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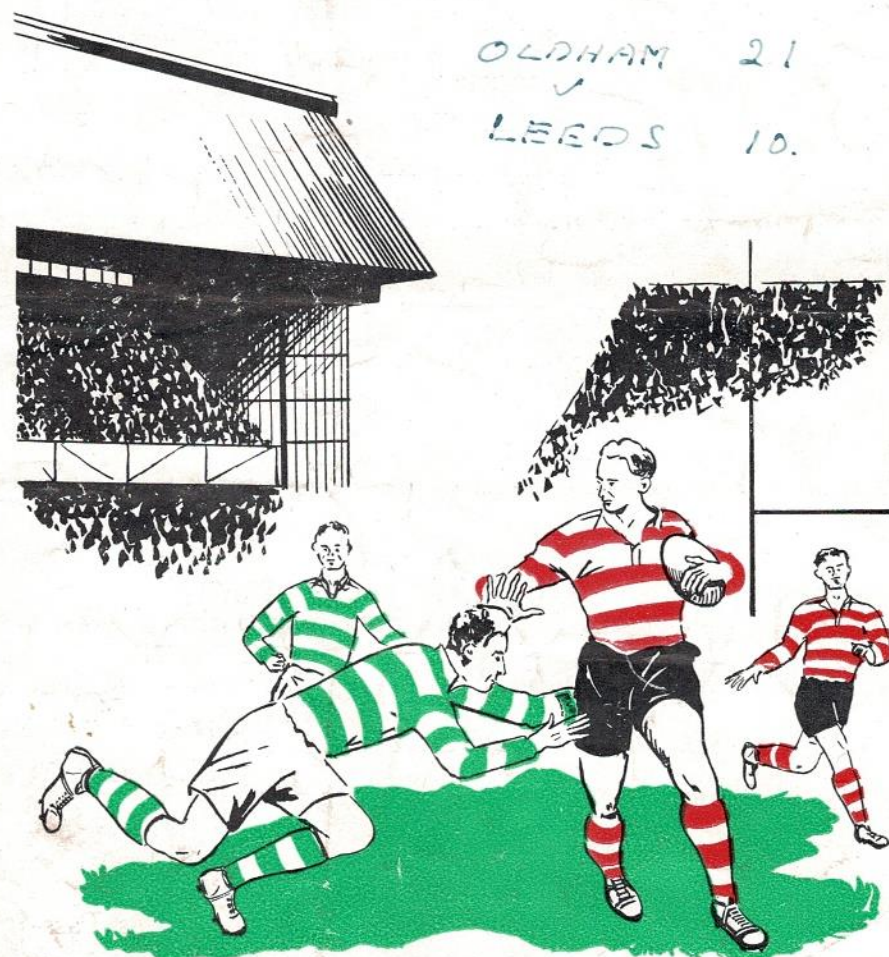
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No. 4—SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th, 1952

KICK-OFF 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM v. LEEDS

Watersheddings News, Views and Memories

Saturday last saw our team success-
full once again at the expense of Swinton
in the first round of the Lancashire Cup,
by 25 points to 6. The game had not the
sparkle of the previous matches played
on our ground, the second half appeared
to slow down, and this must be said for
both teams. Possibly the oppressive heat
being accountable for this slowing up and
at no-side both teams were on their knees.
However, these slight lapses can be ex-
cused and Saturday's display must not be
taken as a pointer that we are on the
decline. Our last three games proved
that our attack is good, having scored 82
points which is an excellent average of
over 27 per match. People may condemn
'this rule and that rule' of our game, and
whatever the outcome may be of the
rules, it is obvious that our team can score
tries, and that is what the public want.
Any rule that may be altered to suit the
players would be a fatal step.



"A" TEAM FIXTURES

It will be noticed by our Fixture
list that our "A" Team has no match to-
day, competitive or friendly. This is a
step in the wrong direction and applies
to all Lancashire and Cumberland "A"
teams. The whole system of organising
"A" team fixtures is wrong, and this has
been happening since the end of the war.

There are 13 teams of "A" team status
in the two counties and each club sec-
retary is allowed to arrange the fixtures.
It is evident that there are not enough
"A" teams available to fill in every Sat-
urday, and in the close season it is a
difficult job arranging these fixtures.
Yorkshire "A" teams are occupied every
Saturday, as should be, and their fixtures
are arranged from R.L. Headquarters.
We have tried several times for the
revival of the Rugby League Combination
but this has 'fallen upon stoney ground'
and the possibility of such revival is
very remote. The whole fabric of pro-
fessional Rugby League Football should
be controlled from Headquarters, if it
applies to first teams, why not "A"
teams? The appointment of referees and
touch judges for our "A" team matches
are made by Lancashire County. All "A"
teams are, or should be, the stepping
stone to first team status, and it is most
essential that they should be kept occu-
pied. Training is of importance, but the
result of such training must be put into
operation by actual match play, competi-
tive and instructive play is part and
parcel of opponents making players do
things that are absent in training. Inac-
tivity of "A" teams is a retrograde step,
it is no good to the game and should be
lined up for complete reorganisation
next season.

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2. GRADY, T. WARHAM 2 TRY		2. TURNBULL WHITEHEAD	
3. MITCHELL, W. S. 1 TRY		3. WARD BROWN	O
4. DAVIES, A. 1 "		4. BROWN MOORE	L
5. PLATT, L.		5. VERRANKAMP 1 TRY	Y
6. DALEY, F.		6. WILLIAMS WARD	M
7. STIRRUP, F.		7. STEVENSON WATSON.	P
8. OGDEN, H.		8. McMASTERS HORSFALL	I
9. KEITH, J.		9. WOOD	C
10. DAY, B. ANTHONY		10. KENDRICK SHILLITOE	*
11. TOMLINSON, A. DAY		11. CLUES	
12. LITTLE, S. D.		12. POOLE	
13. GOLDSWAIN, B. V. (Capt.) 1 TRY		14. MOORE SCHOLES 1 TRY	
Reserves:		Reserves:	
Referee: Mr. L. DALBY of York		Touch Judges:	
Mr. F. T. Hill, Warrington (Red)		Mr. J. Woodward, St. Helens (Blue)	

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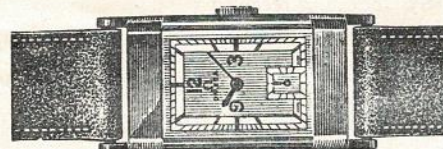
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"PLAY-THE-BALL" RULE

Discussion on this rule is becoming the main topic of conversation and there is no doubt that it is meeting with a very mixed reception. All clubs have now sampled the new rule passed at the Annual Meeting, and one views the outcome with scepticism the opinions that will be expressed with Club Committees in the near future. This rule can only be altered by an amendment passed by an extraordinary general meeting of the Clubs, and in turn, considered by the International Board.



BRIEFS

The strains of 'Auld Lang Syne' were heard coming from the ground floor of our pavilion last Tuesday week. Much gusto was given to the song. It came from the 'boys' who were giving their farewell send-off to Jimmy Chalmers on his return to his native Hawick. Such is the team spirit that is in possession of the 'boys.'

That Charlie Winslade played half the game against Featherstone with a dislocated thumb—tough guy!

That we now have 2,800 members, 600 more than last season.

To seat-holder members!

This is the last day to claim your ticket for the Australia v. Oldham match, to be played Monday, September 15th, kick-off 6-0 p.m. Tickets 6s. 0d. each.



OUR VISITORS

Welcome Leeds! The pleasure is ours in receiving such notable visitors. May to-day's game prove to be of the best that Rugby League Football can offer—a good, clean, sporting match. We shall try to reverse the disappointment we had when we visited Headingley in the Challenge Cup last season, our disappointment was great, but like sportsmen we took it and are out for a clean revenge to-day. The Leeds team are having a spate of matches at present, for in addition to playing last Monday, they played the 2nd leg of the Yorkshire Cup against Hull last evening, both these matches being carried through with a lengthy injured list. However we hope that the changes from the printed list in this programme is not to severe. Any alterations in the teams will be beyond the control of either club.

HALF-TIME SCORES

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

A KEIGHLEY
AUSTRALIA

B WIGAN
ROCHDALE

C LEIGH
HUDDERSFIELD

D HALIFAX
BELLE VUE R.

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F HUNSLET
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