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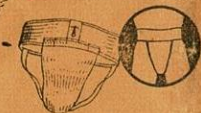
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October 31st 1953

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

Nº 1339

### CLUB NOTES.

#### Amalgamation.

We note with interest and without comment, the article published in the Dewsbury Reporter last Saturday which calls for readers views on whether or not the Dewsbury and Batley Rugby League Clubs should amalgamate. There has recently been a good deal of talk on both sides of the valley about this very open subject and it will be interesting to read the letters which the Reporter receives and intends to publish, on this topic.

At a later date we may express our own views on the matter but in the meantime it may be as well to study the view point of those who support the two clubs.

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#### CLUB NOTES—continued

Our last three League matches have not produced one League point, but they have at least produced some very bright and entertaining football, and but for the fact that so many scoring chances have been lost we may well have been much higher in the League Table.

Roy Pollard is expected to be fit for the match today and it will be as well for us if he can immediately return to the form he showed before receiving his injury at the end of September.

The 'A' Team recorded their fourth successive win last Saturday when they trounced Bradford Northern 'A' at Crown Flatt, by 36 pts. to 3 pts.

The standard of football played by the 'A' Team is causing a great deal of satisfaction to the supporters and is reflected in the increased gate receipts for second team football. The last two home games have been at least four times higher than any, for many a long day.

Just a word about a player snatching the ball from an opponent who is tackled, this subject has caused a fair amount of comment lately.

#### CLUB NOTES—continued

Read what the Laws of the Game lay down to cover this annoying habit. "A player shall not take the ball from a tackled player. If any doubt arises as to the tackle the referee shall give verbal instructions to 'Play on' or 'Play the ball', as the case may be."

#### Our Visitors Today.

After an absence of several years, we again have the pleasure of entertaining Oldham at Crown Flatt. A few years ago the Oldham Club was going through one of the most difficult periods of its long career, a career, which commenced as a founder member of the Northern Rugby Football Union, way back in the year 1872.

Revival of the Club's fortunes can almost be dated to the time they secured Bryn Goldswain, Welsh International Loose Forward from Hull Kingston Rovers, to take over the duties as player coach. Today the Oldham Club, in spite of strong soccer opposition are in a happy financial position and are drawing something like an average of £1,000, for home matches. They have a Membership of 2,700, and they say that their away following is probably the best in the game.

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12—Winslade  
13—Goldswain (Capt.)

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## CLUB NOTES—continued

The reason for this happy state of affairs at Watersheddings is attributed to the standard of football being produced by the team week after week.

It may be of some interest to know something of the men who are doing such a fine job for Rugby League Football at Oldham.

At full-back, they have 24-year-old Bernard Ganley who joined them from Leigh Junior Football.

Dick Cracknell, right wing threequarter, International and Test Player, cost the Club a record fee for his transfer from Huddersfield a short time ago, in fact he played his first match for them against us earlier in the month. He has been selected for the England team to oppose France at Odsal next Saturday.

On the other wing we may see 19-year-old Terry O'Grady, who already has County and International Honours to his credit. Willie Mitchell, their right centre has twelve years service with the club and Allan Davies another product of Leigh Junior Football is the left centre. Davies has played for England in that position, and is freely tipped for further honours.

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## CLUB NOTES—continued

They have a very lively and efficient half-back pair in Frank Stirrup, Lancashire County Cap, and ex-Salford and Leigh player, at scrum-half, Johnnie Feather, secured from Leeds is the stand-off half.

Les Anthony, Welsh Rugby Union International, Jack Keith, hooker from Hunslet Junior Football and Ken Jackson, another Lancashire County Cap completes the front row of the pack. Sid Little, a Manchester University student and regular second row choice for the Lancashire County team, with Arthur Tomlinson from Warrington Amateur Rugby League Football are the second row pair.

At loose-forward we shall find their Captain and Coach, Bryn Goldswain. Bryn has not been showing his best form lately but he is nevertheless a great stalwart in a fine team.

The relative League positions of the two Clubs are :—  
Oldham.

(9) Played 12, won 7, drawn 1. Pts. for 200, pts. agst. 125  
Dewsbury.

(21) Played 12, won 4, drawn 1. Pts. for 170, pts. agst. 166

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**Note.**

The Crown Flatt Supporters Section are now booking for their 1954, Wembley trip.

Full details can be obtained from the Supporters' Section Room under the main stand or from their Secretary, Mr. A. Clegg, 7, Walnut Crescent, Chickenley.

The curtain raiser this afternoon is between the Dewsbury and Batley Amateur Rugby League Under 18 Team and the Leeds and District League Under 18 Team.

**R.L. Challenge Cup Final—24th April, 1954.**

We are advised by the Secretary of the Rugby Football League that the only tickets now available for the Cup Final are those at 25/- and 3/- all other tickets have been sold.

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