



Concordia res parvae crescunt

"Concordia"

The Official Organ of
**The Clapham Old Xaverians'
Association**

Vol. VI

JULY, 1957

No. 3

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT

With most of the year behind us, as far as the social life of the Association is concerned, we can now reflect on the activities of the past few months and report soberly on their success or failure. It would seem that most of our members are very conservative, for in general our old established functions have flourished, whilst departures from our previous programmes, except in the case of the beer and sausage supper have not been well supported.

The Annual Dinner/Dance held on March 9th at the Bedford Hotel was a great success; for the first time we had more than 100 diners. It was unfortunate that our President the Very Rev. Bro. Matthias was unable to attend owing to illness, and that Bros. Pius and Raymond were unable to be present. Good food and short speeches made the dinner most enjoyable and after some delay we were joined by some fifty more members and guests for the dancing. It seems that we have reached a stage where we can look forward to the Annual Dinner in the confidence that it will be well attended and in consequence enjoyable to both the diners and the Treasurer.

The third Mid-Lent Dance, held at St. Mary's Hall, Clapham, proved to be a disappointment, though thanks to some very hard work by Mr. and Mrs. D. Hadida and friends in the organisation and running of the Tombola, a small profit was made. The attendance at the dance was very poor, this may be explained in part by the number of other dances and two 21st birthday parties that coincided with our dance and by difficulties experienced in advertising the dance. However the main blame for our lack of success at this event must rest on the shoulders of our members who just didn't come along in sufficient numbers. We are very grateful to the Rev. Fr. Rector of St. Mary's for the use of the hall and to Mr. Mulpeters who supplied the bar and to Mrs. Burgess and other kind helpers who arranged the catering.

The Annual Retreat was held at Southwell House on Palm Sunday. Here again the attendance was very disappointing. We realise the difficulties involved for many members and thank those who replied to our circulars. We have tried very hard to find a more suitable venue but at present Southwell House seems to provide the best answer to our requirements. We do feel that a much greater effort could be made by members, to what, in the final analysis, is our most important event of the year.

Membership remains at a fairly high level, although it has fallen below last year's total. Active members are required in our more junior sections, particularly in the Squash-Table Tennis sections.

RES PARVÆ

We are pleased to be able to report that C.O.X.A. is once again closely in touch with its Sister Associations from Brighton and Mayfield. This is some of the first fruit of the proposed Council of Catholic O.B.'s. Association. We were very pleased to welcome Ernie Wells and Pat Lerner representing Brighton to the Dinner/Dance in March and we will shortly be meeting them at cricket. Unfortunately we were unable to contact Mayfield O.B.'s in time for them to be represented at our Dinner, but we were grateful for the opportunity of sending a small contingent to their Annual Dinner; an occasion that was thoroughly enjoyed and for which we thank them. We have also joined Mayfield at several of their second Fridays at the Challoner, and it has indeed been time well spent; again as with Brighton we have renewed our cricket fixture.

The Association was also represented at the opening of the "49" Club's new Club House and were recently at their dance. On both occasions we were there in strength and we should like to thank St. Joseph's Old Boys for two very enjoyable evenings.

Another Association with whom we were pleased to make contact was that of St. Joseph's Academy, Blackheath.

Peter Hayland, the Treasurer, 30 Malwood Road, Balham, S.W.12, will be pleased to receive conscience money, overdue subscriptions, donations, enquiries for deeds of covenant, etc. Ties and Squares may also be obtained from Peter.

Situations Vacant

Demi-literate, non-grammarian required for editorial post in Old Boys' journal. First tour of one year. renewable. Successful candidate will be insured against libel. Salary by arrangement. Prospects: ruinous. All replies will be treated in confidence. Must be prepared to take up position in October next. Box 4, Concordia.

FOOTBALL

Altogether the 1956/57 season was quite a successful one. There was plenty of football for everyone, play was of a very mixed quality as can be seen from the results below, and the section even made a small profit.

The 1st XI played 28 matches and the 2nd XI 27, and due to the mild weather only three fixtures either Home or Away had to be cancelled because of unfit pitches.

The 5/- Subscription enabled us to avoid being in debt to the Association, and we were able to finish the season £1 19s. 8d. to the good.

The 1st XI came 4th in League Division II South, and although at one time we had high hopes of returning to Division I from which we had fallen last season, some of the displays were just not worthy of a promotion-winning side. Maybe this was a blessing in disguise, as unfortunately we have now lost the services of several 1st XI players, including Ken Torpey who has gone to Canada and our captain Mick Mayhew who is probably following him to America. Both these were outstanding in the all-important half-back line, and will be sadly missed, but luckily we still have Keenan, centre-half, who has played so well to complete the successful line since he joined the team late in the season. Bernard Farrell was one of our most improved players since he settled in the right-back position, and the fine ability of Chris Scott, Pinsent, Carroll and Breslin speaks for itself among the goal scorers. We had a very good Goals For and Against record, and much of the credit for the low number Against must go to John Cernuschi for his consistently sound goal-keeping throughout the season.

<i>1st XI Results:</i>	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Against
League:	18	10	3	5	87	36

Goal Scorers: C. Scott 27, Pinsent 19, Carroll 10, Breslin 7, Ocleppo 4, Mayhew 3, Rowles 3, Flynn 2, Pepper 2, Plummer 2, Bowden 1, Farrell 1, N. Scott 1, Torpey 1, o.g. 4.

Friendlies:	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Against
	10	6	1	3	34	23

At the Football A.G.M. at the end of the season it was suggested that the 2nd might also be entered in the Old Boys' League, and the rather poor showing this season was put down to the lack of incentive in friendly games. I think, however, that lack of skill must have been largely responsible, and it was agreed that a greater playing strength was needed before we could have two sides playing League football.

<i>2nd XI Results:</i>	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Against
	27	8	3	16	69	116

The season was rounded off with an enjoyable Sausage-and-Mash Supper for about 40 people at the Alexandra Hotel, Clapham Common.

Tony Brinn, Don Mulvihill and myself continue in office for the coming season and are joined on the Committee by Bernard Farrell. The Committee will be completed by the selection of the two team captains.

D. H. ROWE,
Hon. Secretary.

TABLE TENNIS

This year the section entered a team in Division II of the Dulwich and District Table Tennis League. Despite our inexperience in competitive table tennis the team played well in face of some strong opposition and I think that we may feel justly proud of our final record:

P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Points
18	9	0	9	81	99	18

Our position in the League is fifth out of ten. For this, congratulations are due to K. Carroll, the team captain, A. Amura, T. Ennis and T. Quinlan. The Association was also represented by J. Golton, M. Hodges and H. Plummer. It was certainly an encouraging start and next season we hope to be in the running for promotion. A second team in the league necessitating of course greater support at the College on Friday evenings would be a great help in this aim.

In addition to league matches, we played two friendlies with the College, both of which provided very enjoyable evenings, convincing wins for the Old Boys (N.B.—Soccer section) and indications of future talent for the Association.

We should like to thank the Brothers for the use of the Hall and equipment and the provision of refreshments.

BRIAN SANDERS,
Secretary.

TENNIS

Last year's arrangements for tennis, using the L.C.C. courts, did not prove very satisfactory and this year we have decided to be a little more ambitious. We have hired for the season one court every Friday evening at the Grafton Club. The courts are of red shale and are kept in first rate condition; changing facilities and a hot shower are provided and the club also offers facilities for alcoholic and non-alcoholic liquid cooling of players and spectators. Play is from 6 p.m. until dusk and tennis balls will be supplied by the Association.

It will be noted that the time and venue coincide with that of the Squash Section, this was planned both in order to allow those who wished, to play both games during the evening and also as a means of "keeping in touch" during the summer. So we hope to see a lot of players and non-players coming along to give support to this new venture.

D. QUIN.

SQUASH RACQUETS

At last we are able to report that this section is really functioning. At the time of writing we have fifteen O.Bs members of the Grafton Squash Club, many of whom took advantage of the concessionary terms we were able to arrange with the club. We know of a number of other Old Boys who play squash and there must be not a few non-players who would like to take up the game, so there is obvious potential in this section. (Anyone requiring further details please contact me or any member of the committee.)

The summer session can only be regarded as training, but when the season proper starts in the autumn we hope to be able to organise something competitive, say a ladder and a handicap competition. The Football Secretary tells me that it is the training part that sounds most interesting to him, so how about it you footballers?

Lastly may I draw your attention to the final paragraph of the Tennis Report.

G. R. BURGESS.

Note—The Association has a few spare racquets for loan to those who do not possess their own.

CRICKET

By the time you read this we shall already have played the College and Mayfield Old Xaverians at cricket, but at the time of writing we have only met the College. This was an exciting game largely controlled by the wind and two very good fast left arm bowlers — Burkhard for the College and, for us, Keenan. In the circumstances it was not surprising that the scores were low.

We won the toss and put the College in to bat; John Keenan opened the bowling down wind and proved almost unplayable, nearly all the runs scored from him were deflections behind the wicket and bowling unchanged he finished with seven wickets for fourteen runs. He was ably supported in the attack by Barrett, Gooch and Sanders so that the College were all out for 54, conveniently, in the last over before tea.

When the O.B's batted after tea Burkhard took over where Keenan left off, only John Flynn and Kevin Carroll managed to reach double figures among the early batsmen and by the time

Pat Griffin came in at number nine the College had virtually won the match. That, however, was reckoning without Keenan, and while Pat stayed there at whatever risk to life and limb, John proceeded to knock off the runs, ending top scorer for the match with 25 not out: Burkhard took 5 for 15.

That is how we (or should it be John Keenan) beat the College by 3 wickets.

The "full" fixture list is given below and it will be seen that we are still operating on a limited scale, but at least we are developing in the right direction, and the College has generously allowed us to use the new table at Norbury. In short, things are looking up: now the chief thing is your support and in particular we ask club cricketers to spare us the odd afternoon; for the rest we must look to the coming generation.

FIXTURES:

Sun., 26th May v. The College at Norbury.

Sun., 30th June v. Mayfield O. Xaverians at Norbury.

Sat., 27th July v. 49 Club (St. Joseph's O.Bs) at Beulah Hill.

Sun., 25th Aug. v. Brighton O. Xaverians at Norbury.
all games start 2.30 p.m.

D. R. QUINN.

THE CLUBHOUSE

Slowly, too slowly, the clubhouse is nearing completion. The asbestos roofing is shortly to be fixed and the doors and windows are being ordered. It is now three years since building started and high time it was completed; however, since Dave Mason left us the vast majority of the work has been done by just two very faithful old boys. Neither of them in the building trade, lacking tools and professional advice, they have completed the walls and made the whole roof frame. It is now time that they were supported by other members especially any who have experience in building, or the decorating business.

We will also require more financial aid for the plastering, wiring and internal fittings. Do therefore help in any way possible to ensure that the club is ready for the opening of the football season.

It is interesting to note that St. Joseph's Old Boys have lately opened their own £2,000 club house and some of our members were invited to the opening ceremony.

BALBUS.

PERSONALIA

BRIAN WHITE, has in the past year, acquired a wife, an A.I.B. (Trustee) and a house in Beckenham, therefore triple congratulations Brian.

KEN TORPEY lately sailed to Canada (not the Mayflower). Ken wishes to be remembered to all those to whom he would have said goodbye at the Football Supper if he had not been suffering from vaccine fever at the time.

JOHN KEEN has lately been appointed a Public Health Inspector in Croydon. John's speciality is smoke abatement and atmospheric pollution.

From Sidcup, Kent, FREDDIE BALDWIN reports that "TONY" TAYLOR is a fellow parishioner of his and also that he and VIC WALLIS have lately become Catenians.

TOM (Tubby) SHAW is now the deputy leader of Bermondsey Borough Council (prizes of ten shilling shares in the Bottomley Group of Companies are offered to members who guess which Party Tom represents). Further we must congratulate Tom and his wife who were lately married at St. Anne's, Vauxhall, the celebrant was FR. PIERCE another Clapham Old Boy.

Congratulations to KEN and KATHLEEN BAILEY on becoming parents for the second time; a son, John.

C. L. HILL finished his four year apprenticeship with the Marconi Company in 1956, he is now in the R.A.F. at West Malling and has another year to endure.

At Easter time PETER HURD was liberated from the R.A.F. and is by now working for a living.

Alas, poor JOHN ELLIS has nearly a year to wait for the same happy occasion.

We congratulate DICK CONNOR and his wife on becoming the parents of a daughter. Dick is now a medical registrar in a Monmouth hospital.

Eagerly awaiting his return to temperate medicine is BOBBIE BROOKES, now practising the tropical variety in Lagos, Nigeria.

Meteorology is the civilian occupation of B. J. BURTON, he is now doing the same thing in the R.A.F., but for less money.

P. DIXON mixing it with Cornish Piskies by courtesy of the R.A.F. hopes shortly to return to London as a civilian. He reports that NICK OCLEPPO is painting Camberwell Beauties at an Art School in that area and that RON TANASINA is being scientific in South East London.

The academic "moment of truth" has arrived for BRIAN SANDERS, BRIAN HOLOHAN, RAYMOND ABRINES, LEN FREDDI and TOM BOLEY, who in some cases if they get what they deserve, and in other cases if the reverse is true, will graduate this summer.

CHRIS SWAN was also anxiously waiting the results of his 2nd M.B. exam., success in which will enable him to transfer from the Strand to Hyde Park Corner.

BRYAN WOOD is doing a post-graduate course at Queen Mary College.

The journeying boy of the academic world, ANDY POZNIAK, is now at Battersea Polytechnic, next stop — Imperial College, Tokyo.

CORNELIUS FARQUHARSON who spent five years in the Air Force as a radar instructor is now an electronic computer engineer and is working for Powers-Samas (not the Samas BOB COLLINS). Last year he was able to spend three months in Milan and two in Brussels installing the monsters.

CYRIL MURTAGH received the diaconate at Easter and is to be ordained in November. Cyril will then return to work in the Portsmouth-diocese.

Our congratulations to FR. PATRICK BEST who was ordained this month in Forest Hill. Present at the ordination were BROS. PETER and ALPHONSUS, BERNARD FARRELL and MICK PRINCE.

DAVE MASON recently sent greetings and anxious enquiries concerning the Clubroom from Southsea where he is now living.

CHARLIE LAWRENCE whom we suspect of being implicated in the Christmas Island affair has been sending picture postcards from Canada, U.S.A. and Hawai to which places he has been flying transport aircraft.

BRIAN LAWRENCE, in the Naval Air Service has been yo-yoed back and forth between Egypt and Northern Ireland, holding back the Queen's enemies in those places almost single handed (it is reported that a film is to be made of his exploits with Mr. Flynn in the leading role).

PATRICK GILLIAM writes to say that he has moved from the Foreign Office to British Petroleum. Patrick mentions that the last Old Xaverian that he met was a very "idle" man who faced him hatless across a table (no names but we're sure he was in Walsingham).

Daily football, cross country running as an excuse to get out of camp and the prospects of yachting on the Mediterranean are reported by BERNARD PLUMMER now in Cyprus.

ANTHONY RICHENS is now at the Southwark Senior Seminary studying for the priesthood.

In a one round bout with a Boots' van the score read: KEVIN CARROL 3 stitches — Boots 1 dent, this took place at London Bridge, Kevin has since made a comeback.

DEREK LANE, a veteran of the Suez campaign is now in America where he took part in the Naval review, the President was unable to attend.

In the course of organising the "Tombola" DOUGLAS HADIDA received a letter from J. P. HONAN who is the advertising manager of Ronuk Polishes and is living at Portslade in Sussex. Besides sending some very welcome gifts he also sent his kind regards to the Brothers and the Association.

Readers of "Nature" will have noted that DESMOND WORTH received an honourable mention in this august journal for a paper he read at a recent symposium. VINCENT his brother is shortly to be married.

Congratulations to JOHN TERRY on his recent marriage.

DAVE NICHOLLS finishes his course at Carnegie this year and hopes to be teaching at the Royal Grammar School, Worcester, in September. Dave is to be married in December.

We are pleased to note that BRO. MATTHIAS has fully recovered from the operation that prevented his attendance at the Annual dinner.

It would appear that the intercession of St. Jude would be very welcome to NICK SCOTT who is the prospective Conservative parliamentary candidate for North Islington.

ECONOMICS AND THINGS

When I was very young and innocent, I thought that the business of buying and selling goods and services was strictly governed by laws of supply and demand, by intrinsic and extrinsic values and marginal utility, which seemed as immutable as the laws of physics, in the days before Einstein et al ruined that trade. How very wrong I was; for having worked in the neighbourhood of various London street markets I have seen such stuff as economists' nightmares are made of.

The twentieth century, the century of enlightenment, education for all, free medicine for all: but just take a trip to S——— Market in the Hampstead Road. Here is to be found a rather decrepit old chap selling electric batteries to fit in your boots. "These batteries cause a flow of life-giving electricity to suffuse the whole system thereby preventing and curing such diseases as rheumatoid arthritis, anaemia and general debility," then with a leer he proceeds to explain that he, at seventy, has more virility and vitality than the young chaps of sixty in the crowd, due, of course, to his electric batteries. The battery apparently consists of a zinc-copper sandwich from which the operator manages to obtain a full-scale deflection on a millivoltmeter. They must be agony to wear in your shoes, they have no value unless it be a psychic one, and yet this old fellow has been making a living of sorts out of them for years. I bought one too.

Then how does the man who sells gas-lighter flints and apparently nothing else outside Tooting Market manage to earn a living? These flints last for about a month, they cost twopence each, and in any case, gas lighters of this type are rarely used these days, and yet he earns a living. It is possible to buy a tin of reputable metal polish for about a shilling, yet tins of "Soldier's Friend" sell like hot cakes in the hands of one old villain for 2/6d. This rather nasty pink paste requires to be spat on before it produces a shine. It looks disgusting, it is hard to apply, it makes your hands dirty and yet it sells.

What sort of supply and demand would you think there would be for chamberpots with pictures of the Kaiser on them which play Rule Britannia when lifted? These are featured in the New Caledonian Market.

What a great moment it must have been in the life of the man who stands on his head on an inverted beer bottle when he discovered that it was possible to make money doing it! Or do you think that he first consciously thought that money was to be made from standing on his head on a beer bottle, and practised in secret after working hours, as one imagines the devotees of Charles Atlas must, until one day he was able to shuffle off the

shackles of conventional economics and make his way in life as a beer bottle head-stander-on? Then, of course, it is possible, by labelling a collection of objects "lost property," "surplus," "ex-army," "ex-government," or better still, "ex-American army officers' type," to sell things like astro compasses, useless bicycles, parachutes that won't open, periscopes ("just the thing for the kiddies") — armoured and weighing two cwt. each, and five shilling shirts (made in Hong Kong) for fifteen shillings.

Other methods of making money, like selling pictures of St. Patrick on March 17th and pictures of Lenin on October 1st to their various supporters, require a judicious sense of place and timing: one lapse and you're ruined. But at every rally or meeting at Wembley, be it for Fr. Peyton, Billy Graham, Jehovah's Witnesses or the Rationalists, the same old faces appear selling the requisite favours with the requisite patter.

Ex-servicemen's bands seem to be on the upgrade, but with the reorganisation of the forces it is likely that the market will be flooded. Any young man with a good knowledge of the locality, however, should be able to make his fortune if he follows in the footsteps of the old man in Balham who knew the religious and political susceptibilities of most households and would sing "Faith of our Fathers" outside the Kelly's house and "Abide with Me" outside the Smyth's.

So if you have been unsuccessful in your Finals or perhaps don't wish to be a business man or a Civil Servant, or haven't the qualifications to be the Earl Marshal or Lord High Chancellor, it is hoped that the foregoing will indicate to you that all is not lost.

F. URST.

THE XAVERIAN BROTHERS—CLAPHAM COLLEGE

BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT

Statement of Receipts for the year ended 31st December, 1956

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
BALANCE OF FUND at 1st January, 1956 ..				6,803	10	3
DONATIONS FROM PARENTS AND OLD BOYS, PROCEEDS OF WHIST DRIVES Etc.				154	14	1
DONATIONS FROM PARENTS AND OLD BOYS, PAID UNDER DEED OF COVENANT				52	1	0
INCOME TAX RECOVERED						
Savings Bond Interest, 1955/56	22	6	2			
Deeds of Covenant 1954/55	45	17	8			
" " " 1955/56	45	2	2			
				113	6	0
INTEREST RECEIVED						
2½% Defence Bonds	12	10	0			
3% Defence Bonds	24	0	0			
3½% Defence Bonds	35	0	0			
3% Savings Bonds	41	6	11			
Post Office Savings Bank	53	12	4			
				166	9	3
TOTAL FUND AT 31st DECEMBER, 1956				£7,292	0	7

THE FUNDS ARE INVESTED AS FOLLOWS:

2½% Defence Bonds	500	0	0
3% Defence Bonds	800	0	0
3½% Defence Bonds	1,000	0	0
4½% Defence Bonds	1,000	0	0
3% Savings Bonds 1960/70 £1,750			
Bonds at cost	1,599	12	5
Post Office Savings Bank @ 2½% ..	1,532	5	8
Barclays Bank Ltd.	860	2	6
	£7,292	0	7