

Aberdour and Dalgety Parish Church.

No. 39

FEBRUARY 1957

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

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

THE MANSE,
ABERDOUR,
February, 1957.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

The Annual General Meeting of the Congregation takes place in the Church Hall on Friday, 1st March, at 7.30 p.m. We hope that this Letter, with the Abstract of Income and Expenditure and the Statement of our Allocations to the Schemes of the Church, will be in your hands before that date, and that you will have an opportunity of studying the details before you come to the meeting. But whether you have or not, make a point of being there. There is only a little business to be transacted besides the election of six new members to the Congregational Board and, when that is got over, we are planning a happy family evening—I mean the family of the congregation. In refreshment and song and game and dance we hope to get to know each other better. Already these friendly functions have proved their value and new members especially have come away from them feeling that at last they were part of a fellowship. Although the hour is 7.30 the nature of the proceedings is such that you can drop in any time up to 10.30 p.m.

Fellowship in a congregation is almost more important than anything else; I mean fellowship, not friendship. Friendship is a very brittle thing and because it is between human beings is easily broken; whereas real fellowship, Christian fellowship, is pliant and able to take hard knocks, because it is not merely friendship between human beings, but friendship between human beings who are friends of God. In ordinary life you will often put up with a great deal from people just because they are friends of mutual friends. In fact there is nothing which draws strangers together quicker than just the discovery that they have a mutual friend. What is true in ordinary life ought to be true in the Church, though I am afraid it is not always so. We all of us have a Mutual Friend, and though in other respects we may be strangers, that ought to draw us together in a most powerful way, and it ought to make us put up with a great deal from others for His sake. Have you ever thought as you sang "What a friend we have in Jesus" that others were singing with just as strong conviction as you. It seems to me that ought to make us stretch out hands across the barriers of personal dislike, the barriers of social position and class, the barriers of sect and communion, the barriers of race and colour, and whether it is in the village or the city or the far horizons of the mind make us say "If you are a friend of His you are a friend of mine." If we were all to begin to do that for His sake, and it would sometimes involve loving our enemies and doing good to those who hate us, we should transform what by God's standards must be reckoned a rather dead congregation into a living fellowship, we should help in a small way to bridge many of the gaps in our social life, and hasten on a better understanding between the nations.

There is one little matter which I would like to draw to the attention of those who live in the parishes. The Presbytery has made arrangements for ministers to be notified when their members enter one of the hospitals of the West Fife Group, *i.e.*, Dunfermline. This arrangement does not apply to any other hospitals in the country, Edinburgh, etc. The arrangement, too, in Dunfermline is not foolproof and it may happen that some days elapse before a minister is notified. I should be most grateful if those who know they are going to enter hospital would advise me, and if one's going should be unexpected, if the family would do so. On many occasions I have gone to either Edinburgh or Dunfermline in order to see patients in hospital only to discover on my return that other members were in the same hospital. I even visited a ward and left it without knowing that I had passed one of our own members lying seriously ill. Some people think a minister should be psychic, but unless the minister is informed, he cannot be expected to visit. Don't leave it to somebody else to tell him. It is your duty. I am never too busy to visit anyone in hospital whether they be members of the congregation or not. Scarcely a week passes when I am not in both Edinburgh and Dunfermline for that purpose and it will help me to plan my time and my work if I have early intimation of sickness and hospitalisation.

May God's blessing rest upon our fellowship.

Yours sincerely,

DAVID W. RUTHERFORD.

ABSTRACT of INCOME and EXPENDITURE for Year to 31st December, 1956.

1.—General Fund.

INCOME.		EXPENDITURE.	
Collections:—		ALLOCATION OF FUNDS:—	
Church Collections	£356 4 5	Assembly Funds:—	
Weekly Freewill Offerings	995 10 11	Maintenance of Ministry	
Special Collections	65 3 8	Fund	£110 0 0
Donations	92 7 0	Other Schemes of the Church	356 4 0
District Collections	33 14 0		
Assembly Funds	24 1 7		£466 4 0
	<u>£1,567 1 7</u>	Outside Organisations	26 13 6
Trust Investments:—			<u>£492 17 6</u>
For Stipend	£105 15 1	Minister's Stipend (part of)	350 0 0
„ Benevolent Fund	8 10 8	Salaries of Organists, Church Officers and	
„ Assembly Funds	34 16 5	Clearer	267 13 4
„ Sunday School	2 10 0	Upkeep of Churches, etc.:—	
„ Other Church Purposes	8 7 0	Rent, Taxes, Insurance and	
		Feuduty	£159 1 9
	£159 19 2	Heating, Lighting and Cleaning	131 14 1
Income Tax recovered... ..	82 18 3		<u>290 15 10</u>
		Repairs and Upkeep (other than to Fabric)	44 17 2
Rents		Printing, Stationery and Publications	115 5 8
		Miscellaneous:—	
	242 17 5	Communion Expenses	£10 4 6
	28 0 0	Assembly, Synod and	
	<u>£1,837 19 0</u>	Presbytery Dues	19 10 7
Balance brought forward	356 6 0	Telephone	18 11 10
		Organist's Expenses... ..	20 0 0
		Sundry Expenses	6 18 7
			<u>75 5 6</u>
		Benevolent Fund	69 4 11
		Payments to Sunday Schools	16 15 11
			<u>£1,722 15 10</u>
		Balance on hand	471 9 2
	<u>£2,194 5 0</u>		<u>£2,194 5 0</u>

2.—Fabric Fund.

INCOME.		EXPENDITURE.	
Net proceeds of Garden Fête and Other		Expenditure on Repairs to Fabric	
Efforts	£537 13 3	Transferred to Vestry Fund	£248 14 8
Collections	20 4 9		<u>143 0 6</u>
Trust Investment—For Repairs	5 13 3		
Interest	3 15 0		
	<u>£567 6 3</u>		
Balance brought forward	13 17 7	Balance on hand	£391 15 2
	<u>£581 3 10</u>		<u>189 8 8</u>
			<u>£581 3 10</u>

3.—Vestry Fund.

INCOME.		EXPENDITURE.	
Donation from Woman's Guild		Expenditure on repairs, alterations and	
Alex. Wallace Memorial Fund—Investment	£100 0 0	extension to St. Fillan's Vestry	£482 18 11
realised	125 0 0		
Interest	4 17 11		
Transferred from Fabric Fund	143 0 6		
	<u>£372 18 5</u>		
Balance brought forward	110 0 6		
	<u>£482 18 11</u>		<u>£482 18 11</u>

4.—Other Funds.

Balance brought forward	£60 0 0	Balance on hand	£60 0 0
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Note.—The foregoing Financial Statements are abstracts of the transactions and funds of the Congregational Board only.

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

1st February, 1957.—The Books of the Congregational Board have been examined by us and all explanations and relevant details given us as required and we certify the above to be a true extract of the Accounts.

IAN M. STUART, T.D., F.C.I.I. }
W. A. DUNN, F.I.A.(Scot.) } Auditors.

BAPTISMS.

"Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

1956—16th September—Fiona Rosaleen Holburn.
16th " Alison Anne Holburn.
30th " Rhona Kathleen Graham.
30th " Douglas Adam Scott.
21st October—Margaret Rose Christie.
21st " Stewart Allan Moyes.
23rd " John William Gibson.
4th November—Evelyn Drummond.
16th December—Alan Robert Amos.
16th " Donald Peter MacAlister.
30th " Robert Wood.
30th " Ian Campbell Wood.
1957—27th January—Robert Charles Young.
10th February—Louise Agnes Catherine Findlay.

MARRIAGE.

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

1957—2nd January—David John Charles Simpson to Jean Cruickshanks.

DEATHS.

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

1956—1st September—Miss Lawson, Lauderdale, The Glebe.
7th November—Mr Ritchie, Benrinnes, The Glebe.
1957—11th January—Mrs Aitken, Edinburgh.

ACCESSIONS.

By Profession—

Mr James Cunningham, St. Colme's House.
Mr Robert A. Duncan, Melville Cottage.
Miss Mary Dunnett, Belmont.
Mr Gordon Masson, 2 Humble Terrace.
Mr John A. Mitchell, 36 Humble Terrace.
Mr Hugh Rodger, Halbeath.
Mr Ian Rose, Shore Road.
Mr Alexander Scott, Dalachy Farm.
Mr Peter Scrimgeour, 6 Morayvale.

By Certificate—

Mrs J. Amos, 10 Manse Street.
Mrs A. Booth, Co-operative Buildings.
Mrs G. Doidge, Castle Terrace.
Mr and Mrs C. Drummond, 6 High Street.
Mr D. Findlay, Fowlums.
Mr and Mrs S. Foster, Morton Place.
Mr and Mrs G. McBeath, Station House.
Mr and Mrs A. C. Lloyd, Ivybank, Shore Road.
Mr and Mrs A. Rose, Shore Road.
Mrs Saunders, 47 Humble Terrace.
Mr and Mrs Scougall, Murrell Terrace.
Mr and Mrs K. Sinclair, Belmont.

Disjunctions—

Mr and Mrs Hanlon to Edinburgh.
Mr Peter MacGillivray to Dunfermline.
Miss Leask to Edinburgh.
Miss Mary Wells to Australia.
Mr and Mrs Aitkenhead to Linlithgow.
Mr and Mrs Duthie to Kinghorn.
Mrs Henderson, Croftgarry.
Mr and Mrs D. Main to Edinburgh.
Mr and Mrs Morris to St. Monance.
Nurse Fyfe and Miss Margaret Fyfe to Edinburgh.
Mr Robert Inglis to Edzell.
Mr Alan Rodger to Edinburgh.
Mrs Laing to Carlisle.
Mrs McIntosh, Manse Street, to Huntly.
Miss Blair to Edinburgh.
Mr Blaik to Edinburgh.
Mrs C. Nisbet to Dunfermline.