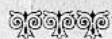


Coming Attractions

AT WATERSHEDDINGS



SATURDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 20th, 1947

Oldham v. Widnes

Kick-off 3 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd, 1947

2nd Round Lancashire Cup Oldham v Workington

Kick-off 5-45 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th, 1947

Oldham v. Halifax

Kick-off 3 p.m.

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

OLDHAM v. SALFORD

MONDAY, SEPT. 15th, 1947

Kick-off 6-0 p.m.

Official Programme - 2d.

Gordon Whittaker Ltd., Printers, Oldham

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS.

On Saturday, September 6th, 1947, we achieved a glorious victory at Hunslet by 10 points to 3, and to make victory more brilliant we had to play the whole of the second half without the assistance of our hooker, W. Frost.

The game commenced before a very good crowd and the Hunslet team started as though they would walk away with the match, so fast did they make the game, but our team stood up to the test. It was a case of wearing the opposition down. Our defence was good, some splendid tackling and, I may say, some half-hearted tackling was seen by our team.

However, strength in defence is as necessary as strength in attack. There is a tendency in some players and in some teams (and among some spectators) to underrate defence. Attack is positive, defence is negative, and we naturally rate more highly the man who does things than the man who prevents them from being done.

The aim of the footballer is to score and the desires of the crowd is to see scores. The attacking player, the man who scores is a public hero, on a very different level in popular estimation from the defensive player who prevents scores.

Two points are of supreme importance to perfect the means of defence and to develop the quality of anticipation: Every rugby player should know how to tackle. How often do we see men hesitating, waiting for a pass, pawing at the air, snatching at the shoulders of the man with the ball when the one thing to do is to go hard and low and bring him down; there is far too much high tackling, far too much dallying. Certainly there are cases in which a defender may be in doubt as to whether to go for the man with the ball or to retain the power to go for the man to whom a pass may be given, but in nine cases out of ten the right thing is to ensure that the man in possession goes no farther.

ANTICIPATION

With some players—great full backs for instance—anticipation seems instinctive but, in the main, it is the outcome of thought and experience, and it is as well that young players should be instructed in the arts of combination in defence.

To recognise the ultimate point of danger and to provide that a tackler should be there if the danger develops is commonsense. Nine times out of ten the forward who is looking for work may find his sprint to the corner unnecessary, either because his own wing has brought off a tackle or because a pass has gone wrong, but the tenth time he may save his side from defeat.

There are other points in connection with the defensive side of Rugby Football that call for comment, but my space is exhausted and they must be left for another occasion.

For the moment two points must be underlined. First, sound tackling—low hard tackling—is essential, and the players who neglect it are serving their sides badly. Secondly, the quality of anticipation will enable a tackler to be in the place where his tackle may be decisive in the moment of greatest danger.

INJURED PLAYERS

Edgar Brooks and Fred Hall (pre-war winger) were successfully operated upon on September 1st for the removal of knee cartilage and are now at home recuperating. It will be several weeks before we see them in training.

W. Frost, hooker, who was injured at Hunslet, will be out of the game for at least two weeks owing to damaged ribs.

THE LANCASHIRE CUP

We are lucky to be drawn at home in the second round of the Lancashire Cup, our opponents being Workington Town. This match will be played on Tuesday evening, September 23rd, 1947, kick-off 5-45 p.m. If we are successful, as we anticipate, our opponents for the semi-final will be the winners of Belle Vue Rangers—Salford match, this time away.

Telephone MAIN 4377

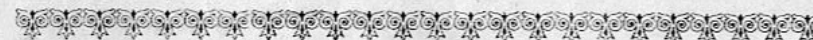
Reserved for . . .



N. COX

TAXIS

23 GRANTHAM STREET, OLDHAM



TO-DAY'S TEAMS

OLDHAM

(BLUE & WHITE JERSEYS)

1. GRIFFITHS, W.
2. INGLESFIELD, S.
3. MAHONEY, J. B.
4. MITCHELL, W. S.
5. LARGE, E.
6. HARRIS, N. (Capt.)
7. SMITH, R. A.
8. OGDEN, H.
9. MUNDY, J.
10. MOORE, W. J.
11. THOMAS, L. M.
12. THOMPSON, N.
13. AYRES, T.

Reserve:

AMBLER, H. D.

SALFORD

(RED JERSEYS)

1. CHAPMAN, H.
2. ASPINALL, G.
3. TODD, P.
4. FLANAGAN, J.
5. GEAR, A.
6. WILLIAMS, S.
7. JONES, R.
8. HARRISON, T.
9. BROWN, J.
10. DAY, H.
11. CURRAN, G.
12. ROBERTS, A.
13. DAY, E.
- MOSES, D.
- KENNY, R.

Referee: Mr. P. COWELL, of Warrington

Touch Judges: Mr. T. Moran and Mr. C. C. Snowden