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# The Northern Union News.

And OLDHAM F. C. OFFICIAL PROGRAMME.

No. 69.]

Saturday, April 6th, 1912.

[One Penny

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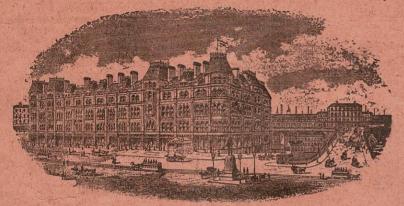
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# THE NORTHERN

No. 69.]

Saturday, April 6th, 1912.

[One Penny.

### MEN AND MATTERS.

The Widnes Bother.

The matter of the Widnes club, and the dispute in connection with the suggested purchase of James

Tilley from Widnes club, and the dispute in ball is altogether different, and the task of selecting the finalists is doubly difficult. Tilley from Warrington, has further developed. In addition to the resignation of eleped. In addition to the resignation of Mr. Fred Smith, the secretary, it is reported that the committee, as a body, contemplate resignation, rather than agree to the resolution passed at the special general meeting. Fortunately for the game, matters of dispute do not generally develop so seriously, and we hope something satisfactory will be done at Widnes.

The transfer of Ganley, The "Catch of the well known half-back the Season." from Leigh to Leeds, was the event of the week end. Ganley, who has exceeded the Leigh record in the scoring of points, made by Dunbavin, is a half-back who has made much progress this season, and his display in the match at Mather Lane, against the Australasians, fairly surprised the critics. He was afterwards selected for Lancashire County, and in his first match at Headingley, last Sat-urday, had the satisfaction of scoring the only point—a dropped goal—made by his

The Semi-finals. We have nothing fresh to report respecting the cup ties next Saturday. That between Wakefield Trinity

The announcement that I. Amateur and Harrison, a student at the Professional. Diocesan Training College, played left wing three-quarter back for York, against Salford, last Saturday, will be pleasant reading to all those who are anxious to encourage amateur talent in the Northern Union. That amateurs and professionals can play side by side with advantage to the game, is a recognised principle in all out-door sports, other than that controlled by the Rugby Union.

Although the Huddersfield Over 900 team have exceeded the thous-Over 900 team have exceeded the thouspoints. and points in all games, interest is now confined to their doings in the League. The match with Hull, in which the Fartowners recorded 29 points, took their League aggregate beyond the ninth hundred. Prior to yesterdays, only Oldham had exceeded the fifth century, and the huge lead enjoyed by the Fartowners, is a striking tribute to their wonderful display of open football this season. football this season.

The First tions at St. Helens and Huns-Four. let, that the heavy programme of the Oldham club, coupled with the aspirations of the Watershedbetween Wakefield Trinity and Oldham at Broughton, will be in charge of Mr. F. Renton, and that at Huddersfield, between Dewsbury and Halifax, Mr. J. F. May, both gentlemen being capable referees and well qualified to take charge of the semi-final ties. Those who regard themselves as students of form will do well not to pay much attention to the matches played during the last few days in which the cup sides of the Oldham club, coupled with the aspirations of the Watershedding's players, in respect to the cup, would lead to a sort of lack of keeness for the League. But in their last three games the League champions have, not withstanding changes in their team, annexed full points, and both St. Helens and Hunslet will, we think, be thorough the last few days in which the cup sides

## Northern Union League.—Results up to this morning.

#### Points. Per-P.W.L.D. ForAgs, centge

		D. I omiguicentge
Huddersfield	32 27 4	1909 21485.93
Wigan	30 25 .5	0438 16683.33
Hull K. R	29 22 7	0463 22775,86
St. Helens	20 28 8	0460 20971,42
Hunslet	31 21 9	1482 26069.35
Oldham	31 21 9	1527 28069.35
Wakefield T.	28 18 9	1383 32266,07
Dewsbury	30 18 11	1401 29661.66
Hull	33 18 13	2407 29257.57
Batley		0232 20355,55
Broughton R.	.30 16 13	1280 22655.00
Leigh	30 16 13	1278 27555.00
Widnes	29 14 12	3256 21753.44
Leeds	30 16 14	0384 30753.33
Halifax	31 15 13	3361 25953,22
Rochdale H.	28 14 14	0262 32650.00
York	28 12 15	1283 38844.64
Warrington	29 11 16	2232 27341.37
Swinton	30 11 16	3253 31541.66
Barrow	27 10 16	1208 39638.88
Salford	28 9 15	4222 26239.28
Keighley		1228 26938.00
Runcorn	26 5 20	1147 34021.15
Coventry	30 5 23	2158 57520.00
Ebbw Vale .	27 3 21	3133 47916.66
Bramley	27 1 23	3123,639 9.25
Bradford	30 228	0166 555 6.66

#### YORKSHIRE LEAGUE.

#### LANCASHIRE LEAGUE.

TORKSHIRE	LEAGUE.
	Scores.
P, W	. L. D. For Ag't, Pts
Huddersfield22 18	3 3 1653 18237
Kingston R21 17	4 0362 13534
Hunslet23 16	7 0343 17632
Dewsbury23 13	9 1299 22727
Wakefield T2013	7 0288 25926
Hull21 11	10 1255 23522
Halifax22 10	10 2240 20022
Leeds	10 0277 21822
Batley21 10	11 0161 17420
Keighley21 8	13 1205 33217
York	13 0189 32814
Bramley22 1	20 1 97 570 3
Bradford20 1	19 0 86 394 2

		Scores.	
P.	W. L.	D. For Ag't. Pts	
Wigan20	18 2	0301 8636	
St. Helens20	16 4	$0323\ 15432$	
Oldham20	14. 6	0348 16128	
Broughton R19	11 7	1167 13023	
Widnes20	9 9	2161 13420	
Leigh211	1 10	0201 19422	
Rechdale H19	910	0154 22018	
Warrington20	811	1176 18817	
Salford20	7 11	2147 22116	
Swinton21	7 12	2147 22116	
Runcorn21	3 17	1 90 297 7	
Barrow 20	316	1 111 366 7	

## LEAVES FROM MY NOTE BOOK.

(By THE EDITOR).

#### Another Club in Difficulties.

"I am sorry to report that probably during the present week official information will be given to the effect that another well-known Lancashire League club is in serious financial difficulties. Creditors are pressing for satisfaction, and on Saturday I was informed that the task or raising the necessary cash for travelling expenses for the match on Good Fiday may possibly prove beyond the committee's powers.

Salford. But they have suffered greatly through the weather conditions on dates which would otherwise have brought a good return, and in a postponed game urday suggested that matches were anyrecently played the takings were very thing but a test of football ability, and moderate. Some scheme may be it is a matter for consideration if League arranged, but the present outlook is interests are best served by such spectacexceedingly gloomy, and the prospects of completing the season's fixtures very remote.'

#### Matches Lack Interest.

I have taken the above from the "Athletic News," and the paragraph clearly points to a certain club being so troubled by financial matters that the crisis is approaching. I do not doubt but that many readers will recognise the club, and though I do not say that the present League system is to blame, I do think that the club and many others in similar circumstances do not secure much from the games they play in March and April. They are neither interested in the cup or the League, and consequently their doings attract little attention.

#### A Financial Loss.

Now though the players, or perhaps the majority of the team are only paid a stipulated sum per match, the question of ways and means keeps to the fore, and generally speaking a bad balance at the end of February is made much worse by the continuous drains before the end seen that at least one semi-final would be of April. I noticed last week a well played in Lancashire. There is somekrown writer was questioning the wis- thing to be said on both sides.

dom of this criticism of the League system, because the critics did not suggest a remedy. The reply is convincing only to a point, but if no remedy is suggested the disease still prevails.

#### A Bold Scheme Required.

But it would be idle to sit still and do nothing. For it is an open secret that in more centres than one, the clubs playing And the club in question has had an even better record in both Northern Union and Rugby Union football than remedy, in my opinon, is to take a bold remedy, in my opinon, is to take a bold course, and for the Northern Union to seriously face the situation. The scoring les as were seen at Watersheddings on Saturday. My sympathies are, of course, with the weaker clubs, but surely they themselves lose support by such heavy defeats, and as the class is so pronounced it would, in my opinion, be better now to face the inevitable and consider the question of re-organisation.

#### Salford's Complaint.

Touching on the fixing of the semifinals at Broughton, on April 13, I have received several communications from indignant Salford supporters. It is said that "Rochdale Hornets withdrew their claim for one of the matches, in order that Salford should be considered." This, I think, is hardly correct for the Rechdale secretary attended the meeting with the avowed intention of not considering a match for April 13, because the Hornets themselves have a home game for the same day. And though to the average Salford supporter it may seem hard, the point must not be overlooked that the game had been arranged for Hull Kingston Rovers for April 13, a cup semi-final date, fixed up last July. And even the casual observer must have

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Competitor's	Name	
Address		

# Notes and Notions.

(By A. S. M.



local enthusiasts. My object though is club in the two counties named visiting not to discuss this game. If I did, per-haps whilst gratifying the "Oldhamites," and does not apply now. Both these haps whilst gratifying the "Oldhamites," and does not apply now. Both these clubs would also have to make the journeed. However, being in Spindledom, ney North, twelve or thirteen times each, I purchased the local football edition, and unless they were also in the Northern wherein was contained a novel suggestion League, they would only have 24 and 26 by a correspondent, for the re-con-struction of the Northern League, which also embraced the respective County well in the cup ties. Leagues.

#### The New Scheme.

It is evident whoever the correspondent is, he has given the subject some thought and I think his suggestions the best I have seen yet, as against the present system. But let me say at once, that after seriously considering it, I must still "plump" for the system now in vogue.

The new idea is—

(1) That the Northern League shall consist of the first five Lancashire clubs and the first five Yorkshire clubs; (2) there will be also a Lancashire League (to include Ebbw Vale); and (3) a York-shire League (to include Coventry); the Lancashire League clubs all to play each other home and away, the Yorkshire League clubs likewise, and the matches to count in both the Northern League and the county leagues were suitable. Those clubs in the Northern League and the Lancashire League would have 32 matches for their season's programme, and those in the Northern League and the Yorkshire League would have 34 matches. Those outside the Northern League could arrange friendly matches to make up.

The Northern League to be reconstructed each season by the inclusion of the first four teams in the final table of the respective County Leagues.

#### The Weak Places.

The idea has no doubt been put forward with the idea of providing something for the bottom clubs to fight for one time three-quarter back of the old during the last two or three months of

the season. There are undoubtedly some FORTNIGHT ago I had the good fortune to be in Oldham for the cup tie with Huddersfield. This match has now gone into the realms of history, although it still remains green in the minds of the local enthusiasts. My object though is

#### The Good Points.

As the League is now constituted it may be said that the interest in the 'first four' for the greater part of the season is centered in, or at least 10 clubs. By the new system it would be widened to say 15. This is one of the good points in the suggestion. But it can safely be said that the 10 clubs in the Northern League would be at the head of the respective County Leagues, and thus would remain in the Northern League. If this was so, then apart from the fifteen clubs already provided for, there are still left over a dozen. They have no further incentive than at present. There could be no relegation from the County Leagues. This relegation is suggested as the means of keeping up the interest to the end of the season, and it is pointed out that not being in force, the bottom clubs are somewhat uncatered for, if I may use the word. The new idea, therefore, does not help matters in this respect. It also does away with the "first feur' principle, which undoubtedly provides considerable interest, and for the clubs engaged, additional revenue. These are some of reasons against the new idea, but at the same time I should like to offer my respects to the gentleman responsible. He has evidently got the interest of the game at heart, and dives beneath the surface in his endeavour.

#### A Worthy Case for Charity.

(Continued on page 14).

York	Wigan	Widnes	Warrington	Wakefield	Swinton	St. Helens		Runcorn	Rochdale	Oldham		Leeds	Keighley	Hunslet		Ш				ewsb	Coventry.	Broughton R.	Bramley	Bradford	Batley	Barrow
:	34-4	28-6	33-5	:	1210	43-2	16-11	7-7	:	40-5	45-0	:	0-5	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	5-16	15-0	:	6.13	:	:
12-5	:	:	:	6-2	OI-II	:	:	:	:		:	5-11	0-8	16-5	II-0	:	33.0	16.6	:	13-7	5-8	:	8-0	7.9	:	:
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7.9 0-8 5-8 13-7 11-6 13-7 11-6 13-7 11-6 13-7 11-6 13-7 11-6 13-7 11-6 13-7 11-6 13-7 13-	Batley	=======================================
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13-2 5-20 16-9 9-8 9-8 16-9 9-8 18-7 17-10 18-19 17-10 18-19 11-12 11-12 11-12 11-12 11-12	Rochdale	A
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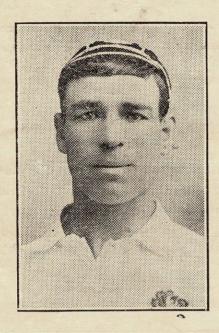
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T. WOODS (Rochdale Hornets).
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3-SID DEANE

4-E. DAVIES

5-T. J. WILLIAMS

6-E. A. ANLEZARK (capt).

7-J. LOMAS

8-J. FERGUSON

9-B. AVERY

10-JAS. WRIGHT

11-T. McCABE

12-J. WILTSHIRE

13-W. B. JARDINE

14-F. W. WISE 15-T. BRICE

SALFORD TEAM.

1-H. LAUNCE

2-J. H. COOK

3-W. THOMAS

4-A. LOVELUCK

5-B. MESLEY

6-E. C. MAY

7-W. D. JOHN

8-E. J. THOMAS 9-R. RITCHIE

10-J. PUGSLEY

11—C. REES

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	St. Helens		Hull
B		c	Huddersfield
	Hunslet		Wigan
C	Widnes	H	Wakefield
	Warrington		Kingston Rovers
D	Keighley	J	Ebbw Vale
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E	Bradford	K	Notts County
	Swinton		Oldham Athletic
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## Men of the Moment.

No. 8-T. Woods (Rochdale Hornets).

(By OBSERVER.)



Hernets officials in going South Hornets officials in going South for players was never more

before he came North, but players of repute in the Rugby Union have not always proved a success in the Northern

But Woods soon established himself in popular favour, and that others outside Rochdale have recognised his good qualities is apparent from the fact that the Northern Union have rewarded him with all the honours possible.

Woods, like many other clever forward exponents, has found that the Northern Union rules provide far more opportunities to the brainy forward, than the old regulation. Now a scrummager has almost equal opportunities with the backs, and the fast and heady forward commands far better prospects than he did in the old game.

Woods, despite his brilliance in the open, is a forward who does not shirk his duties in the ruck. He recognises that a forwards first duty is to keep the ball from the other side, and his capital work in this respect is a fitting example for others to follow. We have men in the Northern Union who do not consider a loose forward should work in the ruck. Fortunately, for Rochdale, Woods holds other views.

#### A Representative Player.

I have greatly admired the play of rewarded than when they secured the services of T. Woods. He had, of course, a big reputation earned the notice of the Colonials. He was ever prominent in those stirring struggles, and the season of 1911-12, will I think, be regarded with satisfaction by Woods, even though through no fault of the Hornets forwards, his side are now not interested in the Northern Union Cup.

#### A Fine Forward.

Typically, Woods is a forward of the right sort. He plays more for his side than for himself, and after bringing into use every ounce of his weight in the scrummage, his admirable physique carries him to distinction in the open.

His dribbles are a feature of his play, and his control of the ball is remarkable. He has perfected his play in this phase of the game, and with it all he has not lost his effectiveness in defence. He is a rare tackler, courageous to a degree, and rarely misses his man when he reaches the danger zone.

In brief, Woods is one of the best allround forwards playing the Northern Union game, and his success in big games this season has given much satisfaction to his hosts of admirers in Rochdale.

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# Squibs from Everywhere.

The postponed England v. Wales match will not be played this season.

\* \* \* \* \*

There are fifteen Northern League games on Monday and Tuesday.

\* \* \* \*

Leigh turned the tables on the Rangers of Broughton, in the very last minute of the game at Wheater's Field.

\* \* \* \* \*

A Good Friday win by Wigan over St. Helens, would give the Lancashire Ccunty League cup to the Central Park team.

\* \* \* \*

The Davies and Williams Welsh wing at Oldham scored nine tries against Runcorn, the centre having five to his credit and the wing man, four.

\* \* \* \* \*

Sullivan, the Leeds centre three-quarter back, sustained a fractured ankle in the early portion of the second half, in the game against Wigan.

\* \* \* \* \*

Alder, who played centre three-quarter back for Halifax, is a Featherstone youth who has just entered his eighteenth year.

\* \* \* \*

Runcorn and Bradford were the only teams in the Northern League, last Saturday, who failed to record a solitary scoring point.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Northern League committee have given notice that all matches which concern the "first four" must be played on or before next Saturday.

Huddersfield and Hull Kingston Rovres are fighting hard for the Yorkshire County League cup, and there is only a point in favour of the County Challenge Cup holders.

\*\*\*\*

Holland, the Huddersfield full-back, was deposed last Saturday in favour of Kitchen, who played with such pronounced success that Hull only beat him once.

\* \* \* \*

The Broughton Rangers club have secured a new ground in Broughton, on terms which allow of ultimate purchase. The reason for the change is that the present ground owner has increased the rent so much that the club officials feel compelled to give notice.

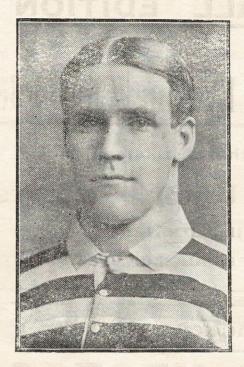
\*\*\*\*

Had there been a good goal-kicker in the Oldham side last Saturday, they might have established the season's record in points scored. Huddersfield's 71 against Coventry is the best, but in the Oldham match, only four out of sixteen tries were improved.

\* \* \* \*

The writer of the Northern Union Notes in the Liverpool echo was very wide of the mark, when in commenting on the Oldham v. Huddersfield cup tie, he wrote, "It was a splendid match, I have been told, and the pity only is that one of the visitors' three-quarter backs should so far forget himself as to be the means of handicapping his side, and virtually losing them the match. You know how serious it is to be deprived of the services of an exceptionally clever back player. This was Huddersfield's sole reason for defeat, to my mind."

# Prominent Players in the Semi-Finals.



E. A. ANLEZARK,

(Oldham).

/A\ /A\

111

J. R. HILTON, (Halifax).



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# THE CUP.

### Progress of the Clubs.

1st Round.	2nd Round.	3rd Round.	Semi-finals.
Ocventry 3	Oldham12		77.9
		Oldham 2	
Highfield10 /	Wigan 8		- Oldham
Hunslet 0	Leigh 6	Huddersfield 0	Barrier W.
Huddersfield30 Swinton0	Huddersfield 33		
Beverley 5 Hull Kingston R's34	*Hull K. R's. 0		
		Warrington . 5	
*Normanton St. Johns 0 Warrington75			Wakefield Trinity
Millom 0 Keighley11	Keighley 2		Wakenelu Trimity
Wakefield Trinity10 } Leeds	Wakefield13	*Wakefield10	
Hull20		/	
	Hull27`	Hull 2	
Bradford 0 Rochdale Hornets13	Rochdale H 5		- Halifax
Halifax10 Ebbw Vale2	Halifax 19		- Halliex
Broughton Rangers. 25 )		Halifax11	
Bramley 3 S			
Widnes 3 } Salford			
Dewsbury36 Lane End United 9	Dewsbury 9	Dewsbury 5	
Barrow13 )	* Porrow #		Dewsbury
Batley22 )		Batley 2	
Runcorn	Batley 7		

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## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

OLD LION (Swinton).—Season 1903-4, League results were 12 won, 19 lost, 5 drawn. (2) Ten games they played during the seaon without scoring a point. (3) The highest scoring game was at Swinton, the home side making 2 goals, 5 tries, to Keighley, 1 try. (4)
They were knocked out of the cup in the re-play with Warrington, by 4 goals, 4 tries to nothing.

To the Editor "Northern Union News."

Dear Sir,—As an old supporter of the Salford club, I should like your opinion

J.B. (Rochdale Hornets).—The rule you want is rule 13 of the Challenge cup rules. It reads as follows: "The duration of each match shall be one hour and twenty minutes, i.e., forty minutes from each goal. The interval at half time shall not exceed five minutes, during which time the players may leave the field, but should any player leave the field during the progress of play, without the permission of the referee, such player shall not be allowed to take any further part in the game. When a match has part in the game. When a match has resulted in a draw, it must be reation of each match shall be one hour resulted in a draw, it must be re- men, as it always does.

played on the following Wednesday, unless the clubs mutually agree to an earlier day, and notify the same to the Hon. Secretary of the Union. If the second match also result in a drawn game, the re-played tie must be played on the following Friday, unless the clubs mutually agree to an earlier day.'

## Correspondence,

Dear Sir,—As an old supporter of the Salford club, I should like your opinion on the Northern Union committee elect-Datley (thrice), Oldham, Swinton, Broughton Rangers (twice), Halifax (twice), Warrington (twice), Bradford, Hunslet, Wakefield Trinity and Leeds.

T.P.L. (Wigan).—Strictly speaking, you are right, but the cup went to Oldham because they beat Wigan in the deciding game. For League games proper, the two sides finished each with 83.82 per cent.

B. (Rochdal, Y.)

#### NOTES AND NOTIONS.—Continued.

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#### Referee's List.

The following is a list of officials appoint ed for next week's matches:-

#### April 8th.

- Coventry v. Oldham.—G. F. Dickenson (Halifax); A. Roscoe (Broughton), J. Valentine.
- Batley v. Keighley.—R. Robinson (Bradford); H. G. Roebuck, H. Whiteley (Wakefield).
- Bradford v. Runcorn.—W. McCutcheon (Oldham); E. J. Kilvington, C. E. Heydon (Halifax).
- Halifax v. Ebbw Vale.—R. H. Jackson (St. Helens); F. Bennett (Batley), T. W. Smith (Keighley).
- Huddersfield v. Broughton Rangers.— J. F. May (St. Helens); T. H. Wainwright (Leeds), F. Crowther (Bradford).
- Hull K.R. v. Bramley.—J. W. Whiteley (Wakefield); F. Wilson (York), G. Fowler (Leeds).
- Leeds v. York.—H. Edmondson (Bradford); A. Day (Batley), J. E. Greenwood (Halifax).
- Rochdale Hornets v. Barrow.—W. W. Taylor (Hunslet); A. Edwards, F. Ratcliffe (Swinton).
- St Helens v. Wakefield Trin.—W. H. Wood (Huddersfield); H. Ball (Wigan), H. Farmer (Runcorn).
- Warrington v. Salford.—J. C. Lumley (Leeds); G. F. Hutchins (Oldham), W. Wallwork (Swinton).
- Widnes v. Dewsbury.—F. Renton (Hunslet); W. T. Chapman, J. Jones (Wigan).
- Wigan v. Hull.—A. Smith (Halifax); E. J. Hannaford, E. Williams (Widnes).

# \* \* \* \* \*

#### April 9th.

Coventry v. Broughton Rangers.—W. H. Wood (Huddersfield); G. Robinson, R. Acton.

- Hunslet v. Bradford.—E. Tonge (Swinton); C. E. Heydon (Halifax), D. Fitzgerald (Batley).
- Hull K. R. v. Ebbw Vale.—R. Robinson (Bradford); A. Brown (Wakefield), A. Day (Batley).

#### April 13th.

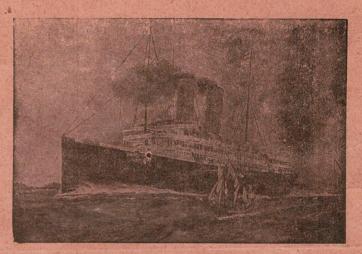
#### THE CHALLENGE CUP.

#### Semi-Finals.

- Wakefield Trinity v. Oldham (at Broughton).—F. Renton (Hunslet).
- Halifax v. Dewsbury (at Huddersfield).— J. F. May (St. Helens).
- Bradford v. Huddersfield.—A. Smith (Halifax); A. E. Kaine (Dewsbury), M. Carr (Hunslet).
- Bramley v. York.—R. Robinson (Bradford); H. G. Roebuck (Huddersfield), J. E. Greenwood (Halifax).
- Hull v. Wakefield T.—F. Renton (Hunslet); F. R. Wilson (York), J. W. Scholes (Dewsbury).
- Hunslet v. St. Helens.—A. Hestford (Broughton); J. Oakland (Batley), C. E. Heydon (Halifax).
- Rochdale H. v. Coventry.—G. F. Dickenson (Halifax); J. Entwistle (Wigan); A. Edwards (Broughton).
- Salford v. Hull Kingston R.—J. W. Whiteley (Wakefield); R. H. Moore (Oldham), F. Crabtree (Rochdale).
- Wigan v. Widnes.--W. McCutcheon (Oldham); J. Valentine, W. Cross (Preston).

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