

St. John's Church, Wellington



Sixty-Eighth  
Annual Report

JULY 1st, 1920, TO  
JUNE 30th, 1921

WELLINGTON  
Printed by C. A. INNES, Printer and Stationer, Willis Street  
1921

## OFFICE BEARERS

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### *Minister:*

REV. JAMES GIBB, D.D., The Manse, 328 The Terrace.  
Telephone 22-249.

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### *Missionary:*

REV. GEORGE H. MCNEUR, Canton.

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### *Session Clerk:*

MR. M. D. MENELAUS, 43 Ellice Avenue.  
Telephone 22-745.

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### *Clerk of Management Committee:*

MR. W. A. RAMSAY, Lyall Bay.

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### *Joint Treasurers:*

HON. J. G. W. AITKEN, M.L.C., 2 Levy Street.  
MR. J. LEUCHARS, Freyberg Street, Lyall Bay.

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### *Envelopes:*

MESSRS M. FRASER, Secretary; A. M. ROSIE, Treasurer.

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### *Joint Conveners of Church Extension Committee:*

MESSRS. A. R. STONE and D. DOUGLAS.

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### *Convener Seat-Letting Committee:*

MR. WM. HOPKIRK.

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### *Organist and Choirmaster:*

MR. C. W. KERRY, Tirangi Road, Kilbirnie.

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### *Church Officer:*

MR. J. WHITEMAN, Willis Street. Telephone 2405.

## MANAGERS' COMMITTEES

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### *Property Committee:*

MESSRS. BARY, CAMPBELL, GLOVER, KRAFT, A. P. SMITH, and  
MENELAUS (Convener).

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### *Seat Letting Committee:*

MESSRS. ANDERSON, CRAWFORD, GILL, LESLIE, A. D. JOHNSTON,  
RAMSAY, STONE, J. M. WILSON, WALLACE,  
and HOPKIRK (Convener).

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### *Finance Committee:*

MESSRS. ALLAN, BRUCE, CORKILL, GILL, MACFARLANE, PETTI-  
GREW, KIRKCALDIE,  
LEUCHARS and AITKEN (Joint Conveners).

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### *Church Extension Committee:*

MESSRS. ANDREW, HOWITT, HORE, A. JOHNSTON, BLAKE,  
CAPT. JOHNSON, MARTIN, G. S. TROUP,  
DOUGLAS and STONE (Joint Conveners).

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### *Choir Committee:*

MESSRS. GREER, KERSLEY, ROBERTSON, SOUTH, A. M. WILSON,  
and CRAWFORD (Convener).

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL

MEETS EVERY SUNDAY AT 2.30 P.M.

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### *Superintendent:*

MR. W. HOPKIRK.

### *Teachers:*

MRS. MASSEY, MISSES. A. ALLAN, M. GORE, M. GRAY, E  
WATT, H. BLAKE, M. CLACHAN, M.A., L. FINLAY, C. HUTTON,  
E. HOPKIRK, J. MASSEY, E. MACKENZIE, J. MACKENZIE,  
M.A., D. CHAPPEL, M. STILL, K. THOMPSON, R. GARDNER, L.  
LESLIE, C. TAYLOR, M. HILL, E. WHITELAW, MESSRS. J. H.  
KRAFT, A. G. HARPER, G. W. MORICE, M.A., A. D. JOHN-  
STON, D. BLAKE.

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### *Secretary:*

MR. J. M. MORICE, B.Sc.

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### *Treasurer:*

MR. J. H. KRAFT.

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### *Organist:*

MISS M. CLACHAN, M.A.

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### *Librarian:*

MRS. WHITEMAN.

### *Assistant Librarian:*

MISS GIFFORD.

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### *Cradle Roll Superintendent:*

MISS SYBL HOPKIRK.

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## YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS AND INSTITUTE

MEETS IN THE WILLIS STREET CLASS-ROOM EVERY SABBATH,  
AT 2.45 P.M.

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### *President:*

REV. JAMES GIBB, D.D.

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### *Leader:*

MR. A. MARTIN.

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### *Secretary:*

MR. J. S. MURRAY.

### *Treasurer:*

MR. S. W. WEBBER.

## YOUNG WOMEN'S BIBLE CLASS

MEETS IN THE GIRLS' PARLOUR EVERY SABBATH AT 2.45 P.M.

*President:*

REV. JAMES GIBB, D.D.

*Leader:*

MR. J. BOAL.

*Sub-Leader:*

MISS M. CHAPPELL.

*Secretary:*

MISS W. MILLER.

*Treasurer:*

MISS P. KITCHING.

## GIRLS' JUNIOR BIBLE CLASS

*Leader:*

MISS M. GORE.

*Secretary:*

MISS J. A. LESLIE.

*Mission Treasurer:*

MISS M. MACKENZIE.

*Social Convener:*

MISS E. BALLINGALL.

## BOYS' JUNIOR BIBLE CLASS

*Leader:*

MR. G. W. MORICE, M.A.

## WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

*President:*

MRS. GIBB.

*Vice-Presidents:*

MRS. ALLAN and MRS. GILL.

*Secretary:*

MRS. MOYES.

*Treasurer—Missions:*

MISS GIBB.

*Treasurer—Dorcas:*

MISS STEEL.

## YOUNG WOMEN'S MISSIONARY GUILD

MEETS IN BASEMENT PARLOUR EVERY ALTERNATE MONDAY  
AT 7.30 P.M.

*President:*

MISS ALLAN.

*Vice-Presidents:*

MRS. MASSEY and MISS BADDEN.

*Secretary:*

MISS DAVIDSON.

*Treasurer:*

MISS HEATH.

## THE BOYS' INSTITUTE

Sunday Evening Service and Week-night Classes are now  
conducted in the Institute Building, Tasman Street.

*Hon. President:*

REV. JAMES GIBB, D.D.

*President:*

MR. G. A. TROUP.

## HOSTEL COMMITTEE

*Chairman:*

DR. GIBB.

*Secretary:*

MR. A. R. STONE.

## CHOIR

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*Organist and Choirmaster:*

MR. CH. W. KERRY.

*Sopranos:*

MESDAMES. ANDREW, BLAKE, KERRY, POPE, VERE, WILLIAMS,  
 MISSES ALLEN, D. CHAPPELL, DRYDEN, M. JENNINGS, GEORGE,  
 HOPKIRK, HEATH, MOWATT, NICHOLS.

*Contraltos:*

MRS. WHITEMAN, MISSES M. GIBB, DUNN, HOPKIRK, and  
 SHEARER.

*Tenors:*

MESSRS. BOAL, CRAY, M. BEAN, and WILSON.

*Basses:*

MESSRS. CRAWFORD, GREER, F. S. POPE, ROBERTSON.

*Hon. Secretary:*

MR. R. J. CRAWFORD.

## CONGREGATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

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PUBLIC WORSHIP every Lord's Day, morning at 11, evening at 7.

SACRAMENTS: (1) Baptism in the Church as arranged for.  
 (2) Lord's Supper on second Sunday of March, June, September, and December.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets in the hall adjoining the Church on Sunday afternoons at 2.30.

BIBLE CLASS FOR YOUNG MEN meets in the class room, Willis Street, on Sunday afternoons at 2.45.

SOCIAL CLUB every Saturday evening in Willis Street classroom.

BIBLE CLASS FOR YOUNG WOMEN meets in the class-room adjoining the Church, and in the Managers' Room, on Sunday afternoons at 2.45.

PRAYER MEETING every Wednesday at 7.30 p.m.

THE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION meets in the schoolroom, on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 2.30 p.m.

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION, first Tuesday in the month.

MOTHERS' MEETING every alternate Thursday at 2.45 p.m., in the Dixon Street Hall.

YOUNG WOMEN'S MISSIONARY GUILD meets from March to November, in Basement Room, at 7.30 p.m.

CHOIR PRACTICE, Thursday evenings at 8 p.m., in the Willis St. Classroom.

THE SESSION meets as arranged after the Prayer Meeting.

THE MANAGERS meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 8.30 p.m.

GYMNASTIC CLASSES meet in the Gymnasium during winter months.

## COLLECTIONS, SEAT-LETTING, ETC.

THE ORDINARY SUNDAY COLLECTIONS, together with the Seat Rents, etc., provide the funds for defraying the congregational expenses, the chief of which are the Minister's Stipend, and retiring allowance to the late Minister, salaries of the Church officials, etc.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: (1) As appointed by the General Assembly are made from time to time, including Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, Assessments for Assembly Expenses, Maori Missions, etc. (2) As appointed by the office-bearers for Sunday School, relief of poor (once a quarter), and such other object as it may be deemed necessary to help.

The Church Extension Fund, which is wholly devoted to help in planting new charges and assisting weak ones throughout the bounds of the Church, is taken up by the envelope system. The envelopes are placed in the pews once a quarter.

FOREIGN MISSIONS: The regular contributions of the congregation to Missions are collected quarterly by the Women's Missionary Association.

The Seat-letting Committee is in attendance at the Church at the close of the prayer-meeting on Wednesday evenings to let sittings to new applicants.



# REPORT

1920-1921

The year now ended has been one of chequered fortunes. Probably in no year of its history has the congregation suffered so much by the loss through death, by removal from Wellington, and by the serious illness of men of note in its fellowship. And yet by the help of God the work has gone on, not only steadily, but with no small measure of success. For the mercies we have received we are deeply thankful, and face the future with quiet confidence, and a steadfast purpose of devotion to the service of our King and Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Early in October the ministry of the Rev. H. W. Burridge, who had during the nine months of Dr. Gibb's absence in Britain acted as *locum tenens*, came to an end. Mr. Burridge, heartily assisted by Mrs. Burridge, discharged the duties of his position with fidelity and acceptance, and gained the cordial goodwill and appreciation of the office-bearers and the congregation. It was, however, with great thankfulness that Dr. and Mrs. Gibb were welcomed home again early in October. The Doctor's mission to the Old Country in search of men for the work of the New Zealand Church had proved beyond expectation successful, and, though the task had been strenuous, the Minister returned to his work in St. John's in the best of health and vigour. His highly appreciated ministry grows steadily in spiritual power as the days pass. We rejoiced, also, in having Mrs. Gibb back again, and to see that she too had benefited by rest and change of scene.

At a meeting held shortly after the return of the Minister and Mrs. Gibb to welcome them, and to say farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Burridge, a presentation of pulpit robes was made to Dr. Gibb, and a substantial cheque to Mr. Burridge. The meeting was further signalled by the appreciation expressed for that beloved elder of the Church,

the Hon. J. G. W. Aitken, who had acted as Moderator of Session during the Minister's absence. A handsome easy chair was presented to him, and Dr. Gibb, in making the presentation, voiced the unanimous feeling of the congregation when he emphasised the affection and esteem in which he was held by all the people of St. John's. Mr. M. D. Menelaus, the Session Clerk, on whose always heavily laden shoulders a specially heavy burden had been laid by the Minister's absence, was also specially thanked. The meeting made it manifest that the congregation knows to the full the debt it owes to its wise and tirelessly energetic Session Clerk.

Prior to Dr. Gibb's departure on his mission to the Churches of the Homeland it had been for some time manifest that even he, with all his capacity, for work, was overburdened and required to be relieved, especially of the care of the Home Missions of the Church. He, therefore, wisely intimated to the General Assembly his resignation of the Convenership of the Home Mission Committee. There was a good deal of speculation whether he might not see it to be his duty to offer his services to the Assembly as Home Mission Superintendent, and when he finally withdrew his name from consideration by that body, the relief experienced found expression in the following resolution adopted by a large meeting of the office-bearers:

"The office-bearers of St. John's Church desire to place on record their appreciation of the fact that their beloved Minister, Dr. Gibb, has decided to remain as their pastor. While it was undecided as to whether he might be called to the position of Superintendent of Home Missions, the office-bearers could only view the situation with grave concern. Now that the matter is settled, it is with a sense of great relief and joy that they congratulate themselves on the decision he has arrived at, and would take this opportunity of anew expressing their appreciation of the faithful and untiring services rendered to the congregation by him. They are glad to observe that his health has been so much improved by his recent visit to the Homeland, and that notwithstanding the very arduous and exacting duties which he had to perform, and which he brought to so successful an issue.

"They trust that under the good providence of God he may be spared for many years to continue and extend the work of the congregation, and that he may have the joy and comfort of seeing the work of the

Lord prospering in his hands. They desire further to assure him of their continued interest in the work, and they ever pray that the Great Head of the Church may be pleased to continue to endow him with all needed wisdom and grace."

Shortly before the return of the Minister the congregation suffered the loss of Mr. S. Clarke Johnson, who passed away very suddenly. He had been for 18 years an elder, and had endeared himself to his fellow office-bearers as much by his unflinching geniality as by his willingness to serve the church to whose interests he was deeply devoted and to whose service he gave much of his time. His death was a heavy blow to St. John's and a peculiarly keen loss to the Minister, with whom Mr. Johnson had been very closely associated, especially in the conduct of the colleges—Scots and Queen Margaret. Another elder who, since his removal to Auckland, has passed away, is Mr. R. Pearson. He was in infirm health when he left Wellington, and it was hoped that the change of residence might be of physical advantage, but a few months later he died. Mr. Pearson was an active and zealous member, and office-bearer of the church, and a friend to every good cause. We parted from him with reluctance, and his own hope was that he might ere long be restored to the fellowship of the church he truly loved.

A change of residence involved the congregation in the loss of four well-known elders, Mr. A. D. Thomson, Mr. H. W. Kersley, Mr. W. Ramsay, and Mr. J. Mackay. Mr. Kersley, now living at the Hutt, has not "lifted his lines," but we are meanwhile deprived of his good help. Mr. Thomson was a source of strength in many ways with which we could ill dispense, and we congratulate the Hutt charge on his accession to the ranks of their effectives. Mr. Ramsay, since the close of the period under review, has returned to Wellington, and we hope his valuable services will be again secured. Mr. John Mackay, after a serious illness, found himself unable to come in from Island Bay, and we had to part with one who had for many years served the Church in the eldership.

By removal from the district the Committee of Management lost Messrs W. M. Gibson, one of the most diligent members, and W. Gendall, H. Lines and W. R. S. Allen.

Early in the year Mr. William Allan, an elder of 37 years' standing, was overtaken by severe illness, and though God has mercifully spared him, he has been wholly incapacitated from taking part either in business affairs or the work

of the Church. We all know what Mr. Allan has been to St. John's, and in the course of its history it has had no truer friend. His kindness of heart and unfailing generosity endeared him to every one not less than his untiring labours secured their high esteem.

Heaviest of all the losses suffered by the congregation has been the removal from its activities of Mr. Aitken through a sickness which has, to our great grief, been manifestly sapping his strength, and now practically confines him to the house if not to bed. What can we say of him save that he has been among us a living embodiment and illustration of the mind and heart of the Master? Few congregations in New Zealand or beyond it have been served with a devotion so wise, so tireless, so whole-hearted. His time and strength and means have ever been laid upon the altar of God, and though his career has been laborious beyond most in public service, the Church has ever had the first place in his heart. We commend both him and Mr. Allan to the grace of God and pray that in their illness and retirement they may be sustained by an abiding sense of His presence. Of both men we may with full hearts say: "Servant of God, well done."

It is very evident from the recital of these losses and impairments of our effective force how heavily the congregation has suffered during the year. And to this there falls to be added the always increasing movement of our people to the suburbs, a movement which steadily tends to make St. John's a "down town" church. More than once this has been referred to in the annual reports, and we would not dwell upon it now. One significant fact may, however, be mentioned. During the 18 years of Dr. Gibb's ministry, while the membership of the Church in full communion has nearly doubled, the adherents of children and young people under 16 years of age has diminished by leaps and bounds. Eighteen years ago there were several hundreds of young children connected with the Church; now there are only 70. People with young families for many reasons choose their residence in the suburbs, and it is impossible for them in most cases to maintain their connection with a church situated as ours is in the centre of the city.

In the face of these losses and difficulties peculiar to ourselves, and in the face of the prevalent religious indifference, the growing secularisation of the Lord's Day—in part an aftermath of the war—the record of the year's work is such as quickens in us a great thankfulness to Him from whom cometh down every good and perfect gift.

## THE KIRK SESSION.

The Session has, as has been set forth, lost by death Messrs. S. Clarke Johnson and R. Pearson; by removal, A. D. Thompson, J. Mackay and W. Ramsay. Mr. Aitken and Mr. Allan are no longer fit for active duty. It became necessary to add several new members, and the following were elected by the congregation and duly ordained and inducted, viz., Messrs. W. Austin, M.A., T. R. Cresswell, M.A., Malcolm Fraser, P. H. Glover, J. H. Kraft, J. T. Pettigrew and H. C. South. The Session has now 33 members.

Dealing now with those matters of which the Session has the immediate supervision we report that the attendance at Church has been in the morning and with favourable weather distinctly good. The evening attendance has fluctuated, but on the whole the movement has been upward. The attendance at the Prayer Meeting was good in the early part of the year; latterly it has been less satisfactory.

The additions to the communion roll have been 111, of whom 80 joined by certificate and 31 by profession of faith. The removals by certificate have been much fewer than this, but as the roll is at present undergoing purgation it is possible to give only an approximate estimate of the total actual membership. The figure is certainly not less than 700.

The attendance at the quarterly communion has been very good—the highest in June, when 456 people participated.

The visitation of the congregation, especially of the sick, has been diligently carried out by the Minister, and the elders have been in evidence in their districts every quarter when the communion cards are distributed.

The service of praise has been well rendered. The Choir, which we are glad to note has been considerably strengthened of late, has, under Mr. Kerry's capable and earnest leadership, done excellent work.

## THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

By election to the Session, and by removals, the Committee has lost the services of Messrs. W. R. S. Allan, P. M. Cameron, T. W. Gendall, H. Glover, W. W. Gibson, J. H. Kraft, H. Lines, and J. T. Pettigrew. An election of new members has recently taken place, and though falling within the new year the names of the new managers may, for convenience sake, be specified here. They are: Messrs A. D. Johnston, Kelburn; D. E. Leslie, Dixon St.; W. A. Ramsay, Lyall Bay; W. A. Robertson, Newtown; G. S. Troup, Kelburn; A. H. Wallace, Kelburn.



The finances of the Church, which are the care of the Committee, are dealt with in a subsequent paragraph. The condition of the manse property has called for the special attention of the Committee. Extensive repairs, repainting, etc., have become absolutely necessary. A special collection taken up in this behalf realised £166, but £400 at least are required. The work is now in hand and provision for its further prosecution must be made without delay.

Reference may be made here to the Church officer, Mr. J. Whiteman, who had to undergo a surgical operation some months ago. Happily he has made an excellent recovery, and will resume duty almost immediately. The sympathy of the office-bearers with his illness and their just appreciation of his faithful services found expression in their continuing Mr. Whiteman's salary and providing a substitute for the three months of his convalescence.

### THE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

This Association has had a busy and successful year. The attendance at the weekly meetings, especially since resumption after the summer holidays, has been large, and a deepened interest in the work is manifest.

As a Dorcas Society many garments have been prepared for and donated to the Orphanage, and contributions of clothing have been made to the mothers' meeting and various needy cases. The Association has a number of regular pensioners to whom it ministers both in cash and kind. A sum of £60 has been expended in these and similar benefactions. The total income of this branch was £112, and the resources of the Society were further strengthened by contributions in kind from various good friends and from the Two Garment Society. To all of these donors the thanks of the Association are gratefully tendered.

As the congregational branch of the P.W.M.U. the Association has done this year exceedingly well. The interest in the cause of missions has been keen, and the items of news, etc., etc., from the fields, both home and foreign, have been eagerly discussed. The "Harvest Field"—the periodical of the P.W.M.U.—has a circulation of 65 among the members of the Society.

The annual sale of work in aid of the congregation's contribution to missions realised £120. In addition to this, two Jumble Sales and an American Tea were held, realising upwards of £32. The contributions of members of the Society collected at the monthly missionary meetings amounted to £6. The total collected for missions, etc., reached the satisfactory figure of £214.

Connected with the Association is

### The Mothers' Meeting.

which has been held once a fortnight throughout the year. It has been well attended, and the mothers have benefited not only by kindly counsel, but by the sale at nominal prices and the free distribution of large quantities of clothing.

### YOUNG WOMEN'S MISSIONARY GUILD.

The Guild reports a year of quiet, steady work. The attendances at the fortnightly meetings have been much the same as in former years. Out of the proceeds of last year's sale the Guild has made a contribution of £20 to the Maori Girls' School at Turakina, and they are now busily preparing for the sale which they propose to hold in a few weeks' time. The Guild desire it to be known that they will at any time gladly take orders for fancy work.

### THE HOSTEL.

The Hostel is now well on in its second year. The building, which has accommodation for 36 boarders, cost with alterations almost £6,000, and a large part of this sum was obtained by mortgage of the property. The direct contribution of the congregation towards the purchase and for furnishing amounted to £1,630. The Hostel is directed by the Church Committee of Management through a sub-committee on which a number of ladies have a seat. In the capable hands of Mrs. Benn, the matron, and a competent staff, the Hostel has met an urgent need and provided excellent board and lodging at a modest cost to the inmates. The house is at present full. It pays its way, and there are indications that ere long it will be possible to set aside some percentage of the earnings for a debt reduction fund. It is a source of satisfaction that we are able to provide nearly 40 young men with board and lodging in a wholesome atmosphere and environment, and at a cost to them considerably lower than the usual rates.

### QUEEN MARGARET COLLEGE.

The boarders and teachers of this College attend the services of our church, and a word of reference to the institution may not be amiss. In the singularly capable hands of Miss Haydon, M.A., the new Principal, the number of pupils is rapidly increasing, and the tone of the College is all that can be desired. The interest of the congregation in the College is evidenced not only by its representation on the Board of Governors, of which the Minister is chairman, but by the large sum of money donated to the College by the people of St. John's. Our interest in them is heartily reciprocated by the teachers and the boarders. Several of the latter became members of the Church by profession of faith at the March communion.

We rejoice also in the continued prosperity of Scots College, which, under its very able Principal, Mr. Uttley, grows steadily in usefulness and efficiency. It has greatly gladdened us to learn that quite a number of the boys, who for three years worshipped with us, and are now connected with the Seatoun congregation, have, under the guidance of Mr. Inglis, who is to all intents and purposes Chaplain to the College, taken their place at the Lord's Table.

#### THE BOYS' INSTITUTE.

Though the Institution is now a public concern, the congregation being represented on its Board only by certain *ex-officio* members, its prosperity lies very close to our hearts, not only because of the beneficent service it renders to a large number of boys, but also because it had its genesis in St. John's and for a long period was practically identified with our Men's Bible Class. The Institute has had a fine career, and is benefiting an ever-growing number of lads with influences making for a sturdy physique, integrity of life and the service of God and their fellows.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The Sunday School has, in the face of many difficulties, held its own as will be seen from the following tables. (The figures for the previous year are put in brackets):

##### *Scholars.*

Boys, 113 (94); girls, 114 (126); total, 227 (220). Average, 142 (155).

Of the total number, 66 (28 boys and 38 girls) are in the Primary Department; 133 (69 boys and 64 girls) are in the Intermediate; and 28 (16 boys and 12 girls) in the Junior Bible Classes.

The total roll is 7 higher than last year; the average attendance is 13 lower. On the average, the Superintendent comments, "average not satisfactory, but accounted for by heavy sickness last winter, and by the increasing prevalence of week-ending."

The Cradle Roll (not included in the above) numbers 68—35 boys and 33 girls.

##### *Teachers and Officers.*

Men, 7 (8); women, 23 (22); total, 30 (30); average, 25 (27).

The teachers have given themselves with praiseworthy zeal to their important task. Monthly meetings for the discussion of matters of common interest to the school have been revived, and the teachers of the primary department meet regularly for study.

A steady effort is made to induce the children to attend the morning service of the Church. The number had somewhat ebbed, but is again increasing. Unhappily, a large percentage of the parents of children attending the school have no church connection of any kind.

The Junior Bible Classes do not now take part in the opening exercises of the Sunday School. A separate paragraph relates to the work of these classes.

Four scholars, of whom three joined during the present year, are members in full communion with the Church.

The entrants for the Sunday School Examinations were rather higher than last year, though the number is still far from satisfactory. The results were good, almost all who entered securing passes.

Two winter socials were held very successfully, and the picnic at Belmont was attended by 157.

Youth of the Church Day was duly commemorated, and the Anniversary services postponed, through pressure of other arrangements, to May. The church was nicely decorated, and the singing of the children and their recitation of Scripture passages were much appreciated. These services were successful, the collection for the day in aid of the school funds amounting to £52 5s.

The Busy Bees have kept well together and done good work for missions.

The finances of the school are in a healthy condition. The income amounted to £136. Of this, over £25 have been contributed to missions, etc., £116 have been spent in the maintenance of the school and its organisations. The main items of income are: Anniversary collection, £52; scholars' collections, £48; donations to the income fund, £35.

The work of the Sunday School, thanks to the devotion of Superintendent and teachers, is sound. We are grateful to them for their self-denying and most profitable labours.

#### YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS.

The Class has a roll of 64 members, a decrease of five on last year's numbers. The average attendance has been 38. Of the Class members 42 are in full communion with the Church. The additions to Church membership during the year were, by profession of faith 10.

Bible study circles are held on Sunday mornings with an average attendance of 11. Short intercessory prayer meetings are held after the Class on Sunday afternoon; and once a month members of the Young Women's Class and Sunday School teachers join in these intercessions.

The activities of the Class embrace services in suburban churches, at the Ohio Home, on ships in port, and at the Boys' Institute.

The social and athletic departments have been well maintained. Social meetings, picnics, class teas have been of frequent occurrence. The Saturday Night Club, held every week during the winter months, obtained only a fair measure of support. The football, running, swimming and tennis clubs have been well patronised, and the Class has, in competition with other teams, more than held its own. Various cups and trophies were won during the season.

An increasing use of the library has been noted of late, and a number of new books were added to the shelves. Forty-five members subscribe to "Four-Square," the magazine of the Bible Class Union.

The income of the Class has been £250. Of this sum £50 have been spent in the maintenance of the Class (printing, socials, union fees, etc.); £46 have been donated to missions; £20 to the Assembly's travelling secretary; £5 10s. to the Boys' Institute and Home Missions; £95 to St. John's Hostel.

The contribution to missions, etc., is thus over £71, and including the contribution to the Hostel, the total expended, outside the direct maintenance of the Class, is over £166.

#### BOYS' JUNIOR BIBLE CLASS.

The statistics of this class are included in the figures given for the Sunday Schools, but the class meets separately, and is conducted in lines similar to the Senior Classes. With the large accession of Presbyterian boys to the Y.M.C.A. Hostel in Donbank, it was hoped that there would be a correspondingly large increase to the Boys' Class. Various efforts have been made to bring them in, but little has come of it. Three members of the class are in full communion with the Church, of whom two joined this year. The worth of the work done in the Boys' Class is in evidence year after year by additions to the membership of the Church.

#### GIRLS' JUNIOR BIBLE CLASS.

The roll has decreased since last year, and now contains 12 names. The contributions of the Class to missions go one-half through the Sunday School, the other to the Bible Class' Own Nurse Fund. The total amounts to £5.

#### YOUNG WOMEN'S BIBLE CLASS.

This Class has 60 members, one more than last year. The average attendance has not been so large as it ought, but large enough to stimulate courage and quicken hope. The Scriptures have been earnestly studied, and the activities

of the Class have been diligently prosecuted. Special meetings for prayer have been held frequently by the class itself, and also in combination with the Young Men's Class. These meetings have been well attended, and have proved helpful. Bible study circles have also been of much use. Forty-eight members of the Class are members in full communion with the Church, and of these four joined during the year by profession of faith, and 11 by certificate. Three class members joined the Sunday School Teachers' staff.

The Class provides abundant facilities for social fellowship and healthful pastime; no effort is spared to help members to gain the healthy body as well as the healthy mind and cheerful heart. The various recreational and social clubs have all been put to a good use. The library has been strengthened by the addition of a number of new books.

The Class provides also opportunities of definite service, especially for the victims of misfortune, and the aged and infirm. In the Ohio Home and the Sailors' Friend Society a field of fruitful activity is provided, and much good work done. The Orphanage, too, benefits by the Class, which makes contribution to that institution, both in cash and kind, and also helps from time to time in entertaining the children. Parcels of clothing and of toys have been sent to Te Whaiti for distribution among the Maori children and others.

The income of the Class has amounted to upwards of £92, of which £21 have been carried forward to the new year. £12 have been spent in the work of the Class, and £53 donated to missions. We rejoice at these tokens of the liberality of the Class and their zeal for the extension of the Kingdom of our Lord.

#### FINANCE.

##### *Contributions to Missions and Special Funds.*

(Only the totals are given here. Details of sources will be found in the paragraphs relating to the different collecting organisations).

Missions to the Heathen: £340.

Maori Missions: £66.

Home Missions: £160.

Total contribution to Missions: £566.

A further sum of £44 9s. 4d. has since been contributed for Home Missions, in time for inclusion in the General Assembly's funds for the year.

Other contributions: Youth of the Church, £28; Theological Hall, £17; Starving Children of Europe, £115; Contribution to Assembly's Union Committee, £35; Orphanage, £30; St. John's Hostel, £420; Sunday School £52; Bursar-

ies to Scots and Queen Margaret Colleges, £50; Balance Soldiers' Memorial, etc., etc., £14; Sister Kathleen's Mission, £34; China Famine Fund, £57; Trentham Military Hospital, £8; Hospitality to Women's Conference (General Assembly), £29; Poor of Congregation, £83. Total, £981.

The contribution to the Orphanage is much smaller than usual. The explanation is that no collection was made this year, owing to two collections having been by error taken in the immediately preceding year.

The whole contribution to objects other than the maintenance of ordinances, repairs to property, etc., etc., is £1522.

#### *Congregational Finance.*

The income has been large, but there has been no increase corresponding to the depreciated purchasing power of money. Rates, water, gas, repairs, all cost very much more than before the war, but this is certainly not reflected in our congregational finance. The impression grows that the haphazard collection should be replaced by what is known as the Budget System—a system which has happily revolutionised the finance of many churches. A general adoption of even that small application of the budget system, known among us as the collection by envelopes, would be a very decided advantage. Our income is large, very large, if you will, but the point is that it does not quite meet our obligations.

The collections show a total of £1365, or an average of over £26 per Sunday. If to this there is added the two collections for repairs to the church and manse respectively (£245) the total is £1610, or nearly £31 per Sunday. Of the amount set forth in the paragraph, "Contributions to Special Funds," £329 was obtained through the "plate," making a total collection of £1939, giving an average per Sunday of £35 7s. 3d.

Seat rents amount to about the same figure as last year, £411. Rent derived from the letting of the Hall and classrooms amounts to £143.

The sum contributed for manse repairs (£166) has been carefully expended by the Managers, but it is quite inadequate to completing the work necessary to place the property in good order. The Church has been repainted, and various other repairs affected, the cost of which has been defrayed partly out of a sum contributed for this purpose last year.

The income for all purposes amounts, with some items not included in the treasurer's statement, to close on £4000.

The opening sentences of this report claimed that, in the face of unusually heavy losses, and the manifold difficulties of the work, no small measure of at least outward success had been achieved. The foregoing sober statement of the work done and the money raised at least makes it clear that our Lord has helped us through. To Him be all the praise. In His name we face forward with deepened desire to be of true use in His great service, and with a serene confidence that as our day is, so shall our strength be.



# ST. JOHN'S CHURCH REVENUE ACCOUNT,

## Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for Year ending 30th June, 1921.

RECEIPTS		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance forward from last year being—							
For Church purposes		42	11	1			
Mothers' Meeting Money			6	5			
Women's Association for Box			0	10			
Dorcas for Poor of Congregation			14	0			
Stained Glass Windows			110	0			
Soldiers' Memorial Tablet			64	16			
Painting Church, etc.			85	2			
					329	5	9
For Church purposes:							
Collections, including envelopes		1365	8	7			
Seat Rents			411	3			
Rents			143	14			
					1920	5	9
Received for other than Church purposes:							
(A) To go through Presbyterian Church Treasurer:							
Youth of the Church Fund—							
(a) Collection		17	7	11			
(b) Per S.S.			5	0			
Theological Hall		17	8	6			
Home Missions, North Island, per Y.W.B.C.			6	0			
Church Ext. and Sustentation Fund, including Y.M.B.C. 15s., and Women's Association £61		150	9	0			
Maori Missions:							
Turakina Maori Girls' Scholarship Fund per Y.W.B.C.		3	0	0			
Turakina Maori Girls' College per Young Women's Guild		20	0	0			
Ruatahuna Hospital (Sister Annie) per Women's Association		20	0	0			
Birthday League			5	11			
Ladies' Christian Association			0	10			
Per Y.M.B.C.			0	15			
Nukaka Cottage Hospital Board Fund per Busy Bee		6	0	0			
Foreign Missions:							
Per Women's Association		137	2	0			
Per Sunday Schools			7	0			
New Hebrides Teacher "Albert," per Women's Association		12	0	0			
Santo Institute, New Hebrides, per Women's Association		5	0	9			
New Hebrides, per Y.M.B.C.			0	15			
For Salary, Rev. G. H. McNeur, including per Women's Assn. £40, and Y.W.B.C. £15, per S.S. £4, and re London Expenses £33 2s. 3d.		163	12	9			
European Children			115	4			
B.C. Trav. Sec. Fund., per Y.W.B.C.			5	0			
Y.W.B.C. Bursary Fund, per Y.W.B.C.			4	0			
Y.W.B.C. Nurse Fund, per Y.W.B.C.			5	0			
Contribution to General Assembly Union Committee			35	0			
					741	16	1
(B) Direct:							
Maori Missions per Y.W.B.C. paid direct to Miss Jack		5	5	0			
Y.W. Own Maori Missionary, per Y.W.B.C., sent direct to Miss M. Clark		5	0	0			
Orphanage (includes Women's Assn. £5, Y.M.B.C. 15s., Y.W.B.C. £5)		38	16	0			
St. John's Hostel, Piano			50	0			
St. John's Hostel		369	13	6			
Sunday Schools			82	5			
Stained Glass Windows			10	0			
Scholarships Scots and Queen Margaret Colleges		50	0	0			
Soldiers' Memorial Tablets			4	0			
Sister Kathleen Mission, West Ham		33	16	4			
China Famine Fund			57	2			
Trentham Military Hospital, Xmas Gifts per Women's Association			7	14			
P.W.M.U., re Conference Hospitality, per Women's Assn.		29	0	0			
Y.M.B.C. Union Foreign Mission, per Y.M.B.C.			5	10			
Y.M.B.C. Union, Home Mission, per Y.M.B.C.			3	19			
Special Building, Repairs, etc.			78	18			
Manse Repairs			166	8			
For Poor of Congregation			82	12			
					1050	1	8
							1791 17 9
							£4041 9 3

PAYMENTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
For Church Purposes:							
Rev. Dr. Gibb		700	0	0			
Rev. J. Paterson—Allowance		309	0	0			
Pulpit Supply			5	5			
Organist's (C. W. Kerry) Salary		125	0	0			
Church Officer (J. W. Whiteman) Salary		158	0	0			
Assistance during Church Officer's Illness			46	0			
Gas Co., less received Assembly £3 12s.			92	16			
Stationery, Printing, Advertising, Stamps, etc.			77	13			
Insurance—Fire and Accident			75	7			
Telephones			13	10			
Communion Wine, Glasses, etc.			11	10			
Gardener			15	0			
Repairs, etc., including re Gas			104	13			
Presbytery Dues			5	5			
Rev. Dr. Gibb, re Motor Car			83	6			
Tuning Organ			15	15			
Social			5	11			
Water (less received £17 16s.)			5	12			
Rates			117	7			
Sundries			8	19			
Minister's W. and O. Fund Assessment			17	10			
Assembly Expenses Fund			26	0			
Electric Light			1	7			
							2010 0 8
For other than Church Purposes:							
(A) Presbyterian Church Treas.							741 16 1
(B) Direct:							
Treasurer Scots College for 2 Scholarships		25	0	0			
Treasurer Queen Margaret College, for 2 Scholarships		25	0	0			
Presby. Orphanage Treasurer		38	16	0			
St. John's Hostel		369	13	6			
St. John's Hostel Piano			50	0			
Dorcas, Etc., for Poor of Congregation			82	12			
Sunday School Treasurer			52	5			
Maori Missions per Y.W.B.C., sent direct			5	5			
Young Women's Own Maori Missionary per Y.W.B.C., sent direct			5	0			
Stained Glass Windows		120	0	0			
P.W.M.N., re Conference Hospitality			29	0			
China Famine Fund			57	2			
Trentham Military Hospital			7	14			
Sister Kathleen West Ham Mission			33	16			
Y.M.B.C. Union Foreign Missionary per Y.M.B.C.			5	10			
Y.M.B.C. Union Home Mission per Y.M.B.C.			3	19			
Painting Church			159	5			
Memorial Tablet			70	0			
Poor Collection balance from last Financial Year D.W.A.			14	0			
Mount for Memorial Tablet			4	0			
Manse repairs			43	3			
					1201	3	9
							1942 19 10
Balance on Hand for other purposes:							
Mother's Meeting Money			6	5			
Women's Association for Box			0	10			
Manse Repairs, Etc., Balance on account			128	0			
					134	16	2
LESS Overpaid on Soldiers' Memorial Tablet							5 3 7
							129 12 7
LESS Overdrawn on Year's Revenue Account							41 3 10
							88 8 9

Audited and found correct.  
W. E. NICHOLLS, F.I.A.N.Z.,  
Hon. Auditor.

JOHN G. W. AITKEN, }  
JAS. LEUCHARS, } Hon. Treasurers.

£4041 9 3

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 30th JUNE, 1921.**

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Outstanding accounts and balances to pay out	148 12 7	Estimated value of Land, Church, School, Manse and Other Buildings	25000 0 0
Balance	24949 16 2	Unpaid seat and other rents	10 0 0
		Cash on Hand	88 8 9
	<u>£25,098 8 9</u>		<u>£25,098 8 9</u>

JOHN G. W. AITKEN, } *Hon. Treasurers.*  
 JAS. LEUCHARS. }

**ST. JOHN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL : Financial Statement for the Year ending June 30th, 1921.**

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance B.F. June 30, 1920			25 13 4	By Periodicals and Supplies	59	18	1
„ Collections—				„ Wellington S.S. Union Subs.	0	15	0
Ordinary	32	6	1	„ Bank Commission and Cheque Book	0	15	0
Missions (General)	10	19	3	„ Stationery, Postage and Sundries	3	12	9
Youth of the Church	1	10	6	„ Social Accounts	13	0	2
Break of Day Fund	3	14	9	„ Repairs "Gornish" Organ	2	0	0
„ Proceeds Sales Books	0	5	3	„ Anniversary Expenses	0	15	4
			48 15 10	„ Hymn Book Boxes and Pence Envelopes	5	8	0
„ Special Donations			3 13 6				86 4 4
„ Picnic Donations and Sundry Sales			31 9 6	„ Break of Day Fund			3 14 9
„ Church Collection S.S. Anniversary			52 5 0	„ Picnic Accounts			30 4 3
				„ Church Treasurer:			
				Starving Children Europe Fund	5	7	4
				Foreign Missions Fund	7	0	0
				Rev. G. H. McNeur (our own Missionary Fund)	4	0	0
				Youth of Church Fund	5	0	0
							21 7 4
				By Credit Balance in Bank			20 6 6
			<u>£161 17 2</u>				<u>£161 17 2</u>

J. H. KRAFT, *Hon. Treasurer.*

St. John's Church, Wellington.

**SEVENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT.**



***July 1st, 1922, to June 30th, 1923.***

Wellington:  
Printed by C. A. INNES, Printer and Stationer, Willis Street.

1923.

**OFFICE BEARERS.***Minister :*

REV. JAMES GIBB, D.D., The Manse, 328 The Terrace.  
Telephone 22-249

*Missionary :*

REV. GEORGE H. MCNEUR, Canton.

*Session Clerk :*

MR. M. D. MENELAUS, 43 Ellice Avenue. Telephone 22-745.

*Clerk of Management Committee :*

MR. W. A. RAMSAY, 24 Adams Street, Brooklyn.

*Treasurer :*

MR. J. T. PETTIGREW, 44 Matai Road, Hataitai.

*Envelopes :*

Secretary :	Treasurer :
MR. J. M. WILSON, 58 Glen Road, Kelburn.	MR. A. M. ROSIE, 61 Moana Road, Kelburn.

*Convener of Church Extension Committee :*

MR. R. J. CRAWFORD.

*Convener Seat-Letting Committee :*

MR. WM. HOPKIRK, 104 Majoribanks Street.

*Organist and Choirmaster*

MR. C. W. KERRY, Tirangi Road, Kilbirnie.

*Church Officer :*

MR. J. WHITEMAN, Willis Street. Telephone 2405.



**ELDERS.**

## INDUCTED.

AUSTIN, W. S., 23 North Terrace, Kelburn	...	1921
BARY, C., 28 Waitoa Road, Hataitai	...	1919
BLAKE, E. M., F.R.I.B.A., 122 Brougham Street	...	1923
CORKILL, T. E., 200 Dewsbury Terrace, Oriental Bay	...	1919
CULLEN, W., 5 Maarama Crescent	...	1920
CRESSWELL, T. R., M.A., Wellington College	...	1921
GILL, T. H., M.A., LL.B., 71 Ellice Street	...	1903
GLEN, G. F., 117 Brougham Street	...	1909
GLOVER, H., 60 Kent Terrace	...	1921
GREER, J COURTNEY, Aurora Terrace	...	1910
HOPKIRK, W., 104 Majoribanks Street	...	1888
HOWITT, A., 7 Resolution Street, Lyall Bay	...	1913
JOHNSON, CAPT. H., 10 Church Street	...	1902
JOHNSTON, A., 33 Central Terrace, Kelburn	...	1911
KERSLEY, H. W., Lower Hutt	...	1902
KRAFT, J. H., 135 Kelburn Parade, Kelburn	...	1921
MACFARLANE, J. B., 65 Devon Street, Kelburn	...	1911
MAINLAND, H., 92 Fairlie Terrace, Kelburn	...	1903
MARTIN, A., Day's Bay	...	1919
MENELAUS, M. D., 43 Ellice Avenue	...	1895
MIRAMS, E. S., 55 Waipapa Road, Hataitai	...	1912
MITCHELL, J., 57 Roxburgh Street	...	1897
PETTIGREW, J. T., 44 Matai Road, Hataitai	...	1921
RAMSAY, W. A., 24 Adams Street, Brooklyn	...	1913
SCLATER, J., Donald Street, Karori	...	1911
SMITH, A. P., Pearce Street, Seatoun	...	1913
SOUTH, H. C., 107 Austin Street	...	1921
STONE, A. R., 29 Main Road, Wadestown	...	1909
TROUP, G. A., F.R.I.B.A., 60 Raroa Road, Kelburn	...	1895
WEBBER, S. W., 306 Willis Street	...	1923

**MANAGERS—1922**

ANDERSON, J. D.	...	34 Talavera Terrace
BRUCE, J. L.	...	Rongotai Terrace, Kilbirnie
CAMPBELL, J., F.R.I.B.A.	...	21 Salamanca Road
COWIE, D. B.	...	198 Adelaide Road, Newtown
CRAWFORD, R. J.	...	14 Morton Street, Berhampore
GILMOUR, G.	...	Jefferson Street, Brooklyn
HOGG, D.	...	28 Central Terrace, Kelburn
JOHNSTON, A. D.	...	33 Central Terrace, Kelburn
KIRKCALDIE, J.	...	2 Upland Road, Kelburn
LESLIE, D. E.	...	... 143 Dixon Street
LOMAS, J. S., M.A.	...	12 Springfield Terrace, Kelburn
MACDONALD, J.	...	31 Glen Road, Kelburn
ORR, J. A.	...	... 306 Willis Street
ROBERTSON, W. A.	...	3 Doctor's Common, Hawker Street
ROSIE, A. M.	...	61 Mcana Road, Kelburn
ROSIE, M. B.	...	... 306 Willis Street
TROUP, G. S., M.A.	...	60 Raroa Road, Kelburn
WALLACE, A. H.	...	5 Boundary Road, Kelburn
WATKINS, L. T.	...	10 Glasgow Street, Kelburn
WILSON, A. M.	...	... 268 Willis Street
WILSON, J. M.	...	58 Glen Road, Kelburn

**MANAGERS' COMMITTEES.***Property Committee:*

MESSRS. BARY, COWIE, CAMPBELL, GLOVER, KRAFT, A. P. SMITH,  
and MENELAUS (Convener).

*Seat Letting Committee*

MESSRS. GILL, RAMSAY, M. B. ROSIE, STONE, J. M. WILSON,  
WALLACE, and HOPKIRK (Convener)

*Finance Committee:*

MESSRS. CORKILL, GILL, MACFARLANE, MENELAUS PETTIGREW,  
KIRKCALDIE, and HOPKIRK (Convener).

*Church Extension Committee:*

MESSRS. CULLEN, HOWITT, A. JOHNSTON, BLAKE, CAPT. JOHNSON,  
MARTIN, G. S. TROUP, DOUGLAS and STONE  
(Joint Conveners).

*Choir Committee:*

MESSRS. BLAKE, HOGG, ROBERTSON, SOUTH, WALLACE, WATKIN,  
A. M. WILSON and CRAWFORD (Convener).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

MEETS SUNDAY AT 2.30 P.M.

*Hon. Superintendent:*

MR. W. HOPKIRK.

*Superintendent:*

MR. E. S. MIRAMS.

*Teachers:*

MISSSES D. BLAKE, H. BLAKE, D. CHAPPELL, M. A. CLACHAN, M.A.,  
M. GRAY, C. HARVRY, M. HILL, E. HOPKIRK, C. HUTTON,  
S. HOPKIRK, L. M. LESLIE, N. MACKENZIE, J. MACKENZIE, M.A.,  
M. MACKENZIE, A. MUIR.

MESSRS. J. H. KRAFT, S. MURRAY, J. TURNBULL, and A. WILSON.

*Secretary:*

MR. J. M. MORICE, B.Sc.

*Treasurer:*

MR. J. H. KRAFT.

*Organist:*

MISS M. CLACHAN, M.A.

*Librarian:*

MRS. WHITEMAN.

*Assistant Librarian:*

MISS SYBIL HOPKIRK.

*Cradle Roll Superintendent:*

MISS SYBIL HOPKIRK.

**YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS & INSTITUTE.**

MEETS IN THE WILLIS STREET CLASS ROOM,  
SUNDAY, AT 2.45 P.M.

*President:*

REV. JAMES GIBB, D.D.

*Joint Leaders:*

MISSSES G. S. TROUP, M.A., and S. W. WEBBER.

*Secretary:*

MR. M. W. WILSON.

*Treasurer:*

MR. M. B. ROSIE.

**YOUNG WOMEN'S BIBLE CLASS.**

MEETS IN THE GIRLS' PARLOUR EVERY SABBATH AT 2.45 P.M.

*President:*

REV. JAMES GIBB, D.D.

*Leader:*

MISS M. CHAPPELL.

*Secretary:*

MISS W. MILLAR.

*Treasurer:*

MISS P. KITCHING

**GIRLS' JUNIOR BIBLE CLASS.**

MEETS IN SOCIAL PARLOUR, SUNDAY, AT 2.45 P.M.

*Leader:*

MISS R. NICHOLS.

*Secretary:*

MISS L. KRAFT.

*Treasurer:*

MISS J. GILCHRIST.

**BOYS' JUNIOR BIBLE CLASS.***Leader:*

MR. J. TURNBULL.

**MAORI MISSION BIRTHDAY LEAGUE.***Secretary:*

MISS M. MACKENZIE.

**WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION.**

MEETS IN BASEMENT PARLOUR EVERY TUESDAY AT 2.30 P.M.

*Hon. President:* MRS. GIBB.*President:*

MRS. GILL.

*Vice-Presidents:*

MRS. AUSTIN, MRS. FRASER and MRS. HALLBY.

*Secretary:*

MRS. MOYES.

*Treasurer:*

MISS STEEL.

**P.W.M.U.**MEETS FIRST TUESDAY IN EACH MONTH IN BASEMENT PARLOUR  
AT 2.30 P.M.*Hon. President:* MRS. GIBB.*President:* MRS. BORRIS.*Vice-Presidents:*

MRS. ALLAN and MRS MACKENZIE.

*Secretary:*

MRS. MOYES.

*Treasurer:*

MISS STEEL.

*Oriental Work*—MRS. FULLARTON. *Missions*—MRS. GORDON.  
"Harvest Field"—MRS. KERRY.**YOUNG WOMEN'S MISSIONARY GUILD**

MEETS IN BASEMENT PARLOUR EVERY ALTERNATE MONDAY AT 7.30

*President:* MISS ALLAN.*Vice-Presidents:*

MISS BADDEN and MISS MCLEOD.

*Secretary:*

MISS DAVIDSON

*Treasurer:*

MISS HEATH

**THE BOYS' INSTITUTE.**Sunday Evening Services and Week-night Classes are con-  
ducted in the Institute Building, Tasman Street.*Hon. President:* REV. JAMES GIBB, D.D.*President:* MR. G. A. TROUP.

**HOSTEL COMMITTEE.***Chairman :*

DR. GIBB.

*Secretary :*

Mr. A. R. STONE.

**BOYS' CLUB.***Directors :*

MESSRS. J. S. MURRAY, J. TURNBULL, L. BUSH and A. WILSON.

**GIRLS' CLUB.**

MEETS EVERY TUESDAY IN THE GYMNASIUM AT 7 P.M.

*Leaders :*

MISSES E. HOPKIRK, S. HOPKIRK and H. BLAKE.

**MOTHERS' MEETING.**

MEETS IN THE HALL MONTHLY AT 2.30 P.M.

*Superintendents :*

MRS. AUSTIN and MRS. FRASER.

**CHOIR.**

PRACTICE IN CHURCH EVERY THURSDAY AT 8 P.M.

*Organist and Choirmaster :*

MR. CH. W. KERRY.

*Sopranos :*

MESDAMES BLAKE, KERRY, POPE, WILLIAMS, MISSES ALLAN, D. CHAPPELL, M. JENNINGS, GEORGE, HOPKIRK, HEATH, MOWATT, NICHOLS and M. WILSON.

*Contraltos ;*

MRS. WHITEMAN, MISSES DAVIDSON, and S. HOPKIRK.

*Tenors :*

MESSRS. DALGLEISH, MURRAY and M. B. ROSIE.

*Basses :*

MESSRS. CRAWFORD, F. S. POPE, ROBERTSON and G. S. TROUP

*Hon. Secretary :*

MR. R. J. CRAWFORD.

*Librarian :*

MR. W. A. ROBERTSON.

**CONGREGATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.**

PUBLIC WORSHIP every Lord's Day, morning at 11, evening at 7.

SACRAMENTS : (1) Baptism in the Church as arranged for.  
(2) Lord's Supper on second Sunday of March, June, September and December.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets in the hall adjoining the Church on Sunday afternoons at 2.30.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOYS' CLUB in Gymnasium, Monday and Wednesday evenings at 7.30.

SUNDAY SCHOOL GIRLS' CLUB in Gymnasium, Tuesday evenings at 7.

BIBLE CLASS FOR YOUNG MEN meets in the Class Room, Willis Street, on Sunday afternoons at 2.45.

SOCIAL CLUB every Saturday evening in Willis Street class room.

BIBLE CLASS FOR YOUNG WOMEN meets in the class-room Dixon Street, Hall Sunday afternoons at 2.45.

PRAYER MEETING every Wednesday at 7.30 p.m.

THE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION meets in the schoolroom, on the first and third Tuesday of every Month at 2.30 p.m.

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION, first Tuesday in the month.

MOTHERS' MEETING every alternate Thursday at 2.45 p.m., in the Dixon Street Hall.

YOUNG WOMEN'S MISSIONARY GUILD meets from March to November, in Basement Room, at 7.30 p.m.

CHOIR PRACTICE. Thursday evenings at 8 p.m., in the Church.

THE SESSION meets as arranged after the Prayer Meeting.

THE MANAGERS meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 8.30 p.m.

GYMNASTIC CLASSES meet in the Gymnasium during winter months.

## COLLECTIONS, SEAT-LETTING, ETC.

THE ORDINARY SUNDAY COLLECTIONS, together with the Seat Rents, etc., provided the funds for defraying the congregational expenses, the chief of which are the Minister's Stipend, and retiring allowance to the late Minister, salaries of the Church officials, etc.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: (1) As appointed by the General Assembly are made from time to time, including Aged and Infirm Minister's Fund, Assessments for Assembly Expenses, Maori Missions, etc. (2) As appointed by the office-bearers for Sunday School, relief of poor (once a quarter), and such other objects as it may be deemed necessary to help.

The Church Extension Fund, which is wholly devoted to help in planting new charges and assisting weak ones throughout the bounds of the Church, is taken up by the envelope system. The envelopes are placed in the pews once a quarter.

FOREIGN MISSIONS: The regular contributions of the congregation to Missions are collected quarterly by the Women's Missionary Association.

The Seat-letting Committee is in attendance at the Church at the close of the prayer meeting on Wednesday evenings to let sittings to new applicants.



## REPORT.

THE year of the congregation's life now ended has been like other years of mingled experiences, some glad, some sad, but all of them threads woven by God's hand "in the mixed web of Father-love."

Organised religion—the Christian Church—is everywhere fighting a hard battle to-day, and probably in no part of the English-speaking world is the battle harder than in this Dominion. Materialism as a creed is out of date; unmaterialism as a habit of life is everywhere. Besides, we have in St. John's our own special difficulties as a "down-town" church facing a task which every succeeding year grows more strenuous. The task, however, has been faced with steadfast courage, and this year's output justifies, and indeed demands, a mood of deep thankfulness to Him who has been mindful of us and fulfilled His gracious promise: As thy day so thy strength.

### THE MINISTER.

Dr. Gibb carries a heavy burden, and carries it through the years with a strength that shows no sign of weariness. We have often expressed our high appreciation of his gifts, and once more assure him of our affection and esteem. We are grateful for his manifold labours, both within and outside the congregation, his untiring kindness to those in sickness or sorrow, and the helpfulness and inspiration of his teaching and pulpit ministrations. We pray that the divine blessing may attend all his labours.

### MEMORIAL WINDOW TO THE LATE JOHN G. W. AITKEN.

This memorial, occupying all the window space in the northern end of the Church, was not actually placed in position and dedicated until a Sunday or two after the period now under report had ended. But it may nevertheless be referred to here. The date of the dedication service was July 15th. The minister in appropriate terms set forth

the manifold excellence of the departed. The window was unveiled by Miss Aitken and Mrs. Day, nieces of Mr. Aitken, and Messrs. W. Hopkirk, G. A. Troup, and M. D. Menelaus, who for many years had been fellow-elders with him. A dedication prayer was offered, and the brief but impressive service was concluded by the singing of the hymn, "For all the saints who from their labours rest."

The window was constructed by Messrs. Smith & Smith, of Dunedin, under the direction of Mr. John W. Brock, artist. It is original in design, and a very fine piece of work. The centre portion is 17 ft. in height and 5 ft. in breadth, and the two side portions are each 11 ft. in height by 2 ft. 4 in. in breadth. On the left is a panel depicting the attack of the thieves on the man on his way from Jerusalem to Jericho. This panel is full of rich, low-tone colouring, and accurately portrays the scene in a lonely part of the highway. There is a fine picturisation of the Good Samaritan assisting the unfortunate man who has been injured, and the expressions on both have been well thought out.

Extending far back is the roadway on which the priest and the Levite are passing by. Away in the distance is a village set as a jewel in the mountains with the sunset sky beyond, the whole being full of the luminosity of the dying day. On the right is a picture showing the interior of the inn where the good Samaritan is in the act of paying the two pence for the care of the stranger.

#### THE KIRK SESSION.

This court has suffered some notable losses. Mr. J. Boal, a conspicuous and faithful worker especially in the sphere of the Bible classes and for 20 years an elder of the Church, resigned in order to return to his native country—Ulster. Mr. M. Fraser a steadfast supporter, resigned owing to his change of residence to a distant suburb; Mr. J. Leuchars, who for a number of years assisted the late Mr. Aitken as Treasurer of the congregation and latterly served as sole Treasurer, resigned owing to the distance of his home from the Church; Mr. G. W. Morice, M.A. resigned through his removal to Masterton. From his early youth Mr. Morice has been one of the most willing, devoted and effective of our workers. He served the congregation in the Sunday School, the Bible Class, the Management Committee, of which he was secretary for a number of years, and in the Session. His work will not speedily be forgotten.

To replace these losses an election was held when the following were ordained and inducted into the Eldership, namely, Messrs. E. M. Blake, W. Cullen, W. A. Ramsay, and S. W. Webber.

The number of elders is therefore the same as last year—31.

The attendance at public worship has been in the mornings good; in the evenings for several months also good, but with the setting in of winter often the reverse of good.

The prayer meeting has been well attended.

The attendance at the Quarterly Communion was—September, 429; December, 409; March, 357; June, 412.

The additions to the communion roll have been 79, of whom 57 joined by certificate, and 22 on profession of faith. The roll has been severely purged, 134 names (including 50 disjoined by certificate during the year) have been removed. The membership stands at 675.

The death register includes the names of Mr. W. Cable, Mrs. Feist, Mrs. Menelaus, Mr. Hore, Mrs. Samson, and Miss Paterson. To the mourners the Session tender their sincere sympathy. Mr. Hore, for many years a member of the Management Committee, was a devoted servant of the Church and a man who walked with God. By the death of his wife Mr. Menelaus, our beloved Session Clerk, suffered the loss of one who through the years had been his true helpmeet in every good work. She died after an illness lasting some years and which she endured with patience and a wonderful resignation to the Divine will.

The Service of Praise has been admirably led by the choir, whose singing, apart from the congregation, in the anthems and Gospel hymns rendered during a series of evangelistic services conducted by the minister, has been a source of pleasure and profit to every worshipper. Thanks are also due to members of the choir and some others for the solos sung on these occasions. Above all an expression of appreciation is owing to the organist, Mr. Kerry, whose highly cultured and equally devout playing of the instrument, and leadership of the choir are worthy of high commendation.

#### THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

By election to the Session the Committee was deprived of three members and of one (Mr. Hore) by death. To replace these, the following new members were duly elected, namely, Messrs. D. D. Cowie, D. Hogg, M. B. Rosie and L. T. Watkins. The Committee has 21 members.

The finances of the congregation, which are the special care of the Committee, have occupied much of their atten-

tion both at the regular and a number of special meetings. As is the case with churches all over the world, the matter of finance by Sunday collections is proving radically unsound and quite inadequate to meet existing needs. Many congregations in the Home land and some in New Zealand have, with happy results, adopted either a complete budget system or some modification of the same. There is a curious and unintelligible reluctance on the part of our people to face this issue. The Committee, however, have taken the matter thoroughly in hand and by means of a circular to be followed by a personal visit to all members and adherents, are endeavouring to secure an assured income equal to the needs of the work.

#### THE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

The membership of this organisation is 40 with 50 honorary members. The average attendance has been good and much work has been done.

#### DORCAS WORK.

The income in this department has been nearly £80, and most of it has been spent in ministering to the needs of the poor, in helping the Orphanage and other charities.

At the weekly meetings garments are prepared partly for the annual sale of work in support of missions and partly for direct distribution to needy people. The Association thanks the Two Garment Society and other friends for timely gifts of clothing and materials for the same.

#### MISSIONARY WORK.

The Association devotes every fourth meeting to the cause of missions to the heathen, and in this capacity serves as the congregational branch of the P.W.M.U. The missionary income, derived largely from members' subscriptions and the sale of work, amounted to £155. Most of this was donated to missions (home and foreign).

#### THE MOTHERS' MEETING.

This meeting is held twice a month. It is an auxiliary to the Women's Association, and is conducted in the interests of mothers of the neighbourhood who have a stiff fight to make ends meet. Their material needs are cared for as far as the resources of the organisation permit, and by means of a brief bright religious service it is earnestly sought to lead them to the great burden bearer.

#### YOUNG WOMEN'S MISSIONARY GUILD.

The definite object aimed at by this organisation is the support of Missions to the Maoris, and especially the assistance of the Turakina Maori Girls' School. An annual sale of cakes and flowers, and needlework prepared at the fortnightly meetings of the Guild, provide the funds. The contribution this year amounted to £20.

#### THE HOSTEL

The Hostel, now in the fourth year of its existence, has during the period under review more than paid its way. The overdraft at the Bank is being steadily reduced. The Hostel, however, will not function properly until its debt—a sum altogether of £3,000—has been wiped out. The Young Men's Bible Class is minded to promote a Sale of Work as a contribution to the debt reduction fund, and this venture is heartily commended.

The Hostel is at present full, and has been very nearly so all through the year. Under Mrs. Benn's management it is admittedly a very comfortable place of residence. The tone of the house is good, and an increased number of the boarders are identifying themselves with the Church and the Bible Class.

#### QUEEN MARGARET COLLEGE BOARDERS.

The boarders of this College, most of whom attend St. John's, take a keen interest in Missions and the Orphanages. Visits were paid to these institutions, and assistance given in kind and in money. For Missions the girls have contributed a sum of £32.

We are thankful that the College has in its Principal a lady who in addition to her manifold qualifications as an educationist is whole heartedly devoted to the religious welfare of her pupils.

#### THE BOYS' INSTITUTE.

Our connection with the Institute which, as is generally known, grew under the inspiring care of Mr. G. A. Troup out of the Church and the Bible Class, is now limited to our ex officio representation on the Board, and to the presence at the morning Service of boarders of the Presbyterian persuasion. The sight of these lads in Church is very welcome. They are regular in their attendance and reverent in their demeanour.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The Sunday School has pursued its steadfast way, and shows a satisfactory increase on the number of scholars recorded last year. Comparison with last year's figures seems to show a decrease, but last year the boys and girls in the Junior Bible Classes were included in the Sunday School total. This year they are shown separately. The Sunday School roll last year was 170; this year it is 196, a gain of 26. Girls number 109; boys 87. There are 27 beginners, 24 primaries and 145 in the main school. The Cradle Roll has 30 names not included in the above totals.

The teaching staff numbers 7 men, 17 women—a total of 24. The average attendance of both scholars and teachers has been satisfactory, and the teachers give themselves to their great task of winning the young for Christ with a devotion worthy of all praise.

The attendance of Sunday School scholars at the morning service of the Church is fairly large, and no effort is spared to induce them to attend regularly.

The number of entries for the Sunday School Union examinations was disappointingly small—only 19. Of these 10 received certificates.

Social meetings and the annual picnic, as in former years, have all been in evidence and successful.

Youth of the Church Day was duly commemorated and the Anniversary Services were conducted in the morning by Rev. J. Baird of Kent Terrace, in the afternoon in the school by Mr. G. A. Troup, and in the evening by the minister. The day was not only very wet but tempestuous, and the collection suffered accordingly. It amounted to upwards of £32.

The School income amounted to £126 (including anniversary collection and donations). £16 was donated to missions.

## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLUBS.

Last year we chronicled the emergence of a Boys' Club, and now we have a Girls' Club as well. These two have amalgamated, and while each club has its own workers, nights of meeting and programme, the general interests are controlled by an Executive consisting of a director, secretary and a committee of three. The name of the amalgamated institutions is The St. John's Sunday School Club.

## THE BOYS' CLUB

Mr. A. D. Johnston, to whose energetic instrumentality this Club owes its origin, was compelled by physical overstrain to relinquish the post of director. He was succeeded by Mr. S. Murray, who has thrown himself into the work with characteristic energy and enthusiasm.

The Club has a membership of upwards of 60, and the various meetings are all well attended.

Wholesome entertainment is one of the objects aimed at by this agency, and is provided by the cinematograph apparatus and by the gymnasium, football and other sports. These things are, however, kept in strict subordination to the religious aim. Steady effort is made to link the boys more closely with the Sunday School and the Church, and at every Club meeting, whatever the nature of the programme, part of the time is spent in devotional exercises. The Club also bears a hand in helping others. The cinema enables them to entertain from time to time the inmates of the Ohio Home, the Orphanage Children and the Boys' Institute.

## GIRLS' CLUB.

This Club with a membership of 35 has been only one year in existence, but the omens are of happy augury for its future. The aims of the conductors are very high. The health of the girls is promoted by physical exercises under the direction of a trained teacher; they are instructed in elementary first aid; they are taught singing; they are taught needle work and the evening closes with a chapter from some elevating and attractive story or sermonette suited to their age and sex. The Club meets once every week, and is indeed a live institution.

The successful working of these agencies makes a heavy demand on the time and strength of a number of devoted workers, but the work is well worth doing. We tender our grateful thanks to these self-forgetting servants of the Master.

The joint income of the two Clubs has been £108 including the proceeds of a lecture by Dr. Gibb and a small sale of work. The debt on the Cinema is wiped out and the year ends with a credit balance of £14.

## YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS.

This Class has a roll averaging throughout the year 49 members. The attendance has been satisfactory. The majority of the men are members in full communion with the Church. Six members joined the teaching staff of the Sunday School.



The Sunday afternoon meetings—the heart of the Class—are as a rule inspiring. The level of the “output” from the standpoint of mentality and spiritual insight and earnestness steadily rises. And the sincerity of these utterances is evidenced in the eagerness with which members throw themselves into the active service of the Church and Kingdom. Bible Study Circles and special meetings for prayer are well attended. It is no exaggeration to say that this work is carried on in an atmosphere of prayer and high endeavour.

Under the heading of Social Service the report of the Class groups both religious as well as distinctively social effort. Members conduct or help in conducting a monthly Sunday evening service in the Ohio Home, Sunday morning worship in the Hostel, services for the seamen of oversea steamers and services at the Boys' Institute. To the Orphanage service is rendered by cinematograph entertainments for the children, and on Saturday afternoons working parties assist in the reclamation and improvement of the Orphanage grounds.

A new departure has been made in the form of a mission to the Chinese. After Church on Sunday evenings a party from the Class visit the Chinese Church to teach classes of young Chinese to read and understand the English Bible. The work has been taken up with enthusiasm.

The Class bore a good hand in the Prohibition Campaign last September in the distribution of literature and in clerical duties.

The Saturday Night Club, the Debating Society, the various athletic agencies (gymnasium, tennis, football, cricket, swimming) have all served their object in promoting the mental and physical welfare of the members and deepening the spirit of camaraderie.

The income of the Class has been £153, including a balance of £10 from the preceding year. Of this £26 has been spent in self-support, etc, and £92 in donations, of which the chief items were Foreign Missions, £23; Travelling Secretary, £19; the Hostel, £20; Camp Delegates Fund, £13.

#### BOYS' JUNIOR BIBLE CLASS.

The Class has a membership of 25, with an average attendance of 18. Two of the lads are in full communion with the Church.

Mr. G. W. Morice, M.A., for many years the devoted leader of the Class, to the unfeigned sorrow of the boys had to say them good-bye, owing to the removal of his home to Masterton. His place was filled by Mr. J. Turnbull, who has already, given a good earnest of his fitness for the position.

The Class is conducted on the lines of the Senior Class with similar social and athletic activities. Regular contribution is made to missions by the boys who also provide the sum needful for “self-support.”

#### YOUNG WOMEN'S BIBLE CLASS.

The year began with a membership of 41 and closed with 53—a gain of 12. The average attendance has been good. The class gave two of its members to the teaching staff of the Sunday School. Five joined the Church on profession of faith. Forty-four members of the class are in full communion with the Church, and all but three of these with our own congregation.

The year's work, satisfactory in these respects, has been from every point of view encouraging. The Sunday afternoon meetings have been most interesting, the contributions of the girls, both in the papers read and in the subsequent discussions have been thoughtful, earnest, and in every way helpful. A spirit of prayerfulness and of quiet, but sincere, consecration characterises every meeting.

The class suffered a notable loss in the resignation of its leader for many years Mr. John Boal, who has returned to his native country—Ulster. Grateful recognition was made of the many invaluable services Mr. Boal had rendered the Class and the Bible Class movement in the Dominion. It was with deep regret that good-bye was said to this devoted leader. Miss Mary Chappell was nominated as his successor, a nomination gladly confirmed by the Session who realise that in Miss Chappell the Church has a worker strong in personality, wise in counsel, and wholly devoted to the service of the Church and the Kingdom of our Lord. The Class is indeed happy in the possession of their new leader.

The Class has always been distinguished by its labours of love, and it is heartening to read the record of its activities during the past year. Only the briefest record can be given here of these labours. To the Orphanage, the Ohio Home, the Prohibition Campaign, the Seamen's Mission, the Y.M.C.A. Buffet, service has been rendered in the form of personal work and contributions in money and kind. Also it may be added that no effort has been spared to meet the social and recreational needs of the members, while the well-stocked library offers a good provision for their mental and spiritual requirements.

The income of the Class has amounted to £68, of which £7 have been spent in self-support, £33 has been given to missions (Foreign, Maori and Home), £8 to the Orphanage, £5, Bible Class Travelling Secretary, and several smaller amounts to other charities, making a total contribution for external purposes of nearly £60.