

NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

FEBRUARY, 1960.

REGISTER.

Baptisms:

David Allan Cowan, 27 Sugworth Avenue,
Baillieston.
Thomas Craig Lambie, Bonnyton Farm.

Deaths:

Mrs James Blue, 28 Moorhill Road.
Mrs Douglas, 6 Pollok Road.
Mr Archibald Robertson, F.F.A., 45 Beech Avenue.

Addition to the Kirk Session.

On Sunday, 6th December, 1959, the following gentlemen were ordained and admitted as Elders:—

Mr William G. R. Dinsmor, 2 Hill Avenue.
Mr Frederick D. Leith, 11 Newtonlea Avenue.
Mr Roderick A. Macdonald, 17 Barrhead Road.
Mr John Macphail, Warren House, Ayr Road.
*Dr. William Napier, 3 Glebe Road.
Mr Frederick J. Burns Reid, 16 Broompark Drive.
Mr George A. Roser, Shuna, Eaglesham Road.
*Mr Ian L. Stevenson, Torpheen, Ayr Road.
Mr Robert L. Todd, 202 Ayr Road.
Mr George McR. Wallace, 6 Doune Crescent.

*Previously ordained in other congregations.

New Members

By Certificates from other Congregations.

Mrs Maurice Anderson, 28 Glenpark Avenue,
Thornliebank.
Mr and Mrs Donald Beaton, 72 Beech Avenue.
Mr and Mrs Eric Crabb, Ridgeways, Crookfur Road,
Captain and Mrs William Fitzgerald, 6 Ford Road.
Mr Malcolm A. Fitzgerald, 6 Ford Road.
Mr and Mrs Robert Hodgins, 46 Cheviot Drive.
Mrs Ronald Jarvie, 13 Alberta Place, East Kilbride.
Mrs William Lambie, Jun., Letham Farm.
Mrs Tweeddale, 121 Ayr Road.
Miss Agnes Deans, 121 Ayr Road.

Disjunction Certificates.

Mrs Nancy Allan, 12 Broompark Court, (Mr
Mitchell's District).
Mr George Smith, 7 Moorhill Road. (Mr McCallum's
District.)

The Session is at the present time engaged in finding a successor to Mr Walter T. Cuthill as Organist and Choirmaster. It has discovered that this is not easy to do. There are various reasons for this. First of all there is scarcity of these in

the Church to-day. We have been told that there are 30 Churches that are without one. Young people to-day are not learning the art. Perhaps there are too many other claims on their time. Another reason is that those who are available prefer the pipe-organ. This is quite a serious situation where the electronic organ is being installed in more and more Churches. A Committee was appointed to insert an advertisement in a daily paper, and no applications were received. It was there-upon decided to do so again in the first few days of January, asking applicants on this occasion to state the salary that they desired. As a result 3 have been received and in each case the salary asked was greater, in one case considerably more, than had been originally advertised. This has made one face up to the question whether Church Organists have not been underpaid. I know that this was not the reason why Mr Cuthill left for he said so. It was his desire to use the years that remained to him as an organist on an instrument that he loved. When, however, we realise the highly skilled professional services required of such a man, perhaps the Church has been blame-worthy.

The congregation has had the opportunity of hearing two of those who have applied on the last two Sundays of January, and arrangements have been made for the third to play on the 14th February. The Session has appointed a second Committee to make a recommendation to it as soon as possible. Meanwhile we would extend to Mr Stewart Telfer our grateful thanks for officiating at the organ in the interval.

OBITUARY.

Mrs James Blue, 28 Moorhill Road, Newton Mearns, died on Tuesday, 1st December, 1959, at her residence. Born in the Orkney Islands she came to Glasgow in her youth and finally settled down after her marriage in this district. She took her place in a large family that was respected greatly in our midst, and was soon beloved of them. About two years ago she had to go into Mearns Kirk Hospital, and although she returned to take up her duties in the home, she was never able to move about with her former zest. A woman of great kindness of heart, she was a devoted wife and a splendid mother to her two sons, and we extend to them all our deepest sympathy in their great loss.

Mrs Douglas, 6 Pollok Road, Newton Mearns, died in hospital on Sunday, 31st January, 1960.

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She had been married twice, and her first husband was a Norwegian. She, indeed, on her side was of Swedish extraction, and the background on both sides was the sea. One could not be long in her presence without realising that she was a very fine woman, interested not only in her own family but in helping those around her who were in need. Some said she overtaxed her strength in this respect, yet she could not help doing so. To her husband, and her two daughters we offer our deepest sympathy.

Mr Archibald Robertson, 45 Beech Avenue, died on Monday, 1st February, 1960, in his 94th year. Until about 2 years ago he was playing a few holes of golf and enjoying a game of bowls. He was one of the fittest men for his years both physically and mentally I have ever known. He and his wife came to live here in 1939, at the beginning of the World War, having left Blundell-Sands near Liverpool where they had lived most of their life. Born at Lochearnhead, (and he was passionately fond of fishing; I had a mean hunch when I was golfing with him, and he was winning, that, if I turned the conversation to fishing, I was sure to win the hole!) he went to Edinburgh to study accountancy, and qualified as an Actuary. He joined a cricket club and specialised in bowling. One day he said to the Captain, "why do you always put me in last? I am never out." Next match he was put in first and then they could never get him out. Not, he said, "that I made many runs but I kept my wicket up." We will miss his genial presence and extend to his sons and daughters our deep sympathy in their loss.

Rev. J. T. O'Hara Thomson, B.D.

The death of the minister of Mearns Parish Church cast a gloom over the whole district. He came to the Church eight years ago, and one could have looked forward to a long ministry. I was asked to take part in the funeral service. It was one of his last wishes that I should do so. To his widow and his son we extend our deepest sympathy on their great loss.

RETIRAL OF Mr. WALTER CUTHILL.

It was with very great regret that the Session accepted the resignation of Mr Cuthill from the post of organist and choirmaster. He had officiated for 10 years and given faithful service to the Church. He had a deep regard for the dignity of the worship of the sanctuary, and it was evident in all he played. As a choirmaster he worked in harmony with everyone. Whenever any special calls were made on him he responded willingly. We had hoped that he might have become an elder of the Church but, perhaps, because of his official position, he declined. We are glad that Mrs Cuthill has intimated that she intends to remain with us.

She has been a great asset as Secretary of the Woman's Guild.

VARIA.

We would like to congratulate the Youth Fellowship on their beautiful service on Sunday evening, 22nd December. It was very inspiring to see such a large company of youth processing down the centre aisle into the Chancel. One felt that one was looking at the Church of the future. The service itself was a beautiful offering of praise and prayer, and to Mr George Robertson, the President, we offer our thanks.

We have no record as yet of the contribution of the congregation to the appeal on behalf of World Refugee Year but we hear that it has been a generous response. We would thank the Youth Fellowship for delivering and collecting the envelopes, also clothing.

A class for first communicants will meet in the Manse, 204 Ayr Road, on Wednesday, 23rd March, and on succeeding Wednesdays until the Communion in May.

Our congratulations are offered to Mr Basil Baird, Jr., of Floors Farm, on winning the scholarship for study in agriculture open to the whole of Scotland.

HALL EXTENSION FUND.

The "thermometer" in the Vestibule of the Church shows the amount now in the Fund to be £5383. When interest over the next five years is taken into account and also the amount accruing from promises, it will be seen that the fund is now well and truly launched.

To any new member of the Church who has not had an opportunity to assist in the launching and to those who, did not avail themselves of the initial invitation may we say that it is not too late to assist in the "fitting out."

Information as to methods of contributing can be obtained from Mr Walter Rodger, Treasurer.

The outstanding "Brick" boxes come trickling in—could we have one last effort to have them all in, please. The Committee understands that a number of members favour another distribution and as this has been an excellent money raising scheme it will be pleased to arrange for this to be done.

Members interested are invited to give their names to Mr Marchant.

FLOWER LIST.

- Mar. 6—Mrs Smith.
- „ 13—Mr Buchanan.
- „ 20—Mrs Niven.
- „ 27—Mrs Baird.
- April 3—Mrs Gage.
- „ 10—Mrs S. Rodger.
- „ 17—Mrs Morton.
- „ 24—Misses M. and E. Gow.