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Rugby League

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OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

RUGBY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP.

Oldham v. Leigh

Saturday, JANUARY 21st, 1939.

Kick-off 2-45 p.m.

1st ROUND RUGBY LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP

FEBRUARY 4th, 1939

Will seatholders on Enclosure and "E" Stand, who intend taking a ticket out for the above match, please apply to the Secretary, Pavilion, at once.

Tickets 3/- each, please enclose a stamped, addressed envelope. The demand for these seats, especially from Castleford, is increasing, and as they can only be sold once, early application from our members is desirable.

CLUB CHAT

We had the satisfaction of gaining two points against Keighley last Saturday at Watersheddings, but only after an exceptionally hard struggle. The first half can be described as one full of incident, and several good passing movements taking place resulting in tries being scored. The debut of David Schofield, our new scrum half from Salford, before our own crowd, was looked forward to with interest, and under

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the conditions of playing alongside colleagues whose play was unknown to him, one can say he came out exceptionally well, and promises good for the future. The Keighley passing in the first half was good and clean to watch, some of their backs being very clever in giving a swift and sure pass to a colleague. Although goal kicking brought us victory I think we fully deserved to win. Both teams appeared to tire considerably in the second half, with a result that the game deteriorated somewhat.

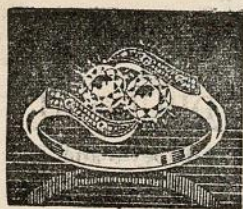
TO-DAY'S OPPONENTS.

To-day we entertain Leigh who are now constituted as a members club, previously the club was a limited company. They are experiencing difficulty in drawing the crowds to Mather Lane owing to the moderate playing success. A hard working band of officials are now controlling the club and we trust that better times are ahead for them.

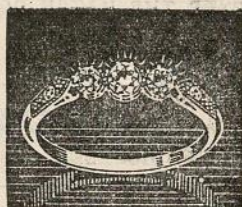
TRAINING AND COACHING

The appointment of Emlyn Watkins as coach to the first team is a step the committee has taken to ensure that nothing but the best shall be at the disposal of the players for the betterment of the game. The trainer and coach will work hand in hand; one for the fitness of the players, general speeding up and treatment of injuries, and the other for tactics and team talks and correcting general weaknesses in each individual's play. As a combination our trainer and coach should work very well together. One of the most valuable assets of any player to-day is speed. In football to-day we do not find any team amongst the leaders if the backs are not speedy. Cleverness is a very good thing, but a combination of the two is what any club with high aspirations must keep steadily in view. I often think the old professional "sprinter" makes the best trainer.

Tactics are just as important as speed. I have often heard it stated that internationals cannot be coached. They know everything. That is where we are mistaken. Only a fool thinks he knows everything that is to be known about football. At Castleford on the 7th January I saw an international forward standing more than five yards away from our full-



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TEAMS.

OLDHAM

1. Griffiths, W.
2. Hall, F.
3. Rhydderch, V.
4. Fleming, K.
5. Turner, J. F.
6. Downey, M. J.
7. Schofield, D.
8. Read, J. (capt.)
9. Brooks, E.
10. Moore, W. J.
11. Elson, F.
12. Lowe, E. E. K.
13. Pugh, N.
14. Ambler, H. D.

LEICH

Cherry and White Jerseys.

1. Johnston, G. I.
2. Aldred —
3. Lomas, D. J.
4. Banfield, C. H.
5. Hewitt, A. E.
6. Sale —
7. Riley —
8. Montford, R.
9. Jacks —
10. Ord, A.
11. Winnard, T.
12. Buckley —
13. Collier, C.

Referee: —Mr. G. S. PHILLIPS, Widnes.

Touch Judges: Messrs. W. Clitheroe and J. Heaton.

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back who had mis-felded the ball, and thus put his opponenht onside, but the international did not know the simple fact that if he is five yards away from an opponnet he can take advantage of a mistake. This is only one little instance of the lack of knowledge by good players of the laws of the game.

WHAT IS A "KNOCK-ON"?

In the match against Keighley three infringements in the game were given as a knock-on when the correct decision was a re-bound. Even a child could be made to understand that a knock-on is made when the ball goes directly forward from the hands. If it strikes the hand and then goes on to the body, face or legs of the player and then bounces forward, it is a re-bound and not a knock-on. The rule is simplicity itself and yet both referees and spectators get themselves in a hopeless tangle when they have to distinguish between a knock-on and a re-bound. Two incidents on our side and one for Keighley were given as a knock-on when the correct decision was a re-bound and play on.



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HOLLINWOOD

CLUB MANAGEMENT

One of the hundred and one items which go down in football management is "ground protection." What a nightmare this has been to the majority of clubs during this last few weeks! The cost of the straw which to cover a field the size of ours is not a penny under £40 is not the only expense, for each time the ground is covered must cost £5 in labour, and £5 to take off again. These amounts can be doubled when it also comes to removing snow. One must realise the expense clubs go to in preparing their grounds and keeping faith with the public at all costs to play their matches as advertised. The Castleford and Keighley officials and players showered bouquets on our club officials for the excellent condition of our ground which speaks well for our groundsman, Joe McNally, who spares no effort or time in his endeavour to keep Watersheddings one of the best equipped playing areas in the league.

MEMS

The first half of our game against Salford on February 11th will be broadcast. The Commentator will be Mr. L. B. Todd. This will be the first time a match from our ground has been broadcast.

Our home game against Swinton which should have been played on Boxing Day, but was cancelled owing to fog, has been arranged to take place on Monday, 20th February, 1939, kick-off 3-30 p.m.

Alex Givvons has now resumed light training and hopes to be fit for the first round of the Cup. All going well he will possibly have a run out next Saturday.

Inter-Town Visit

Oldham v. Barrow, on Jan. 28th, 1939

Fare 5/9 return.

Time, 11-25 a.m. leaving Mumps. Arrive Barrow 2-40 p.m.
Returning same day from Barrow at 9-0 p.m.

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HALF-TIME SCORES.

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

A WIGAN	D DEWSBURY
B BARROW	E ROCHDALE HORNETS
C WARRINGTON	F SWINTON
D HALIFAX	G LIVERPOOL STANLEY
E ST. HELENS	H NEW BRIGHTON
F SALFORD	I OLDHAM ATHLETIC

NOTE.—It is desired that the Advertisers in this programme should receive every support from the Members of the Oldham Football Club.

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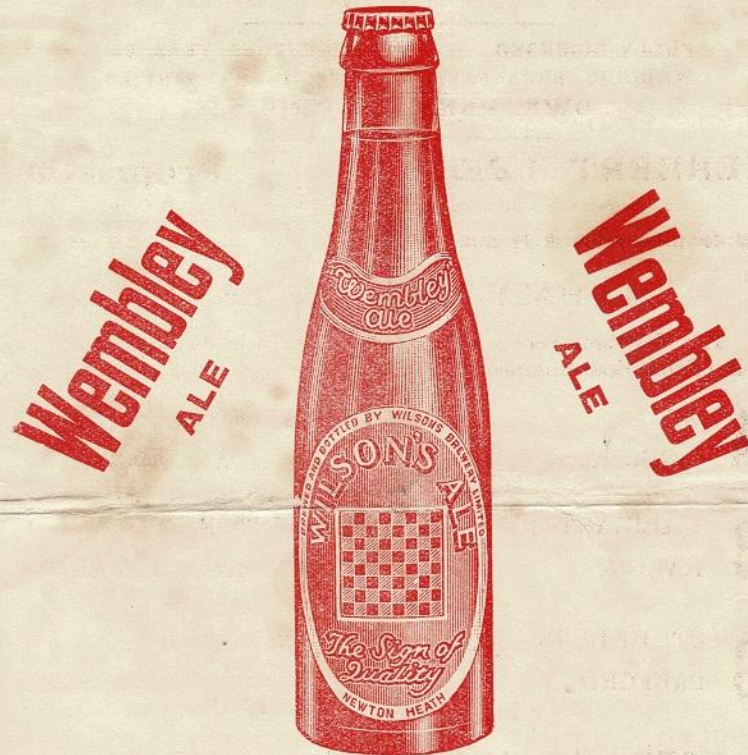
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