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# The Northern Union News

And Club Official Programme.

Christmas Day, December 25th, 1913. One Penny





# THE NORTHERN UNION NEWS.

No. 121. Christmas Day, December 25th, 1913. One Penny.



TO ALL OUR READERS:

We wish

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

and

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

## NORTHERN UNION LEAGUE.

## Results up to Thursday morning.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Points		Per-centage.
					F.	A.	
Hull .....	16	14	2	0	261	64	87.50
Wigan .....	13	11	2	0	290	85	84.61
Huddersfield ....	15	12	2	1	378	137	83.33
Salford .....	14	11	3	0	134	55	78.57
Barrow .....	14	10	4	0	164	118	71.42
Rochdale Hornets.	13	9	4	0	187	79	69.23
Kingston Rovers..	15	9	5	1	178	114	63.33
Widnes .....	15	9	6	0	140	102	60.00
Warrington .....	15	9	6	0	119	129	60.00
Hunslet .....	15	9	6	0	167	182	60.00
Oldham .....	14	7	7	0	154	110	50.00
Leeds .....	14	7	7	0	155	126	50.00
St. Helens .....	14	7	7	0	194	197	50.00
Wakefield Trinity.	15	7	7	1	104	117	50.00
Swinton .....	14	6	8	0	95	132	42.85
Halifax .....	14	5	9	0	155	157	35.71
Keighley .....	14	5	9	0	59	190	35.71
Batley .....	15	5	10	0	107	167	33.33
Dewsbury .....	15	5	10	0	163	221	33.33
Broughton Rangers	15	5	10	0	85	167	33.33
Runcorn .....	15	5	10	0	78	204	33.33
Bramley .....	13	4	9	0	79	149	30.76
Bradford .....	15	3	11	1	104	206	23.33
Leigh .....	13	2	11	0	50	171	15.38
York .....	15	2	13	0	93	315	13.33

## LANCASHIRE LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Salford .....	9	8	1	0	16
Wigan .....	9	7	2	0	14
Rochdale H.	8	6	2	0	12
Barrow .....	10	6	4	0	12
Widnes .....	10	6	4	0	12
Warrington .....	11	6	5	0	12
St. Helens..	11	5	6	0	10
Oldham....	9	4	5	0	8
Broughton R.	9	4	5	0	8
Swinton....	11	4	7	0	8
Runcorn ..	9	2	7	0	4
Leigh.....	12	1	11	0	2

## YORKSHIRE LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Hull .....	12	12	0	0	24
Huddersfield	10	9	0	1	19
Kingston R.	10	6	3	1	13
Wakefield T.	11	6	4	1	13
Hunslet....	10	6	4	0	12
Dewsbury ..	12	5	7	0	10
Leeds.....	11	5	6	0	10
Keighley ..	11	4	7	0	8
Batley .....	9	4	5	0	8
Bradford ..	12	3	8	1	7
Halifax .....	9	3	6	0	6
Bramley ..	11	3	8	0	6
York .....	12	2	10	0	4

## Seasonable Humour.

FIRST LITTLE BOY: "We've put the chest of drawers in front of the fireplace?"

SECOND LITTLE BOY: "Yes."

FIRST LITTLE BOY: "You tied the string to the handle of the door?"

SECOND LITTLE BOY: "Yes, and I tied the other end of the string to the water-jug."

FIRST LITTLE BOY: "Then we ought to find out the real facts about Santa Claus."—"Tit-Bits"

Smith is a hard-hearted man. The spirit of Christmas never touches him. His wife, however, is different.

She entered the dining-room with a troubled look last Christmas Eve.

"Oh, John," she said, "Mary has just swallowed a shilling. Whatever shall we do?"

Mary, be it said, occupied the position of maid-of-all-work to the Smith household.

"Do?" repeated the master of the house. "Well, I suppose we'd better let her keep it; she'd have expected a Christmas box, anyhow!"—"Ideas"

MR. J. L. TOOLE had a great antipathy to street music of any kind. About this there is a story told of him. The waits, one Christmas evening, played under his windows, greatly to his annoyance, and on Boxing Day they paid him a visit.

"We played under your window last night," said the spokesman of the party, when they were shown into his presence.

"Well, what do you want?" quoth the comedian.

"We've come for our little gratuity."

"Come for a gratuity, have you?" exclaimed Mr. Toole.

"Bless me? I thought you had come to apologize!"

—"Tit Bits"

# 'The Athletic News'

The BEST NEWSPAPER for all

## Northern Union Football.

EVERY MATCH DESCRIBED BY EXPERTS.

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'The Athletic News,' EVERY MONDAY,  
Price—One Penny.

## To-morrow.

(By OBSERVER).

YESTERDAY, to-day, and to-morrow, twenty-one of the twenty-five clubs constituting the Northern Rugby League will have been and will be engaged in stern struggles.

Four clubs--Leigh, Keighley, Runcorn, and Bramley are more modest in their holiday programme, for the Lancashire club only played yesterday, and is now free until next Thursday. The others have two games arranged, and by four o'clock to-morrow, no fewer than thirty-five matches, weather and other circumstances permitting, will have been decided.

This is a huge programme for three successive days, and to our hard-worked players, the Christmas of 1913 will be far removed from the festive season. Writing, of course without knowledge of to-day's matches, I am forced to admit that the Boxing Day games to-morrow are, in the majority of cases, exceptionally interesting. The Leeds and Hunslet game at Headingley should provide some thrills, and I should not be at all surprised if the home club made amends for their defeat at Parkside earlier in the season. I hope there will be no questionable tactics, and that the match will be contested in the sportsmanlike manner of the first game.

Salford and Swinton carries back my memory to many stirring struggles between these two famous sides. Time was, when the meeting was discussed weeks before the match and for days afterwards. Then Swinton and Salford were a power in the football world. As regards to-morrow's game at the Willows, I hardly think the "Lions" will check Salford's career in the first four.

There are other matches of great interest to-morrow, but Saturday's programme deserves notice also. Oldham are called upon to visit Headingley, and the Lancashire men may catch Campbell and his colleagues below their best. That, of course, is problematical, but surely Oldham will do better than on the Monday of last week.

Wigan, I expect to make maximum points from all their holiday engagements. St. Helens may make them go all the way to-day, but Runcorn's visit to Central Park to-morrow should be an easy journey. Salford visit Warrington to-morrow, and the "Reds" may look for some opposition. Rochdale and Halifax I regard as one of to-morrow's best games in the Palatine. The Yorkshire games will be keen, and Dewsbury will do well to make 4 points in 3 days.

# OLDFIELD ALES

AND

# IMPERIAL STOUT,



## "Crystal Ale"

AND

# Extra Stout in Bottle.



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Company's Houses

## Club Gossip.

Ernest Wood, who has just signed for Salford, is thought to be a junior of more than average ability, and more clubs than one have been after him.

It is rather curious that Leigh have scored double figures only twice this season, and these were against Wigan and Oldham, two of the strongest teams in the Union.

The next whist drive in connection with the Broughton Rangers' Removal Fund expenses will be held in the Broughton Town Hall, on Wednesday evening, January 21.

W. Johnson, who looks like getting a permanent place in the Runcorn first team, is a brother of Sam and Tom, the Leigh favourites.

James Gartland and Frank Pritchard, two forwards from St. Helen's Rovers made their first appearance for Rochdale Reserves last Saturday. Gartland is 23 years of age, 5ft. 9in. in height,

and weighs 13st. 7lb. Pritchard is only 19 years of age, and touches 6ft. while his weight is 12st. 8lbs.

J. Peters playing in Dobson's benefit match at Barrow last Saturday kicked eight goals in addition to scoring a try.

Marshall, of Hull Kingston Rovers was ordered off the field at Craven Street for alleged tripping of Gleeson.

Halifax made their record score of the season against Keighley.

William Batten, the Hull centre three quarter-back made his first appearance against his old club at Parkside last Saturday.

Curran, Wigan's injured New Zealand three-quarter back is now fit again and appeared in the combination match last Saturday.

Huddersfield should be well on towards their fifth century of League points when the holiday games are completed.

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## OFFICIAL PROGRAMME.

**XMAS. ATTRACTIONS AT WATERSHEDDINGS.**

Christmas Day, Dec. 25th,

# OLDHAM V. SWINTON

December 26th,

OLDHAM 'A' v. WARRINGTON 'A.'

December 27th,

OLDHAM 'A' v. LEEDS 'A.'

**KICK-OFF AT 2-30.**

On December 26th the G.C.R. will run a Trip to Warrington, leaving Clegg Street at 12-25, whilst the L. & N.W. will run one, leaving Clegg St. at 12-40. Fare 2s. 3d. in both cases. On Dec. 27th the L. & N.W. will run an Excursion to Leeds, leaving Clegg Street at 12-5. Fare 3s.



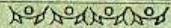
The Ball played with in this match  
was obtained from

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— SADDLER, —

HUDDERSFIELD RD.

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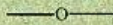
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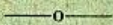
**THEATRE ROYAL**

OLDHAM.

Monday, Dec. 22nd, at 6-50 & 9,



**"The White Slaves of London."**

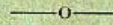


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MONDAY, DEC. 22nd, 1913,

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**OLDHAM v. SWINTON.**

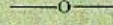
OLDHAM TEAM.

- 1—WOOD
- 2—HOLBROOK
- 3—V. FARNSWORTH
- 4—EVANS
- 5—JONES
- 6—WHARTON
- 7—HALL
- 8—HOLLAND
- 9—AVERY
- 10—FERGUSON
- 11—ROBESON
- 12—WEST
- 13—~~WAVE~~
- 14—HILTON

**Palace, Oldham.**



MONDAY, DEC. 22nd, 1913.  
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SWINTON TEAM

- 1—RYDER
- 2—WHITEHEAD
- 3—WHARTON
- 4—LEAH
- 5—MOORES
- 6—HEATON
- 7—IRISH
- 8—BAILEY
- 9—CULLIS
- 10—DALEY
- 11—McVEIGH
- 12—PRICE
- 13—~~POLLITT~~
- 14—SMITH

Referee—Mr. BROWN (Wakefield).

Touch judges—Messrs. WIDDISON and JOHNSON.

**HIPPODROME,**

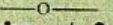
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OLDHAM

	Points		Points
<b>A</b>	Salford .....	<b>F</b>	Hunslet .....
	Broughton Rangers .....		Halifax.....
<b>B</b>	Rochdale H. ....	<b>G</b>	Batley .....
	Bradford .....		Leeds .....
<b>C</b>	Wigan .....	<b>H</b>	Hull .....
	Hull K.....		Huddersfield.....
<b>D</b>	Leigh .....	<b>J</b>	Wakefield .....
	Warrington .....		Dewsbury .....
<b>E</b>	St. Helens .....	<b>K</b>	Oldham Athletic .....
	Widnes.....		West Bromwich Albion...

If received in time the INTERVAL SCORES of the above Games will be shown on the Score Boards.

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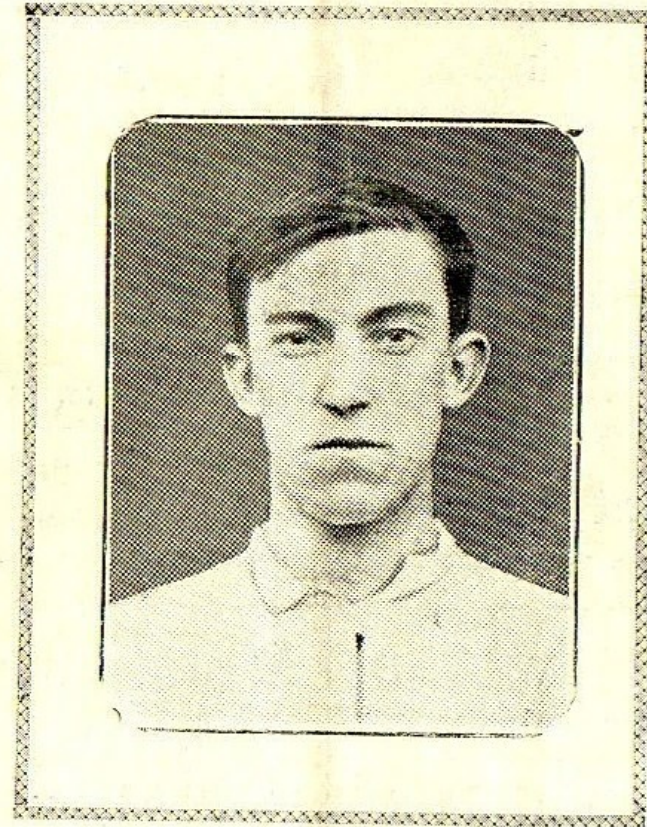
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## NOTES AND NOTIONS.

(By THE TRAVELLER.)

A Wigan reader sends me a long letter in reference to the paragraph last week concerning L. B. Todd. My correspondent writes "that I do not know all the circumstances, otherwise I should have little hesitation in agreeing with thousands of Colonial admirers at Wigan that he had been badly done to by the club officials."

I am only sorry that Todd and the Wigan officials have any differences at all, and I agree with my correspondent that the three-quarter has yet plenty of football left in him. But it is no part of my duty to take sides in quarrels between officials and players unless I know all the facts, and I can only say that I had a little talk with the New Zealander prior to the Lancashire cup final, and he then gave no hint at all that he contemplated resigning from the team. I hope, for Wigan in particular and the game in general, Todd will soon be in harness again.

I notice the Rochdale Hornets officials have set apart the match with Halifax for the benefit of three of the club's oldest and most loyal players. "Bobby Schofield," "Alf" Turner, and "Billy" Richardson have, in their day, served the Hornets well, and I

hope the attendance at the Athletic Grounds will be such as to ensure a bumper benefit. Only Schofield of the trio, of course, is now playing regularly now with the senior side.

Last Saturday's game at Barrow was for the benefit of George Dobson. Dobson is captain of the team, and came into the side practically from schoolboy football. He has proved a very useful three-quarter back, and as he is yet young, years of good football service should be his lot. He is a son of a former chairman of the Cavendish Park Club, and has refused generous offers to go elsewhere. He has played for Lancashire, and good judges of the game, think that further honours are in store for him.

I notice in Cumberland they are yet living in hopes that the County Championship tournament will be replayed in order that a result one way or the other will be secured. No doubt they think Cumberland, on the next occasion, will treat Lancashire as they treated Yorkshire. I am afraid, however, that the opportunity will not come their way this season, for I understand the county games will not be replayed. Cumberland will have the opportunity of proving their Broughton form was all wrong—next season.

Be sure and buy the

## **FOOTBALL EDITION**

OF THE

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**PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.**

**SPECIAL N.U. GOSSIP.**

## **My Note Book.**

(By THE EDITOR.)

The surprise results may be said to have commenced well before the holiday matches, for last Saturday's league games provided more than one sensation. Hull Kingston Rovers are such an erratic side that the League champions were expected to win, even at Craven Street. They made a great effort, and pulled the game round after the interval, but had the Rovers maintained their first half reliability, their home record would have been kept intact, and Huddersfield once more would have gone home sorrowing.

I hardly know how to describe the fall from grace of the Oldham team. The cup triumph has been followed with successive defeats from Leigh, Leeds, and Salford, and as the last named teams appeared at Watersheddings, something must be radically wrong. I saw Oldham well whip Hull—I also saw the team win the Lancashire Cup. They are equal to giving good displays, and I confess I am surprised at their present deterioration.

Warrington are just the team to confuse the prophets. They may not reach the first four, but they have a habit of checking other sides supposed to be favourably placed. Wigan were their victims last Saturday, and now

the Central Park men are two points inferior to Salford in the Lancashire League competition. Are Seeling and his men going to lose that trophy also?

Owing to the holidays we go to press this week on Tuesday, and I am unable to give the official decision in respect to the recent complaint of the Dewsbury Club in respect to the official control of their match with Hull. But the other day I had a talk with a neutral spectator, and he informed me that the League Committee would have a difficult task to put the responsibility for the scenes either on the referee or the touch judges; and this was the main basis of Dewsbury's complaint, that the rowdyism was due to want of efficiency of control on the part of Mr. R. H. Jackson, the referee, and his two colleagues.

Touching on the half-back play I notice one writer is commenting on what he terms the regular practice of half-backs when their side is scrummaging near touch and their line, to run round the scrummage and invite a penalty for offside. This is of course preferable to running the risk of being beaten in orthodox defence and yielding a try. The writer suggests that the referee should blow for a penalty and give the kick from a place in front of their posts.



### Matches and Officials for Sat, Dec. 27th—

**Bramley v Hull Kingston R.**  
—Referee, H. G. Roebuck (Huddersfield); touch judges, H. Swift (Wakefield) and R. L. Smith (Bradford).

**Broughton Rangers v St. Helens**—Referee, W. M. M'Cutcheon (Oldham); touch judges, E. Williams (Widnes) and H. Ball (Wigan).

**Dewsbury v Bradford**—Referee, R. Jones (Widnes); touch judges, J. R. Bowes (Halifax) and J. A. Hall (Batley).

**Huddersfield v Hunslet**—Referee, R. Robinson (Bradford); touch judges, W. Hirst (Wakefield) and W. Long (Halifax).

**Hull v Batley**—Referee, E. Tonge (Swinton); touch judges, C. Wharton (Huddersfield) and F. Hardwick (Hunslet).

**Keighley v Wakefield Trin.**  
—Referee, T. Johnson (Bramley); touch judges, F. Crowther (Bradford) and W. H. Garside (Halifax).

**Leeds v Oldham**—Referee, J. F. May (St. Helens); D. Longbottom (Halifax) and J. Speight (Wakefield).

**Rochdale Hornets v Halifax**  
—Referee, W. K. Hirst (Dewsbury); touch judges, T. Kiley (Leigh) and J. Valentine (Salford).

**Swinton v York**—Referee, J. W. Whiteley (Wakefield); touch judges, H. Johnson (Rochdale) and R. J. Pye (Flixton).

**Warrington v Salford**—Referee, J. C. Lumley (Leeds); touch judges, H. Yates (Runcorn) and F. Ratcliffe (Swinton).

**Widnes v Barrow**—Referee, B. Enion (Wigan); touch judges, W. J. Chapman (Swinton) and C. Gibson (Salford).

**Wigan v Runcorn**—Referee, G. Dickinson (Halifax); touch judges, W. Cross (Preston) and W. Mainwaring (Salford).

## Northern Union Official Guide.

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