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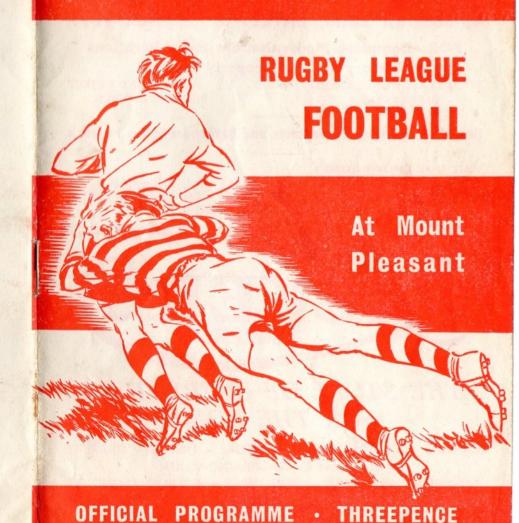
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BATLEY V. OLDHAM

No. 3

Saturday, 18th September, 1954

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OBITUARY

Mr. Wilfred H. Farrar.

It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the passing of a Director of the Club, Mr. W. H. (Wilf) Farrar.

Mr. Farrar had been in indifferent health for sometime, but we had not realised that his illness was so serious that it would take away from our midst so suddenly a man who for many years has been a strong worker and supporter of the Club. It is a shock to us, his colleagues, to realise that he will no longer sit with us round the boardroom table.

He was a lifelong supporter of the Club before he joined the Board $5\frac{1}{2}$

years ago and has since then worked hard in the interests of the Club, particularly in his special position as Chairman of the Finance Committee. Owing to the state of his health he retired from active business some eighteen months ago and it is true to say that since then the majority of his time was spent on the Mount Pleasant Estate, either with the C. A. & F. Club or his "second love" the Bowling Club. He shirked nothing though hampered by illness. We deeply mourn his passing.

There will be a short silence in his memory before the game commences this afternoon.

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NEWS AND VIEWS

(By W.H.E.)

The playing record and form of our team, generally, in the first few weeks of the season has, to say the least, not been very satisfactory, that is until last Friday evening. Although we made our extromather from the Yorkshire Cup at Parkside, the form shown was a vast improvement and was such as to lead us to think that were it to be maintained victories would be much more frequent.

I have written of such hopes before, only to see them dashed when our boys have fallen back into the rut in the very next game. Today will be an acid test, we shall see whether last Friday's performance was just another 'flash in the pan' or an indication of better things to come. Our supporters have not as yet had the pleasure of seeing our team win at Mount Pleasant this season. With all due respect to our visitors I must express the hope that today will see our first home victory.

Talking points in Rugby League these days are many, varying from the heavy suspensions on offenders dismissed from the field, to the visit of a well known London journalist to a training session of a nearby R. L. club, whence he wrote a most ridiculous article in a famous national daily newspaper about a game of which he most obviously knows little or nothing.

The writer of these notes does not know what is contained in the report of the recently returned tour managers but it is fairly obvious to all that the R.L. Disciplinary Committee are determined to punish heavily any offenders in this country. We agree with their policy, the R. L. game has already received enough adverse publicity through alleged "rough play." If this is not stamped out before it becomes too prevalent then consequences for our game could be most serious.

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News and Views-continued

OUR VISITORS

A very warm welcome to our visitors from just over the border. We realise that with their array of international and county talent and victories at St. Helens and Barrow to their credit they will be very stiff opposition, even here at Mount Pleasant. Our visit to the Watersheddings a few weeks ago resulted in an Oldham victory by 16-3. Although defeated we were by no means disgraced and came back strongly after a poor first half

Amongst the personnel of the visiting side today are a number of interesting and well known personalities. At full back is Ganley, an ex-Leigh junior, already established as a crack goalkicker, appeared with Lancashire last Wednesday evening. Dick Cracknell, right winger, signed from Huddersfield at a big fee, son of former player international and Yorkshire county honours. Terry O'Grady, left winger, ex-local junior, came into prominence last season, just returned from Australian Tour where he was a big success. Played for Lancashire

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5-O'GRADY

Half Backs-6-DALEY

7—STIRRUP Forwards-8-OGDEN

9-KEITH 10—TOMLINSON

11_WINSLADE 12—LITTLE

13-GOLDSWAIN

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(Blue)

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Threequarters-

2—HARRISON

3-ETTY

4_KILROY

5-FIELD

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Forwards-8-PICKERSGILL

9_FRYER

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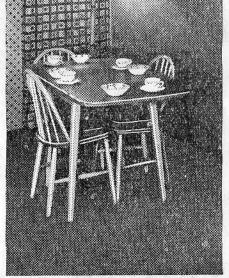
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News and Views-continued

last Wednesday. Roland Barrow, exlocal R.U. player, signed last season, shows great promise. Six foot and 14 stone Alan Davies, another son of a former player, father is "Cocky" Davies, formerly of Leigh, at 22 is the youngest captain in league, international and county player, turned out with Lancashire last Wednesday. Daley, stand off half, was signed from Leigh four years ago, a sound player, whilst Frank Stirrup, the scrumhalf was signed from Salford and has proved to be a good utility man.

Ogden, prop forward, is a long service player and a local product. The other prop forward, Tomlinson, was signed from Warrington four years ago. Hooker Keith learnt his football in the Hunslet district from whence he was signed. Charlie Winslade, a Welshman from Maesteg, has played for his native country and along with Sid Little, ex-Harlequins and Cumberland R.U., who played for Cumberland R.L. also last Wednesday, forms one of the youngest and most promising second row pairs in the league.

Little, an ex-R.A.F. pilot, still retains an interest in flying, is a member of an auxiliary squadron in the Doncaster area and still flies at week ends when the opportunity occurs. At loose forward, schoolmaster Bryn Goldswain, another Welshman signed from Hull K.R. some seasons ago, has played for Wales on a number of occasions.

BATTLE OF BRITAIN COLLECTION

Most of you will be aware that this is Battle of Britain Week, the week of commemoration and thanksgiving for our delivery through that great battle of the skies. This is the week when the R.A.F. Association endeavour to raise funds to ilurther their principal objects the Welfare of those disabled ex-airmen and women still with us, and to help the dependants of those who gave their lives.

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News and Views-continued

FLASH BACK TO 1950/51

It is four years since our today's visitors were last seen at Mt. Pleasant. On September 16th, 1950, we beat them by 15-7, there was a crowd of 8,000 present that day. It will be interesting to compare today's attendance.

On November 4th, 1950, we paid the return visit to the Watersheddings and lost by the very narrow margin of 5-3. Harry Royal made his last appearance as our player-coach in that game. It is interesting to note that though only four years have passed, only one of the players in our team today took part in both those league games, he is John Etty. Gordon Harrison and George Palmer played at Mt. Pleasant and Ken Pickersgill at Oldham.

PERSONALITY PARS

Since our last edition Frank Mawson, who was appointed "A" Team Coach, has given up the game and Bob Robson has been appointed in his place. In the two games played under Bob's guidance our "A" Team have showed excellent form in beating Dewsbury 21-0 and Hunslet 17-13, in addition to which the football displayed has been entertaining and of the best quality.

George Northern who was appointed First Team Captain at the beginning of the season, he apparently feels the responsibility too much, hence he has resigned the appointment. George Palmer, Vice-Captain, now takes over as Captain, with Gerald Cox as Vice-Captain.

John Frain is now in training and we expect to have him playing very soon.

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