

Aberdour and Dalgety Parish Church.

No. 36

FEBRUARY 1956

MINISTERS:—The Revd. D. W. RUTHERFORD, M.C., B.D., The Manse, Aberdour.
The Revd. ROBERT OSBORNE, B.D.

Session Clerk—Mr R. M. Walker, Eden Cottage, Seaside Place.
Clerk to the Congregational Board—
Treasurer—Mr J. Dawson Macfarlane, C.A., Braefoot, Easter Aberdour.
Proclamations Officer—Mr R. C. Lyon, Park View, Park Lane.

THE MANSE,
ABERDOUR,
January, 1956.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

It is intended that this Congregational Letter should be in your hands before the Annual General Meeting, which takes place in the Church Hall on Friday, 24th February, at 7 p.m. The last page contains an Abstract of Congregational Accounts and will enable you to get some idea of the financial problems of our congregation and to ask questions, should that be necessary, of our Treasurer at the meeting. We have also printed an account of our giving to the Schemes of the Church and to other charitable organisations. The figures given there are the total givings from the congregation and include the givings of the organisations—the Sunday Schools, the Bible Classes, the Youth Fellowship and, of course, the Woman's Guild. You will notice that £558 is a very high proportion of our total givings, but you will not forget that here in Aberdour and Dalgety we are exceptionally fortunate in receiving aid towards the stipend of the Minister and the Assistant, and for the repair of Fabric to over £800 a year. Were it not for this, what one might call a legacy from the past, we should be an "aid receiving congregation." No one should imagine that we ourselves are self-supporting; that our weekly offerings come anywhere near meeting our yearly expenditure.

The Congregational Meeting is always a happy occasion. Our business is got over without wasting time; tea will be served by the Ladies of the Guild, and then we give ourselves over to an evening of songs and games and dancing—an evening when we can meet in fellowship. I hope our new members will feel that this is an opportunity provided by the congregation, as was the social in October, to enable them to meet and get to know other members. If you are unable to be at the meeting by 7 p.m. there is no reason at all why you should not drop in any time during the evening. It is planned for members and the adults who worship with us. If you are a newcomer and not yet a member we give you a warm invitation.

There are many things on which I might comment in this letter, but there is not room for them all. One, however, which I must refer to, is the magnificent result of the Sale of Work in December. £310 was most satisfactory. The women of the Guild and all who helped are to be congratulated. The success of the sale will enable us to go ahead with many urgent repairs to our fabric.

Ever since St. Fillan's Church was restored, it has lacked a proper Vestry and the public conveniences which ought to be part of any church building. The late Mr Wallace of Whitehill left some money to be set aside for that purpose. More recently, Miss Lean, a devoted member of St. Fillan's Church, left £100 to both the Congregation and the Woman's Guild with the intention that it be spent in connection with that Church. The Congregational Board have decided to unite those two funds and to go ahead this spring and supply what has been lacking. A memorial to Mr Wallace stands on the wall of the Church, and this repair and extension to the Vestry will help us to remember Miss Lean, a very devoted and loyal member of the Church and the Guild.

The Kirk Session met on the first Sunday of the New Year to say farewell to Mr Bailey who has been our assistant for the last eight months. A small presentation was made to him as an expression of the appreciation of the congregation for his services on a Sunday and his work amongst the young people. We wish him success in his studies, and happiness to him and his family when they return to the United States of America.

To Mr Osborne, who succeeds him, we give a very warm welcome. We hope that he will soon make friends in the congregation and we are sure that he has something to contribute to both our worship and our fellowship in Aberdour and Dalgety.

Dr. Wilkinson's letter speaks for itself. We hope that it will not be long before he is able to come over and address the congregation and, more important perhaps, to get to know us and we him.

Looking back over this letter it seems to be too full of finance and such things—not really very important compared with God's love and mercy and the work which He has given us to do in making known the eternal Gospel of Jesus Christ.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

DAVID W. RUTHERFORD.

List of Congregational and Organisations' Allocations in 1955.

1. TO SCHEMES OF THE CHURCH.

Maintenance of the Ministry	£100 1 9
Foreign Missions	100 5 0
Aged and Infirm Ministers	16 9 0
Church and Manse Building	3 0 0
Colleges and Education for the Ministry	3 0 0
Colonial Churches	2 1 10
Continental Churches, etc. (including Calvin Auditorium £1)	7 0 0
Highlands and Islands	5 0 0
Home Mission	20 0 0
Jewish Mission	5 0 0
Social Service	55 5 0
Temperance	1 0 0
Youth and Education	12 1 0
Women's Foreign Mission	25 11 8
Women's Home Mission	15 11 8
Women's Jewish Mission	15 16 8
Chaplains to H.M. Forces	1 0 0
Public Worship and Aids to Devotion	1 0 0
Scots Memorial, Jerusalem	3 0 0
Church Extension—National Appeal	62 0 0
Hut and Canteen Work for Her Majesty's Forces	15 0 0
Ladies' Highland Association	2 2 0
Joint Committee on Refugees	10 0 0
Kenya Rehabilitation Appeal	5 0 0
W.G.M., Kalimpong	4 0 0
Woman's Guild Central Fund	1 5 0
	£491 10 7

2. TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS.

United Society for Christian Literature	£2 2 0
National Bible Society of Scotland	11 7 0
British Sailors' Society	2 2 0
The Mission to Lepers	12 7 0
Old Folks' Party	4 4 0
World Council of Christian Education and World Sunday School Association	2 0 0
Earl Haig Fund	8 10 1
All Scotland Crusade	5 0 0
Waldensian Missions Aid Society	3 1 0
Dr. Wilkinson	14 1 4
The Orphan Homes of Scotland	2 0 0
	£66 14 5

Letter from Rev. JOHN WILKINSON, M.B., Ch.B., Kenya.

Furlough Address:

32 ARDEN STREET,
EDINBURGH, 9.

January, 1956.

Dear Friends,

As you will see from the address I am now at home on leave in Scotland. I left Kenya in November. My wife and family had preceded me in the summer so that the children could arrive in reasonable weather and Patricia could begin school in September. So they were here to welcome me when I arrived.

Much has happened during my last tour in Kenya, and one result of this has been that the problems have become well known in Scotland. If I were asked to state what were the most significant happenings in our Mission work in Kenya in the past few years, I think I would mention three:

1. The continued spread of the Revival movement.
2. The rise of the Mau Mau.
3. The re-organisation of our Mission work in Kenya.

Previously I told you something of the Revival Movement which was slowly spreading through the Church in Kikuyuland. It has continued to spread and to demonstrate in a remarkable way that it is indeed the work of the Holy Spirit. The excesses which were seen at the beginning are now rarely seen, and those who under God are responsible for the direction of the movement are showing a wise restraint in guiding the enthusiasm which is so marked a feature of the movement of revival. The movement has had a profound effect on the work of all our mission stations, though it is still not fully accepted by all the leaders of the Church.

In the beginning no one could have foreseen that this Revival Movement was God's providential preparation of the Church and His people for the onslaught of the Devil which was to come. One of the early Church fathers called the Devil "God's ape," and in some respects the Mau Mau movement may be regarded as the Devil's attempt to copy the Revival Movement. It was a revival of primitive pagan practices accompanied by bestial violence. I need not tell you much about the Mau Mau movement. The Revival Movement was hardly ever mentioned in the news, but the Mau Mau immediately became world news and still remains such.

The Church became the focal point of the Mau Mau attack and it underwent a severe time of trial and testing. The points where resistance was greatest were those where the influence of the Revival was strongest. The Church has come through this time reduced in numbers, but strengthened in witness, and it is now faced with boundless opportunities for service and for evangelism.

The face of the countryside in Kikuyuland has largely been changed by the new concentration of the population into big villages. In the past each family had lived in its own homestead, which was usually some distance away from its neighbour's. The result is that our Church organisation has had to be adapted to the new social arrangement which is much more convenient for evangelism and pastoral work. The Kikuyu mind is, however, very conservative and does not readily adapt itself to new situations. One new venture which we hope will begin early in 1956 is the sending of a mobile team into the villages with modern film and amplifying equipment in order to reach the villagers with the Gospel and help in the great work of rehabilitation of the Kikuyu people.

The main reorganisation of our Church and Mission work comes in February when, in the presence of the Moderator of the General Assembly, the Right Reverend Professor G. D. Henderson, all the work of the Church of Scotland in East Africa will be united into one as the Presbyterian Church of East Africa. We shall then have united in one Church all races of Presbyterian Christians in East Africa—Africans, Indians and Europeans. In the ministry of that Church there will be representatives of each race too, for there has recently come to work with us in Kenya the Reverend Din Dayal who is the first overseas missionary of the United Church of Northern India.

Do pray for Kenya. The situation there is much more under control from a military point of view, but the social and spiritual problems remain, and are at once a challenge and an opportunity to the Church.

I hope that I shall be able to meet some of you who support us by your prayers and in other ways, in these months of leave in Scotland.

My wife joins me in wishing you all a very Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN WILKINSON.

BAPTISMS.

"Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

2nd Oct.—Carole Mary Baxter.
30th Oct.—Cecil James Lyon.
25th Dec.—Ian Alexander Todd.

ADULT BAPTISM.

16th Oct.—Mrs Doris McNair.

MARRIAGES.

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

1st Oct.—Charles Aikman Nisbet to Joyce Aitken Arnott Smith.
12th Nov.—James Morris Ward to Rose Margaret Gibson.
10th Dec.—Alexander Peter McKay Davis to Ann MacKay MacKenzie.
17th Dec.—Michael Charles Stuart Philip to Shirley Isabel Johnston.
17th Dec.—Gerald Edward Doidge to Rosamond Margery Flint.

DEATHS.

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

18th Sept.—Mr Gibb.
29th Sept.—Mrs Stirling.
3rd Nov.—Mr Bolan.
13th Nov.—Mr Kelly.

ACCESSIONS.

By Profession—

Miss Janet M. Bald, 40 Boreland Road, Inverkeithing.
Miss Elizabeth C. I. Balmain, 134 Wemyss Street, Rosyth.
Miss Janet Freda Gibson, 17 Hillside Street, Inverkeithing.
Miss Rose M. Gibson, 17 Hillside Street, Inverkeithing.
Mr Peter MacGillivray, 53 Humble Terrace.
Mr and Mrs McNair, Reneville, Westend.
Mr John Masson, 2 Humble Terrace.
Miss Elizabeth Waddell, Croftgarry Cottages.

By Certificate—

Mr and Mrs R. S. Arthur, Seacliffe House.	Mrs Erskine, Silver Sands Terrace.
Mrs Brown, St. Colme's Lodge.	Mr and Mrs C. A. Morris, 9 Manse Street.
Mr Gordon Campbell, Blythswood.	Miss Anne Morris, 9 Manse Street.
Miss Baldry, Park Lane.	Mr and Mrs Smith, St. Colme's Lodge.
Mr and Mrs D. A. Chalmers, Willesdene.	Mr and Mrs A. Thomson, Police House.
Mrs S. Connell, Muirfield.	Mr and Mrs Wall, Craigrowan.
Mr and Mrs Dunnet, Belmont.	Mr and Mrs Watson, Station Hotel.
Mr Alexander Dunnet, Belmont.	

*By Resolution—*Mrs Bald, 40 Boreland Road, Inverkeithing.

*Disjunctions—*Mr and Mrs Davidson (Hillend) to Falkirk.

Mr K. Millar to Essex.	Mr and Mrs Monteith to London.
Miss Craig to Glasgow.	Mrs A. Downie to Lundin Links.

ABERDOUR AND DALGETY CONGREGATION.

Abstract of Income and Expenditure for the Year to 31st Dec. 1955.

COLLECTIONS—		INCOME.		EXPENDITURE.	
Church Collections	£333 17 6	Maintenance of the Ministry Fund	£100 1 9	Other Schemes of the Church	391 8 10
Weekly Freewill Offerings	901 7 5	MINISTER'S STIPEND (part of)	491 10 7		275 0 0
Special Collections	65 19 1	SALARIES OF ORGANISTS AND CHURCH OFFICERS	246 0 0		
Donations	52 15 0	UPKEEP OF CHURCHES, ETC.—			
District Collections	34 7 6	Rent, Taxes and Insurance	£166 11 11		
Assembly Funds	24 0 7	Heating, Lighting and Cleaning	142 13 11		
Fabric Fund	13 17 7	Repairs and Renewals	106 16 0		
LEGACY RECEIVED FROM THE EXECUTORS OF THE LATE MISS BARBARA C. LEAN	£1,426 4 8	LAYING DRAIN TO SESSION HOUSE AT ST. FILLAN'S CHURCH	416 1 10		
CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR JOHN GILLESPIE	100 0 0	MISCELLANEOUS—	73 6 0		
WOMAN'S GUILD	428 13 1	Printing, Stationery and Publications	£119 5 10		
CONGREGATIONAL ORGANISATIONS	231 6 3	Communion Expenses	9 17 6		
	£2,227 0 0	Assembly, Synod and Presbytery Dues	16 7 4		
TRUST INVESTMENTS—		Telephone	16 4 3		
For Stipend	£55 19 2	Organist's Expenses	20 0 0		
For Benevolent Fund	8 10 8	Hire of Film	4 4 0		
For Assembly Funds	34 16 5	Sundry Expenses	9 9 9		
For Sunday School	3 12 0	MEMORIAL PLAQUE TO THE LATE MR JOHN GILLESPIE and incidental expenses	195 8 8		
For Repairs	6 9 0	DONATION TO CHURCH DRAMA CLUB	39 10 0		
For Alex. Wallace Memorial Fund	4 7 6	BENEVOLENT FUND	7 5 4		
For Other Church Purposes	7 0 1	EDUCATION FUND	43 9 7		
RENTS	120 14 10	ADAMSON AND OTHER BEQUESTS	1 2 0		
	28 0 0	WOMAN'S GUILD AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS	3 7 6		
BALANCES brought forward—	£2,375 14 10	OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS—	104 3 0		
Congregational Fund	£121 11 0	Earl Haig Fund	£8 10 1		
Other Funds	111 2 2	The Mission to Lepers	12 7 0		
Guild and Other Organisations	105 9 6	National Bible Society of Scotland	11 7 0		
	£338 2 8	British Sailors' Society	2 2 0		
Add—Other Funds previously omitted in error	36 10 6	The Orphan Homes of Scotland	2 0 0		
	374 13 2	Other Funds	30 8 4		
		BALANCES on hand—	66 14 5		
		Congregational Fund	£1,962 18 11		
		Fabric Fund	£356 6 0		
		Other Funds	13 17 7		
		Guild and Other Organisations	170 0 6		
			247 5 0		
			787 9 1		
			£2,750 8 0		

J. DAWSON MACFARLANE, C.A., Treasurer.

IAN M. STUART, F.C.I.I., }
WM. A. DUNN, F.I.A. (Scot.), } Auditors.

20th January 1956.—Audited and found correct.