



LEFT c.1920  
*First Communion*

Singing to the School curriculum. He also pointed out that each Brother should teach Catechism at least once a week.

Late in the year, Rev. Bro. Eusterius was appointed Director and Principal in the place of Rev. Bro. Joseph who had reached the end of his second period of three years as supervisor of the Marist School in Pietermaritzburg.

1921

Bro. Eusterius wrote, 'The College continues to prosper and the number of pupils seeking admission is greater than the school can accommodate: last year some 80 prospective scholars had to be refused, this year the school was filled from the beginning and a number of applications had to be turned down.' With about 310 pupils on the roll, 105 of

### AN OLD BOY REMEMBERS...

*The Principal, dear bok-beard Bro. Joseph, a strict disciplinarian but a very fair one, the splendid cricket and soccer coach, Bro. Eustice (I think), the specialist photographer, Bro. Leo, rotund and jovial gym instructor Mr Higginbotham. The Priest vocations, Terrence Kelly and Howard St George. Really promising sportsmen Frank Lambert and Aubrey Maton (later a Springbok centre forward). Frequent beer smells from Castle Breweries opposite. 11th November 1918, end of World War I, sneaking the big drum and two kettle drums and marching down Longmarket Street, and later sacked from the band in consequence. Major Miller in the first airplane seen in South Africa, cricket-hit height over our school following take-off at the Polo ground en route to Durban. Yes, the old school and its doings certainly had character and atmosphere too.*

*Post rambley yours,*

*Edmund (Ted) James*

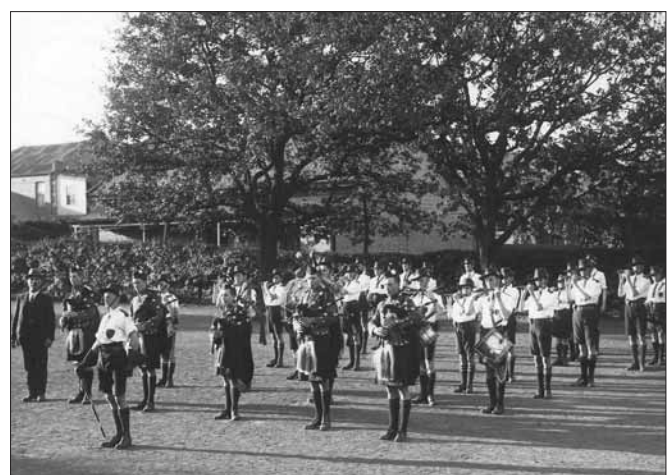


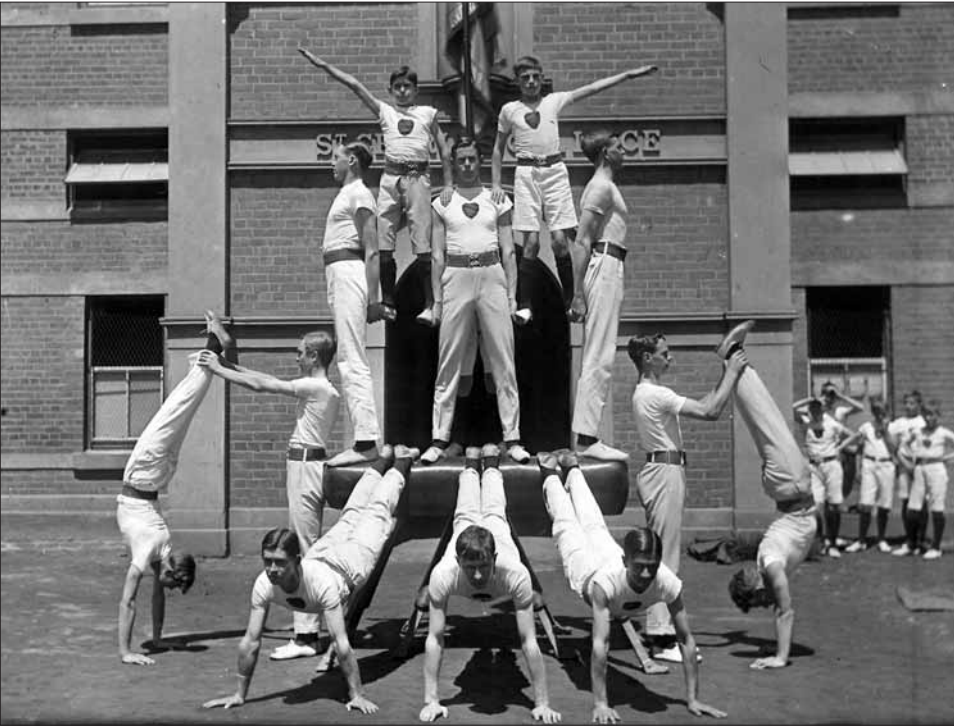
ABOVE 1919 / 1920 The Drum, Bugle and Fife Band got a lot more than they bargained for with the acquisition of five bagpipes rather than the two they had hoped to buy. Sgt Maj. Higginbotham is on the extreme left. He was called to Pretoria in 1920.

BELOW 1919 Football: In the Juvenile League matches, the SCC team proved too light to compete successfully with U21 outsiders, but it redeemed itself by winning the Knock-out Contest. The two teams in the Schools' Competition maintained the lead to the end of the Competition.



BELOW 1919 Cadet band on Big Field, Loop Street. A detail of this photograph appears opposite the Board Chairman's "Introduction" on page viii. The five new bagpipes took pride of place at the front of the band. Sgt Maj. Higginbotham, extreme left, stands proudly with the boys of St Charles'.

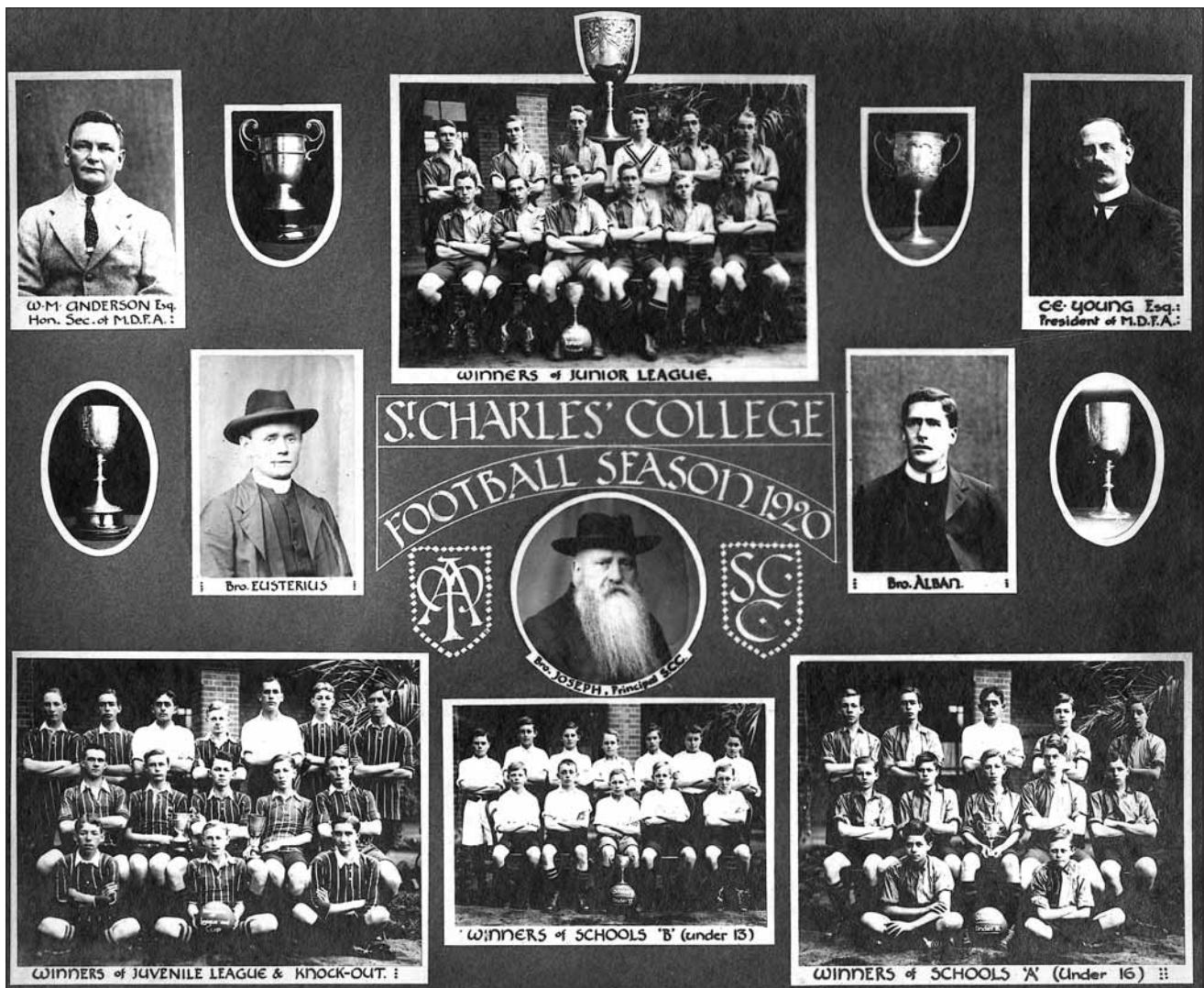




ABOVE LEFT 1919 *Gymnastic display on Small Field in front of the main buildings of the College. A small group of five boys in the background really enjoys the display. One can only wonder how long they had to hold this pose.*

ABOVE RIGHT 1919 *Day scholars vs boarders soccer cup winners.*

BELOW 1920 *St Charles' was soccer mad in 1920, and demolished all and sundry as this composition, lovingly prepared by Bro. Leo, so aptly shows.*





1920 *The Feast of Corpus Christi* – the top photograph shows the general congregation kneeling for the procession of the blessed Sacrament. In the second photograph, the Brothers lead the parish women, in the third, the parish altar boys from St Charles' follow the little girls of the convent, and in the fourth photograph, the boys of St Charles' make their way to the ceremony.



*Alla Marcia*

*f* Here's to St Charles and his boys one and all! And here's to the School of our  
 pride! Lift the song loud & strong Sing it out heart and tongue, Tell to  
 all how its fame shall a-bide With a hip-hip-hur-rah! and then a-  
 no-ther keep it up, boys, all with a will, And we'll all stand to-ge-ther, In  
 fair or foul wea-ther, True for aye to St Charles's still, And we'll  
 all stand to-ge-ther, In fair or foul wea-ther, True for aye to St Charles's still  
*fff* hur-rah! Hur-rah! Hu-rah! —

ABOVE 1920 *The St Charles' College Song* composed by Alan Miller in 1920. The shadow in the background is the much later statue of Marcellin Champagnat erected at the College in 1957.

BELOW 1921 *The St Charles' College Community of Brothers*. From left, standing: Bros Marcellin, Alban, Eugene, Ecclesius (B.A.), John-Michael, Damien and Leo (Freitag); sitting: Bros Arthem, Eusterius (Director) (his signature is reproduced below), Columbanus (A.G.), Aidan (Sub-Director), Samuel.

*Bro Eusterius*

whom were boarders, it was evident that larger premises and school buildings were required for the College in order to keep pace with its prosperity and popularity.

1923

With nothing to report for the College in 1922, 1923 showed that the premises of the College at Longmarket Street were too small and cramped to permit any further expansion of the College. This is why, for some time, the Brothers had been on the look-out for suitable grounds that would allow the College to accommodate the growing numbers of





ABOVE 1922 *The countryside around Pietermaritzburg is varied and picturesque, and offered interesting places for picnics and excursions for the Brothers and the boys. They went to places such as World's View, Table Mountain, Zwartkop, Howick Falls, Albert Falls and many other beautiful spots. In this winter photograph, Bros Eusterius, Aidan, Ecclesius, John-Vincent, Alfred, Marcellin, John-Michael and Alban, and two unidentified Brothers, visit Table Mountain.*

BELOW LEFT 1922 *Bro. Alfred considered himself a good shot, if this dead vervet monkey is anything to go by.*

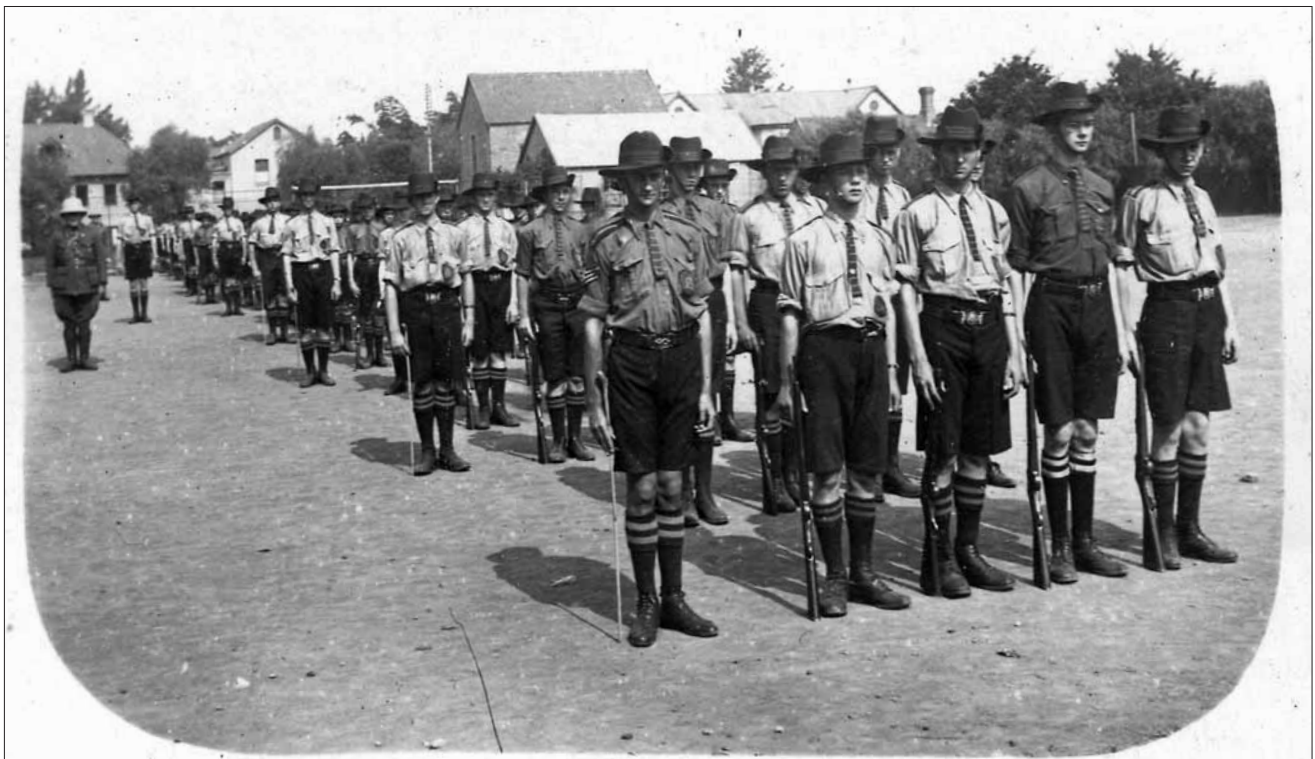
BELOW RIGHT 1923 *Al fresco teas: Above, Bros Aidan (opening a tin of Borden's St. Charles Evaporated Milk), Marcellin and John-Michael. Below, the Cadet Corps.*

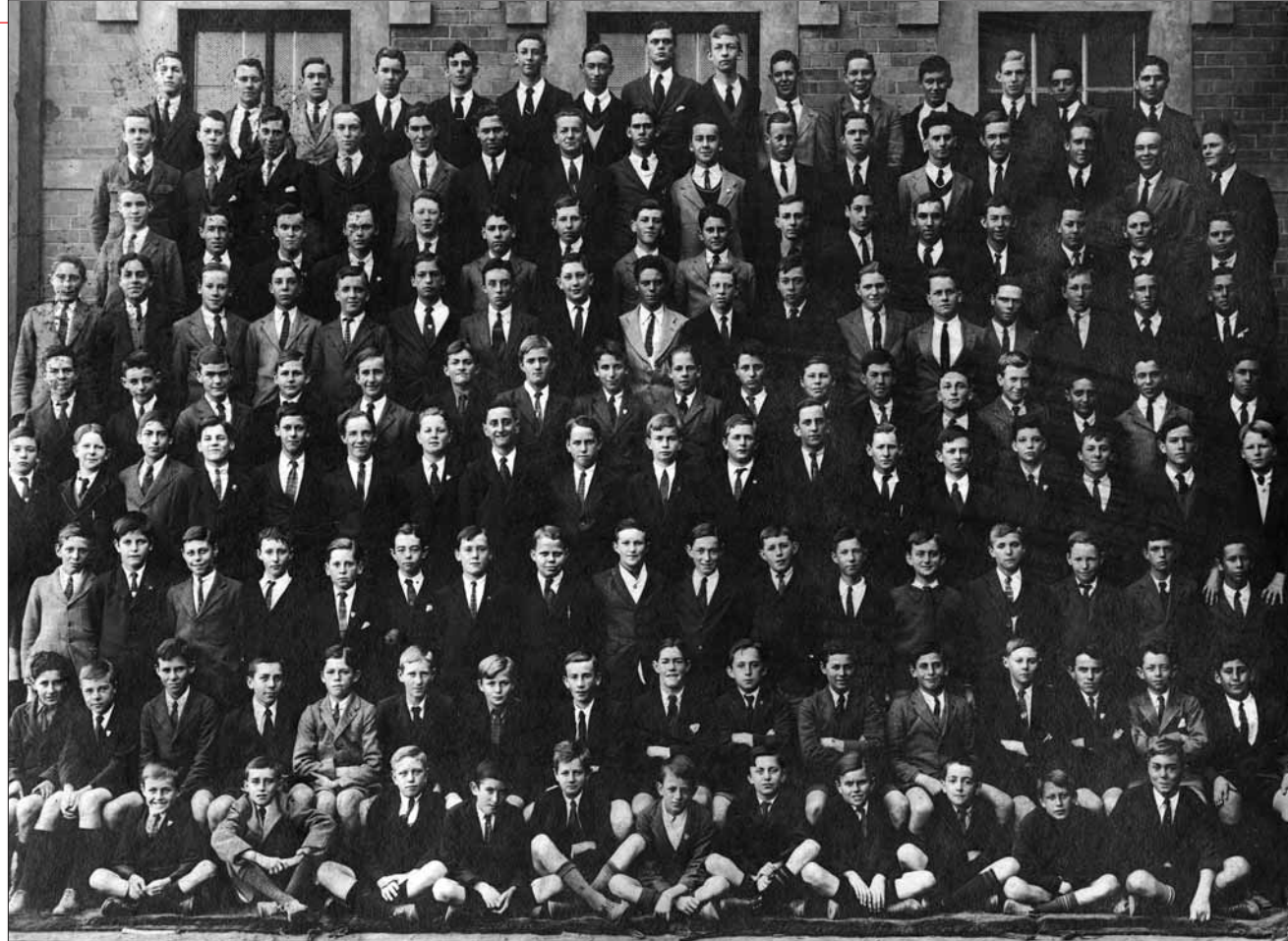




ABOVE 1922 Soccer winners of the Juvenile League.

BELOW c.1923 One of the last photographs taken on Big Field in the city. The cadet corps is halted almost exactly where the nave of the current St Mary's Church stands in 2002. Bishop Allard's former house, St Charles's first home, and in 1923 the home of the Holy Family Convent, is on the extreme left. The SCOBAS Clubhouse is the lightest roof in the centre of the photo.

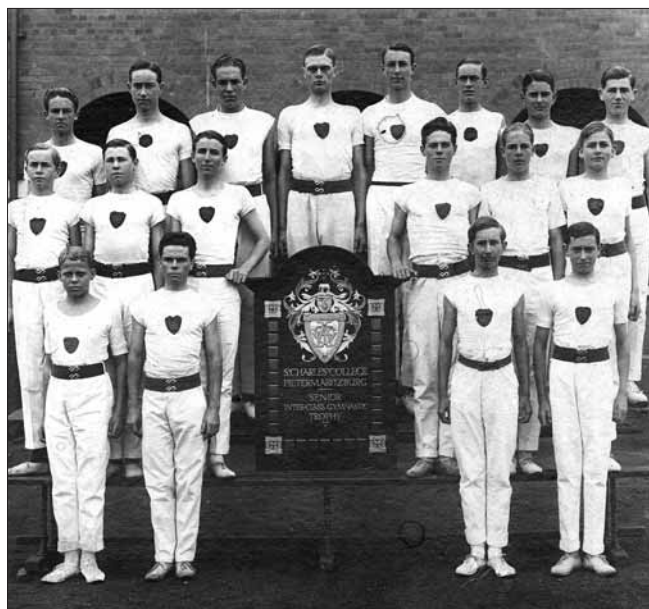




ABOVE 1924 Seniors' group. Best School bowler Edric Pascoe is fifth row down, seventh from left – see Cricket medal below.

BELOW LEFT 1924 Beautifully wrought in sterling silver and bronze, this medal was won by 16-year-old pupil, Edric Frank Pascoe, for being the top bowler in the School – at an age when he was at least two years off Matric. Edric's son, also Edric, is amazed at the lengths to which St Charles' went to acknowledge matters such as bowling averages.

BELOW RIGHT 1924 The first photo of boys at the new property. The Brothers longed to move into their new buildings. On 21 November they organised and managed to run the inter-class gymnastic competition in the new gym hall at Scottsville. The Junior Certificate class were the winners in the Senior division and Std 3 in the Junior Division. With Bro Leo as gym master and photographer, it is small surprise that this perfectly arranged group of boys, outside the new main building at Scottsville, was recorded for posterity. A magnificent trophy, which is still at the College in 2002.





boarders and day scholars, and give the boys adequate playing fields. Rev. Bro. Vital, Provincial and his Council (Bros Himien, Joseph, Jerome and Henry-Julian) purchased, in Scottsville, a large property commanding a beautiful view towards the City and over the surrounding countryside. That it was rather far from town was considered a drawback, but this was amply compensated for by its other great advantages.

To much excitement, the following plots of land were transferred, on 23 October, from their owner, dairy farmer James Harris, to the Marist Brothers:

- a) Lot 430, 43 acres, 1 rood 7 3/4 perches
- b) Lot 457, 10 acres, 9 perches

Cost £5 500

The land had originally been purchased in 1882 from John Roseveare by George Woodhouse who later ceded it to James Harris.

On 30 October, a small plot on the eastern part of the property and along Harwin Road was bought from the Corporation for £384/3/9. It was an area of 3 acres, 3 roods, 14 perches.

1924

The new St Charles' College was on the horizon.

So serious was the accommodation problem at the College that the Brothers leased the military store-rooms in Scott Street to house two or three of the lower Standards, and thus relieve the pressure ahead of the construction of the new College building at Scottsville.

The preparation of the plans for the new buildings had been entrusted to Mr Patrick Hill, the Johannesburg Municipal architect, a Marist (Uitenhage) Old Boy. He designed an imposing new central building, which everybody admired, especially the Marist General Council at Grugliasco. Unfortunately, the cost of erection was a good deal more than the amount they had authorised, so the design had to be trimmed to meet the approved cost, much to the detriment of its architectural appearance and the convenience of the accommodation it would provide.

Rev. Bro. Provincial, during his visit of 23 – 27 May,

BELOW 1924 *The west wall of the main building with the hall below and the chapel above. (Photo dates from 2001)*



and again during that of 28 September – 2 October, stressed the need for greater regularity, on the part of some members of the Brothers' Community for greater attention to punctuality, especially in the attendance to the exercise of piety. This commentary was the first sign of a storm brewing for some of the Brothers.

When the College broke up for the Christmas holiday on 10 December, Rev. Fr Langouet, the priest in charge at St Mary's and Mr Thomas Patrick O'Meara presided at the farewell function at the old premises in Longmarket Street. The re-opening would take place in the new school buildings at Scottsville. The 1924 roll at the end of term was:

	Day Boys	Boarders
Catholics	37	43
Protestants	159	48
Jews	3	0
	199	91 = 290

Rev. Bro. Eusterius, Director, had been in bad health for the greater part of the year, suffering acutely from kidney trouble. He managed to carry on until the end of the year. On Christmas Day, he entered the local sanatorium. Two days later he successfully underwent an operation on a floating kidney. The rest of the Brothers left for the Dominican Guest House on 27 December at Genazzano on the Natal North Coast where they remained for a month's restful holiday.



ABOVE 1924 The foundation stone of the new, main building at Scottsville. Apart from those mentioned above, also present at the ceremony were Rev. Fr Langouet (the Parish Priest for Pietermaritzburg) Rev Leo Sormany and Frs Murray and Quinquis of Durban, Lady Plowman, Mr and Mrs Saunders (the Mayor and Mayoress of Pietermaritzburg), Mr AO Kufal, Rev. Bro. Vital (Provincial), Bro. Eusterius (Director) and Bros Aidan, Benedict, Pius, Kenneth, Leo, Ferdinand, Regis, Gabriel, and Benedict from Seychelles, and Mr D Aitchison, Contractor, who secured the stone.

BELOW 1925 With the large, nearby boys' schools (Hilton, Michaelhouse, Maritzburg College) and those further afield (D.H.S. and Glenwood) all earnestly involved in rugby, there was a quick, positive vote at St Charles' College to be involved in the code.



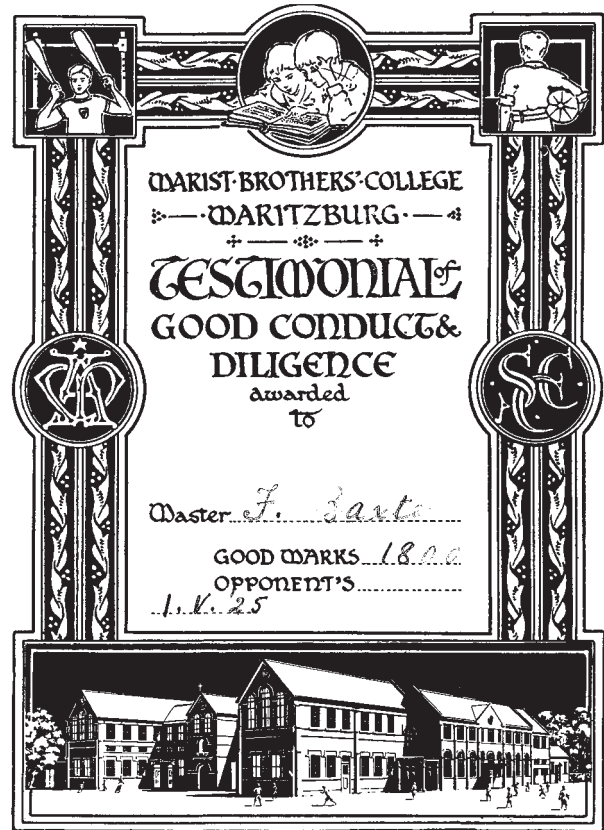
## From 1925

HARWIN ROAD, SCOTTSVILLE, PIETERMARITZBURG

Bro. Eusterius, although still weak from his operation, was back at work by 27 January at the head of the Community. The Brothers returned from Genazzano and took up their quarters in various parts of the new building, while a few were accommodated at the old farmhouse in Harwin Road (Coach House 2002), because the Brothers' House (Administration building 2002) was still to be built.

The boarders returned for the 1925 school year on 2 February, in awe of their brand-new accommodation. Rev. Fr Vincent Kelly, O.M.I. said the First Mass in the new St Charles' College building in the middle dormitory hall fitted as the temporary chapel of the College. All prayed for God's blessing on the work of the Brothers and for the prosperity of St Charles' College.

The next day, 3 February, Bishop Henri Delalle blessed the new building, the staff and the boys. He appointed Rev. Fr Gourlay O.M.I. as Chaplain of the College. The school re-opened with some ten additional boys. The hostel portion of the College and class-rooms were well fitted out, airy and comfortable, but the grounds were far from ready:



ABOVE 1925 Merit Cards showing the old buildings in Longmarket Street were still being handed out at Scottsville as late as May 1925. Fred Baxter, collected over fifty of these during his stay at the College – we know he was very good and diligent! The “Opponent’s” marks were those of the next boy. BELOW 1925 The senior boys’ dining room on the ground floor, east side, of the main building.

