

Session Clerk :

Mr W. H. CHALMERS, C.A.,
"Lynton," 18 Dovecot Park.

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.

St. Fillan's Church News

A NEW ORGAN.

A whole year has elapsed since mention was made in this leaflet of the proposal that the bulk of the legacy of the late Miss Agnes Elliot of Montreal, and the legacies of the late Misses Downie be used to purchase a suitable organ for St. Fillan's Church. The existing organ was purchased for the congregation by the late Mr Alexander Wallace of Whitehill, in memory of whom a memorial plaque was placed on the south wall of the church some years ago. It is really a small house organ, one manual without pedal organ, and at the time it was the only type of instrument available. The organs of that period were so massive that they would have overshadowed the church and been too powerful. To-day, however, quite a number of firms are manufacturing small two manual organs suitable for a church such as ours. It is in the belief that such an organ would not only improve the musical part of our worship, but would also enhance the appearance of the Church that we have gone ahead with this project.

The Congregational Board appointed a small committee to consider the matter and bring forward proposals to it. There was a number of factors which had to be taken into account besides price. There was of course the problem of finding out which of all the tenders would be most suitable from the purely musical point of view; there was the question of where the organ should be placed without reducing our present seating capacity; there was the problem of whether the organ itself should be separated from the console (the key board); there was the problem of where the choir would sit; and uppermost in all our minds was the desire that whatever was decided on should enhance the beauty of our ancient Church. It has been because all these were kept in mind that there has been such a delay. Advice was taken from a number of experts. Mr Dennis Townhill, the organist of St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh gave us his opinion as to which of the organs offered by the various organ builders would best meet the needs of our congregational and choir singing. The Advisory Committee on Artistic Questions was approached, and through them we had most valuable help from Mr Wilson Paterson, who just recently retired from the Ministry of Works Department. We were fortunate in having his help as he had previous knowledge of the Church and had been consulted by the architect, Mr Williamson, at the time of the restoration. We also had the help of others connected with the congregation who had a knowledge of organs and organ building. We were glad to have all this expert advice, and it was after every aspect had been considered that a decision was arrived at. There was complete agreement that, as we could not sacrifice seating accommodation, the pipes of the organ and the console be separated—the pipes to go in a shallow gallery on either side of the West Window, at the back of the Church; the console to go in the existing choir loft. The organist with the choir in front of him, would have his back to the congregation, but would be able to keep in touch with the door, the pulpit and the chancel. This should enhance

the beauty of the West Wall, and provide the best link-up between organ, the congregation and the choir.

Once the order is placed, it will take a few months to construct the organ in the factory, and then we must accept a little dislocation, while the new organ is being installed.

I believe

that every right implies a responsibility ;
every opportunity an obligation ;
every possession, a duty.

John D. Rockefeller, Jun.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The A.G.M. takes place on Wednesday, 2nd March at 7.30 p.m. in the Church Hall. At that meeting reports of the congregation's activities will be given. Six new members fall to be elected to the Congregational Board. Those proposed should be full members of the congregation and their permission should have been sought. The following are due to retire after giving three years of good service:— Mrs Ainslie, Messrs Allan, Archer, Gunn, Shepherd. They are eligible for re-election, but we take this opportunity of thanking them for their regular attendance and the help they have given.

When the business is over tea will be served. The choir are preparing a programme, and the rest of the evening will be spent in games and dancing. Do come. You will enjoy the evening.

WHERE HAVE WE GONE WRONG?

At the morning service on 30th January the Kirk Session presented nine young people with a book token as an award for regular Church attendance. They were:—Carolyn Hutchison, Donald MacAlister, Alex. Hutton, Elizabeth Hutchison, Lesley Jones, Cecil Lyon, Archie MacAlister, Roy Nelson, Jimmy Nicol. There are of course others who attend and did not hand in attendance cards and might have received a similar award. One cannot help wondering, though, as to where we have gone wrong. For the Christian through the ages the worship of Almighty God on the first day of the week has been of prime importance. It has always been regarded as the 'must' for Christians. Now it has taken a secondary place to Sunday School and Bible Class. Here in Aberdour we are fortunate in having excellently run Sunday Schools; we have a first class staff; they are doing excellent work: but looking at the whole system it is clear that somewhere or another we are missing the boat. As the young people grow older they quickly out-grow the organisation with the result that the majority of our young people have never got accustomed to church going and to corporate worship. This is happening all over the country. With all our concern for the instruction of the young people we are producing an exceptionally large proportion of non-church-going Christians. Christians in that last sentence should of course have been written in inverted commas. Where have we gone wrong?

FINANCE.

After looking at the Abstract of Income and Expenditure for the year ending 1965, which is printed on the back page of this leaflet, one is encouraged by the response to the appeal for increased givings to God's work. Only a few members have taken up the idea of aiming to give five per cent of their income, but obviously many more are aiming at a higher percentage than previously. It has meant that in spite of the loss of a sixth of our members through the Dissolution, we have been able to meet our new Co-ordinated Appeal target, and to give to outside organisations the same amount as we did last year.

We shall, one hopes, be able to increase our giving to others in the very near future. As more of our members commence giving on a fixed percentage basis, we shall be able to send more away to others, and so alleviate the world's need, and spread the message of the Gospel.

DALGETY.

Progress at Dalgety has been slow and our sister congregation is still without a minister, which is due to the fact that a manse is not yet available, nor will be for some months yet. Fortunately work has now been commenced. Funds have been made

available mainly from two sources, viz.; the Invested Funds of the Congregation, which resulted from the sale of the old Manse many years ago, and which amounts to almost four thousand pounds; and a loan of £5,000 from the Church and Manse Building Committee, which will be repaid when the congregation gathers strength.

In the meantime, the congregation which numbers 120 members is keeping together well, and the ladies are active in their meetings on Wednesday afternoons. The first few houses have been occupied and in the months to come the beginnings of the new town will begin to take shape.

THE GROUNDS.

At a recent meeting of the Congregational Board the Clerk was asked to write and express our thanks to Mr Stodart, who in his work for the County Parks Department has greatly beautified the Church Yard at St. Fillan's Church and the frontage at the Church Hall. The flower beds have been greatly admired. We also have to thank Mr Stodart for many other small jobs which he does from time to time, not least his work at Christmas in lighting St. Fillan's Church by candle. We are most grateful to him.

THE OUTINGS.

As in previous years the Sunday School Outings take place on successive Saturdays. The Senior Outing is arranged for June 11th. We plan to visit Stirling Castle and the Wallace Monument at Causwayhead. The Junior Outing takes place to the park at the side of Loch Leven, Kinross, on Saturday 18th June. Keep these dates free.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

To love someone more dearly every day,
To help a wandering child to find his way,
To ponder o'er a noble thought and pray,
And smile when evening falls;
To follow truth as blind men long for light,
To do my best from dawn of day till night,
To keep my heart fit for His holy sight,
And answer when He calls.

Maude Louise Raye

ACCESSIONS (by Profession)

Miss Eileen Henderson, "Sunnyside,"
Manse Street.
Miss Mary Beveridge, 51 Humble Terrace.
Miss Isabel Coltart, Murrel Cottage.
Miss Netta Dunnett, 39 Main Street.
Mr William McArthur, 75 High Street.
Miss Margaret McArthur, 75 High Street.
Mr Martin Bald, "Hillwood," Murrel Road.
Mr Arthur Lloyd, "Ivybank," Shore Road.
Mr John Rennie, Humble Farm.
Mr David Rennie, Humble Farm.
Mr William Rennie, Humble Farm.
Mr David Currie, 49 Humble Terrace.
Mr Norman Niven, "Netherhill,"
Inverkeithing Road.
Miss Rosemary Strong, "The Cottage."
Miss May Smith, "Caerketton," Home Park.
Mrs Mary Dymond, 36 Dovecot Park.
Miss Janette Findlay, "Carrick,"
Inverkeithing Road.
Miss Marjorie Graham, 10 Humble Terrace.
Mr William Hutchison, 9 Dovecot Park.
Mr Kenneth Hodge, "Rothies," Seaside Pl.

(at School)

Mr Iain A. Johnstone, Bendameer House.

(in the Services)

Mr Charles A. Wotherspoon,
"Woodbine Cottage," Seaside Place.

(by Certificate)

Mrs M. Sands, 8 Bellhouse Road.
Mrs R. Gow, 28 Murrel Terrace.
Miss A. Guild, "Greenaway," Kinghorn.
Mrs A. McNaughton, 16 Inch Avenue.
Mr & Mrs F. J. Jeffs, 17 Bellhouse Road.
Mr & Mrs J. Ross Husband, 16 Morayvale.
Mr & Mrs J. Thomson, 82 Fraser Rd., Rosyth.
Mrs M. Proud, "Scarhead," The Glebe.

BAPTISMS.

- Sept. 12 Gabrielle Margot Hodge.
Sept. 19 Amanda Louise Suzanne Palmer.
Nov. 21 Margaret Anne Robb.
Dec. 12 Tracy Michelle Coston.
Dec. 12 Brian Donald Fraser.

MARRIAGES.

- Sept. 17 Andrew M. Aikman
to Jill Sweeting.
Sept. 18 Peter J. G. Smith
to Patricia E. Denver.
Nov. 27 Gordon A. Wilson
to Susan E. Gray.

DEATHS.

- Sept. 28 Mr R. Ainslie, Donibristle East
Lodge.
Oct. 5 Mrs I. Mackie, 10 High Street.
Oct. 22 Miss Jean Cunningham,
Victoria Cottage.
Nov. 15 Mrs B. Waterson, 26 Humbie
Terrace.
Dec. 3 Mrs J. McLean, 17 Morayvale.
Dec. 17 Mr R. P. Malcolm, 26 Main
Street.
Dec. 21 Mrs D. McCutcheon, Longates,
Dalachy Farm.
Dec. 27 Mrs M. Leslie, 10 Park Lane.
1966
Feb. 1 Mrs A. C. Lochtie, 108 Main
Street.

DISJUNCTIONS.

- Miss E. Henderson, "Sunnyside" to
London.
Mrs J. E. Whyte, 10 Humbie Terrace to
Ladybank.
Mrs C. E. Hughes, Home Park to Stirling.
Mr and Mrs W. S. Thomson, 22 Inch
Avenue to Lundin Links.
Miss M. C. Young, "Moine" to Ullapool.
Mr and Mrs R. Henderson, 15 Bellhouse
Road to Dalkeith.
Mrs T. B. Robertson, "Hazelbank" to
Banbury.
Mr and Mrs D. Penman, 20 High Street to
Cardenden.
Mrs E. Kirkham, Park Lane to Kirkcaldy.
Mr and Mrs D. K. Fraser, to Penicuik.
Mr T. Miller, 1 Bellhouse Road to New
Zealand.
Miss J. Miller, 1 Bellhouse Road to New
Zealand.
Mrs W. Rose, Shore Road to Glenrothes.
Mrs Liles, Shore Road to Glenrothes.
Mrs W. B. Gray, "Murano" to Nassau.
Miss P. Fraser, "St. Colmes House" to
Edinburgh.
Mr and Mr J. Craig, Monziehall Farm to
Markinch.

YOUNG AMERICANS.

Once again we have had a letter from our friends in the First Congregational Church, Burlington, Vermont, U.S.A. asking if we would be willing to provide hospitality for a group of their young people from the evening of July 4th to the morning of July 7th before they proceed to stay with other congregations in England and to a short tour of the Continent. In the past this link has proved valuable, not just to the young Americans, but to our own young people, and indeed, I think, to the hosts and hostesses who made them so welcome. Dr George Lawrence the minister of the First Congregational Church, Burlington will be remembered as one of our own assistants here in Aberdour. The idea of these visits grew out of the feeling amongst many church folk in the congregation that much of the misunderstanding between themselves and us here in Europe could be cleared away if only we knew each other better. They felt, that we got the wrong impression of them and their young people from the films, and that they got a wrong impression of us and our young people from their press. These get-togethers have proved of real value to both them and us. I shall be glad to hear of members or friends who would like to have those young people stay with them.

MISS ANNE STUART

It is always regarded as a great occasion in the life of any congregation when one of its members comes forward to be set apart for the full-time service of the Church. The last occasion in this congregation was when the Rev. Gordon Gilmour, who died so soon after, was licensed by the Presbytery to preach the Gospel. Once again we rejoice that another member, Miss Anne Stuart, should have completed her course and her probationary training for work as a Deaconess with the Ladies' Highland Association of the Church. Miss Stuart, before her training, took an active part in the congregation's work, teaching in the Sunday School, and giving her time as an officer in the Brownies. After her training in St. Colme's College, Edinburgh, she spent her period of probation in the islands of Mull and Tiree. Just recently she gave an account of that work at a meeting of the Woman's Guild. Her commissioning service will take place in St. Fillan's Church on Wednesday, 23rd March. Afterwards in the church hall tea will be served and we shall get the opportunity of expressing our good wishes to her for her life's work.

EVENING SERVICES.

The Evening Services in the Church Hall on the fourth Sunday of the month have been greatly enjoyed by many of our members. Apart from the fellowship of the cup of tea; services of this kind have

provided us with an opportunity of learning something about the work which is being done in many fields to alleviate hardship and distress. In recent years for instance we have learned about the work of Alcoholics Anonymous, the Marriage Guidance Council, the Prevention of Accidents in the Home Association, and at the end of January we heard from Dr Winifred Cole, Edinburgh, of the work of Telephone Samaritans. On the fourth Sunday of February our speaker is one of our own members, the Rev. R. A. Trotter, M.A., teacher of Religious Instruction in Portobello High School. He is going to tell us of this important aspect of the Church's work. It is not yet generally realised the opportunities which are open to the Church in this comparatively new field.

A GIFT.

We received an anonymous gift of a wrought iron stand for floral decoration. This is a most useful gift. It has already been used to set off the flowers to advantage on a Sunday, and there is no doubt that on other occasions. such as a marriage, that it will make it easier to decorate the Church.

This perhaps is an opportunity to thank those who take turns of putting in the flowers week by week. Mrs Kerr, Flock House, Seaside Place will be glad to have additional names to add to her list of donors.

ABSTRACT of INCOME and EXPENDITURE for Year to 31st December, 1965

1.—GENERAL FUND.

INCOME	
Collections :—	
Cash Collections	£845 13 1
Weekly Freewill Offerings	1476 17 3
Bonds of Annuity and Income Tax	
Recovered	467 1 0
Special Collections	237 2 5
Donations	83 11 3
District Collections	50 7 6
Assembly Funds	11 1 9
	£3171 14 3
Net Proceeds of Dalgety Coffee Evening and Sale ...	161 8 11
Trust Investments :—	
For Stipend	£119 3 9
„ Benevolent Fund	8 6 2
„ Assembly Funds	34 16 5
„ Sunday School	9 0 0
„ Other Church Purposes	45 4 2
	216 10 6
	£3549 13 8
Balance brought forward	263 0 11
	£3812 14 7

EXPENDITURE	
Allocation Funds :—	
Assembly Funds :—	
Maintenance of Ministry Fund	£225 0 0
Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund	68 8 0
Co-ordinated Appeal	£530 0 0
Less : Contributed by Congregational Organisations	130 0 0
	400 0 0
Inter Church Aid	1 0 0
	£694 8 0
Outside Organisations	203 3 9
	£897 11 9
Ministers' Stipend ((part of) and Expenses :—	
Stipend	£800 0 0
Allowance for Travelling Expenses	125 0 0
	925 0 0
Salaries	439 0 10
Upkeep of Churches, etc. :	
Rates, Insurance and Feuduty	£122 9 7
Heating, Lighting and Cleaning	209 12 3
	332 1 10
Repairs and Upkeep (other than to Fabric)	52 12 6
Printing, Stationery and Publications	163 10 8
Miscellaneous :	
Communion Expenses	£11 17 2
Assembly, Synod and Presbytery Dues	45 18 9
Telephone	27 3 2
Sundry Expenses	70 4 7
	155 3 8
Benevolent Fund	79 6 5
Payments to Sunday School	9 0 0
Transferred to Fabric Fund	175 0 0
	£3228 7 8
Share of Funds due to Dalgety per Scheme of Division (including Proceeds of Coffee Evening and Sale £161 8s. 11d.)	£207 14 11
Balance on hand	376 12 0
	584 6 11
	£3812 14 7

2.—FABRIC FUND

INCOME	
Donations (Woman's Guild £320)	£326 0 0
Grant from General Trustees	318 5 0
Collections	58 11 7
Trust Investment—For Repairs	6 19 6
Interest	18 6 1
Transferred from General Fund	175 0 0
	£903 2 2
Balance brought forward	737 9 5
	£1640 11 7

EXPENDITURE	
Repairs to Fabric Fund	£666 14 6
Share of Funds due to Dalgety per Scheme of Division	266 5 1
Balance on hand	707 12 0
	£1640 11 7

Note.—The foregoing financial statements are abstracts of the transactions and funds of the Congregational Board of Aberdour and Dalgety Congregation for the half year to 30th June, 1965, and of St. Fillan's Church, Aberdour, for the half year to 31st December, 1965.

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

15th February, 1966.—Audited and found correct.

IAN M. STUART, F.C.I.I. }
J. P. AMOS } Auditors.