

## Headmaster 1922

**Wrote introduction to 1<sup>st</sup> ever Concordia 1929** Bro. Bernardine the Headmaster of the College.

If the English Province of the Xaverian Brothers and we are fortunate indeed in having him as our President. Bernardine very kindly wrote the Foreword to our first issue giving us the Official Blessing. He also, not infrequently without personal inconvenience graces our General Meetings and Annual Dinners.

Bro. Bernardine has been Head of Clapham, since 1921. His favourite subjects are Latin, and Chemistry and he is an accomplished musician. We are more fortunate than is perhaps generally realised, in his interest in our functions, as we know that he greatly dislikes ' public speaking. This is to be regretted as, when he can be enticed out of his shell, he is very interesting;

I never thought to become lyrical, even at second hand, over these severely utilitarian " commercial cliffs," but my first impression never entirely effaced itself, and when at Friday midnight seven weeks later, the " Samaria " left New York and I sadly said good-bye to America, my 1st look was at the graceful beauty of these strange shapes, very faintly luminous with scattered lights throwing ~ fantastic patterns against a dimly outlined background, a little less dark than the surrounding blackness. I suppose I ought to have used the word "silhouetted" here, but I don't like it. To proceed.

At 11 o'clock we aliens of the proletariat were ushered into the presence of several comfortable-looking and affable gentlemen sitting at tables in the First-Class Saloon. After convincing them that I was not unwholesome and was temporarily in possession of £10, I was catapulted back to where I had come from. · At 1.30 we sailed up the Bay to Hoboken on the New Jersey side, where we landed, the Cunard piers on Manhattan having been burnt. Br. Osmund, the American Provincial, with two other Brothers welcomed *us*, got us through the Customs and introduced us to New York.