

# TOMMY MERRIMAN

**Turf Accountant**



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*Est. 1923*



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SATURDAY,  
21st JANUARY, 1956

No 312



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## Read the Weekly News

YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER

SATURDAY, 21st JANUARY, 1956

## Notes

Attention this week is focussed on the serious financial situation of the Club. Details have appeared in the local press of various contributory factors that have led to the present position in which gate receipts are not sufficient to meet normal running costs, let alone build up a surplus with which to formulate new plans. And this in spite of cutting expenses to the bone. All avenues of additional income will be explored but by far the most effective way to restore the balance is for the public to give us much better support through the turnstiles—and our admission charges, be it noted, are amongst the lowest in the League. It may be argued that the crowd will not turn up unless they feel that they are getting value for money in the football they see. The truth is, of course, that they want a **winning** team. But if team building is a slow process when a club has the necessary resources, what chance of improvement is there when we are living a hand-to-mouth existence and faced with the prospect of having to sell players to keep going? The urgency of this problem has been emphasised this week by our decision to allow Ron Rowbottom to go to Oldham. The decision on whether he was to move or not was his alone, and although it cannot be denied that money was desperately needed, we would have been content had he decided to stay with Widnes. In other words, we can see no future in a policy of selling players, even when faced with a financial crisis, and it is in other measures we must find the answer to the problem. But there can only be one **lasting** solution, and that is for there to be a re-awakening of the interest which spurred the Club on in the past. Tolerance, goodwill and constructive criticism from the public for what it is, after all, an institution in the town, and if the truth were known, a body which is dear to the heart of many who now appear apathetic or uninterested.

As if to underline the possibilities, we came near to taking the points at Wigan last Saturday. We were defeated by what looked like a thrashing score, but the moral victory was ours. History repeated itself in the fact that we lost a player through injury at a vital stage in the game, as on the last occasion we played at Central Park in the Final of the Lancashire Cup. Certainly, comment after the game was far more complimentary for Widnes than for our hosts! Our lads proved in this game as in numerous others this season, that they have the spirit and the ability to upset any side, given the support which we think they deserve.

### OUR VISITORS

When we played Oldham at Watersheddings we almost created the shock of the day by beating them. But after a very good first half we went under in the second to precision Oldham attacking which no side could have resisted. On that account we don't have to remind ourselves that they are a very capable side, and in today's game, provided the weather is favourable, we expect to see some grand rugby. An added tit-bit is the possibility of Ron Rowbottom, a grand servant of Widnes, turning out for his new Club. May we take this opportunity of wishing Ron a very happy career with Oldham.



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1  
SALE

2 WILLIAMSON 3 KINSEY 4 GALLIGAN 5 RATCLIFFE

6 MYLER 7 DAVIES

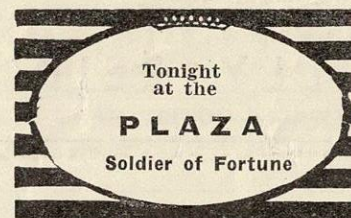
8 SMITH, T. 9 HAYES 10 BATE

11 ROYLE 12 TOBIN

13  
KEMEL

Saturday,  
21st January

kick-off  
2-30 p.m.



Referee:  
MR. A. HOWGATE  
(Dewsbury)

Touchjudges:  
Mr. V. Waddielove  
(Leigh)  
Red Flag

Mr. A. Kemp  
(Warrington)  
Blue Flag

13  
TURNER

11 LITTLE 12 ROGERS

8 ROWBOTTOM 9 KEITH 10 JACKSON

6 KELLET 7 PITCHFORD

5 ETTY 4 DAVIES 3 NOON 2 CRACKNELL

1  
STIRRUP

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**WIDNES**

## Notes cont.-

### CUP FINAL TICKETS

Supporters are advised that a limited number of seating tickets at 25/-, 12/6, 10/6 and 6/6 for the Cup Final are still available at the League Offices, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds 7. Ground enclosure tickets at 3/- can also be applied for.

All applications should be accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope and the remittance to cover the cost of the tickets.

Apply now and avoid disappointment.

### COMING ATTRACTIONS AT NAUGHTON PARK

Saturday, 28th Jan.	WIDNES "A" v. ST. HELENS "A"	K.O. 3-0 p.m.
" 4th Feb.	WIDNES v. BLACKPOOL	K.O. 3-0 p.m.
" 11th Feb.	WIDNES v. HALIFAX	K.O. 3-0 p.m.
	(First Round Rugby League Challenge Cup)	
" 18th Feb.	WIDNES v. ST. HELENS	K.O. 3-0 p.m.
	(Amateur under 18 Inter-town Competition Semi Final).	
" 25th Feb.	WIDNES "A" v. BARROW "A"	K.O. 3-0 p.m.
" 3rd March	WIDNES v. DONCASTER	K.O. 3-0 p.m.
	(Subject to Cup Tie commitments).	

### RE-ARRANGED FIXTURE

The Doncaster fixture at Widnes, which has twice previously been postponed, has been re-arranged provisionally for Saturday, 3rd March. K.O. 3-0 p.m.

### TIME OF KICK-OFF

From next Saturday, 28th January, until the end of the season, the time of kick-off reverts to 3-0 p.m.

### AMATEUR RUGBY LEAGUE

On Saturday, 18th February, the Widnes under 18 team entertain their neighbours from St. Helens in the Semi-Final of the Inter-Town Competition. The Widnes team have held the trophy since the inception of the competition two seasons ago and have maintained an unbeaten record. The St. Helens team are a formidable combination and will be all out to have the honour of being the first team to defeat Widnes. This match will be well worthy of your patronage.

### SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES

Coaches for St. Helens on Saturday, 28th January, will leave St. Paul's Road at 2-0 p.m. The fare is 2/6 and seats may be booked at the Supporters' Club Headquarters or with Mr. R. Shaw, 67 Leigh Avenue.

The next children's dance will be held on Friday, 27th January, in St. Paul's Parochial Hall.

A domino drive will be held at the Regal Restaurant on Thursday, 26th January, at 8-0 p.m. Admission 2/-.