

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT FOR 1988-89
(Read on Prize Day - 29 March 1989)

Hon'ble Chief Minister and Mrs Tewari, Trustees and Governors of La Martiniere College, Lucknow, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in extending a very warm welcome to all of you on the occasion of our Prize Day.

It is, indeed, a great honour to have you, Sir, preside at our Prize Day, for you have had many years of distinguished service in public life and have served the nation with great distinction. I also wish to thank Srimati Tewari who has so graciously consented to give away the prizes.

Ladies and Gentlemen, It is my privilege to present to you this afternoon the Annual Report for 1988-89

TRUSTEES AND GOVERNORS:

Mr J.A. Kalyanakrishnan, Chief Secretary to Government, Uttar Pradesh, and Trustee, Lucknow Martin Charities, left us on his appointment as Home Secretary, Government of India, and was replaced by Mr Shiromani Sharma.

Mr S.N. Sahay, Legal Remembrancer to Government, Uttar Pradesh, and Trustee, Lucknow Martin Charities, also left us on his elevation as Judge, Allahabad High Court, and his place was taken by Mr K.L. Sharma.

In the Local Committee of Governors of the College, Mr Naresh Dayal, District Magistrate, Lucknow, was replaced by Mr Ajit Seth and Mr Brijesh Kumar, Commissioner, Lucknow Division, was replaced by Mr Mohinder Singh, who in turn was replaced by Mr Ajai Vikram Singh.

I would like to take this opportunity to place on record my deep appreciation to the Trustees and the Members of the Local Committee of Governors for their invaluable help and counsel and for their untiring efforts in safeguarding the interests of the College in spite of their very busy schedules and commitments.

STAFF:

The following members of the staff joined the College during the course of the year: Mr P. Bhatt to teach Mathematics upto the I.C.S.E. level; Mr J. Samuel to teach History in the Middle and Senior School; Mrs J. Borgonah, Miss L. Saksena, and Mis M. McGrath to teach in the Junior School; Mr F. Gomes as Additional Physical Training Instructor-cum-Assistant Warden; and Mr A. Chandra as Office Assistant.

Mrs M. Ledlie, Mrs T. Khetrapal, Mrs S. Hayde and Miss J. Scott resigned for various reasons.

Mr R.W.B. Parkinson retired from service on 31 December, 1988.

FINANCES

I am glad to report that the finances of the College continue to be in a sound condition. With effect from April 1, 1988, the

Local Committee of Governors of the College had to increase the fees payable by both boarders and day **2**

scholars in view of the rising costs and also in order to meet the additional financial benefits that were extended to the staff and servants of the College from that date.

ENROLMENT

The academic year commenced with 1486 students on roll, of whom 215 were boarders, including 36 Foundationers and 8 Demi-foundationers. An additional section of Class XI was introduced.

At the close of the year the enrolment had risen to 1587 of whom 192 were boarders including 34 Foundationers and 6 Demi-Foundationers.

HEALTH

The general health of the resident scholars has been good although there were some cases of seasonal infections like measles, mumps and chicken-pox. Credit for this is due to Dr J.B. Charles, the College Doctor; the Hospital Matron, Mrs I.A. Pal, and Shri Shyam Lal Dubey, the Nursing Orderly; for the care and attention rendered to the boys. Credit is also due to Mr and Mrs D.H. Serrao, Steward and House Keeper, respectively, for their careful supervision of the boys' diet and to Mrs B. Gardner and Mrs T. Fernandez, Dormitory Matrons, for their care, particularly of the Junior boys.

ACADEMICS

This year the I.S.C. (Year 12) students of the Arts Stream offered six subjects instead of five - Economics being the additional subject.

Shashwat Sharma and Anoop Tripathi, both of Class XI were awarded scholarships by the National Council of Educational Research and Training, under the National Talent Search Scheme.

EXAMINATIONS

At the I.C.S.E. Examination of March, 1988, the number of candidates presented was 118 of whom 110 were awarded Pass Certificates. 23 candidates scored 80% and above. Anoop Tripathi secured the highest percentage of 91%.

At the I.S.C. (Year 12) Examination of March, 1988, the number of candidates presented was 70, of whom 68 secured Pass Certificates. 3 candidates scored 80% and above with Ashish Joshi topping with 90% in the Science Stream and a grade aggregate of 6 points. In the Commerce/Arts Stream, Manoj Harpalani secured the highest percentage of 75%.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The College continues to emphasise on the all-round development of the student and has a wide range of co-curricular activities to offer which include cricket, hockey, football, athletics, swimming, basketball, gymnastics, elocution, debating, dramatics and quizzing. The last of which has now been introduced as an Inter-House activity.

With military traditions, the College being, possibly, the only educational institution in the world to have been awarded Battle Honours, the National Cadet Corps holds a significant place in the curriculum of the College, with a Senior Division Army Wing and Junior Division Air and Naval Wings. At the Junior level, Scouting and Cubbing continue to flourish.

In the Annual Inter-Martiniere Meet held at Lucknow, we lost the Swimming and Debating to La Martiniere, Calcutta, but won the Football.

At “Crossroads 87” an Inter-School Competition held at St Francis’ College, Lucknow, in October, our team of participants fared very well with the College winning the award for the Best Play with Roshan Abbas as Best Actor. The College Debating team lifted the trophy for the best overall team and Roshan Abbas was awarded the Best Speaker prize. In addition, many other prizes were awarded to our participants in English and Hindi elocution, extempore speech, mono-acting and both, Indian and Western music.

Shobit Misra participated in the National Carnatic Classical Music Competition held at Jaipur on 5 February, 1988, and was awarded the second prize for Sugam Sangeet.

The Annual Inter-House Athletic Meet and P.T. Display was held on Saturday, 31 October, 1987. Mr S.P. Singh, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Lucknow Range, presided and Mrs Singh gave away the prizes. The Individual Championships were won by Craig Ireland and Rajinder Singh Dogra, jointly, in the Senior Division, Purnanand Tripathi in the Junior Division and Mohit Kumar in the Colts Division.

The Annual Junior School Sports and P.T. Display was held on 15 December, 1987. Mrs M. Sealy presided and gave away the prizes. This continues to be the most colourful and interesting function for the Junior School and it was thoroughly appreciated by all present.

At the Annual Inter-House Swimming Competition, Anup Negi won the Senior Championship, Neville Beecham the Junior Championship and Anshul Rastogi the Colts Championship.

ANNUAL CONCERTS

The Annual English Play "What happened to Jones" by George H. Broadhurst, was staged on Founder's Day, 13 September, 1987. The play was produced and directed by Mr Elton deSouza. It was a very successful production

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and was greatly appreciated by all.

The Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer prize for Histrionics is to be awarded to Roshan Abbas.

The Annual Hindi Play, "Bap re Bap" was staged on 28 November, 1987. The award for Histrionics is being presented to Aditya Bhargava.

The Annual Elocution and Declamation Contests were held both in English and Hindi. The winners of these contests will be awarded their prizes today.

PRIZE DAY

The annual Prize Distribution was held on 21 March, 1987. The Hon'ble Mr Justice D.N. Jha presided and Mrs Jha gave away the prizes.

FOUNDER'S DAY

Founder's Day was celebrated on September 13, 1987. The Reverend Kuruvilla Chandy, Pastor, Lalbagh Methodist Church, Lucknow, preached the sermon at the Chapel Service.

REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE BUILDINGS

The wooden floor of Spence Hall was replaced with a mosaic floor as the wooden floor had become quite unserviceable.

Two new pathways linking the Junior School building with kalidas marg and Schilling Road were laid in order to facilitate movement, particularly during the monsoons.

Sykes Hall was re-painted after many years and has a new look once again.

VISITORS

It was a pleasure to receive the following visitors at the College over the year:

Professor and Mrs Claude martin from the University of Lyon, France, visited the College in may 1987.

He is the sixth generation descendant of Louis Martin, the brother of the Founder of our College. This is the first time that a relative of our Founder has visited the College. Prof. Claude Martin who is Professor of Contemporary French Literature at the University of Lyon is currently writing a biography of our Founder.

Rosie Llewellyn Jones, author of the book, "A Fatal Friendship", visited the College in September, 1987.

Madam Chabrolin, Principal La Martiniere, Lyon, along with a contingent of approximately sixty staff and students of La martiniere, Lyon, were our guests at the College on 4 November, 1987. A special assembly was held to welcome our guests and the college hosted a lunch at Sykes Hall in their honour.

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Sir David goodall, British High Commissioner to India, visited the College on 9 November, 1987, and Mr John Gunther Dean, the American Ambassador to India, visited the College on 17 January, 1988.

OBITUARY

It is with much sorrow that I record the sad demise on 31 March, 1987, at New Delhi, of Mr Colin Lawrence, an Old Martinian who had served the College in a most loyal and dedicated manner for many years prior to his retirement, initially in the capacity of Office Superintendent, and later as College Warden.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to place on record my thanks to my colleagues on the Staff and to the College servants for the dedicated work that they have put in over the year under review.

I also wish to thank Mr George Frank who has trained the College Choir and who continues to unfailingly support the College with his musical talents.

My special thanks go to Mr Elton deSouza, Vice Principal, who shares a large part of the responsibilities at the college, to Mr J. Safir, Second Assistant and House Master; Mr B.S. Bisht and Mr B Fernandez, House Masters; Mrs Sheila Simlai, Headmistress of the Junior School; Mr M.N. Azeem, Senior Darogah; and Mr Kenneth Jordan, Bursar, who continues to render yeoman service at the College Office. I would also like to thank Mrs F. Keelor, Principal

of the Girls' College, for her co-operation in all matters.

CONSLUSION

I am pleased to record that the general progress of the College continues to grow from strength to strength in spite of certain adversities. This is solely due to the sense of belonging and loyalty that exists among all members of the La Martiniere family. The unique traditions of the College form the corner-stone of life at the College and with faith in God, we can confidently look forward to a brighter future.

Thank you !