbye to Mrs. Robertson who has been Leader-in-Charge of the Team for many years. She found this step necessary owing to health reasons and we hope she keeps much better in the future.

During the past months the Team has been well occupied with Team work, which has progressed considerably, and we were well represented at the Armistice Parade in Mearns.

Again this year we had a fancy dress Hallowe'en Party to which we invited the fathers, and it would be difficult to say whether fathers or boys had the better time.

The boys put in some hard work for their Parents' Night, which we held on Christmas week. There was a splendid turn out of Parents who saw an ordinary night's work in the Team, and to round off a very successful

night there was a lively Christmas half-hour, complete with Santa Claus and Christmas Tree.

The boys had an added thrill when the Leaders took them to the Carnival one Saturday afternoon, an outing enjoyed by Leaders and boys alike.

Then on Wednesday, 25th February, the Leaders took the boys to the Pantomime, in company with the Boys' Brigade. We had a thoroughly enjoyable time, and it was rather unfortunate that several boys were unable to come, due to illness.

This year we started a football team, but owing to a late start in this venture, and inclement weather, we have only managed two games, both against the 45th Team, but several more are in the offing.

The next important item was the Pollok District Sportagama, held in the Langside Halls, on 19th and 20th February. The contribution of the 79th Team was a short play entitled "The King who Learned to Laugh," and the Leaders would like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. McNaughton for his patience and kindness in helping to produce this item, and the performance of our boys was a credit to the Team. Incidentally, any parent who did not manage to the Sportagama will have an opportunity of seeing this item at our Display, to be held on 9th April. A varied programme has been drawn up and the boys are working very hard for their Display which, we hope, will be well supported by the Congregation.

May I take this opportunity of thanking Leaders and Instructors with me in the Team for the work they have done and the splendid support they have given me during this year.

Boys and Leaders have had a most happy and enjoyable Session.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The Annual Outing will take place to Floors Farm this year on Saturday, 26th June. The buses will leave Mearns at 2 p.m.

The Distribution of Sunday School Prizes will take place in the Church on Sunday, 27th June.

THE BROWNIES.

It is with great pleasure that we announce that Morag Hay has passed the Test of the 1st Class Brownie and now wears the Golden Hand Badge on her uniform. She will "fly" into the Girl Guides in September, and will wear her Brownie Wings on her Guide uniform.

SEAT LETTING.

Members whose names are not on their pews or any other requiring Sitzings might please see Mr. Meiklejohn at the close of any Morning Service.

CHANGE 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 removed, thus preventing disappointment at not receiving Communion Cards.