

"CONWAY" CLUB.

ANNUAL DINNER AND GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual Dinner and General Meeting of the Old Boys' Club was held in Liverpool, at the Exchange Hotel, on Thursday, November 4th.

At the Meeting preceding Dinner, H. W. Broadbent was voted into the Chair, *pro tem.*, and immediately proposed Admiral Sir Sackville Carden as President of the Club, in succession to the late Sir Hamilton Goold-Adams. This was seconded by E. R. McKinstry and carried with acclamation.

The Admiral then took the Chair, and the business proceeded. Two questions arose out of the Minutes of the last Committee Meeting, the first being that of the venue of the next Dinner, the proposal being that it should be held in London. There was a good deal of discussion, and an amendment was proposed and seconded that the Dinner should continue to be held in Liverpool, though this was subsequently withdrawn. The principal and only reason held forth against a London Dinner was sentiment, the "Conway" being in the Mersey it was held that the Dinner ought to be in Liverpool. Against this was the contention that the London and South Country Members could not be expected to come to Liverpool every year, that men living and being in Port elsewhere were much more likely to come to a Dinner in London than in Liverpool, that this particularly applied to Old Boys in the R.N., and that in all probability a very much larger number would attend a Dinner in London than in Liverpool. It was finally decided by 26 votes to 3 to hold the next General Meeting and Dinner in London at a date and place to be settled later.

The other question arising out of the Minutes of the Committee Meeting was a recommendation to increase the Annual Subscription to 5s. The Hon. Treasurer opposed this, as unnecessary at present, and it was decided unanimously to leave it at the present amount, viz., 2s.

E. Unwin, V.O., C.M.G., C.B., Captain R.N., was elected Vice-President for the ensuing twelve months. The Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, H. W. Broadbent, was re-elected, nobody being seemingly anxious to

relieve him. C. K. Browne and L. R. Peel were re-appointed Hon. Auditors, and the Committee was re-elected *en bloc*, with the addition of H. Beardmore.

THE DINNER.

Forty Old Boys sat down to Dinner punctually at 7-30, with the addition of twenty guests of different Members, Admiral Carden presiding. The Dinner was excellent, as will be seen from the Menu, and the cooking and service were up to the best standard of the Exchange Hotel, and left nothing to be desired.

The table arrangement was as last year—a long table with a T and three smaller tables on either side of the T. The stage was opposite the President and the end of the T, and the groups at the different tables were as much as possible of the same period on board. The orchestra was up in the gallery at one end of the room.

MENU.

Huitres Royales au citron.
Hors d'œuvre Variés.

Consommé Brunoise.
Crème Portugaise.

Suprême de Sole Marguery.

Contrefilet de bœuf Richelieu.
Choufleur au gratin.
Pommes Rissollées.

Faisan en Casserole Mascotte.
Salade de Saison.

Bombe Marie Louise.
Gaufrettes.

Pailles au Parmesan.

Café.

Just before 9 o'clock, when the first speech was being expected, a very charming lady, Miss Daisy Jerome (Mrs. George La Touche) appeared, and announced from the stage that as her husband was an Old "Conway" Boy and one of the party, she was going to give us an entertainment, assisted by several well-known music hall artistes who had volunteered to help her. These comprised George Carney, who sang two capital songs, Leslie Barker as a chocolate coloured coon, who also sang two songs and danced most beautifully, and Denise and Jan, two young people who looked like sister and brother, and were both clever

and entertaining instrumentalists. Miss Daisy Jerome brought her own pianist, who played all the accompaniments, and gave four songs in her own inimitable style, and was altogether most charming. The Concert, which was kept going without a stop for an hour, was absolutely first rate, and was much appreciated, especially as it was quite unexpected, except by the few in the know. The ladies of the party were presented each with a large box of chocolates.

In proposing the toast of "The Ship, and continued success to her," Admiral Carden dwelt on the contrast between the conditions of his time (1869-70) and to-day, and was particularly enthusiastic about the beautiful playing fields. In his time he said the only recreation they had was holystoning the decks and scraping the cable. Now they even had a cinema on board, with weekly shows. The educational side had, he was convinced, advanced with equal strides, and the type of young fellow being turned out of the Ship was a credit to all connected with her.

Talking of the Club, he referred in feeling terms to his predecessor, and asked all present to stand and drink to his memory, and finished his speech with a recitation of the chorus of the "Conway" song.

Replying to the toast on behalf of himself and staff, Captain Broadbent thanked the President for his kind and complimentary words, and assured his hearers that their one object was to turn out the boys to be a credit to those who had done so much to establish the reputation of the Ship in the world, and to make sure that no Old "Conway" should ever have reason to be otherwise than proud of his connection with her. He believed in hard work and hard play, and the noble game of rugby was particularly adapted to cultivate the qualities required in a good officer. He gave three stories descriptive of the long arm of the "Conway," and the influence and patriotism to the Ship of Old Boys.

L. A. Brooke Smith proposed "The Guests" in a brief and neatly worded speech, which was replied to by Captain F. W. Mace, C.B.E., who spoke of the delightful atmosphere of "Conway" dinners. They were unlike any other dinners he ever attended. You have, he said, the happy knack of making us all feel as if we were Old "Conways" ourselves.

Mr. F. W. Cotching, Chief Officer of the P. & O. S.S. "Cap Polonio," an Old

"Worcester" also replied, and recalled his first acquaintance with the "Conway," when he came to the Mersey as a member of the "Worcester" crew for the boatrace, in 1897. They brought the Cup up, he said, and left it here, and he had the happiest recollections of the hospitable treatment they received on the Ship, especially "after" the race.

Mr. Killey proposed "The President," who in reply, again thanked the Members for the honour done to him in electing him President, which he also took to be a great honour to his branch of the sea service, the Royal Navy, when there were so many distinguished Mercantile Marine Officers on the Club List of Members.

The following day Captain and Mrs. Broadbent entertained the President to Lunch on board the Ship; also the following:— G. M. Montford, J. K. Chase, W. Marshall, S. S. Richardson, L. A. Brooke Smith, M. G. Douglas, and C. Tremayne.

There were present at the Dinner:— P. D. Murray (1867-69), Admiral Carden (1869-70), C. K. Browne (1872-74), J. C. Carr (1873-76), C. de H. Bell (1875-77), E. R. McKinstry (1876-78), G. M. Montford (1876-77), C. Nicholson (1878-81), W. Long (1879-81), H. W. Broadbent (1880-81), S. E. Dutton (1882-84), J. K. Chase (1885-87), L. R. Peel (1885-87), G. La Touche (1886-88), J. Johnston (1887-89), W. Marshall (1889-91), J. Park (1890-92), E. C. Roden (1890-92), A. J. R. Cochafer (1891-93), S. S. Richardson (1891-93), F. C. Hooper (1893-94), F. J. Roden (1893-94), L. A. Brooke-Smith (1893-95), M. G. Douglas (1893-95), P. Dunkerley (1897-99), R. Tatham (1897-99), C. Tremayne (1898-00), J. W. Gracey (1899-01), C. E. Lee (1899-01), W. H. Poole (1900-04), V. S. Cox (1905-09), N. S. Richardson (1907-11), H. Wadsworth (1908-10), K. A. D. Waterhouse (1909-11), H. Beardmore (1915-17), R. W. Gaudie (1915-17), J. K. Ross (1918-19), M. Hodson (1918-20), C. I. C. Douglas-Lane, *Present C.C.C.*, F. M. Sergeant, *Hon. Member*, and twenty guests, including: Mr. G. D. Killey, *Chairman of Committee*, Messrs. David Jones and Sharp, *Directors of the Elder, Dempster Line*, Captain F. W. Mace, C.B.E., *of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board*, Mr. F. W. Cotching, *Old "Worcester," and Chief Officer of the P. & O. S.S. "Cap Polonio,"* Captain L. Ward, *of the Cunard Line*, and Captain Harris, *of the Booth Line*