

NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

OCTOBER, 1962.

REGISTER.

Baptism.

"Suffer the little children to come unto me."

Moir Blackwood, Wellmeadow Farm.

Marriages.

"Whom God hath joined together."

Ann Elizabeth Pope Loudon and James G. N. McL Robertson.

Mary Fleming and James P. W. Gardner.

Doris Myra McEwing and Robert Andrew Beggs Whitehill.

Christine Agnes Lowe White and David Ritchie Robertson.

Death

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

Mrs McMeeking, 29 Limetree Crescent.

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MINISTER'S LOG.

As this goes to print the Session has held the first two of its five socials. The aim of these may be said to be twofold, to enable the congregation to meet in such a capacity and to give it information on the General Assembly's Stewardship Campaign. When the Co-ordinated Appeal was inaugurated whereby all the givings of the Church were lodged in a Central Fund, it was the will of the Supreme Court that the attention of its members be drawn to the various channels in which the talents of each could be used. It is recognised that many are the ways in which we can serve Christ, and that the whole of our life must be so regarded. Quite a number of our congregation are engaged in social work in the district and in the city. At the same time the organised Church has an important part to play in the spreading of the Gospel without which our land would soon lapse into heathenism. "It pleased God, says St. Paul, by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." It is to witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ that the organised Church is called, and you must have a share in it, either by some work you do for it in teaching in the Sabbath School, singing in the Choir, attending the Sabbath services, coming to the Woman's Guild, joining the Youth Fellowship, or in some other way. The Kingdom of God will come on the earth but will you have helped to hasten it or had a share in it?

The other way the Session has endeavoured to obey the injunction of the Stewardship Campaign from the General Assembly has been to divide its elders into small groups which are to meet once a month in each other's houses and study the booklet entitled "The Lost Horizon," issued by the Tell Scotland Committee. Each group will note down its findings on the six sections, and report back to the Session about May or June. It is hoped that thereby the doctrine and work of the Church will be brought home to each and the fellowship of the elders deepened. We owe our thanks to the pioneer group appointed by the Session consisting of Messrs Brunton, Gillies and Hodgson which suggested this.

OBITUARIES.

Mrs McMeeking, 29 Limetree Crescent, Newton Mearns, died at her residence on Monday, 20th August, 1962. It is four years ago since she and her husband came to live in this district. They at once associated themselves with the Church here, and we hoped that Mrs McMeeking would be spared for many years to give us her fellowship. She was a woman of a bright and vivacious personality, always interested in the life of those around her. The warmth of her affection was evident at once to anyone who spoke to her. Her daughter and son-in-law shared the home with her and she found great joy in her family life. To them and to her husband, whose work in the Civil Service is in finding rehabilitation for the blind in industry, we offer, as a congregation, our deepest sympathy.

We would express to Mr and Mrs Thomas A. Wright of Kilmory, Craigie Drive, our deep sympathy in the death of his father, the Rev. A. Macfarlane Wright, M.A., minister for 38 years of Busby East Church. He conducted the services of our congregation on more than one occasion, and took part in it at the christening of his grandchild. He was a man of sterling character, and his counsel was wise. I had known him all the time I have been minister here, and found him most loyal and helpful at all times. He took a great interest in the ministers' fraternal, and was responsible for keeping it in being. His devotional service was beautiful and helpful, and his preaching of the Word the fruit of deep and rich thought.

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YOUTH FELLOWSHIP.

The Youth Fellowship opened its activities with a very successful barbecue at Bonnyton Farm on Friday, 14th September. Owing to inclement conditions the numbers were not as great as was expected, but the 50 or so present all seemed to enjoy the evening thoroughly. Our thanks are especially due to Mr and Mrs T. Lorimer and family for all their help in this enterprise.

This year's Committee has drawn up a widely varying programme for the Sunday evening meetings, (which are held in the Upper Hall at 7.45 p.m.). It is hoped that as many young people as possible, of 16 years and over, will attend and also take part in our future social activities.

Our programme until the end of November is shown below and includes our first open meeting to all members of the Church — "Weights and Measures Service" — by Mr Thom Cairns.

Oct. 14—R.S.P.C.C.—Miss Davidson.

" 21—1st District Y.F. Conference at Seamill. Principal Speaker—Rev. Sam. Aitkenhead.

" 28—"Points of View"—A panel of four members of our Church.

Nov. 4—"Ye Olden Thymes"—R. Russell Hillhouse.

" 11—"Scottish Humour"—Rev. R. Paterson, B.D., King's Park.

" 18—Visit to Mearns Parish Y.F. "Teenage Marriage"—Rev. A. M. Bennett, M.A.

" 25—"Weights and Measures Service"—Mr T. Cairns. OPEN MEETING.

MOTHERS' GROUP.

Session 1962-63 Office-bearers:—Hon. President, Mrs Mackay; President, Mrs Watson; Vice-President, Mrs Dinsmor; Secretary, Mrs Blue; Treasurer, Mrs Gibb.

Meetings are held fortnightly in the Church Hall at 2.30 p.m. Subscription, 2/6.

Syllabus to the end of the year is as follows:—

- Oct. 18—Talk—"Fire Prevention."
- Nov. 1—Visit to Nylon Stocking Factory, Kilmarnock.
- " 15—Bring and Buy Sale.
- " 29—Talk—Probation Officer.
- Dec. 13—Demonstration—"Christmas Cookery."

"WOMEN'S WORK IN THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND TO-DAY."

The first fact to be noticed is that, because the Church of Scotland has not admitted women to the teaching or ruling eldership, she can take no part in the government of the Church. It is important that this should be realised if one is to understand the organisation that is about to be described. We do not enter here into the merits or demerits of the system, as to whether or not women should be allowed to enter the ministry and the eldership: the Church of Scotland, in line with most of the other communions of the Christian Church, has up till the present refused to sanction it. Woman, therefore is debarred not only from supreme office but from any governing authority in the ecclesia.

The most important part played by her at present is in the Order of Deaconess—of these there are at the moment about 90. They are commissioned by the Presbytery of the district where they reside but serve mainly under the Women's Home Mission Committee which is subject to the Home Board. Five are under the Religious Instruction of Youth, serving as Youth Organisers or Sabbath School Leaders. Deaconesses are attached to large congregations, often in new housing schemes and, besides being licensed to preach, serve as assistants to the minister. They were formerly known as church sisters.

The second place in which women take part in the Church is within the work of the Woman's Guild. It was started by Dr. Charteris about 70 years ago in what was then known as the Church of Scotland. The United Free Church had had a similar organisation known as the Work Party. At the Union in 1929, the former became the official channel for women's work in the Church. It consists (1) of an Assembly Council of the Woman's Guild (2) a Council of the Woman's Guild of each presbytery, (3) branches in each congregation. For example our Guild will send one or more delegates to the Presbyterial Council which meets four times in the session. Glasgow Presbytery is so large that it is subdivided at times into districts. The Woman's Guild of the Presbytery is similarly divided, and our branch is linked with the S.W. District Presbyterial Council. Delegates from the full Council of the presbytery form with those from other presbyteries, the Assembly Guild Council which

meets in Edinburgh. Reports are given at these district presbyterial councils and the delegates take these back to their own branches. In addition each branch sends delegates to area meetings on the work of the Church and report. The aims of the Woman's Guild are to give information on the work of the Church, and to see that the schemes are supported financially. It is concerned also with deepening the Christian fellowship of the congregation.

That brings us to a third sphere in which women work in the Church. As I have remarked, the government rests in the teaching and ruling elders. The presbyterial councils are, however, asked to appoint women members to the leading committees of the Assembly and of the presbytery. For example ten women and two deaconesses are on the Home Mission Committee, and the Foreign Mission Committee of the Presbytery of Glasgow, and these are appointed by the Guild Council of the Presbytery. These women, in addition, may often form a sub-committee of the Home Board—the Women's Home Mission Committee. A number of women are serving the Church on such committees at Assembly and Presbytery level.

In addition to all these there are those who are the salaried officials of the Church. In addition to deaconesses there are 119 women foreign missionaries—doctors, teachers, nurses, evangelists. In the 30 or so Eventide Homes, matrons are serving the Church. Officials are in charge of homes for fallen girls, berry pickers, seaside missions, toddler centres.

Finally there is that large band of volunteer workers in the Church—those who teach in the Sabbath School, sing in the choir, lead youth organisations, take office in the Woman's Guild and Mothers' Group, look after the flowers for the Church, visit the sick, care for the poor, and last, but not least, are regular attenders of the sanctuary at public worship.

I know that there are difficulties in women serving in the Church: (1) the other excellent organisations in the district—the townswomen's guild, the Rural, the Rotary; (2) the fact that so many women, both married and unmarried, are now working in business and factory. You must decide where you can best serve, but I would urge you to realise the supreme importance of work in the organised Church of Jesus Christ.

WOMAN'S GUILD.

The Woman's Guild resumes on Monday, 15th October, at 7.30 p.m. It is an Open Night and members of the congregation will be welcomed. The Rev. J. Currie, B.D., will speak and show slides on "A Visit to Palestine." Tea will be served. An interesting syllabus has been arranged and it is hoped we shall have some new members during the coming session.

The Coffee Morning is on Saturday, 27th October, 10.30 a.m. — 12.30 p.m. Tickets, 2/-.

Members of the Guild will be in the Session House on Friday, 26th October, from 2.30 p.m. — 4.30 p.m. to receive gifts towards this effort.

VARIA.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be dispensed on the 21st October at 11.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. The Preparatory Services takes place in the Church on the preceding Friday at 8 p.m. to which all members are invited. The preacher will be the Rev. David C. MacArthur, M.B.E., formerly of the Congregational Church, Giffnock.

The celebration of Remembrance Day will be on Sunday, November 11th, at 10.45 a.m.

The Badminton Club meets on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings in the Church Hall, and also on Saturday afternoons. All members and adherents of the Church are welcome.

The uniformed organisations have now resumed—Brownies and Guides on Thursdays, and Life Boys and Boys' Brigade on Fridays.

The Sabbath School is now in full session—Primary, Junior and Senior at 10 a.m. The Beginners Class meets during the morning service.

CLARKSTON EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION.

For this coming session, the committee has drawn up a programme which includes four film rallies, and seven fellowship meetings, all to be held in the Clarkston Hall. The Fellowship meetings will take the form of a series of Bible studies, entitled "Christ and His Church" and is taken from the messages to the Seven Churches recorded in the Book of Revelation. Listed below are dates and times for the meetings until December of this year:—

- Oct. 2—7.30 p.m.—Bible Study. Speaker, Mr Wallace Lee.
Nov. 6—7.30 p.m.—Bible Study. Speaker, Rev. Alistair Ross.
Dec. 4—7.30 p.m.—Bible Study. Speaker, Dr. Ian B. Doyle.
" —Film Rally—8.15 p.m.—"Oil Town, U.S.A."

QUIZ.

Do you know the answers to these questions about EYES?—

1. How does God say He will guide us?
2. When God opened Hagar's eyes, what did she see?
3. When they lifted up their eyes after the Transfiguration, whom did the Disciples see?
4. Who would not lift up his eyes to heaven?
5. What run to and fro through the whole earth?
6. Jesus touched their eyes saying — What?
7. When could not the Disciples keep their eyes open?
8. On whose eyes did Joseph put his hands?

Answers.

1. Ps. 32, 8; 2. Gen. 21, 19; 3. Matt. 17, 8;
4. Luke 18, 13; 5. 2 Chron. 16, 9; 6. Matt 9, 29;
7. Matt. 26, 40; 8. Gen. 46, 4.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

At the last meeting of the Kirk Session, a letter from the Secretary of the Foreign Mission Committee of the General Assembly was read. The Session decided that the information should be passed on to the members of the congregation. Your attention is called to the following Publications, Films, Slide Lectures and the Appeal for Workers:—

1. **Literature:** The Overseas Magazine published quarterly, 3/- per annum.

"The World He Loves" by Douglas Thompson, 5/-; "This Is Our Life," A new series, this time by George and Mary More, 1/-, on Mission Work in Allipur, Central India.

2. **Films:** "Sunrise in the East" (sound and colour, 20 mins.). This is about Nigeria and has been produced by the Eastern Nigerian Government. "Floodtide in Ghana" (sound and colour, 45 mins). This film should now be available and is an account of the life and growth of our work in Ghana

3. **Slide Lectures:** "Journey to Ekwendeni in Nyasaland." "Visit to Chitambo," about the Mission and Hospital in Northern Rhodesia. Both of these have been prepared by Dr. Hamilton Currie and a tape recorded commentary by him is available in both cases.

"Sulenkama Hospital," an excellent series of slides from South Africa. Other Slide Lectures are in course of preparation. During the last ten years the number of missionaries has fallen from 322 to 267. This was not from lack of need, as the work has been constantly increasing in volume, but rather from lack of people available. There are at present vacancies in the Mission Field for the following:—

Ministers, Women District Missionaries, Doctors, Nurses, College Lecturers, College Bursar, Teachers, Domestic Science Teachers, Press Managers, Engineer, Laymen (with Engineering or Agricultural Experience), Hospital Manager.

Further information about any of these vacancies can be obtained from Miss I. R. Alexander or Rev. I. M. Paterson at the Foreign Mission Office, Church of Scotland Office, 121 George Street, Edinburgh, 2.

FLOWER LIST.

- Oct. 7—Mrs Mather.
" 14—Mr J. Loudon.
" 21—COMMUNION.
" 28—Mrs W. Davidson.
Nov. 4—Mrs Sellars.
" 11—Miss Cowie.
" 18—Mrs J. W. Jarvie.
" 25—Mrs J. A. Orr.

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP.

There is enclosed, for your attention, with this Supplement a leaflet similar to that which was distributed at each of the District Socials. You are asked to consider in which way you can assist in the work of the Church. Mark the leaflet accordingly and deposit it in the Church Door Plate at your convenience.