

PLAY TERM — 1953

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EDITORIAL.

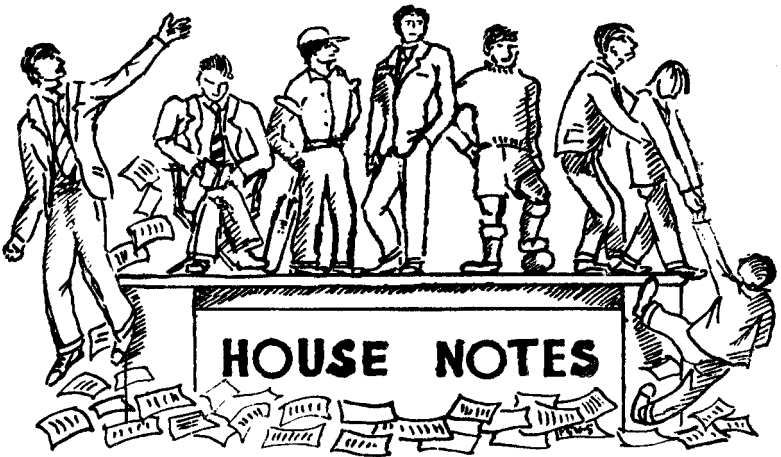
This term has seen two changes in the life of Grant's. Mr. Brock, who has been our House Tutor for the past three years, left us at the end of last term to become Housemaster of Ashburnham where we wish him the best of luck. We welcome as our new House Tutor, Mr. French, who is also in command of the C.C.F.

The second change is that Grant's have at last abandoned their back premises, which are to be rebuilt, and have taken up their new abode in No. 19, Dean's Yard. So far the rebuilding of Grant's has not been started, though during the holidays the middle part of Grant's was demolished, leaving our next-door neighbours an unprecedented view of each other's houses across a vast expanse of asphalt and rubble. Both Grant's and Rigaud's have been deprived of the use of their "yards," but the space is not wasted, for it has been monopolised by the younger inhabitants of Little Dean's Yard who have moved in with tricycles and spades to take possession of it. They have even contributed to the good work by removing a few odd bricks here and there. Among the older

inmates of Grant's, very few complaints have been heard, except from the scientists who resent having to get over to school earlier so as to leave time for the longer journey to the Science Block round by Dean's Yard.

Another disappearance from "Yard" is the tree which was ruthlessly cut down and ignominiously burnt soon after the beginning of term. To sweep up the leaves of this tree has for many years been an unpopular pastime for generations of junior Grantites, and though the latter may not regret the disappearance of the tree, sentimentalists gloomily affirm that Grant's will never be the same without it.

Traditionalists will be glad to know that the Mantelpiece, which all incoming and outgoing Grantites have to "walk," has been preserved and will be included in the new building. Meanwhile a substitute has been found in No. 19, which, although not so impressive as the old mantelpiece, serves its purpose just as well, and as long as this is so, we may assume that Grant's is still the same as ever.



There left us last term : D. S. Brock, Esq., who is now House Master of Ashburnham ; M. W. M. Davidson, D. M. Lloyd-Jones, I. J. Fulton, M. G. Drake, R. P. C. Hillyard, A. W. Abbott, H. H. M. Rogers, P. R. J. Vickers, C. T. Sims-Williams, E. J. N. Kirkby and P. G. Wentworth-Sheilds. We wish them the best of luck.

We welcome this term : E. R. D. French, Esq., our new House Tutor : R. J. Abbott, E. C. Blauvelt, J. S. Dunnett, C. L. Fisher, N. R. P. Heaton, J. F. Hewitt, F. R. Lucas, W. I. K. Maclennan and N. E. Skeffington as boarders, R. Munro-Faur is now a half-boarder.

The Monitors are : J. H. M. Anderson, J. D. S. MacDougall, M. S. Makower, C. J. Croft (boarders) and I. R. Cameron, W. E. A. Phillips (half-boarders).

In Chiswicks there are : N. A. Phelps-Brown, J. G. F. Fraser, P. K. T. Smith, A. C. H. Lathe, G. I. Chick, C. H. Prince, R. T. J. A. Clark, D. N. S. McArthur, J. W. Parker (boarders) and J. S. Woodford, and R. P. G. Richards (half-boarders).

The Head of Hall is J. U. Salvi and the Hall Monitors are A. C. B. Hunter, C. C. L. Brown and D. Dewar (boarders) and D. D. Cammell (half-boarder).

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M. S. Makower is Captain of Fencing, and Head of School Music.

I. R. Cameron is Secretary of the Photographic Society.

J. H. M. Anderson and M. S. Makower are school monitors.

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We came second to Wrens in the Squire Bowl and 4th to Busby's in the Halahan Cup.

Congratulations to : H. H. M. Rogers on his pink and whites for water.

and to : G. S. Clarke for his pinks and to C. H. Prince on his colts and thirds for tennis.

and to : R. T. J. A. Clark on his seniors for cricket.

and to : J. H. M. Anderson, W. E. A. Phillips and C. T. Sims-Williams on their seniors and C. C. L. Brown, D. Dewar and D. B. Inglis on their juniors for water.

and to : G. S. Clarke on his seniors for tennis.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS.

Nov.	5th	...	1st XI v. Repton (Home).
„	14th	...	1st XI v. Lancing (Home). Fencing 1st v. Pangbourne (Away).
„	21st	...	1st XI v. Highgate (Home). Fencing 1st v. Imperial College (Home).
„	28th	...	1st XI v. Charterhouse (Away). Fencing 1st v. St. Paul's (Away).
Dec.	18th	...	School Concert.

HOUSE DIARY.

Last term Grant's watermen at long last justified themselves. They had a lot to live up to after the mysterious but nevertheless impressive "ladder competition" and sculling mileage chart had made their appearance covered with hieroglyphics comprehensible only to a chosen few and, perhaps, even only to Rogers. The revival was marked by the great personal performance of Rogers in winning the Senior Sculls. Election term drew to a close in its own charming, leisurely way and the last Saturday was suitably celebrated. Shadowy figures (believed to be Chiswicks) were seen and heard

running round Green late that evening, and it occurs to me that when the new Grant's rises from the ashes and perhaps by some terrible mischance Chiswicks may be forgotten and disappear, then maybe eerie footsteps will always be heard running round Green on the last Saturday of Election Term.

The beginning of the Play Term saw the Exodus of part of Grant's to take up residence in that delightful old-world building known as No. 19 with rural views of Dean's Yards; leaving behind them a mere skeleton crew consisting of Chiswicks (whose occupants are still on view taking their leisure at the second floor windows on weekdays at 10.45) and Inner. Hall are in No. 19 with another Inner. Gone are the days of riotous freedom (when the Hall Monitors were not looking) when Inner was two flights of stairs and a passage away from Hall: for now beside the one tucked safely away in Grants, there is another which is next to the billiard room, and so, excellently positioned to blight the lives of the innocent and the misunderstood.

Also this term we have had a disappearance and a reappearance; Buckenhill has disappeared with its noble inmates; but to help us to bear this immeasurable loss we have a welcome and long-awaited revival, *i.e.*, boxing. We can, unfortunately, hardly be said to be a thriving pugilistic house, but nevertheless we can already proudly point to a captain of House Boxing (acting unpaid) and a number of "fighters" whose names are not to be disclosed for fear of harmful publicity upsetting their fiery temperaments and naturally aggressive natures.

Hymns are now to be sung at Prayers. Somewhat tentatively this has been applied only to Friday. Already it is rumoured that the Head of House has received considerable bribes from surrounding buildings for this to cease, and House Sub was considerably supplemented by coins showered through the window (broken by a less thoughtful admirer who threw a brick).

THE CONCERT.

The school concert took place up School on Friday, July 24th. The programme started with Grant's House Choir singing "In Praise of Neptune" by John Ireland. As is so often the case, the winning choir did not do very well. Perhaps more rehearsals would have helped. After this R. L. G. Flower (Rigaud's) should have played the First Movement from Mozart's Sonata in D, but he was unfortunately ill. So P. J. Dunlop, Q.S., sang Handel's "How beautiful are thy feet" from the Messiah, to A. S. Cains's accompaniment. He was very well received and had to give an encore. For the third year in succession M. M. Aufenast (Wren's) played the string solo with his usual dexterity. His choice was "Legende" by Weinawski; after which D. M. Lloyd-Jones and M. S. Makower (Grant's) played Dvorak's duet for piano, "Bagatelle." J. C. Armstrong (Wren's) played "Sonata in B flat" by Handel with a

beautiful tone though his inexperience let him down in the last movement. It was well received and was a good performance. The first half of the concert was concluded with M. M. Aufenast (Wren's), C. P. Smith, (Busby's) and C. K. H. Davison (Ashburnham) playing the First Movement of Mozart's Trio in D minor (K.442) for violin, 'cello and pianoforte, which had reached the standard of real performance.

After the interval Mr. Foster took over the orchestra and conducted Weber's well-known and delightful overture, "Oberon." Then came a Polonaise (with chorus) by Rimsky-Korsakov in the true Russian style. The words were about the Tsarita, which Mr. Foster changed to "our lady" on the grounds that there no longer existed a Tsarita. C. K. H. Davison was the soloist in Grieg's piano concerto. He only played the slow movement, which was too short to be entirely satisfactory, and the performance was not successful. From Norway we returned to Russia in Borodin's Choral Dances from his opera, "Prince Igor." The choir conjured up the atmosphere of exoticism but the words were entirely unintelligible. This was not entirely the fault of the choir. Borodin had scored the work very heavily, on the assumption that the choir would sing from the stage over the orchestra in the pit. This was not the case and so the words were drowned. The end came with the all too rarely heard and sung "Carmen Ferial Westmonasteriense," a really grand song and outstanding as a school song, and the National Anthem.

WATER.

Last term's Regatta showed a distinct improvement on the House's performance in the two previous years. It should, however, be remembered, that while our target was to reach at least third place in the Halahan Cup, we in fact only reached fourth place.

In the Junior events we had a IV with considerable possibilities, and several promising scullers. In the first round the Junior IV "A" met Wren's "A," a slightly more experienced crew. Grant's led at once by quarter of a length, but Wren's, striking higher, were level at the Boathouse. From here they went away to win by two lengths. The Junior IV "B" was a very young and inexperienced crew. Unfortunately they did not have the opportunity of many outings, and in the first round they were beaten by Wren's.

In the Junior Sculls H. Phillips, Macfarlane, and Inglis each won a race, while Douglas-Mann reached the final. Here he met Bartlett, of Busby's, and the race was rowed at slack high tide against a stiff breeze. Both found steering under these conditions far from easy, and after one collision and several bumps Bartlett won by a length.

In the Junior-Senior Sculls we met with little more success than last year, although Brown and Sims-Williams did well to win their first races. There were three Junior-Senior fours, none of which were successful. "C" crew had only one outing before their

race, owing to illness, and it was not surprising that they lost easily to Busby's "A." "B" crew worked very hard in all their outings and did remarkably well to lose their first race against Rigaud's and the Q.S.S. by only $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths. They kept Rigaud's hard pressed for the whole race until the last few strokes when Rigaud's went ahead to win, leaving the second place to Grant's. The "A" Four had a very exciting race, going away from Busby's "A" and Rigaud's "A" on the first stroke. They managed to maintain their lead until the Boathouse when Busby's began to come up on them and by the end of the boats Busby's were a length ahead. Busby's increased their lead to win by $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths while Grant's and Rigaud's finished second and third with about a foot between them.

Our only representative in Senior Sculls was H. H. M. Rogers who did very well to win the event. In every race he went up on the start and continued to increase his lead all the way. In the final he met Fowler-Farkas, of Wren's, who was also an experienced sculler, but Roger's higher rate of striking and his good start put him in the lead and he went on to win by 4 lengths.

Though our fours were all unsuccessful, our sculling, particularly in Junior Sculls has improved enormously. It is worth remembering that the 19 points, which brought us fourth place, were all sculling points. It should be the aim of Grant's to increase that next year. It is up to every oarsman in the house to take every opportunity he can for a sculling outing, which are always more valuable if two or more scullers are out together. To sit back now would be fatal—fourth place is still not good enough. There is sufficient skill in the House to produce interesting results next July. Whether it does or not depends on individual determination.

The order in the Halahan Cup was as follows :—Busby's, Wren's, Ashburnham, Grant's, Rigaud's, College.

We are very much indebted to H. Ward, Esq. (O.G.) for giving us such valuable coaching and assistance, not only during the Regatta, but during the weeks before it. H. Ward also won the Old Westminster's Sculls.

CRICKET SENIORS.

Grant's did well to finish third in the house seniors competition, but they might, with more luck, have done better. For in the hardest matches those against Busby's and Rigaud's, they had several players ill or taking examinations. Their loss was badly felt, since we had few reserve players, and though the younger players tried hard, they lacked consistency. The batting depended on two players, as did the bowling, which was however very steady, but the fielding though keen, was not of a very high standard.

The first match, against Ashburnham, was won by 33 runs. Grant's went in first, and Kirkby and Hillyard batted easily till the latter was out, and Kirkby went on to score a patient 69 including ten fours. However, as always in these competitions, Ashburnham

had to be got out ; Hillyard and Abbott bowled courageously for nearly two hours and the last wicket fell within three minutes of time.

The next match against Busby's was lost ; Busby's batted first and scored slowly *until the bowlers tired* when they hit out. When Grant's batted, Kirkby's absence was felt, though Frances and Hillyard played well. There were few runs to be had from the tail-enders but the last wicket fell just before time.

Rigaud's were probably the strongest team in the school and our batting with neither Kirkby nor Drake lacked backbone. Hillyard again made some quick runs but after his dismissal, in spite of some dour defence from Cheyne, Clark and Redgrave for an hour, runs were not easy to get and the side was all out for 75. The Rigaud's opening pair attacked the bowling from the start and though they were eventually out, the remaining runs were scored without further loss.

The match against Wren's was won. We batted first and Kirkby and Hillyard again batted well as did Spry who looked well set till the end. The Wren's opening batsmen hit at everything but once they were out, despite some stout resistance the last four wickets fell cheaply to Frances.

Last of all we played Queen's Scholars in a match most notable for a fine century by Hillyard including 16 fours and 2 sixes, one of which was straight driven through a pavilion window. However, he had no support and the side was all out for 146. The Queen's Scholars never looked happy against accurate bowling and though they held out for 75 minutes, they only scored 49 runs ; Abbott had the remarkable figures of 6 for 8 in 15 overs.

No prophesies can be made for next summer, but many of the younger players if they can show more consistency will soon prove useful players and if there is a reasonable amount of new talent this next year the house should soon do well.

The regular team was : R. P. C. Hillyard, E. J. N. Kirkby, A. W. Abbott, M. G. Drake, D. B. Wilkins, R. T. J. A. Clark, M. C. M. B. Frances, R. G. M. Spry, A. G. Cheyne, C. W. Redgrave, and J. A. G. Harrop.

CRICKET SCORES.

Grant's :	143-8 dec.	(Kirkby 69 : Hillyard 28)
Ashburnham :	110	(Abbott 5 for 47 : Hillyard 4 for 47)
Busby's :	185-8 dec.	(Hillyard 4 for 109)
Grant's :	134	(Hillyard 37, Frances 36)
Grant's :	75	(Hillyard 25)
Rigaud's :	77 for 2	
Grant's :	139	(Hillyard 28, Kirkby 28, Spry 24 n.o.)
Wren's :	116	(Hillyard 4 for 52, Frances 4 for 14)
Grant's :	146	(Hillyard 106)
College :	49	(Abbott 6 for 8, Hillyard 4 for 27)

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of THE GRANTITE.

Dear Sir,

If Mr. Cleveland Stevens could just have stretched his vintage years of Grantite history by one more year to include the Play Term of 1903, he would have been able to complete his impressive list with the name of that most illustrious of all modern Grantites—Edgar Adrian, O.M., President of The Royal Society, Nobel Laureate, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge.

Yours truly,

July, 1953.

RALPH HODDER-WILLIAMS.

THE OLD GRANTITE CLUB.

ANNUAL DINNER, 1954.

This has been fixed provisionally for Friday, 9th April, 1954. Further details will be sent to members in the New Year.

LIFE MEMBERS' FREE DINNERS.

At the Annual General Meeting, held on 14th October, 1953, the following rule was adopted :—

“ Every Life Member shall be entitled :—

If elected before 1st October, 1950, to attend one Annual Dinner without further payment in the years 1954 or 1955,

Or,

If elected after 1st October, 1950, to attend one Annual Dinner without further payment in any one of the five years succeeding his election—

Provided that the Committee may in any individual case extend these periods.”

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT, 1953.

The Secretary wishes to correct an error which appeared in the Committee's Report which was sent to members at the end of September. In this it was stated that “ the Club no longer subsidises the cost of Dinners and does not provide free beer.” This should read, “ The club has reduced its subsidy to the cost of dinners, and no longer provides free beer.”

CLEANING OF THE PORTRAIT OF THE LATE MR. RALPH TANNER.

This portrait, which must be familiar to all who have been up Grant's is in need of cleaning and re-varnishing, and it is felt that a suitable opportunity for having this done is provided while the House is being rebuilt.

Members of the Club are invited to contribute to the cost of restoration, and subscriptions (limited to 5s.) will be gratefully received by the Hon. Treasurer. They should be sent to :—

RAYMOND PLUMMER, ESQ.,
55/61, Moorgate, E.C.2.