

# Aberdour and Dalgety Parish Church.

No. 41

FEBRUARY 1958

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

Associate Minister:—The Rev. CHARLES R. HASTY, B.D.

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, 1958.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

It is now some months since the last issue of our congregational leaflet and some of you will be wondering if it has ceased publication altogether. Two factors have combined to delay its appearance—one was that in September there was no new material to hand for publication, and the other was that there has been heavy expense in printing with the first introduction of the fully operative Free Will Offering Scheme. I am glad to say that the response from those who have taken it up has been most encouraging and has well justified the expense involved. It is clear, though, that there has been some misunderstanding in some minds about the new scheme. It is not radically different from the one which was in use, and there is no reason at all why those who do not wish to state a sum should not continue with envelopes as before. The only thing to be borne in mind is that whereas before the financial year ran from July to June, it now runs from January to December, and a fresh set of envelopes should be obtained. Elsewhere in this leaflet a fuller explanation is given.

While writing about Finance, let me just draw your attention to allocations made by the Congregation and the Organisations to the Schemes of the Church and to deserving charities. It is a record of which we may well be proud. It is a healthy sign in a congregation when it remembers others and it has a most beneficial effect in making a congregation feel that it is part of the Church of Christ throughout the world.

## 1.—To Schemes of the Church.

Maintenance of the Ministry ... ..	£137	7	10
Foreign Missions ... ..	117	5	0
Aged and Infirm Ministers ... ..	19	14	0
Church and Manse Building ... ..	3	0	0
Colleges and Education for the Ministry ... ..	3	0	0
Colonial Churches ... ..	3	10	0
Continental Churches, etc. ... ..	7	10	0
Highlands and Islands ... ..	5	0	0
Home Mission ... ..	35	0	0
Jewish Mission ... ..	5	0	0
Social Service ... ..	60	7	0
Temperance ... ..	1	0	0
Youth and Education ... ..	13	1	0
Women's Foreign Mission ... ..	25	11	8
Women's Home Mission ... ..	15	11	8
Women's Jewish Mission ... ..	15	16	8
Women's Temperance Association ... ..	1	0	0
Chaplains to H.M. Forces ... ..	1	0	0
Public Worship and Aids to Devotion ... ..	1	0	0
Scots Memorial, Jerusalem ... ..	4	0	0
Church Extension—National Appeal ... ..	116	1	0
Hut and Canteen Work for H.M. Forces ... ..	15	0	0
Ladies' Highland Association ... ..	2	2	0
Joint Committee on Refugees ... ..	38	0	0
Woman's Guild Central Expenses Fund ... ..	1	10	0
The Committee of the Order of Deaconesses ... ..	1	0	0
Hungarian Relief ... ..	1	0	0
	£649	7	10

Whereof contributed by:—Congregational Board ... ..	£482	1	10
Woman's Guild ... ..	71	15	0
Youth Fellowship ... ..	47	0	0
Aberdour Sunday School ... ..	37	0	0
Dalgety Sunday School ... ..	11	11	0

£649 7 10

## 2.—To Outside Organisations.

United Society for Christian Literature ... ..	£4 4 0
National Bible Society of Scotland ... ..	12 2 0
British Sailors' Society ... ..	2 2 0
Mission to Lepers ... ..	11 11 0
Aberdour Old People's Committee ... ..	12 7 0
World Council of Christian Education and Sunday School Association ... ..	2 0 0
Earl Haig Fund ... ..	10 11 11
Waldensian Missions Aid Society ... ..	5 2 0
The Scottish Council for the Care of Spastics ... ..	1 1 0
R.A.F. Benevolent Fund ... ..	6 14 4
Dr. Wilkinson ... ..	12 0 0
The Orphan Homes of Scotland ... ..	2 0 0
	£81 15 3

Whereof contributed by:—Congregational Board ... ..	£38 0 3
Woman's Guild ... ..	7 6 0
Youth Fellowship ... ..	9 0 0
Aberdour Sunday School ... ..	16 0 0
Dalgety Sunday School ... ..	4 9 0
Bible Class ... ..	7 0 0
	£81 15 3

During the past few months the congregation has been going through a trying time. There are some whose hearts are sad at the closing of St. Colme's Church for regular public worship. No one likes to see his place of worship closed, especially when it holds so many memories of willing service given to Jesus Christ. The old St. Colme's congregation were rightly proud of all that was achieved in days gone by and, as one reads the old records of the congregation, one cannot but feel how courageous was the witness to Christian life and freedom. But times and situations change, and the visible church if it is to remain effective in each generation must change too. The Invisible Church never changes, of course, but it is never wedded to stone and lime or to sect or denomination. The real Church, which is the Body of Christ, always transcends these as the years and the centuries pass. The Eternal Spirit ever takes upon Himself a new body and form to suit His purpose and to be the vehicle of His Will in the world, and none of us must ever get so wedded to the outward things of our religion that we cannot comfortably leave them behind without losing our place in the Church Eternal. The day will certainly come sometime, if not in this century, when our other two churches will have to give place to something which will serve a future generation better. Don't misunderstand what I am writing. You have only got to look back over the history of these parishes to see the truth of what I am writing and the impermanence of the outer shell of the Church. Take a walk to the old ruined church of St. Bridget's at Dalgety. It took the place of another building which stood there before it, and then in 1830 gave place to the present Parish Church, because it had served its purpose in its day and generations. Or look at St. Fillan's and remember how its day came when the Parish Church, which is now Hall, was built and our fathers left it to ruin and decay, and then the Hall, too, served its day and gave place again to St. Fillan's, when it had served its day and generations. There is no permanence in stone and lime, and Luther was right when he wrote:—

"These things shall vanish all.  
The city of God remaineth."

But that fact should not prevent us from cherishing in our hearts the memories of all that was done and achieved for Christ in St. Colme's Church—the proclamation of the Gospel, the teaching of the Word, the dispensing of the Sacrament, and the souls that were won for Him.

It is proposed that the closing service in St. Colme's Church be held on Sunday, 30th March, and thereafter service in Aberdour will take place each Sunday in St. Fillan's Church. I am sure that we shall not be unmindful of any of the older folk who, on account of the change, may have further to walk to Church.

Over Christmas and the New Year a number of letters were addressed to me which were really for the members of the congregation. One was from George Lawrence who is still assistant minister in the First Congregational Church in Burlington, Vermont, U.S.A.; another was from Ray Wells who is teaching at Dickinson College, Carlisle, U.S.A.; another from Bob Bailey who is also teaching New Testament; and still another from Bob Osborne who is now very happily settled in St. Andrew's Kirk, St. John, N.B. They all send their good wishes to the congregation. It is good to hear of our old "assistants," or perhaps we should call them as is now the fashion, "associate ministers." We welcome to our fellowship our present helper, Charles Hasty. He has already helped us greatly by his conduct of public worship and his way with the young people. Our only regret is that he will not be with us over another winter.

I had a letter, too, from Dr. Wilkinson, our partner-plan missionary. In December he transferred over from Tumutumu to the hospital at Chogoria, as Dr. Irvine is going on leave. He expects to be there for 18 months or so, and he reminds me that the film he showed us while he was here on his last leave was of the work in the Chogoria area. He was very grateful for the private gifts from the Sunday School and the Bible Class, which enabled him to buy some very expensive medical books on the diseases of the chest and operative dental surgery. He tells me he is now having to set up as a dentist as well as a doctor. He also purchased Bible pictures and a Flannelgraph for the Sunday Schools in the villages around. It makes mission work much more real when we can have such close contact with what is actually being done.

There is a great deal more I might write, but let me close by reminding you all of the Annual General Meeting which is to take place on Friday, 7th March. We hope that business will be reduced to a minimum, and that both our members and the friends who worship with us will have a happy social evening of singing and games and dancing.

May God's blessing rest upon you all.

Yours sincerely,

DAVID W. RUTHERFORD.

## PULPIT TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM E. CROWE.

To-day, as we remember the passing of three of the older members, we are in a real sense a congregation in mourning. We all feel their loss in some measure and have some share in the sorrow of their loved ones.

If I choose out William Crowe of "Rossmere" you will not, I hope, feel that it is because I think any less highly of the others. It is solely because it is our custom here to pay tribute to the pulpit on the occasion of the death of a member of the Kirk Session. As was his father before him, William Crowe was an elder of this congregation for well over thirty years. He was ordained in the days when the Hall was still the Parish Church and before the restoration of St. Fillan's. Throughout the years, before the union of the three congregations and after, he gave faithful service to the Church. He was regular in his attendance at public worship, diligent in the reading of the Bible and private prayer, and in his visitation of his district, he endeared himself to many as a friend and counsellor, till latterly illhealth compelled him to give up his duties.

As Lord Morton's factor, he had personal contacts with a very large number of people in the Parish, and his kindly way and friendly interest won him an esteem and friendship which extended far beyond the bounds of business. He himself was a master craftsman, and he was noted for his skill and careful work.

Serving in the first world war in the Royal Engineers, he took a keen and active interest in the work of the British Legion, from its inception, and also in the Earl Haig Fund. After a serious illness he retired from business and enjoyed a short retirement, but his interest in Aberdour and Aberdour people and the Church in Aberdour never ceased, and there was nothing he enjoyed better than recalling the old days, and talking of plans for the new. He will be greatly missed by his many friends.

We extend our deep sympathy to Mrs Crowe and Walter, and to each one in the family circle who shares in their sorrow.

### FREE WILL OFFERING.

Following upon the decision of the Board of Management to initiate a fully operative scheme for 1958, Offering Cards and Address Cards were issued to all members of the congregation in December last.

While the number of members who have returned Offering Cards is disappointing, the amounts promised by those adopting the full Scheme is most encouraging and the Board desire to thank them for their co-operation and generous liberality on this occasion.

With the introduction of new procedure certain initial difficulties often arise, and the F.W.O. Treasurer wishes it to be known that five Offering Cards have been received by him but corresponding Address Cards have not been received by the F.W.O. Convener. If, therefore, any members have submitted Offering Cards and have not yet received a supply of envelopes will they please intimate this fact to one of the Office-Bearers.

A large number of members who have not returned Offering Cards are continuing to contribute by means of the old envelopes, and the F.W.O. Committee feel that it might not have been made clear that members can, if they so desire, continue to subscribe to Church Funds by means of the envelope system without stipulating a definite sum on the Offering Card. It is desirable, however, that the new 1958 envelope be used, and any members who are in this position should intimate to one of the Office-Bearers that they wish a supply of the new envelopes for 1958. On receipt of the new envelopes, the old envelopes should be destroyed.

In view of the weak numerical response from the congregation the F.W.O. Committee appeal to all who have not adopted the Scheme to reconsider the matter, bearing in mind the following points which might not have been made clear in the explanatory literature issued in December:—

1. There is absolute secrecy regarding the amounts subscribed by individual members. This procedure was adopted to meet the criticism of a few who objected to the amount of their contribution being known to any member.

2. The weekly contribution entered on the Offering Card can be altered or cancelled altogether at any time.

3. Members can contribute by means of the weekly envelopes without stipulating any amount on the Offering Card. The reason for requesting Offering Cards to be completed is to provide the Board with a rough estimate of the annual income which might be expected from this source.

### BAPTISMS.

4th Aug.	Ann Lismore Hughes	25th Dec.	June Elizabeth Mackie
22nd Oct.	Pamela Milne Ross Brown	1958	
17th Nov.	Margaret Mary Meiklejohn	26th Jan.	Thomas Alexander Inglis
25th Dec.	Andrew Johnston McKendrick Fraser	26th Jan.	Douglas Gavin Inglis

### MARRIAGES.

24th Aug.	John M. Atkinson to Helen M. McKenzie	16th Nov.	James Dunbar to Sheila M. McLaren
31st Aug.	James W. Honeysett to Helen B. W. McGregor	16th Nov.	Alexander N. McKeating to Charlotte Kerr

### DEATHS.

26th May	Mrs Clark, Livingstone Lane	28th Jan.	Mrs Fairley, Lily Place
25th Sept.	Mrs Dick, Castle Terrace	29th Jan.	Mr Aitken, The Glebe
29th Nov.	Mrs Shepherd, 4 James Pk., Burntisland	29th Jan.	Mr W. Crowe, "Rossmere," Manse Street
9th Dec.	Mrs Watson, Sands Place		
6th Jan. 1958	Mr Millar, 22 Boreland Road, Inverkeithing		

### ACCESSIONS.—By Profession—

Miss Helen A. McK. Crawford, 39 Humble Terrace	Mrs Isobel J. MacAlister, Harveyton
Mr Andrew H. Duncan, High Street	Mrs Isabella A. Robertson, Park Lane
Miss Marjorie Gordon Smith, Cuttlehill	Miss Margaret M. Ruse, 47 Humble Terrace
Miss Ethel M. Hynd, Niloc	Mr Staley D. Ruse, Lily Place

### By Certificate—

Mr and Mrs George Coltart, Murrell Cottage	Mr and Mrs Watson, Sands Place
Mr and Mrs Hughes, Manse Street	Mr and Mrs T. Dunnett, Catherine Bank
Mrs Marshall, Manse Street	Dr. and Mrs H. Mackenzie, Murrell Terrace
Mr John Davidson, Senr., Barns Cottages	

### Disjunctions—

Mr Gordon Campbell to London	Mr and Mrs D. Brown to Rosyth
Mr and Mrs J. Scott to Freuchie	Mrs K. Gordon to Halbeath
Mrs A. Webster to Virginia Water	Mr and Mrs W. Graham to Cowdenbeath
Mr and Mrs G. Doidge to Dunfermline	Mr E. Kirkham to Edinburgh
Mrs J. Wotherspoon to Australia	Mr R. Gordon Smith to Uplawmoor
Miss Gilmour to Leslie	Miss Marjorie Gordon Smith to Uplawmoor
Mr A. Meiklejohn to Dunfermline	Mr A. Robertson to Dunfermline
Mrs C. Johnston to Portobello	Mr and Mrs Semple to Glenrothes

# ABSTRACT of INCOME and EXPENDITURE for Year to 31st December, 1957.

## 1.—GENERAL FUND.

INCOME.	
Collections:—	
Church Collections ... ..	£407 18 2
Weekly Free Will Offerings	1,040 10 8
Special Collections ... ..	76 10 8
Donations ... ..	113 9 3
District Collections... ..	30 0 0
Assembly Funds ... ..	33 7 10
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	£1,701 16 7
Net proceeds of Competitions and Concert:—	
Car Rally and Treasure Hunt	£10 0 0
Golf Competition ... ..	3 10 6
Concert by Donibristle Staff Silver Band ... ..	7 6 9
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	20 17 3
Trust Investments:—	
For Stipend ... ..	£102 7 9
„ Benevolent Fund ... ..	8 10 8
„ Assembly Funds ... ..	34 16 5
„ Sunday School... ..	4 16 0
„ Other Church purposes	8 16 0
	<hr/>
	159 6 10
Rents ... ..	20 19 4
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	£1,903 0 0
Balance brought forward ... ..	471 9 2
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	<u>£2,374 9 2</u>

EXPENDITURE.	
ALLOCATION OF FUNDS:—	
Assembly Funds:—	
Maintenance of Ministry Fund ... ..	£137 7 10
Other Schemes of the Church	344 14 0
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	£482 1 10
Outside Organisations ... ..	38 0 3
	<hr/>
	£520 2 1
Minister's Stipend (part of) ... ..	350 0 0
Salaries of Organists, Church Officers and Cleaner ... ..	298 0 0
Upkeep of Churches, etc.:—	
Rent, Taxes, Insurance and Feuduty ... ..	£145 17 2
Heating, Lighting and Cleaning	157 13 6
	<hr/>
	303 10 8
Repairs and Upkeep (other than to Fabric)	108 2 4
Printing, Stationery and Publications ... ..	154 3 9
Miscellaneous:—	
Communion Expenses ... ..	£9 12 9
Assembly, Synod and Presbytery Dues ... ..	25 10 0
Telephone ... ..	20 7 8
Organists' Expenses... ..	20 0 0
Sundry Expenses ... ..	23 1 0
	<hr/>
	98 11 5
Benevolent Fund ... ..	50 9 5
Payments to Sunday Schools ... ..	22 1 8
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	£1,905 1 4
Balance on hand ... ..	469 7 10
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	<u>£2,374 9 2</u>

## 2.—FABRIC FUND.

INCOME.	
Grant from General Trustees towards cost of extension to St. Fillan's Vestry	
Donations (Woman's Guild £200) ... ..	£200 0 0
Collections ... ..	228 0 0
Trust Investment—For Repairs ... ..	22 1 7
Interest ... ..	6 19 6
	<hr/>
	£463 7 3
Balance brought forward ... ..	189 8 8
	<hr/>
	<u>£652 15 11</u>

EXPENDITURE.	
Expenditure on Repairs to Fabric ... ..	£240 7 4
Balance on hand ... ..	412 8 7
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	<u>£652 15 11</u>

## 3.—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.

5th February, 1958.—The Books of the Congregational Board have been examined by us and all explanations and relevant details given to 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.