

Aberdour and Dalgety Parish Church.

No. 20

APRIL

1951

MINISTER:—The Revd. D. W. RUTHERFORD, M.C., B.D., The Manse, Aberdour.

ASSISTANT MINISTER:—Mr HENRY C. MARTIN, B.A., The University, Edinburgh.

Session Clerk—Mr A. R. Milne, Station House.

Clerk to the Congregational Board—Mr J. Dawson Macfarlane, C.A., Braefoot, Easter Aberdour.

Treasurer—Mr C. J. Kerr, J.P., National Bank House.

Proclamations Officer—Mr H. Cecil Lyon, Park View, Park Lane.

Organists: Aberdour—Mr J. Gillespie, Ardene.

Dalgety—Mrs Machin, Wayside, Aberdour.

Beadles: Aberdour—Mr Lawrence Moir, Sands Houses.

Dalgety—Mr Harry Moyes, Ardmohr.

TIMES OF SERVICE.

Aberdour—In St. Fillan's Church and St. Colme's Church alternately, at 11 and 6.30. (A notice is put up each week outside the Parish Hall saying in which Church the Services are the following Sunday).

Dalgety—Every Sunday at 12.30.

Primary Sunday School—St. Colme's Church, 12.20 p.m.

Senior Sunday School—Alternating according to the Church in which the service is being held, at 12.20 p.m.

Dalgety Sunday School—Dalgety Church, 11.30 a.m.

Junior Bible Class—St. Fillan's Hall, 12.20 p.m.

The Young People's Fellowship—St. Fillan's Hall, 7.45 p.m.

Woman's Guild—St. Fillan's Hall on the second Tuesday of each month at 2.45 p.m., and on the fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m.

THE MANSE,
ABERDOUR,
April 1951.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

As I pen this letter the first indications of Spring are in the air. Not for many years have we looked forward to its coming with such longing. The Winter has been long—the longest in memory, and it has brought with it a lengthening toll of sickness and sorrow. There have been few homes in the parishes where the doctor has not been required, and not for many years have so many of the old folk been called home to their Eternal Rest. Yet though we have had illness and death as companions, we have been constantly upheld in all our lives by the Everlasting Arms. It is well to remember how in days of worry and anxiety and sorrow we turned to God and found in Him a very present help in time of trouble—a Refuge and Strength. To many in the parishes, He has proved His promises over and over again.

One of the events of the year is the Congregational Social. Once again it was an enjoyable evening, when reports on the many aspects of the Church's work were combined with music and good fellowship. One problem which was raised at it, and which must occupy our attention in the future, was the poor state of much of our property. The war years were years in which little could be done in the way of repair, but now restrictions are raised, we have both in Aberdour and Dalgety a great deal requiring our attention. It is not the sort of decay which is apparent at a casual glance, but much of it is urgent and we must prepare

ourselves for heavy expenditure if our churches and halls are to be maintained in first-class condition. Everyone must be prepared to play his part when the time comes.

Besides our commitments in our own parishes, we have others in the wider work of the Church in Scotland and throughout the world. It is often said, that many of the financial difficulties of the church would disappear if people only knew what was being done. We want to remedy the ignorance which exists regarding what the Church is doing, and so in future upon the back page of this Quarterly, which till now has been left blank, there will be an account of some aspect of the Church's work. "Charity begins at home"—so we begin this quarter with some facts about the work of the Home Mission Committee.

With God's blessing upon you and yours.

Yours sincerely,

DAVID W. RUTHERFORD.

WOMAN'S GUILD.

Our meetings of the Woman's Guild have now stopped until September. During the winter we have had one or two outstanding meetings, among them being a lantern lecture on Bermuda by the Rev. P. Lovie, M.A., of Culross Abbey, and a talk on the aims and ideals of the Woman's Guild by Mrs Aulay Steele of Cleish, the wife of the Clerk to the Presbytery, the Rev. J. Aulay Steele. At the closing meeting of the Guild Mrs Rutherford was presented with a play-pen for her little daughter. The members are now looking forward to their outing to Aboyne on Thursday, 31st May. There are some spare seats for anyone outwith the Guild who would care to join us. Tickets can be had from Mrs Kerr, the Guild Secretary.

E.W.K.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP.

Our winter session is nearing its completion. We have continued our Sunday evening studies of "The Church," and many of our discussions afterwards have been lively and profitable.

Since the beginning of the year small groups have been preparing for the yearly concert which is to be held on Friday, 27th April. Two farces are being produced. One is a one-act play entitled "Moo" by Edmund Sulley and Andrew Anderson, where the scene is set in a Scottish farmhouse. The other, "The Bathroom Door," by Gertrude Jennings, is a very amusing comedy. The programme will be completed with music and dancing and some nonsense. The tickets are 3/- and 2/-, with a children's ticket at 1/-. Don't hesitate to buy a ticket even though you can't be there in person, because it is for a good cause—the upkeep of your adopted niece, Morag, and the work of the Church at Home and Abroad.

DALGETY CHILDREN'S CHOIR.

Since the New Year the worship in Dalgety on a Sunday morning has been greatly helped by the introduction of a Children's Choir. Hymns for Sunday are learned and prepared in the Day School at Hillend through the kindness of Miss Mackie, and the older members have time for a "run through" between Sunday School and Church. Mrs Machin, our organist, is to be congratulated on the improvement which this innovation makes in our praise of God. With the Choir there has also been introduced the Young Worshipers' League, so that now we have fifteen to twenty young people in regular attendance at our morning service.

THE BIBLE CLASS.

The class has now completed the winter session. It began with 14 members, 5 of whom have drifted away without satisfactory reason. We have studied in detail the Lord's Prayer, and then selected passages in St. John's Gospel, whose theme is the Authority of Jesus Christ. Members have made progress in taking short prayers and are proficient in reading the lessons. There is now a deeper spirit of reverence amongst the members. The offerings this session total almost £3, and to date a donation has been sent to The Orphan Homes, Bridge of Weir. Further allocations will be made. In the course of the session, we were glad to have visits from our minister and three members of session.

T.M.P.

EASTER TABLEAU.

At the evening service in St. Colme's Church on Easter Sunday, 25th March, the tableau, the Festival of an Easter Garden, "As He Said," was a principal feature. Parts were taken by the younger members of the Sunday School staff, members of the Bible Class, and scholars of the Sunday School. The descriptive narrative was read by the Misses Margaret Kerr and Anne Mackenzie and a choir of the younger girls in the Sunday School took part. The tableau portrayed the bringing of Christianity to Scotland, its development by Culdees, Monks and Covenanters during the centuries, culminating in the sending out again of missionaries to the foreign fields in the 19th century, and then the ingathering of converts from India, China and Africa. The costumes of the different periods and lands, which greatly enhanced the service, were supplied by the Foreign Mission Department of the Church of Scotland, those worn by the representatives of Africa, China and India being of genuine local manufacture, collected or sent home by missionaries working in those fields. Much credit is due to Miss Simmers and Miss N. Fairlie, who, with the able assistance of Mr Gillespie in the musical part of the tableau, were responsible for its production, and to all those taking part in the graphic portrayal of the universal nature of the message of Christianity.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

We regret the retiral of Mr W. Tod from our staff, due to his impending removal to Edinburgh after a period of valuable service, and hope that more volunteers may come forward to fill this and other probable vacancies in the male staff. It is intended that the Summer Excursion in June will be by motor buses this year to the Earl of Elgin's Broomhall Estate, and fuller particulars of this will be given at a later date. R.R.C.

BAPTISMS.

"Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

7th January—Mairi Lyon Nicol.
21st " —Brenda Moyes.
4th March —Alexandra Foster Wilkie.

MARRIAGE.

"What God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."

15th March—John Inglis to Ann Kedar Watson.

DEATHS.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

13th January—Mrs Lochtie.
16th " —Mrs Downie.
5th Feb. —Mr Mills.
26th March —Mr Gilmour.
27th " —Mrs Fraser.
1st April —Mrs Mitchell.

ACCESSIONS.

By Profession—Alice B. G. Binning.
Helen M. Clarke.
Annie Collyer.
Sheila M. McLaren.
Alexander L. Smith.
William M. Smith.

By Certificate—Mrs Adams, Moirdeen Cottage, Seaside Place.
Mr and Mrs Ross, Hillend.
Mr and Mrs Wright, Hillend.
Mrs Wilkie, Briar Cottage, Seaside Place.

DISJUNCTIONS.

Mr and Mrs Finlayson to England.
Mr and Mrs Duncan to Torryburn.
Mr G. Duncan to Torryburn.
Mr C. Duncan to Inverkeithing.
Mr Angus Fraser to Carstairs.
Mr and Mrs Russell to Canada.