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BATLEY 1020.

#### CHERRY BLOSSOM by "OBSERVER"

ON top of the world now eh? Batley, the leading Yorkshire team in the Rugby League, and should still be in that position after to-days match. I hope I am not being too optimistic, and am not going to be let down. Oldham have always been a team capable of springing a surprise, and few teams have been keener opponents in the past than Batley and Oldham, especially in cup-ties. I could reminisce on that point but have not the space. However a hearty welcome to doughty opponents of old, and we are glad to see representatives of Watersheddings on the heights of Mount Pleasant once more—but we want the points.

I have been inundated with queries as to records, comparison &c. as a result of Batley's exalted position, but this is hardly the time for looking back. Batley have a stiff programme to Christmas so we will wait and see. On present form I have confidence in players to maintain a good League position.

The game at York provided further evidence that when the players co-operate they can play spectacular football and score tries. The finish was better than for some weeks, but what pleased me as much as anything was the variety in the form of attack. I noted with satisfaction the realisation of what benefit a cross kick can be, either from the touch line to the centre, or vice versa. It is a move that often catches the opposition unawares. We have seen it before at Mount Pleasant but it should be exploited more. Hesketh was the pivot of the Batley

attack at York and the back division as a whole combined to play exhilarating football. Outstanding men were Riches, Bunnell, Etty, Eaton and Moore. The forwards were more agile in the open and the new men were impressive. There is still too much kicking to lose possession and if the flanks are not better covered there will be trouble, especially against a fast side.

#### SUPPORTERS' CLUB NEWS

The Supporters' Club have begged for space.

The Club's Trip to the Cup Final at Wembley on May 7th, 1949 is, I am told, already booked up—unless the number can be augmented. That is very doubtful at the moment. There are still six seats for the bus party of 64.

During the past four months the Supporters Club has spent nearly £300 on renovations and alterations on the estate. They are also to meet the expense of repairing the roof of the turnstiles at the entrance to the ground and in the near future hope to carry out concrete terracing on the Long Stand. The licence has been obtained for the erection of the new cricket scoring box near the Supporters' Hut. Mr. L. Haley, 123 North Bank Road Cross Bank, will welcome subscriptions towards the cost.

Followers of the Batley team intending to visit Leigh next Saturday are advised to book at Supporters' Hut after today's match. Buses have been reserved.

Next home match is with Leeds on November 20th, Kick off 2-30.

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# BATLEY

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# OLDHAM

SATURDAY, Nov .6

OFFICIAL

FOOTBALL

PROGRAMME:

# 2<sup>D</sup>

kick-off 3-0 p.m.



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## BATLEY

1—EATON

2—ETTY      3—STOKES (Capt.)      4—RICHES      5—BURROW  
6—HESKETH      7—BURNELL  
8—HARGREAVES      9—LAWTON      10—HARTLEY  
11—LAVENDAR      12—MOORE  
14—WESTBURY

Referee—  
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Warrington



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5—TATE      4—HARRIS (Capt.)      3—MITCHELL      2—BATTEN  
1—BARRACLOUGH

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