

Minister :

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

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," 99 Main Street.

Proclamations Officer :

Mr R. C. LYON,  
"Park View," Park Lane.

FEBRUARY 1969

IAN ABERDOUR

No. 65.

# St. Fillan's Church News

## STEWARDSHIP PROMOTER.

In Church life we are all familiar with such titles as "Session Clerk," "Clerk to the Board," "Congregational Treasurer." Another official position has just been introduced. It is that of "Stewardship Promoter." The General Assembly has recommended that a Stewardship Promoter be appointed in every congregation.

The Stewardship Promoter's function is that of 'salesman' and his duty will be to see that every member of the congregation is kept informed about the whole work of the Church, so that interest is aroused and kept awake. He will also be concerned with organisation so that the interest aroused is turned into financial support for the work of the Church.

The Stewardship Promoter, through a series of training courses, will be trained for his work, and he will be provided with the most up-to-date information and aids to help him get his message across.

The Congregational Board of this congregation appointed **Mr R. S. Arthur, C.A., "Seacliffe," Shore Front** to this office. He has already spent a week-end at one of the training sessions discovering what his new appointment involves, and is now engaged in planning how best to 'sell' the work of the Church to each of us.

## THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Congregation will take place in the Church Hall on Wednesday, 5th March, at 7.30 p.m. The usual reports will be given by representatives of the organisations.

Six members are due to be elected as members of the Congregational Board for the ensuing three years. Vacancies have also been created on the Board through the election of some of its members to the office of eldership, so that in all, ten members are required. It is the desire of the Congregational Board that its membership should be as representative

as possible of the whole membership of the congregation. The Board can never be truly representative unless members take some thought beforehand and come to the meeting prepared to propose the names of those whom they wish to conduct the

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"Bread for my self is a material matter,  
bread for my brother is a spiritual matter."

Berdyaeu.

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affairs of the congregation. Before proposing any member, it is necessary to ensure that they are members and that they are willing to have their name put forward.

The following have completed their term of office:-Messrs W. Allan, D. Gunn, M. Murray and W. Shepherd, and we thank them for the willing service they have given on many occasions.

Tea will be served when the business has been completed, and the remainder of the evening will be spent in an informal way.

All who worship with us are invited to this gathering, though of course, only members may vote.

## THE BENEVOLENT FUND.

At a recent meeting the attention of the Kirk Session was drawn to the fact that, through the benefactions of the late Lieutenant Commander Pask for the poor of the parish, a yearly income would soon be available, and that this income might be sufficient to meet the needs of the parish at the present time. It could be that in some years the whole of the contribution to the Benevolent Fund on Communion Sundays might not be required for local purposes. It was felt that the scope of this offering might be extended to meet the needs of the poor in the wider world in years when our local needs had been met.

The offering at the close of the Communion Service is of ancient origin. It dates back to the days in the early Church when those communicating brought the bread and the wine with them, and what was left over was distributed amongst the needy. This has come down to us in the form of the Benevolent Fund Offering. It would be a mistake for us to abandon this good tradition because of our affluence, especially when there is still such need in the world.

## THE CHURCH HALL.

In August a visitor to the village commented on what a lovely village Aberdour was, but remarked that he could not understand why the Church Hall and the War Memorial looked so 'unkept.' It was explained that the matter was in hand, and that we had been prevented from going ahead earlier because of other demands upon our finances, but we were nevertheless conscious that it was just criticism.

We are glad to report that the refurnishing has now been completed—a combined effort. The War Memorial was cleaned and surfaced through monies received anonymously by Miss McLauchlan, our County Councillar, for the benefit of the village. The new doors and the paint work of hall and railings was paid for by the congregation. The edging stones to contain the gravel were paid for out of the Miss Agnes Elliot Fund, and of course we are always indebted to the Parks Department of Fife County Council, under Mr Stodart for the lay-out.

Now we have every reason to be proud of the Church Hall and our War Memorial. It has all helped to make our village more attractive than ever.

### THE SALE OF WORK.

The ladies of the Woman's Guild are to be congratulated on the success of their Sale of Work in December. A Men's Stall and a Sunday School Stall contributed to the success of the afternoon. Miss I. C. Simmers, "Kilravock" opened the Sale.

Thanks is expressed to all those who by their gifts and work contributed to the excellent total.

### LIFE AND WORK.

Copies of the Church of Scotland magazine may always be had at the main door of the Church as you retire from worship on the first Sunday of each month. You may however desire to place an order and have your copy delivered. Mrs W. Hutchison, 9 Dovecot Park organises the delivery. Your order can be placed directly or through a note in the offering bag. It costs eight shillings per annum.

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS.

Fife Marriage Guidance Council  
Dunfermline 22911  
Kirkcaldy 4141

Telephone Samaritans  
Dunfermline 22222

Alcoholics Anonymous 031-225 4677

### CHURCH ROLL.

#### Accessions (by Profession)

Miss Diane Burniston, Thorne Cottage,  
Murrel Terrace  
Mr William Coltart, Murrel Cottage  
Miss Marion Duke, Humble Farm Cott.  
Miss Marion Guild, "Greenaway,"  
Alexander III. Street, Kinghorn  
Mr Ian McAndie, "Seaside House,"  
Seaside Place  
Mr Colin MacConnachie, 112 Main Street  
Miss Elizabeth McLean,  
"Couston House"  
Mr William Ness, 3 Bellhouse Road  
Miss Mairi Nicol, "Rosebank," Main St.  
Miss Jan Ratherford,  
"The Manse," Manse Street

#### (by Certificate)

Dr and Mrs Gavin Stirling, 1 Inch Avenue  
Mr and Mrs R. Alan Weallans,  
"Dalvarich," Home Park  
Mr and Mrs David Menzies,  
"The Cottage," Shore Front  
Mr and Mrs T. M. Mackay, 32 Dovecot Pk.  
Mrs I. Stuart, 35 Hawkcraig Road  
Miss A. M. Steedman, 5 Hawkcraig Road  
Mr and Mrs Bostrom, 2 Sands Place

#### Disjunctions

Mrs Clarkson, "Glenelg" to Edinburgh  
Mr and Mrs R. S. Johnston, Dovecot Pk.  
to Helensburgh  
Mr and Mrs W. Cochrane, "Brooklyn"  
to St. Albans  
Mr and Mrs M. Bald to Limekilns  
Mrs W. W. Meikle, Manse Street  
to Edinburgh  
Mr and Mrs J. P. Amos, "Bank House"  
to Dunbar  
Miss J. Amos, "Bank House" to Dunbar  
Mrs F. I. Stewart, "Armadale"  
to Livingston  
Mrs E. Hannah, 16 High Street  
to Burntisland  
Mr I. Johnstone, "Bendamere House"  
to England  
Mr J. Tankard, Otterston to Rosyth  
Mr and Mrs C. N. MacConnachie,  
Main Street to Bramhall  
Mr and Mrs A. Steel, Dovecot Park  
to Kilmaccolm

## BAPTISMS.

1968  
Sept. 8 Michael Don Burford  
Sept. 8 Anthony Hodge  
Oct. 29 John Andrew Duncan  
Oct. 29 Alison Meiklejohn  
Dec. 1 David Doidge  
Dec. 25 Marion Adam Young  
1969  
Feb. 1 Sally Katrine Watson

## MARRIAGES.

1968  
Aug. 10 Malcolm J. Hopker  
to Eileen Henderson  
Aug. 17 Alan J. Walls  
to Janette I. Findlay  
Sept. 7 Martin B. Bald  
to Rosemary A. Strong  
Sept. 21 Frank I. Stewart  
to Margaret L. Elder

## CONGREGATIONAL STATISTICS.

Our Membership	...	...	...	597
Baptisms during 1968	...	...	...	12
Children at Sunday School	...	...	...	132
Nursery	...	...	...	19
Primary	...	...	...	49
Senior	...	...	...	64
Bible Classes	...	...	...	27
First Communicants	...	...	...	11
Sunday School and Bible Class Teachers	...	...	...	27
Uniformed Organisations	...	...	...	111
Youth Clubs	...	...	...	50

## CHURCH ATTENDANCE.

The Kirk Session seeks to encourage children to attend Church. A Church Attendance Card is provided. Last year the following attended regularly, and received an award:—

Lesley Allan, Ann Hynd, Karen Hynd, Lismore Hughes, Elizabeth Hutchison, William Lyon, Florence Lyon, Jane Morrison, James Nicol, Heather Johnston, Sheila Johnston, Candida Palmer, Stephanie Palmer, Linda Sinclair, Kenneth Sinclair, David Sinclair and Sally Steel.

## THE FAMILY.

**No other institution can touch the family as a teacher of religion. If there is no religion in the parents, there will rarely be any in the children. We are christians by chromosome as well as by conviction.**

**It is that simple. And also that challenging.**

Reader's Digest

## OUR 'GIVE-AWAY'

The aim of all Christian giving ought to be—how much can we give away? Did not our Lord say, "Freely ye have received, freely give"? This applies not only to individual giving but to congregational giving. The aim of every congregation ought to be—how much can we give away?

The Finance Committee of the Congregational Board always gives considerable time and thought to this problem of 'give-away.' This year we are glad to point out that our 'give-away' is larger than it has ever been before. When the givings of the Woman's Guild, the Sunday School, the Bible Class, and the collections undertaken on behalf of the congregation for the Bible Society and the Leprosy Mission are included, it amounts to a sum of £1815. You will be interested to know where it has been sent.

"Charity begins at home," so let us think about our own parish, the surrounding areas, Scotland generally, and then about work overseas.

Our contributions to the Benevolent Fund for the needy of the parish amounted to approximately one hundred pounds, and the Aberdour Old Folk's Committee received the sum of fifteen pounds for its work in the village.

Our sister congregation at Dalgety has a heavy burden to carry in the repayment of the loan which enabled the new manse to be built at Dalgety Bay, so it was decided to send one hundred pounds to that congregation to ease in some small way this burden.

Each year we receive a target figure which is known as the Co-ordinated Appeal Target. This is the amount expected from us by the General Assembly. This year it amounted to £466. Roughly £225 of this goes for work in Scotland. To this we added an extra hundred pounds for work in National Church Extension, the same for Home Missions, and seventy pounds for the social work of the Church, particularly work connected with rehabilitation. The Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, which helps the poorer parishes to pay an appropriate stipend, received one hundred and seventy pounds; the Housing and Loan Fund for ministers and widows one hundred pounds; and the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund the agreed sum of sixty-six pounds. Shelter (Scotland) received in all twenty-seven pounds, while the Earl Haig Fund Offering on Remembrance Day amounted to over eighteen pounds. There were also smaller sums to quite a variety of charitable organisations, such as the British Sailors' Society, the Care of Spastics, the Aged Friends' Society, the Fife Marriage Guidance Council, the Muscular Dystrophy Group—in all, for Scotland the sum of £1120.

Our Overseas givings amounted to £695, this sum was distributed in the following way. Of the Co-ordinated Appeal Target two hundred and forty-one pounds went to the many and varied activities of the Church overseas. In addition we sent an extra one hundred pounds for the work of 'foreign missions' and one hundred and seventy-two pounds to Christian Aid. This included the seventy-two pounds which was raised at the special offerings for Biafra during the summer. The following societies benefited in this way:—

The National Bible Society of Scotland	... £73
The United Society for Christian Literature	... £26
The Leprosy Mission	... £36
The Waldensian Church in Italy	... £30

Smaller sums went to Dr Wilkinson, our partner-plan missionary in Kenya, to Dr Graham's Homes in Kalimpong, and to the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society.

We have received letters of grateful thanks from all these organisations and societies, and we in turn convey that thanks to you.

## NEW ELDERS.

The Kirk Session decided that this was an appropriate time to add to its membership. In a congregation such as ours it is not easy to conduct any kind of representative vote as was done years ago. Our membership is continually changing. It was for this reason that it was decided to elect the new elders by Resolution of the Kirk Session, and to include in the number some of our ladies who are now eligible and some of the younger men.

At morning worship on Sunday 2nd February the following were ordained to the eldership:— Miss Catherine McLauchlan, Miss Carleen Simmers, Messrs William Allan, John Anderson, William McRae, Peter Morrison, Malcolm Murray, while the Rev. Robert Trotter, being already ordained was admitted.

The new elders received the right hand of fellowship from the minister and the members of the Kirk Session and later signed the formula.

**"A woman apologised for her husband never being at church."  
"The gardening keeps him pretty busy." Yet if a man misses four consecutive meetings of his Rotary Club in a year, he's out. If a man does not turn up for work, he's fired. This kind of no-nonsense approach makes sense in any organisation. It ought to make sense in the Christian Church. Christ is certainly as important as weeding.**

Robert Hudnut.

## DECLINE AND FALL.

One of the most widely read books of all time is *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. Written in 1788 by Edward Gibbon, it sets forth five basic reasons why that great civilization withered and died. These were:—

*The undermining of the dignity and sanctity of the home, which is the basis for human society.*

*Higher and higher taxes—the spending of public money for free bread and circuses for the populace.*

*The mad craze for pleasure—sports becoming every year more exciting, more brutal, more immoral.*

*The building of great armaments when the real enemy was within—the decay of individual responsibility.*

*The decay of religion—faith fading into mere form, losing touch with life, losing power to guide the people.*

The oft-heard warning that "history repeats itself" has an ominous meaning in the light of the above.

G. LAWRENCE.

# ABSTRACT OF INCOME and EXPENDITURE for Year to 31st December, 1968.

## 1.—GENERAL FUND.

### INCOME

1967	Collections—		
£998	Cash Collections ...	£945	3 3
1859	Weekly Freewill Offerings ...	1843	16 3
661	Bonds of Annuity and Income Tax Recovered ...	691	17 8
228	Special Collections ...	274	16 4
73	Donations ...	54	16 2
41	District Collections ...	42	7 6
14	Assembly Funds ...	13	2 0
<u>£3874</u>		<u>£3865</u>	<u>19 2</u>
	Trust Investments—		
120	For Stipend ...	£121	19 0
7	„ Benevolent Fund ...	7	3 8
35	„ Assembly Funds ...	40	8 11
9	„ Sunday School ...	9	8 0
6	„ Other Church Purposes ...	12	6 1
			191 5 8
0	Income Tax Recovered ...		44 17 3
<u>£4051</u>		<u>£4102</u>	<u>2 1</u>
456	Balance brought forward ...		599 0 9
<u>£4507</u>		<u>£4701</u>	<u>2 10</u>

### EXPENDITURE.

1967	Allocation of Funds—		
	Assembly Funds—		
£150	Maintenance of Ministry Fund	£170	0 0
83	Aged & Infirm Ministers' Fund	82	17 5
	Co-ordinated Appeal ...	£836	
	Less Contributed by Congregat'nal Organisations	133	
515		703	0 0
	Church of Scotland Housing & Loan Fund for Ministers and Widows ...	100	0 0
0			
£748		£1055	17 5
210	Outside Organisations ...	318	12 3
<u>£958</u>		<u>£1374</u>	<u>9 8</u>
	Minister's Stipend (part of) and Expenses—		
825	Stipend ...	£900	0 0
130	Travelling Expenses ...	150	0 0
			£1050 0 0
6	Pulpit Supply Fees ...		13 10 0
419	Salaries ...		405 11 6
	Upkeep of Church, etc.—		
122	Rates, Insurance and Feuduty	£131	17 7
164	Heating, Lighting and Cleaning	164	8 1
			296 5 8
28	Repairs and Upkeep (other than to Fabric) ...		19 9 8
140	Printing, Stationery and Publications ...		166 14 6
	Miscellaneous—		
8	Communion Expenses ...	£12	12 0
	Assembly, Synod and Presbytery Dues ...	49	6 1
28	Telephone ...	30	13 7
64	Sundry Expenses ...	39	12 5
			132 4 1
102	Benevolent Fund ...		102 16 8
10	Payments to Sunday School ...		9 8 0
100	Donation to Dalgety Parish Church ...		100 0 0
760	Transferred to Fabric Fund ...		750 0 0
<u>£3908</u>		<u>£4420</u>	<u>9 9</u>
599	Balance on hand ...		280 13 1
<u>£4507</u>		<u>£4701</u>	<u>2 10</u>

## 2.—FABRIC FUND.

### INCOME

1967	Donation from Woman's Guild ...	£520	0 0
59	Collections ...	60	2 7
7	Trust Investment—For Repairs ...	6	19 6
32	Interest ...	54	15 6
760	Transferred from General Fund ...	750	0 0
<u>£1398</u>		<u>£1391</u>	<u>17 7</u>
1055	Balance brought forward ...		2361 17 1
<u>£2453</u>		<u>£3753</u>	<u>14 8</u>

### EXPENDITURE

1967	Expenditure on Manse Modernisation ...	£2651	15 4
91	Repairs to Fabric ...	119	3 9
2362	Balance on hand ...	982	15 7
<u>£2453</u>		<u>£3753</u>	<u>14 8</u>

NOTE.—The foregoing financial statements are abstracts of the transactions and funds of the Congregational Board of St. Fillan's Church, Aberdour for the year to 31st December, 1968.

J. DAWSON MACFARLANE, c.a., *Treasurer.*

11th February, 1969.—Audited and found correct.

IAN M. STUART, F.C.I.I. }  
G. MALCOLM MURRAY, F.F.A. } Auditors.