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No. 15—Saturday, January 24th, 1953

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM v. ROCHDALE HORNETS

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

The commencement of the New Year provided our supporters with the No. 1 shock in the Rugby League with the loss of our unbeaten home record of 14 months by Barrow on January 3rd. The surprise, and one may say disappointment, was greater by the fact that our team during the holiday matches had run into top form. But there it is, the Barrow team came, saw and conquered, and registered a double for the season against us. Two valuable points being sacrificed which can be to our detriment in the final positions of the League Table. We must admit that on the day we were beaten with a better team, and that this must have been one of the off-days that all teams do have. However, two great away victories have been recorded since the Barrow match, against Wigan and Salford. The match at Wigan was played in fog, and from one side of the ground spectators could not see the other side of the field. What a pity our supporters could not view this match on a clear day as our team played super football, a remark endorsed by several

Wigan players after the match. To score 27 points at Wigan is an achievement and records go to prove that we have never recorded such a high number of points at Wigan previously.

At Salford last Saturday, victory was secured at a high cost, two of our players were injured, Bryn Goldswain our captain and coach (broken forearm) and Harry Ogden (dislocated finger). We expect Ogden's injury will not keep him out of the Cup-tie, but Goldswain's will take several weeks, so it will be some time before we can expect his return. This is a very severe blow to us, as his command and inspiration on the field has, no doubt, brought our team up to its present standard. However, he will direct operations from the touch-line and no doubt our team will respond to his advice and encouragement to them. Our temporary captain will be Joe Warham and he will direct operations on the field of play. Joe, by the way, holds a first-class Coaching Certificate issued by the Rugby League.

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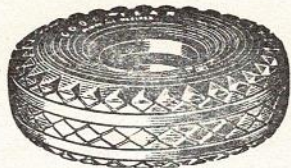
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2	WARHAM, J., Captain	2	JONES, W.
3	PLATT, L.	3	STANFORD, R.
4	DAVIES, A.	4	McGILVRAY, J.
5	O'GRADY, T.	5	OLDROYD, P.
6	DALEY, F.	6	HARRIS, N.
7	STIRRUP, F.	7	VALLET, A.
8	ANTHONY, L.	8	FISHER, R.
9	KEITH, J.	9	DAGNALL, R.
10	TOMLINSON, A.	10	HAWKINS, E.
11	WINSLADE, C.	11	ELLEAN, W.
12	LITTLE, S. D.	12	SCHOFIELD, D.
13	DAY, B.	13	McNALLY
Reserves:		Reserves:	
Mitchell, W. S., Jackson, K.			
Referee: Mr. L. Thorpe of Wakefield			
Touch Judges :			
Mr. W. H. Skerrett, Warrington (Red) Mr. C. A. Moseley, Stretford (Blue)			

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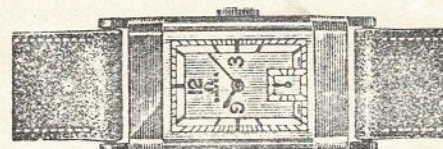
OLDHAM { WERNETH depart 4-10 p.m.
CENTRAL .. 4-13 p.m.
MUMPS .. 4-16 p.m.

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OUR VISITORS

To-day we welcome Rochdale Hornets, who appear to be developing into a good team under the guidance of one of our former players—Norman Harris. Results may not come this season with them, but it is apparent that the policy of the Hornets directors is one of progressiveness and they are getting a blend of players plus some coming young players in the 'A' team that will ultimately pay dividends, a just reward for some hard work that is being put in, to place the Hornets in their correct position—amongst the leading clubs in our game.



CONSTITUTION OF OUR GAME

An ugly rumour has been persistent of a break-away from the Rugby League of eight premier Clubs, owing we presume, to being dissatisfied with the structure of the Rugby League—or in other words possibly—of not getting their own way. I would point out that this Club is not a participant of this unconstitutional way of conducting its affairs

and would refuse to join any insurgent move against any constitutional authority. All Clubs are part and parcel of the Rugby League and must adhere to a majority vote however much it may go against its own ideas. The expanse of the Rugby League does not demand or tolerate a section ruling the majority, this would be fatal. "Advance, Rugby League," should be the motto. United we stand and can fight a battle, but divided would be fatal and a retrograde step.



BRIEFS

Our players are all satisfied that the new "play the ball" rule will suit their requirements and give our backs more room to operate their 'moves' in.

The dance for the Harry Ogden Benefit Fund held in the Town Hall on Saturday last was a huge success and was enjoyed by all.

The laugh of the evening was when one of our young first team players, admiring the Mayoral Chain of Office, asked what the inscription "Sapere Aude" meant, and was promptly told it was Latin for 'Stirrup and Daley.'

HALF-TIME SCORES

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

A WIGAN
BARROW

B ST. HELENS
WARRINGTON

C HALIFAX
WHITEHAVEN

D BRADFORD
DONCASTER

E BELLE VUE R.
LEIGH

F BARROW
OLDHAM A.

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