

GRAMMARIAN

DW

CHRISTMAS TERM, 1948.

No. 7.

EDITORIAL

STANLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

STANLEY, CO. DURHAM.

Editorial Staff :

Mary Anderson, June Ross, Roger Simpson.

Committee :

Mr. Carr, Miss Arkless, Mr. Binks, Henry Mason, Wendy Herdman, Maureen Aitchison, John Greenwell, Frank Pearson.

Business Manager :

Mr. Seed.

Readers :

Miss Nicol and Miss Allison.

The Committee decided during Term to reduce the magazine to half of its former size. This will have three beneficial effects: First it will lower the costs of production, enable us to sell the magazine at half of its old price and thus encourage sales; Secondly, not so much material will be required to produce a magazine and the work of the contributors and the Editorial Staff will be considerably lessened; and lastly we can publish three small magazines a year instead of our present one or two larger editions.

Grammarians No. 6 cost about £19 to print and there was a slight profit on this expenditure, owing partly to excellent support by old students and to yet another welcome donation from Mrs. Sanderson. If profit is made with every publication we shall eventually be enabled to issue a magazine with a stiff cover and photographs. The magazine will also benefit from Mr. Seed's kind acceptance of the position of Business Manager.

The Editors thank all those who have written contributions, copied out material for the printers, counted words, and who have helped the work in any other way.

SCHOOL NOTES

Since the last issue of the magazine, a garden-seat in plain wood—a legacy from Miss Lumsden—has been delivered to the school. It has a metal plate on which is recorded her years of service and a quotation from a letter of Mr. Hardy "So her memory will live on." This memorial will always be treasured by the school.

There has been one change in the staff since Summer. Miss Holmes replacing Miss Smith. We extend kind greetings to Miss Holmes and hope she will be happy with us.

After three years of good work as school secretary, Miss Jefferson who did such good service for the magazine has also left us. Miss Crossman, the new secretary, is keeping up the excellent tradition of Miss Jefferson and is a model of efficiency.

The School Concert was again a great success. The solos, duets, choir items and acting were all good. A new feature was the introduction of items by a male voice choir.

A mass exodus of the seniors on November 2nd to see "Hamlet" at the Queen's Hall Cinema, was the result of an offer by the management to show the film at a cheap rate. While regretting that many people went merely to escape lessons, we are sure that all enjoyed the film and benefitted from it. Another party went on November 3rd to Whinney Hill School to hear a viola recital by Mr. Bernard Shore. This also was enjoyed by all.

The prize for the most cheerful student in the school is divided between Billy Gill and Billy Wilson, while that for the most serious-minded goes to Trev. Westgarth.

CHESS CLUB

The final positions in the Durham County Grammar Schools' League were:—

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
Bishop Auckland	5	5	0	0	10
Sunderland ...	5	3	1	1	7
Stanley ...	5	2	2	1	6
Darlington ...	5	1	2	2	4
Consett ...	5	1	1	3	3
Durham ...	5	0	0	5	0

Our team this season is unchanged from last and we should win the league this time. Never once last year did we field our strongest team—indeed against Bishop Auckland and against Darlington the team was a player short.

Our results were :—

Stanley v. Darlington	3-3.
„ v. Consett	4-2.
„ v. Durham	4-2.
„ v. Bishop Auckland	2½-3½.
„ v. Sunderland	3-3.

In a friendly match against Consett we were ignominiously defeated 5-1.

Season's averages (in playing order) :—

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.	Ave.
R. Simpson (VI) ...	11	6	4	1	8	0.727
H. Young ...	8	5	1	2	5½	0.688
H. Jackson ...	9	4	1	4	4½	0.5
K. Smith ...	9	5	0	4	5	0.556
R. Simpson (V) ...	8	2	1	5	2½	0.313
W. Pescod ...	6	3	0	3	3	0.5
{ J. Nicholson ...	7	0	0	7	0	—
{ T. Welsh ...	2	0	0	2	0	—
{ K. Lynn ...	3	0	0	3	0	—
{ C. Milburn ...	1	0	0	1	0	—
{ S. Reid ...	2	0	0	2	0	—
{ F. Pearson ...	1	0	0	1	0	—

Roger Simpson won the Durham County Junior Championship, winning 14, drawing 1, and losing one out of 16 games.

We would like to thank Mr. Carr for his advice and support during the year.

H. JACKSON (*Hon. Sec.*)

THE SILVER FLAME

The Silver Flame was a space-ship, built and designed by Professor Potts, the most scientific of the scientists of the early 'twenties who had only recently completed a course in aero-dynamics at Ye Verie Scientific Taverne, Barnsley. He intended to visit Mars aboard this streamlined monster, but having no assistants, and not daring to approach the Cripps' Institute of Labour down the road, he sent out the dog to seize five men who happened to stroll past his gate, blissfully unaware of the existence of Mars, but ruefully aware of the dangers of the new Pools' Racket and Co., Ltd. These wretches were pressed into service and hastily instructed as to the manoeuvres of the old 'bus.

Early on the morning of August 7th the party set off, singing rude songs and eating grass sandwiches. Ten months is a long time, but they had plenty of grub in the lockers and dehydrated water in canisters, for making cocoa. They had one or two packets of Woodbines but no matches—silly old Potts had forgotten them—so it was with relief that they passed through the Northern Lights, when, by leaning out of the lower deck, they could just manage to light up, with electric sparks from the Lights.

One day, the Prof. lost control and they hit an unknown planet. This knocked the whole contraption into smithereens and gave the laddies a bit of a toothache—naturally. They salvaged their oxygen suits, hastily donned them, and put on their warm winter woollies because their toes were dropping off with the cold.

On looking about them, they found their surroundings to be completely flat, with the exception of one huge mountain about a hundred miles away. Quickly they strolled across to it and patted its little head, but lo! and behold! a horde of little green men with no eyes and with a spike protruding from their foreheads appeared. "O Moses," gasped the Prof., "Civil Servants!" The nasty little so—and—so's seized the six Earthmen and carted them off down a hole in the mountain's side, into a huge subterranean cavern. Here the Professor saw a lot of wicked Russians with the wicked machines they had invented to destroy the British Isles. As soon as the Earthmen and their captors appeared the Russians stood to attention and sang the Red Flag with gusto.

From the paintings on the walls and the devilish machines assembled on benches, the Prof. could see that these Planetarians with their Russian allies were far in advance of thought on the earth. After being dumped down in a cold room filled with old tooth-paste tubes and television sets, the Earthmen were left to themselves, bound and gagged.

The Prof., being a clever chappie, whistled to the rats that had emerged from their holes in the walls, and ordered them to cut the bonds with their teeth. This was done. Escape back to the surface of the planet was simple then, for the Planetarians had gone to celebrate with Scotch Broth and Pickled Onions. Before reaching the surface they found a room full of space-ships belonging to the Planetarians, and apparently designed to destroy towns and villages. The Prof.

