

The

O.B.A.

— ONG CHIN BEE —



ANNUAL REPORT, 1956-1957

Gentlemen,

Your Committee has very good reason to feel happy over the work done in the year under review and has great pleasure in presenting this Annual Report and Statement of Accounts duly audited.

Officials for 1956 - 1957

The Chapel Hall where Annual General Meetings used to be held was demolished in December, 1955. Because of this and also because of transport difficulties caused by the Bus Strike, your Committee was forced to convene the Meeting in the Y.M.C.A. Auditorium, Orchard Road, kindly loaned for the purpose. Your Committee wishes to record its gratitude for this courtesy. There, on Friday, March 9th, 1956, members present elected the following gentlemen to serve on the General Committee:—

- President: Mr. Chen Jan Jee
(re-elected)
- Vice-Presidents: Mr. Thio Chan Bee, C.B.E.,
J.P. (ex-officio)
Mr. Yong Ngim Djin
(re-elected)
Dr. Ong Swee Law
(re-elected)

Hon. Secretary: Mr. Chan Siew Jiang
(re-elected)

Asst. Secretary: Mr. Foo Kee Seng
(re-elected)

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Quek Khye Kee
(re-elected)

Asst. Treasurer: Mr. Chua Kim Yam
(re-elected)

Committee Members:

- Mr. Tan Boon Chiang
Mr. Keng Ban Ee
Mr. T. Pakiry
Mr. Ang Kheng Leng
Mr. Teo Tye Hin
(re-elected)

Auditor: Mr. Cecil Wong.

Committee Meetings

Six Committee and one Emergency Meetings were held during the year. All were well attended and discussions were conducted in the most cordial manner. One of these meetings took the form of a Farewell and Welcome Dinner to Bishop Archer and Bishop Amstutz respectively. At its first meeting the

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Committee elected Mr. Tan Huat Keng chairman of the Literary and Social Sub-Committee and Mr. Teo Tye Hin Chairman of the Games Section. The Committee also discussed the advisability of having a Buffet Dinner at the Annual General Meeting, but felt that it would not be feasible. It therefore suggested that Mr. Tan Huat Keng should explore the possibility of an Annual or Bi-Annual Picnic. Amongst other matters that claimed the attention of the Committee were the progress of the Building Fund and the reconstruction at Coleman Street; the urgent need of a Science Block at Barker Road; a two-stream Chinese Medium school in Coleman Street; Government Common Entrance Examinations into Secondary Schools; Aids to sons of Old Boys; and Headquarters for the A.C.S. Uniformed Groups.

A.C.S. Building Fund

This has not yet closed. It has grown from strength to strength, but is still short of the target. The last report dated 3rd September, 1956 showed that the total of Promised and Paid-Up Donations, including War Claims of \$4,920.62 cents, was \$455,681.02 cents. The Principal in his letter to Parents, Old Boys and Loyal Friends appealed for a further donation of \$200,000/- to complete the Science Block at Barker Road.

Progress of Reconstruction

Only the Classroom Block at Coleman Street was ready for occupation when the new Term started on Monday, January 14th, 1957. The new Hall is under construction and is expected to be ready for use at the beginning of the Third Term in September.

Rooms for the O.B.A.

Removal to the new Classroom Block on the hill left two old classrooms behind the Methodist Book Room for use by the O.B.A. The Association would share one of these rooms with the Bishop to enable him to hold Committee Meetings there. The Literary and Social Sub-Committee had been asked to look into the furnishing of these two rooms.

Board of Governors

The following represented your Association: Mr. Chen Jan Jee (ex-officio), Dr. Ong Swee Law and Mr. Tan Boon Chiang; Mr. Ang Kheng Leng (First Alternate) and Mr. Chan Siew Jiang (Second Alternate).

Founder's Day Dinner

The 1,000 mark was passed. Three surprises befitting the occasion, the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the School, were in store for those who subscribed for the dinner:—

- (1) The tape recording of speeches by three retired Principals of A.C.S., Rev. P. L. Peach, Rev. A. McNab and Mr. T. W. Hinch.
- (2) The "Dutch" Auction of a Fiat 1100, the gift of Mr. George E. Lee, an Old Boy of the School. This realised \$9,319/-.
- (3) The performance of the R.A.F. Band during dinner. For these, credit should be given to the President, Mr. Chen Jan Jee, and for the successful arrangements of the Dinner a vote of thanks to the Chairman of the Sub-Committee, Mr. Yong Ngim Djin, was duly recorded.

Sports

The following extract is from a report by the Chairman of the Games Sub-Committee, Mr. Teo Tye Hin:—

"Athletics — 12.5.1956:— It was a record-breaking day at the 42nd Annual Sports of the Alma Mater and the Old Boys had a fair share of these new records.

"In the first event for the Old Boys, Chan Onn Leng broke the existing record for the 100 yards Sprint with a new time of 10.3 secs. Tan Soo Hian was second and Maurice Nicholas third. Boey Chwee Kim showed himself the best mathematician in the Obstacle Race to become winner in this event. Foo Kee Seng was runner-up.

"In the 100 yards Sprint (Handicap) for older Old Boys, M. Ponnusamy romped home first with Choo Swee Hong second and Lim Song Seng third. Twenty-four old stalwarts of the School marched on to the field to participate in the 4 x 110 yards Relay. It was a very close and exciting race. The results were Tan Soo Hian's team first and Maurice Nicholas's team second.

"The A.C.S. Old Boys' Quartet of Tan Soo Hian, Tan Soo Liat, Maurice Nicholas and Chan Onn Leng, not only won the Inter-O.B.A. Relay for the Tan Chin Tuan Challenge Cup for the second year in succession but also broke the old record with a very fast time of 45.2 seconds".

Old Boys were also active in the Swimming Carnival held on 23-9-1955. The successful competitors were Freddy Lee, Liok Yew Leong, Dennis Bong and Freddy Lee's team in the Relay.

Annual Past vs. Present Matches included:
Hockey .. 1955 Past 0 - Present 0
Soccer .. 25-2-1956 Past 4 - Present 3
Cricket .. 19-5-1956 Drawn.

Mr. Teo thanked the following:—

- (a) Mr. Chen Jan Jee for the T. W. Hinch Challenge Cup for Cricket;
- (b) Mr. Koh Boon Chiang for the H. M. Hoisington Challenge Cup for hockey;
- (c) many others for donations and gifts in kind;
- (d) and the following gentlemen for their assistance in:—

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| Athletics | - | Mr. Tan Soo Liat |
| Football | - | Mr. Gan Kee Tian |
| Swimming | - | Mr. Freddy Lee |
| Cricket | - | Mr. Cecil Wong |
| Hockey | - | Mr. Tan Soo Hian. |

Sports Pavilion

This was finally declared open by Mrs. Lee Chin Gee on Saturday, February 25th, 1956.

Laying of Foundation Stone for new Coleman Street School

This was performed by Bishop R. L. Archer on Monday, August 13th, 1956. Old Boys were invited to this function through the Press.

Activities of the Literary and Social Sub-Committee

"A picnic was held on Vesak Day at Mr. Lim Teck Lee's bungalow at Ponggol. About 120 Old Boys, their families and friends attended." It was a success although the number was smaller than had been expected.

The Food and Fun Fair organised by the same Committee was a greater success. The gross proceeds were \$10,814.00. After deducting expenses the Committee handed over to the School Building Fund the net sum of \$8,113.10 cents with the suggestion that \$5,000/- be put aside for a classroom and the remainder be used for the purchase of a piano.

Your Committee appreciated the hard work and careful planning Mr. Tan Huat Keng and his committee had put into these two functions and wished to record its sincere thanks for their fine and splendid efforts and also for their co-operation and understanding. To all the gentlemen who had assisted in the Games Section went the special "Thank you" of the General Committee.

Membership

The total membership is now 1,316, an increase of exactly 100. 72 of these are Life Members; 2 are Septennials and 26 are Annuals. Since the 25th Volume of the A.C.S. Magazine was issued 14 Life Members, 1 Septennial and 18 Annuals had joined. All these 33 were from the 1956 School Certificate Classes and will have their names recorded in the next issue. The remaining 67 had their names recorded in Vol. XXV. The Secretary apologises for any omissions and assures members concerned that they, if any, are unintentional.

Renewals

These continued to be discouraging. Only 34 remembered to pay what they owed the Association. Of these 25 renewed their subscription for Life, 2 for five years and 7 renewed their yearly subscriptions. Our hope that 5 of the 1955 Renewals of 44 would remember to pay their dues was not realised.

Finance

This continues to be strong but would have been better had our hopes been realised. Your Committee, nevertheless, is pleased to report satisfactory progress. (Please see Income and Expenditure Account for 1956, herewith attached).

Acknowledgments

Your Committee sincerely thanks Mr. and Mrs. Chen Jan Jee for their generous hospitality at all Committee Meetings.

For the General Committee
of the A.C.S. O.B.A.

(Sd.) CHAN SIEW JIANG
Hon. Secretary.

1st March, 1957.

