

Craigsbank Church of Scotland

CORSTORPHINE

No. 20.

May 1945

Minister: REV. GRAHAM M. LITTLE, M.A.
"Dunleigh," 6 St John's Road.
Telephone 65198

Elders:

Mr D. R. BARR, 33 Hillview Drive.
Mr J. GARRIOCK, 35 Craigmount Terrace.
Dr J. N. HUNTER, 22 Craig's Crescent.
Mr A. C. RENTON, 8 Pearce Avenue.
Mr J. WEIR, 10 West Craig's Avenue.

Assessor Elders:

Messrs R. A. DUNCAN, R. M. FRASER, W. H. GRAY,
A. THOM, J. THOMSON, H. M. WILSON.

Session Clerk:

Dr J. NORMAN W. HUNTER, 22 Craig's Crescent.

Treasurer:

Mr JOHN THOMSON, 15 St John's Terrace.

Proclamation of Banns:

Mr ADAM THOM, 23 Drumbrae South.

Organist:

Miss C. G. G. SCOTT, 20 Saughree, Rosewell.

Church Officer:

Mr W. PHILLIPS, 113 Balgreen Road.

Sunday Services:

11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

COMMUNION SERVICES

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed at both services, 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m., on Sunday, 3rd June. Visitors' Cards may be had on entering.

A Service of Preparation, at which new members will be admitted by Profession of Faith, will be held at 11 a.m. on Sunday, 27th May. (There will be a United Service in the interest of Foreign Missions that evening at 6.30 in St Ninian's Church.)

The date of the next Communion is Sunday, 4th November.

ELECTION OF ELDERS

Notice is hereby given that the Kirk Session has received permission from the Presbytery of Edinburgh to increase its membership. It has accordingly determined that an addition be made to the number of Elders in this Congregation, that the number to be added shall be a number not exceeding four, and that the method of election shall be by means of signed lists. A roll of the male members of the Congregation in full communion will be displayed on the notice board in the vestibule of the Hall from Sunday, 27th May until Sunday, 24th June. An asterisk will be placed before the names of those members at present on Service. These members are, of course, eligible for nomination. Members are requested to hand in lists which shall be signed by the members giving them in. Such lists should contain the names of members deemed suitable for the office of the Eldership, not exceeding four in all. Lists may be sent to the Session Clerk, 22 Craig's Crescent, or placed in the box provided for that purpose at the Hall door not later than Sunday, the first day of July 1945.

By order of the Kirk Session,

J. NORMAN W. HUNTER,
Session Clerk.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, 8th June, 7.30 p.m. District Scout and Guide Camp Fire Sing-Song in Craigsbank Grounds (in Hall if wet weather). All welcome. Collection Boxes for Scout Relief Abroad Fund and Guide International Relief Fund.

Saturday, 16th June, 2.30 p.m., Sunday School Annual Picnic in field south of Glasgow Road (kindly lent by Mr Morton, farmer). Enter by Glenmuir Road. For further instructions see Sunday School Notes overleaf. All welcome.

Saturday, 23rd June, Garden Fête under the auspices of the Woman's Guild in Church Grounds and Hall. Teas, 3 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Bring and Buy Stall, Youth Hobbies' Stall, various Side Shows and Competitions run by uniformed organisations.

MINISTER'S LETTER

DEAR FRIENDS,

The coming of victory to the Allied Forces in Europe is an event which affects each one of us. It means that we are no longer in the immediate theatre of war and that, for us, gone is the dread threat of Nazi domination which once imperiled our land and homes, our liberties of speech and worship, and all we held dear. How wonderfully we have been delivered we cannot fully tell; nor can we measure our debt to those who through their toil and sacrifice have made victory possible. But our hearts have rightly led us to acknowledge that God is our Saviour, and that without the guidance of His Spirit our hearts had fainted within us "when cruel men against us furiously rose up in wrath to make of us their prey."

The blessing of victory in the West in the field of battle is a reminder that the source of all prevailing power and grace is God Himself, and that we must look to Him for help in the overcoming of all difficulties and dangers that still lie in our path. The years ahead will present us with a special testing of our spiritual fibre and, in particular, we will be challenged to the end of our days by the two-fold question, how can we be worthy of those who gave so much for our safety and preservation? and how can we accept the victory we believe God has given us and not go on to claim for Him its fruits of righteousness and peace? The Lord has planted new faith in our souls. It is for us to share the harvest of our own spiritual experience with the needy of the world, a world that has long been soul-hungry.

While the war in the East continues our thoughts will be continually with those who are serving far from home. We must uphold them in our thoughts and prayers, and look to that great day when world peace will be at last declared.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

GRAHAM M. LITTLE.

Congregational Conferences. — The success of these meetings is not to be measured by the numbers attending, though we would be glad to see more sharing in the fellowship and discussions when our further conferences are arranged for next session. This type of meeting is meeting a

growing need in our church life of to-day, the need of quiet, friendly exploration of the problems that beset us, and a study of what may be God's will for our times. We are indebted to the speakers who have led our recent discussions, to the group leaders and to those who have served the cup of tea that symbolised our homely sharing of thought and aspiration. To all who have not sampled this most informal yet purposeful and reverent gathering, we would offer the advice that they make a note of such arrangements as are announced in the autumn.

Dramatic Concert. — The Craigsbank Dramatic Club (formerly associated with the Woman's Guild) presented their 1945 programme on the 22nd and 23rd March, when two sketches were staged—"Members of the Jury," and "The Black Bun." Acknowledgement is made of the generous help of Mr and Mrs R. S. Stewart in training the casts and producing the plays, which provided excellent entertainment for two large and appreciative audiences. An engrossing turn of conjuring was supplied by Mr J. M. P. Wilson. Completing the programme with song and recitation, thanks are also due to Miss Maysie and Miss Meta Forrest. As a result of these two evening performances a sum of over £50 was realised for the Comforts for the Forces and other Church Funds. The Dramatic Club will be glad to welcome new members when meetings restart in the autumn.

Gifts of Flowers for use in the Church Hall on Sundays are always acceptable, and thanks is offered to those who have provided them in the past. While the list of donors will continue to be posted in the vestibule, in order that provision may be made as far as possible throughout the year either through offers of gifts of flowers on stated dates or by money contributions for a Flower Fund, the Committee of Management have invited Mrs Shannon, 6 Craigmount Grove, to act as Organiser for this purpose, to whom intimation of offers or gifts should be made.

Notes from the Woman's Guild. — During the session meetings have been held fortnightly, and alternately in the afternoon and evening.

By the sale of stuffed toys and dolls we were able to send a donation of £7 to the new Home for "Under Fives" at Colinton Road.

Our present homework is the knitting of woolly comforts for the Babies' Ward of the Deaconess Hospital.

A well attended Guest Meeting was held on 6th March, when the speaker was Rev. William J. Masson, and his subject "The British Sailors Society."

The Red Cross Society have informed us that our adopted P.O.W., Edward Jack, is now liberated, and thanks us for all the assistance given him.

Our recent envelope collection for Church Funds has amounted to £48, 10/-, and we thank members of the Congregation for their support of the scheme.

We shall be glad to welcome new members when we resume our meetings in October.
A. ROBB.

Annual Meeting.—At the Annual Business and Social Meeting held on 14th February, reports on the work of the Congregation in 1944 were given and the Treasurer's Statement adopted. Tea was served by the ladies of the Guild. A musical programme was presented, the Soloists being Mrs Fox and Miss McMinn, and Messrs Trotter and Tennant. Miss Scott presided at the piano. Recitations were given by Mrs Trotter. Those responsible for the programme were duly thanked for their much appreciated items. The Committee of Management as elected for the new year include Mrs Walker, Mrs Shannon, Miss Calder, Mr Rosie, Mr Allan and Mr Tennant (Mr Alves, who was appointed, has since resigned, as he is no longer staying in Corstorphine, and his resignation has been accepted with regret). The Auditors appointed last year were re-elected—Messrs Hourston and Walker).

Sunday School.—Sunday School will close this year on Sunday, 17th June, when suitable prizes for general Biblical knowledge and regular attendance will be presented to the scholars.

The Annual Picnic will be held on Saturday, 16th, in the same park which is very suitable to our needs. Parents and friends wishing to attend should provide their own fare. Tea and aerated waters will be provided. Would parents please see that the children bring their own cups this year? This would be a great help.

We take this opportunity of thanking all who have taken an interest in the Sunday

School endeavours with their presence, and those who have been so generous with gifts.

J. WEIR, *Superintendent.*

Tu-Whit—Tu-Whoo.—Brown Owl, Tawnies and Brownies wish to thank all those parents and friends who were present at the Pack's Open Meeting on 18th April. At the conclusion of the evening there was a "Wing" Ceremony when Marie Napier "flew" up to Guides.

Five Brownies have gone up to Guides this session, but the number in the Pack is still maintained at 24.

26th Midlothian Wolf Cub Pack.—The progress of the Cub Pack during the past year has been very satisfactory. Last July seven Cubs left to join the Scout Troop, and, as a result, there were only eight Cubs left in the Pack; but now I am glad to report that there are now eighteen Cubs attending the meetings.

Our programme has been varied—games, tests and handicrafts forming the main part of the programme. At Christmas we had our Annual Party.

Any boys between the ages of eight and eleven, who wish to become members of the Pack, will be made welcome at the Pack meetings which are held every Friday from 6 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.
A. C. BARR.

Guides.—The 103rd Company are at present in good heart, and the meetings both indoors and out of doors are being thoroughly enjoyed by the members. Several recruits have recently come up from the Brownie Pack. A successful Parents' Night was held on the 11th of March. Owing to the resignation of Miss Maysie Forrest, to whom the Company owe a great deal for the help and leadership she has given over a long period, the meetings at the beginning of this year were run by the Patrol Leaders, with occasional help from outside. Now, however, thanks to the good offices of the District Commissioner, a Captain has been found in Miss Anna Robertson, to whose able leadership the Guides have given a warm welcome and a loyal response.

Scouts.—The Troop has a number of interesting events to report apart from the usual games and Scout activities on Friday nights. A Parents' Association was formed on 23rd March at a Social Meeting,

and a Committee appointed to further the interests of Scouting and assist in the procuring of equipment. The Committee which at present includes Mr Clunas, Mr Harper, Mrs Greig, Mrs Simmons and Mrs Shannon (*Secretary*), has already got to work and has organised a Whist Drive for the evening of 25th May. The Scouts are looking forward to their Summer Camp which will be held at Invertruim, Invernessshire from 30th July to 7th August. A Court of Honour Week-end Camp has already been held at Cockburnhill, Balerno. Open-air meetings have been held on several occasions this term, and the District Sing-Song for Scouts and Guides on 8th June to be held at Craigsbank is looked forward to along with such events as the District Sports Rally and the County Flag Competition. The winners of the Inter-Patrol Competition have been—1st Term, the Snipe Patrol (Leader, R. Hogg); 2nd Term, Peewit Patrol (Leader, E. Leask). Several War Service Badges have been gained. The occasional visits of A.S.M. Kenneth Candlish, while on leave have been welcomed, as have his talks on Naval subjects: S.M. David Paterson is still in the Middle East, while A/A.S.M. J. G. Bothwell is still serving in Italy.

Youth Club.—Though still somewhat in the experimental stage the Craigsbank Youth Club has made good progress. The peak month for attendance was March when an average of twenty were present at the Youth Club meetings. On Sunday evenings discussions and debates have been held. On Thursdays the programme has varied, games being in chief demand. A new hobby has been started with the arrival of an order of Catalin Plastic material, and samples of what can be done in this craft will be on view at the Garden Fete on 23rd June. Next session it is hoped to arrange a programme which will include Hobbies, Dramatics and Indoor Games. The Canteen which is run by the members themselves is a popular feature of each meeting, which closes with an epilogue or the recital of the commitment. At the recent Business Meeting the new Committee of Management was appointed as follows:—Francis Henderson, Norma Craig, Ian Adamson, Hugh Shannon and Max Niven. Mrs E. P. G. Fox is Deputy Leader and the Secretary-Treasurer is Ian Dean.

Returning Service Men and Women.—The Congregation looks forward to the return of its Service men and Service women on their release from the Forces. An early opportunity of welcoming them back is intended, but as it is most likely that the times of their release will be various, members and particularly the street representatives are asked to share in the welcome and advise the Minister as soon as possible. The Elders and Development Committee would also like to have the opportunity of welcoming returning Service men and women to the life and work of the Congregation.

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Roll of New Members

By Certificate

Craigmount Terrace

19 Mr and Mrs George Godfrey.

Hillview Road

7 Mr and Mrs James Robertson.

TREASURERS NOTE

Craigsbank opened on October 1937, some 7½ years ago and is still a Church Extension charge, and will continue to be so until the Congregation is in a position to pay £275 per annum towards the stipend. In addition to this sum there are the regular charges to be met such as salaries of Church Officer and Organist, Heating and Lighting, Insurances, etc. Roughly speaking, the annual amount required to meet our liabilities is in the region of £500.

The membership of the Congregation at present is 340, but it must be remembered that a good many of the young men and women are at present with the Forces.

However, it should not be beyond the resources of the remainder of the Congregation to raise this sum and it is up to each member to do his or her part.

If a *minimum* sum of 7d. each Sunday was received from say 300 members, this would raise annually £455, and as we receive a sum of approx £37 each year from an allocation of Tields of the Parish of Corstorphine, these two amounts practically meet our requirements.

Regular and systematic giving should be the aim of each member, and as a help in this direction Freewill Offering Envelopes without identification numbers and with a date for each Sunday are available and can be had from any of the Office-Bearers. The envelopes will be a reminder that the services of the Church must be maintained even although some members are prevented at times from attending. For these members who do not desire to make use of the Freewill Offering Envelopes, the collection bag will be available as at present.

At our Business Meeting in February 1944 I made an appeal for a special effort being made by the Congregation during the year to raise the necessary amount for full autonomy being granted, and whilst we were not successful in reaching the required sum, a little more effort on the part of the Congregation would have allowed Craigsbank to have gone forward at the coming General Assembly for full status. I again make a further appeal and would ask each member for their most earnest and prayerful consideration about this matter of finance.

CONGREGATIONAL OFFERINGS

JANUARY TO APRIL							
1945				1944			
January	-	£14	3 8	January	-	£26	2 0
February	-	31	16 2	February	-	32	7 9
March	-	21	5 9	March	-	19	0 8
April	-	25	1 10	April	-	30	7 3
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£92 7 5				£107 17 8			
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