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CLUB CHAT

By HARRY HOYLE.



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Our game with our old friends from Widnes, on Saturday, October 16th, was thoroughly enjoyed, and despite the fact that the visiting forwards had a marked superiority in the scrums (in the second half they secured possession 25 times to our 12) when the ball got amongst our backs they made good use of it. The display given by Elias was the feature of the game, he had a hand in all 4 tries, scoring 3 himself and helping in no small measure in the one secured by Hickey, who by the way was making his first appearance with the premiers this season, and a very creditable one it was. Smith was well watched, but managed to put in some good work, and I am of the opinion that with Smith's forceful attack and the strategy and speed of Elias we are now better served at centre than we have been for some considerable time. Our forward division certainly needs strengthening, but where to get hold of good forwards is a problem our directors have been working on for months.

Widnes gave a good exhibition of football, especially in the second half. Both their tries came as a result of clever movements. Topping, who kicked both goals, was a tower of strength for the visitors, and there is little doubt that with the superiority they had in the scrums they would have been nearer victory than they were had the great defence put up by our team relaxed in the slightest, but it held, and we well deserved the victory.

Our score was obtained by Elias 3 tries, Hickey 1 try, Lockwood 2 goals = 16 points.

Widnes scorers were Roberts and A. Evans 1 try each, Topping 2 goals = 10 points.

Teams.—Halifax: Lockwood, Watson, Smith, Elias, Hickey, Horrod, Gardner, Jones, Forrest, Baynham, Childs, Irving and Dixon.

Widnes: Bradley, Evans H., Topping, Barber, Evans A., Shannon, Kelly, Miller, Jones, Redman, Roberts, McDowell and Millington.

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A curtain raiser previous to the game between the Supporters' Club Boys and the Shadwell Boys was delightful to watch, and whoever is responsible for coaching the visitors has reason to feel proud of the exhibition they gave. Our boys are, I believe, under the tuition of Arnold Holmes, one of our old forwards, and are coming along fine. These boys' games are to my mind great missionary work and deserve all the support we can give to them. They certainly may be the means of solving some of the problems experienced by directors and committees of all clubs, and even if no stars are unearthed by them, they serve a useful purpose in fostering the R.L. game.

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Salford 24, Halifax 2, was the result of our match last Saturday at Salford. I must confess I was not expecting our team to win, but I certainly thought they would come much nearer than they did.

What is the matter with our forwards? That is a question I have had put to me, not by one person, but many, since the York match. I am at a loss to supply the answer. We had practically the same pack in the Wakefield replay, and The Australian games, and in both these matches I think all will agree our forwards gave us satisfactory forward play. We certainly have not had the services of Meek as hooker, but it has not been alone in the scrums a marked depreciation has been noticed, but in the open, they have shown nothing like the standard of play we know they are capable of and which they gave us an exhibition of in the two games I have mentioned.

I know, as I stated in my notes on the Widnes game, our directors are making every effort possible to strengthen that part of our team, and all ardent supporters will wish them success in their endeavours, which are so necessary in building up a team deserving of the support which Halifax people give to the game at Thrum Hall.

We have, to my mind, got together a good back division, but unless they are to get a fair share of the ball we cannot expect them to shine. All games are not like the Widnes game, where the kicking by our visitors nullified to a great extent their possession from the scrums and gave our backs opportunities, many of which were taken advantage of.



It was very evident from the commencement of the game at Weaste that the Salford team were on their toes, and the securing of those 11 points in the early stages would certainly give them great encouragement. Hudson was in capital form and his efforts inspired his colleagues to emulate, which they did, as the score reflects. Their handling of the ball was brilliant, and coupled with the great display given by the Salford forwards, gave them a well deserved victory.

Salford's points were secured by Hudson, Brown and Risman, 2 tries each. The latter also kicked 3 goals. Lockwood kicked a goal from a penalty for us.

Teams.—Halifax: Lockwood, Watson, Smith, Treen, Hickey, Horrod, Gardner, Baynham, Forrest, Jones, Cox, Casewell and Dixon.

Salford: Osbaldestin, Hudson, Gear, Risman, Brown, Jenkins, Watkins, Williams, Day, Reeve, Dalton, Davies and Feetham.

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SUPPORTERS' NOTES

To-day's visitors are the Leeds Boys, who beat us at Headingley by 24 points to 3. If our boys can hold their forwards we shall stand a chance of winning, for this is the best part of their team, and they certainly showed us how the forward game should be played.

At home against Shadwell we again lost, the score being 20 points against 5 points. In the pack we held our own, but the opposition backs played better football and their combined efforts won the match for them. We had several changes in the team which upset us, but it was pleasing to see that the boys never gave up trying, and at the close of the game were striving hard near the Shadwell line.

Although the Wembley final is not until next May, the Supporters' Club are busy making arrangements, and have already booked a train. Further particulars will be announced later, but anyone who intends going and wishes to save weekly, can have a subscription card by applying to Mr. W. Johnson, the secretary, or any member of the committee.

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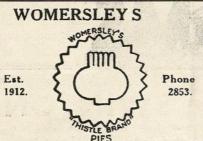
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FIRST TEAM FIXTURES AND RESULTS, 1937-38.

	1 7 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1	HA	HALIFAX.		OPPONENTS.			
Date.	Opponents. Grd	. G.	T.	Pts.	G.	T.	Pts. Res.	
Sept. 1- ,, 4- ,, 11- ,, 16- ,, 18- ,, 25-	-Huddersfield (Inf. Cup) a -Rochdale h -Newcastle a -Oldham a -Wakefield (1st Rd. YC) a - " (Replay) h -Widnes a -Leigh h -Dewsbury (2nd Rd YC) a	3 10 8 2 2 2 2 0 5 3	1 14 8 1 0 1 0 6 1	9 62 40 7 4 7 0 28 9	3 2 1 4 2 3 2 2 4	2 3 0 1 0 0 6 1 4	12 L 13 W 2 W 11 L 4 D 6 W 22 L 7 W 20 L	
" 9– " 16– " 23–	AUSTRALIANS h -York a -Widnes h -Salford a -Oldham h	3 2 2 1	2 0 4 0	12 4 16 2	1 2 2 3	0 3 2 6	2 W 13 L 10 W 24 L	
,, 13 –	-Swinton a -Swinton h -Wigan a -Liverpool Stanley h							
" 11– " 18– " 25–	-Liverpool Stanley a -St. Helens Recs. h -Barrow a -Huddersfield a -Huddersfield h				el s	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	14 1 14 1 16 1 16 1 70 1	
" 8– " 15– " 22–	-Leeds h -Leigh a -Wigan h -Leeds a -Warrington h				9 4			
" 12– " 19– " 26– Mar. 5–	-Newcastle h -Batley			AA CRO	(S) NG	FIA	AIV	
" 9- " 15- " 16- " 18- " 19-	-Salford h -Rochdale a -(G. Fri.) Broughton R. a -(Barrow h -(E. Mon.) Warrington a -(E. Tu.) York h -(E. Tu.) York h	.0.1 .0.1	181				eran Ala	

NORTHERN RUGBY LEAGUE TABLE.

		中海	April 1					
		P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts.
	Swinton	9	7	1.	1	99	43	15
	Leeds	9	7	1	1	141	62	15
1 1		9	17	2	0	172	89	14
	Bradford Northern	8	7		0	123	. 89	14
-	Salford	9	(60)	3	0	177	73	12
14	Salford	8	6	2	0	124	67	12
	Oldham		6	4	0	137	82	12
	St. Helens	8	5	1		86	72	12
	Hull	7	5	1	2	134	63	11
E	Widnes	9	5	4	Ô	153	58	10
	Wigan	.8	5	3	0	120	70	10
	Barrow	9	5	4	0	100	81	10
	Hunslet	10	5	5	0	148	127	10
	HALIFAX	8	4	4	0	159	102	8
	Wakefield Trinity	8	4	4	0	133	109	
	Hull Kingston Rovers	7	4	3	0	99	81	8 8
	Liverpool Stanley	8	4	4	0	49	51	0
	Huddersfield	9	4	5	0	116	140	0
	York	9	4	5	0	103	141	8
	Keighley		3	4	1	57	77	7
	St. Helens Recs.	8	3	5	0	90	146-	6
	Batley	9	2	6	1	97	145	5
	Featherstone Rovers	9	2 2 2	6	1		171	5
			2			106		
	Dewsbury	0	2	6	0	73	127	4
	Broughton Rangers		2	7	0	57	86	4
		9	2		0	81	181	4
	Leigh	3 1000	2	5	0	35	94	4
	Bramley	9	0	9	0	44	167	0
	Newcastle	8	0	8	0	39	258	0

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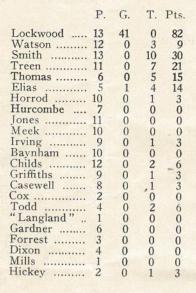
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