

Trades House of Glasgow Military Connections



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THE TRADES HOUSE OF GLASGOW

MILITARY CONNECTIONS

INTRODUCTION

The Trades House has a long tradition of supporting the military of the nation in times of crisis and in ancient times acting as a defence, police and fire brigade force in Glasgow.

This short booklet will give the reader an idea of the proud history of the members' connections to the British Armed Forces. Some people may not be aware of this long association and how the Trades House helped to defend the City and where that was not possible, in assisting in reducing the burden of invading armies on the populace of Glasgow.

In more modern times the Trades House gave support and sustenance to our forces and the civilian populations during both World Wars. The financial support listed does not include the normal charitable work of the Trades House during these terrible times.

Many references are given to the two wonderful books written by Harry Lumsden who was the Clerk to the Trades House from 1896 to 1939. Volume 1 and 2 are available online in the digital library and can be downloaded for personal use. Other references are to the Minutes of the Trades House and the Trades House Burgess Roll, which are held in the Library at the Trades Hall in Glassford Street and also online at: www.tradeshousemuseum.org

THE TRADES HOUSE'S MILITARY CONNECTIONS

Ancient Times

The tradition of the burgesses defending the city goes way back before the 15th century when each burghess was expected to have his own arms and armour and would form the army to defend the City. Those who did not produce these arms at wapinshaws (weapon shows) were fined.

Muskets and Bandoliers

The Trades House Minutes of August 1631 mention that the Deacon Convener John Andersone gave in his Corslat and Head piece to the Trades Hospital and a number of new Deacons gave in their muskets with bandoliers.¹ This was a time when Deacons were expected to Watch and ward the city, i.e. to patrol it as police and also to defend it with arms when necessary. Failure to present their muskets could be punished by a fine of £10.²

In September 1638 we once again find reference to the Deacon Convener, Ritchart Allane placing his armour consisting of: one corslatt with head piece, crag piece and tasil in the Trades Hospital. A number of Deacons handed in their weapons and the following weapons were listed: one musket, with staff and bandoleers which made up the number of forty two muskets with staff and bandoleers.³ In 1649 the House made a decision for Deacons to stop giving in to the hospital a musket and bandolier and instead he should give in a sword and belt worth at least ten merks and the Deacon Convenor would not give in a Corslat and instead would give in a pick, sword and belt.⁴

In 1652 the House was concerned about invasion from England and that they might seize the arms which they had amassed over the years and which were held in the hospital. Rather than the Deacons giving in a sword and belt, they should pay £8 and every new Deacon Convenor should pay £12.⁵

With the establishment of the police force in the late 1700s these duties ceased.

1568 and the Battle of Langside

On 13th May 1568, Mary Queen of Scots fought her last battle at Langside and the Hammermen fought there on the side of the Regent where they carried their Banner. The Banner was made of blue silk and had the arms of the Hammermen inscribed at the top on either side.^{6, 7}

It was at after the Battle of Langside that the Regent, after the thanksgiving service, was entertained by the Magistrates and a great many of the Town Council very splendidly, suitable to his quality; at which time he expressed himself very affectionately towards the city. And well he might, for the city had supported the army; the bakers specially distinguishing themselves by supplying all the bread

¹ Lumsden ~ Minutes of the Trades House, 19 August 1631 ~ page 150.

² Lumsden ~ Minutes of the Trades House, 14 August 1646 ~ page 247.

³ Lumsden ~ Minutes of the Trades House, 19 August 1631 ~ page 192.

⁴ Lumsden ~ Minutes of the Trades House, 10 August 1649 ~ page 270.

⁵ Lumsden ~ Minutes of the Trades House, February 1652 ~ page 298.

⁶ History of the Hammermen of Glasgow, page 193

⁷ History of the Hammermen of Glasgow, page 216

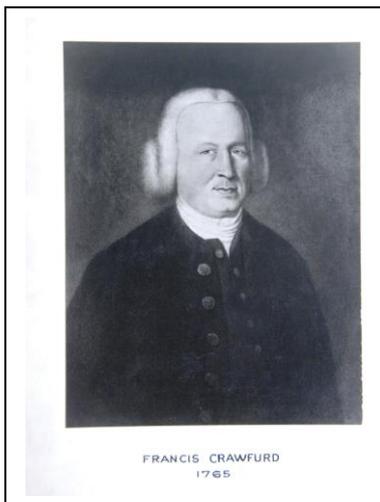
required. The ' baxters ' did not lose anything by their generosity; on the contrary, they, by Matthew Fauside, the deacon of their Incorporation, a very judicious projecting man, obtained from the Regent a gift of the Archbishop's mill on the Kelvin, with the land attached to it. Others of the Incorporations were also benefited. The city's zeal in the Regent's cause turned out a very good investment.⁸

1715 Rebellion

In consequence to the threat from the Jacobites, the citizens of Glasgow raised and equipped a regiment of 600 men in support of the House of Hanover and the reformed Government. They fortified Glasgow and then marched to Stirling, where they took care of the Castle and Town, and guarded the bridge, whilst the King's Troops took part in the battle of Sherrifmoor on 13th November 1715.

After the battle, some hundreds of rebel prisoners were left for Glasgow to keep in safe custody and to be maintained by them. The people of Glasgow loudly complained against the imposition which lasted until the rebellion was suppressed.⁹

1746 and the Battle of Falkirk



On 17th January 1746, the Royal Army was defeated by the Jacobite army at Falkirk, where the Glasgow Volunteers were sorely handled by the Highlanders.

The Glasgow Volunteers which consisted of two battalions, of four hundred and fifty men each, Francis Crawford who was later on a Deacon Convener carried the colours at this engagement. The Hammermen also had their own colours and these had also been carried at the battle of Langside.¹⁰

The portrait shows Francis Crawford about the time that he was Deacon Convener of the Trades of Glasgow in 1765.

1746 Terms with the Jacobite Leaders

In September 1746, the House met and discussed the imminent threat of the Jacobite army. They were in no condition to resist and as in the words of the time: "*that the inhabitants and their trade and dwellings are in imminent danger of irreparable losses and inconveniences*", they appealed to the magistrates and council to meet with the leaders of the Jacobite army and make the best terms possible with them to save the city and inhabitants from the dismal consequences. The Town Council approved the appointment of a committee to deal with the Jacobite leaders who came to the following agreement with the invading army leaders: They would pay £5000 sterling and goods to the value of £500 sterling to save the city from being attacked and plundered.¹¹

On 8th September 1746 the Magistrates and the Town Council met to discuss the fines imposed by the Highland Army. The Trades House met later to discuss the

⁸ Alexander Malcolm Scott, The Battle of Langside, 1885, Page 55.

⁹ George Crawford, Sketch of the Trades House of Glasgow, 1858, Page 100.

¹⁰ George Crawford, Sketch of the Trades House of Glasgow, 1858, Page 103.

¹¹ Lumsden, Records of the Trades House 1713 to 1777, Page 322, September 1745.

two fines imposed; i.e. £15000 and sundry other things imposed by the pretender's son but due to the good negotiations of John Hay, writer of the signet, the demands were reduced to £5000 sterling and £500 in goods. On 25th December 1745, the pretender's son (Bonnie Prince Charlie) entered the city and a demand was made for 6000 short cloth coats, 12000 linen shirts, 6000 pairs of shoes, 6000 pairs of tartan hose and 6000 blue bonnets. The city did not have sufficient funds to pay for the goods and individuals paid or provided cash to enable the fines to be met. The magistrates asked the Trades and Merchants Houses if they would agree to them applying for reimbursement from the King and Parliament and if that failed they wished to tax the people based on their ability to pay and also to prolong the tax of 2d on each pint of ale and beer brewed by or for the use of the private inhabitants. The House agreed to the above.¹²

Raising a Battalion in 1777 to fight in America

The magistrates and town council decided on 29th December 1777 that a Battalion of men should be raised as quickly as possible by the city by voluntary subscription for his Majesties service. The House agreed and allocated £500 to the raising of the Battalion to "*crush the unnatural rebellion in America*". The House also recommended that each Incorporation should meet and discuss the resolution and to raise what monies they could for the regiment.¹³

As a party of recruiters passed along Trongate, a slater who was engaged in repairing a roof, hurried down his ladder and offered to enlist, provided he would be made Slater General to the Regiment. Mr Gray of the recruiting party, did not hesitate to promise that the rank would be conferred upon him, if such an officer should be appointed in the Regiment.¹⁴

VOLUNTEERS IN GLASGOW DURING THE WAR OF 1793.

In April, 1794, a number of the most patriotic citizens began to enrol themselves as volunteers, and by the following April the corps was ready for active service, under the command of Colonel Corbet, and then received the colours, under which they doubtless inwardly swore to fight to the death. The Trades House gave a vote of thanks to Colonel Corbet (also spelled Corbite) and the Officers and Privates of the Royal Glasgow Volunteers for their late offer of their services in the City, in order to allow the Regiment of Highlanders to go to the country. The motion was unanimously agreed.¹⁵

In February 1797, the Deacon Convener reported that he had attended a meeting of the inhabitants of the City where they adopted to raise two Battalions of men. At a meeting of the House, the resolution adopted by the inhabitants at their meeting the previous day, having been read over together with the overture from the Convener, Deacons and extraordinary members of the House unanimously approved of the resolutions, and nominated and approved Messrs. John Tennent, John Ballantyne and Thomas Alston as members of the Committee from the House for carrying the resolution into execution.¹⁶

¹² Lumsden, Records of the Trades House 1713 to 1777, Page 332, September 1746.

¹³ Lumsden, Records of the Trades House 1713 to 1777, Page 593, 30th December 1777.

¹⁴ George Crawford, Sketch of the Trades House of Glasgow, 1858, Page 104.

¹⁵ Minutes of the Trades House, 13th September 1795.

¹⁶ Minutes of the Trades House of Glasgow, 4th February 1797.

At this terrible time of crisis, the Trades Hall was not forgotten and in July 1797, the Deacon Convener received a letter from Mr. Orr, Captain of the Glasgow Volunteer Light Horse asking for permission to use the Hall to practice sword exercises. They offered to pay rent for the use of the Hall during the time that they would occupy it. Captain Orr assured the House that there would be no damage done to the Hall and that there would be no more than eight or ten gentlemen being drilled at the same time. The House unanimously agreed to allow the Corps to use the hall without any rent when not was not otherwise being used.¹⁷ Both Battalions were maintained at the cost of the citizens. The first Battalion consisted of ten companies and contained seven hundred men, the second Battalion consisted of five hundred men. A body of older citizens, known by the nickname of "the Ancients" or "Old Foggies" was likewise embodied; and, to complete the armament, a troop of volunteer cavalry was soon seen in full charge practice on the public Green (now known as Glasgow Green), to the terror of the cows and the dismay of the town herd.

In May 1798 we find the Trades House once more "evinced their sturdy loyalty and patriotism by agreeing to raise a voluntary contribution as an aid to Government".¹⁸ The total amount raised is not mentioned; but in the minutes of a general meeting held in the Trades Hall on the 27th of February 1798 we learn that £174 had already been subscribed by members of the Incorporation Hammermen.

This public-spirited action was, in the subsequent June, followed up by the Incorporations hearty co-operation with the Trades House in an endeavour to raise a battalion of craftsmen for the defence of the city and suburbs, to be called "The Trades Battalion of Royal Glasgow Volunteers." The scheme, however, nearly fell through, owing to differences of opinion arising as to the appointment of officers, but the Trades House committee ultimately adopted the decision of the crafts, "that the Corps shall be under the command of such Officers, Sergeants & Corporals as shall be pointed out or recommended by the Majority of the Corps; and also in the case of any vacancies, the new Officers shall be those recommended by the Majority of the corps" which was substituted for the original resolution of the Trades House,

"that the Corps shall be under the command of such officers as the General Committee may recommend to the Lord Provost, Magistrates, Dean of Guild and Convener; and in case of vacancies, new officers should be recommended by the said Committee in manner abovementioned."¹⁹

The period from 1793 to 1815, looking at it politically, was one, perhaps, of the greatest excitement and anxiety that ever occurred in the history of Great Britain; and in no portion of the empire were those feelings more universally experienced and more manifestly evinced than in Glasgow.

GLASGOW VOLUNTEERS DURING THE WAR OF 1803 TO 1809

In June 1803 The House appointed a Committee to meet with the Committees approved by the Lord Provost, Magistrates, the Merchants House and the

¹⁷ Minutes of the Trades House of Glasgow, 25th July 1797.

¹⁸ Minutes of the Trades House of Glasgow, 29th May 1798

¹⁹ Minutes of the Trades House of Glasgow, 26 June 1798

inhabitants in order to conduct the business of raising a Battalion of Volunteers for the City of Glasgow.²⁰

It did not take the House long to unanimously decide that they should raise a Battalion of Tradesmen and they chose Messrs. John Morison, Robert Austin, David Scott, Robert Robertson John Tennent, Archibald Newbigging, Andrew Paton and Charles Houshoed as a committee to make out a Report and plan for carrying out the scheme into effect.²¹

By 3rd August 1893, the above committee had prepared a report regarding the raising of a Battalion of craftsmen and indicated that all the Incorporations except the Incorporations of Bakers and Tailors agreed to the measures in the report. The House therefore agreed to raise a Battalion of 600 craftsmen from amongst the second, third and fourth classes pointed out in the General Defence Bill. The Convener was authorised to make the offer to the Government accordingly. It was expressly understood that the express condition that the Corps would have the power to choose their own officers.

The following is the report from the Committee:

Report of the Committee referred to in the preceding minutes

The committee are unanimously of the opinion, that the Trades House and Incorporations should raise a Battalion of Craftsmen of 600 men to be termed the Trades Battalion of Glasgow Volunteers, that the Corps shall cloth themselves and serve without pay or emoluments, but will expect that the Government shall furnish them with arms, ammunition and accoutrements, with constant pay for an Adjutant, a Sergeant Major and two days' pay per week for two drummers for each Company. That there shall be ten Companies, each Company to consist of 60 men, and to be commanded by a Captain, two subalterns, three Sergeants and two Corporals, the Sergeants and Corporals to be named by the Officers of the Companies respectively from amongst the men. That no person shall be admitted into this Corps who is not a freeman member of the fourteen Incorporated Trades, unless the general committee shall see proper to alter this, and each person shall take an oath of loyalty to Government. That this Corps shall in case of Invasion, or the appearance of an enemy fleet off the coast, march to any part of Scotland that they may be ordered to, the Corps when on actual service being entitled to such pay as other Volunteer Corps receive.

That each Trade shall name one person who shall be added to the present committee, who in order to form a general committee who shall fix on the dress of the Corps and recommend the officers, leaving it to each Incorporation to give in a list to the committee of the names of such persons as they consider qualified for holding these offices.

The services of the Corps to cease on peace taking place, or sooner if Government shall judge proper, and then the arms and accoutrements to be returned to Government.

²⁰ Trades House Minutes of 14th June 1803.

²¹ Trades House Minutes of 27th July 1803.

The committee are also of the opinion that each Deacon should endeavour to find out the number of his trade who may be willing to join this Corps, and to report the same to the Trades House at their meeting on Wednesday next.²²

The Government must have been eager to secure a Battalion for home defence at little effort and by the 26th August 1803, the Convener reported to the House that the offer to supply a Battalion of Infantry had been accepted by the King, including all their stipulations.

The House was concerned that they would not be able to recruit enough volunteers and therefore recommended that they be allowed to recruit 1st class of persons as defined in the Defence Bill. In the event of the 1st class being called out, they would be immediately released from the Trades House Battalion.²³

In order to create a general fund for clothing the Trades House Battalion and other contingencies which were not funded, the House voted £500 to this purpose on 1st September 1803. The meeting also encouraged Incorporations to vote sums into the general fund. A subscription was also opened to allow individuals to contribute to the cause even though they might not be able to serve.

It was also agreed that as soon as the Committee decided on the dress (which was to be neat and tidy, but not expensive) a complete suit was to be made and then estimates got from tailors or shopkeepers or both for supplying the Regiment with clothing. The whole expense was to be paid for from the general fund.

It was also agreed that as soon as 300 people volunteered and were accepted and had taken their oath of allegiance, the officers would be chosen and the men appointed to Companies for drill.²⁴

By 5th January 1804, a considerable expense had been incurred and that the Regiment was short of one hundred and thirty men. It was reported that even though considerable efforts had been made by several individuals of the Corps to raise money, there was still a very large deficit.²⁵

Concern over the level of expense was soon addressed and a committee was appointed to look into the monies owed by the Trades Battalion. The committee reported that were unable to state with any accuracy the amounts owed as several contracts for clothing had not been completed. They felt however that there was likely to be a deficit of around £500 Sterling.²⁶

As there were still a shortage of recruits and funds, the House met and decided to ask the Incorporations what they could do to increase both.²⁷

²² Trades House Minutes of 3rd August 1803.

²³ Trades House Minutes of 26th August 1803.

²⁴ Trades House Minutes of 1st September 1803.

²⁵ Trades House Minutes of 5th January 1804.

²⁶ Trades House Minutes of 9th January 1804.

²⁷ Trades House Minutes of 11th January 1804.

The House met on 31st January 1804, and received reports from all of the Incorporations except the Tailors, Skinners, Barbers and Dyers and the following sums of money appeared to have been voted towards the Trades House Battalion:

Hammermen	£100 Sterling
Maltmen	£40 Sterling
Coopers	£40 Sterling
Fleshers	£100 Sterling
Masons	£50 Sterling

Interestingly, there was a question of the validity of the Fleshers vote of £100 and it was agreed that if a Court Case went against the Fleshers, the money would be returned to them.

The Fleshers agreed to give £50 from their funds and £50 to be made up by voluntary contributions from members by the addition of 1/- on their quarterly accounts. Peter Brown and his adherents objected to the proposal as he felt that the law made it clear that the funds were for the benefit of the poor and could not be given for any other purpose.

The Incorporation of Hammermen and Maltmen felt that they could not in fair justice give money that was intended for the poor, to the Trades Battalion and they increased their Quarter Accounts by 1/- until the money plus interest was paid back to the Incorporation's funds.²⁸

Problems were still bubbling away when the House met in May 1804 where they discussed a report from the Management Committee of the Trades Regiment of Volunteers where the report considered the best plan of satisfying a claim for hundred and seven pounds eight shillings Sterling owed to Messrs Twaddell and Ronald for accoutrements furnished to the Regiment. All other outstanding accounts and debts were in the process of being gathered in.

The Committee recommended to the House that they should apply for Government allowances to Volunteers as attendances at drill was low and consequently getting the Regiment into a proper state of readiness was proving impossible.²⁹

A request was made by the Trades Regiment for £300 Sterling to enable them to pay for cloaks from Miller Ewing and hats from Thomas D. Dougal. The House decided to agree to the request and asked the Collector to lend the money to the Regiment, or as much as he could spare.³⁰ This and other loans would cause acrimony later on when the House tried to get repayment of the loan.

The House received a request from the Committee of Management of the Trades House Regiment to ask the Government to pay pay wages to the officers and men and also for clothing for the men.

²⁸ Trades House Minutes of 31st January 1804.

²⁹ Trades House Minutes of 3rd May 1804.

³⁰ Trades House Minutes of 27th June 1804.

The House considered the request and agreed to ask the Government for support, the House agreed to ask the Government for support.³¹

Things seem to have calmed down for about a year as no further debate concerning the Trades House Battalion of Volunteers appears to have taken place, but in October 1805 the thorny question of the repayment of the House's loan to the Trades House Regiment came up. The Collector reported that he had written to Mr. Clelland and had received the response below:

Dear Sir,

Conform to my last I have waited on Lieutenant Colonel Flyn and informed him that you had intimated that the Trades House had desired you to call on me for the money that they lent to the Trades Regiment on the 26 of June 1804 – and I have now to inform you for the information of the Trades House that the Colonel cannot from the present state of the Regiment, and its fund, order immediate payment, but as soon as he shall be so enabled, it will give him much pleasure.

Having thus answered your letter I have now to call your attention to that part of the Trades House Minute which you sent me, as under info.

“The House desire the Collector to apply to Mr Clelland for payment of three hundred pounds lent to him on 26 June 1804” as this part of the minute is by no means correct, I having never asked, borrowed or received any money from the Trades House, but in the capacity of Pay master to the Trades House Regiment. I am therefore very solicitous that the members of the Trades House should be informed of this, and also by a late Act of Parliament the funds of Volunteer Corps are placed under the control of the Commandant and I also wish it to be understood that in my capacity of Pay master to said Regiment, I will most cheerfully (and on demand) pay off the debts of the Regiment to the extent of the balance in my hands – as soon as I shall receive orders.

I am, your obedient and humble servant
Signed: James Clelland

After considering Colonel Clelland's letter, the House instructed the Clerk to write to Colonel Clelland asking that the money be immediately paid up and that if it was inconvenient to advance the same then security should be given for the money, and a proper document granted and that a written answer should be received by the House within eight days from the date of the letter.³²

Very shortly after, the House received a letter from Mr. Clelland stating that Colonel Flyn had given him permission to pay the three hundred pounds debt, but commented that the Regimental Accounts would not be settled by the Government until 24th December and pledged to pay the debt then.

The House agreed to wait until 1st January 1806 when a bill was to be presented to the Regiment.³³

³¹ Trades House Minutes of 10th August 1804.

³² Trades House Minutes of 1st October 1805

³³ Trades House Minutes of 8th October 1805.

By July 1806, the House still had not received the payment of the £300 debt owed by the Trades House Regiment and they were most likely beginning to get a bit annoyed and concerned. They therefore appointed a committee to reach a settlement with the Regiment for payment, with interest from 24th December 1805 or to take such securities as they thought sufficient.³⁴

By August, the House received a bond for £300 signed by Messrs James Clelland and William Jack as principals and Patrick Smith, Baker and Archibald Liddell, Painter as cautioners.³⁵

It has to be assumed that the debt of £300 owed by the Trades House Regiment was paid back as there is no further comment on it in the Minutes of the Trades House.

In October 1808, The Trades Volunteers reported to the House that they had offered to transfer to the Local Militia, and that the Corps would be augmented to seven hundred strong, and the House and Incorporations were asked to support the raising of the additional men. The House unanimously agreed to the request.³⁶

On 31st July 1809 the 3rd and 5th Regiments of Lanarkshire Local Militia, lately the Anderston and Trades' Corps of Volunteers, completed their training by carting their field officers through the streets of Glasgow in post-chaises drawn by men. Some of the carriages were stuck round by flambeaux, and his Majesty's colours were carried in front by armed men. The Duke of Montrose had the day before complimented these corps on their very soldier like appearance."³⁷

The above is the details as extracted from the Trades House Minutes, but it is important to see the raising of the Trades House Regiment of Volunteers in the wider social context and the following may help to clarify this aspect.

A few gentlemen made offer to raise an artillery corps at their own expense; a similar offer was made to attach two great guns to the Trades' House regiment; and one of the captains in that corps actually raised, clothed, and accoutred ten pioneers, and having attached them to the corps, served with them on public occasions.

Britain and France went to war again in May 1803, when such a burst of military enthusiasm was exhibited by all classes in Glasgow as has been rarely seen in any community. When the French threatened to invade this country thousands of young men formed themselves into squads or corps, to practice military evolutions, such as marching and wheeling. They in some cases had instructors, who (it was said) were paid for their exertions by patriotic individuals of both sexes. These would-be soldiers were neither armed nor clothed with uniforms; but some of the corps had both colours and music, to the sounds of which they perambulated the streets and outskirts of the city, in some cases to visit their patrons and display their efficiency at drill, and in others merely to exhibit themselves to a gazing crowd.

³⁴ Trades House Minutes of 29th July 1806.

³⁵ Trades House Minutes of 7th August 1806.

³⁶ Trades House Minutes of 13th October 1808.

³⁷ Minute of the Trades House 7th April 1809.

The greater part of these volunteers being variously engaged during the day, it was chiefly at night when these displays were made, and during the ferment which followed the outbreak of the war, when the talk in all circles was about the "French coming over during a fog", a latitude was given for the exhibition of warlike propensities, which in other circumstances, it may be supposed, would not have been tolerated by the local authorities. At that epoch people in Glasgow, when in bed, and occasionally after midnight, were awakened from sleep by the roll of the drum and sound of the trumpet; and they lay listening to the continued and measured tramp of large bodies of these would-be warriors. It was whispered at the time that the Supreme Government not only winked at, but very properly, though discreetly, encouraged such demonstrations.

The volunteer force which was formed in Glasgow in 1803-4 consisted of one squadron of light cavalry, similar in dress and general appearance to the former. The infantry formed eight battalions. One was known as the "gentlemen sharpshooters," a splendid corps of 700 men under Colonel Corbet. They paid all their own expenses. The old yeomanry formed the battalion, which was commanded by Mr. Craigie, and afterwards by Mr. Kirkman Finlay. This corps was now about 900 strong, and was distinguished for its complete state of discipline. The Highlanders formed a magnificent corps of 700 men, dressed in the full Highland garb, Colonel McAllister commanded, and subsequently Mr. Samuel Hunter. The Trades' Battalion was under Colonel Flynn, and consisted of 600. The grocers formed a handsome corps of 600 men commanded by Mr. Charles Walker.

Mr. John Geddes was Colonel of the Anderston Regiment, 900 strong, and which ultimately attained a high degree of discipline. The Canal Volunteers were commanded by Mr. Baird, who employed at his works most of the corps, above 300 very stout men, and two field pieces, with everything required for working them.

Lastly, there was a corps called most appropriately "the Ancients"; it consisted of about 300 gentlemen, who, like the cavalry and the rifle corps, served without pay and clothed themselves. These Ancients were discharged by General Wemyss in 1804.

Thus it appears that the military force in Glasgow at that period was about 5000 men, besides the troops in garrison, which generally was a battalion of the line, and one of militia; also dragoons and artillery. The drilling of so many caused much bustle in the town at first; but being conducted methodically, the excitement soon subsided. The Green was the grand arena for their evolutions, but other points were also selected, and during the winter of 1803/4 various public buildings (including the nave of the Cathedral) were used, in which the din of arms was heard both early and late, and the citizen soldiers seen at drill by torch or candlelight.

In 1819 the House once again were considering the raising of a Corps or Regiment due to the disturbed and turbulent state of the country for the defence of the City. After much debate the House were of the opinion that an Armed Association should be raised.³⁸

A few days later the House resumed their consideration of an Armed Association, and due to the differences in opinions expressed, they agreed to delay making a

³⁸ Trades House Minutes of 13th August 1819.

decision until a further date.³⁹ This is another way of shelving a decision and no further debate on the raising of an Armed Association appears in the House Minutes.

³⁹ Trades House Minutes of 17th August 1819.

COLOURS OF THE 2ND (TRADES HOUSE) REGIMENT OF ROYAL GLASGOW VOLUNTEERS 1803 - 09

During the 1794 - 1815 wars with France three separate volunteering movements were raised and disbanded. These units were for local defence only. The right hand image of the Regimental Colour has the Trades House 14 Arrows in place of the Crown, as in the left hand image.



Regimental Colour of the
Trades House Battalion
© Trades House of Glasgow



Regimental Colour of the
Trades House Battalion
© Trades House of Glasgow



King's Colour of the
Trades House Battalion
© Trades House of Glasgow

The Glasgow Regiments raised during the second 1803 to 1808 movement were as follows:

- 1st Regiment of Glasgow Volunteers
- 2nd or Trades House Regiment of Glasgow Volunteers
- 3rd or Highland Regiment of Glasgow Volunteers
- 4th or Sharpshooters Regiment of Glasgow Volunteers
- 5th or Grocers Regiment of Glasgow Volunteers
- 6th or Anderson Regiment of Volunteers
- Armed Association of Ancients (Artillery)
- Canal Volunteers (Artillery)

In 1804 the Glasgow Volunteers along with regulars from Hamilton and Volunteers from Greenock, Port Glasgow, Dumbarton, Kilsyth, Cumbernauld and Airdrie were reviewed on Glasgow Green by the Earl of Moira, Commander-in-Chief in Scotland.

During the parade each volunteer fired ten rounds.

Three pairs of Glasgow Colours from 1803 to 1809 survived. They are the 2nd Trades House Regiment held in the Trades Hall of Glasgow, the Anderson Volunteers held Glasgow Museum Collection in relic condition and the Canal Volunteers, framed and held in the Glasgow Museum Collection.

The Trades House and the Volunteers of the South African War 1900 to 1904

With the outbreak of war in South Africa, the British army required more fighting and support soldiers. On 1st February 1900 the Corporation of the City and Royal Burgh of Glasgow met, the Lord Provost, seconded by Bailie Robert Anderson, moved: *“That in order to mark the sense which this Corporation, as representing the citizens of Glasgow, entertain of loyalty and public spirit of the persons named and designed in the annexed list, who have volunteered to place their services at the disposal of their country in consideration with the present war in South Africa, the Corporation resolve to admit and receive, and do hereby admit and receive, them as Burgesses and Guild Brethren of the City and Royal Burgh of Glasgow, and confer on them all the civil rights and privileges by law belonging to a freeman citizen of Glasgow, and remit to the Magistrates to arrange with the Merchants’ House and the Trades House for their concurrence in these admissions to the same effect, in all respects as if they were made according to the ordinary practice.”* The motion was unanimously carried.²

So began the enrolment of the new Burgesses at no cost to the individual. One thousand and twenty men from Glasgow who volunteered to serve their country were enrolled as Burgesses by the Trades House. On 15th May 1902, the Trades House made a resolution whereby Glasgow Volunteers who gave their services to fight in South Africa only had to pay seven shillings and seven pence to be enrolled as a member of one of the Incorporations.³

The South African Volunteers who became burgesses through the Trades House had their names and the Regiment that they served with in South Africa recorded in the Burgess Roll which is available for downloading online in the digital library of the Trades House Museum: www.tradeshousemuseum.org

Trades House Military Funding

The Trades House has a long tradition of supporting the Government in times of strife both in supporting the formation of battalions and also the care of the armed forces and their families. The following is a small example of the charitable works connected to the military.

1777 - December 8

Contributed £500 towards the expense of raising a battalion of men, for the service of the King, during the American war.

6 July 1778

An Act of the Trades House authorised the Collector to pay £200 towards raising a battalion to assist in suppressing the present unnatural rebellion in America.

1803 September 1

Contributed £500 towards a general fund (for aiding to clothe the Trades Battalion of Volunteers, offered to and accepted by the government, during the war with France.

1804 January 31

The following additional contribution for the Trades Battalion was reported as made -
£340

1811

The relief of British Prisoners in France £20

1854

Patriotic Fund for the relief of dependants of soldiers killed in the
Crimea £300

1899

Relief of soldiers and sailors families of the South African War £100

WORLD WAR I

Outbreak of War

On 10th August 1914, at a special meeting of the Platform, Deacons, Visitor, Late Collectors and Clerks of the Incorporations, the following was recorded: "The Deacon Convener stated that he had called this Meeting in view of the present condition of the affairs of the nation in consequence of the war with Germany. It was now a question whether the Annual Deacons' Choosing Dinners and the Trades House Dinner should take place this year, and it was advisable that the House and the Incorporations should act in unison in the matter.

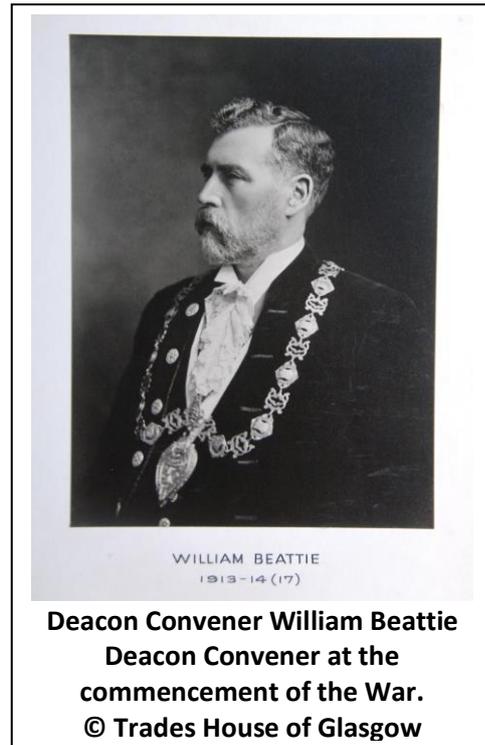
He therefore suggested that, after full consideration, a joint recommendation to the Incorporations should be made by the Meeting as a guide for their various Master Courts;

The Clerk intimated apologies or absence from Collector Alexander and Deacon Roxburgh, both of whom desired the Meeting to know that they thought the Dinners should be discontinued for this year; also from Mr. Robert Lamond, Clerk of the Incorporation of Cordiners, who expressed the view that the Meeting should not come to a hasty conclusion on the subject; and from Deacon James C. Paterson. A letter was also read from the Clerk of the Incorporation of Maltmen (Colonel William Nelson), intimating that his Master Court had decided to postpone the Dinner of their Incorporation.

A discussion followed, in which the following gentlemen took part, viz.:- Late Convener Service, Deacons Gracie, Ferguson, Stewart, and Pollock; Late Collectors Duncan, Gilchrist, Black, Buchahan, R; Anderson, and Perry.

It was unanimously agreed to recommend to the House and the Incorporations-

- (1) That the Deacons' Choosing Dinners and the Trades House Dinner should this year either be discontinued or indefinitely postponed;
- (2) That the Trades House and the Fourteen Incorporations or their Master Courts should consider whether the sums, or at least a portion thereof, usually expended by the Deacon Convener and Collector in connection with the Trades House Dinner, and by the Deacons and Visitor and other Members of the Master Courts and individual Members of the Incorporations in connection with the Deacons' Choosing Dinners, could not this year be set aside and collected as contributions to the National Relief Fund;
- (3) That the Collector of the House should act as Honorary Treasurer and receive any sums so set aside and collected by the House and the Incorporations, so



that he might hand over the same to the Lord Provost as a joint contribution from the Trades House and Incorporations to the National Relief Fund.⁴⁰

In August 1914, the Deacon Convener called a special meeting of the House to consider *“what sums the House should contribute to the Funds at present being raised to relieve the distress arising out of the present European War. He reminded the House of the assistance given and the liberality shown in similar circumstances in the past. He said:-*

Since its institution in 1605 the Trades House and Incorporations have always been called upon and relied upon to assist with men and money in times of national stress. In the early years of the Trades House the Craftsmen were armed and the Deacons and the Deacon Convener officered their men.

As late as 1746, an officer, afterwards Deacon-Convener, carried the colours of the Glasgow Volunteers, amongst which were many Craftsmen, in a battle with the rebel army at Falkirk.

During the Napoleonic scare a Trades Battalion of Volunteers was formed and large sums of money were contributed to relieve the suffering. While in the nineteenth century the custom may have been more to contribute to patriotic funds than to serve, still, many of the Deacons and Craftsmen took their part in watching and warding until European peace became the normal condition of affairs.

The House and Incorporations subscribed the largest amount of money of any Institution, except one, to the patriotic funds raised during the Crimean War.

Many Volunteers from the ranks of the Craftsmen took part in the war in South Africa.

On the present occasion the House and Incorporations are contributing once more both in men and in money. A goodly number of the Deacons and Visitors have already joined their Territorial regiments, and many sons of Deacons and Craftsmen have also joined the colours.

The Trades House and Incorporations must, in the present grave national situation, contribute as handsomely as possible to relieve the great distress which must inevitably follow hostilities on such a large scale, and should also do what they can to support the wives and children of Soldiers and Sailors and the Nurses who are ministering to the wounded.

Already we have a most satisfactory response to the appeals made; upwards of £6,000 is certain.”

Thereafter, he put the following motion to the meeting, which was seconded by Collector Hugh Alexander, and unanimously agreed to:-

“That a sum of £2,000 be contributed as a first grant by the Trades House to the National Relief Fund, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, and the Red Cross Society (Glasgow Branch) in such proportions as may be determined after

⁴⁰ Special Meeting of Trades House of Glasgow 10th August 1914.

careful inquiry and consideration by a Special Committee consisting of the Platform and the Deacons and Visitor."

A resolution submitted by Collector Alexander, and seconded by Late Deacon J. R. Richmond, was also unanimously agreed to as follows:-

"That these Schemes be strongly recommended to the notice of the Fourteen Incorporations, and that any sums contributed by them should be publicly intimated jointly with those of the House."

Late Deacon Convener A. Graham Service then submitted another resolution, which was seconded by Deacon Jas. Stewart, and unanimously agreed to, viz.:-

"That should any of the Incorporations vote contributions to these Schemes without specifically allocating particular sums to each, the allocation be left to the decision of the Platform, Deacons and Visitor."⁴¹

HLI Banner



The Trades House received numerous requests during the war years and one of the very first was from Captain Black and Mr Eyre Todd as representatives of Saint Andrews Society, asking that the Colours that the Platform intended to present to the 2nd City Battalion, should be the same as theirs with the exception of certain minor differences to indicate the source from which the gift came. The Platform agreed and requested that the design of the Colours should be drawn by Mr. Johnston, Herald

Painter to the Court of the Lord Lyon's Office in Edinburgh. The Colours were duly presented to the 2nd, City of Glasgow Highland Light Infantry Battalion, in the City Chambers on 25th January 1915.⁴²

At the ceremony the 1st Battalion H.L.I. also received their colours which had been donated by the St. Andrew Society (Glasgow).

The production of the Colours was to be carried out in Glasgow.⁴³ Glasgow School of Art, Needlecraft and Embroidery Department carried out the cutting, sewing and embroidery. The work was undertaken by 37 students under the direction of Miss Ann MacBeth and Miss Ann K. Arthur, deputy needlework instructress, the aggregate number of hours being 1473, the two Scottish flags required 950 hours and the two Great Union Flags: 523 hours.⁴⁴

In September 1917, the House wrote to the City Chambers asking if they would mind the House donating a set of Colours to the City Chambers for presenting to one of the City Battalions being raised at that time. The letter also mentioned that the

⁴¹ Minutes of Special Meeting of the Trades House, 25th August 1914.

⁴² Minutes of the Trades House, 11th February 1915.

⁴³ Minutes of the Trades House Platform, 24th September 1914.

⁴⁴ Souvenir programme of the presentation of the Colours ~ 25th January 1915.

House had raised nearly £9,500 and from one Incorporation alone, 22 officers were already on active service.⁴⁵

On the 5th November 1922, the House again made a presentation of Colours to the Highland Light Infantry, this time at a service of dedication in Glasgow Cathedral. The King's Colours, presented by His Majesty King George V, to the 15th and 16th Battalions were handed over on parades of these Battalions at the Hofgarten, Bonn University when they were holding the Cologne Bridge-Head on the Rhine; that of the 18th Battalion was handed over on the return of the Battalion from service in France in 1919.

The Flags of the 15th Battalion were gifted by the Saint Andrew Society (Glasgow) ; those of the 16th Battalion by the Trades House of Glasgow ; and those of the 18th Battalion by the Scottish Ship Masters' Association.⁴⁶

3/5 Battalion Cameronian (Scottish Rifles) Pipe Band

The House's generosity must have become known in military circles because in April 1915, the House received a further request, this time from Lieutenant Colonel George Findlay, who was commanding the 3/5th Battalion Scottish Rifles. This time the request was for a pipe band to assist the Battalion in recruiting. In coming to a decision the Committee of Finance considered the close association the House had always had with the Battalion and they unanimously agreed to recommend to the House to provide the Battalion with a band consisting of 1 set of bagpipes for the pipe-major, four ordinary sets, four side drums and one bass drum at a cost not to exceed £70.⁴⁷ The House agreed to the Finance Committee's recommendation on 31st May 1915.⁴⁸ In August 1915, in the Trades House, Ex Deacon Convener William Beattie presented the set of Pipes and Drums as a gift from the House. The Deacon Convener commented on how in the past the House had raised Battalions at times of trouble, but this was not practical in the present. The House was however eager to help in any way that it could. A son of an old Deacon of the Coopers, Colonel R. J. Douglas, C.M.G., was in command of the 1st Battalion at present in France and he is also a member of the House. Colonel J. C. Paterson, Past Deacon of the Weavers, commanded the 2nd Battalion and Major John W. Young, the son of a Deacon of the Hammermen, was in charge of the 3rd Battalion. Major John W. Young, accepting the gift on behalf of the Battalion commented on the remarkable effect on recruiting. Three weeks ago only 9 recruits were secured, the following week 29, and the number secured until that morning was 45, although the week did not end till Wednesday.⁴⁹ In November 1916, the House received a letter from the Lieut. Colonel commanding the 5th Reserve Battalion Scottish Rifles, thanking the House for permission to send the set of pipes presented to the 3/5th Scottish Rifles out to the First Battalion now on active service in France.⁵⁰

Trades House Donations to War Relief

As was to be expected the Trades House was a major contributor to the welfare of the forces and the civilian population in this country and from abroad. They were

⁴⁵ Minutes of the Trades House, 24th September 1914.

⁴⁶ Programme of the Divine Service and presentation of Colours, Glasgow Cathedral. 5th November 1922.

⁴⁷ Minutes of the Finance Committee, 12th April 1915.

⁴⁸ Minutes of the Trades House, 31st May 1915.

⁴⁹ Minutes of Special Meeting of the Trades House, 2nd August 1915.

⁵⁰ Minutes of the Trades House, 7th November 1916.

very rapid in responding to the needs and we are fortunate to have a record of the donations made by the House concerning all their generous giving. The following are extracts from the Collectors Accounts showing the great variety of donations and the recipient organisations.

War Relief Donations 1914-15

The following extract is the amount paid to help war relief by the Trades House for the periods shown:

1914 Special Subscriptions.

1914

Oct. 15. -	To Paid into Prince of Wales National Relief Fund Account	£1,300 0 0
	" Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association Account	£500 0 0
	" British Red Cross Society (Scottish Branch) Account	£200 0 0
	" Belgian Relief Fund Account,	£300 0 0
Nov. 26.-	" Second Instalment of Special Grant of £300 to Buchanan Institution Building Fund	£100 0 0
Dec. 23.-	" First Instalment of Grant to the Royal Infirmary Medical School	£30 0 0

1915

Aug. 4.-	" Set of Pipes and Drums to 3/5 th Battalion Scottish Rifles	£68 14 0
	Total:	<u>£2498 14 0</u>

HRH Prince of Wales National Relief Fund

Oct. 15.-	To Paid Treasurer following Contributions:-	
	Trades House (to Account)	£325 0 0
	Incorporations	£4,446 0 0
Nov. 17.-	" Balance of Trades House Contributions:	£975 0 0
	" Additional Contribution from Member of Incorporation of Tailors	£1 1 0
	Total:	<u>£5,747 5 0</u>

Soldiers and Sailors Families Association

Oct. 15.-	To Paid Treasurer following Contributions	
	Trades House (to Account)	£125 0 0
	Incorporations	£1975 0 0
Nov. 17.-	" Balance of Trades House Contribution	£375 0 0
		<u>£2,475 0 0⁵¹</u>

Belgium Relief Fund

Oct. 4. -	To Paid Treasurer following Contributions	
	Trades House	£300 0 0
	Convener and Collector	£318 0 0
	Incorporations	£593 6 6
Oct 10. -	" Paid Treasurer, Contributions from Master Court of Incorporation of Hammermen	£50 0 0
		<u>£1,261 6 6</u>

The Clerk had received letters from two Incorporations indicating how they wished their funds to be used:

1. From the Clerk, Incorporation of Bakers, reporting that that Craft desired that the remaining £100 still unallocated be paid to the "Princess Louise Scottish

⁵¹ Collector's Accounts Trades House Minutes, 17th September 1915.

Hospital for Limbless Sailors and Soldiers at Erskine”.

2. From Deacon William J. Logie intimating that the Cordiners desired their subscription to be allocated as follows:-

British Red Cross Society (Scottish Branch),	£50 0 0
Princess Louise Scottish Hospital for Limbless Sailors and Soldiers (Lord Provost's Fund)	£100 0 0
Wounded and Disabled Soldiers' and Sailors' Fund (under auspices of Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society- Lord Provost, President, and Mr. C. J. Cleland, Chairman)	£100 0 0
City of Glasgow Soldiers' and Sailors' Fund for Wives and Dependents of Soldiers and Sailors (Lord Provost's Fund)	£100 0 0
Fund for providing Bread for Glasgow Prisoners of War in Enemy Prisons (Lord Provost's Fund)	£50 0 0
National Relief Fund for Civilians (<i>i.e.</i> , Fund for the Relief of Landladies in Glasgow, per Deacon J. W. Stewart, D.L.)	<u>£60 0 0</u>
	<u>£460 0 0</u>

The War Relief Fund Committee allocated their funds as follows:

British Red Cross Society (Scottish Branch)	£513 0 0
Princess Louise Scottish Hospital for Limbless Sailors and Soldiers (Lord Provost's Fund)	£1,600 0 0
Glasgow Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association	£523 0 0
Wounded and Disabled Soldiers' and Sailors' Fund (under Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society (Glasgow Branch) auspices of Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society-Lord Provost, President, and Mr. C. J. Cleland, Chairman)	£1,600 0 0
City of Glasgow Soldiers' and Sailors' Fund (" Glasgow Relief Fund ") for Wives and other Dependents of Soldiers and Sailors (Lord Provost's Fund)	£1,000 0 0
Corporation of Glasgow Belgian Refugees Fund for Refugees in Glasgow (Lord Provost and Corporation Fund)	£1,000 0 0
Belgian Relief Fund for Glasgow and the West of Scotland for Relief of Belgians in Belgium and Holland (Belgian Consul's Fund)	£250 0 0
French Relief Fund for Relief of Dependents in Glasgow of French Soldiers who have joined the Colours (French Consul's Fund)	£250 0 0
Serbian Relief Fund for Relief of Distress in Selbia (Lord Provost's Fund)	£250 0 0
Armenian Refugees Fund for Relief of Starving and Homeless Armenians (Lord Provost's Fund)	£250 0 0
Russian Relief Fund	£50 0 0
Polish Relief Fund for Relief of Starving and Homeless Poles (Lord Provost's Fund)	£400 0 0
Italian Relief Fund for Relief of Dependents in Glasgow of Italian Soldiers who have joined the Colours (Italian Consul's Fund)	£100 0 0
Fund for providing Bread for Glasgow Prisoners of War in Enemy Prisons (Lord Provost's Fund)	£400 0 0
South African Hospital and Comforts Fund (Lord Provost's	

Fund)	-----
Indian Soldiers' Fund for Comforts for Indian Troops on Active. Service (Lord Provost's Fund)	£100 0 0
Queen Alexandra's Mediterranean Field Forces Fund	
Sick and Wounded Horses Fund	£50 0 0
Central Depot for Comforts for our Troops under the auspices of the Territorial Force Association	£200 0 0
Fund for providing Fruit and Vegetables for the Men of the Fleet	£100 0 0
National Relief Fund for Civilians (<i>i.e.</i> , Fund for the Relief of Landladies in Glasgow, per Deacon J. W. Stewart, D.L.)	£500 0 0
Railway Stations Canteens Fund for Soldiers and Sailors	£100 0 0
Y.M.C.A. Hut Fund	£200 0 0
County of Lanark Relief Fund, per Visitor Adam	£50 0 0
	<u>£9,736 0 0</u> ⁵²

⁵² Minutes of the Special Committee of the Trades House for Allocating War Relief Funds, 14th June 1916.

War Relief Donations 1915 - 19

The following is an extract from the Collector's Accounts showing expenditure on War Relief.

Donations to	1915-16	1916-17	1917-18	1918-19
British Red Cross Society (Scottish Branch)				
Direct	£820	£213	£275	£240
Per Incorporation of Maltmen		£250		
Per Incorporation of Gardeners		£50		
Per Incorporation of Bakers			£200	
Per Incorporation of Cordiners			£25	
Per Incorporation of Fleshers				£150
Per Incorporation of Coopers				£10
Princess Louise Scottish Hospital for Limbless Sailors and Soldiers (Lord Provost's Fund)				
Direct		£1,600		
Per Incorporation of Fleshers				£150
Per Incorporation of Barbers				£73
Per Incorporation of Coopers				£10
Per Incorporation of Tailors				£70
Glasgow Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association				
Direct		£173	£530	
Per Incorporation of Maltmen		£300	£100	
Per Incorporation of Gardeners		£50		
Per Incorporation of Weavers			£100	
Per Incorporation of Bakers			£100	
Per Incorporation of Tailors			£70	
Per Incorporation of Wrights				£26
Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society (Glasgow Branch)				
Direct	£2475	£1,575	£600	£150
Per Incorporation of Gardeners		£25	£200	
Per Incorporation of Bakers			£50	
Per Incorporation of Skinners				£100
Per Incorporation of Coopers				£50
Glasgow Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association				
Direct			£500	
City of Glasgow Soldiers' and Sailors' Fund {" Glasgow Relief Fund "} for wives and other dependents of Soldiers and Sailors (Lord Provost's Fund).				
Direct		£975	£400	£500
Per Incorporation of Gardeners		£25		
Per Incorporation of Maltmen			£100	
Per Incorporation of Tailors			£50	£50
Per Incorporation of Wrights				£27 6 6
Corporation of Glasgow Belgian Refugees Fund, for Refugees in Glasgow (Lord Provost and Corporation Fund)-				
Direct		£975	£475	£150
Per Incorporation of Gardeners		£25		
Per Incorporation of Tailors			£25	
Per Incorporation of Coopers				£5
Belgian Relief Fund for Glasgow and the West of Scotland for relief of Belgians in Belgium and Holland (Belgian Consul's Fund)-				
Direct	£1730 1 6	£150		
Per Incorporation of Maltmen		£100		
Belgian Relief Fund for Glasgow and the West of Scotland for relief of Belgians in Belgium and Holland (Belgian Consul's Fund) now- (1) Belgian Orphans Fund; (2) Belgian Red Cross Society; (3) Belgian Soldiers' Comforts,				
Direct			£150	

Per Incorporation of Bakers			£100	
Belgian Orphans Fund; Belgian Red Cross Society; Belgian Soldiers' Comfort Direct				£150
French Relief Fund for relief of dependents in Glasgow of French Soldiers who have joined the colours. (French Consul's Fund)- Direct Per Incorporation of Maltmen		£200 £50	£250	£150
Serbian Relief Fund for relief of distress in Serbia. (Lord Provost's Fund) Direct Per Incorporation of Maltmen Per Incorporation of Bakers		£150 £100	£150 £100	£150
Serbian Hostel Fund Direct				£50
Armenian Refugees Fund for relief of starving and homeless Armenians. (Lord Provost's Fund) Direct		£500	£300	
Russian Relief Fund- Per Incorporation of Maltmen		£500 £50		
Polish Relief Fund for Relief of starving and homeless Poles. (Lord Provost's Fund) Direct		£400		
Italian Relief Fund for relief of dependents in Glasgow of Italian Soldiers who have joined the Colours. (Italian Consul's Fund) Direct Per Incorporation of Maltmen		£50 £50		
Fund for providing bread for Glasgow Prisoners of War in Enemy Prisons. Direct Per Incorporation of Gardeners Per Incorporation of Skinners Per Incorporation of Tailors Per Incorporation of Wrights		£209 13 0 £25 0 0 £15 7 0	£350 £30	£350 £50 £26
Fund for providing bread for Glasgow Prisoners of War in Enemy Prisons. (London Fund) Per Incorporation of Maltmen Per Incorporation of Bakers		£100	£100	
Indian Soldiers' Fund for comforts for Indian Troops on Active Service. (Lord Provost's Fund) Direct		£100		£130
Sick and Wounded Horses' Fund Direct		£50	£100	£130
Central Depot for comforts for our Troops under 'the Auspices of the Territorial Force Association Direct		£200	£220	
Central Depot for comforts for Troops (Glasgow Battalions and Regiments)- Direct Per Incorporation of Wrights				£150 £26
Fund for providing fruit and vegetables for the Men of the Fleet Direct Per Incorporation of Skinners		£100	£100	£100
National Relief Fund for Civilians (i.e., Fund for the Relief of Landladies in Glasgow, per Deacon J. W. Stewart, D.L.) Direct Per Incorporation of Bakers Per Incorporation of Tailors		£500	£50 £30	

Railway Station Canteens Fund for Soldiers and Sailors		£84 5 0	£100	
Direct		£15 15 0		
Per Incorporation of Maltmen			£110	£40
Per Incorporation of Tailors			£50	
Per Incorporation of Bakers				£26
Per Incorporation of Wrights				
Y.M.C.A. Hut Fund		£200	£250	£450
Direct			£100	
Per Incorporation of Bakers			£17 19	£40
Per Incorporation of Tailors			6	£10
Per Incorporation of Coopers				
Roumanian Relief Fund			£100	£150
Direct				
Scottish Women's Hospitals			£250	£150
Direct				£26
Per Incorporation of Wrights				
Y.M.C.A. Forward Movement-			£250	£300
Direct				
Jock's Box-			£50	£50
Direct				
Salvation Army- War Work-			£400	£250
Direct				
Lady Haig's Disabled Officers' Fund-			£250	
Direct,				
King George's Fund for Sailor -			£500	
Direct				
Glasgow Police Prisoners of War Fund-			£25	£5
Direct				
Per Incorporation of Coopers				
Blue Boys' Club-			£150	£100
Direct				£26
Per Incorporation of Wrights				£17
Per Incorporation of Tailors				
Comforts for Men of the Roya Navy and Mercantile Navy-			£150	
Direct				
Scottish Blinded Soldiers' and Sailors' Fund-			£75	£100
Direct				
R.N.V.R. Comforts Fund-			£75	
Direct				
Y.M.C.A. (Glasgow)-				£26
Per Incorporation of Wrights,				
Royal Scots Prisoner of War Fund (per Campbell Smith, S.S.C., Edinburgh)			£208	£150
Direct				£150
Per Incorporation of Maltmen				£25
Per Incorporation of Skinners				
Free Meals Fund for Wounded Soldiers (per Mrs Nicholson, 127, Fotheringay Road, Pollokshields)			£100	£50
Direct				
Ralston Home for Paralysed Soldiers (per W. J. Anderson, C.A., 149 West George Street, Glasgow)			£200	
Direst				
Buchanan Trust			£500	
Direct				
Scottish Rifles (Cameronians) Regular Battalions, Prisoners of War Fund (per Mrs. Vandaleur)-				£150
Direct				£100
Per Incorporation of Maltmen				£50
Per Incorporation of Skinners				

Highland Light Infantry (Regular Battalions), Prisoners of War Fund (per Mrs. J. Lilburn)- Direct Per Incorporation of Maltmen Per Incorporation of Skinners				£150 £50 £50
Scottish Rifles (Territorials), Prisoners of War Fund (per Miss Douglas) Direct Per Incorporation of Maltmen Per Incorporation of Skinners				£150 £75 £50
Highland Light Infantry (Territorials), Prisoners of War Fund (per Lady McInnes Shaw)- Direct Per Incorporation of Skinners,				£150 £50
Service Battalions, Prisoners of War Fund (per Lady McInnes Shaw) Direct Per Incorporation of Maltmen Per Incorporation of Skinners				£150 £500 £50
Royal Engineers (Glasgow), Prisoners of War Fund (per Colonel S. C. N. Grant) Direct Per Incorporation of Maltmen				£25 £25
Naval Prisoners of War belonging to Glasgow (per P. D. Ridge-Beedle) Direct Per Incorporation of Maltmen Per Incorporation of Skinners				£150 £100 £25
County of Lanark Relief Fund, per Visitor Adam Per Incorporation of Maltmen		£50		
Soldiers' Home Maryhill Direct Per Incorporation of Coopers				£50 £5
Lady Ann Speirs Memorial Fund Per Incorporation of Maltmen				£50
Lanarkshire War Relief Fund- Per Incorporation of Cordiners				£15
Welcome Club for H.M. Overseas Forces Per Incorporation of Coopers				£10
The Overseas Club (Glasgow Branch) (per Mrs. Robertson, 91 Buchanan Street Glasgow)- Direct Per Incorporation of Wrights				£150 £26
Scottish Nurses' Club Fund- Per Incorporation of Tailors				£17
Montenegrin Relief Fund Direct				£150
Mesopotamia Comforts Fund Direct				£150
Lady Weir's Fund for Royal Air Force Prisoners of War (Scottish) Direct				£100
Incorporation of Skinners. Special Grant for some Charitable purpose to celebrate Quarter-centenary		£1560		

The Trades House continued to play a major charitable part in supporting numerous organisations and individuals during and after the war as it had always done.

Armistice 1918

On 19th November 1918, at a special meeting of the Trades House, the following was noted:
“Before proceeding to the business of the meeting, the Convener said;-

The immediate celebrations consequent upon the conclusion of an Armistice and the cessation of hostilities have passed, but the feelings of relief from the strain of the last four years, and of joy that our Allied Navies and Armies have been victorious in the greatest war in history, will long remain with all of us.

The House and Incorporations may not have played as great a part as they did in the wars of olden times when every man from sixteen to sixty was compelled to bear arms in defence of his country in return for the rights he enjoyed as a burgess of the city; but many of our members, and most of our sons, have had their share of the fighting, while we elder men, who have been privileged to remain at home, have done our best to alleviate the sufferings of the women and the children, and to lighten the burden and hardships of the fighting men.



**Deacon Convener Jackson Millar
Deacon Convener at the end of
hostilities.**

© Trades House of Glasgow

From the Rolls of Honour of the Crafts we are proud to learn that there is no distinction or decoration of the British Army which has not been gained by the younger members of the Incorporations, from the Military Medal to the Victoria Cross. Not long since I saw a Victoria Cross which had been handed by the King to one of our oldest and most respected pensioners, awarded posthumously to one of his sons for valour in the field.

But more than this, every grade of the Order of the British Empire has been conferred for Civilian Services on Deacons who have sat or are sitting in this House.

We feel honoured in being associated with such soldiers and such citizens.

But let us not forget the men who have honoured us most, and whose glory it has been to die for the greatest cause for which any war was ever waged. The men who sleep in France and Belgium, Italy, the Balkans, the Dardanelles, Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Mesopotamia, South Africa, and in the waste of waters of the globe have achieved something nobler than to die for their country. They have laid down their lives for the latest and the greatest of ideals foretold by the poet who wrote the words, "The Parliament of Man, the Federation of the World ."

The sacrifices these men have made, calls from us some permanent form of recognition and remembrance. What form that should take it will be for you to decide. The aftermath of war will bring with it many duties and obligations that we cannot at present foresee. We must face them and meet them, and while we do so we will

surely at the same time remember the moral obligation we owe to our fallen heroes."⁵³

After the war the Trades House continued to administer funds for the benefit of those who had fought in the war and for their families who had fallen on hard times.

⁵³ Special Meeting of Trades House of Glasgow 19th November 1918.

WORLD WAR 2

War Relief Fund Resolution

At the start of the Second World War the Trades House once again revived its War Relief Fund Committee to meet the expected needs arising from this new conflict. On 1st November 1939 the Trades House and Incorporations met to determine the remit of the Committee.

After discussion it was agreed that the resolution should read as follows:

“That the House inaugurate a fund from which grants may be allocated as and when occasion arises to any Relief Fund, Institution or Society devoting its assistance to the relief of suffering resulting from the present War, and to any appeal of a charitable nature arising out of War conditions.”

Five Incorporations had intimated the amount of grants which they were going to make and that subscriptions had already been received.

The Deacon Convener reported that he would issue an appeal to present and Past Deacons and Visitors to support the fund.⁵⁴

War Relief Fund

By December 1939 the War Relief Fund had received donations amounting to £5,280 5s 6d and had promises of a further £5,275 making a total of £10,555 5s 6d.

The Committee considered a number of appeals and the following grants were made:

St. Andrew's Ambulance Association Appeal Fund,	£500
Salvation Army-Military Operations Fund,	£350
Church of Scotland-for Huts,	£500
Y.M.C.A.-Canteens (General),	£250
Y.M.C.A.-Canteens for Glasgow,	<u>£250</u>
	£1800

At the same meeting it was remitted to the Platform, with powers, to grant £1,000 to the Navy League or between the Navy League and the Clyde Naval Comforts Fund, after the Platform have received further information as to the co-ordination and allocation arrangements between these Funds

	£1000
--	-------

It was also remitted to the Platform, with powers, to make a grant of £250 to the Glasgow Branch of the British Red Cross Society when considered expedient,

	£250
--	------

It was agreed to earmark £1,000 for the Glasgow Territorial Army and Air Force Association for comforts and entertainments for Glasgow Units, but to make no grant meantime.

	<u>£1,000</u>
	£4,050 ⁵⁵

⁵⁴ Committee of War Relief Fund, 1st November 1939.

⁵⁵ Committee of War Relief Fund, 13th December 1939.

Protection of the Trades Halls

In March 1940, the Buildings Committee reported on the precautions taken against air raids as follows:

Protecting the building with sand bags	£142 1s 1d
Painting the skylight etc.	£4 5s 10d
Purchase of A.R.P. appliances	£6 1s 3d
Cost of removal of pictures to basement for storage	£4 4s 0d
	<hr/>
	£156 12s 2d ⁵⁶

The protection of the Buildings with sand bags was a good idea but was to cause other problems in a few years down the line. By May 1942, the sandbags at the front of the building had deteriorated so much that they and the wood covering would have to be renewed or taken down as they were in a dangerous condition.⁵⁷

It was decided that the sandbag protection should be removed and the ground floor windows of the Trades Hall boarded up.⁵⁸

Limitation of Building Repairs under the Defence Regulations (1939)

In an endeavour to focus labour and materials on the war effort the above regulations were introduced and expenditure above a set limit had to receive special permission.

By the end of 1941 alterations were made to the regulations and which would commence on 1st January 1942 and concerned the limitations on the amount which could be spent on Building Repairs and Maintenance. The Buildings Committee had already decided that only essential repairs should take place and that no painting would be carried out. The Clerk was asked to calculate the repairs over the last three years and if necessary to apply for a permit for any essential work.⁵⁹

Incorporation Dinners for 1940

The House had advised the Incorporations not to hold dinners during the term of the war. An application for the use of the Saloon and Grand Hall had been made by the Incorporation of Tailors for the next Deacon's Choosing day. After discussion it was agreed that no Dinners should be held in 1940 and that the Tailors should have the Hall for following year.⁶⁰

Applications for the use of the Trades Hall were received during the years of the war mainly from the Barbers and the Tailors.

⁵⁶ Minute of the Buildings Committee of the Trades House, 7th March 1940.

⁵⁷ Minutes of the Building Committee of the Trades House, 22nd May 1942.

⁵⁸ Minutes of the Building Committee of the Trades House, 27th May 1942.

⁵⁹ Minutes of the Building Committee of the Trades House, 1st May 1942.

⁶⁰ Minutes of the Trades House, 10th October 1940.

Trades House and Incorporations Joint War Relief Fund

	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46
St. Andrew's Ambulance Association,	£1000	£250	£250	£250	£250	£250	
Salvation Army (Military Operations Fund),	£300						
Salvation Army (Canteens),	£1150						
Church of Scotland (Huts),	£1500			£500			
Church of Scotland (Service Men's Club, Glasgow),	£300						
Y.M.C.A. (Canteens),	£700						
Y.M.C.A. (Guest House),	£300						
National Y.M.C.A. War Service Fund,	£750				£200		
Navy League War Comforts Fund,	£1200	£400		£200	£200		
Glasgow Territorial Army and Air Force Association for Comforts,	£1500						
Clyde Naval Comforts Fund,	£100	£200	£100	£100	£100		
Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Assoc. (Glasgow Branch),	£300			£300	£300	£300	
Earl Haig Fund,	£200	£200		£200		£300	
Royal National Life-Boat Institution (Glasgow Branch)	£300	£200		£200			
British Red Cross Society (Glasgow Branch),	£250	£250			£250		
British Red Cross Society (Scottish Branch),	£250						
Y.W.C.A. (Glasgow),	£500						
Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen (War Comforts)	£100						
Glasgow Masonic War Hospitals Fund,		£200		£200	£200		£200
Fund for Air Raid Distress to provide four Mobile Canteens		£2000					
Glasgow Y.M.C.A. to provide a Mobile Canteen,		£300					
Glasgow Sailors' Home for "The Seven Seas Club"		£500					
Glasgow and West of Scotland College of Domestic Science for Canteen in St. Enoch Station,		£100					
British Sailors Society,		£100	£100	£100		£50	
Combined Services Club, Lamlash		£200					

Divisional Food Officer for a Stores Canteen Incorporation of Bakers' donation, 1940-41),			£500	£72		
City of Glasgow War Relief Fund for Scottish National Council of Y.M.C.A. towards cost of a Servicemen's Hut in Gareloch area,			£500			
Princess Louise Scottish Hospital for Limbless Sailors and Soldiers, Erskine, towards the cost of extension and improvements,			£500			
Church of Scotland Servicewomen's Club,			£300			
Y.W.C.A. Hostel, Newton Terrace,			£250			
Scottish Command Welfare and Entertainments Fund,			£250	£250		£250
Mission to Seamen for Indian Seamen's Hostel,			£200			
Recreation Centre for Allied Seamen in Glasgow,			£200			
Shipwrecked Mariners' Society-War Work,			£200		£250	
Royal National Life-Boat Institution (Glasgow Branch),			£200		£200	£200
Union Jack Canteen Extension Fund			£200			
Seamen's Christian Friend Society (Ayrshire Coast Branch)- for Troon Canteen,			£100			
British Red Cross Society (Scottish Branch), Aid for Russia Fund,			£100			
Army Study Centre, Glasgow,			£100			
Rev. William J. Baxter-Entertainment Fund for men of the Fleet			£25	£25		£25
Scottish Welfare Fund of the Air Training Corps				£500		
602 (City of Glasgow) Squadron Auxiliary Air Force Post-war Trust Fund,				£500		
Aid to China Fund,				£250	£250	£250
Yugoslav Relief Society,				£250		
H.R.H. Crown Princess of Greece's Special Appeal Fund (G. & W.S. Branch),				£250		
Blinded Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen of the British				£250		

Empire,							
Mission to Seamen in Glasgow and on the Clyde				£200		£100	
Fighting France Co-ordinating Committee for Glasgow and West of Scotland				£200			
Glasgow Sailors' Home for War Work				£100	£100		
National Y.M.C.A. War Service Fund				£100	£500		
Minesweepers' Literature Fund				£50	£50		£50
National Y.M.C.A. Mobile Canteen for Second Front,					£750		
Salvation Army Mobile Canteen for Second Front					£750		
Salvation Army towards cost of extension to "Red Shield" Canteen, Union Street,					£100		
British Red Cross Society (Glasgow Branch) - Food Parcels for Glasgow Prisoners of War,					£500		
Glasgow Y.M.C.A., towards cost of alterations to Premises for Women Officers Club					£250		
Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen, and others blinded on War Service Newington House, Edinburgh),					£500		
Airborne Forces Security Fund					£500		
Mission to Seamen War Work including extension to premises at York Street and New Institute at Faslane					£400		
British Sailors Society – Towards initial cost of new Sailors Centre at Greenock					£250		
Greek Children's Rescue Fund in Glasgow and the West of Scotland					£250		
Seamen's Christian Friend Society (Troon Branch)- for Furnishing of additional accommodation					£100		
Scottish National Institution for Blinded Sailors and Soldiers,						£500	
National Y.M.C.A. War Service Fund-for Overseas Work,						£250	
British Red Cross Society (Scottish Branch) for						£250	

Glasgow Prisoners of War Parcels' Fund,							
Church of Scotland- Huts and Canteens Overseas,						£250	
City of Glasgow, Society of Social Services Welfare						£200	£200
Princess Louise Scottish Hospital for Limbless Sailors and Soldiers						£1250	
Haven Products, Ltd., towards the cost of establishing a sheltered factory for disabled men at Hillington,							£1000
Help Holland Council (Glasgow Committee),							£500
South African Wars Veterans' Association,							£300
Y.M.C.A. War and National Service Fund for work in the Far East and other occupied areas,							£250
Glasgow Y.M.C.A. War Fund,							£100
Salvation Army work in the Far East,							£100
Grants specially allocated by donors to -							
Church of Scotland War Fund,	£12 10s						
Y.M.C.A. War Fund,	£12 10s						
Scottish Relief Fund for Finland,	£5						
Glasgow Territorial Army and Air Force Association for Comforts,	£30						
British Red Cross Society (Glasgow Branch),	£33 19s 6d	£5					
St. Andrew's Ambulance Association,	£25 5s						
St. Andrew's Ambulance Association (for one Ambulance	£350						
Glasgow Y.M.C.A. to provide a Mobile Canteen,		£300					
Fund for Air Raid distress in Glasgow		£15 10					
Y.M.C.A. (Glasgow Branch)-Upkeep of Incorporation of Skinners Mobile Canteen, (Incorporation of Skinners' donation),			£200				
British Red Cross Society (Glasgow Branch) - Food Parcels for Glasgow Prisoners of War,				£500	£22 7s	£10	
Church of Scotland Huts and Canteens				£50	£10	£10	

Glasgow Y.M.C.A. War Work				£25	£10		
Women's Voluntary Services (Glasgow Branch),				£25			
Shipwrecked Mariners' Society				£5 5			
British Legion (Scotland),				£2 2			
British Legion (Scotland) Building and Endowment Fund				£2 2			
Princess Louise Scottish Hospital for Limbless Sailors and Soldiers					£10	£1250	
Scottish Veterans' Garden City Association for the provision of a cottage on Erskine Hospital Grounds						£15	
Glasgow Y.M.C.A. Canteens						£10	
Earl Haig Fund						£10	
Bombed-out Citizen						£5	
Y.M.C.A. War: and National Service Funds for Overseas Work							£25
Total	£11,162 9 6	£5,220 10	£4,475	£10,725 5 7	£7252 7	£ 11,377 1 7	£2950 12

Fire Watchers

By January 1941 the House had employed one fire-watcher at £3 per week and the Workman's Compensation risk had been insured against. The Hallkeeper's wife who also assisted her husband in his duties was also covered by the insurance.⁶¹

It was agreed in February 1941 to ask the Incorporations to provide three volunteers to act as firewatchers and firefighters for a half Sunday each month. Two from each craft were to carry out the duty and the third was to act as a reserve.⁶²

Government legislation also played a part in protecting our premises from fire and this came in the form of the "*FIRE PREVENTION (BUSINESS PREMISES) ORDER. 1941.*" The Buildings Committee discussed this in January 1941 with a view of working in collaboration with the tenants who were in the building also. A scheme was prepared as follows:

- a) *Night duty each of the seven nights is being undertaken by the Hallkeeper, the four hired fire-watchers and firefighters and two male partners and chef of the Trade House Restaurant.*
- b) *Day duty is being undertaken by the Hallkeeper and his wife, the partners and staff of the restaurant, the tenant of the office and the tenant of the tobacconist's shop and her assistant. From these it is anticipated that there will always be at least five available.*
- c) *As regards Sunday duty, there is still a gap to be filled. There is not sufficient personnel available to provide on Sundays five persons at all times, i.e., ten persons in two shifts from 9 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. to 8 p.m., and the Committee suggested that members of the Incorporations should be asked to volunteer for Sunday duty, If three members from each Incorporation- two as volunteers and one as reserve - could be obtained from each Craft, then there would be sufficient to complete the Sundays without calling upon these volunteers more than one half Sunday per month.*⁶³

In April 1941, an application was received from the firewatchers for an increase in their wages and it was agreed to give them an increase of 5/- per week. The firewatchers were Robert Cauchie, William Aiton and William Armstrong.⁶⁴

At the same meeting the Incorporation of Bonnetmakers and Dyers suggested that each Incorporation should undertake a Sunday in turn to fire-watch and be responsible for watching on that Sunday. The idea would be put to the House Meeting in May.⁶⁵ The idea proposed by the Bonnetmakers was approved by the Buildings Committee on 21st May 1941 and it was put into action on 6th July 1941.⁶⁶

⁶¹ Minutes of the Building Committee of the Trades House, 7th February 1941.

⁶² Minutes of the Building Committee of the Trades House, 27th February 1941.

⁶³ Minutes of the Special Sub- Committee of the Building Committee of the Trades House, 27th February 1941.

⁶⁴ Minutes of the Building Committee of the Trades House, 18th April 1941.

⁶⁵ Minutes of the Sub-Committee of the Building Committee of the Trades House, 18th April 1941.

⁶⁶ Minutes of the Building Committee of the Trades House, 21st May 1941.

A letter was received from the Incorporation of Fleshers suggesting that ladies could also be utilised for fire-watching on Sundays, but the Committee thought it was not necessary to ask these ladies to undertake fire-watching duty meantime.⁶⁷

By February 1942 the Government had introduced "*The Fire Prevention (Business Premises) Order*", where occupiers of premises where there were insufficient personnel available to carry out fire-watching duties, without employing part time paid fire-watchers, could apply to the local authority for a fire guard. It was also made clear that no subsistence need be paid to paid fire-watchers or those living in the premises. It was also suggested that the Trades House could share the fire watching duties with the Bank who were adjacent to their premises and the Clerk was tasked with contacting the Bank's Actuary to discuss.⁶⁸

In March 1942, the Bank agreed to a joint fire watching scheme and this enabled the House to dispense with the services of fire watcher Robert Cauchie.⁶⁹

Further Fire Prevention Measures

In February 1941, the Special Committee of the Buildings Committee further examined the fire prevention measures and made a number of recommendations:

- (1) Approved of the purchase of three camp beds, nine blankets, and four lamps;*
- (2) Instructed an emergency door to allow access from the office on the top floor to the rooms next to the dome ;*
- (3) Instructed the removal of the wooden platform (used at the Annual Dinner) and other furniture from the top floor. Deacon Mickel's offer to provide storage accommodation for the platform has been accepted and the platform removed. The framed pictures and other articles, which were stored on behalf of the Glasgow Educational Trust, have been returned to them.*

The Sub-Committee also make the following recommendations;-

- (1) The painting of rafters and supports of belfry with asbestos paint. Estimates have been asked from John Burns, jun.; John Orr & Sons, and Chisholm & Co.*
- (2) Joists above saloon ceiling to be covered with asbestos sheeting, corrugated iron or other suitable material.*
- (3) The purchase of two galvanised bins and one bath tank, to be placed on the roof or on the upper floor for the storage of water.*
- (4) Copies of wording on panelling in saloon and large hall to be made and photographs to be taken of ceiling, dome, frieze, and fireplace in the large hall and the south wall of the saloon."⁷⁰*

War Bonus

In 1940, the Hall keeper was given a War Bonus of £1 per week.⁷¹

⁶⁷ Minutes of the Sub-Committee of the Building Committee of the Trades House, 18th April 1941.

⁶⁸ Minutes of the Sub-Committee of the Building Committee of the Trades House, 4th February 1942.

⁶⁹ Minutes of the Sub-Committee of the Building Committee of the Trades House, 9th March 1942.

⁷⁰ Minutes of the Special Committee of the Building Committee of the Trades House, 27th February 1941.

⁷¹ Minutes of the Building Committee of the Trades House, 7th February 1941.

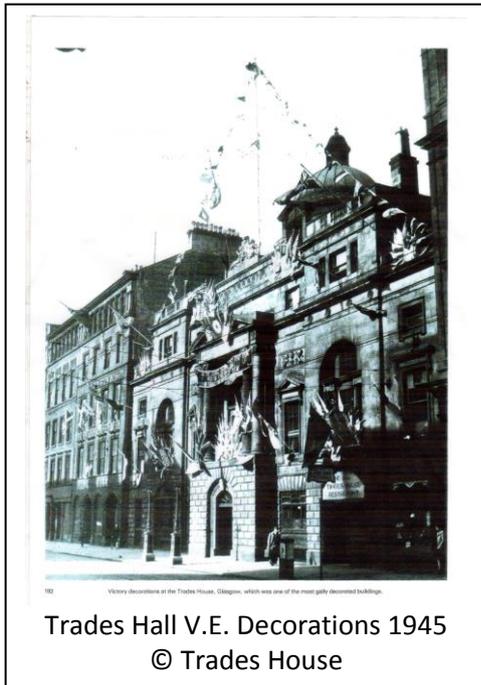
602 (City of Glasgow) Squadron R.A.F.

In March 1941 the Platform Committee agreed that the Deacon Convener should for the “*time being*” be ex officio one of the Trustees of the Trust Fund of No. 602 (City of Glasgow) Squadron.⁷²

End of the War

At the end of the War the Trades House sent a telegraph to the King and the Prime Minister expressing their delight at the end of the war and received telegraph replies from both.⁷³

V.E. Day Decorations



Referring to the decoration on the Trades Hall Buildings on VE Day, the Deacon-Convener said:-

“Many of you who had occasion to pass down Glassford Street on VE Day or during the succeeding week must have been struck by the beautiful display of flags, shields etc. which graced the frontage of our Trades House—a display which I venture was not surpassed in our city, and I am told had nothing to beat it even in London. For this artistic tribute to our Victory in Europe we are indebted to our efficient Hall-keeper, who takes such a pride in everything connected with the Auld Hoose. To many of us it was known that he was preparing a striking scheme of decoration against the day when Victory would be announced, but not even the most optimistic amongst us could have foreseen the excellent effect of his labours over a long

*period of not only months, but years. I am sure Fellow Craftsmen; it would be your wish, as it is mine, that we should, as a House, convey to Mr. Davidson our very sincere appreciation and congratulations on the excellent show he put up on this building on that never-to-be-forgotten day of Victory in Europe. I move that we ask our Clerk to write to Mr. Davidson conveying our sincere thanks and congratulations for his labour of love. At the same time I think it would be fitting that we should recognise in a tangible way what Mr. Davidson has done, as he has been to some considerable expense in providing the materials to make up the flags, to say nothing of the time involved in sewing them together. Will you, Fellow Craftsmen remit it to the Platform to make him some suitable Honorarium to him to be debited to the Hall Buildings Account?”*⁷⁴

⁷² Minute of the Platform Committee of the Trades House, 21st March 1941.

⁷³ Minutes of the Trades House, 29th May 1945.

⁷⁴ Minutes of the Trades House, 29th May 1945.

Resumption of Social Events

In May 1945, The Platform, Deacons and Visitor discussed

- a) the resumption of social functions in the Autumn and Winter
- b) the Celebration of the House of the termination of the war in Europe; and
- c) the resumption of the Angling, Bowling, Curling and Golf Competitions.

After discussion the meeting agreed:

- a) That there should not be a separate celebration by the Trades House of the end of the war with Germany beyond the public celebrations already held.
- b) That in view of the continuance of the war against Japan, dinners and other functions should not be resumed meantime ; and
- c) That the Annual Competitions be resumed as conditions permit ,⁷⁵

Resumption of House Functions

In August 1945, the Deacon Convener called a meeting of the Platform, Deacons and Visitor to discuss rescinding the minute of 11th September 1939 which indicated that the Deacon's Choosing Dinners and other social functions should be cancelled for the duration of the war. The rescinding was unanimously agreed.

The meeting agreed that the Deacons' Choosing Dinners should not be revived in that year and they recommended that social functions should be as simple as possible.

It was agreed to hold the annual curling, golf and bowling competitions.⁷⁶

End of the War with Japan

On 28th September 1945, the Deacon Convener opened the meeting with a speech on the end of the War and referred to the atomic bomb and other discoveries which could affect the future.⁷⁷

Victory Japan Hall Decorations

The Deacon Convener asked the House to refund Mr. Davidson, the Hall Keeper for his expenses in decorating the Hall as part of the celebrations of Victory over Japan.⁷⁸

⁷⁵ Minutes of the Platform, Deacons and Visitor of the Trades House, 16th May 1945.

⁷⁶ Minutes of the Platform, Deacons and Visitor of the Trades House, 28th August 1945.

⁷⁷ Minutes of the Trades House, 28th September 1945.

⁷⁸ Minutes of the Trades House, 28th September 1945.

Conclusion

The Trades House connections to the Military have continued from the Second World War and are likely to feature in our charitable giving and care for many generations to come.

A few examples of more modern connections are:

Royal Highland Fusiliers

In May 1974, Ex Deacon Convener Blair Agnew submitted a letter to the House proposing that they pay £300 towards the cost of having the Royal Highland Fusiliers, battle honours emblazoned on their new drums, which had been supplied to replace the ones donated by the Trades House during the First World War.⁷⁹

Once again the House's strong links with the Royal Highland Fusiliers was reflected in the Trades House and the Merchants House purchasing one set of silver mounted bagpipes at a cost of £350 each to celebrate the RHF's tercentenary.

New drums were presented to the Royal Highland Fusiliers from a grant from the Commonwealth Fund. It was noted that the present Honorary Colonel of the Battalion is Ex Convener A. J. Blair Agnew.⁸⁰

Examples of recent Ex Deacon Conveners with a connection to the Military

Jack Steele, Colonel John Kelly and Ruth Maltman are a few of the recent Deacon Conveners who have either held regular army or Territorial Army commissions.

Royal Marines Freedom of the City of Glasgow

In 2015 the Scottish Royal Marines were given the freedom of the City of Glasgow, but prior to receiving it they had to become burgesses and this can only occur by joining an Incorporation. They therefore became members of the Incorporation of Skinners which was the Incorporation that Deacon Convener Bishop Idris Jones was a member of.

Poppy Scotland

A number of Incorporations support Poppy Scotland and the Chain Gang visit Erskine Hospital every few years to ensure that our connections are maintained.

Incorporation Connections

Quite a number of Incorporations have Deacons and Past Deacons who have served in the Army, Navy or Air Force. The Wrights and Gardeners have had submariners as Deacons.

For some years the Fleshers have been developing their contacts with the military and several recent Deacons have been serving or retired military personnel. The Fleshers have been affiliated to: Scottish and Northern Irish Yeomanry; 32nd Signal Regiment; 2 SCOTS; 6 SCOTS and Glasgow & Strathclyde Universities' Officers Training Corps. The Incorporation of Hammermen has a formal affiliation with the Royal Electrical

⁷⁹ Minutes of the Trades House, 29th May 1974.

⁸⁰ Minutes of the Trades House of Glasgow, 8th February 1989.

Mechanical Engineers and have supported the Glasgow Sea Cadets. The Incorporation of Masons have affiliations with the Royal Engineers and Glasgow and Lanarkshire Battalion, Army Cadet Force.

All Incorporations welcome members from any units and individuals from British and foreign forces.