

## Answers to Correspondents

### Wheelbarrow and Umteen others—

Yes, the player you name, Taylor, did migrate from Barrow to Hull. He is a big chap, scored a try at Oldham, and scored half-a-dozen last week against Wakefield. It is quite evident that Taylor took with him quite a Barrowful of tries when he went to Hull.

### Grinder—

We believe there has been some little friction at Leigh amongst the players, just the same as you will find in any club, but we don't see why matters should not go on smoothly if the *Emery* is properly applied.

### Full Back and about 50 others—

The question you ask re a full-back has almost driven us crazy during the past week. You say that you "know for a fact that a deputation has gone somewhere towards the North Pole in search of a full-back." Well, we don't know whether you are "up the pole" or not, but we should say that supposing that deputation is successful in that locality, our new man should be able to play an ice cool game!

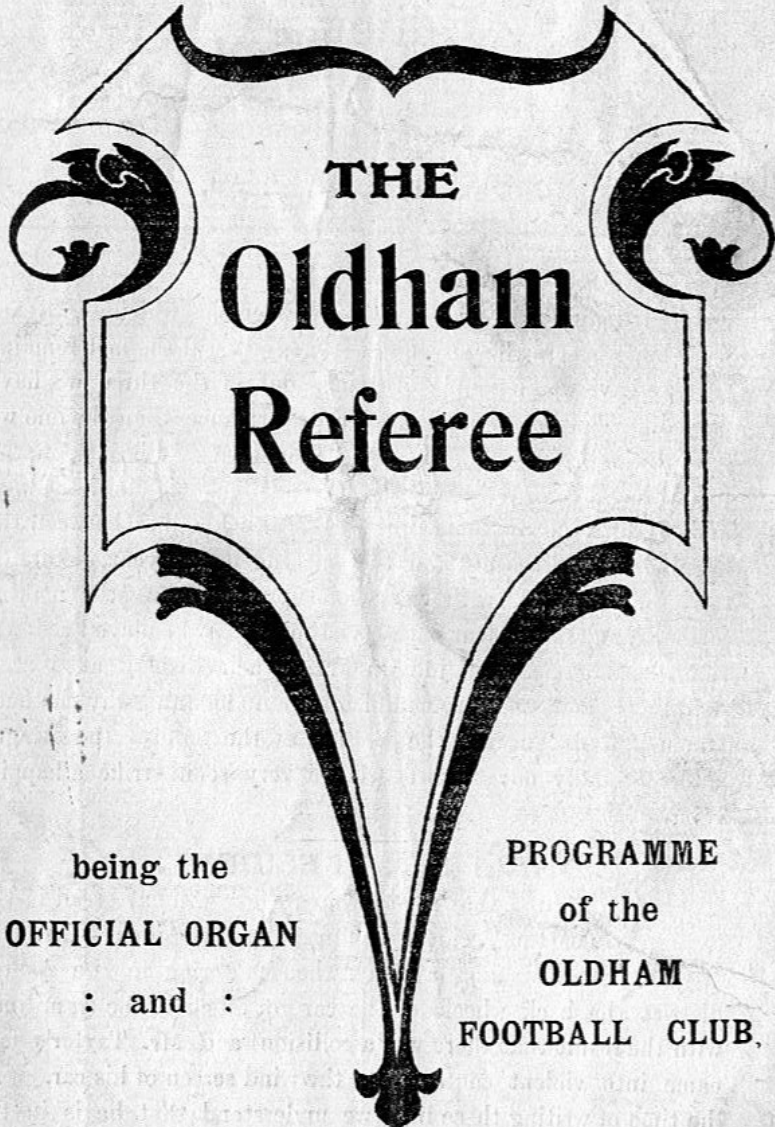
### Menagerie—

Very sorry we cannot answer your question as to what trade or profession Daniels follows; but you are wrong in suggesting that he is a "Lion" tamer.

### Busy Bee—

We don't really know why the Rochdale Club christened themselves "Hornets," unless it is because they were so fond of "stinging" other teams. However, we quite agree with you that it is up to Oldham to extract that sting to-day, free of charge.

# O.F.C.



## THE Oldham Referee

being the  
OFFICIAL ORGAN

: and :

PROGRAMME  
of the  
OLDHAM  
FOOTBALL CLUB.

# Editorial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 1921.

## AN IMPROVEMENT.

It may not be a very great improvement which our team has shown since the advent of 1921, but still the fact remains that we have won a couple of games out of the three we have played. That is a much better performance than the one we gave at the beginning of the season, when we were beaten on the first three Saturdays by Warrington and Rochdale Hornets away, and Halifax at Watersheddings. Taking a line between the opening of the season and the opening of this year, we are on the upward grade, with very good prospects of still making further progress. Our latest victim—Salford—played a downright hard game, and, judging from their display at Watersheddings, it is somewhat difficult to understand why the one famous "Reds" occupy the position at the foot of the League ladder. May our Salford friends very soon strike a happier vein.

## THE OLDHAM F.C. PRESIDENT.

We presume that most of our readers will have read in the local press of the accident to our popular president—Mr. Tom Taylor. Last Wednesday week when motoring in the Ashton district the back wheels of the car got stuck in the tram lines, with the result that there was a collision, and Mr. Taylor's face came into violent contact with the wind screen of his car. At the time of writing these lines we understand that he is in the Ashton Infirmary, where he is stated to be progressing very favourably towards recovery. Numerous sympathetic inquiries

have been made at the Institution since the accident; and Mrs. Taylor has also received visits from the O.F.C. Committee. We feel sure that all our members and supporters will join us in wishing our popular President, a very speedy and complete recovery.

## THE JUNIOR "LIONS."

The visit of the Swinton Second String to Watersheddings last Saturday, furnished us with a real good game, and incidentally, with the best "A" team gate of the season. The ground was somewhat treacherous after the frost of a few days previous, and was scarcely in such a good condition as to be conducive to good football. And still we had a good game. Although Swinton were beaten by eighteen points to nil, still they put up a very plucky fight. Our "A" team included a couple of youths on trial, viz:—A. Daniels, a left wing three-quarter from Millom; and McLoughlin a stand off half from the Barrow St. George's club. Both these players gave a very creditable display, and after the game the former signed a professional form for the Oldham club, and very probably we shall hear of McLoughlin doing ditto at an early date. It was very pleasing to notice the very generous encouragement which the crowd extended to the two strangers.

## AN OLD OLDHAM FAVOURITE.

We notice that the followers of Rugby football in Cumberland are getting up a testimonial to that veteran player, Tom Fletcher, and we further notice that the O.F.C. have contributed a couple of guineas to the fund. What interesting memories Tom Fletcher's name conjures up. It is just over 30 years since Fletcher commenced his football career, and yet we noticed that he took part in a re-play cup last week at Maryport! Fletcher secured his English international cap against Wales in the season 1897, and the following season saw him assisting Oldham when we won the Northern Union Cup. Afterwards



Tom was for a few seasons one of the most prominent professionals in the N.R.U. game. He last assisted Oldham in the season 1905 when he played at Watersheddings on Easter Monday, versus Hull, the winning of which game gave Oldham their first League championship.

### THE VISIT OF ROCHDALE HORNETS.

To-day, at Watersheddings, we warmly welcome "our old friends, the enemy" in Rochdale Hornets. Our Rochdale friends have not been doing very great deeds lately, and only last Saturday they received a very severe castigation at the hands (and feet) of Broughton Rangers. When we paid the Hornets a visit the second Saturday in the season we were beaten by seven points to two, and we have just a little sneaking fancy that we shall be able to cry "quits" after the game this afternoon. In any case, however, we are looking forward to another of those exciting and interesting encounters which has so often thrilled our spectators when the two teams have met.

### THE SCHOOLBOYS' GAMES.

There was a capital game at Watersheddings between the Beever Street and Smith Street Schoolboys prior to the Oldham "A" and Swinton "A" game last Saturday. It was quiet evident that the crowd thoroughly enjoyed the fine play shown by the youngsters. In conversation with Mr. Shore, the enthusiastic Hon. Secy. of the Schoolboys' League, I was rather surprised at the poor collections which the boys are receiving on our ground. Surely a good majority of those who witness those games would never miss the humble penny piece; and if all those who enjoyed last Saturday's game had subscribed only that small amount, it would go a long way towards placing the League in a better financial position. May we respectfully ask our readers to remember this fact when next the boys' box is passed round.

## OLDHAM

1

Knapman

2	3	4	5
Finnerty	Farrar	Davies	Thomas
	6	7	
	Bates	Hall	
8	9	10	11
Marlor	Ferguson	Carter	Collins
12			13
Hilton			Fisher

Referee—A. HESTFORD, Broughton.

Selected from

J Bennet	Prince	S Carter	Paddon	
17	15	14	12	
Fitzsimmons	T Harris	Rhodda	Woods	
11	10	9	8	
	J Corsi	Heaton		
	7	6		
Dewhirst	J A Corsi	Prudence	W R Kynan	W J Powell
16	5	4	3	2
		A Blan		
		1		

## ROCHDALE

## Pavilion Gossip

On the occasion of the visit of the Salford team, we were very pleased to have the pleasure of renewing acquaintance with our old friend, the ex-player referee, Mr. Joe Priestley. And we did have a nice chat.

The ground at Watersheddings last Saturday reminded me of the answer which "Old John Booth," the groundsman, used to give in the Old days, when asked the state of the ground. "Ah, wel," John used to say, "It's hard and soft i' some places!"

Wonder where old friend John has got to now-a-days! Wasn't he a prominent member of the Gin Club in the palmy days of Bonsor, Broome, Lees, Sellars and Co. Eh! What? hot lot those Gin Club members were!

When Daniels ran over with his second try against the Swinton "Lions" on Saturday, one wag on the stand was heard muttering something about "Daniel's in the Lion's den!"

Rather rough on the ex Millom man that it should be a case of putting Daniels amongst the "Lions" in his very first game

We heard one critic refer to Daniels as "a young Batten." Well if he develops into anything like the ex Featherstone—Hunslet—Hull three-quarters, he will be a very useful acquisition.

"What do they call that new outside half for Oldham?" asked one individual of his pal at Watersheddings on Saturday. "I don't know properly" replied the pal; "but I think its something like *Mac Laughing!*"

It might only be a coincidence, but all the same we did see "Mac" laughing on the stand during the course of the game.

When McLoughlin made one good burst last Saturday one enthusiastic mistook him for Fisher and shouted "go on Fisher!" A friend near at hand reminded him of his mistake; but even if it was not *Fisher*, the player in question was evidently after *Bradburys*.

Alf Wood looks like coming back to his old form. The manner in which he stopped some of those Swinton rushes was quite in his old style.

The chances of Oldham "A" winning the Combination Championship are now quite rosy. The Rochdale Hornets second string are their next nearest rivals. If the two clubs should finish in that position, they will play off a "decider" at Watersheddings.

