

Minister :
The Rev. D. W. RUTHERFORD, M.C., M.A., B.D.
The Manse, Aberdour.

AUGUST 1967

ABERDOUR

No. 62.

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

THE REPORTS OF THE QUINQUENNIAL VISITATION.

The Sub-Committee met with the Minister, Kirk Session and Congregational Board, and all enquiries received serious and courteous attention.

The fabric difficulties which have faced this congregation over the past years have been substantially overcome, and the Sub-Committee were pleased to note that some modernisation of the present large manse was envisaged by the Board in the immediate future.

The Sub-Committee were told that 45% of the congregation contributed through the F.W.O. Scheme. It was felt that attempts might be made to increase this percentage, and the need for an effective scheme of regular congregational giving was commended to the Board.

Youth activities and Christian Education appeared to be in capable hands and on a sound basis.

The question of the yearly service in Inchcolm was discussed, and while fully recognising that this must always be the responsibility of the minister of the parish the Sub-Committee were of the opinion that it might be desirable to consider whether the Presbytery should in some way be formally associated with the Minister in this act of worship, within the Abbey—a place which has a historic significance for the whole Church in our land.

The Rev. D. Beck (St. Ninian's) conducted public worship and suitably addressed the congregation.

The Sub-Committee are satisfied that the congregation is serving its purpose and warmly commend the work being done by Minister and Office-Bearers in the name of the Church and for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom.

G. MACKINS,
Convener.

REPORT ON THE PROPERTY.

The Property of this congregation is kept in excellent condition, in spite of the problems which old buildings invariably bring. Over £5,000 has been spent in the last five years (not including £3,000 for a new organ) and this is a fair estimate of the amount of work that this congregation is willing to do. The congregation is to be congratulated.

Not only are they careful about the state of their buildings, they are also alive to new possibilities for the improvement of their properties.

LAWRIE Y. GORDON,
Oakfield Parish Church.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

When parents bring a child for baptism they promise to bring up the child 'in the Christian Way' or 'in the nurture and admonition of the faith.' Either of those phrases involves ensuring that the child enjoys the benefits of the instruction in the faith provided by the Church. Our congregation provides this instruction in various age groups for the children of members and others who desire it. These departments make a beginning on Sunday, 10th September.

Up to 5 years - Small Hall - 10 a.m.
5 to 8 years - St. Colme's Hall - 10 a.m.
8 to 13 years - St. Fillan's Hall - 10 a.m.

Instruction is also provided in two groups for teen-agers. Both meet after morning worship, the younger group in St. Colme's Hall for those from Sunday School age to fifteen, and the senior group for those up to eighteen.

OBITUARY.

The congregation and Woman's Guild are always indebted to the ladies who give so much time and labour in the service of the Church. Seldom has such a loss been suffered as in the past months when two of our keenest workers have been taken away suddenly. Mrs Ainslie and Mrs Milne were amongst the most active of our members and in quiet and unobtrusive ways contributed a great deal to the life of the congregation and the community. Mrs Ainslie will be missed in many activities, and Mrs Milne in the hall she loved. Both of them were regular in their worship, and had a deep faith in their Lord and Saviour.

THE MANSE.

The present manse was built in 1802 and is classified as an ancient monument (class B). We have no knowledge of the circumstances which led to its erection. The previous manse known to many as the Old Manse was demolished only a few years ago. It was a very old building and stood on the west corner of the junction of Murrell Terrace with Main Street. It stood in ground which was known as the Sisterlands and had been connected from the middle of the fifteenth century onwards with the Hospice of St. Martha and the Virgin, which was founded to cater for the pilgrims who came to the Holy Well.

In choosing the site of the new Manse the Heritors of the day chose well. The site is at the boundary between the Moray and Morton Estates and the manse has a commanding view of the river. It is a fine Georgian Mansion House with a beautiful wrought-iron staircase and some lovely rooms with quite unusual rounded doors.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century when it was built the minister derived a large part of his emoluments from the Glebe, which he either worked himself, or had worked for him by the minister's man. This of course necessitated all the buildings which one usually associates with a farm—stables, byre, loft, poultry house and sheds for the gig and the cart. The gig must have been in constant use as the parish extends as far north as Cowdenbeath and Crossgates.

At various periods the house was altered and added to, to suit the convenience of various ministers and their families, so that if the Manse were being advertised to-day, it might be described in this way:—

Fine Georgian Mansion House, within its own grounds, with a commanding view of sea and golf course; four public rooms, eight bedrooms, gentlemen's room, kitchen, two sculleries, wash house, two bathrooms, two toilets—extensive outbuildings, containing two garages, stable, byre, commodious loft; walled garden 6/10ths acre; with southern aspect.

In 1949 the Presbytery of Dunfermline and Kinross gave the congregation permission to sell the manse and to purchase another house, but no other suitable house has come on the market or is likely to come up for sale. At the April meeting the Congregational Board decided that alterations should be made in order to modernise the Manse, particularly the kitchen premises, where, though there are two sculleries and a wash house, there is no water in the kitchen.

Mr W. Miller, a member of our Congregational Board prepared plans for a kitchen, utility room, and cloakroom within the main building, making it possible to demolish the antiquated kitchen premises at the rear. The Congregational Board approved the plans and they have been passed by the County Council and the various Church Authorities. Central Heating will be introduced on the ground floor. Work will begin in the middle of September.

Though a building such as this must always involve considerable upkeep, the Congregation is most fortunate in having such a building as its Manse, well sited and centrally situated.

THE WAR MEMORIAL.

Our County Councillor, Miss McLauchlan, has received anonymous gifts of money amounting to £100 to be spent for the benefit of the village as she deems best. Many suggestions were received and she has decided that the first charge on the money should be the cleaning of the War Memorial, which is incorporated in the frontage of the Church

Hall. Everyone will agree that this cleaning is long overdue. It is a handsome memorial, and those whom it commemorates deserve to have their names standing out bright and clear.

The Congregational Board, while having no responsibility for the memorial, have felt for some time that the frontage of the hall did not come up to the high standard of the interior.

The doors have seen better days, and the paintwork is now dirty and depressing. New doors have been ordered and painting work will be done.

The beautiful flower beds provided by the Parks Department of the County Council will set off the hall and the Memorial, and make it as it should be, one of the focal points of the village. Mr Stodart is to be congratulated once again on his spring and summer lay-out.

THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY.

Our character is but the stamp on our souls of the free choices of good and evil we have made through life.

Geikie.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The following members of the congregation were elected to the Congregational Board for the ensuing three years at the Annual General Meeting which took place on Wednesday, 1st March:—Miss A. Haldane, Mrs J. C. Laidlaw, Mrs D. Nelson, Mrs W. Brown, Mrs W. Nicol and Mr W. G. McRae.

DONATION.

An anonymous donor gave the sum of £100 to the Sunday School in order to supplement the work which is already being done amongst the young folk of the community. Behind the gift there lay the thought that it is often difficult for children to gain easy access to reading material with a specifically Christian background. As there are homes without a Bible, it is sure to be true that there are homes where the reading material is entirely secular.

It has been decided by the Sunday School teachers that the money will be used to commence a small library in connection with the Sunday School, from which the children will be able to borrow week by week. We believe that properly organised this may prove a means of introducing Christian values into many homes in a new way.

MONDAY NIGHT FILMS.

Last winter an increasing number of members and friends enjoyed the monthly film night in St. Colme's Hall.

This winter the following programme has been arranged:—

- 18th Sept. "Magnificent Adventure" Kenya.
"The World Still Sings" Wales.
- 16th Oct. "Zambia 64."
"Bank Ahead" National Commercial.
- 20th Nov. "The New Zealanders."
"The Glacier Climbers."
"Travelling Thro' France."
- 15th Jan. "Highlands of Iceland."
"Eruption of Hekla."
"Colombo Garden City."
- 19th Feb. "Tahiti."
"Motor Slavia."
"Surf Boats of Accra."
- 18th Mar. "To catch a Rhino."
"In the Rhythm of Seasons" Germany.

Each Monday evening downstairs there is the opportunity of meeting other members and enjoying a game of badminton, table tennis or darts. Just drop in.

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate Mr P. K. Morrison, Kirk Cottages on his appointment by the Synod of Fife to the office of Reader. He has already conducted our worship at St. Fillan's Church and we are glad to know that there are men of his capabilities always ready and willing to supply the pulpit.

THE WOMAN'S GUILD.

The Guild welcomes all the ladies of the district to its meetings. It holds both afternoon and evening meetings in St. Colme's Hall. It is hoped to organise a nursery for the afternoon meetings to enable young mothers to attend. The three meetings in October have been arranged as follows:—

- Oct. 3—"A Visit to Hongkong"
Mrs Morris, 7.30 p.m.
- Oct. 10—"Quarrels of Aberdour"
The Minister, 2.30 p.m.
- Oct. 24—"Work at Baxter House,
Glasgow"
Mr McLeod, 2.30 p.m.

A SALE OF WORK.

Each year ladies of the Woman's Guild enjoy organising a sale of work on behalf of the funds of the congregation and the wider work of the Church. This year the sale will take place in the Church Halls on Saturday, 2nd December.

The Stall Conveners are as follows:—

- Work Stall—Mrs W. Turnbull,
1 Murrel Terrace.
- Sunshine—Miss A. Haldane,
Silversands Cottage.
- Holiday—Mrs C. MacConnachie,
'Forth View,' Main Street.
- Produce—Mrs W. Cochrane,
'Brooklyn,' West End.
- Cake and Candy—Mrs W. Bald,
'Hillwood,' Murrell Road.
- Pound Stall—Mrs MacDonald,
'The Schoolhouse.'
- Jewellery and Handkerchiefs—
Mrs C. Alexander, Cullalo Crescent.
- Jumble—Mrs M. Lyon,
'Park View,' Park Lane.
- Sunday School—Miss C. Simmers,
'Kilravock,' The Glebe.
- Teas—Mrs E. Carmichael,
12 Murrel Terrace.

BAPTISMS.

- Mar. 12 Karen Ruse.
Apr. 2 Catriona Mary Morrison.
Apr. 16 James Rennie Watson.
May 7 Philippa Andrea Mary Palmer.
May 14 Martin James Murray.
June 11 Richard MacKenzie Hughes.
Aug. 6 Marianne June Gilchrist.

MARRIAGES.

- Mar. 25 Fergus McQuillan
and Margaret Walker.
- Mar. 25 Robert G. Templeman
and Patricia A. Fraser.
- Apr. 28 Gordon McK. Boyd
and Mary R. Beveridge.
- June 5 Charles M. Smith
and Catherine W. Fotheringham.
- June 17 Alan A. Henderson
and Janet W. Doig.
- Aug. 2 James G. R. Sharp
and Phyllis A. Johnstone.

DEATHS.

- Mar. 2 Lt.-Col. J. Jamieson,
'Whitestrand.'
- Apr. 2 Mrs M. Ainslie, Donibristle
East Lodge.
- Apr. 3 Mr J. Lovett, 21 Morayvale.
- Apr. 10 Mrs E. Cooper, The Hospital.
- Apr. 17 Diana Margaret Whyte,
'Glassmount House,' Kirkcaldy.
- May 17 Mr D. Duncan, 100 Main Street.
- June 19 Mrs A. Milne, 9 Cullalo Crescent.

THOUGHT FOR TO-MORROW.

God cannot send anyone to Hell who really wants to go to Heaven.

Anon.

ACCESSIONS (by certificate)

- Mr and Mrs Steven Russell,
26 Dovecot Park.
- Mr Adam Russell, 26 Dovecot Park.
- Mrs S. Ruse, 6 St. Colmes Crescent.
- Mr and Mrs John Cruikshank,
'Hollybank,' West End.
- Mr and Mrs Adam McLean,
'Couston House.'
- Mr and Mrs James Gilchrist, 'Moine,'
Inverkeithing Road.
- Mr and Mrs G. O. Nicoll, 15 Dovecot Park.
- Mrs J. Pegg, 2 Hawkerraig Road.
- Mr and Mrs Joe Dickinson, 6 Manse St.

DISJUNCTIONS.

- Mr and Mrs G. Malcolm, Cullaloe Cottage
to Doune.
- Mrs J. R. MacDougall, Croftgarry
Cottages to Kirkcaldy.
- Mrs F. McQuillan, 'Eden Cottage' to
Lurgan, N.I.
- Mr and Mrs D. Strong, 'The Cottage'
to Quardon, Derby.
- Miss D. Wells, 25 Humberie Terrace to
Dunfermline.
- Mrs P. MacGillivray, 1 Cullalo Crescent
to Singapore.
- Mrs C. M. Smith, 4 Shore Road to Rosyth.
- Miss Sheila Russell, 'Harveyton' to
Hamilton, Ontario.

IN MEMORIAM

On Sunday, 2nd July, a year after the installation of our new organ, a small plaque, placed near the organ, was dedicated to the glory of God and in memory of the four ladies whose pious benefactions made the installation possible. The main legacy was of course that of Miss Agnes Elliot of Montreal, who spent her early days in Aberdour. Miss Agnes and Miss Helen Downie and Miss Esther Gullen also left money which contributed to the completion of the work.

The organ has been displayed and demonstrated to a large number of organists and it has evoked widespread admiration, that such variety and quality of tone could be produced from such a small instrument.

A SHORT STORY.

Once upon a time there was a man who believed that children should not be taught religion, but should be allowed to grow up and to choose for themselves. One day he visited a friend who knew his theory. Upon leaving, he said to his friend, "I forgot to look at your flowers." "I decided not to plant any flowers this spring," his friend replied, "but to wait for summer and let the garden decide for itself whether it would grow flowers or weeds."

ST. FILLAN'S CHURCH.

The Congregational Board have decided to re-decorate the Vestry Buildings, which were extended in 1957 through the generosity of the late Miss Barbara Lean. This will involve the painting of the vestry itself and some alteration in the Counting House to make it more suitable for that purpose. St. Fillan's lacks the usual space for the storage of cleaning materials, etc., and these alterations should make some difference.

It was also decided to go ahead and repair some of the old boundary walls of the churchyard. The south wall is in a bad state. Coping stones have fallen off, and the wall itself is not in good condition.

KEEP FOR REFERENCE

SUNDAY EVENINGS IN THE HALL. (2nd and 4th Sundays of the Month).

September	10th	Film—"Frontiers."
"	24th	A Mystery of Paraphrase.
October	8th	Film—"Martin Luther."
"	22nd	Pilgrim's Progress thro' Palestine.
November	12th	Film—"Beyond our Horizon."
"	26th	George Dragas—A Student from Athens.
December	10th	Film—"The Race for To-morrow."
"	24th	Candlelight in the Church.
1968		
January	14th	Film—"The Living Word."
"	28th	Desert Island Hymns.
February	11th	Film—"What shall it Profit."
"	25th	Epilepsy—Mr Dan McMillan.
March	10th	Film—"Through Open Doors."
"	24th	Our Neighbours Over-Seas.
April	14th	Film—"The First Easter."
"	28th	Hymn Singing—Your own choice.
May	12th	Christian Aid— Film and Display.