

Aberdour and Dalgety Parish Church.

No. 30

FEBRUARY 1954

MINISTERS:—The Revd. D. W. RUTHERFORD, M.C., B.D., The Manse, Aberdour.
The Revd. GEORGE W. LAWRENCE, B.D.

Session Clerk—Mr T. M. Patterson, M.A., South House, Seaside Place.
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 R. C. Lyon, Park View, Park Lane.

THE MANSE,
ABERDOUR, FIFE.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

One of the reasons for the alteration in the months of publication of the Quarterly was that the Financial Statement might be printed along with the February issue and so reach every home in the congregation. Through illness that may not be practicable this year, but if it should, we hope that you will study it even although you may not be able to be present at the Annual General Meeting on 26th February. It shows that the response to the letter on finance which was sent out by the Congregational Board sixteen months ago was a good one, and that apart from the extraordinary expenditure on the Hall we have been able to pay our way this year and make a slight increase in our contributions to the Schemes of the Church. During 1954 the same effort will be required, so I quote from the letter which was addressed then to each **wage-earner**:—

“By whatever means you contribute, we do not want you to give more than you can afford, but if God has given you the wherewithal, remember you are not contributing as you ought if you are giving less than one shilling and sixpence per week.”

It is impossible to mention in this letter all the occasions in our Church life which we would want to remember. **The Re-opening of the Church Hall** was one. It was re-opened at the evening service on 6th September. I think those who saw it then for the first time after re-decoration must have felt with me that the old hall had gone, and that here indeed was a place where one could meet with God. In a less formal way it was opened by a Congregational Social which proved to be one of the happiest of evenings, and the opportunity was taken to recognise the work done by Mr Archer. That it is a place where one can worship God has been proved by the children of the **Sunday School in Aberdour**. I think I am right in saying that it is a long time since the Sunday Schools flourished as they are doing now. Between the Primary and the Senior Departments there has been an increase of thirty-five scholars over last year, while regularity in attendance and behaviour have both improved immensely. **Dalgety Sunday School** also flourished, and this year they took advantage of the hall for their Christmas Party and enjoyed, along with others, the beautiful decorations and the Christmas Tree in the grounds. Both Sunday Schools made their contribution to our Christmas worship—the Aberdour children in a Christmas Play in the hall and the Dalgety Choir with a Cantata on Christmas-eve in the church.

We had looked forward to the **Aberdour Choir's** rendering of the cantata “Emmanuel,” but Mr Gillespie's illness prevented it taking place, and it has had to be abandoned this year. We are glad that Mr Gillespie is to be back soon again at the organ. May I make an appeal for new choir members? Within the year quite a number who have given long and valuable service have left the district and we look forward to their places being taken by others in the congregation.

The Woman's Guild put the hall to good use on Saturday, 6th December, when they held a Sale of Work in aid of Guild funds. £210 was amassed that day, and on the Tuesday after, the Guild very generously gave £100 towards paying off the cost of the hall. The Guild has been larger this year than ever. Their meetings have all been interesting. The small hall is always taxed to capacity.

Until recently the Badminton which was played in the hall was run by the British Legion, but in view of the Baird Trust's ruling regarding the use of the hall for non-church purposes, the Kirk Session decided that in future it would be run as **The Church Badminton Club**. The existing members readily agreed to this, and though the season is now far advanced they will be glad to have new players from the members of the church, from church families, and from those who worship with us. The evenings for play are Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The Young People's Fellowship is busy preparing for their concert in the hall on 30th April, which in the main is in aid of their adopted niece, Isobel. They hope that you will support them as well as you have done in other years. The two plays are "Life without Music" by Philip Johnson and "Well Connected" by Agnes Adam. Mr Lawrence, who has many accomplishments, has promised to add to the evenings entertainment with a display of conjuring. On Sunday evenings the Fellowship's main study has been "The Christian Faith," and that has been interspersed with two debates—one on "Gambling" and the other on "The Colour Bar." **The Bible Class in Aberdour** has been studying "Paul's Missionary Journeys." They had planned to send Dr Wilkinson "The Practitioner" but someone else had forestalled them, and so at his suggestion they are sending Film Strips which will be of use both in hospital work and the work of teaching. **The Dalgety Bible Class** is making a study of a different kind—"The Christian in the Making." What they learn one Sunday they discuss the next.

Mention ought to be made here of the **Ordination of Elders** which took place in Aberdour in October, and of the admission of Mr David Dowie to the Eldership in Dalgety in November. The following were ordained in Aberdour:—

Mr W. Bald—North-side of Humble Terrace.

Mr J. R. M. M. Brown—South-side of Humble Terrace.

Mr E. Crow—The Glebe and Murrell Road.

Mr A. Elder—Morayvale.

Mr I. Stewart—Silver Sands Terrace to Old Manse and Murrell Terrace.

Mr R. Walker—The Haw'craig, Shore Front and Shore Road.

I have appended their districts opposite their names, and I hope that they will receive a warm welcome as they make their first visit with their communion cards. Some other re-allocation of districts has been necessary. Mr R. C. Lyon has taken over his father's district, and to Mr Milne's district has been added the houses from Sunnybrae to Dryburgh House. The Dalgety districts have yet to be re-arranged.

Sickness has hit us heavily in the Kirk Session during the last few months. We are glad that Mr W. Crowe, Mr Kerr and Mr Lyon are all making good progress. For many years Mr Lyon has been Registrar and Officer for the Publication of Banns. The latter is an appointment of the Presbytery. Mr Lyon feels he must relinquish the post, and the Kirk Session have asked the Presbytery to acquiesce in the appointment of his son, Mr R. C. Lyon. I know that many timorous couples coming to him rather uncertain about the procedure for getting married have found him most helpful and kind. We wish him happiness in his retirement.

Hymn Books.—The Congregational Board has been rather perturbed by the wastage in the hymn books provided at the door. The idea in providing them was that they should be for visitors, but often even in the winter months they are all in use long before the service commences. The Board ask that wherever possible members bring their own hymn books and so leave those provided for those who join with us in worship. The renewal and repair of the books is becoming a considerable item of expenditure.

It seems to me that I could go on and on adding to this letter, but I do not want to close without saying something about the "**Tell Scotland Movement.**" Over the next three years the Church in Scotland is seeking a renewal of its spiritual life. It seeks to do this not by campaigns as has been done in the past, but through the witness of the Christian people within the Church and within the community. Every Church and every community is situated differently, and so the problem has to be faced by each Church individually. The Kirk Session in Aberdour and Dalgety already has it under review. We are considering how best this great movement of "Tell Scotland" can be introduced into our parishes. The concern is not so much "with planning a Parish Mission as with planning a Missionary Parish." A parish where each member is in turn a missionary to his fellow villagers. How it is to be worked out in Aberdour and Dalgety needs thought, more than that, our prayers. In this period which is one of preparation, we need, all of us who are in earnest about our loyalty to Christ, to ask God's guidance as to how best we can bring Him again into our midst.

May God's blessing rest upon you all.

Yours sincerely,

DAVID W. RUTHERFORD.

BAPTISMS.

"Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

- 14th Sept.—Robert Bowman Gibson.
1st Nov.—Mary Adamson Bell.
29th „ —Carolyn Clarice Burniston.
25th Dec.—Gordon William Edie.
25th Jan.—Andrew Martin Stephens.

MARRIAGE.

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

- 29th Dec.—Derek Booth and Andrewina Duncan.

DEATHS.

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

- 14th Sept.—Mr Lindsay.
15th „ —Mr Conley.
8th Jan.—Mrs Drew.
10th „ —Mr McJannet.
15th „ —Mrs Henderson.
1st Feb.—Mr Collyer.

ACCESSIONS.

By Profession—

- Mrs Bell, Humbie Cottages.
Mr A. McIntyre, Westend, Aberdour.
Miss M. Middlemiss, The Barns Cottage.
Mrs M. Middlemiss, c/o The Barns Cottage.
Mr H. Moyes, Jún., Ardmohr.
Mr R. Stirling, Jún., The Barns.
Mr D. Anderson, High Street.

By Certificate—

- 54 Mr and Mrs T. Anderson, High Street.
53 Mr and Mrs P. Anderson, Croftgarry Cottages.
" Mr and Mrs W. Armit, 21 Haw'craig Road.
" Mr and Mrs J. Beattie, Seaside Place.
" Mr D. Bell, Humbie Cottages.
54 Miss A. S. Blaik, 21 Humbie Terrace.
53 Mr Burrell, Silversands Cottage.
" Mrs H. F. Connell, High Street.
" Mrs Carmichael, 2 Murrell Terrace.
" Mr and Mrs Davidson, Hillend.
" Mr and Mrs John Davidson, Sen., Four Lums.
" Mrs R. Lochtie, Salisbury Villas.
54 Mrs Roberts, 12 Forthside Terrace, N. Queensferry.
53 Mrs Sowler, Scots Walls.
" Mr and Mrs Stoddart, Manse Place.
" Mr and Mrs Watson, Hillend.
54 Mrs Methven, 19 Broomhill Avenue, Burntisland.

By Resolution—

- Mr P. Carmichael, 2 Murrell Terrace.
Mr G. Gilmour, Viewforth Terrace.
Mr Kirkham, Park Lane.

DISJUNCTIONS.

- 53 Mrs Low to Kirkintilloch.
" Mrs Alston to Edinburgh.
" Mrs Fail to Inverkeithing.
" Mrs Peattie to Edinburgh.
" Mrs Bona to Dunoon.
" Mrs Anderson to Dunoon.
" Mr and Mrs Mutch to Stow.
53 Mr E. Mutch to Stow.
" Mrs Litster to Edinburgh.
" Mr Stephens to U.S.A. ?
54 Mr MacLauchlan to Middlesex.
" Mr and Mrs Myles to Blackford.
53 Mr and Mrs Marnock to Auchtertool.

ABERDOUR AND DALGETY CONGREGATION.

Abstract of Income and Expenditure for the Year ended 31st Dec., 1953.

	INCOME.	EXPENDITURE.
To Collections:—		
Church Door Collections ...	£307 11 2	
Weekly Freewill Offerings ...	861 17 2	
Special Collections ...	67 17 7	
Donations ...	50 6 8	
Per District Collectors ...	32 1 6	
Assembly and Other Funds ...	12 4 6	
	£1331 18 7	
" Woman's Guild ...	226 12 10	
" Congregational Organisations ...	113 18 11	
" Entertainments ...	22 12 6	
	£1695 2 10	
" Trust Investments:—		
For Stipend ...	£83 16 11	
" Benevolent Fund ...	10 10 8	
" Other Church Purposes ...	48 16 0	
" Alex. Wallace Memorial Fund ...	3 15 0	
" Assembly Funds ...	34 16 5	
" Repairs ...	5 18 6	
	187 13 6	
" Rents ...	28 0 0	
" Miscellaneous ...	0 13 6	
" Church of Scotland General Trustees for Hall Repairs ...	250 0 0	
" Donation from Girls' Club towards Repayment of Baird Trust Grant ...	60 0 0	
	£2221 9 10	
" Balances brought forward:—		
Congregational Fund ...	£489 16 3	
Fabric Fund ...	83 7 9	
Woman's Guild ...	13 15 8	
Other Funds ...	125 16 0	
	712 15 8	
	£2934 5 6	
By Assembly Funds:—		
Maintenance of Ministry Fund ...	£100 1 9	
Other Schemes ...	350 18 5	
	£451 0 2	
" Minister's Stipend (part of) ...	200 0 0	
" Salaries of Organists and Church Officers ...	222 3 4	
" Upkeep of Churches, etc.:—		
Rent, Taxes and Insurance ...	£172 7 10	
Heating, Lighting and Cleaning ...	147 15 6	
Repairs and Renewals ...	57 0 2	
	377 3 6	
" Miscellaneous:—		
Printing and Stationery ...	£99 2 11	
Telephone ...	13 8 5	
Communion Expenses ...	12 6 6	
Assembly and Presbytery Dues ...	16 7 2	
	141 5 0	
" Benevolent Fund ...	42 9 7	
" Woman's Guild and other Organisations ...	73 1 4	
" Education Fund ...	2 3 0	
" Adamson Bequest ...	2 10 0	
" Outside Organisations:—		
Earl Haig Fund ...	£6 8 1	
Mission to Lepers ...	11 7 4	
National Bible Society ...	11 0 0	
Other Funds ...	12 11 0	
	41 6 5	
" Repairs to St. Fillan's Hall ...	1004 4 7	
	£2557 6 11	
" Balances on Hand:—		
Congregational Fund ...	£142 3 4	
Woman's Guild ...	71 14 2	
Other Funds ...	163 1 1	
	376 18 7	
	£2934 5 6	

Audited and found correct.

C. J. KERR, *Treasurer.*

IAN M. STUART,
R. M. WALKER, } *Auditors.*