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OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

Rugby League

OFFICIAL
PROGRAMME

Price

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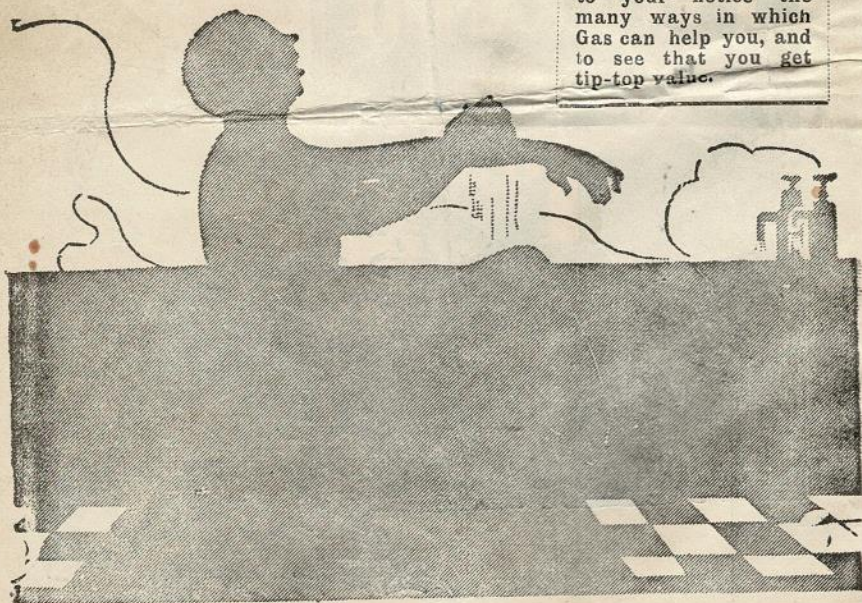
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Oldham Football Club, WATERSHEDDINGS GROUND.

RUGBY LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP—1st Round.

Oldham v. Higginshaw

Saturday, Feb. 8th, 1936.

Kick-off 3-30 p.m. prompt.

CLUB CHAT.

An Explanation. In connection with this afternoon's game, it was announced in the local Press on Tuesday that "the Oldham Club are arranging to publish a special souvenir programme." That announcement was somewhat premature. On Monday evening when the representatives of the Higginshaw Club met our Committee, they expressed a desire to have such a programme, but they were then told that there would be a great difficulty in that being done at such a short notice. Efforts were put into operation on the following day, but it was found that the time was all too short to publish a souvenir programme worthy of the name. Unfortunately there were no photographs from which the blocks could have been made for reproduction, and other difficulties ruled the idea out of question. We deeply regret that we had to disappoint our Higginshaw friends. Had it been at all possible to have obliged them, we would willingly have done so. Souvenir programmes, worthy of the name, are not produced in a few hours, and we were reluctantly obliged to adhere to our usual issue.

The Big Local Battle. And now, according to our Higginshaw friends, they are having what they have been thirsting for a long, long time, "a go at the Senior team." That is how we interpret the

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Full particulars later

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Programme, apply to—

The Secretary, Mr. R. E. WYLIE,
The Pavilion, Watersheddings,
OLDHAM. Tel. Main 4865.

outpourings of Mr. Lees, their energetic secretary. Why they should be so thirsty after our blood, we know not. Anyhow their representatives, who visited us on Monday evening, did not at all appear like a party of brigands or blood-thirsty adventurers, anxious to pinch our pavilion and carry off our players (ground as well) as hostages. They met us like gentlemen, and in a fine sporting spirit offered to play the game at Watersheddings. They did not come bickering or bargaining about any terms, but merely to ask could the game be played on our enclosure. Very naturally we said "Yes," and all was ended. Certain slight concessions were granted them, such as the ladies being admitted through the unemployed turnstile at sixpence each, instead of one shilling, and Higginshaw were also promised they

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OLDHAM

1. Griffiths, W.
2. Taylor, A.
3. Bardsley, S.
4. Macrae, G.
5. Fairbairn, W.
5. Jubb, J.
7. Spencer, S.
8. Read, J. (capt.)
9. Howard, W. F.
10. Rees, L.
11. Givvons, A.
12. Pugh, N.
13. Ashworth, F. W.
14. Garnett, A.

HIGGINSHAW

1. Robinson, E.
2. Tetlow, A.
3. Kershaw, H.
4. Cooper, H.
5. Wilson, J.
6. Hilton, J.
7. Thomson, C. (capt.)
8. Acton, W.
9. Turner, R.
10. Wood, A.
11. Elson, F.
McGuire, M.
12. Tweedale, W.
13. Melling, A.

Referee:—Mr. B. LAUGHLIN, of Batley.

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for! So far this season Higginshaw have played twenty cup and league games, and whereas they have scored 86 tries they have conceded only six—one of these for obstruction. Reads very formidable, does it not? We specially recommend to our readers the observation that "the Rugby League Challenge Cup is the only trophy Higginshaw have not won that they have competed for." We might add that there are still a good many League clubs, including Salford, who are in the same boat, so our Higginshaw friends need not worry on that account.

Brave Words. There can be no denying the fact that the Higginshaw followers (at any rate, some of them) have been making use of some very daring statements, as regard the capabilities of their team. Mr. Lees, for instance, has been a regular scare-monger, and we doubt whether a lot of our officials or players have slept much since reading some of the utterances which have found their way to our local Press! On the other hand we are glad of such controversy, because it has raised to-day's event well into the limelight. If we may take the Press reports with any gravity, what are we to think of some of the followers of other junior clubs in the district who have been busy with their pens, stalking Mr. Lees. We are told that Greenacres can knock spots off Higginshaw any time, and that both Dodd's and Watersheddings claim to be their equal, if not their superiors! Well, we are expecting a big following from

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may have the ball which is used in to-day's game. Very probably that will eventually be suitably mounted and found a resting place in some snug corner of "The Flower Pot."

Higginshaw's Career. It is practically three years ago to-day, February 11th, 1933, since our to-day's visitors first bounded into the limelight by winning their way to the first round proper, when they were drawn to play Hull at the Boulevard. On that occasion Higginshaw put up a wonderful fight for the early part of the game, eventually they collapsed and were beaten by 5 goals, 9 tries, 37 points, to 3 goals, 1 try, 9 points. Their record in junior football has been marked by a great many successes. We are indebted to the "Oldham Chronicle" for the following brief record of their doings "which is causing all the trouble!" Formed eight full seasons ago the club has won the following honours: The Oldham Junior League Championship seven seasons out of eight, the "Oldham Standard" cup five seasons out of seven, the Lancashire Junior Cup once, runners-up once. They have reached the semi-final of the qualifying round the Rugby League Challenge Cup each time for the last five seasons, during which period they reached the final qualifying round three times, and the first round proper twice. They also beat the Wigan New Springs R.F.C. for the J. Dickenson Charity Cup on the only occasion competed for. The Rugby League Challenge Cup is the only trophy Higginshaw have not won that they have competed

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amongst junior football supporters to-day, and no doubt there will be some wordy warfare going on, as well as the game. After reading that "Higginshaw may go into special training for the next round," it is of little use trying to tell you what we expect will be the result of to-day's game. We had better fall back upon the words of a famous politician, "Wait and See."

To-day's All the leading clubs (including Higginshaw) are engaged to-day in the first round of the Rugby League Challenge Cup. London will see its first Rugby League cup-tie. Liverpool Stanley visit Acton and Willesden, and no doubt there will be a big crowd. Perhaps the biggest "gate" will be the one at Wigan, where Widnes are the visitors. Unfortunately for the latter club, they have both Silcock and Higgins suspended, and they will, of course, be debarred from the game. That should give Wigan a great advantage. There should be several close games, and if the weather is only favourable, practically the whole of the clubs should reap a good financial reward. The half-time scores in the principal games will be shown on our score board immediately they are received.

The Salford Game. Salford's lucky star was in the ascendant again last Saturday, but still they deserved to win. Much interest was centered in the appearance of the two Scotch lads. Everyone appeared pleased at the display given by Jupp at stand-off half. His display for a first game (and such a gruelling game) was very impressive. Unfortunately, Fairbairn, like our other wings, recently, saw very little of the ball. One dashing burst which he made was pulled up by the referee for a pass forward, though there were several persons in the vicinity of the Press-box, including some of our Salford friends, who thought that Referee Cowell had made a bad mistake. Jenkins' try, though brilliantly obtained, could just as well be termed a snatch one, or a gift, if you care to put it that way. Of course, that's all in the game, just as Salford's luck was when Taylor missed the ball in the first half, and Brown kicked over the Oldham line for Spence to follow up and score.

THE NEAREST HOTEL TO WATERSHEDDINGS GROUND.

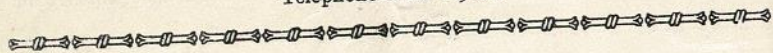
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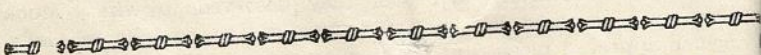
Telephone Main 2982.



HALF-TIME SCORES.

The Half-time Scores in the Matches given below will be shown on the Score Board immediately they are received.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| A HALIFAX | D CASTLEFORD |
| B KEIGHLEY | E ROCHDALE HORNETS |
| C BARROW | F WIGAN |
| D WARRINGTON | G WIDNES |
| E SWINTON | H SALFORD |
| F WAKEFIELD TRINITY | I ST. HELENS RECS. |



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