



The M.A.C.B.E.

NEWSLETTER OF BISHOP COTTON SCHOOL, SIMLA.

Vol. 1. No. 5

July, 1956.

FOUNDER'S DAY

This month we completed ninety-seven years of existence. And this month we remembered, in particular, George Edward Lynch Cotton, the 'model young master' at Rugby in "Tom Brown's Schooldays", Headmaster at Marlborough, Bishop of Calcutta and Metropolitan, and the Founder of our School.

On the morning of 28th July, in a traditional and solemn Founder's Service, we dedicated ourselves afresh to the spirit and ideals of Bishop Cotton.

In the afternoon, midst the colour and merriment of the School Fete, over 300 boys bore their unconscious yet greatest tribute to the Founder - laughter on their lips and happiness in their hearts.

In the evening, as we saw "Goodbye Mr. Chips", a picture in keeping with the highest traditions of Public School life, one could hear a number of boys say, "This is so much like our own School".

And, through it all, we were conscious again, in all our humility, of our great achievement since that first boy, one Fredrick Naylor, crept tremulously through the School gates almost a century ago.

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THE FETE: Picture separately the attractive stalls at a grand bazar, the popular games of luck and skill at a carnival, and the radiant faces and full stomachs of a large family gathered together in festive mood - put all these together and you will form some picture of the Founder's Fete at Bishop Cotton School. Add to this a large number of parents, friends, and visitors eating ices and 'cholas', buying fancy goods and sweets, all joining in 'musical chairs', riding bicycles, throwing darts, coins, hoops, rings, ping pong balls, almost anything at attractive targets, and you might recapture a scene that would have tempted Brueghel to a canvas throbbing with more life than his 'Peasants Dancing'.

The first of two outstanding features of this year's Fete was that we paid out more money in prizes than ever before. A large number of boys and visitors made minor fortunes! The most remarkable case was that of the charming and undaunted daughters of Sirdar Sohan Singh, Mrs. Harnarain and Mrs. Raj, who rode their bicycles through a row of bottles to win applause and prizes, while the former's daughter emulated the mother, and each of their other children won a substantial prize at one stall or the other! Can anyone still say that all fetes are swindles?

The other outstanding feature, in spite of the foregoing one, was that we made more money than ever before. Our profits were over Rupees Five Thousand; thus, for the third year in succession, we improved on the previous year's record. We must say a really big 'Thank you' to boys, parents, and friends who made the Fete such a great success.

We welcome to the Staff Mr. A.J. Bragg, B.A. Econ. (Columbia). A much-travelled man, he is at present engaged in writing a book about India. He is with us to help with the building work and the Hobbies of the School.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Advani on the birth of their daughter on 8th July. Mother and daughter are both well, and Anil now has a patient, smiling playmate in Nita.

VISITS

We were delighted to welcome to the School this month

1. Raja Sir Maharaj Singh, himself the parent of an Old Boy, and we were honoured to have him preside at our Swimming Sports meet on 7th July.
2. The Swaminathan family on 1st July. Mrs. Lakshmi Gaigal gave a very interesting talk, and stressed how vital it was for India that her people be united.
3. Dr. Khanna, Headmaster of the Delhi Public School, who paid us a brief visit.
4. The Director of the N.C.C., the Deputy Director, Commander Butalia, and Major Pope - their interest in our N.C.C. troop has been a great help.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We wish to express our thanks to

1. Raja Sir Maharaj Singh for having presented a splendid running trophy for swimming.
2. Brig. Raj Batra (Old Cottonian) and the Signals Band for providing a most delightful programme of music on bagpipes and drums at B.C.S. on 5th July.
3. The British Council for a generous gift to the School.
4. All those who sent gifts in cash and kind and helped to increase our takings at the Fete.
5. All those institutions which have very kindly supplied us with copies of their newsletters.

NEW LOOK AT B.C.S.

The planting of a large, circular lawn in the middle of the First flat is well under way, and this will make the frontal appearance of the School more attractive. Also, the front verandahs have been adorned with hanging flower pots. Meanwhile, the Information Centre, near the main staircase, is developing and the walls of the room have been panelled.

HEALTH

There has been only one admission in the School hospital this month. The health of the School continues to be excellent, due to the stringent precautions taken day. Perhaps another contributory factor, if we may suggest it, is the excellence of the School food.

Appointment: Amarjit Singh (I) as School Prefect.

Soccer: started this month, and the following were the results in the Inter-House League:

	First XI	Second XI	Third XI
First:	Rivaz	Lefroy	Curzon
Second:	Ibbetson	Curzon	Rivaz
Third:	Lefroy & Curzon	Ibbetson	Lefroy

The School Elevens are undergoing intensive training for the forthcoming fixtures against Sanawar.

Swimming: The Inter-House Sports were held on the 7th. Raja Sir Maharaj Singh very kindly presided. The Inter-House Challenge Cup was won by Curzon House, with Lefroy and Ibbetson in second and third place. The Relay Cup was won by Ibbetson.

Victor Ludorum (Open Division): Anil Sikand (C)

Victor Ludorum (Under 15 Division): Arun Kumar (C)

Victor Ludorum (Under 12 Division): V. Chopra (C)

Raja Sir Maharaj Singh gave us a holiday, which was celebrated on 24th July. He also very generously presented a Challenge Cup to the School for Swimming. We are most grateful to him for his continued interest in us.

Debating Society: On the 6th of July the proposition 'Coeducation is the best form of education at the secondary school level' was contested by speakers from Ibbetson House and Rivaz House. After a thoroughly vigorous debate, in which a large number of members spoke from the floor of the House, the motion was defeated by seventy votes to fifty.

Cotton Society: met on the 5th of July, when Inderjit Singh, a Sixth Former, read a paper on Robert Louis Stevenson. His account of the life and works of Stevenson was both knowledgeable and interesting.

Examinations: The second half of July was spent on the Inter-House Prize examinations. After that we switched back to our winter routine.

Photographic Society: was inaugurated this month, and should be in full swing by August.

Boxing: Training commenced on the 27th, under the guidance of Mr. Carville, P.T. Master.

Entertainments: Prof. Agarwal came to B.C.S. and put on a show of Mathematical Acrobatics. He had the boys both intrigued and amused.

A number of interested Cottonians admired Mrs. Sarla Saigal's exhibition of classical Indian dancing at the Gaiety Theatre.

The Cinemas that kept us entertained were:

7th July: The Net (Phyllis Calvert)

14th July: Salome (Rita Hayworth)

21st July: Never wave at a W.A.C. (Rosiland Russell)

28th July: Goodbye Mr. Chips (Robert Donat)

A Special Award: Among a handful of candidates, chosen from all parts of the world, whose work was specially commended by the Royal Drawing Society was N.N. Madan, aged 13 years. His work was considered to be the best in his age group.

O.C.A. NEWS:

On Founder's Day, July 28th Old Cottonians in Bombay met for tea at the Volga.

- Jagdish Singh Anand (R 1949-52) - is studying engineering at Pilani and hopes to proceed to Germany shortly to take up Diesel engineering.
Ranjit Puri (R 1949-54) - sailed for the U.S.A. to study at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
S.K.Sood (I 1948-54) - obtained a 1st Div. in the Calcutta University I.Sc. examination and has now joined the Bengal Engineering College to take up Mechanical Engin:
K. Nair (L 1939-47) - is now at the Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh.

O.C. Donations to Fete:

- O.C.A. - Rs 200/-
R.S.Ahluwalia - 2 table tennis bats and 6 balls
Brijesh Nafain - £ 1/- sterling.
Hargurdial Singh - Rs 50/-

NEW ADDRESSES:

- Joginder Singh Anand (I 1947-51) - C/o S. Waryam Singh, I.G. Police, Mount Aby.
2nd/Lt. Baljit Singh (I 1949-52) - Officer's Mess, School of Artillery, Deolali.
Brig. M.N. Batra (C 1928-37) - 38, Canning Lane, New Delhi.
A.S. Kohli (R 1947-52) - No. 2, Air Force College, Jodhpur.
Lt. I.M. Kohli (R 1942-48) - 58 Gorkha Training Centre, Dehra Dun.
S.K. Sood (I 1948-54) - Bengal Engineering College, Botanic Gardens, Calcutta.
S.D. Warrior (C 1939-44) - 18, Queen's Gardens, Poona 1.

NEW MEMBERS:

- Surinder Singh(289)-(L 1950-55) - C/o Chiranjit Singh, W-236, B Railway Colony, Kalka.