

Mercantile Rowing Club.



Prince's Bridge,
16th July, 1927.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Forty-Seventh ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Mercantile Rowing Club will be held at Melbourne Rowing Club's Boat House on SATURDAY, the 23rd day of JULY, 1927, at 8 p.m.

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and of the Special General Meeting of 23rd April, 1927.
2. To receive and adopt the Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
3. To elect Office-Bearers for the ensuing year.

By order of the Committee,

C. J. NICHOLLS,
Hon. Secretary.

Mercantile Rowing Club

SEASON 1926-27.

List of Office-Bearers.

President:

The Rt. Hon. Lord Mayor, Sir STEPHEN MORELL.

Vice-Presidents:

Sir GEO. FAIRBAIRN, K.B.

T. F. BRENNAN, Esq.

R. A. COOPER, Esq.

A. L. DOBBIE, Esq.

J. HERMAN, Esq.

W. JOSEPH, Esq.

T. S. NETTLEFOLD, Esq.

A. B. SLOAN, Esq.

Captain:

J. L. MOUNSEY.

Vice-Captain:

A. R. SHANNON.

Hon. Secretary:

C. J. NICHOLLS.

Hon. Treasurer:

A. R. CLARKE.

Executive Committee:

W. A. DOBBIE.

E. KENNY.

E. G. LEGGO.

K. J. MCKENZIE.

P. RADICH.

H. R. RUSH.

J. G. SPRIGG.

Selection Committee:

J. L. MOUNSEY.

H. R. RUSH.

A. R. SHANNON.

Hon. Auditor:

K. C. WOOTTON, F.C.P.A.

Hon. Solicitor:

J. HERMAN, Esq.

Victorian Rowing Association:

Elected Members:

A. L. DOBBIE.

W. JOSEPH.

Representative Members:

A. R. CLARKE.

J. L. MOUNSEY.

Delegate to the Upper Parra Amateur Regatta Assn.

U. R. SMITH.

Representative on Melbourne Amateur Regatta Assn. (Henley)

W. JOSEPH.

Delegate to the Victorian Amateur Sculling Assn.

M. S. WILLIAMS.

The Forty-Seventh Annual Report

OF THE

Mercantile Rowing Club



Queen's Bridge,
Melbourne.

To the Members of the Mercantile Rowing Club,
Gentlemen,

In presenting to you the Forty-Seventh Annual Report, your Committee finds itself in the position of being able to report a successful year, but qualified by the unfortunate position in which we are now placed as a result of the fire which destroyed Club House and fleet on the 17th April last.

Up to that time, both in the rowing sphere and financially, your Club was in a sound position; in fact, the day succeeding the fire, the Junior Premiership of the State was won by your representatives at Sale.

The membership list has been augmented by the addition of 21 names, and the financial position justified the ordering, before the fire occurred, of several new boats.

The Club House, fleet, oars and fittings were insured for a total sum of £2,500, and thanks to the ability of your Captain, who had charge of negotiations, with the assistance of Mr. K. C. Wootton, our claim for that amount was met with an offer of £2,465 as full settlement and which your Committee accepted. This money has been placed in the bank and is earning interest.

Under the headings "Club House" and "Boats and Oars" will be found a summary of our position regarding premises and equipment.

The rowing season commenced exceedingly well with a double win at Henley and V.R.A. Regattas in the Junior Eight and a win in the Junior Sculls at V.R.A. From then until the end of the racing season your Club held the top position in the Junior competition, except for a brief period at Barwon, when Hawthorn temporarily displaced us.

Such a result should and, we think, will be reflected in the Senior rowing during the coming season, when, with a large number of successful Junior members available, Senior crews capable of upholding the Club's prestige of former years will represent your Club. Efforts are being made to have the necessary boats made available for this purpose until builders can supply our requirements. While striving for success in the Senior division next season, care must be taken that no neglect of Junior crews be allowed, and your whole-hearted support in this object is desired.

Again, the success in rowing which your Club has enjoyed is largely due to the hard work and enthusiasm of your Captain, Mr. J. L. Mounsey, by whom the affairs of the Club also have so efficiently been directed. More help from members in coaching crews should be forthcoming than has been the case this season; otherwise too great a burden falls on the Captain and Vice-Captain.

The enthusiasm of crews is to be commended, particularly those who were not successful, but who competed time after time. Their perseverance will no doubt be rewarded during the coming season.

Scotch College again won the Head of the River in a magnificent race, and we extend to the crew our congratulations.

They were unfortunate in losing, by fire, their racing eight, together with other valuable boats and oars, which were housed in our shed. However, your Club was able to grant the use of its Clinker Eight, "E. Kenny," to the College, and their win in that boat made their victory doubly popular.

Finance.

The large sum of £192/5/10 expended on Repairs to Boats, Oars and Shed is accounted for by the fact that extensive repairs were effected to the shower area during the period under review; also to the fact that the entire fleet was thoroughly overhauled and repaired just prior to the fire. There is no doubt that this expense had some bearing on the satisfactory insurance adjustment.

On the other hand, Caretaker's Wages are considerably reduced, while the item Depreciation does not appear in the Expenditure column, due to the fact that the boats which we now own had to be brought into account at a revaluation.

It will therefore be seen that, but for these items being reduced, our surplus would not have existed.

It is hoped that all members will use the utmost care in handling our new property, for, owing to the enormously increased cost of all equipment, it will be necessary to give these matters careful attention on all occasions.

Membership.

Thirty-nine new members were elected during the year, which is a very satisfactory figure. Every effort has been made to make these new members feel that they are Mercantile men, and coaching arrangements have been satisfactorily conducted.

The membership strength is 146, comprised as follows:—

Life Members	7
Senior Active Members	105
Junior Active Members	23
Honorary Members	11

Donations.

We desire to place on record our appreciation for the material assistance rendered to the Club by the following gentlemen:—Your President (The Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Stephen Morell), and Messrs. A. L. Dobbie, S. Guinn, W. Joseph, T. Marsh, T. S. Nettlefold, A. Moore, B. Evans, J. H. Picken, A. B. Sloan, and R. A. Cooper.

Committee.

Thirteen meetings were held during the year, and the interest evinced in Club affairs by your Committee is shown by the following table of attendances:—

A. R. Clarke 11	K. J. McKenzie 10	H. R. Rush 5
W. A. Dobbie 12	J. L. Mounsey 11	A. R. Shannon 11
E. Kenny 9	C. J. Nicholls 12	J. G. Sprigg 12
E. G. Leggo 7	P. Radich 10	

Club House.

The old building, which had admirably served the Club since 1879, was, on the evening of the 17th April, practically destroyed by fire, the origin of which is unknown; only the front wall and portion of the side wings escaped irreparable damage.

It is interesting to recall that the Club functioned from the beginning in the main portion downstairs for boats and oars, with the front portion upstairs as a dressing room. In 1901 the dressing room was extended to its size prior to the fire, and in 1906 the wings were added.

Permission has been granted by the City Council to renovate the old building on the same external plan as formerly, with the addition of ten feet in length, and tenders for erection have been let to W. A. J. Townsend, the contract price being £2166.

On Saturday, the 23rd April, a Special General Meeting was held at the Banks Club House, when about 80 members attended. Sub-committees were elected to deal with housing and boats, rowing and social matters, and their various duties have been so well attended to that, notwithstanding the inconvenience associated with the absence of a "home," the Club is more active generally than for a number of winter months.

Boats and Oars.

The whole fleet, with the exception of the Clinker Eight (E. Kenny), the Clinker Four (A. R. Clarke), and about 25 oars, was either totally destroyed or severely damaged.

A review of the salvage showed that it would be possible to repair certain boats sufficiently to carry on activity pending the completion of the new fleet; accordingly, the Practice Pairs (S. Guinn and W. Josephs) have been stripped, and will be placed in rowing order at an early date. The Practice Fours (N. Johnson and J. W. Cumberland) have been placed in the hands of the boat builders to be renovated, and will be ready in August. A Practice Scull will, after cleaning and renovating, be available for use.

The following purchases have been made and delivery taken within the last two months:—2 Practice Eights, 1 Practice Four, 1 Practice Scull.

A Tub Four, which had been through the fire and damaged, has been gratefully accepted as a gift from Scotch College. This boat will be renovated and be extremely useful pending the accumulation of our new fleet.

The following orders have been placed, together with the approximate date of delivery:—1 Racing Pair (September, 1927); 2 Practice Fours (November, 1927); 2 Practice Pairs (January, 1928); 1 Clinker Racing Eight (March, 1928, approx.); 1 Clinker Racing Four (July, 1928); 1 Best Four (July, 1928); 1 Practice Eight (March, 1928, approx.).

Further requirements under consideration are:—1 Best Eight, 1 Practice Pair, 1 Clinker Racing Pair.

Delivery of two further sets of oars are expected from Stephen-

sons at any date, while an order has been placed with Norris, England, for two sets of 10 oars each for urgent delivery. Quotes are being obtained locally for further supplies.

The diminished fleet now consists of:—1 Clinker Racing Eight, 1 Clinker Racing Four, 2 Practice Eights, 4 Practice Fours, 2 Practice Sculls, and 46 Oars.

It is here opportune to record our sincere thanks to the Melbourne Grammar School Council for the very valuable assistance rendered to your Club by their generous action in placing portion of their fine boathouse and fleet at our disposal. Appreciation of the sympathetic action by the V.R.A. and all Rowing Clubs, and in particular the Banks Club, and the Melbourne Club in offering your members facilities for training, for storing salvaged material and boats and the use of their Club houses for our meetings, is also recorded.

To your fellow member, Mr. H. G. Taylor, we are greatly indebted. Mr. Taylor generously offered to prepare the various plans and specifications connected with the new building, and his services were gratefully accepted. His work has been arduous, and long hours have been spent in the preparatory work and in the revision of the plans to incorporate the numerous alterations and additions suggested by members and the City Council. His knowledge of the details of construction has been readily availed of by the Executive, and much time has been saved by his promptness in dealing with the various phases of the task of rebuilding. We hereby record our deep appreciation of the invaluable assistance rendered by Mr. Taylor. With him Messrs. W. Pitt and S. Guinn co-operated, and the result of their labour and advice, together with the great help given by your President, should be a Club house complete in every detail.

Rowing.

Australian Championships.

The Eight-oared and Sculling Championships were this year held at Hobart under most unfavourable conditions.

West Australia succeeded in winning the Eight-oared event from New South Wales, with Victoria third. Although no Club member was included in the Victorian Eight, Dr. J. Pannell, your old member, rowed No. 5 in the winning crew.

Mr. R. Pearce, of New South Wales, was successful in the Sculling Championship.

We congratulate the West Australians, and particularly Dr. Pannell, on their success, and we also extend our congratulations to Mr. Pearce.

Association Championships.

Your Club was not represented in any of the State champion events, with the exception of the Sculling Championship, when your member, G. F. McKenzie competed, but without success.

Results of the events held are as follows:—

Champion Eights, Nov. 13, 1926.—Melbourne R.C.

Champion Fours, Jan. 15, 1927.—Melbourne R.C.

Champion Pairs, Dec. 11, 1927.—Wendouree R.C.

Champion Sculls, Nov. 13, 1926.—H. Ricketts (Essendon).

We extend to the winners our hearty congratulations.

Henley Regatta.

October 23rd, 1926.

Senior Eights.—C. J. Nicholls (bow), C. N. McKay (2), K. J. McKenzie (3), J. G. Sprigg (4), H. R. Rush (5), J. L. Mounsey (6), R. V. Gregg (7), J. M. Buchanan (stroke), and Max. Bailey (cox) were defeated in their heat.

Senior Sculls.—Your representative, G. F. McKenzie, was defeated in his heat.

Junior Eights.—J. Sloan (bow), E. G. Leggo (2), W. C. Haworth (3), J. Greenshields (4), J. South (5), P. Radich (6), H. G. Guinn (7), A. R. Shannon (stroke), and Max. Bailey (cox) succeeded in winning their heat and final.

Junior Fours.—V. Turner (bow), E. J. Gill (2), T. B. McKay (3), W. A. Dobbie (stroke), and H. Cliff (cox) won their heat, but lost the final.

Maiden Eights.—Two crews represented your Club and were drawn in the same heat, but were both defeated by Ballarat City. No. 1 Crew: H. G. Taylor (bow), R. Vandersluys (2), C. F. Raven (3), K. B. Pope (4), A. Burton (5), R. Hood (6), R. M. Marquard (7), B. Debney (stroke), and H. Cliff (cox). No. 2 Crew: W. Turnbull (bow), F. J. Elliott (2), W. M. Cooper (3), J. E. Campbell (4), E. L. O'Neill (5), E. C. Brown (6), B. Sullivan (7), H. N. Raven (stroke), and M. E. Green (cox).

V.R.A. Regatta.

October 30th, 1926.

The same crews competed as at Henley Regatta, except that G. F. McKenzie competed in the Junior Sculls, which he won, instead of the Senior Sculls.

The Junior Eight, steered by D. Morell, repeated their Henley performance by winning in fine style.

Footscray Regatta.

November 27th, 1926.

Senior Sculls.—G. F. McKenzie competed and was defeated by H. Ricketts, of Essendon.

Junior Eights.—J. Sloan (bow), W. A. Dobbie (2), K. J. McKenzie (3), E. J. Gill (4), J. South (5), J. G. Sprigg (6), H. G. Guinn (7), A. R. Shannon (stroke), and Max. Bailey (cox) were defeated in their heat by University.

Junior Fours.—C. J. Nicholls (bow), A. A. Gibbs (2), W. C. Haworth (3), E. G. Leggo (stroke), and H. Cliff (cox) were successful in heat and final.

Junior Pairs.—J. A. Greenshields (bow), P. Radich (stroke) and A. Green (cox) won their heat, but lost the final to Footscray City.

Maiden Eights.—H. G. Taylor (bow), H. N. Raven (2), B. Sullivan (3), J. E. Campbell (4), C. F. Raven (5), R. Hood (6), A. J. N. Burton (7), B. R. Debney (stroke), and D. Morell (cox) were defeated in their heat.

Maiden Fours.—W. R. Turnbull (bow), E. L. O'Neill (2), F. Craig (3), K. Pope (stroke), and R. Johnstone (cox) were defeated in their heat.

Nagambie Regatta.

December 27th, 1926. On Lake Nagambie.

A feature of this regatta was the remarkable win in the Maiden Pairs event by your two Club coxswains, Messrs. P. Batten (bow), Max Bailey (stroke) and W. Green (cox). Although these lads weighed about 8 stone each, they succeeded in winning the event after a hard tussle over the latter part of the mile with a Sandhurst pair weighing over 12 stone each. Wild enthusiasm prevailed as the coxswains pair passed the Judge first, and congratulations were received by the boys and the Club from all quarters. Their success was a triumph of honest training and good rowing, and to the enthusiasm of their coach, Mr. P. Radich.

Junior Eights.—J. Sloan (bow), W. A. Dobbie (2), L. C. Hill (3), P. Radich (4), K. J. McKenzie (5), A. A. Gibbs (6), J. South (7), A. R. Shannon (stroke), and Max. Bailey (cox)—were unfortunate in striking a submerged stake near the start, resulting in their non participation in the race.

Junior Fours.—J. Sloan (bow), A. A. Gibbs (2), J. South (3), A. R. Shannon (stroke), and W. Green (cox) were unsuccessful.

Junior Pairs.—K. J. McKenzie (bow), P. Radich (stroke), and W. Green (cox) were defeated.

Maiden Fours.—H. G. Taylor (bow), J. E. Campbell (2), A. J. M. Burton (3), B. R. Debney (stroke), and W. Green (cox) were successful in winning a fine race.

Upper Yarra Regatta.

January 29th, 1927.

Junior Eights.—C. J. Nicholls (bow), E. J. Gill (2), W. C. Haworth (3), L. C. Hill (4), J. South (5), A. A. Gibbs (6), H. G. Guinn (7), E. G. Leggo (stroke), and Max. Bailey (cox) were successful in winning the final.

Junior Fours.—J. Sloan (bow), J. G. Sprigg (2), K. J. McKenzie (3), A. R. Shannon (stroke), and M. Green (cox) rowed a dead heat with Banks in their heat, but lost to Richmond in the final.

Junior Pairs.—J. A. Greenshields (bow), P. Radich (stroke), and C. Muir (cox) were defeated in their heat by Essendon.

Maiden Eights.—H. G. Taylor (bow), R. Hood (2), B. Sullivan (3), G. Matthewman (4), L. Scharp (5), J. E. Campbell (6), A. J. N. Burton (7), B. R. Debney (stroke), and H. Cliff (cox) were defeated by Albert Park in their heat.

Maiden Fours.—W. R. McColl (bow), R. C. P. Ellis (2), E. F. Johnson (3), K. B. Pope (stroke), and R. Cliff (cox) were successful in winning their heat, but lost to Banks in the semi-final.

Light-weight Maiden Fours.—D. J. Burke (bow), F. J. Leete (2), J. G. O'Brien (3), R. E. Perry (stroke), and R. Cliff (cox) won their heat, but were defeated in the final.

Maiden Sculls.—E. Counihan represented your Club in this event, but he was defeated in his heat.

A.N.A. Holiday Regatta.

January 31st, 1927.

The same crews as competed at the Upper Yarra Regatta represented your Club. The Junior Eight won the final of their event, thus winning the double and the second double Junior Eight for the season.

Your members, Messrs. J. Watson, J. H. Picken, A. L. Dobbie and E. Kenny rowed in the Melbourne crew for the Veterans' Race. An excellent race was won by the Nagambie stalwarts, who defeated Melbourne and Ballarat by the narrowest of margins.

Ballarat Regatta.

March 5th, 1927.

Junior Eights.—V. Turner (bow), J. A. Greenshields (2), J. Sloan (3), J. G. Sprigg (4), L. C. Hill (5), E. J. Gill (6), W. C. Haworth (7), E. G. Leggo (stroke), and M. Bailey (cox) were unsuccessful.

Junior Fours.—Two crews represented your Club in this event.—V. Turner (bow), J. G. Sprigg (2), W. C. Haworth (3), E. G. Leggo (stroke), and C. Muir (cox); the other crew being: C. J. Nicholls (bow), P. Radich (2), K. J. McKenzie (3), A. R. Shannon (stroke), and W. Green (cox). Both crews were defeated, Hawthorn winning the event.

Junior Pairs.—K. J. McKenzie (bow), P. Radich (stroke), and W. Green (cox) were unsuccessful.

Coxswains' Race.—Your Club coxswains, Masters Max. Bailey and P. Batten, rowed stroke and seven respectively, and P. Johnston (bow), in the Melbourne coxswains' crew, who were defeated by the Ballarat boys.

Barwon Regatta.

12th March, 1927.

Junior Eights.—The crew which represented you Club at Ballarat were defeated by Ballarat City by a narrow margin in their heat.

Junior Fours.—C. J. Nicholls (bow), P. Radich (2), K. J. McKenzie (3), A. R. Shannon (stroke), and R. Cliff (cox) were successful in the final, thus regaining the lead in the Junior Premiership.

Maiden Eights.—H. G. Taylor (bow), R. Hood (2), C. F. Raven (3), B. R. Debney (4), J. E. Guest (5), J. E. Campbell (6), R. J. Burton (7), K. Pope (stroke), and Max. Bailey (cox) won their heat, but lost in the final to Wendouree after a splendid race.

Maiden Fours.—W. M. Cooper (bow), E. L. O'Neill (2), B. Sullivan (3), H. N. Raven (stroke), and R. Cliff (cox) won their heat, but lost to Ballarat in the final.

Bairnsdale Regatta.

April 16th, 1927.

Junior Fours.—K. J. McKenzie (bow), J. G. Sprigg (2) H. G. Guinn (3), A. R. Shannon (stroke), and W. Green (cox) won this event from Hawthorn.

Junior Pairs.—J. A. Greenshields (bow), P. Radich (stroke), and W. Green (cox) won the final from South Melbourne.

Maiden Eights.—H. G. Taylor (bow), R Hood (2), C. F. Raven (3), B. R. Debney (4), J. E. Guest (5), J. E. Campbell (6), A. J. N. Burton (7), K. Pope (stroke), and H. Cliff (cox) were defeated in the final by Albert Park.

Maiden Fours.—D. C. C. Smith (bow), R. C. P. Ellis (2), B. Sullivan (3), H. N. Raven (stroke), and R. Cliff (cox) were defeated by Sale in the final.

Maiden Pairs.—E. C. McKaige (bow), W. A. Dobbie (stroke), and R. Cliff (cox) were defeated in their heat.

Sale Regatta.

April 18th, 1927.

The same crews as competed at Bairnsdale rowed again at Sale. Your representatives in the Junior Four again won their event, while the Junior Pair were also successful.

Premierships.

The Senior Premiership was won by the Melbourne Rowing Club. We congratulate that Club on their fine performance.

For the first time in the history of your Club, we attained the highest aggregate of points in the Junior Premiership, with 13 wins and 60 points to our credit. Hawthorn were next, and that Club must be congratulated on its sustained effort throughout the season to wrest the Premiership from us. Richmond, too, are to be complimented on their fine season in the Junior division, especially since that Club lost all equipment as a result of the fire just previous to Henley.

It is typical of the sport that, though the keenest rivalry existed between several of the Clubs leading in the Junior division, nothing but good feeling and the best of sportsmanship has existed.

PREMIERSHIP POINTS, Season 1926-27.

Senior.

CLUB.	No. of Wins.	Points.	CLUB.	No. of Wins.	Points.
Melbourne	4	52	Essendon	3	6
Barwon	2	16	Nagambie	2	6
Hawthorn	5	12	Sandhurst	1	1
Wendouree	2	8			

Junior.

CLUB.	No. of Wins.	Points.	CLUB.	No. of Wins.	Points.
Mercantile	13	60	Melbourne	1	8
Hawthorn	10	46	University	1	8
Ballarat City . . .	10	42	Essendon	3	8
Mildura	6	36	Wendouree	1	8
Richmond	6	26	Sale	2	8
Albert Park	6	26	Lake Colac	2	6
Ballarat	7	21	South Melbourne	1	2
Banks	4	20	Yarra Yarra . . .	1	2
Nagambie	4	16	Sandhurst	1	2
Footscray City . .	9	16	Bairnsdale	1	2
Wahgunyah	5	14			

Combination Races.

"Morell" Eights, November 20th, 1926.

A splendid entry of 22 eights, comprising 176 oarsmen, was received for this popular annual fixture. The trophies, in the form of handsome medals, were again donated by your President, Sir Stephen Morell. A feature of the event was the number of entries received from Scotch College, Wesley College and Melbourne High School boys, also from the Lake Colac Rowing Club. The successful crew comprised: W. Turnbull (Merc.), bow; L. Durant (S.C.), 2; J. Swanson (Melb.), 3; H. F. Raven (Merc.), 4; R. Kerr (Merc.), 5; H. Ricketts (E.), 6; T. Keogh (B.), 7; G. Ward (B.), stroke; — Paitlin, cox. We are again indebted to Mr. H. T. James for his services so efficiently rendered in despatch.

Safe Eights.

Your members, A. J. N. Burton, F. S. Elliott and B. Sullivan, rowed in the winning crew.

Albert Park Combination Fours, March 19th, 1927.

Your members, B. Sullivan and H. N. Raven, rowed in the winning crew.

V.R.A. Combination Eights, March 26th, 1927.

Your member, P. Batten, rowed in the winning crew, which was steered by H. Cliff.

Yarra Yarra "J. Connell" Combination Eights.

Your member, B. Sullivan, rowed in the winning Eight.

Club Races.

Mercantile Club Fours, December 11th, 1926.

An entry of 9 crews was received for this event, the winning crew being:—F. R. Brown (bow), E. L. O'Neill (2), A. A. Gibbs (3), J. G. Sprigg (stroke), and R. Cliff (cox).

Guinn Pairs, February 12th, 1927.

An excellent entry of 18 crews competed in this event for trophies presented by Mr. S. Guinn, the result being a win for F. Craig (bow), W. G. Ross (stroke), and C. Muir (cox).

Sloan-Marsh Fours, February 19th, 1927.

Eight crews entered for this race, the trophies being presented by Messrs. A. B. Sloan and T. Marsh. The final was won by C. F. Raven (bow), H. N. Raven (2), W. C. Haworth (3), B. R. Debney (stroke), and W. Green (cox).

"Picken" Fours and Ladies' Day, April 2nd, 1927.

An entry of 11 crews was received for trophies presented by Mr. J. H. Picken, the conditions being that the crews could be arranged by the members themselves and to be handicapped by Mr. E. Kenny. The races resulted in a win for the following Four:—J. G. O'Brien (bow), E. R. Perry (2), P. E. Batten (3), Max. Bailey (stroke), and W. Green (cox). We extend our congratulations to this crew of young members for their good win.

T. S. Nettlefold "Cock of the Walk" Fours.

This is a competition suggested by your Vice-President, Mr. T. S. Nettlefold, who has again donated handsome trophies for the event. Briefly, the conditions are that Club members are separated by the Selection Committee under the different seats in which they will row. The competition then proceeds by a challenge being issued to another crew for a race over a $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile course. Points are won by each member of the winning crew. That crew is then challenged by another, and so on. The four members who gain the highest aggregate of points throughout the period of the competition are then entitled to the trophies. Only one race was rowed in this competition prior to the fire destroying the fleet, and it has been decided to defer further races until our Practice Fours, now on order, have been delivered.

Head of the River.

May 7th, 1927.

The Scotch College crew were again successful in this event, after a splendid race in the final with Wesley. We extend our congratulations to the Scotch crew, who trained from our Club house, and to Max. Bailey, one of your Club coxswains, who steered the crew.

Points Competition.

Messrs. P. Batten, H. G. Taylor, J. G. Sprigg and P. Radich are equal in the Points Competition, and it is intended to hold the Dobbie-Joseph Fours at an early date to decide the ultimate winner.

The Coxswains' Trophy was won by R. Cliff, a younger brother of H. Cliff, last year's winner of the competition.

Social.

The inaugural social function of the year was the Annual Dinner, which took place at the Middle Park Hotel on the 20th November. About 75 members and visitors were present, overflowing the room in which it was held. As is customary, many members of metropolitan clubs attended by the invitation of your President, who was present, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

The Club is again indebted to the generosity of your President, who, whilst in England, procured a set of Norris oars for presentation to the Club.

During the season your President was elected to the Lord Mayoralty of the City of Melbourne, and in May last His Majesty The King conferred on him a knighthood. We heartily congratulate Sir Stephen and Lady Morell on the recognition of their services. Though his civic duties now leave him little time for other matters, Sir Stephen still spends much of what spare moments he has to further the interests of your Club. His presence on the river bank, almost every night, and his kindly advice is much appreciated.

On the 2nd April Ladies' Day was held in conjunction with the "Picken" Fours, and a large gathering of ladies made the afternoon a pleasant and successful one. Afternoon tea was served in the new Henley kiosk.

Two dances, arranged by the new Social Committee and held at the "Palms" on the Henley lawns, have been held, the first of which was a tremendous success, about 140 ladies and gentlemen being present. The second function was not so well attended, but was equally enjoyable. Great praise is due to Mr. E. O'Neill, the Social Secretary, and the energetic Committee in charge of these dances for the efficient management, and to the Orchestra, who so generously provided the music.

A Smoke Night was held in the Melbourne Club House on the 21st May, when about 50 members were present. The attendance was rather disappointing; nevertheless, an evening worthy of the Club was enjoyed. We are indebted to the Melbourne Club for their action in placing their Club House at our disposal for the evening.

A gift of trophies was received from four members of the Ballarat City Rowing Club, who, as an expression of appreciation of our hospitality, donated trophies for competition by Club members. We appreciate these gentlemen's action.

Your Captain (Mr. J. L. Mounsey), Mr. J. T. Dunstan and Mr. C. N. McKay are the only members to have entered the ranks of the "Benedicts" during the year. We wish these members every success and future prosperity.

A football match between the Hawthorn Club and ourselves has been arranged to take place on the 16th inst. at Twickenham.

Annual Ball.

This popular function was held on the 23rd of June at the Ormond Hall. The arrangements were carried out by the Social Committee, and they left nothing to be desired. A satisfactory attendance of, chiefly, rowing folk ensured the success of the function.

Obituary.

We record our sincere regret of the bereavements in the family of our fellow clubmen, S. Guinn and J. T. Dunstan.

In September our old friend, "Dick" Connors, passed away. We record our sincere regret at the loss of such a conscientious and valued employee, whose loss to the Club was a severe one. Many members attended his funeral to pay him their last respects.

General.

The outstanding feature of the year has been the success of the Club crews competing in Junior and, to a lesser degree, Maiden races. The result has been the winning, for the first time in the Club's history, of the Victorian Junior Premiership.

To your Captain the successful rowing season is largely due. His unflagging energy and enthusiasm has been an example to all, and it is indeed gratifying that his work for the Club should have been rewarded in the success that has been achieved. Most of the coaching of Junior crews was carried out by Mr. Mounsey, chiefly through the lack of volunteers from Senior and other capable members, who might be expected to relieve the Captain of continuous coaching duties.

Your Club owes much to Mr. Paul Wade, who at the beginning

of the season was resident in Melbourne, and who undertook the coaching of the successful Junior Eight at Henley and the V.R.A. Regattas; while he also assisted in the coaching of the Senior Eight for those regattas. His interest in his old Club should be an incentive to other members, who might spare a small portion of their time in the Club's advancement.

Thanks are due also to Messrs. R. T. Rush, H. R. Rush, A. L. Dobbie, J. H. Counihan, J. H. Harding and R. V. Gregg for their help during the season in the coaching of crews; while the Club is deeply appreciative of the services rendered by many Junior and Maiden men, who assisted in teaching new members under the guidance of your Vice-Captain.

To Masters Max. Bailey, H. Cliff, R. Cliff, W. Green, D. Morell, C. Muir and P. Johnston we extend our thanks for their services so efficiently rendered.

Conclusion.

Your Committee appreciates the general assistance given by you throughout the year, and solicits a renewal of your help for the incoming Committee. A strong effort should be made to increase our representation in Senior races, and success in this division, much as it is desired, can only be fulfilled by renewed effort by all concerned.

You are asked to bear the consequences of the fire in as patient a manner as possible, for the same boating facilities as formerly will not prevail for some little time.

Your Committee is gratified at the manner in which support is given to the Club functions which have been held since the fire. Such support at this stage cannot but augur well for the Club when again established in its new quarters.

On behalf of your Committee,

C. J. NICHOLLS,

Hon. Secretary.

Addendum.

The Club has been successful during the past season in winning the Junior Premiership, and the Committee congratulates not only the winning members of the crew that attained the position for us, but also all other members for the enthusiasm they put into their work during the season, which all helped to bring about the winning of the Junior Premiership.

I join the Committee in the hope that the same enthusiasm will continue and will result in our attaining much higher honours.

The misfortune which overtook us by that disastrous fire, whilst causing us great loss, has on the other hand blended our members in a manner which I did not think possible, for, from the smallest coxswain to the Captain and old members, all came to the Club's help, and, with the start which has already been made, I have no doubt that from the ashes of the old shed a better and stronger Club will arise.

The Committee join me in thanking all members for their support to the old Club in the hour of need.

S. J. MORELL,

President.

List of Members, 1926-27 Season.

LIFE MEMBERS.

Dobbie, A. L.	Ivens, P. C.	Sloan, A. B.
Gilchrist, T. R.	Potter, W.	Stooke, N.
Joseph, W.		

ACTIVE MEMBERS.

Bernadou, P. R.	Harding, J. H.	O'Neill, E. L.
Beech, W. H.	Harvey, W. C.	Pender, C. D.
Betts, F. W.	Haworth, C. W.	Picken, J. H.
Boniwell, M. C.	Hill, L. C.	Pinkerton, F. T.
Browne, F. R.	Hood, R.	Pitt, W. G.
Buchanan, Dr. J. M.	Horder, G.	Pope, K. B.
Burmeister, C.	Johnson, E. F.	Radich, P.
Burke, D. J.	Johnson, S. S. F.	Raven, C. F.
Burton, A. J. M.	Kenny, E.	Raven, H. N.
Campbell, C. H.	Kerr, J. A.	Roberts, E.
Campbell, J. E.	Kerr, R. J.	Rush, H. R.
Chappell, A. C.	Kinnear, H.	Rush, R. T.
Clarke, A. R.	Leete, F. J.	Ryan, W. F.
Connolly, F. R.	Leggo, E. G.	Sangster, C. W.
Cooper, J. M.	Lillie, A. M.	Shannon, A. R.
Cooper, W. M.	Lindblade, A. G.	Sloan, J.
Cooper, Dr. R. A.	Livingston, J. M.	Smith, U. R.
Craig, F.	Marquard, R. M.	Smyth, H.
Craig, W.	Marsh, T.	South, J.
Debney, B. R.	Matthewman, G.	Sprigg, J. G.
Dobbie, W. A.	Martin, A. R.	Sullivan, B.
Dorman, A.	Montgomery, L. G.	Swan, D.
Dunstan, J. T.	Morell, J.	Swan, C.
Egeberg, H.	Mounsey, J. L.	Taylor, H. G.
Elliott, F. J.	Munro, K.	Taylor, J. W.
Fenton, S.	McCull, W. R.	Treharne, A. G.
Galvin, V.	McKaige, E. C.	Thornton, A. G.
Gardiner, R. G.	McKay, C. N.	Turnbull, W. R.
Gardner, Geo.	McKay, T. B. M.	Turner, V.
Gibbs, A. A.	McKenzie, E. A.	Vanderkelen, C.
Gill, E. J. A.	McKenzie, G. F.	Vandersluys, R.
Greenshields, J. A.	McKenzie, K. J.	Valentine, L. P.
Gregg, R. V.	Nicholls, C. J.	Watson, J.
Guinn, H. G.	Nugent, P. F.	Wood, A.
Guinn, S.	O'Brien, J. G.	Williams, M. S.

JUNIOR MEMBERS.

Batten, P. E.	Gillespie, R.	Newell, G. F.
Begg, D. G.	Guest, J. E.	Perry, E. R.
Card, A. V.	Higgins, J. B.	Pinkney, R.
Clarke, D. C.	Jack, I. McN.	Reed, A. E.
Craig, M.	Lumsden, J. McK.	Sharp, J. P.
Challen, H. B.	Lillywhite, E. F.	Smith, D. C. C.
Church, R. L.	Morris, E. G.	Wischer, I.
Ellis, R. C. P.	McCowan, N. D.	

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Agel, R.	Ferguson, G.	O'Reilly, J.
Bradshaw, E. T.	Gomm, S. H.	Sturrock, J. McL.
Brooke, D. C.	Kock, A. N.	Wootton, K. C.
Courtney, Dr. G. C. P.	McNaughton, M. S.	

REVENUE ACCOUNT for 11

INCOME.

Subscriptions	£380 0 6
Donations	36 19 0
Annual Dinner	2 4 7
Annual Ball, 1926	4 12 4
Entrance Fees, Club Races	31 15 6
Interest	15 3 7

£470 15 6

A. CLARKE,
Hon. Treasurer.

Melbourne, 15th July, 1927.

Months ending 30th June, 1927.

EXPENDITURE.

Repairs to Boats, Oars and Shed	£192	5	10
General Expenses	45	8	1
Insurance	11	4	2
Victorian Rowing Association Dues and Fees	21	19	6
Coxswains' Expenses	17	10	9
Freight to Country Regattas	13	6	8
Fares to Country Regattas	1	19	11
Ladies' Day	6	0	6
Caretaker's Wages	4	7	6
Bank Charges	1	2	0
Upper Yarra Regatta Association and A.N.A. Regatta Subscription	7	2	0
Singlets and Caps	1	3	9
Rates and Lighting	20	9	0
Trophies	25	3	1
Entrance Fees, Regattas	1	5	0
Annual Meeting	11	15	4
Entry Fees, Combination Races	1	11	6
Balance, being Surplus for Year transferred to Capital Account	87	11	0
	£470	15	6

Audited and found correct,

K. C. WOOTTON, F.C.P.A.,

Hon. Auditor.

BALANCE SHEET as at 30th June, 1927.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Trophy Orders Unpresented	£33 1 6	Boats, Oars and Sculls	£505 15 6
Boat Building Fund	7 14 8	Stock on Hand and Debtors—Singles	4 6 9
Insurance Surplus Suspense A/c	929 1 11	Outstanding Subscriptions, Season 1926-7	63 19 0
Subscriptions for Season 1927-8 paid in advance	7 10 6	Freight Refunds Outstanding	5 18 9
Sundry Creditors	106 2 7	Rebuilding Expenses, Suspense	11 7 11
Capital Account—		Cash at Bank N.S.W.	£26 16 9
Balance at 31/7/26	£1961 4 0	Cash at State Savings Bank	2,540 8 2
Add Balance from Revenue			
A/c—Surplus for 11 months ended 30/6/27	87 0 11		
	2048 4 11		
	£3,131 16 1		£3,131 16 1

A. CLARKE,

Hon. Treasurer.

Melbourne, 15th July, 1927.

Audited and found correct,

K. C. WOOTTON, F.C.P.A.,

Hon. Auditor.