

# Old Boys

## ASSOCIATION REPORTS

by Mr. Tan Mong Heng, Hon. Secretary.

Patron: Bishop Edwin F. Lee.

### Office Bearers:

President: Mr. T. W. Ong.

Vice-Presidents: Mr. T. W. Hinch (ex-officio), Messrs. C. H. Koh and Lee Chin Gee.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. Tan Mong Heng.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Yong Ngim Djin.

Asst. Hon. Secretary: Mr. Chen Jan Jee.

Asst. Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Dennis Lee.

### Committee Members:

Messrs. Yap Pheng Geck, G. H. Kiat, Thio Chan Bee, Wong Shian Yein, and Drs. Ong Swee Law and A. W. Thevathasan.

Hon. Auditor: Mr. Teo Lam Hai.

### Sub-Committees:

Sports Sub-Committee: Dr. Ong Swee Law (convener), Mr. Swee Lim Swang and two others.

Literary and Social Sub-Committee: Mr. Thio Chan Bee (convener), Messrs. Goh Soon Tjoe, S. G. Pillai, Tan Hock Chuan, Phua Poh Lim, Henry Tan Hoay Gie.

During the year four new Sub-Committees were appointed to deal with their respective businesses.

Membership and Collection of Subscription

#### Sub-Committee:

Messrs. Yong Ngim Djin (convener), Tan Mong Heng and Chen Jan Jee.

Photographic Records of Retiring Principals and Teachers Sub-Committee:

Messrs. Thio Chan Bee (convener), Yong Ngim Djin and Chan Siew Jiang.

Club House and Playing Field Sub-Committee: Messrs. C. H. Koh (convener), Yong Ngim Djin, Tan Mong Heng, Chen Jan Jee and Dr. Ong Swee Law.

Transport Sub-Committee: Messrs. Yong Ngim Djin (convener), Lee Chin Gee, Wong Shian Yein and Dr. A. W. Thevathasan.

### Sports:

Up to date many games of football and badminton have been played against the teams of other clubs and associations with varying results. The matches were generally witnessed by large crowds of spectators who were appreciative of the standard of play displayed by our team. However, lack of a suitable playing field of our own and facilities of a modern club house is preventing very many members from indulging in the many other games they would glorify in.

### A.C.S. Sports:

Two events provided for the Old Boys were well supported and contested and resulted as follows:

100 yds. Handicap—

Winner (see School record)

Runner-up do

440 yds. Relay—

Winning Team do.

An impromptu Tug-of-War tussle between an Old Boys' team and a Teachers' team was hotly contested, and resulted in a win for the latter by two pulls to one. It was whispered that the Old Boys' lost because of their respect for their former teachers. However, with such 'heavies' as Messrs. Yap Ah Chuan and C. B. Paul in the Teachers' team, the result was a foregone conclusion.

### Literary Section:

This section has not been able to function to-date. It was thought that gatherings of this kind would not have the

attraction to induce many people to stay out late at night. The reason is obvious.

#### **Social:**

##### **Founder's Day:**

The A.C.S.O.B.A. celebrated the 61st anniversary of the founding of the A.C.S. on March 1st, 1947 at the Atomic Club, Lloyd Road. Over 319 Old Boys, guests and friends were present, and among the distinguished gathering were H.E. The Officer Administering the Government, Mr. P. A. B. McKerron, C.M.G. and Mrs. McKerron, Sir and Lady Han Hoe Lim, Bishop and Mrs. Edwin F. Lee, Mr. L. Rayman, P.M.C., Mr. and Mrs. Tan Chin Tuan, Mr. J. B. Neilson, Dr. and Mrs. M. Dodsworth, Mr. R. M. Young, Prof. Dyer, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Hinch and many others.

In his Presidential address, Mr. T. W. Ong touched on the history of the School and the remarkable achievements that have been accomplished. He mentioned in particular the Methodist Mission which has done such wonderful work for education not only in Singapore and Malaya but throughout the East.

H.E. The Officer Administering the Government complimented the School and he stressed that in this difficult time that it has such an institution as an Old Boys Association particularly when it belonged to a great Boys' School, like the Anglo-Chinese School, with its tradition and splendid historical background should receive every encouragement.

Mr. T. W. Hinch, the principal of the School, also addressed the gathering.

After dinner Mr. Bertie Tan Hock Chuan gave a magic show which was very much appreciated. Success of the function was due to Mr. Yong Ngim Djin and his associates who had put in a lot of hard work and time.

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##### **Presentation to Mrs. T. W. Hinch:**

An enjoyable function was held at the residence of the President on the 10th of April, 1947. Mrs. Hinch was presented with a valuable Chinese Curio in appreciation of her long association with the School and the O.B.A. Mrs. Hinch was deeply moved by this form of recognition from the Old Boys.

The ever popular Mr. Tan Hock Chuan, whose presence has become a necessity at every O.B.A. function, once again demonstrated his prowess to an appreciative audience.

##### **O.B.A. Farewell Tea Party:**

Mr. T. W. Hinch, the retiring Principal of the Singapore Anglo Chinese School was guest of honour at a Tea Party held at the A.C.S., Coleman Street on June 11th, 1947. The function was attended by a large number of Old Boys and friends who came to bid farewell to Mr. Hinch. Guests invited included H.E. The Officer Administering the Government and many prominent community leaders and the Presidents of three other Old Boys' Associations.

In the course of his speech, eulogising Mr. Hinch's long and meritorious service to the School and the Old Boys' Association, Mr. T. W. Ong hinted that an award, which turned out to be an O.B.E., would be awarded to Mr. Hinch in recognition of his valuable service to Education.

Mr. Ong also announced that an old boy, Mr. Wong Shian Yein of Messrs. Nang Heng & Co., had made a presentation of two Radio Receiving Sets to the School.

After Tea, the guests adjourned to the A.C.S. Chapel Hall where a violin recital was provided by Mr. Goh Soon Tjoe, the well-known violinist. Our popular magician, Mr. Tan Hock Chuan once again performed his tricks of magic. Appreciation was manifestly shown by the large audience.

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Recorded music, during Tea, was kindly provided by Messrs. Nang Heng & Co. The very successful arrangements were efficiently handled by Mr. Thio Chan Bee with the help of his colleagues and the A.C.S. Boy Scouts.

#### **Recognition of Teacher Members:**

The General Committee, at the beginning of the year, has given approval, subject to sanction by the School Authorities, to sponsor the proposal that retiring Principals and teachers of the School who have given valuable services for at least ten years be awarded recognition by having their photographs hung up in classrooms or School Hall.

The first teacher to be awarded this form of recognition was the late Mr. Lee Choon Eng, a senior teacher, who lost his life under tragic circumstances in the hands of the cruel Japanese invaders.

#### **Club House and Playing Field:**

Throughout the existence of the Association, it has been the general complaint that the absence of a suitable Club House and Playing Field is handicapping the Association officials in providing and promoting competitive indoor and outdoor games. This year, a Club House and Playing Field Sub-Committee was appointed to study this problem and its subsequent report which recommended a large playing field, a respectable-sized building, a restaurant, a first-class library and usual indoor amenities, was approved in principle by the General Committee.

Application has been made to the Government for such a ground, which at present is under requisition by the Military Authorities, and it is hoped that we shall meet with success in 1948 when we can then push ahead to bring our plan to fruition.

#### **Bus Service for A.C.S. Primary Students:**

A report on this service by Mr. Yong Ngim Djin is at the moment being examined

by a Sub-Committee which will make its recommendations early. This service, if materialised, would be the outcome of a proposal by Dr. A. W. Thevathasan who said that such a service would relieve the obvious anxiety of many parents not able to accompany their young ones to school and save those able to do so much inconvenience and time.

#### **Membership:**

Membership has increased greatly, but there are many who have not yet paid their subscription of \$1.00 per annum. It is very difficult to get in touch with them as many have not notified the change of their last addresses. It is hoped that this omission will be rectified by the members concerned. Payments should be made to the Hon. Treasurer, c/o Anglo Chinese School, Cairnhill Road.

#### **Donations:**

The Association is indebted to the following Old Boys who have generously donated to our Sports Fund.

Messrs. V. Packirisamy, Tan Chin Tuan, Yap Pheng Geck, Chen Jan Jee, Lee Chin Gee, G. H. Kiat, Wilson Heng and Drs. C. G. Foo, William Heng and Dr. Hu Tsai Kuen.

### **LETTER FROM ENGLAND**

Dear A.C.S.,

There are very few old A.C.S. boys out here at the present time and the few there are, are scattered far and wide. We are however all very much united in our lifelong gratitude and affection for all that stands for A.C.S.—its tradition, its teaching staff, its pupils past and present and the comradeship which is forever A.C.S.

In London Ong Swee Keng is making progress with his law studies at Middle Temple. He has been successful in all the examinations he has taken and he has made

a name for himself in London Y.M.C.A. hockey circles. A more recent arrival, Ha Fook Siang is also rapidly settling down here. He expects to join the London Polytechnic at the end of the year but for the present he is gaining valuable business experience with a firm in London.

Mention might also be made of Ho Guan Hai, son of the Rev. Ho Seng Ong of A.C.S., Malacca. He is at King's College, London, where he is reading Geology. He has completed 2 years there and is now a leading representative of the college badminton team.

A third A.C.S. boy doing law in London is Wong Peng Tat. Like Ong Swee Keng he is attached to Middle Temple. Peng Tat has been elected Social Secretary of the newly formed Malayan Students Union.

At Cambridge Cecil Wong is the only A.C.S. (Singapore) representative but there are two other Chinese boys from A.C.S. (Ipoh), Ng Wah Heng, M.A., A.M.I.C.E., who is preparing a thesis for his Ph.D., and Khong Kit Soon who is reading engineering. Cecil Wong is at Fitzwilliam House, Cambridge and has passed the Economics Tripos Part I examination which he sat for in May. He won his college colours for hockey and cricket and represented his college at soccer and tennis.

For most of us it is just over a year since we left Singapore, our homes and our dear friends. It has been a year to remember. During these crowded 12 months England experienced one of her worst winters in 80 years followed by one of her finest summers. The winter was certainly a baptism for us all. We had our first taste of cold and snow and didn't we get a mouthful! Our first vision of the snow covered countryside was a lovely blanket of white. It was indeed a thrill to see everything covered in the purest white (note that we were watching from within a cozy room.)

We had too much of a good thing however, and when we saw the first colour of spring—the green leaves and the multi-coloured crocuses—we had another thrill. We knew sunshine and warmth were coming back.

In the midst of the cold, however, we had a lovely get-together at Mr. Lee Fong Lim's flat on December 31st. Yes! all the A.C.S. boys and several other Malayan students saw the New Year in together. May we now offer our very best and deepest wishes to A.C.S. and all that it stands for, and our assistance to any new boys coming out this way.

CECIL WONG.

### *News from* KING EDWARD VII COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.

*by Mr. Seah Cheng Siang.*

It was with mixed feelings that Ascians in the Medical College received the news of the retirement of Mr. T. W. Hinch. Our deep regret that the school will soon lose the pilot who has steered her course through a long important period so ably is understandable. However, as it is with all the people we know who have done their duty with much pains and self-sacrifice, we share with him the expectation of enjoying the retirement which a long and meritorious service has earned.

We all remember him. To us, he will always be one of the most unforgettable characters we have met. We remember him as our principal, the man who was leading us in school; as always a source of inspiration and our friend who was always ready to give advice be it from the pulpit, the platform of our chapel or outside.

We hope that he will always maintain contact with our Alma Mater wherein he will serve as a sterling example of leadership and Christian charity for many generations of Ascians to come.