

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB

MELBOURNE



58th Annual Report
and
Balance Sheet

SEASON 1937-38

Mercantile Rowing Club



Club House,
Princes Bridge,
1st July, 1938,

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fifty-eighth ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Mercantile Rowing Club will be held at the Club House on SATURDAY, 30th JULY, 1938, at 7.45 p.m. (The Annual Smoke Night will be held at the conclusion of the meeting).

BUSINESS:

To confirm the minutes of the previous General Meeting.

To receive and adopt the Annual Report and Balance Sheet.

To elect Office-Bearers for the ensuing year.

To consider the following Notice of Motion, viz.:—

(a) That Rule 23 be altered to read:

A selection committee, consisting of three members one of whom shall be the Captain shall be appointed by the General Committee at the May meeting, whose duty shall be to select the competitors for championship, regatta and club races. It shall also have power to alter the personnel of any crew at any time, and in this matter shall be guided by the advice of the coach. Any member of the selection committee who in the opinion of the General Committee unduly absents himself from the club shall be relieved of his duty by the General Committee, and another member appointed in his stead.

(b) That the words "Selection Committee" be deleted from Rule 31.

General.

By order of the Committee,

F. NEWPORT,

Hon. Secretary.

Mercantile Rowing Club

SEASON 1937-38

List of Office Bearers

President :

A. L. DOBBIE, Esq.

Vice=Presidents :

E. T. BRADSHAW, Esq.	J. L. MOUNSEY, Esq.
T. F. BRENNAN, Esq.	C. N. McKAY, Esq.
R. A. COOPER, Esq.	Cr. C. T. S. NETTLEFOLD, O.B.E.
Sir GEORGE FAIRBAIRN	J. H. PICKEN, Esq.
W. JOSEPH, Esq.	A. B. SLOAN, Esq.
J. M. MACFARLANE, Esq.	G. W. SMITH, Esq.

Captain :

N. W. CAIRNES.

Vice=Captain :

H. P. BRADDOCK (resigned 17/1/38).
C. H. M. WARD (appointed 17/1/38).

Hon. Secretary :

F. NEWPORT.

Hon. Assistant Secretary :

A. J. CALLANDER.

Hon. Treasurer :

C. A. R. CLARKE.

Executive Committee :

J. P. L. APPLEBY.	E. KENNY
J. H. BAILEY.	S. C. MACRAE (appointed 15/11/37).
M. E. GREEN.	(resigned 16/5/38).
L. T. D. HILLARD	D. MORGAN (appointed 16/5/38).
(resigned 18/10/37).	D. S. STIRLING (resigned 21/2/38).
G. J. HORDER.	G. H. WEBSTER (appointed 21/2/38).

Selection Committee :

J. H. BAILEY. N. W. CAIRNES.
A. P. MILLER.

Hon. Auditor :

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

Hon. Solicitor :

M. S. WILLIAMS, LL.M.

Victorian Rowing Association :

Executive Members

A. L. DOBBIE.
E. KENNY.

Elected Member

J. H. BAILEY.

Representative Members

N. W. CAIRNES.
A. J. CALLANDER.

Delegates to the Upper Harra Amateur Regatta Association :

J. P. L. APPLEBY. M. E. GREEN.

Delegates to the Metropolitan Rowing Committee :

H. P. BRADDOCK. F. NEWPORT.

Representative to Melbourne Amateur Regatta Association (Benley)

W. JOSEPH.

Victorian Amateur Sculling Association :

M. E. K. HANSEN.

The Fifty-Eighth Annual Report

of the

Mercantile Rowing Club



To the Members of the Mercantile Rowing Club,—

Your Committee has pleasure in submitting for your consideration the 58th Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year ending 30th June, 1938.

Your Club was well represented at all major regattas during the season, and was successful in annexing the Junior Premiership for the second season in succession. The points were very close and the result in doubt until the last regatta day of the year. Your congratulations are offered to the runners-up, Melbourne Rowing Club, who improved from a pointless position last season to second place on the list. Your lightweights were largely responsible for the pleasing result achieved. Of recent years this section has been a source of great strength to the Club, and the number of wins recorded is ample proof that there is the pleasure of competitive rowing with the definite prospect of success for even the lightest men attracted to the sport.

Third place on the Senior List shows no advance on last season. It is hoped that the experience gained in this class by men recently promoted will be reflected in results next year. The lack of maiden wins has been most disconcerting. Improvement must be shown in this division to ensure advance of members into higher grades. With a view to future maiden crews, the Committee directs your attention to the new members. The assistance of men with regatta experience with the coaching of novices would be greatly appreciated.

Club races held at fortnightly intervals during the winter months received fair support, and the Seven-Mile Trial attracted a moderate entry. Social functions were mostly successful, the Annual Ball being an outstanding event. Your Committee wishes to record its appreciation of the generous measure of support given to all functions, social or otherwise, throughout the year by the members.

A more detailed account of the Club's activities for the past season is submitted for review.

It is pointed out that the stroke of any crew is responsible generally for the care of the boat and oars being used. If he ensured that the correct procedure of getting into and out of the boat were observed, and that the boat were steered with a maximum of caution when leaving and approaching the staging, unnecessary damage would be avoided.

Of recent months the fleet indicator board has lost its force. Arrangements have been made to ensure that all matters reported in future will be immediately attended to.

A weighing machine was purchased at the commencement of the year for the convenience of members.

Executive and Committee.

Early in January the Vice-Captain, Mr. H. P. Braddock, resigned his position owing to the pressure of business. Mr. C. H. M. Ward was appointed in his stead. Transferred from the city, Messrs. W. Hillard and D. S. Stirling, resigned from the Executive Committee. Messrs. S. C. Macrae and G. H. Webster were elected to fill the vacancies. Later, when Mr. Macrae was transferred to Western Australia, Mr. D. Morgan was elected to the vacant seat on the Committee.

During the year 12 regular and 2 special meetings of Committee were held. Attendances were as follows:

J. P. L. Appleby . . . 9	A. L. Dobbie . . . 9	D. Morgan . . . 2
J. H. Bailey . . . 13	M. E. Green . . . 13	F. Newport . . . 12
H. P. Braddock . . . 4	L. Hillard . . . 1	D. S. Stirling . . . 4
N. W. Cairnes . . . 14	G. Horder . . . 7	C. Ward 6
A. J. Callander . . . 11	E. Kenny . . . 9	G. H. Webster . . . 3
C. A. R. Clarke . . . 13	S. C. Macrae . . . 7	

Rowing.

Empiad and Australian Championships.

The rowing events of the Empire Games were held on the Nepean River at Penrith, during Sydney's sesquicentenary, on Wednesday, 9th February, 1938.

The eight-oared race was won by England from Australia after a magnificent struggle over the full course with New Zealand in third position. Australia defeated Canada in the four-oared event with New Zealand again third. Messrs. S. J. Elder (Albert Park), who rowed in the 3 seat of the four, and M. Gaskin (Albert Park) and J. Suffren (Melbourne), emergencies, were Victoria's representatives at the Empiad. Your Club member, Mr. E. Kenny, acted as umpire for the rowing events of the Games.

The annual eight-oared championship for the King's Cup was held on Saturday, 7th May, at Melbourne, Victoria, all six States competing. Victoria's representatives were: M. Hutton (Richmond) (bow), M. Gaskin (Albert Park), S. J. Pitcher (Albert Park), A. James (Preston), G. Anderson (Mercantile), R. Mills (Ballarat), S. J. Elder (Albert Park), A. Jacobsen (Banks) (stroke), D. Calnin (Richmond) (cox), Mr. B. Thompson (coach).

In a thrilling finish, West Australia snatched the victory from New South Wales, who had led for the greater part of the course. Tasmania gained third place in a well fought tussle with Victoria.

We congratulate our Club members, Messrs. G. Anderson (who rowed 5) and W. G. Ross (emergency), on their Interstate selection, and also an ex-member, Mr. G. Perkins, upon selection in the Queensland eight.

The sculling championship for the President's Trophy, held on the same day, was won by C. Pearce (N.S.W.) by a good margin from L. Purves (Vic.).

State Championship Events.

Champion Fours, 18th December, 1937.

Held on the Lower Yarra and won by Albert Park, with Mercantile close up in second place.

The following were your Club's representatives:—H. Wilkes (bow), H. P. Braddock, G. Anderson, W. G. Ross (stroke), R. Duncan (cox), Mr. D. C. Brooke (coach).

2000-Metre Sculling Championship, 18th December, 1937.

Rowed downstream on the Lower Yarra and won by L. A. Purves (Yarra Yarra).

Champion Eights, 12th February, 1938.

This race was rowed on the lower river, Mercantile finishing third to Albert Park and Corio Bay. Your Club was represented by: H. Wilkes (bow), E. K. L. Varcoe, J. P. Appleby, N. V. Nixon, D. A. Calder, J. B. Clemens, G. Anderson, W. G. Ross (stroke), R. Duncan (cox), Mr. D. C. Brooke (coach).

Sculling Championship, 12th February, 1938.

Rowed upstream over a 2½-mile course and won by L. A. Purves (Yarra Yarra).

Champion Junior Eights, 19th March, 1938.

Held over a 2-mile course, the winners being Corio Bay. Your Club's representatives were: E. Jones (bow), G. E. Trickett, P. A. Black, G. Clabburn, L. T. D. Hillard, J. H. P. Clark, A. T. Rorke, S. C. Macrae (stroke), M. Cowling (cox), Mr. J. H. Bailey (coach).

Champion Lightweight Junior Eights, 19th March, 1938.

Seven crews competed for this title over a one and a half mile course and Melbourne were successful in a close, hard fought race. Mercantile finished in fourth place, a few feet behind the winners, the crew being: C. H. M. Ward (bow), D. B. Palfreyman, V. Bourne,

J. Lee, J. N. Robertson, A. J. Callander, D. Morgan, R. O'Sullivan (stroke), B. Clerihan (cox), Mr. M. E. Green (coach).

Champion Pairs, 26th March, 1938.

Held at Ballarat and won by Albert Park. Your Club was not represented.

To the winner of the foregoing championships we extend your congratulations.

Regattas.

Metropolitan Regatta.

2nd October, 1937.

Novice Eight.—W. A. Trickett (bow), P. Hemming, A. T. Rorke, N. A. Ryan, D. Disher, G. E. Trickett, C. C. Lalor, A. J. Callander (stroke), B. Clerihan (cox), with Mr. A. P. Miller as coach, won the heat but were defeated in the final.

Novice Four No. 1.—V. Bourne (bow), G. Hiller, H. E. Morrison, C. H. M. Ward (stroke), M. Cowling (cox), Mr. R. S. Bolton (coach), were unsuccessful in their heat.

Novice Four No. 2.—O. Coffey (bow), R. E. Paton, F. N. White, J. Lee (stroke), R. Duncan (cox), F. Newport (coach), were also defeated.

Novice Pair.—L. W. Roper (bow), H. S. Bowden (stroke), J. Williams (cox), L. T. D. Hillard (coach), won their heat but were defeated in the final.

Lightweight Four.—S. G. Richardson (bow), J. S. K. Coffey, J. N. Robertson, R. O'Sullivan (stroke), V. Matthews (cox), Mr. D. S. Stirling (coach), reached the final, in which they failed by a narrow margin.

Lightweight Pair.—P. W. Vanderkelen (bow), J. Jones (stroke), A. Fyfe (cox), D. Morgan (coach), scratched their entry.

V.R.A. Regatta.

20th November, 1937.

Senior Eights.—H. Wilkes (bow), R. Ferguson, D. G. Firth, C. F. Campbell, D. A. Calder, J. B. Clemens, P. A. Black, H. P. Braddock (stroke), R. G. Duncan (cox), Mr. M. E. Green (coach), were not successful.

Senior Fours.—J. Blair-Holt (bow), W. G. Ross, G. Anderson, E. K. L. Varcoe (stroke), A. Fyfe (cox), Mr. D. C. Brooke (coach), lost this event.

Junior Eights.—L. B. Weire (bow), N. W. Cairnes, E. Jones, L. Fox, J. C. Couzens, B. R. Chandler, G. H. Webster, A. W. Dobbie (stroke), A. L. Dobbie (coach), were also defeated.

Maiden Eight No. 1.—W. A. Trickett (bow), P. Hemming, A. T. Rorke, N. A. Ryan, E. H. Morrison, G. E. Trickett, C. C. Lalor, A. J. Callander (stroke), B. Clerihan (cox), Messrs. W. G. Pitt and A. P. Miller (coaches), lost their heat to the ultimate winners.

Maiden Eight No. 2.—C. M. Harry (bow), A. W. P. Cordia, T. W. Roxburgh, J. H. P. Clark, L. W. Roper, H. S. Bowden, G. T. Hastie, G. Clabburn (stroke), M. Cowling (cox), Mr. R. V. Gregg (coach), were likewise unsuccessful.

Maiden Fours.—D. Morgan (bow), A. Atkins, R. R. Brewin, R. T. Brewin (stroke), J. Williams (cox), J. J. McFarlane (coach). won the heat but were beaten in the semi-final.

Lightweight Maiden Eights.—D. S. Stirling (bow), J. S. K. Coffey, V. Bcurne, R. Paton, J. N. Robertson, J. Lee, C. H. M. Ward, R. O'Sullivan (stroke), V. Matthews (cox), K. Bilney (coach), won their heat but were defeated in the final.

Lightweight Maiden Fours.—N. Coade (bow), J. Jones, S. G. Richardson, D. Palfreyman (stroke), B. Clerihan (cox), G. H. Webster (coach), were defeated in their heat.

Melbourne Amateur Regatta (Henley).

27th November, 1937.

Senior Eights.—Your V.R.A. representatives were again unsuccessful.

Junior Eights.—The crew of the previous week was again defeated.

Maiden Eights.—Your No. 1 and No. 2 Crews won their respective heats, but met with no success in the semi-finals.

Maiden Fours.—Your V.R.A. crew scored a fine win in this event.

Lightweight Maiden Eights.—Your representatives of the previous week won their heat, but were defeated in the final.

Nagambie Regatta.

27th December, 1937.

Maiden Eights.—J. F. Major (bow), G. Hiller, E. H. Morrison, G. E. Trickett, G. T. Hastie, J. H. P. Clark, A. T. Rorke, N. Watson (stroke), M. Cowling (cox), Mr. J. Bailey (coach), were unsuccessful.

Maiden Pairs.—R. R. Brewin (bow), R. T. Brewin (stroke), J. Williams (cox), Mr. J. J. McFarlane (coach), were unfortunate to lose this event.

Lightweight Maiden Fours.—N. Coade (bow), W. Henty, J. N. Robertson, R. O'Sullivan (stroke), V. Matthews (cox), Mr. M. E. Green (coach), won this event.

Lightweight Maiden Pairs.—V. Bourne (bow), J. Lee (stroke), L. Clerihan (cox), Mr. K. Bilney (coach), were defeated.

Rutherglen Regatta.

1st January, 1938.

Senior Eights.—H. S. Wilkes (bow), E. K. L. Varcoe, R. Ferguson, J. B. Clemens, D. A. Calder, W. G. Ross, J. P. Appleby, H. P. Braddock (stroke), R. Duncan (cox), Mr. D. C. Brooke (coach), scored a win in this event.

Senior Fours.—H. S. Wilkes (bow), H. P. Braddock, R. Ferguson, W. G. Ross (stroke), R. Duncan (cox), Mr. D. C. Brooke (coach), were unsuccessful.

Junior Fours.—N. W. Cairnes (bow), S. C. Macrae, J. C. Couzens, J. F. Winford (stroke), A. Fyfe (cox), R. Winford (coach), were not successful.

Junior Pairs.—J. C. Couzens (bow), J. F. Winford (stroke), A. Fyfe (cox), R. Winford (coach), were also defeated.

Maiden Eights.—J. F. Major (bow), F. Macrae, H. E. Morrison, G. E. Trickett, G. T. Hastie, J. H. P. Clark, A. T. Rorke, N. P. Watson (stroke), M. Cowling (cox), Mr. J. H. Bailey (coach), were the winners of this event.

Maiden Fours.—K. Smith (bow), G. E. Trickett, A. T. Rorke, N. P. Watson (stroke), M. Cowling (cox), Mr. J. H. Bailey (coach), were unsuccessful in this event.

Maiden Pairs.—R. R. Brewin (bow), R. T. Brewin (stroke), J. Williams (cox), Mr. J. J. McFarlane (coach), were again defeated.

Lightweight Maiden Fours.—N. Coade (bow), W. Henty, J. N. Robertson, R. O'Sullivan (stroke), V. Matthews (cox), Mr. M. E. Green (coach), repeated their fine win at Nagambie.

Lightweight Maiden Pairs.—V. Bourne (bow), J. Lee (stroke), L. Clerihan (cox), Mr. K. Bilney (coach), were again unsuccessful.

Upper Yarra Regatta.

29th January, 1938.

Senior Eights.—H. Wilkes (bow), E. K. L. Varcoe, J. P. L. Appleby, N. V. Nixon, D. A. Calder, J. B. Clemens, G. Anderson, W. G. Ross (stroke), R. Duncan (cox), Mr. D. C. Brooke (coach), were defeated in the heat.

Junior Fours.—D. Morgan (bow), R. T. Brewin, R. R. Brewin, S. C. Macrae (stroke), M. Cowling (cox), Mr. J. McFarlane (coach), lost the heat by a narrow margin.

Junior Pairs.—N. W. Cairnes (bow), J. C. Couzens (stroke), W. Morrison (cox), failed in the final after a good win in their heat.

Maiden Eights.—W. Trickett (bow), P. Hemming, K. Smith, N. Ryan, L. Hillard, H. Bowden, C. Lalor, G. Clabburn (stroke), V. Matthews (cox), Mr. J. Bailey (coach), were unfortunate to lose the final by a foot.

Maiden Fours—*No. 1 Crew:* H. E. Morrison (bow), G. E. Trickett, A. Rorke, J. H. P. Clark (stroke), J. Williams (cox), Mr. G. Horder (coach), and *No. 2 Crew:* F. N. White (bow), P. E. Hull, A. McCallum, N. P. Watson (stroke), L. Clerihan (cox), Mr. J. F. Ross (coach), were both defeated in their respective heats.

Lightweight Maiden Eights.—S. G. Richardson (bow), R. Cliff, V. Bourne, D. B. Palfreyman, J. N. Robertson, J. Lee, C. H. M. Ward, R. O'Sullivan (stroke), B. Clerihan (cox), Mr. J. South (coach), won this event in fine style.

A.N.A. Regatta.

31st January, 1938.

Senior Eights.—Your Upper Yarra representatives, after dead-heating in the event, provided a thrilling race to win the re-row by six inches.

Junior Eights.—K. C. M. Kerr (bow), D. Macrae, E. Jones, L. Fox, J. R. Clark, B. R. Chandler, G. T. Hastie, J. Winford, A. Fyfe (cox), Mr. M. E. Green (coach), were unsuccessful.

Junior Fours.—This crew was again unplaced.

Maiden Eights.—Your crew won its heat but was defeated in the final.

Maiden Fours, Nos. 1 and 2.—Both crews were defeated, No. 1 crew after reaching the final.

Lightweight Maiden Eights.—Your representatives of the previous regatta completed a fine winning double in this event.

Barwon Regatta.

26th February, 1938.

Senior Eights.—H. Wilkes (bow), E. K. L. Varcoe, J. P. L. Appleby, N. W. Cairnes, D. A. Calder, J. B. Clemens, G. Anderson, W. G. Ross (stroke), R. Duncan (cox), Mr. D. C. Brooke (coach), were defeated in the heat.

Junior Eights.—R. R. Brewin (bow), R. T. Brewin, E. Jones, J. J. McFarlane, G. T. Hastie, J. Winford, P. A. Black, S. C. Macrae (stroke), M. Cowling (cox), Mr. J. Bailey (coach), were unsuccessful.

Maiden Eights.—W. A. Trickett (bow), G. Hiller, K. Smith, N. Ryan, L. T. D. Hillard, H. S. Bowden, C. C. Lalor, G. Clabburn (stroke), A. Fyfe (cox), were narrowly beaten in their heat.

Maiden Fours.—N. P. Watson (bow), G. E. Trickett, A. T. Rorke, J. H. P. Clark (stroke), B. Clerihan (cox), scored a meritorious win in this event.

Lightweight Maiden Fours.—N. Coade (bow), J. S. K. Coffey, R. Cliff, R. Paton (stroke), V. Matthews (cox), were unplaced.

Ballarat Regatta.

5th March, 1938.

Senior Eights.—Your Barwon representatives with D. A. Calder (7) and G. Anderson (5), rowed well to fill third place.

Junior Eights.—This crew was again unsuccessful.

Junior Fours.—Your Maiden Four of the previous week entered in this event and finished in second place—a fine performance.

Maiden Fours.—Your representatives were narrowly defeated in this start also.

Lightweight Maiden Fours.—The crew which rowed at Barwon were again defeated.

Bairnsdale Regatta.

16th April, 1938.

Junior Eights.—D. Morgan (bow), R. T. Brewin, R. R. Brewin, D. Macrae, J. J. McFarlane, S. C. Macrae, A. T. Rorke, J. H. P. Clark (stroke), B. Clerihan (cox), Mr. M. Bailey (coach), lost this event.

Junior Fours.—D. Morgan (bow), S. C. Macrae, A. T. Rorke, J. H. P. Clark (stroke), B. Clerihan (cox), Mr. M. Bailey (coach), were the winners of this race.

Lightweight Fours.—S. G. Richardson (bow), D. B. Palfreyman, J. N. Robertson, R. O'Sullivan (stroke), M. Cowling (cox), Mr. M. E. Green (coach), also gained first place.

Lightweight Pairs.—J. N. Robertson (bow), R. O'Sullivan (stroke), M. Cowling (cox), Mr. M. E. Green (coach), were unsuccessful.

Sale Regatta.

18th April, 1938.

Junior Eights.—This crew was again defeated.

Junior Fours.—Your representatives of the previous regatta completed a winning double.

Lightweight Fours.—This crew also repeated their victory of the previous regatta.

Lightweight Pairs.—Your crew was again defeated.

Premierships.**PREMIERSHIP POINTS.****Senior.**

	Wins.	Points.		Wins.	Points.
Albert Park	5	44	Corio Bay	—	8
Richmond	4	24	Yarra Yarra	2	6
Mercantile	2	20	Corowa	2	4
Preston	4	8	Banks	1	4
Melb. University	2	8	Lake Colac	1	2

Junior.

	Wins.	Points.		Wins.	Points.
Mercantile	11	56	Corowa	3	6
Melbourne	7	52	Mildura	2	6
Richmond	7	49	Bendigo	2	5
Wendouree	7	32	Sale	2	4
Footscray City	7	32	Corio Bay	1	8
Banks	7	30	Power House	1	8
Ballarat	7	26	Dimboola	1	4
Albert Park	5	20	Nagambie	1	4
Preston	6	18	Ballarat City	1	4
Shepparton	4	16	Warrnambool	1	2
Rutherglen Lake	4	8	Barwon	1	2
Bairnsdale	3	8			

To Albert Park, the winners of the Senior Pennant, we extend your hearty congratulations.

Head of the River.

13th May, 1938.

Your congratulations are extended to Melbourne Grammar School on their win in this event for Public Schools.

Inter-Banks Regatta.

18th September, 1937.

A number of your members were in competing crews, Mr. G. I. Anderson rowing in the National Bank Four which gained its fifth successive win.

Young & Jackson Combination Eights.

7th August, 1937.

This race was conducted by the Melbourne Rowing Club, your Club providing a large entry. The winning crew included H. P. Brad-dock (stroke) and W. Henty (2).

Hawthorn Combination Fours.

5th March, 1938.

Mercantile members again provided a satisfactory entry, the occasion being the opening of the Hawthorn Rowing Club's new clubhouse.

Camperdown Combination Regatta.

2nd April, 1938.

The day marked the opening of the Lake Bullen Merri Club, of which J. W. P. Wilson, an old Mercantile man, is the first Captain. A party of about 30 of your members motored to Camperdown, and W. A. Trickett, G. T. Hastie and N. Ryan were in the winning crew.

Club Races.

Dobbie Eights, 11th September, 1937.

Your President donated the trophies for this race on the opening day of the season. After the christening of the "J. G. Sprigg" by Mrs. Dobbie, nine crews took part in the afternoon's racing, the winners being: S. G. Richardson (bow), J. C. Mollard, J. N. Robertson, L. Rogers, C. Harry, N. Ryan, G. Anderson, A. W. Dobbie (stroke), V. Matthews (cox).

V. F. Mason Fours, 30th April, 1938.

Forty-eight members competed for trophies donated by Mr. V. F. Mason, in whose absence the President made the presentation to the winning crew: P. Vanderkelen (bow), A. H. Atkins, H. E. Morrison, A. J. Callander (stroke), M. Cowling (cox).

Guinn Pairs, 14th May, 1938.

Mr. S. Guinn donated trophies for this event, seven crews competing. K. Smith (bow), B. Bickerstaff (stroke), B. Clerihan (cox) were successful.

Richardson Eights, 21st May, 1938.

Mrs. Macrae performed the christening of our new practice eight, the "S. C. Macrae," prior to the racing.

Mr. James Richardson was the donor of the trophies, which were won by I. Unsworth (bow), F. Macrae, S. Sanderson, D. Macrae, D. Morgan, B. Walker, A. Rorke, W. G. Ross (stroke), D. Bottomley (cox).

Your thanks are extended to Mr. Richardson for his presentation.

Morell Fours, 11th June, 1938.

Crews for this race for trophies donated by Sir Stephen Morell were given the opportunity of preparation for the longer course. The winning crew was: K. Cooper (bow), J. C. Couzens, G. Anderson, C. F. Campbell (stroke), J. Williams (cox).

Picken Pairs, 25th June, 1938.

Mr. J. H. Picken once again made the presentation for this event. The successful members were: V. Bourne (bow), J. H. P. Clark (stroke), B. Morrison (cox).

Russell Fours, 9th July, 1938.

Prior to the heats of the Russell Fours, the new practice four-oared boat was christened the "V. F. Mason" by Mrs. Cairnes, wife of the Club's Captain. Nine crews competed, the winners being: N. Coade (bow), K. Cooper (2), J. Robertson (3), W. G. Ross (stroke), B. Morrison (cox).

Chisholm Fours, 23rd July, 1938.

The concluding fixture for the season will be a four-oared race for trophies donated by Mr. F. Chisholm. The winning crew in the "Chisholm Fours" for season 1936-37 was seated: P. Vanderkelen (bow), L. Fox (2), C. E. Stephenson (3), N. Watson (stroke), V. Matthews (cox).

Seven-Mile Competition.

The Seven-Mile time trial, inaugurated by Mr. J. G. Sprigg to assist in keeping members fit and provide an objective during the winter months, has been organised on the same lines as in previous years. Unfavourable week-end conditions have prevented the usual number of entries, but the experience gained by contesting crews will be of future value. Your thanks are due to Mr. Sprigg, who has fostered this time test since its inception.

The winning crew for season 1936-37 was seated as follows:— W. A. Trickett (bow), N. P. Watson (2), G. T. Hastie (3), W. G. Pitt (4), R. Ferguson (5), J. H. Bailey (6), D. A. Calder (7), E. K. L. Varcoe (stroke), M. Cowling (cox).

Twelve crews completed the course.

Points Competitions.

The Captain, Mr. N. W. Cairnes, has presented a fine trophy for competition among members, points to be allotted on a basis of four for a win and two for a start in all Club and Combination races. The George Stooke aggregate trophy is offered to the member scoring most points in all races, Club and Regatta, throughout the year. The competition for both trophies has been very keen, and the result will not be known until the Annual General Meeting. Your thanks are offered to these gentlemen who have provided an incentive to members to compete in as many races as possible. The results of last season's contest were: Captain's Trophy—G. E. Trickett; George Stooke Aggregate—R. H. B. Hart.

A trophy for the most consistent week-end coxswain, offered by an old member, Mr. H. Smyth, has been won by Master Max Cowling. Mr. Smyth has again offered trophies for first and third places in a similar competition, second prize having been provided by a member of Committee. He feels that he is providing for the older rowing members a consistent supply of coxswains for their week-end rowing. Your thanks are due to Mr. Smyth for this generous thought.

Donations.

The Club desires to place on record its appreciation of assistance received from the following gentlemen: Sir Stephen Morell, Sir George Fairbairn, Messrs. T. F. Brennan, R. A. Cooper, W. Joseph, Cr. T. S. Nettlefold, Messrs. J. H. Picken, Late A. B. Sloan, A. L. Dobbie, G. Stooke, J. A. McFarlane, V. F. Mason, J. Richardson, S. Guinn, T. Chisholm, H. Smyth, N. W. Cairnes, J. G. Sprigg, N. Russell.

Country Regattas and Xmas Camp.

The country regattas during the past season attracted the usual strong representation from Mercantile. The Xmas Camp and Tour were conducted on the same successful lines as in previous years under the able direction of Mr. M. E. Green, and embraced Nagambie and Rutherglen regattas. Special reference might be made to the party of enthusiasts who participated in the Easter trip to Bairnsdale. Their double victories in the Junior and Lightweight Fours clinched the Junior Premiership. A week-end at Camperdown for Combination races at the opening of the Bullen Merri Rowing Club was thoroughly enjoyed by a party of about 30 members. The trips are recommended by your Executive as an ideal holiday, as well as being a medium for scoring "Points for Premierships."

Social Activities.

OPENING DAY: Saturday, 11th September, 1937, marked the opening day of the season. Afternoon tea was served on the lawns by a willing ladies' committee to a large gathering of members, their

supporters and friends, who enjoyed also the competition for trophies donated by the President, Mr. A. L. Dobbie, for an eight-oared race.

PALMS DANCES were conducted on the evening of the 11th September, and on the 12th March. Both evenings were well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all present. A good attendance naturally ensures a financial success.

PICTURE NIGHTS were held on 13th August and 16th December and were well patronised by members, who were rewarded with a good night of entertainment on each occasion. The next picture night has been arranged for 12th July.

GOLF TOURNAMENT, arranged on Sunday, 29th August, by Mr. C. F. Raven, was a boundless success and undoubtedly will become an annual fixture. All forty members present reported a most enjoyable afternoon. Forrest Hills was chosen for the day's golf, and regular patrons at the links will probably always remember the visit of the Mercantile Rowing Club.

CARD EVENING, held in the Clubhouse on 30th April, was poorly attended, which convinced the Social Secretary that this type of entertainment was not held in favour by members.

DINNERS: Complimentary dinners were tendered by groups of members to Messrs. D. R. Nicholls and M. E. Green on the eve of their marriages and to Mr. H. S. Wilkes on the eve of his departure for Sydney.

Annual Dinner.

The Annual Dinner was conducted at the Lower Hall, Melbourne Town Hall, on Saturday evening, 30th October. Seventy-four past and present members were in attendance. Mr. Horace Stevens, an early member of the Club, charmed his audience with a generous number of items of harmony. The guests of honour were Cr. W. C. Haworth, recently elected to the House of Legislative Assembly, and Mr. D. R. Nicholls, on the eve of his honeymoon trip to Europe.

Annual Ball.

The Annual Ball was held at Bibron's Old Admiralty House, and was probably the most successful yet conducted by the Club. A partly trained ballet, organised by Mr. J. J. McFarlane, was well received by an appreciative audience of 227 dancers.

Social Committee.

For the success of the above-mentioned functions the Club is deeply indebted to the efforts of a very active Social Secretary and Committee. Their objective is to purchase a new clinker racing four as soon as possible, and surely no project could meet with greater approval. The continued success of this Committee is entirely dependent on the wholehearted support and co-operation of members, and every man is reminded of the desirability of his continued help

in this direction. Your sincere thanks are due to the following ladies and members whose enthusiasm and work throughout the year have been responsible for the results achieved: Mr. G. J. Horder (Hon. Social Sec.), Mesdames A. P. Miller, J. South, J. Blight and R. S. Bolton, and Miss A. Campbell and Messrs. L. B. Weire, D. Macrae, J. South, A. P. Miller, H. P. Braddock, G. Davey, J. W. Blight and N. W. Cairnes.

Farewell Dinner to Mr. S. C. Macrae.

The fact of its being the second farewell dinner to Mr. S. C. Macrae in twelve months did not deter over sixty members from attending at the New Treasury Hotel on Saturday evening, 21st May. Mr. Macrae has been transferred to Perth to manage the passage department of the Orient Steam Navigation Co. in that city. During the period of his association with the Club, he proved himself possessed of exceptional executive ability and many improvements effected at his instigation will remain as monuments to his progressive ideas. Our best wishes for his future good health and success go with him to his new appointment in Western Australia.

Obituary.

During the season the Club suffered the loss of two members of very long standing—Messrs. A. B. Sloan and M. S. Macnaughton.

The name of Alex. Sloan will always be associated with that of the Mercantile Rowing Club, because of all the men who have rendered it sterling service none played such a prominent part in building it from one of very modest membership and importance to its present strong position.

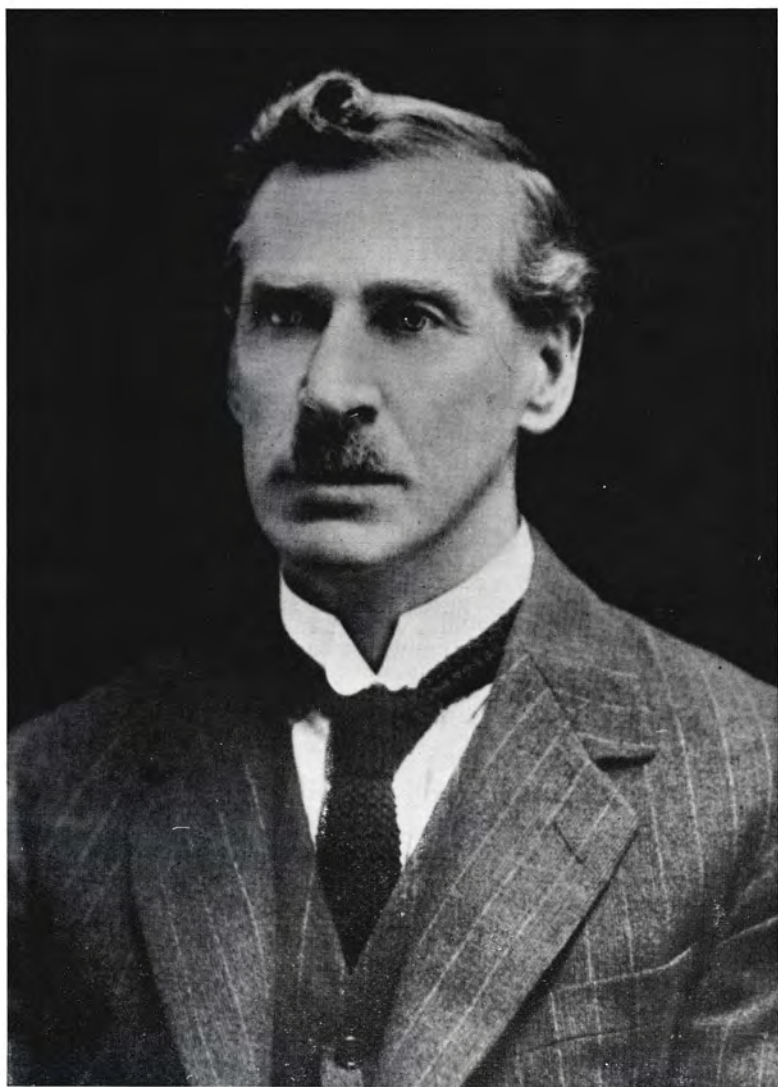
He joined the Club in the season 1894-5 after having previously rowed with the Electric Telegraph Club, and with him came another man destined to earn an honoured place in the Club, S. J. Morell, nowadays Sir Stephen, who was President for 28 years. A very close friendship existed between them, and they were associated in many progressive moves for the benefit of the Club.

During the long period of his racing career from 1894 till 1908, Victoria possessed many fine oarsmen. Alex. Sloan stood high amongst them, and was undoubtedly one of the finest strokes Australia has known.

He won 58 races, viz., Championship Four of Australasia, 7 Interstate Eights (he declined selection on 6 other occasions), 8 Championship and Senior Eights, 23 Fours, 16 Pairs and 3 Sculling Races. On eight different occasions he won "double" Senior Four and Pair-oared races at the same regatta.

He was a coach of exceptional ability and did great work for the Club in this direction, both during his active racing career and after he had retired from regatta rowing. His last important success was with the Victorian crew which won at Mannum, South Australia, in 1930. Many members of the Club owe their knowledge of rowing and success in races to him.

For many years he coached the Scotch College crews, and his death will cause sorrow to many old Scotch Collegians. In 1896-7 he



The late A. B. SLOAN
Captain 1899-1908

and Sir Stephen Morell brought about the association between this Club and Scotch College, which has since continued so happily.

He was a life member of the Club.

M. S. Macnaughton was a member of the Club for 34 years. He was very highly regarded and formed many friendships among his contemporaries. He had a successful rowing career, and after retiring from regatta rowing, continued to take a keen interest in the Club's welfare.

The passing of these two old members has made a sad break in that band of old members whose continued association with the Club has been of great value to it, and of inspiration to younger members.

A comparatively new member in P. D. Potts was killed in an unfortunate motor accident towards the close of last year.

It is with regret we record bereavements in the families of Messrs. G. J. Horder, J. D. Macnaughton and E. Barkley. To these gentlemen and the relatives of above-mentioned members we extend your deepest sympathy.

General.

The Club is deeply mindful of the services rendered by the coaches, Messrs. J. H. and Max Bailey, E. T. Bradshaw, D. C. Brooke, A. L. Dobbie, M. E. Green, R. Duncan, R. S. Bolton, D. S. Stirling, A. P. Miller, R. V. Gregg, J. J. McFarlane, K. Bilney, R. Winford, G. Horder, J. South, who have devoted so much time to this essential service of preparing crews for their races.

To those members who have given time to the teaching of novices we extend our thanks, and hope that more will become interested in this very important work. Our new men bring their friends along, and so the membership is retained at its high level. Every member who has benefited himself from regular coaching should regard it as an obligation to take part in this work.

We record your thanks to Masters M. Cowling, B. Clerihan, L. Clerihan, D. Bottomley, A. Fyfe, R. G. Duncan, G. Pitt, W. Pitt, B. Morrison, J. Williams and V. Matthews for good work as coxswains.

Best wishes for future happiness and prosperity are conveyed to Messrs. H. Ternes, D. R. Nicholls, E. Stephenson, K. Bilney, D. Switson, R. Ferguson, and M. E. Green, who were married during the year.

Your thanks are offered to Mr. A. P. Miller for the detection and correction of borers in the overhead construction in the gymnasium. Mr. Miller has also rendered valuable service in keeping the roof in a state of repair, supplying and fitting new tiles where required.

Mr. J. A. McFarlane has again shown his interest in the welfare of the Club in a practical way by providing a handsome trophy for the coach rendering greatest service to the Club for the year. Appreciation of Mr. McFarlane's efforts on your behalf was expressed by your Committee.

We would like to thank representatives of the Press for the manner in which the various rowing activities were reported throughout the year, the presentation and accuracy of which were gratifying.

To Messrs. R. T. Morell, T. Luxton, J. E. Campbell and N. Morgan and their good wives we extend congratulations on the occasion of additions to their families.

The hospitality of the Clubhouse was extended during the year to Police and Mildura Rowing Clubs for Henley, and to Western Australia for the King's Cup. The Clubhouse was again made available to the organisers of the "Learn to Swim" campaign.

Your thanks are tendered Mr. F. R. Browne, A.I.C.A., for services as Hon. Auditor, and to Mr. H. E. Butler for valuable assistance as Hon. Secretary of the V.R.A.

It has been decided by your Committee to purchase duplicates of the Premiership Certificates destroyed by fire in 1927. Delivery is expected from the Victorian Rowing Association next month.

The gymnasium is well patronised during the winter months and has proved a decided asset. Your thanks are due to Sir Stephen Morell for the donating of an electrical massaging machine, a valuable addition to the equipment already offering.

The caretaking of the Clubhouse has been entrusted during the year to Mr. T. Paton, from Melbourne Grammar School shed. His work has left nothing to be desired. Mr. W. Batten has been responsible for much good work on the boats.

Conclusion.

The retiring Committee wishes to thank members for the assistance given during the season and hopes that the same co-operation and support may be relied upon by the incoming Committee.

For and on behalf of the Council,

F. NEWPORT,

Hon. Secretary.

Addendum.

The cordial thanks of members are due to the chief executive officers, Messrs. N. Cairnes (Captain), F. S. Newport (Hon. Secretary) and A. R. Clarke (Hon. Treasurer), for the splendid work done by them during the past season.

Members as a whole do not realise the immense amount of work necessary to the successful management of a Club with the large membership of Mercantile.

The self sacrifice involved is great, and it gives me great pleasure to convey to them the sincere appreciation of all members for the valuable services rendered by them.

A. L. DOBBIE,

President.

List of Members, 1937-38 Season.

LIFE MEMBERS.

Bradshaw, E. T.	Guinn, S.	Morell, Sir Stephen
Clarke, C. A. R.	Ivens, P. C.	Potter, W.
Dobbie, A. L.	Joseph, W.	Sloan, Late A. B.
	Kenny, E.	

SENIOR MEMBERS.

Allen, G. H.	Dobbie, A. W.	Mollard, J. C.
Anderson, G. I.	Duncan, A. R.	Morall, R. T.
Appleby, J. P. L.	Dunstan, J. T.	Morgan, D.
Atkins, A. H.	Evans, E. A.	Morris, L.
Bailey, J. H.	Ferguson, R.	Morrison, H. E.
Bailey, M. V.	Firth, D. A.	Moss, J. S.
Barkley, E. H.	Fox, L.	Mounsey, J. L.
Batty, R. McC.	Freame, B. A.	McCallum, A. G.
Bilney, K.	Galvin, V. C.	McFarlane, J. J.
Black, P. A.	Gardiner, R. G.	McKay, C. N.
Blair-Holt, J. J.	Gartley, R. W.	McKay, S. S.
Blight, J. W.	Grabham, B. L.	McKay, T.
Bolton, R. S.	Green, M. E.	McNiff, T. F.
Bourne, V.	Greenshields, J. A.	McVilly, I.
Bowden, H. S.	Gregg, R. V.	Nethercote, C. R.
Braddock, H. P.	Hansen, M. E. K.	Newport, F.
Brewin, R. R.	Harry, C. M.	Nicholls, J. C.
Brewin, R. T.	Hart, R. H. B.	Nicholls, D. R.
Brittain-White, R. B.	Hastie, G. T.	Nixon, N. V.
Brooke, D. C.	Hemming, P.	O'Sullivan, R.
Browne, F. R.	Henty, W. H.	Palfreyman, D.
Buchan, A. C.	Hillard, L. T. D.	Paton, R. E.
Buchanan, R. M.	Hiller, G. L.	Philp, L.
Burton, A. J.	Horder, G. J.	Picken, J. H.
Cairnes, N. W.	Hopken, C. T.	Pitt, W. G.
Calder, D. A.	Irwin, A. T.	Pope, K.
Callander, A. J.	Jones, E. J.	Potter, G.
Campbell, C. F.	Kendall, H. I.	Potts, Late P. D.
Campbell, J. E.	Kerr, R. J.	Raphael, L. L.
Chandler, B. R.	Kerr, K. C. M.	Raven, C. F.
Clabburn, G.	Kerrigan, N.	Robertson, J. N.
Clark, J. H. P.	Lalor, C. C.	Robinson, Sir Arthur
Clarke, J. R.	Lee, J.	Rogers, L. W.
Clemens, J. B.	Lindblade, A. G.	Rover, L. W.
Coade, N.	Luxton, T.	Rorke, A. T.
Coffey, E. O.	Macaulay, J. C. C.	Ross, J. G.
Coffey, J. S. K.	Macfarlane, J. M.	Ross, W. G.
Cook, D. D.	Macnaughton, J. D.	Roxburgh, T. W.
Cooper, K. N. W.	Macrae, D. M.	Rundell, K.
Cooper, R. A.	Macrae, S. C.	Ruch, R. T.
Cordia, A. W. P.	Major, J. F.	Ryan, N. A.
Couzens, J. C.	Marsh, T. W.	Sanderson, S. O.
Davey, G. H.	Meates, R.	Scott, N. K.
Ditty, A. B.	Miller, A. P.	Scott, R.
	Moll, L. L. B.	

List of Members, 1937-38 Season.

SENIOR MEMBERS—Continued.

Sloss, A.	Thomas, C. W.	Watson, N. P.
Smith, K.	Thursfield, R. W.	Webster, G. H.
Soward, R. S.	Treharne, A. G.	Webster, I. G.
Spencer, H. T.	Trickett, G. E.	Weire, L. B.
Spillane, J.	Trickett, W. A.	White, F. N.
Sprigg, J. G.	Turnbull, W. R.	Wilkes, H. S.
Stephenson, C. E.	Vanderkelen, C.	Williams, M. S.
Swann, F. T.	Vanderkelen, P. W.	Winford, J. F.
Stirling, D. S.	Varcoe, E. K. L.	Wischer, I.
Ternes, H.	Walker, E. J.	Wright, W. J.
Thomas, D. B.	Ward, C. H. M.	

JUNIOR MEMBERS.

Bickerstaff, B. C.	Gardiner, C.	Rashleigh, A. F.
Bickerstaff, H. A.	Gilmour, G. D.	Rashleigh, W. F.
Blake, K. B.	Hoskyns, A. H.	Richardson, S. G.
Buxton, D. M.	Jones, J. McD.	Shaw, J. D.
Coggins, R.	Knight, C. A.	Swadesir, R.
Dean, G. A.	Lewin, R.	Syme, R. Y.
Doolette, A. L.	Macmeikan, T. K.	Telford, S. J.
Down, I.	Marsh, E.	Unsworth, I. T.
Duncar, C. B.	O'Brien, J. J.	Vankerkelen, K. D.
Epstein, G. L.	O'Reilly, J.	Wright, L. R.
Fletcher, J. M.	Orbuck, L. D.	Young, D.
	Orton, L. E. A.	

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Burmeister, C.	Macnaughton, Late	Shannon, A. R.
Connelly, F. R.	M. S.	South, J.
Haworth, W. G.	O'Reilly, J.	Stooke, G. F.
Hill, L.	Rush, H. R.	Sturrock, J.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

Briggs, Major R. A.	Morgan, W.	Smith, W. H. R.
Greer, G. O. S.	McLaren, R.	Stooke, T. B.
	Seammen, J. W.	

COUNTRY MEMBERS

Cohen, J. A.	Koch, A. H.	Reidy, J. J.
Fairbairn, J. C. L.	Macrae, F. A.	Walker, B. R.
Ford, N.	Pearson, A. R.	

REVENUE ACCOUNT for 12

INCOME.

Subscriptions	£550	16	0
Less V.R.A. Capitation Fee	39	18	0
	£510	18	0
Donations	31	0	0
Special Social Functions	45	0	0
Entrance Fees—Club Races	26	14	0
Balance Transferred to Capital Account	51	2	8

£664 14 8

Audited and found correct,
 F. R. BROWNE, A.I.C.A.,
 Hon. Auditor.

BALANCE SHEET as at 30th June, 1938.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Bank of New South Wales	£345 10 1	Boat House as at 30/6/37	£2,582 1 1
Sundry Creditors	200 1 7	Less Depreciation	50 0 0
Subscriptions Paid in Advance	22 4 0	Boats and Sculls	£698 2 0
Boat Building Reserve	7 14 8	Less Depreciation	107 6 0
Capital Account—		Oars at Valuation	590 16 0
Capital as at 30th June, 1937	£2,816 12 4	Club Fittings at Valuation	94 0 0
Less Balance Transferred from		Subscriptions Outstanding	50 0 0
Revenue Account	51 2 6	Stock of Singlets and Badges	57 19 9
	2,765 9 8	State Savings Bank	6 5 0
		Cash on Hand	9 18 2
			£3,341 0 0

Audited and found correct,

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

Hon. Auditor

A. CLARKE,

Hon. Treasurer.