

Hampstead Moving House

13/47

HAMPSTEAD H.C. held their first post-war annual dinner at Lords Tavern on March 15, when there were over 70 members and guests present. In the chair was Mr. R. L. Milsted and the principal guest was Mr. R. Grove, Hon. Secretary of Middlesex County H.A.

Proposing the toast of "The Club," Mr Grove referred to the past glories of Hampstead mentioning among the very earliest members A. E. Stoddart, who was both a cricketer and rugby international, and another cricketer F. W. Orr, who was a member before the turn of the century and was present at the dinner that evening.

Mr. Grove mentioned also a club record that was unlikely to be equalled of having 4 Gold Medallists playing in the Olympic Games at Antwerp in 1920, J. H. Bennett, S. H. Shoveller, C. S. W. Marcon and C. T. A. Wilkinson. He said that the President, Rory Milsted, whom he played in front of on many occasions, was one of the finest players never capped for England.

Referring to the present Mr. Grove recalled that C. L. Vye had been with the Olympic team at Melbourne and that R. A. Downard was unable to attend the dinner as he was travelling with the Welsh team to Limerick.

The President in his reply thanked the many old members present and those who had been prevented from coming but who had sent contributions towards the function.

The toast of "The Guests" was proposed by Mr. Jeremy Potter, who announced that the Club had decided to move next season to Boston Manor Playing Fields. There was an excellent playing surface and although conditions were not ideal they were quite adequate and a local public house would become the Club headquarters, in order that the traditional hospitality to visiting teams could be maintained.

The toast was responded to admirably by Mr. H. M. Lindley-Jones, the Hon. Secretary of Bromley, who said that they all appreciated Hampstead's difficulty with grounds and wished them well in their new location next year.