



MELBOURNE

FORTY-EIGHTH
Annual Report
...and...
Balance Sheet

SEASON 1927-28

Mercantile Rowing Club.



Club House,

Princes Bridge,

16th July, 1928.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Forty-Eighth ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Mercantile Rowing Club will be held at the Club House on MONDAY, the 23rd day of July, 1928, at 7.45 p.m. (Smoke Night on SATURDAY, 28th July, at 8 p.m.)

BUSINESS :

1. To confirm the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
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 1927-28.

List of Office-Bearers.

President:

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

Vice-Presidents:

T. F. BRENNAN, Esq.
R. A. COOPER, Esq.
A. L. DOBBIE, Esq.
Sir GEO. FAIRBAIRN.

J. HERMAN, Esq.
W. JOSEPH, Esq.
T. S. NETTLEFOLD, Esq.
A. B. SLOAN, Esq.

Captain:

J. G. SPRIGG.

Vice-Captain:

A. R. SHANNON.

Hon. Secretary:

C. J. NICHOLLS.

Hon. Treasurer:

A. R. CLARKE.

Executive Committee:

W. A. DOBBIE (resigned 11/1/28).	P. RADICH (resigned 13/9/27). H. G. TAYLOR.
E. KENNY.	B. SULLIVAN (elected 8/11/27).
K. J. MCKENZIE (resigned 11/10/27).	J. SOUTH (elected 8/11/27). J. A. GREENSHIELDS (elected 11/1/28).
J. L. MOUNSEY (resigned 8/11/27).	G. J. HORDER (elected 14/2/28). C. F. RAVEN (elected 14/2/28).
E. L. O'NEILL (resigned 14/2/28).	

Selection Committee:

J. L. MOUNSEY (resigned 11/10/27).	A. R. SHANNON. A. L. DOBBIE (elected 8/11/27).
J. G. SPRIGG.	

Hon. Auditor:

F. R. BROWNE, L.I.C.A.

Hon. Solicitor:

M. S. WILLIAMS.

Victorian Rowing Association:

Elected Members:

A. L. DOBBIE.
W. JOSEPH.

Representative Members:

A. R. CLARKE.
J. G. SPRIGG.

Delegate to the Upper Parra Amateur Regatta Assn.
U. R. SMITH.

Delegate to Metropolitan Rowing Committee.
J. G. SPRIGG. C. J. NICHOLLS.

Representative to Melbourne Amateur Regatta Assn. (Henley)
W. JOSEPH.

The Forty-Eighth Annual Report

OF THE

Mercantile Rowing Club



Club House,
Princes Bridge, Melbourne.

16th July, 1928.

To the Members of the Mercantile Rowing Club,

Gentlemen,

In presenting to you the Forty-Eighth Annual Report, your Committee has pleasure in recording the past year as one during which the successful re-establishment of the Club's activities has been achieved after the fire of April, 1927, when your Club House and fleet suffered severe damage. In September, we were able to take possession of our new Club House and to commence rowing under somewhat restricted conditions owing to our small fleet. Since then deliveries of boats have been made from time to time, and has enabled members to enjoy the facilities of the Club under less handicapped conditions, although many more boats are required before the aim of your Committee will have been achieved.

The outstanding feature of the season has been the influx of new members, resulting in the membership reaching 183, this number being by far the highest in the Club's history. New members are still being enrolled.

As membership has increased so much, your Committee has placed with boatbuilders additional orders, which, when fulfilled, should adequately provide for all. Your Committee feels justified in pursuing this policy, despite the fact that accommodation from the bank will be necessary to do so; but, with care and the increased revenue expected from the larger membership, together with the several undertakings which are in progress to reduce our indebtedness, it is hoped that our debit at the bank will be steadily decreased.

From the rowing point of view, the past season has not been as successful as was anticipated, only one event in the Junior competition having been won; but, on the other hand, more success was achieved in the Senior division, and our victories towards the close of the season in events of this class is a hopeful augury for the coming season. Greater success can be confidently looked for in Maiden and Junior rowing, because of the election of over 60 new members. Most of these members have advanced sufficiently in the sport to warrant consideration being given to their selection in next season's regatta events. Competition will thus be created among the members themselves, which, it is thought, will improve the standard of the selected crews.

A departure from the usual regatta itinerary was made when a crew competed at the Rutherglen regatta, and, apart from that crew's

double success, the members who competed expressed great pleasure at the hospitality extended to them and at the fine course and surroundings on which the regatta is held.

Many improvements to the river bank adjacent to the boatsheds have been effected during the year, and work in this direction is still in progress. The building of the new staging and the diversion of traffic to the rear of the boathouses are great conveniences.

The action of the City Council in effecting these improvements is greatly appreciated.

Finance.

In addition to the original tender of £2,166 for the re-building of the Club House, further expense not provided for under the original contract was incurred by the Re-building Committee. Such items as the hardwood flooring of the two wings and the re-flooring of the Committee room, etc., resulted in the total of £2,330 being spent on the re-building.

Subscriptions show a healthy increase, but outstanding subscriptions is still too large, and is disappointing to the Treasurer.

Boats and equipment have again increased in cost, and the utmost care in their use is urged.

Committee.

Seventeen meetings of the Committee were held during the year, the attendances being:—

A. R. Clarge . . . 15	K. J. McKenzie . . . 1	B. Sullivan . . . 7
W. A. Dobbie . . . 7	C. J. Nicholls . . . 15	A. R. Shannon . . . 16
J. A. Greenshields . . . 7	E. L. O'Neill . . . 8	J. G. Srigg . . . 16
G. Horder 3	C. F. Raven . . . 7	J. South 5
E. Kenny 13	P. Radich 3	H. G. Taylor . . . 10
J. L. Mounsey . . . 4		

We regret the loss of Messrs. K. J. McKenzie, E. L. O'Neill and P. Radich, whose resignations from the Committee were accepted during the year through their leaving the State.

While thanking them for their services, the Committee tender their best wishes for their future success.

Club House, Boats and Oars.

Towards the end of the year 14 additional lockers, making a total of 154, were installed and have all been allotted. It will probably be necessary in the near future for still more lockers.

Through a fault in the drainage in the shower area, not apparent when possession was taken, it has been necessary to relay the floor.

Since our last report, delivery has been taken of the following:—
2 Practice Fours (damaged by fire and re-built), 3 Practice Pairs, 1 Clinker Eight, 1 Racing Pair, 2 Sets of 10 each Norris Oars, 4 Sets of 8 each Stephenson Oars, 10 Sundry Oars.

Orders lodged for boats and oars yet to be delivered are:—1 Best Eight, 2 Practice Eights, 1 Best Four, 1 Clinker Four, 2 Practice Fours, 1 Racing Pair, 6 Sets Stephenson Oars.

During the season, new boats received were named as follows:—
1 Practice Eight (The "J. L. Mounsey"), 1 Practice Eight (The "A. B. Sloan"), 1 Practice Four (The "N. C. Nation"), 1 Practice Pair (The "A. G. Lindblade"), 1 Racing Pair (The "P. C. Ivens").

Rowing.

Australian Championships.

6th May, 1928.

Penrith, New South Wales, was the scene of this year's championship, and the Australian Amateur Rowing Council's policy of holding these important races on the best course available in each State, irrespective of whether that course happens to be in the metropolis or not, appears to be a wise one.

Your Club had the honour of three of its members being selected to represent Victoria in the eight-oared race, namely:—C. N. McKay, J. South and R. D. Emms. Owing to unforeseen circumstances, J. South was the only one who was eventually able to race in the crew.

A splendid race resulted in West Australia retaining the King's Cup, Queensland being second, Tasmania third, and Victoria fourth.

R. Pearce, the Olympic representative, again won the sculling championship.

We extend our congratulations to the West Australians and to Mr. Pearce.

Association Championships.

Champion Eights, 18th February, 1928.

Your Club, represented by J. A. Greenshields (bow), A. R. Shannon (2), H. G. Guinn (3), J. G. Sprigg (4), W. C. Haworth (5), J. L. Mounsey (6), J. South (7), C. N. McKay (stroke), M. Green (cox), and Mr. A. B. Sloan, coach, competed, but without success. Melbourne were the winners, to whom we extend our congratulations.

Champion Fours, 17th December, 1928.

The Club's inability to procure a best four prevented our representation in this race. We extend our congratulations to Hawthorn, who were successful.

Champion Pairs, 14th January, 1928.

Your representatives, H. R. Rush (bow), R. D. Emms (stroke), with M. Green (cox), rowed second to Wendouree, to whom the Club's congratulations are extended.

Champion Sculls, 18th February, 1928.

A. Cambridge, of the Bendigo Club, was the only entrant for this event, and he retained the championship on a row over.

Henley Regatta.

22nd October, 1927.

Senior Eights.—C. J. Nicholls (bow), A. R. Shannon (2), W. C. Haworth (3), J. G. Sprigg (4), J. South (5), A. A. Gibbs (6), H. G. Guinn (7), T. M. Chisholm (stroke), with Max Bailey cox and Mr. E. C. H. Taylor coach, were defeated by Mildura in their heat.

Junior Fours.—J. A. Greenshields (bow), L. C. Hill (2), T. B. N. McKay (3), E. G. Leggo (stroke), with R. Cliff cox and Mr. H. R. Rush coach, were defeated in their heat by Bendigo.

Maiden Eights.—Two crews competed in this event, but both were unsuccessful in their heats.

No. 1 Crew:—H. G. Taylor (bow), J. A. Campbell (2), B. Sullivan (3), G. Matthewman (4), S. McKay (5), A. J. N. Burton

(6), J. E. Guest (7), H. M. Raven (stroke), with M. Green cox and Mr. A. Dobbie coach, were defeated by Richmond in their heat.

No. 2 Crew:—R. M. Marquard (bow), W. Bell-Towers (2), E. L. O'Neill (3), R. Scott (4), A. V. Card (5), E. F. Johnson (6), C. F. Raven (7), K. B. Pope (stroke), with H. Cliff cox and Mr. M. S. Williams coach, were beaten by Footscray in their heat.

V.R.A. Regatta.

29th October, 1927.

Senior Eights.—Your representatives were defeated in the heat and final by Melbourne, who thereby finally won the second Morell Cup.

Junior Fours.—Your representatives were defeated in their heat by Hawthorn.

Maiden Eights.—Both crews were again defeated in their respective heats.

Maiden Pairs.—W. M. Cooper (bow), R. Turnbull (stroke), with N. Pickston (cox), were defeated in their heat by Essendon.

Lightweight Maiden Fours.—H. B. Challen (bow), I. McK. Lumsden (2), D. J. Burke (3), R. E. Perry (stroke), and K. Bilney (cox), were beaten in their heat.

Footscray Regatta.

26th November, 1927.

Senior Fours.—J. G. Sprigg (bow), A. A. Gibbs (2), H. G. Guinn (3), A. R. Shannon (stroke), and M. Green (cox), were defeated in their heat.

Junior Pairs.—C. J. Nicholls (bow), J. A. Greenshields (stroke), and K. Bilney (cox), were successful in their heat, but lost to South Melbourne in the final.

Maiden Eights.—H. G. Taylor (bow), H. S. Hooper (2), W. Bell-Towers (3), G. Matthewman (4), S. S. McKay (5), J. G. Guest (6), A. J. N. Burton (7), J. A. Campbell (stroke), with Max Bailey (cox), were defeated in their heat.

Maiden Fours.—B. Sullivan (bow), H. N. Raven (2), C. F. Raven (3), K. B. Pope (stroke), with R. Cliff (cox), were defeated in their heat by Footscray.

Lightweight Maiden Eights.—H. B. Challen (bow), R. C. Pinkney (2), D. J. Burke (3), W. Turnbull (4), R. L. Church (5), I. McK. Lumsden (6), A. Sloss (7), R. E. Perry (stroke), with H. Cliff (cox), were defeated in their heat.

Nagambie Regatta.

26th December, 1927.

Senior Fours.—J. South (bow), A. A. Gibbs (2), W. C. Haworth (3), J. G. Sprigg (stroke), with R. Cliff (cox), were defeated in the final.

Senior Pairs.—H. R. Rush (bow), R. D. Emms (stroke), with M. Green (cox), were successful in this event.

Junior Fours.—J. South (bow), A. A. Gibbs (2), W. C. Haworth (3), J. G. Sprigg (stroke), with R. Cliff (cox), were beaten by Footscray by a narrow margin.

Maiden Fours.—P. E. Batten (bow), J. H. Bailey (2), A. V. Card (3), Max Bailey (stroke), and R. Cliff (cox), were unfortunate

in that they were obliged to row in a practice boat through an accident occurring to the racing four in a previous event. The crew was unsuccessful.

Maiden Pairs.—A. J. N. Burton (bow), J. E. Campbell (stroke), with M. Green (cox), were defeated.

Rutherglen Regatta.

2nd January, 1928.

Senior Fours.—J. South (bow), A. A. Gibbs (2), W. C. Haworth (3), J. G. Sprigg (stroke), with M. Green (cox), were successful in this event after a fine race against Wahgunyah.

Junior Fours.—The same crew competed in this race and were again successful.

Upper Yarra Regatta.

28th January, 1928.

Junior Pairs.—C. J. Nicholls (bow), J. A. Greenshields (stroke), and K. Bilney (cox) were defeated in their heat.

Maiden Eights.—H. G. Taylor (bow), D. C. Clarke (2), B. Sullivan (3), M. C. Dowd (4), W. Bell-Towers (5), J. E. Campbell (6), J. E. Guest (7), A. J. N. Burton (stroke), and M. Green (cox) were defeated by South Melbourne in their heat.

Maiden Fours.—P. E. Batten (bow), J. H. Bailey (2), A. V. Card (3), Max Bailey (stroke), and R. Cliff (cox) were beaten in their heat.

Maiden Pairs.—L. S. Digby (bow), F. Batten (stroke), and N. Pickston (cox) were defeated in their heat.

Lightweight Maiden Fours.—J. W. Seammens (bow), R. S. Hamilton (2), A. M. Mansfield (3), I. McK. Lumsden (stroke), and K. Guest (cox) were defeated in their heat.

A.N.A. Holiday Regatta.

30th January, 1928.

The same crews again competed, but without success. The Maiden Four won their heat, but lost the semi-final. The other crews were unsuccessful in their heats.

Ballarat Regatta.

3rd March, 1928.

Senior Eights.—J. A. Greenshields (bow), A. R. Shannon (2), H. G. Guinn (3), J. G. Sprigg (4), W. C. Haworth (5), R. D. Emms (6), J. South (7), C. N. McKay (stroke), M. Green (cox), and Mr. A. B. Sloan (coach), were successful in winning a fine race.

Junior Pairs.—C. J. Nicholls (bow), L. C. Hill (stroke), and K. Bilney (cox) were defeated.

Maiden Eights.—B. Sullivan (bow), H. N. Raven (2), C. F. Raven (3), K. B. Pope (4), J. E. Guest (5), J. E. Campbell (6), S. S. McKay (7), A. J. N. Burton (stroke), and M. Green (cox), with Mr. M. S. Williams (coach), were defeated.

Barwon Regatta.

10th March, 1928.

The *Senior Eight* were again successful, and won the final after a splendid race with Ballarat. The *Junior Pair* competed in the

Senior Pair event and won their heat, and lost the final to Wendouree. The *Maiden Eight* was prevented from competing owing to several members of the crew having to undergo military duties.

Maiden Pairs.—A. J. N. Burton (bow), J. E. Campbell (stroke), and K. Bilney (cox) were defeated in the final after winning their heat.

Bairnsdale Regatta.

7th April, 1928.

Maiden Eights.—G. Hogg (bow), L. O'Donnell (2), P. E. Batten (3), D. Saunders (4), A. P. Miller (5), G. Horder (6), M. C. Dowd (7), J. H. Bailey (stroke), and Max Bailey (cox) were defeated in their heat by Sale.

Maiden Pairs.—L. S. Digby (bow), F. H. Batten (stroke), and M. Green (cox) were defeated in their heat.

Lightweight Maiden Fours.—J. W. Blight (bow), F. H. Batten (2), L. S. Digby (3), G. A. Mansfield (stroke), and M. Green (cox) were defeated in their heat by Sale.

Sale Regatta.

9th April, 1928.

The *Maiden Eight* were successful in their heat and semi-final, but lost to Sale in the final.

The *Lightweight Four* were also defeated in the final, while the *Maiden Pair* did not start.

Metropolitan Rowing Committee's Regatta.

16th June, 1928.

During the year Mr. T. Mannix convened a meeting of metropolitan Club officials, the result of which was the formation of the Metropolitan Rowing Committee, whose worthy objects are: the advancement of the sport in the metropolitan area; promotion of social entertainments among the Clubs and the management of affairs relating to metropolitan Clubs only.

With a view to encouraging novice members and the improvement of the rowing standard of those members who usually make their debut at Henley, a Novice Regatta was held. Entries received were most encouraging, 187 rowers participating.

A feature of the regatta was the great interest displayed by both contestants and those connected with the sport generally. Your Club achieved much success in winning both the eight-oared events and the lightweight fours, and the result, it is hoped, will be reflected in events at the commencement of next season.

Novice Eights.—Two crews competed.

No. 1 Crew.—C. F. Raven (bow), D. Saunders (2), A. P. Miller (3), M. C. Dowd (4), S. S. McKay (5), J. H. Bailey (6), B. Sullivan (7), H. N. Raven (stroke), and M. Green (cox), with J. G. Sprigg (coach).

No. 2 Crew.—L. J. O'Donnell (bow), R. Scott (2), J. P. Graham (3), W. R. Lillie (4), A. M. Lillie (5), G. J. Horder (6), J. E. Guest (7), T. M. Chisholm (stroke), K. Bilney (cox), and A. R. Shannon (coach).

The No. 1 Crew were defeated in their heat, but the No. 2 Crew won their heat and achieved a fine win in the final.

Lightweight Eights.—R. Cornish (bow), L. S. Digby (2), J. W. Seammes (3), S. Hamilton (4), A. Sloss (5), G. A. Mansfield (6), J. G. O'Brien (7), R. E. Perry (stroke), and K. Cook (cox), with A. A. Gibbs (coach), were narrowly defeated by Banks in the final, but through a misunderstanding of the conditions of entry the Banks crew was disqualified and the race awarded to your representatives.

Lightweight Fours.—A. Sloss (bow), G. A. Mansfield (2), J. G. O'Brien (3), R. E. Perry (stroke), and K. Cook (cox), with A. A. Gibbs (coach), were successful in heat and final. No. 2 crew, comprising R. Cornish (bow), S. Hamilton (2), J. W. Seammes (3), L. S. Digby (stroke), and K. Bilney (cox), were defeated in their heat.

Novice Sculls.—E. F. Johnson and Max Bailey competed in this event, the former being beaten in his heat, while the latter won his heat, but lost the final by a small margin.

Premierships.

We extend our congratulations to the Melbourne Club, who again won the Senior Premiership. Richmond's feat in winning the Junior Premiership is indeed a fine one, since, throughout the year, their training and racing facilities were very limited. The Club is to be warmly congratulated on the manner in which its members overcame all difficulties and succeeded in placing their Club in such a prominent position.

PREMIERSHIP POINTS, Season 1927-28.

		Senior.			
Club	Wins	Pts.	Club	Wins	Pts.
Melbourne	2	32	Bendigo	3	5
Mercantile	4	22	Barwon	1	4
Hawthorn	3	16	Ballarat	2	4
Richmond	4	16	Wahgunyah	1	2
Wendouree	4	14	Merbein	1	2
		Junior.			
Richmond	10	52	Essendon	3	12
Ballarat	9	39	Warrnambool	3	12
Albert Park	9	38	Banks	2	10
Ballarat City	9	38	Wendouree	6	10
Footscray City	8	34	Melbourne	2	6
Mildura	5	30	South Melbourne	2	6
Hawthorn	6	26	Wentworth	2	6
Sale	3	18	Merbein	1	4
Wahgunyah	5	16	Mercantile	1	4
Rutherglen	5	16	Bendigo	1	2
Nagambie	3	14	Corio Bay	1	2

Combination Races.

Morell Eights, 13th November, 1927.

A record entry of 26 crews, comprising 208 oarsmen, was received for this popular annual fixture, for which trophies are donated by your President, Sir Stephen Morell, who presented the trophies to the winning crew at the conclusion of the racing. The successful crew was:—J. Tonner (Ballarat), bow; E. Elliot (Pres.), 2; A. T. Jolly (Wes. Coll.), 3; B. Coe (Pres.), 4; W. Sullivan (Melb.), 5; W. Sutton (Rich.), 6; J. South (Merc.), 7; J. G. Sprigg (Merc.), stroke; and W. Green (Merc.), cox.

Mr. H. T. James again ably directed despatch duties, and we owe much of the success of this function to his valued assistance.

Connell Eights, Yarra Yarra Club.

E. F. Johnson and A. P. Miller were members of the winning crew.

Club Races.

Dobbie-Joseph Fours, 20th August, 1927.

This event, which was to have been in last season's programme, but which was deferred until our boats were repaired, resulted in a win for H. G. Taylor (bow), C. F. Raven (2), W. C. Haworth (3), H. N. Raven (stroke), and R. Cliff (cox).

By his win in this event, H. G. Taylor secured the highest aggregate of points in the Points Competition for last season's Captain's trophy, closely followed by P. E. Batten, J. G. Sprigg and P. Radich.

Mercantile Fours, 3rd December, 1927.

Ten crews entered for this race, the trophies being silver cups suitably inscribed; the final being won by A. R. Clarke (bow), W. R. Turnbull (2), S. McKay (3), A. J. N. Burton (stroke), with K. Bilney (cox).

Dobbie-Joseph Novice Fours, 14th January, 1928.

Eight crews competed for trophies donated by Messrs. A. L. Dobbie and W. Joseph, the conditions being that members who had not won a regatta final of higher status than a lightweight race, were eligible to compete. The final resulted in a win for D. D. Cook (bow), S. Hamilton (2), R. J. Kerr (3), F. H. Batten (stroke), and K. Bilney (cox).

Guinn Pairs, 25th February, 1928.

An entry of 14 crews was received, the winners being L. O'Donnell (bow), Max Bailey (stroke), and R. Cliff (cox).

Picken Handicap Fours, 30th June, 1928.

The conditions for this event were that crews might select themselves to be handicapped by Mr. Kenny, the course being half a mile. A satisfactory entry of 12 crews was received, and generally the finishes were close; the winners being M. Vale (bow), W. R. Lillie (2), J. E. Guest (3), A. Sloss (stroke).

Nettlefold "Cock of the Walk Fours."

This competition has succeeded in creating considerable interest, and a number of challenge races have been held, but your Committee has decided to extend the period of the competition until the end of December. This course has been made necessary through the shortage of practice fours during the training season, but, with the expected early delivery of two new boats, adequate facilities for the conduct of this competition will be available.

Bradshaw Fours.

Mr. E. T. Bradshaw has donated silver cups to the Club, and your Committee has decided that they be competed for on the 28th July next, under conditions the same as those governing the Picken Handicap Fours.

Long-Distance Rowing.

Towards the end of the season your Committee decided to offer trophies for eights and fours who covered the seven-mile course from the shed to the 3-mile mark and back in the shortest time. Eights are

entitled to include up to two senior oarsmen and must include two novice men in their composition, while fours may include one senior oarsman and must row at least one novice. There is no restriction on the balance of the crew's members. The object of the innovation is chiefly to improve the stamina of members and to give novice men an opportunity of long rows with senior oarsmen. The times recorded by the first crews to complete the course have been reduced on several occasions. The crews completing the course in the shortest time up to the end of July will be awarded the trophies.

Head of the River.

11th and 12th May, 1928.

We extend our congratulations to Xavier College, who were successful this year for the first time after a hard struggle against Scotch College, who fought every inch of the journey in characteristic fashion.

United Service Regatta.

19th May, 1928.

A pleasing feature of the year's rowing was the success achieved by the 37th Battalion eight, the personnel of which, with one exception, are members of your Club, and was coached by Mr. A. R. Shannon. Your fellow members in the crew are H. B. Challen (bow), J. P. Graham (3), W. R. Lillie (4), A. M. Lillie (5), G. Horder (6), H. G. Guinn (7), L. M. Johnson (stroke), with Max Bailey (cox). — Mollard, of the Banks Club, rowed in the No. 2 seat.

Points Competition.

The Points Competition for the Captain's trophy is at present undecided, six members having gained an equal number of points. The result will be decided when our next Club race takes place. The six members who have each gained equal points are Messrs. Max Bailey, L. S. Digby, L. O'Donnell, J. E. Guest, R. J. Kerr, and W. R. Turnbull.

For the information of members who are unaware of the conditions governing the Points Competition, the opportunity is taken to advise that one point is credited to members who enter for Club races and one point for each win.

The Coxswains' Trophy was won by K. Bilney.

Membership.

Sixty-seven nominations for election were accepted during the season, and, with this influx of novice men anxious to improve their rowing, the year has been a particularly busy one for Committeemen.

The membership list, comprising 183 names, is made up as follows:—

Life Members	7
Senior Active Members	114
Junior Active Members	52
Honorary Members	10
	<hr/>
	183

This number constitutes a record in the Club's history.

Donations.

Appreciation of the material assistance received from the following donors is hereby recorded:—Your President (Sir Stephen Morell), Messrs. E. T. Bradshaw, T. F. Brennan, R. A. Cooper, sen., A. L. Dobbie, J. J. Fogarty, A. A. Gibbs, W. C. Harvey, W. Joseph, J. G. Morrison, M. S. Williams, J. H. Picken, A. B. Sloan, J. G. Sprigg, The Melbourne Amateur Regatta Association (Henley), M. and J. Bailey, and H. Smyth.

Social.

The outstanding social event of the season was the official opening of the new Club House on October 1st, when Sir Stephen Morell presided over an attendance of 150 past and present members and many visitors from Victorian Clubs. The large attendance of past members was particularly gratifying, and signifies the esteem they hold for their old Club. Mr. A. B. Sloan gave a very interesting outline of the Club's history since his association with it in 1894. Mr. A. Weston-Pett also interested those present with details of his connection with the Warehousemen's Club, which eventually became the Mercantile in 1879. Mr. Weston-Pett's presentation to the Club of a photograph of the first Mercantile winning crew, with himself in the coxswain's seat, is much appreciated. The function was a pronounced success and a fitting opening of our new premises.

The Annual Dinner, held on the 24th March, attracted the satisfactory attendance of 85 members and visitors at The Palms. As is customary, your President entertained several representatives of kindred Clubs and prominent rowing identities.

During the season Messrs. G. Horder, C. F. Raven, B. Sullivan, A. P. Miller, H. B. Challen and K. B. Pope undertook the duties of a Social Committee, and have arranged a series of eight monthly dances at The Palms. The success of the functions which they have conducted to date places the Club in their debt, and you are fortunate in having such enthusiasts in charge of affairs.

Their efforts, in addition to encouraging the social life of members, are also an important source of revenue.

Your Committee desires to place on record its appreciation of Mr. Horder's valuable services in improving the financial position of the Club.

Blazers and Sweaters.

During the year a plebiscite among members was taken to determine their wishes regarding blazers, which your Committee felt should be more prominent than in the past. As a result a majority favoured an alteration from the old design to one in which the colour should be Cambridge blue with white facings and gold crest on pocket. Sweaters bearing the Club crest are also available.

Obituary.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Messrs. R. D. Emms, E. Kenny, J. T. Murray and R. V. Greig, who lost relatives during the year.

General.

Keen pleasure is expressed at the return by the Club to its former prominent position in Senior rowing. The fact that second place in

that division was secured by your Club denotes the value of last year's victory in the Junior section.

Though well represented throughout the year in Maiden races, no success was achieved, but, with such a large number of new members who are taking a keen interest in their rowing, more success in races during next season is expected.

We record our deep appreciation of Mr. E. C. H. Taylor's action in offering his services as coach of the Senior Eight at Henley, after Mr. Sloan's inability to continue owing to illness.

The interest evinced by your President (Sir Stephen Morell) in the Club are greatly appreciated.

Thanks are due to Messrs. A. B. Sloan, A. L. Dobbie, H. R. Rush, M. S. Williams, A. A. Gibbs, A. R. Shannon and J. G. Sprigg for their services as coaches, also to members who have so unselfishly devoted their time to the teaching of novices.

As it is anticipated that a particularly busy season is before us, the offers of help as coaches of selected crews and of beginners will be of great assistance.

To Masters Max Bailey, M. Green, H. and R. Cliff, K. Bilney, K. Guest, N. Pickston, K. Cook, G. Williams and — Elliott we record our thanks for their services as coxswains.

Reference must here be made to the work done in all metropolitan Clubs' interest by Mr. H. Butler, of the Melbourne Club, whose services as Trucking Officer were again availed of and are of great value.

Your Committee expresses its pleasure at the recovery of Mr. A. L. Dobbie from his recent serious illness.

To those past and present members who have donated photographs of crews to replace those destroyed, we record our thanks.

Telephone.

Members are advised that a private telephone has now been installed for their convenience, the number being F. 4583.

Conclusion.

In conclusion, your Committee wishes to stress the urgent necessity of members, who can afford the time, to devote even a small portion of it in coaching the large number of new members with whom the incoming Committee will have to deal.

Although an appeal of this nature is made almost annually, the responsibility of coaching selected crews and beginners is usually left to a few, but it is hoped that, during the coming season at least, more help will be offered. Our members must then progress as you all wish they should.

On behalf of the Committee,

C. J. NICHOLLS,

Hon. Secretary.

LIST OF MEMBERS, 1927-28 SEASON.

LIFE MEMBERS.

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

ACTIVE MEMBERS.

Batten, P. E.	Guinn, H. S.	Nugent, P. F.
Bernadou, P. R.	Guinn, S.	O'Brien, J. G.
Berwick, J. A.	Harvey, W. C.	O'Neill, E. L.
Betts, F. W.	Haworth, W. C.	Pender, C. R.
Black, S.	Hill, L. C.	Perry, E. D.
Blain, D. H.	Hogg, G.	Picken, J. H.
Braithwaite, C. T.	Hood, R.	Pinkerton, F.
Browne, F. R.	Horner, G. J.	Fitt, W. G.
Burmeister, C.	Johnson, E. F.	Pinkney, R.
Burke, D. J.	Johnson, S. S. F.	Pope, K. B.
Burton, A. J. N.	Kennedy, K.	Radich, P.
Campbell, J. E.	Kenny, E.	Raven, C. F.
Campbell, C. H.	Kerr, R. J.	Raven, H. N.
Card, A. V.	Kinnear, H.	Roberts, E.
Clarke, A. R.	Leete, F. J.	Rush, H. R.
Clarke, D. C.	Leggo, E. G.	Rush, K. T.
Chappell, A. C.	Lillie, A. M.	Ryan, W. F.
Cooper, Dr. R. A.	Lindblade, A. G.	Scott, R.
Cooper, J. M.	Lumsden, I. McK.	Seammen, W. G.
Cooper, W. M.	Martin, A. R.	Searle, N. M.
Connolly, F. R.	Marsh, T. W.	Shannon, A. R.
Cornish, R. B.	Matthewman, G.	Sloan, J.
Craig, W.	Marquard, R. M.	Smith, U. R.
Craig, F.	Millsom, J. H.	Smyth, H.
Currie, W. C.	Miller, A. P.	South, J.
Debney, B. R.	Montgomery, L. G.	Soward, R. S.
Dobbie, W. A.	Morell, J.	Sprigg, J. G.
Dorman, A.	Mounsey, J. L.	Stooke, G. F.
Dunstan, J. T.	Moignard, P.	Sullivan, B.
Egeberg, H.	McCull, W. R.	Taylor, H. G.
Ellis, R. C. P.	McKaige, E. C.	Thornton, A. G.
Emms, R. D.	McKenzie, E. A.	Treharne, A. G.
Galvin, V.	McKenzie, G. F.	Turnbull, W. R.
Gardiner, R. G.	McKenzie, K. J.	Vanderkelen, C.
Gardner, G.	McKay, C. N.	Wale, G. J.
Gibbs, A. A.	McKay, T. B. N.	Watson, J.
Greenshields, J. A.	Nicholls, C. J.	Williams, M. S.
Gregg, R. V.	Norton, F. W.	Wood, A.

JUNIOR MEMBERS.

Bailey, J. H.	Graham, I. P.	O'Donnell, L.
Batten, F. H.	Guest, J. E.	O'Sullivan, J.
Bell-Towers, W.	Hamilton, S.	Guld, W. J.
Blight, J. W.	Johnson, L. M.	Pearce, V. E.
Cairnes, N. W.	Johnstone, P. R.	Perrin, J. M.
Challen, H. B.	Lees, N.	Raphael, L. L. B.

List of Members, 1927-28 Season.

(Continued)

Chisholm, T. M.	Lewis, R. W.	Saunders, D.
Church, R. L.	Lillie, W. R.	Seammen, J. W.
Cook, D. D.	Lloyd, A. J. H.	Shoppee, A. H.
Corbett, A. B.	Manning, B. L.	Sloss, A.
Counihan, E.	Mansfield, G. A.	Smith, D. C. C.
Cox, B.	Murray, I. T.	Stirling, D. S.
Digby, L.	McCullough, K.	Straus, H. R.
Dowd, M. C.	McKay, S. S.	Timewell, S.
Driver, R. A.	Newbury, H.	Wischer, I.
Forsyth, J. L.	Nicol, G. J.	Wishart, R. G.
Gilbert, B. E.	O'Brien, W. G.	Wright, J. J. A.
Gilroy, D. J.		

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Agel, R.	Gomm, S.	MacNaughton, M. S.
Bradshaw, E. T.	Jones, L.	O'Reilly, J.
Brooke, D. C.	Koch, A. H.	Sturroch, J.
Counihan, J. H.		

REVENUE ACCOUNT for 12

INCOME.

Subscriptions	£415	2	0
Donations	237	10	5
Entrance Fees, Club Races	39	0	0
Bank Interest	13	0	11
Sale of Pullovers and Badges	5	13	6
Sale of Singlets	1	2	0

 £711 8 10

Balance brought down	213	14	0
Fire Insurance Claim Account	929	1	11

 £1,142 15 11

C. A. CLARKE,
Hon. Treasurer.

Melbourne, 14th July, 1928.

Months ending 30th June, 1928.

EXPENDITURE.

Trophy Orders	£18 15 0
Insurance	32 19 3
Lighting, General and Water Rates	5 16 11
Entrance Fees, Regatta Races	1 7 6
General Expenses	62 7 1
V.R.A. Dues and Fees	26 5 0
Coxswains' Expenses, Country Regattas	13 7 9
Upper Yarra Regatta	2 2 0
Bank Charges	1 0 0
Depreciation, Boat House	50 0 0
Depreciation, Boats, Oars and Sculls, written down	160 1 11
Metropolitan Rowing Association	0 10 6
Freight, Country Regattas	14 11 10
Hire of Boats	7 7 0
Boat Staging	13 6 8
Occupancy Fee	5 5 0
Entrance Fees, Combination Races	1 9 2
Repairs, Boats, Oars, Sculls	75 18 4
Social Functions	5 3 11
Balance carried down (Surplus for twelve months)	213 14 0
	<hr/>
	£711 8 10
	<hr/>
Reinstatement Expenses	21 14 2
Balance Surplus transferred to Capital Account ..	1,121 1 9
	<hr/>
	£1,142 15 11

Audited and found correct,

F. R. BROWNE, L.I.C.A.,

Hon. Auditor.

BALANCE SHEET as at 30th June, 1928.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Sundry Creditors	£42 10 0	Boat House at Cost	£2,373 17 11
Trophy Orders Unpresented	34 2 6	Less Depreciation	50 0 0
Subscriptions paid in advance	17 10 6		£2,323 17 11
Boat Building Fund	7 14 8	Boats, Oars and Sculls at Valuation	792 5 0
Capital Account—		Club Fittings	32 0 8
Capital as at 30th June, 1927	£2,048 4 11	Cash at Bank—	
Add Surplus from Revenue		Bank of New South Wales	45 7 4
Account	1,121 1 9	State Savings Bank	27 13 5
			73 0 9
Capital as at present	3,169 6 8	Stock on Hand—	
		Singlets	1 14 0
		Pullovers and Badges	7 7 0
			9 1 0
		Subscriptions outstanding	35 3 6
		Sundry Debtors	0 15 6
		Accounts paid in advance	5 0 0
			5 15 6
	£3,271 4 4		£3,271 4 4

C. A. CLARKE,

Hon. Treasurer.
Melbourne, 14th July, 1928.

Audited and found correct,

F. R. BROWNE, L.I.C.A.,

Hon. Auditor.

WHOLLY SET UP
AND PRINTED IN AUSTRALIA BY
J. T. PICKEN & SONS, PTY. LTD.,
FRANKLIN STREET, MELBOURNE