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Fixtures for the Season

1955-56	Opponents	Venue	K.O.	1955-56	Opponents	Venue	K.O.
Aug. 13	—Rochdale H. (Charity)	.....	Away 3-0	26	—Swinton (Mon.)	.....	Home 2-30
20	—Broughton R.	.....	Away 3-0	27	—Blackpool (Tues.)	.....	Away 2-30
27	—Blackpool (Lancs. Cup)	.....	Away 3-0	31	—Whitehaven	.....	Home 2-30
30	—Rochdale H. (Tues.)	.....	Away 7-0	Jan. 2	—Workington (Mon.)	.....	Away 2-30
Sept. 3	—Hunslet	.....	Home 3-0	7	—Whitehaven	.....	Away 2-30
10	—Leeds	.....	Away 3-0	14	—Workington	.....	Home 2-30
17	—Warrington	.....	Home 3-0	21	—Widnes	.....	Away 2-30
24	—York	.....	Away 3-0	28	—Rochdale H.	.....	Home 3-0
Oct 1	—Featherstone	.....	Home 3-0	Feb. 4	—Leigh	.....	Home 3-0
8	—Hunslet	.....	Away 3-0	11	—1st Round C.C.	.....	3-0
15	—Barrow	.....	Home 3-0	18	—Wigan	.....	Home 3-0
22	—Warrington	.....	Away 3-0	25	—Featherstone	.....	Away 3-0
29	—New Zealand	.....	Home 3-0	Mar. 3	—2nd Round C.C.	.....	3-0
Nov. 5	—Leigh	.....	Away 3-0	10	—York	.....	Home 3-0
12	—Liverpool	.....	Home 3-0	17	—Blackpool	.....	Home 3-0
19	—Wigan	.....	Away 2-30	24	—3rd Round C.C.	.....	3-0
26	—Widnes	.....	Home 2-30	30	—Swinton (G.F.)	.....	Away 3-0
Dec. 3	—Liverpool	.....	Away 2-30	31	—Leeds (E.S.)	.....	Home 3-0
10	—Salford	.....	Away 2-30	Apr. 2	—Barrow (E.M.)	.....	Away 3-0
17	—Salford	Home 2-30	7	—Broughton R.	Home 3-0
24	—St. Helens	Away 2-30	14	—St. Helens	Home 3-0

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LANCASHIRE V. YORKSHIRE

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

SEPT. 27.

1955-56



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IN THE OLDHAM EDITION OF THE
MANCHESTER EVENING CHRONICLE

No. 5—Monday, 26th September, 1955

Kick-off 5.45 p.m.

LANCASHIRE v. YORKSHIRE

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

It is indeed a pleasure to welcome to Watersheddings the Lancashire County Committee and their chosen team to represent Lancashire. Also we extend a very hearty welcome to our friends from Yorkshire.

Quite a lot of water has run down the river since we last staged a County Match on our ground, the last being held in Monday evening, September 5th, 1933, also against Yorkshire. Unfortunately the weather was unfavourable and the gate receipts amounted to only £89 13s. 3d., the Lancashire County only receiving £30 10s. 4d. as their share of the gate. In this match we had a lone representative from Watersheddings in Sam Bardsley, playing at right centre.

This evening's match should prove a real thriller as some of the best players in Rugby League are in opposition to one another. In addition to having the honour of staging this match, the Lancashire County Committee have honoured us by including three of our players in the Lancashire side—Davies, A., O'Grady, T. and Pitchford, F. It has been suggested that this is to add local flavour to the match, but this is not the case, these players—like all the other players—have been selected on their merit, and all of them appeared last Monday evening at Workington in the match against Cumberland, and, as we now know, were a victorious team.

Our fondest hope for to-night's encounter is that the match will prove to be a good one and will bring out what is best in our game of Rugby League.

"A" TEAM FIXTURES

It is to be regretted that our "A" team, as for years past now, has not got a full seasons fixtures. An examination of the "A" team fixtures show that we have ten vacant Saturday and holiday dates. This in our opinion is all to the detriment of the game. The system of arranging "A" team fixtures is all wrong and the procedure should be altered. What happens is this—the Secretary of each Club in Lancashire is allowed to arrange "A" team fixtures according to the list of first team fixtures issued and are usually made alternatively with the first team Lancashire fixtures. A scramble then takes place for arranging extra friendly "A" team matches, which is a most difficult problem and which in the large majority of cases ends in no fixtures as friendly matches at all. It is unfortunate that in Lancashire we have not sufficient clubs to occupy our "A" teams each Saturday (the Lancashire Combination contains 14 clubs). It is obvious that the only solution to this farce is for all "A" teams to be controlled by the Northern Rugby League, as the first teams are. The whole of our fixture list should be in the hands of the Management Committee of the N.R.F.L., then, and then only, shall we solve a problem that is a black spot in our game.

26 PTS. 10 PTS.
LANCASHIRE v. YORKSHIRE

LANCASHIRE
(Red and White)

YORKSHIRE
(White Jerseys)

1. SALE, J. Widnes
2. O'GRADY, T. **3 TRIES** Oldham
3. DAVIES, A. **1 TRY** Oldham
4. BROOME, J. Wigan
5. CARLTON, F. St. Helens
6. BLAN, A. **2 TRIES 4 GOALS** Swinton
7. PITCHFORD, F. Oldham
8. PRESCOTT, A. St. Helens
9. HAYES, J. Widnes
10. LOWE, G. Warrington
11. GRUNDY, J. Barrow
12. SMITH Widnes
13. FOSTER, P. Leigh

Reserves :

CUNLIFFE, J. Wigan HILL, K. Wigan

1. LEDGARD, J. **1 TRY 2 GOALS** Leigh
2. HOLLINDRAKE, T. **1 TRY** Keighley
3. FROGETT, D. Wakefield
4. SULLIVAN, M. Huddersfield
5. BROUGHTON, G. Leeds
6. ~~MULLANEY~~ **BROWN** Featherstone **LEEDS**
7. STEVENSON, J. Leeds
8. SCOTT, M. Hull
9. ~~SMITH~~ **HANLEY** Hunslet
10. WILKINSON, J. Halifax
11. GUNNEY, G. Hunslet
12. ROBINSON, D. Wakefield
13. ~~TRAILL~~ **TURNER** **OLDHAM** Bradford Northern

Reserves :

BROWN, G. Leeds TURNER, K. Oldham

Referee: Mr. A. HOWGATE, Dewsbury

Touch Judges:

Mr. F. S. ROWLEY, Barrow-in-Furness (Red Flag).

Mr. C. A. MOSELEY, Manchester (Blue Flag).

ATTENDANCE 7,054.

RECEIPTS £773

COMMONWEALTH BAN

The Rugby League Council have now agreed upon a two years ban on the signing of any Australian players as in the case of New Zealand players.

Several clubs have been fighting hard for the removal of the ban. Many sound arguments can be put for and against the case, but the majority vote in favour of the ban must be adhered to.

There is no doubt that an influx of star Commonwealth players into certain clubs in our game is a great attraction, not only to the clubs that they eventually join, but to the game itself. On the other hand, their departure is definitely a weakening to the game in Australia and New Zealand, who, like ourselves, are up against the so called amateur game of Rugby Union. The English clubs who can afford the importation of 'ready made' stars will consider this the easy way to success, but this is not so in every case. What greater pleasure can club enjoy than to see one of its own local juniors reach to apex of the triangle in our game—international honours. The stars of to-day were the juniors of yesteryear—and this applies to all games wherever they are played. Consider to-day's match, I question as to whether there are more than two players who have come from the Rugby Union code from the whole of the twenty-six players. All the others have achieved County status through a Rugby League nursery, possibly from schoolboy football.

It is up to all clubs to find their future stars as juniors and with correct coaching and the players' will-power to make good, there should be no shortage of top-class players to fill the shoes of our receding stars and thereby achieve something of the worthiness that our game represents. It is in this direction that our encouragement and financial aid should be administered.

THE NEW ZEALAND TEAM

Up to the present, the New Zealand team have not covered themselves with glory, but there are now signs of a revival in their play and their great victory over Yorkshire, on Wednesday last, proves that the team possesses the ability and skill which is capable of uniting into a first-class combination.

They visit us on Saturday, October 29th, and we look forward to this 'red letter' day to give our commonwealth visitors a real Oldham welcome—a good game and a capacity crowd—as in every case with our overseas visitors in the past.

The Mayor has concented to give our visitors a Civic Reception at the Town Hall at 12 noon, when we hope that the townspeople will give them the usual rousing reception.

After the match we entertain our visitors to a dinner and each Tourist, along with the Managers, will be presented with a tankard suitably inscribed giving details of the occasion and the name of the player.

We hope that the weather will be kind to us on October 29th, and no doubt our visitors will long remember their visit to Oldham.

NEXT HOME MATCH—

OLDHAM v. FEATHERSTONE

Saturday, October 1st, 1955

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

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