

NEWTON MEARN'S CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

DECEMBER, 1962.

REGISTER.

Baptisms.

"Suffer the little children to come unto me."

Michael Charles Hanna, 4 Moidart Gardens.
Elizabeth Sinton Rodger, Netherplace Farm.
Fiona Margaret Elizabeth Ross, Lilliesleaf.

Deaths.

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

Mrs Miller, Leamyside.
William Corner, Crookston Homes.

NEW MEMBERS.

By Profession of Faith.

Miss Isla Jean Campbell, Myrtle Lodge, Old Mearns Road.
Miss Jenifer Bennett Turner, Langton Farm.
Mr Thomas Gilchrist Marchant, 5 Townhead Road.

By Certificates from other Congregations.

Mrs Mary Anderson, Glenafton, Pollokshields.
Mrs Basil J. Baird, Windhill, Eaglesham.
Mr Robert McD. Campbell, 8 Donolly Drive.
Mrs Gladys Frater, 95 Castle Court.
Dr. and Mrs Victor M. Hawthorne, 16 Newtonlea Avenue.
Mr and Mrs Ernest McGregor, c/o Wellmeadow Farm.
Mr and Mrs A. B. Rankin, 105 Beech Avenue.

MINISTER'S LOG.

We are now in the season of Advent and approaching the time when the Church will celebrate once again the Nativity of Christ. There is a feeling in the minds of many that Christmas is being commercialised to an exaggerated extent. There is no doubt truth in the charge. At the same time if the public wishes to use the festival as a time for the giving of presents, and for the children's sake alone it will always wish to do so, then the business man must be allowed time to display his goods as well as to sell them.

The Church, while providing such entertainment for children, and for older people, as is fitting for the occasion, must try to remember the spiritual message in its celebration of this tremendous event. More serious than the commercialising of Christmas is the secularising of it, and Christians must not fall into this greater sin. The song of the angels on the plains of Bethlehem must be in our hearts and on our lips "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good-will toward men."

The usual service on Christmas Eve at 11.30 p.m. will be held in our Church. On the preceding Sunday, December 23rd, the forenoon service will take the form of a gift one at which the Sabbath School will also be present. In the evening the Youth Fellowship will conduct the worship of the united congregations. On Sunday, 16th December, the Choir will render a Christmas Cantata. All the evening services during December will be in our Church, and members should make a special effort to enrich them with their presence during Advent.

The series of socials held in September and October proved very successful. First of all the congregation made them so by attending them in large numbers. This made it possible for many to get to know each other better. The speakers are

to be congratulated in the time and effort they gave towards making us acquainted with the Stewardship Campaign of the Church of Scotland. It remains for us to examine ourselves and discover if there is some way in which we can help in the proclamation of the Everlasting Gospel in the Church. If you have not as yet filled up the card delivered to your home with the Supplement, will you still do so?

A very enjoyable evening was spent on Thursday, 15th November, under the auspices of the Girl Guide Company. The County Commissioner, the Giffnock East Renfrewshire Commissioner, and the Whitecraigs and Newton Mearns Commissioner were present when Queen's Badges were presented to the Misses Sandra Crossland and Maureen Jammet. This is the highest of all awards in the movement and very rarely gained. As Miss Jane Clements, one of our lieutenants, has already attained it, it will be evident that the standard of proficiency in the Company is very high. A large number of the parents provided a suitable setting for the presentation, and great credit is due to the Captain, Miss Thea Niven and her lieutenants (not forgetting our past Captain, Mrs McLean) for the excellent leadership that they are giving.

On Sunday, 25th November, the Boys' Brigade Enrolment Service was held. Chronologically this is late. Their cards were, however, given to them to mark what had already taken place. It is not possible in our Church Calendar at this time of the year to hold it earlier. One cannot withhold admiration from the work that has been done among the boys by Captain John Orr and his lieutenants. Giving up to this work every Friday evening is in itself a valuable service to the Church. There is, however, more than that. There is the preparation for the Bible Class on the Sunday morning, coaching for the badges, and attending area meetings. This is a very smart and efficient Company, and one rejoices how it is building the boys into the fellowship of the Church. Is there a greater work that one can do than this? Parents could help by directing their sons into an organisation that will have such an influence on their life.

OBITUARIES.

Mr William Corner, Crookston Homes, died on Wednesday, December 7th, 1962, in his 91st year. He was born in Wick the son of a crofter and when he was a young man went into the town and did clerking in a lawyer's office. There he was noted for the high quality of his penmanship. As there was little future, however, for youth in the far north the family moved south to Glasgow, and he entered the fruit market as a labourer, and remained in it for over 50 years. A portion of that time was spent at the docks on the loading and unloading of cargo, and the supervision of it. He used to tell me stories of unscrupulous buyers who tried to break the law of sale and how he refused to countenance it. He was ordained an elder of the Church of Scotland in Tradeston and received a letter from the Presbytery of Glasgow after 50 years in office. He retired to this district but on his wife's death went into the Crookston Homes. His son wanted him to come and stay with him but he did not wish to encroach on their life. In the Homes, where he lived happily for about 16 years, he became president of the Welfare Committee, and sang a solo in the chapel every Sunday until a fortnight before his death. He took a great inter-

est in our congregation and often handed me a donation for the Memorial Hall Fund. To his son and daughters, the latter in the United States, we extend our deepest sympathy.

Mrs Miller, formerly of Leamyside, died at her son's residence in Ayrshire. She had lived there for the last few years. When I came to the district in 1931, she was looking after her mother, and she was a very devoted daughter to her. Her roots went deeply into the district, being one of the family of the Rodgers, a name respected greatly in the parish. One has but to look around our congregation to see the families with which she was connected. She was industrious all her days, and there was a kindness that broke through her shyness and endeared her to you. To her son and daughter-in-law and all her kith and kin we extend our sympathy in their great sorrow.

DATES OF SOCIAL GATHERINGS.

Saturday, 8th December—Sabbath School Parties.

Friday, 14th December—Life Boys' Party.

Saturday, 15th December—Youth Fellowship Dance.

Thursday, 20th December—Girls Guides' Party.

Saturday, 22nd December—Senior S.S. and Bible Class Dance.

Thursday, 27th December—Boys' Brigade Theatre Night.

WOMAN'S GUILD.

The Woman's Guild held a Coffee Morning and Sale on October 27th. The sum realised was £101 15s 5d. The Committee are very grateful to all who in anyway helped to raise this satisfactory total.

On November 26th, the "Dr. Luener Box" for European Refugees was packed. Once again the response to our request for clothing, etc., was very good and four large cartons have been sent.

The Guild Christmas Night is on December 10th, at 7.30 p.m. There will be community singing of carols, Christmas music by the Church Choir and film strips of the "Holy Land" and "Bethlehem To-day" will be shown. We shall have a number of residents from Eastwoodhill as our guests. It is an open night and members of the congregation will be welcome. Tea will be served.

The first meeting of the New Year will be on Monday, January 14th, when Mr Henry, Superintendent and Secretary of the Glasgow City Mission, will speak on the work done there.

REPORT ON 79th B.B. COMPANY.

My first pleasant duty is to congratulate another member of the Company, Sergeant, now Staff Sergeant Hamish R. Fulton, on his gaining the highest award in the Boys' Brigade, "The Queen's Badge." Hamish did not receive his award at our annual inspection as, although he had many of the qualifications, he was short of one award to comply with the regulations. In June he sat the Wayfaring Test and was successful in gaining the Advanced Certificate which enabled him to apply and obtain this high award. Our small Company is justifiably proud to have two Queen's men in its ranks.

The Company continues to progress, even if it is low. The officers would welcome most warmly any boys not connected with a youth organisation. They would find the boys friendly and pleasant companions at drill or games.

On Armistice Sunday, the Captain and some of the boys had the unique experience of being present at the B.B.C. tele-recording of the Glasgow

Battalion of the Boys' Brigade in the programme "Songs of Praise" from the Rev. John L. Kent's Church in Cathcart. The Church was full to capacity with B.B. boys singing their favourite hymns with great gusto.

On Sunday, 25th November, the Enrolment Service of the Company was held in the Church by our Chaplain, Mr Mackay. This was a stimulating occasion and the officers and boys are indebted to our Chaplain for his moving address on the Anchor, "Sure and Steadfast within the Veil." The Enrolment Service each year brings to boys and officers alike a new appreciation of the high ideals aimed at by the Boys' Brigade movement, namely "The Advancement of Christ's Kingdom amongst boys."

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP.

During the past few months we have enjoyed a variety of programmes, both entertaining and instructive. One of the highlights was a contribution by four of our own congregation who attracted over one hundred interested members to hear their "Points of View."

Our efforts are now being concentrated on the Carol Service—which is entirely conducted by the Fellowship—to be held in the Church on Sunday, 23rd December, at 6.30 p.m.

Our Christmas Dance is being held on December 15th, in the Church Hall, and we hope all members will be able to attend.

Our programme till the end of February is as below:—

- Jan. 6—"Hunterston Atomic Station," Mr J. Henderson, O.B.E., B.Sc.
- „ 13—Mr Duncan Macrae.
- „ 20—Annual Dedication Service for 1st District Fellowships.
- „ 27—"The Salvation Army's Social Work."
- Feb. 3—Visit to Giffnock South Y.F.
- „ 10—Christian Youth Assembly in Edinburgh—Discussion.
- „ 17—"Football Tours," Mr R. L. Cromar.
- „ 24—"Music in Our Church," Mr J. A. Littlejohn.

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

My first is in lamb but not in goat;
My second is in tie but not in coat;
My third is in red but not in black;
My fourth is in Robert but not in Jack;
My fifth is in you but not in me;
My whole hangs on an autumn tree.

What is this?

The answer is something "Christmassy."

FLOWER LIST.

1962.

- Dec. 2—Mrs T. Craig.
- „ 9—Mrs T. Bain.
- „ 16—Mrs Macdonald.
- „ 23—Youth Fellowship.
- „ 30—Mrs Pirret.

1963.

- Jan. 6—Miss Cowie.
- „ 13—Mrs Ogilvie.
- „ 20—Miss Logan.
- „ 27—Mrs W. S. Cuthill.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN.

In the April issue of the Church Supplement an article was published advising our congregation of the steps our Kirk Session were contemplating in carrying out a campaign to suit the peculiar circumstances of our restricted Parish area.

A series of socials were arranged covering all elders' districts. Such districts being grouped to give a reasonable balance of numbers on four dates in early October, with specially chosen speakers for each social. The theme of the Campaign to be "Stewardship of Time and Talents."

On 17th September, an inaugural social for all elders and their wives, also members of the Congregational Board, was held. This social became the pattern for the four congregational socials. Each person on entering the hall was given a disc to wear, giving their name and underneath an anagram which in the case of the ladies represented a flower, the gentlemen represented trees. Each was given a card and a pencil and had then to go round the assembled company and decipher as many anagrams as possible. This proved of great value in bringing together our church members. The choir then sang a number of part-songs, Anthems and Psalms, to demonstrate the range of their repertoire.

At 8.30 p.m. tea, with sausage rolls, sandwiches and cakes were served, having been prepared by a ladies' committee under the convenership of Mrs C. J. Thom. Everything was lovely and fresh and thoroughly enjoyed by all present. The ladies are to be congratulated on the arrangements they made and which contributed in no small measure to the success of the evenings. By 9 p.m. Mr Mackay was introducing the speakers.

1st Social—The Rev. John Barr, B.Sc., Ph.D., B.D., of Trinity Church, Pollokshields, and Mr Murdoch M. Henry, Secretary of the Glasgow City Mission (the Oldest Mission in the City).

Mr Barr spoke on Stewardship Campaign and made a plea that we send six delegates to a Weekend Preparation Conference in the Spring of 1963. He was also strongly in favour of a sitdown meal, held in an outside hall away from the Church hall. This, he maintained, was the only way to secure the presence of the fringe members.

Mr Henry took as his theme "The Eldership" its duties and responsibilities, and gave an interesting talk based on over 50 years experience in Church work as a superintendent of Sabbath School and as an elder.

After a period for questions, the choir rendered more songs and Anthems, and the meeting terminated by singing the Doxology and the Benediction.

2nd Social on 1st October, had as guest speaker the Rev. Wm. Steven, D.D., of Queens Park West Church, who spoke on Stewardship and the use of Time and Talents, with the emphasis on leisure time and the using of such time in the service of the Church. He made us think of the hours of leisure now available in the modern age and issued a challenge to every member to devote some of that time in service to the Church of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

3rd Social on 3rd October, had Rev. J. C. M. Watt, M.A., and his elder George Sneddon, Esq., of Pollokshields East Church. The Church had carried through a full campaign with a sitdown meal. Mr Watt, speaking on Stewardship, referred to the campaign which had been carried throughout

their parish area, describing the preparation required in providing hostesses and specially trained personnel from among elders, office-bearers and also from people who could be classified as fringe members of their Church and as a result many of these had now become active members taking part in the various organisations and in the parish. He also made reference to work carried out under the auspices of the Youth Fellowship. The Fellowship carried out an extensive visitation campaign to all households in the parish and the result was a large addition to the Church membership.

Mr Sneddon spoke on the arrangements made for the Stewardship Campaign. He being chairman of the organising committee. How they developed the idea of a family meal and the preparation in developing the campaign in their parish. He claimed the results had been of an outstanding success and that every activity in their Church had greatly benefitted.

The 4th Social on 8th October, had as guest speakers, the Rev. D. Noel Fisher, B.D., of Sherbrook-St. Gilbert's Church, Dumbreck, and Thomas Tinto, Esq., of Pollokshields East Church, and City of Glasgow Welfare Department.

Mr Tinto was the first speaker and took as his theme "The Responsibility of Stewardship" and the getting together as a team. First, in our own Church and, second, in our district; thirdly throughout the world. He gave apt illustrations from sports in which he had taken an active part, such as bowling and rowing where the team spirit must be in evidence if success is to be achieved.

The Rev. Noel Fisher spoke of the minority position of the Christian Church throughout the world and drew attention to the fact that in 38 years time we will celebrate the 2,000th year in the Advent of Christianity. That in the same period of 38 years, according to modern statistics the world population will double itself and there was all the greater need for the Christian Church to demonstrate a more active witness by all its members in everyday activities and in the wider field of the Church's Mission throughout the world.

The guest speaker at our **5th Social** on Tuesday, 9th October, was the Rev. Stanley Mair of Netherlee Church. He dealt with the question of "Stewardship" in "Time, Talents and Possessions" and our responsibility in using these in the active service of our Church. In business, in showing forth the fact that we are Christians and in the giving of money to assist the spread of Christianity throughout the world, especially in these days of change in Africa and Asia. Having been born in China and having spent his early years in Hong Kong, he could speak with authority on the poverty that existed in a country of five hundred million inhabitants and where three million die each year through lack of food and disease, and this in a world of plenty, and with a concentration of wealth in the Western Nations. He brought home to us our responsibilities to give in larger measure to the wider schemes of our Church.

At the four congregational socials, each person was given a questionnaire and they were asked to indicate by an X in what way they could respond. These forms were also delivered to each household in our congregation. Up to the present we have not had the response we had anticipated and we would again appeal to all members and adherents to give serious thought to the call for Stewardship in Time, Talents and Possessions.