

NEWTON MEARN'S CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

JANUARY, 1958.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

Minister—

Rev. W. MURRAY MACKAY, M.A., S.T.M.,
The Manse, Newton Mearns.
Tel.: NEWton Mearns 2747.

Session Clerk—

Mr C. J. THOM, J.P., M.A.,
81 Beech Avenue, Newton Mearns.
Tel.: NEWton Mearns 2013.

Treasurer—

Mr WALTER RODGER,
220 Ayr Road, Newton Mearns.
Tel.: NEWton Mearns 2467.

Clerk to the Congregational Board—

Mr WALTER T. DAVIDSON,
1 Raeside Avenue, Newton Mearns.
Tel.: NEWton Mearns 2534.

Systematic Giving Scheme.

Registrar—

Mr PAUL R. WOOD,
119 Beech Avenue, Newton Mearns.
Tel.: NEWton Mearns 2694.

Treasurer—

Mr ANDREW S. McCANCE,
50 Broomvale Drive, Newton Mearns.
Tel.: NEWton Mearns 2946.

Allocation of Seats in the Church—

Mr H. A. M. PEDEN, M.A., LL.B.,
Milrig, Glebe Road, Newton Mearns.
Tel.: NEWton Mearns 2952.

Organist—

Mr WALTER S. CUTHILL,
34 Woodvale Avenue, Clarkston.
Tel.: GIFFnock 4144.

Church Officer—

Mr GEORGE WARDROP,
54 Castle Road, Newton Mearns.
Tel.: GIFFnock 5856.

THE REGISTER.

Baptisms.

"Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

James William Davie, 42 Eaglesham Road.
Alice Gladys Rapier, 8 Newtonlea Avenue.

Deaths.

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

Mrs Glegg, Barrhead Road.
Mrs Heyworth, 13 Main Street.
Mrs Edgar, 56 Trefoil Avenue, Shawlands.

MINISTER'S LOG.

Let me begin this first supplement of another year by wishing you all a very happy and prosperous New Year. The Christmas festivities will now be almost over, and we must settle down to the serious task of living but we do so in the faith that Jesus Christ is Lord of the future. The words of the poet which the late King George VI brought to the notice of the Nation are applicable at this time, "And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied, "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way." So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And He led me toward the hills, and the breaking of day in the lone East.

We give a warm welcome in this issue to the new editor of the Supplement, Mr Murray Hanna. It is encouraging to see one of our new and younger elders offering his services to the Church in this respect. We can expect an increased emphasis on the place of youth in the Church, and I am sure that we will not be disappointed. Already the Youth activities in the congregation are gathering momentum and it is our hope that it will take an ever increasing place in the life of the congregation. After all the youth of to-day will be, we pray the Church of to-morrow.

I have concluded four addresses to the Congregation on the Inter Church Relations Report, and I have pleaded with you to preserve an open mind on the subject. I have no more desire to see Bishops in the Church than you have but there are tremendous issues involved here. We are entering this dangerous atomic age; there is the march of Communism in the earth; there is the shortage of manpower in the ministry. It is important that the Church of Jesus Christ should, as far as possible, be one. It must learn to speak with one voice to mankind. It is a marvellous thing that the Presbyterians and the Episcopalians should have sat down together for eighteen months, and engaged in friendly conversation about the Christian Faith. It is still more amazing that they should have issued a joint report. It may be that the Episcopalians have more to learn from us, than we from them. I think they have, and that's all the more reason for keeping in close touch with them. If we can help them to think more clearly then we ought to try to do so, without compromising our own position in any way. I do feel we should welcome the fact that the two Churches have reached the stage where they are talking to each other.

I must not take up more of the editor's space.

With every good wish,

Very sincerely yours,

W. MURRAY MACKAY.

OBITUARY.

Mrs Glegg of Barrhead Road, Newton Mearns died on Wednesday, 9th October, 1957, in a city hospital. She had been ill for some weeks but none of us believed that she could be so near the end. Ever since her husband died she has lived alone and perhaps we ought not to grudge her her rest. Her passing however leaves a blank in our midst for she was so often seen walking along the Barrhead Road. Whenever you met her she always had a cheery smile and was always interested in all that was going on in your household. Her husband was the local plumber, and one of the most familiar figures in the district. He was one of the first persons I got to know when we came to the Church as he went over the Manse with us. To all her kith and kin in the district and beyond we extend our deepest sympathy in the passing of one so justly loved.

Mrs Heyworth of 13 Main Street, died on 25th October, 1957. It was, as far as my memory serves me, in 1933 that she and her two daughters came from Lancashire on the death of her husband to live in this district beside her sister Mrs Bell. It must have been a great change for her to come north to a place where she hardly knew anyone but I am quite sure that she did not regret the decision that she made.

She had, of course, in Mr and Mrs Hugh Bell, a home to which she could go for advice and help. She soon attached herself to the life of the Church, and she and her two daughters have been most faithful members, and regular attenders. Flossie and Phyllis were soon in the midst of the youth activities of the Church, and taking their full share in them. We could not say that she enjoyed the best of health but she never allowed this to keep her in the house, and one often marvelled that she was able to go about as she did. Her brave and unselfish spirit triumphed indeed over the flesh. It could be said indeed that she lived for others, and no matter what it cost her, she was willing to try to do it. Her favourite hymn was that by the blind minister of Innellan, "O Love that wilt not let me go," and that was indeed the secret of her life. To her two daughters, her son-in-law, her sister, and her grandchild in whom she took such delight we extend our deepest sympathy.

—o—

Mrs Edgar, of 56 Trefoil Avenue, Shawlands, died on 28th October, 1957. She and her husband joined the Church when they lived in Edzell Drive. He was a furrier to trade and suffered considerably in his chest through inhaling pieces of fur in his work. After her husband died she went to live in Shawlands, but she continued to take a keen interest in the life and work of the Church. Nothing pleased her so much as to receive a copy of the Supplement and to be kept informed as to all that was going on. To her son and daughter, and all her relations we extend the sympathy of the Congregation in the passing of one they so dearly loved.

—o—

THE SUPPLEMENT.

The Supplement this month has to report so many activities that, as a space saver, headings have been dispensed with apart from the essential ones of Past, Present and Future. It is intended in future issues to print articles by members of this congregation who have some special experience to relate or a job which has some bearing on Christian work, be it at home or abroad. You will note that a Children's Corner has been created and it is our hope that parents and friends will make an effort to bring this feature to the attention of the youngsters.

—o—

PAST.

"They were not forgotten"—Sunday, 10th November, saw a splendid turn-out from the uniformed organisations and a large Congregation who joined together to pay tribute to the fallen of two wars. Long may this important day in the Church calendar be supported so well. It never hurts us to remember our debts, be they to God, Country or our fellow men.

Well done the Woman's Guild! What could have been more appropriate than to arrange for Mrs Sinclair, Secretary and Treasurer of the Hospital Sunday Fund to visit us and give an illustrated lecture on her work at a time so close to Hospital Sunday. By the way, we hear that the lecture aroused a lot of interest—could you invite her again and have an open night?

We hear the Sunday School are planning to send something all the way to East Africa—watch the next Supplement for full details.

The newly ordained Elders were hosts to members from their districts and recently joined members of the Church at a Social in the Church Hall on Wednesday, 20th November. On arrival each member was presented with a lapel badge bearing names of parts of the Church and surrounding district in anagram form and asked to circulate amongst the guests and solve as many titles as they could. Needless to say no one remained a stranger for long. Having completed this task any one who thought their work was finished was doomed to disappointment as Mr Mackay hurled himself into the fray with a full programme of games, Solo spots, Canadian Barn Dances more Solo spots and yet more games. The Solo items from Catherine McCormick, Margaret Hunter and Mrs Ella Todd were nicely placed and the selection of material showed all too clearly the great care and preparation which had gone into their brief moments in the spot light. The piano is not played, a song sung or a dramatic reading given without a lot of rehearsal if an audience is to be pleased. Your rehearsal time was well spent ladies.

If, under a barrage of entertainment, the participants had begun to wilt no surprise would have been expressed but, far from it, they even looked upon "Auld Lang Syne" as an unwelcome intrusion on a party which was getting well and truly into its stride. The food provided was excellent and a real credit to the Elders' wives; quantity and quality were just right so we will ask you ladies to tell your men folk not to send us home so early next time. We felt sure we must have been naughty.

Have you seen the programme of the Youth Fellowship for 1957—1958? We have, and we can tell you that the breadth and scope of the syllabus would do credit to any organisation. Can we take the time of 5 p.m. as a permanent arrangement? Come on you young people, wash your hair or do your swotting some other time and support your friends. Incidentally, our young people are certainly getting around—Canada and Switzerland are now on the visiting list. Would you like to hear a little about their trips? We'll see what can be arranged.

If on a Sunday morning at the end of the service you hear the pitter patter of little feet don't think we are troubled with mice. It is just the Beginners Class descending from the Upper Hall after their weekly adventure into Bible study under the care of Judith Bain and Isobel Grant. What a grand job these two girls are doing! Never a week goes by, but plans are being made for models, pictures, flannelgraphs or a picture frieze with which to impress the wonders of God's world upon the youngsters in their care. We are told that there is room for a few more so hurry along you Mothers and book a seat for your kiddy.

We would like to visit the Primary Department to report what goes on there and we are sure that Miss Wilson will give us an invitation now that she knows we are interested. What time will suit you Miss Wilson? We are yours to command.

Co-operation was the keynote on Friday, 13th December, when the Sunday School Teachers, Girl Guides, Boy's Brigade and a swarm of helpers transformed the Church Hall into a suitable place for Santa. Girl Guides are noted for their efficiency and the Guide Captain, Isobel Morris set a fine example by the skill she displayed in the purchase of decorations. All who saw the Hall could do nothing but be impressed.

The Misses Hay and Wilson organised their assistants to such good effect that loaves, butter and sandwich fillings became layer upon layer of tempting eatables as though at the wave of a wand and if one can judge by the expression on peoples faces, these two ladies and their helpers were more than rewarded for their hard work by the way the children "tucked in" at the party. Locusts could not have done a better job.

Mr Menzies was heard to express the view that Tarzan of the Apes was helping to decorate the Hall but it appears that this was Russell Hillhouse who was moving the extending ladder about with a careless abandon which had to be seen to be believed. The Christmas Tree was a joy to see and Barrie Pirrett and Isobel Morris (that girl again) are to be congratulated on a job well done.

So much for the preparations. What of the parties? Saturday 14th, saw a week of parties off to a splendid start with the Beginners and Primary in the afternoon and the Juniors in the evening. Never a dull moment was the order of the day and the teachers, leaders and distinguished visitors worked like trojans to keep the fun going. What well known lady who sings in the Church Choir turned out to be a dab hand at the Tray and Handkerchief game? Your right—Mrs Thom. The children noticed it too and had her out of her seat as soon as they could drop the handkerchief at her feet. The children love a good sport—take a bow Mrs Thom. No Christmas party would be complete without a visit from Santa and a real jovial old soul he turned out to be. After a long and hilarious tale about an old man who couldn't remember whether he slept with his beard inside or outside the blankets he went amongst the children with gifts and finally departed to the sound of a rousing chorus of Jingle Bells from the children. A wonderful night came to an end as Mr Menzies asked God's blessing on us all.

Comparative peace reigned in the Hall on Monday and Tuesday but Wednesday 18th, brought the Guides and their friends together for the annual Party Dance. A varied programme of games and dances had been planned which included a game called "The Big Stretch" which we think should be automatically included in the programme of the next Church social. (For details apply Guide Captain.) At a rough guess there were approximately a hundred partygoers and anyone who tries to tell us that Youth to-day is blasé or difficult to entertain will be required to attend the Guide dance next year and eat their words. Incidentally, Girls, next year we might appoint a fashion editor so that we can do justice to your appearance. We thought you looked very—is "sharp" the word.

Thursday and the small fry took over for the Brownies party. There was one Brownie there who kept on losing points for the team as pipe in hand quick movement was impossible. On second thoughts

maybe it wasn't a Brownie; black jacket, trousers, spectacles and a pipe, that description rings a bell—where have we seen someone like that before? Brown Owl Joan McPhail was in command and one game followed another with bewildering rapidity. A game which seemed very popular was musical statues and much to our surprise the Brownie with the pipe was out very quickly. A few more items and then time to go home. A pity but Mothers and Fathers were waiting and would not be denied. Parents are such a nuisance sometimes aren't they?

Friday 20th, and the Lifeboys took the field. This is the party with a difference as each boy must bring his Father or have a stand-in who is willing to risk life and limb to partner his "son" for the night. Games by the dozen each more riotous than the one before and bags of food was a description of this party. Add ice cream and a Santa who travelled here by way of Australia to pick up a letter from the previous Lifeboy Leader, Miss Margaret McGregor, and it all adds up to a first class event. We hear that all Fathers, etc., left the Hall in one piece—you Lifeboys must be getting soft.

A particularly fine effort on the part of the Youth Fellowship just misses this issue of the Supplement but we wish to give credit where credit is due. The Y.F. wanted to do something in the true spirit of Christmas so they undertook to visit with a small Carol singing group, a few members who are confined to their houses or beds. Carols were carefully chosen and rehearsed and we are only sorry we can't report more fully. A nice thought which deserves to be recognised.

Childrens Gift Service, Sunday, 22nd December, 1957. After the children had laid their gifts on the steps of the Chancel, Mr Mackay battling against a gloom spread by the atrocious weather soon had the Church ringing with the tunes of traditional Carols and then delighted everyone with a lively address which held us enthralled.

PRESENT.

At a previous meeting of the Congregational Board a sub-committee was appointed to consider ways and means of raising funds to help build additional Hall accomodation. On the 11th December, 1957, the sub-committee convener, Mr Walter Rodger submitted their recommendations to the Board. To understand the position clearly perhaps a few details would not come amiss.

Shortly after World War II it was decided that some fitting Memorial should be erected to the memory of the fallen of both Wars. The Memorial was to take three forms, a Stained Glass window, a Bell Tower and Bells, and a Memorial Hall or Halls. Since this decision was made the Stained Glass window has been installed and the Bell Tower and Bells dedicated but both were donated by members of the congregation. Now, we are faced with the third part which, to be a proper Church Memorial, must be provided by us.

Until recent months it was difficult to foresee how this was to be accomplished as no space was available in the immediate vicinity of the Church. However, a new development plan for Main Street, Newton Mearns presented an opportunity and after preliminary negotiation there appears to be some hope that we may obtain space but no clearly defined area can be specified. Not knowing the space which will be available makes planning extremely difficult with the result that the figure, which the sub-committee proposed as a target, was declared by the Congregational Board as being too modest. It was decided that our main effort to reach the target should be explained clearly in a leaflet which would be sent out to each member or interested party and that ancillary schemes to be controlled to a certain extent so as to avoid, clashing of dates or duplicating of effort.

A special meeting of Leaders and representatives of Church Organisations, on Tuesday, 17th December, was given a thorough yet brief summary of the situation which would enable them to return to their organisations and lead in formulation of plans for special fund raising efforts. The spirit of the meeting was excellent and many and varied suggestions were made. It was decided that a "Suggestion Box" should be placed in the Vestibule of the Church so that everyone would have an equal opportunity to offer advice. The meeting was asked to note the names of the members of the Sub-committee so we print them below so that anyone wishing to offer their services or seek clarification of any point will know who to approach.

Committee Members.

Mr Walter Rodger, 220 Ayr Road, Tel. NEW. 2467.
(Convener)

Mr James S. Carlaw, 20 Larchfield Avenue, Tel. NEW. 3251.

Mr W. T. Davidson, 1 Raeside Ave. Tel. NEW 2534.

Mr A. Murray Hanna, 63 Beech Avenue. Tel. NEW. 3266.

Mr J. W. Jarvie, The Lodge, Deramore Ave. Tel. NEW. 2000.

Mr T. F. Marchant, 5 Townhead Rd. Tel. NEW. 3058

Mr C. J. Thom, 81 Beech Ave. Tel. NEW. 2013.

At a later date it is planned to co-opt additional members to this committee as individuals with specialised knowledge are required.

COMMENT.

We in the Church are often accused of being slow, dull and unimaginative or on the other hand of being pig-headed and over-ambitious. In this case however we have been far from slow, anything but dull and our imagination has been inspired. Pig-headed? If that means that we are determined to keep a promise, made in the first flush of victory—then by all means let us be pigheaded, no matter how over-ambitious it makes us.

We have just observed Remembrance Sunday—let us seize this opportunity to show just how well we remember.

FUTURE.

We plan to have this section of the Supplement devoted entirely to future events either in the form of a diary or as snippets of advance publicity. Any information regarding forthcoming attractions should be handed to Mr Mackay or the Editor well in advance so as to ensure a timely publication.

We are told that the Recreational Group intend to have a Scottish Country Dance sometime in February. Keep your ears cocked for the first announcements as tickets will be limited and in great demand.

The Youth Fellowship are to try a new form of Bible Study which should prove most stimulating. Small groups are formed, given a passage to study and then asked to present their version in dramatised form. It is hoped to have this as an open meeting if they can tie up the organisation. January 26th 1958, is the tentative date.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be dispensed on the first Sunday of February, at 11.30 a.m., and also at the evening service. The Preparatory Service will be held on the preceding Friday evening at 8 p.m.

The Kirk Session will meet that evening at 7.30 p.m.

Those wishing to join our fellowship by Certificate should hand same to the Minister at their earliest convenience.

GENERAL AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS.

The Treasurers of the various organisations of the Church are requested to prepare a statement of their intromissions with relative vouchers for the year ending 31st December, 1957, and hand same to the Session Clerk, Mr Thom, not later than Sunday, 19th January, 1958, for submission to the Auditors.

FLOWER LIST.

- | | |
|------|-------------------|
| Jan. | 5—Mrs Thom. |
| „ | 12—Mrs Kinnear. |
| „ | 19—Mr A. Russell. |
| „ | 26—Mrs Cuthill. |
| Feb. | 9—Mr J. McCallum. |
| „ | 16—Mr J. Russell. |
| „ | 23—Mrs Watson. |

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

Do you know?

- (1) There are parables which tell of three things being lost. What are they? (Luke 15.)
- (2) A tiny seed is mentioned in a parable. What is it? (Matt. 13.)
- (3) What did an enemy sow in another's field while men slept? (Matt. 13: 25.)
- (4) Where does a wise man build his house? (Matt. 7: 24.)
- (5) What Roman Soldier had a vision of an Angel coming to him and sent messengers to Peter? (Acts 10: 3.)

NEXT SUPPLEMENT.

Items for inclusion should be in the Editor's hands by January 26th.