

1936

### OPENING OF NEW SCOUT HALL.

Inclement weather marred to a certain extent the arranged procedure on Saturday afternoon, and the intended march round the village was curtailed. Led by the Prize Pipe Band, Scouts, Rovers, Cubs, Rangers, Guides and Brownies, with their leaders, marched only from their temporary quarters in King Street to their new hall with proud mien as befitting the very important occasion.

The ceremony, which was to have been held outside, took place inside the new hall owing to the weather. The Rev. T. Crow invoked a blessing on the hall and its future purpose. Mr J. T. Plenderleith, president of the Scout Association, stated that the local Scout Troop was formed 30 years ago, and for the past few years had temporary accommodation in King Street, generously given rent free by the late Miss Thompson, to whom they felt much indebted. They had been very happy there, but owing to expansion the accommodation became totally inadequate, and the only obvious solution was a new hall. In two years, by their efforts, they had raised over £100, but the new hall seemed a long way off, until with generous assistance, a very substantial grant had been arranged for and secured which enabled them to realise their ambition. He had very great pleasure in calling upon Mr James Gourlay to open the hall.

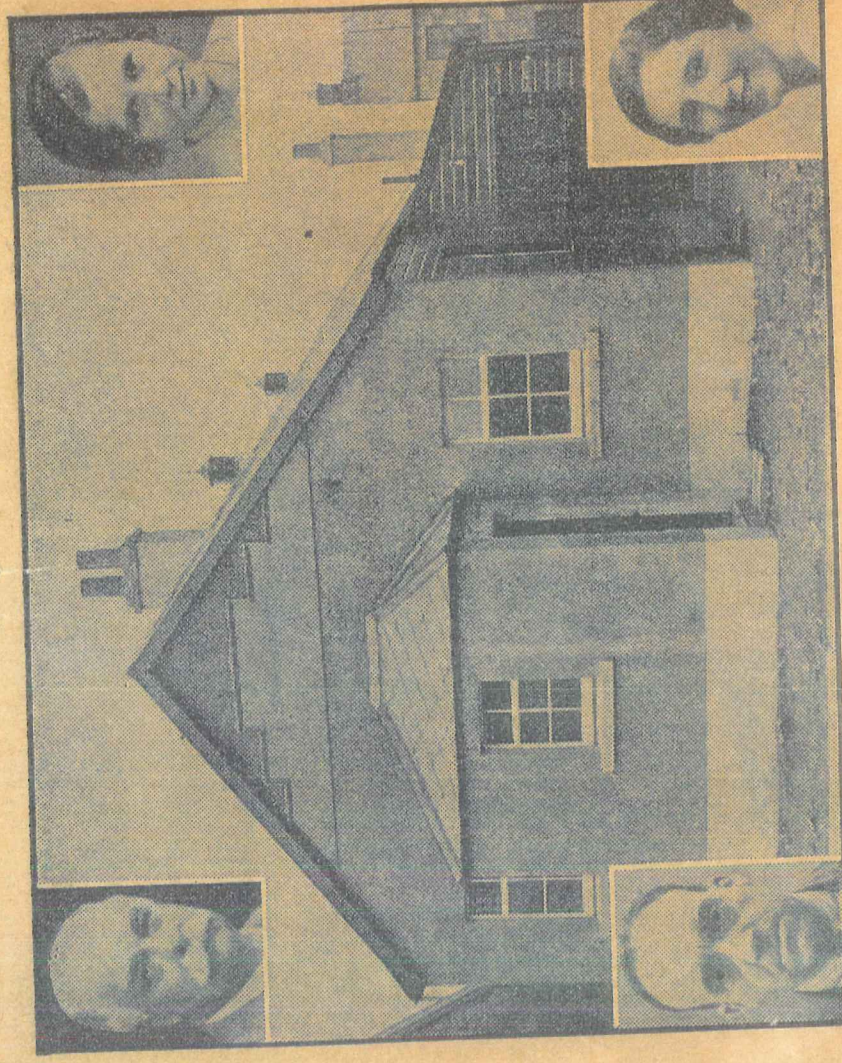
Mr Gourlay, in his remarks, said it was most gratifying to see such a large turnout, and admitted that he had never before seen, during the period he had been in Stonehouse, so much interest taken in any other object by the public. He expressed the hope that they would continue to take that interest in a movement which deserved every encouragement. In a word or two to the Scouts themselves he advised them not to regard their work here only as amusement but more from the standpoint of fostering character. He sincerely hoped the hall would prove a great blessing and he had much pleasure in declaring it open.

Appropriately introduced by Mr. John Millar, vice-president, Miss Miller of Auchinheath House (District Commissioner of Girl Guides) took the opportunity of congratulating Miss M. Watson, Ranger captain, on her appointment as assistant camp adviser for Lanarkshire. Thereafter, she gave a survey of the aims and progress of the organisations, and expressed the hope that those present would be generous at the sale, which she now had the pleasure of opening. Mr J. T. Plenderleith, president, intimated that the tradesmen who erected the hall intended presenting colours to the Scouts, and the inauguration met with warm appreciation. The Rev. D. McArthur moved a vote of thanks, which was heartily responded to.

As a memento of the occasion and in recognition of their services, Mr James Plenderleith presented Mr Gourlay with a fountain pen (suitably inscribed), while little Miss Margaret Scott—a Brownie—presented Miss Miller with a box of chocolates. Thereafter the stalls were busy. Rovers and Scouts had several side shows and competitions, and the following ladies were in charge of stalls.—Produce—Mrs Robert Burns, Mrs John Millar, and Miss McIntosh. Cake and candy—Mrs A. H. McLean, Miss Sievwright and Miss Watson. Cubs' provision stall—Miss Pelling. Household stall—Miss L. Thomson and Guides. The tearoom was in charge of Mrs Robert Craig, Mrs John Jackson, and Mrs Robert Leggate. Miss Tweedie had charge of the bran tub, and a fortune-teller was kept busily employed in the Scouts' room.

There were twenty competitors in each class for baking competitions, and the results were as follows.—Sponge, made with Green's sponge mixture—1, Mrs Oldfield, 19 Strathaven Road; 2, Mrs M. Small, Camnethan Street; 3, Mrs Wardrope, Lockhart Place. Fruit cake, baked with M'Dougall's self-rising flour—1, Mrs Wardrope, Lockhart Place; 2, Mrs Wm. Cranston, 1 Angie Street; 3, Miss May McNiven, Strathaven Road.

After the sale a dance followed, in which about fifty couples took part. Music was supplied by Logan's Happy-Go-Lucky Band. Rangers provided a buffet, which was well patronised during the evening. Finishing up time came all too soon, and for everyone it was the end of a perfect day. Much joy was given when it became known that Guides are also to be presented with colours by Mr and Mrs Tom Wilson, Avonhaugh. As a result of the event, the amount raised was £101 2s 6d, and the Ladies Committee return grateful thanks to all who in any way assisted in making this day such a success.



STONEHOUSE'S NEW SCOUT HALL, which will be opened to-day by Mr James Gourlay (top left), after which Miss Miller (bottom right) will open cake and candy sale. Scoutmaster Robert Craig and Ranger Captain Miss Watson are other insets.



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