

## *St. Mark's Collegians' Association*

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F. S. Riddell, I. M. Steven

### FUNCTIONS, 1956

#### THE TENNIS

Held after the Opening Service of the Year, this event was blessed by fine weather, a good attendance, and a win for the Old Collegians. These features, allied to the customary refreshments, ensured an enjoyable day.

#### THE GOLF

The Annual Golf Day was held as usual at Mt. Lofty, and for once the weather favoured us. The Collegians won by a comfortable margin, and during the business of the nineteenth hole the trophies were presented by Neil McEwin.

#### THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This again was a successful function, and was enjoyed thoroughly by the 30 odd members who attended. It may be appropriate here to remind those Collegians who possibly by-pass annual meetings on principle, that our own, like most Collegian's functions, is somewhat unique and the formality is generally overpowered by the conviviality.

#### TWO OUTSTANDING EVENTS

Elsewhere in this Magazine full space is given to the retirement of Dr. Price and also to the election of Dr. T. T. Reed to the Bishopric of Adelaide. These Notes, however, would not be complete without the Collegians' thanks and congratulations being expressed. Dr. Reed's friendship is valued by every member of the Collegians who has had the privilege and pleasure of sharing a few minutes with him at some St. Mark's function. We are honoured at his election.

Dr. Grenfell Price must loom large in the memories of every old Collegian when he recalls both his years at College and his associations there in later years. It is hoped that by the time this reaches you full details of the Appeal to commemorate his services to St. Mark's will be in your hands. By this Appeal Collegians will not only have the opportunity to honour our first Master, but in addition will be able to make a very real contribution to the life of the College in the form of a much needed Dining Hall!

#### THE ANNUAL DINNER

This was an outstanding dinner attended by some 80 Collegians. One hesitates to call the Master's retirement an Occasion, but here it indeed was, and the speeches on this evening were more than usually outstanding. We print below the address given by Dr. Sholto Douglas. It was also on this occasion that the Dr. Price Commemoration Appeal was first discussed.

#### TOAST TO THE MASTER

Mr. Chairman, Master, and Gentlemen:

This toast is in my hands, for better or for worse, and if "I" occurs too frequently I can but apologise. I find it impossible to be impersonal about this "Subject." Please bear with me.

I have a reputation for brief speeches, but tonight you get the full treatment—and no funny stories.

My mind goes back more than 31 years to an occasion when some few very ordinary undergraduates fore-gathered in this place with sundry V.I.P.'s and His Excellency the Governor declared the College opened. There were not many present, but the Founders to whom the College owes its existence were there, notably the man we honour tonight. My chief recollection of the occasion is of the beautiful voice of my dear and scholarly old friend, Bishop Thomas,



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who did us proud with prayers and blessings. Incidentally, I recall with great pleasure that one of his last ceremonies was the blessing of the Grenfell Price Lodge—the Master's residence.

At 18 or 20—or 24 for that matter—as an undergraduate in a college one does not appreciate the qualities necessary in a great Master; the personal relationship is too close.

Looking back over more than 30 years the perspective is clearer, and one realizes that the requirements for a Master of an Anglican College are few. I have reduced them to five; they are quite simple and I put them in this order:

1. The Wisdom of Solomon.
2. The Secret of Perpetual Youth.
3. The Wiles of Machiavelli.
4. The financial genius of Rockefeller.
5. (With bated breath!) The knowledge of the secrets of the High Priests.

To expand these qualities somewhat:

1. The wisdom of Solomon is no great matter; you must just know how many parts of a baby make **one**, and transfer that knowledge to an 18-year-old undergraduate. There are about ten such parts!

2. The secret of Perpetual Youth comes easy to one of whom it is an integral part. It implies in a Master the understanding of—**and sympathy with**—youthful problems. If we never have a Master with less such understanding we will never have a bad Master.

3. The wiles of Machiavelli. It is common knowledge that this College only runs by threats to the Council and cajolery of the Student Body, and/or threats to the College Club and cajolery of the Council. This is done in a very easy spirit of camaraderie with both bodies. Though Machiavelli's principle that the end justifies the means might be judged wrong when applied to his "Prince," with the College it is, I think, a different matter.

4. Financial genius of a Rockefeller. It is known that the original Rockefeller built his fortune on "shoe-string" finance, and though his fortune was possibly larger, I doubt if J.D. ever pulled the string quite as tight as has A. G. P. with the College.

5. (With bated breath.) The knowledge of the secrets of the High Priests. This knowledge, in ancient Babylon or in Egypt was punishable by death, but in our more civilized days it is "Nasserally" different! It is an attenuated nebula which has its being only in the eye of the beholder.

A. G. P. has, in the past 30 odd years, seen High Priests come and High Priests go, both Bishops, Deans, and Archdeacons—even Administrators—and from every coming and going the College has gained.

In this I speak **not** of material things, for the Master is a great Christian and has impressed upon the College tradition his personal christianity. He is not a "namby-pamby" Christian—no great Christian is—but he has set an example of a way of life which has not considered personal advantage—financial or otherwise—but only an ideal of service, good citizenship and good "manship."

To revert to personal reminiscences: this is about the "N'th" time I have proposed the Master's health. The first time was, I think, in 1925. I may be wrong in this; it is possible that I only helped—very vociferously—the speaker!

While a member of the College, for its first six years, I did propose the Master's health several times, and I have done so several times for the Collegians. I don't think, though, that I have ever before really "thought" about my speech. (You will be relieved to know that most of my thoughts have already been expressed).

In the early days of the College there was a happy family spirit, which is unattainable now. When you get past 25 or 30 men it is impossible to know everyone intimately. In my day that was a great feature of college life.

The Master's "Afters" or "Port Sessions" were both popular and valuable, and did a lot towards "growing us up."

Happen what may in the future, this College—which we love—has been given a wonderful start, if one can call 32 years a "start," by its first Master. I do not forget the tremendous work done by the other founders of the College, and by their successors; I shall not name them, as this is the Master's night! But—I say this in all truth—that without Archibald Grenfell Price there would be no St. Mark's College as we know it today.



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I would like to add that—like most famous men—his full stature would have been more difficult of attainment without the perfect helpmeet. To all who know her, Mrs. Price is a wonderful person, and to those of the early years here she is much more. Too young to be—in modern jargon—a “mother substitute” to a lot of young roughnecks, she was nevertheless a softening influence on our unregenerate youth. (How she stood us I don't know!) And I will maintain against all-comers—old and frail though I be—that she still remains the most attractive woman at any gathering which she graces with her presence.

Gentlemen, the king has relinquished his throne, and it remains for us to say “God save the King,” or as in this “See of Doubt” the College of Cardinals—I'm sorry, the Synod—will some day say “Habemus Pontificem.” All of us will wish Mr. Lewis the best of good fortune as Master, and we hope that he will shed as much lustre on the College as his only predecessor.

Gentlemen, I am grateful for the privilege of proposing the final toast to Archibald Grenfell Price as Master, but I hope that I may in years ahead go on proposing his health as I have done for 30 years.

We say farewell to him as Master, but he goes on as geographer, historian, and humanitarian. Truly “Age cannot wither him, nor custom stale his infinite variety.”

This toast, Sir, will be drunk by all present with gratitude, admiration, and affection.

Gentlemen, I give you “The Master.”

## Personal

From overseas, we hear of many Collegians. **Ian McCarthy** is in Cambridge with a wife and baby; he is working with the Cavendish Laboratory people. He writes to say that recently he stayed with **Charles Symon** and his wife at Radley College near Oxford, and also saw **Basil Rennie** and his wife—since back. **Peter Parsons** is in Cambridge and pursuing a successful course in Agricultural Science. **Ewart Smith** writes from Copenhagen where he is interviewing intending migrants. He and his wife recently travelled extensively through the Middle East, in the course of which they ran into **Charlie Ayoub** on his way from Beirut. **Ian Hamilton**, still single, is with the Ford Motor Co. in Toronto. Also in Canada is **John Laurie**, married. **Rex Wallman** is pursuing dental studies in the United States. **Keith LePage** is in London and **Sam Luxton** is in Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The news from Western Australia reads like the marriages and births columns—**Hugh Cook**, our correspondent, has recently acquired his second child. **Ken Fitch** is married, likewise **Peter Childs**. **Peter Tunbridge** has a son and is in general practice in Perth. **John Wilson** has a son and a daughter. **Roy Allen**, practising at Mt. Magnet, another son; **Mac McCallum** is at Lenora. **Peter Burns** is a member of the Flying Doctor Service and is out at Meekathora. **John Gollege** has two boys, and **Harley Percy** a girl and a boy. **Ray Whitford** is recently married. There are at least twenty Collegians at the Royal Perth. **Bob Paton**, now F.R.C.S., is surgical registrar to the surgical Professional unit, and **Peter Hurst** holds the corresponding medical position. **Sandy Rankin**, returned from abroad is Psychiatric registrar. **Lex Cohen**, married, is studying for his M.R.C.P., and **Bill Sandover** and **Brian Vivian** are still in England doing post-graduate work. **Sammy Gubbay**, **John Lore**, **Bill Dawson**, and **Michael McCall** are among the first students of the Western Australian Faculty of Medicine. The last named of these is to be congratulated on his being awarded the Western Australian Rhodes Scholarship last year. **J. M. Bailey** won the New South Wales Rhodes and will leave St. Paul's, Sydney, to study for his Ph.D. in Mathematics. **Josh Reynolds** has been abroad studying residential life in the United States and the United Kingdom under the auspices of the Carnegie Corporation and the British Council. Professor **Jack Smart** has gone to England on Study Leave accompanied by his wife. **Geof Pridham** is off to England. **Robin Millhouse** was recently married and managed to embrace the Seat Conference on his honeymoon. In Foreign Affairs, **C. T. Moodie** has been appointed Australian Ambassador to Burma. **Duncan Campbell**, just married, has set off to Djarkata as Third Secretary. He has just completed a year studying Indonesian with **Dick Law-Smith**, who is still awaiting a posting. An important