



CREW

ROGER DUPRESNE, '44	<i>Commodore</i>
DONALD NELSON, '44	<i>Purser</i>
HANFORD KING, '43	<i>Log Keeper</i>
RICHARD JACKSON, '45	<i>Steward</i>

WITH the cancellation of all other sports this spring because of the war, the Clark University Rowing Association—free from this ban because of its unofficial status—looks forward to a successful season. Now that the inor-

dinate trials and tribulations of its first years are past and the groundwork has been laid, definite plans can be made for the future of this new sport at Clark.

Last year, Dr. Melder, a former oarsman with the great University of Washington crew, organized the first crew here at Clark. The first call brought out about thirty-five candidates who rapidly dwindled to about nine old reliables. They were forced to use a borrowed shell and borrowed oars throughout the season.

Our first day out on Lake Quinsigamond was one which will never be forgotten. The temperature was slightly below freezing and there was a mixed precipitation of snow, rain, and hail. Clad in shorts and jerseys the wet and shivering neophyte-oarsmen, "catching crabs" on every stroke, zig-zagged all over the lake like a seasick centipede.

But our initial efforts could not discourage Dr. Melder and Joe Dufresne, National Schoolboy Rowing Medalist and ex-Shrewsbury High champ, who whipped the raw recruits into fairly good shape in an amazingly short time. The Clark men raced in two regattas and showed great promise, considering their lack of practice and experience. Although we successfully managed to lose both races, which included such opposition as Worcester Tech, Leicester Junior Academy, Shrewsbury High School, and North High, it can be truthfully said that the boys gave their opponents a good run for their money.

This season the crew began its activities with several fall practice sessions in its new shell, the "S.S. Co-ed, '46", which was bought with the proceeds from the scrap metal drive that realized twelve tons of junk—everything from old automobiles to slot-machine slugs—piled smack in the middle of the college's spacious, park-like campus. Since the Women's College brought in most of this scrap, the gals had the honor of christening the boat. An excellent set of oars was also purchased.

This year the Clark University Rowing Club received an invitation to join the Dad Vail Rowing Association, which each year sponsors a regatta among several of the small colleges in New England. Clark has accepted and expects to row in the annual regatta on May 1 on the Charles River Basin.

Although the club has lost several of last year's rowers to the various branches of the armed forces, it still retains a nucleus of experienced oarsmen, including Roger Dufresne, Hank King, Don Nelson, Vinnie Kaselis, Lloyd Anderson, Charlie Gilvarg, and Carl Perkins. With a few promising additions from the Freshman class, the Clark University Rowing Association will again "go out to launch."