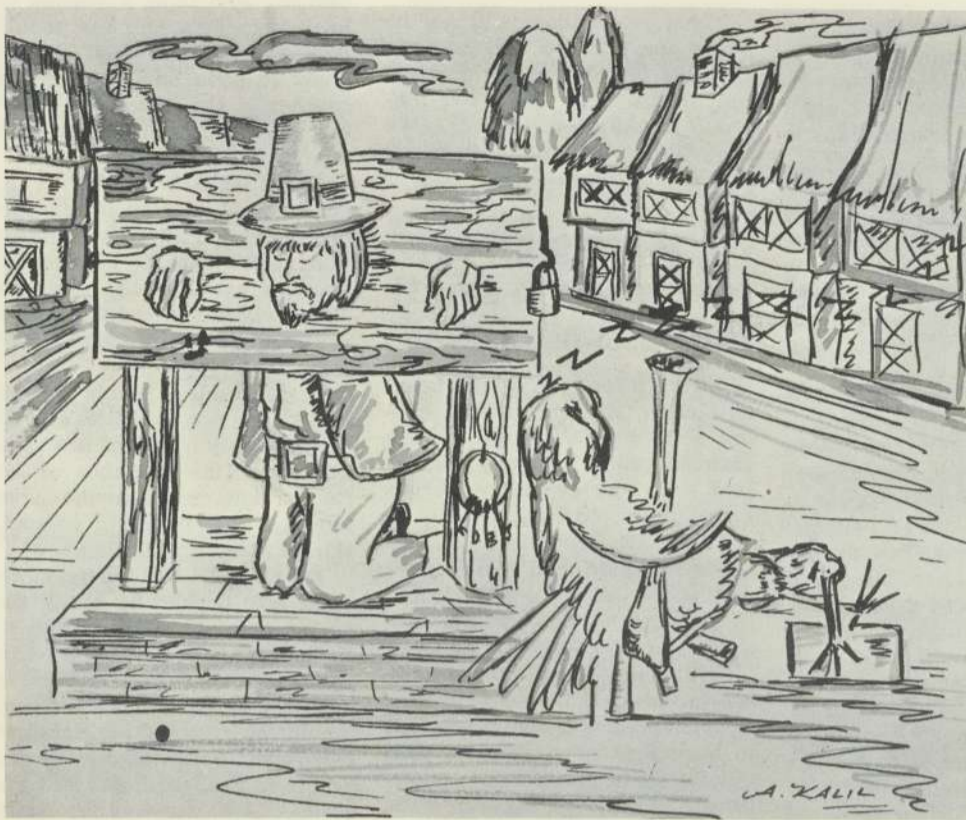


# Editorials

## Thanksgiving highlighted by feast of whom?



### Gangsters not sent into oblivion! 'Sir Gawain' living in Chicago Southside,' say students

Sir Gawain is alive and living in the Chicago Southside! The "great silver screen" has not sent the 1930's gangsters into oblivion! James Conover's English Lit students hand in a joint term project.

**Big G Meets the Derby**, a ten-minute, silent, 8mm, full color feature film of 1930 gangster type was produced as a transition from *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, a 14th century didactic romance familiar to most seniors.

**THE STORY** is sparked with violence, adventure, suspense, lust, seduction, resistance and religion, practically simultaneously. Evidently the makers felt it deserved the self-inflicted "X" rating.

Allen Mayberry, Mark Borquist and Evan Whipple portrayed, consecutively, Big G, Bad Bert (alias the Derby) and The Priest. Completing the cast were five "thugs": Gerry Reese, Doug Boardman, Dave Grosz, Terry Owens and Pat Doyle.

**FINISHING THE** nine was Don Johnson, official cameraman. Rocky Menashe also lent her talents as "The Gay Lady."

The whole scheme took five weeks to carry out. It began with the idea of simply rewriting the epic into more modern English. Then the more original procedure was brought about on suggestion of Allen and Gerry.

**AFTER MUCH** planning in and out of class, actual filming was ready to begin. The company traveled to such on-location sets as the railroad tracks under 42nd Ave. at Lombard and a drive through North Portland (representing Chicago Southside).

Seven hours of film splicing followed, with the selection of appropriate musical accompaniment, which was then taped.

Premier showings were last Friday at which time Dr. Roy O. Malo authorized new film allowance to the students for possible future productions. According to the group, they're ready to start again—this time with a little more knowledge of what they're doing.

Mr. Conover is encouraging them along also. He was "extremely pleased" with the project.

## Generally Speaking

by Gary Cogill

Recently a black member of our varsity football team injured his leg very badly in a daily practice. He was taken immediately to a hospital in the Portland area to get aid, and the bills began to mount. His name is Terry Phillips.

**IT WAS** then brought up among the coaching staff and various members of the faculty, not to mention the players, that a collection be started to help pay for some of these bills. Money then came pouring in and the bills began to look smaller and smaller.

A lesson may be learned from all of this. Whether it be the idea of charity or helping people in a time of difficulties.

**THERE IS** one thing that is tremendous about all of this, and that is that regardless of the person's color, money was raised to help him. Not only by black students but by white students also, and it is vitally important that people feel this way when our world is in such an uproar. It is tremendous that people can throw out all forms of prejudice and concentrate on getting something done that is worthwhile. Self is sometimes very important, but many times the security of others outdoes the importance of self.

A big hand may be given to these few who have thrown out their ideas of being prejudiced. They should be com-

mended for making others see their way in stopping forms of racial disorder in the world.

Grant High School may only be a small incident in many incidents around the country that has showed some promise towards making peace among people who feel that color of skin is a barrier.

Terry is at the county hospital; he would welcome all visitors.

Editor, *The Grantonian*:

In last Thursday's assembly, 11/13/69, the conduct of the Grant High student body was thoroughly disappointing. Some of the students talked during the playing of the national anthem. Others showed disrespect for the speakers by visiting, doing school work, and sleeping.

Grant has been a great school not only because of its outstanding athletic teams, but for its music, drama, academic achievements, and, as noted, especially in this assembly, for its nationally recognized forensics program.

## Letters to the Editor

We think it is too bad that the student body generally has to be so crude in assembly conduct. Surely the great traditions we have inherited and hope to pass on to other students demands a greater degree of sophistication than we showed in our last assembly.

Anne Gerber  
Kathy Murray  
Marty Roberts  
Harriet Diver  
Barbara Kelley

## Exchange teacher from Russia visits; answers questions about USSR life

by Martha Ojard

"Zrastvweetchye Kak Wee poszeveye-tye?" asked Mrs. Victoria Georgievna Annikova, a Muscovite English teacher who is visiting American schools.

**MRS. ANNIKOVA** was selected to be a member of a group of Russian teachers being "exchanged" with American Russian teachers for two months. "I don't know why I was chosen, though," she commented. The exchange is sponsored by the American Friends Service Commission. She will be in Portland three weeks, then she goes to Philadelphia, New York, and Washington. Her visitation began in Cambridge, at a private school—Brown and Nichols, which is an all-boys' school. "There was only one other woman teacher there, besides myself," she reminisced.

When asked if she liked America, she replied, "Yes, it is just as I had expected. I had read a lot of books about it before I came, and they prepared me. But of course, people are people everywhere; Americans don't really differ from Russians."

**SHE CONTINUED** to say that Moscow and Portland were different, as far as population and building construction goes. "There are 7 million people in Moscow. Our buildings are long and tall; I live in a block long, 9-story high apartment building, on the ninth floor," she elaborated.

When asked to comment on the differences and similarities of Russian and American schools, and Russian and American teenagers, she said that Russian students "all wear uniforms. The girls wear brown dresses, a white collar and cuffs, and white aprons. The boys wear gray slacks and blue jackets. Our teenagers like both classical and modern music. They also like to travel. Even in winter, they go camping or hiking. They take tents, knapsacks and guitars, and travel."

**IN RUSSIA**, students usually begin to learn a foreign language, in this case, usually English, when they are 8, if they are in a "special school." In a "normal school" foreign tongues are taught at 11.

Instead of grades, Russian students receive "marks": the highest mark is a "5," the lowest is a "1."

### Late News Bulletin . . .

Tana Marrs and Larry Wheeler have been nominated to represent National Honor Society's local chapter in national competition for NHS scholarships. The two were selected Wednesday morning at a special meeting of NHS. They now qualify to be compared with other NHS'ers on a national level.

If selected nationally, they will receive an NHS scholarship for \$1,000. One hundred seventy-five such scholarships will be awarded to NHS seniors who fulfill four areas of achievement: leadership, scholarship, character, and service.

"All forms must be returned to the Scholarship service by December 10," Mrs. Elva Newcomer counselor and NHS advisor, explained. "Both of our nominees will participate, but their eligibility does not guarantee that a scholarship will be awarded," she concluded.

"**ALL EDUCATION** is free," she emphasized. "There is no tuition or expense for school—in fact, some college students receive a stipend from the government. My daughter receives 11 rubles a month."

Continuing to elaborate on Russian schools, she commented: "The students do not choose subjects. They must take everything we have outlined for them—everything is essential. Because of this, by the time they are through high school, they are capable of entering any university in Russia. But to enter college, entrance exams must be taken: only these are used in deciding upon admissibility of a student."

**AVERAGE CLASSES** are usually made up of 38 or 39 pupils. If English classes are begun at 8 years of age, that class is split into three sections, with 8-10 students in each division.

"There is a lot of hunting and fishing in Russia," Mrs. Annikova explained. "And people travel abroad more. This is my first trip abroad, but my husband has been to many foreign countries."

**SHE DENIED** any drug problem in Russia—"there is none at all." She was also asked about reactions to the American VietNam Moratorium and she announced, "There are no demonstrations against our government because we elect our government. We can write our government about our grievances—we get an answer. It is illogical to protest against people we elect to government."

She asserted that there is freedom of press and speech in Russia. "It was impossible for me to understand your television movies . . . because of the commercials. We never interrupt our programs. At first, I couldn't tell whether the commercial was part of the movie or not!"

Miss Illona Zakovics, German and Russian teacher, later enlarged upon Mrs. Annikova's replies. "The T.V. is controlled by the government. It is only available for several hours a day—perhaps one-two hours in the morning, and one-two hours in the evening. It is usually political or maybe educational. It's party-run, and usually all slanted."

One interesting aspect of Russian life is the requirement for obtaining a driver's license. "One must be able to take apart and put together a car motor." Upon seeing quizzical looks, Mrs. Annikova smiled and said, "Oh no, only my husband has a driver's license. The tests are very complex."

Mrs. Annikova concluded her remarks about Russia with a typical Russian phrase—"Dusveedanya!—'Goodbye!'"

Miss Zakovics also added, later, that she "was embarrassed to let her see our cafeteria. I walked out the other way so she wouldn't see too much. We walked through Jello in the halls and I wondered 'What if she slips and breaks her leg?' I could just hear her explanation—'Oh, I slipped on some Jello in America at one of their high schools!'"

## The Grantonian

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