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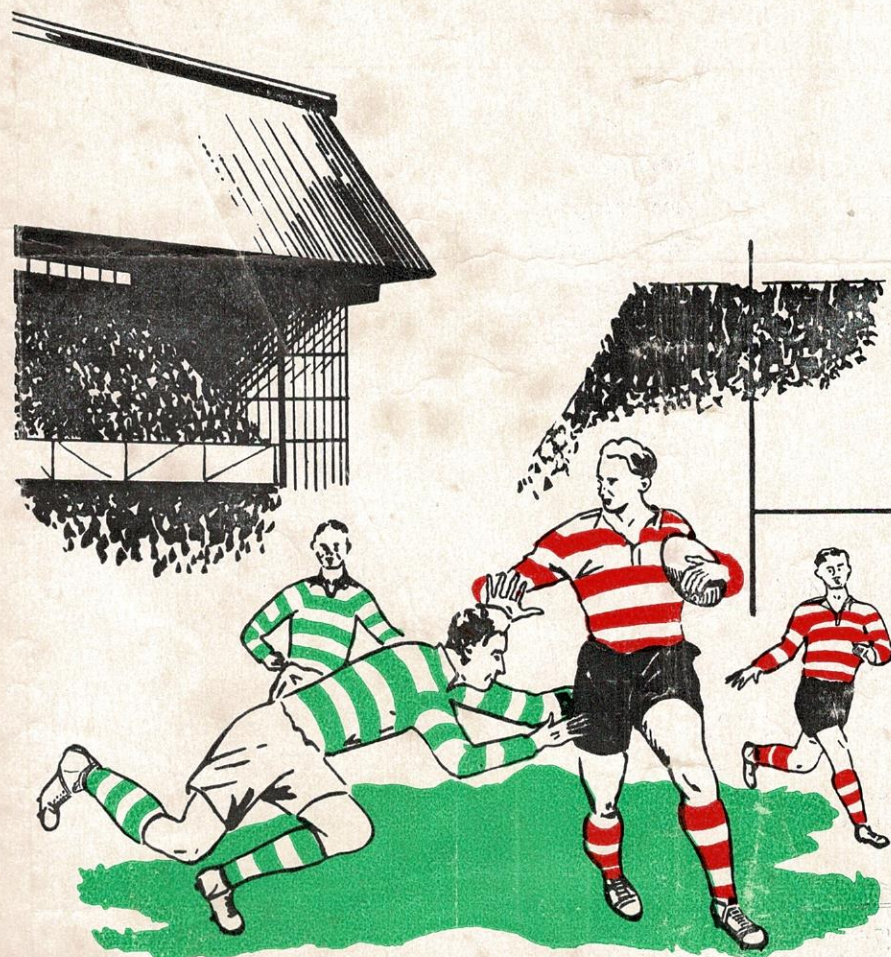
CROFTBANK MILL - - OLDHAM

## 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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IN THE OLDHAM EDITION OF THE

**MANCHESTER EVENING CHRONICLE**

No. 21—Saturday, April 14th, 1956

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

## OLDHAM v. ST. HELENS

### WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

The holiday season matches do not appear to suit our team, although the Easter matches just proved a little better than the matches at Christmas, having this Easter won one match at home and lost both matches away against losing all three matches at Christmas.

There is no doubt that recently we have had above our share of players being injured, for at the present time we have the following players on the injured list and not available for duty: Little, Keith, Doughty, Ayres, O'Grady, Rogers, Rowbottom, Sperring, Watson, and Winslade, far too many at once, but we suppose it is the luck of the game.

Although we won the match against Leeds at Watersheddings on Easter Saturday, four of our first team players have been out of action since, not that the game was played in an unsportsman like manner, just that bad luck in receiving the bad knocks that must come in all games.

### OUR VISITORS

To-day we welcome one of the most successful teams in the Rugby League—St. Helens.

This season they have been most consistent, and by their open play, deserve to be in the play-offs for the League Championship.

Although our visitors have been "overworked" recently, by playing cup-ties and arrears of League matches, we may expect a dour game, and our visitors will be keen to achieve victory to finish at the top of the League, and to earn the right of a home match for the play-offs of the Championship.

### PLAY THE BALL

This "play the ball" rule is once again under severe criticism from various clubs and legislators, and it is obvious that from general opinion that the present "play the ball" rule is responsible for many infringements and much foul play.

The Rugby League Council have agreed that clubs engaged in matches this season which do not affect the top four positions in the League table can, if they wish, mutually agree to try alternative methods of playing the ball.

The Rugby Union method, i.e., the tackled player must release the ball, after which it must first be played with the foot.

The tackled player must release the ball (or surrender it to the opposition) if his team is tackled twice in succession without the opponents touching the ball.

The tackled player must play the ball forward.

After to-days match we have only one more match to play This is against Workington at home, and I don't think our club will deviate from the rules of the game as laid down for this season.



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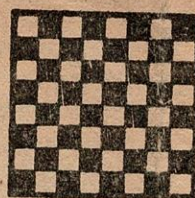
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#### OLDHAM

(Blue and White)

- 1—GANLEY, W. B.
- 2—CRACKNELL, R.
- 3—DAVIES, A.
- 4—NOON, J.
- 5—ETTY, J.
- 6—STIRRUP, F. (Capt.)
- 7—PITCHFORD, F.
- 8—JACKSON, K.
- 9—CARRUTHERS, I.
- 10—VINES, D. V.
- 11—McKEOWN, D.
- 12—TURNER, D.
- 13—DALEY, F.

#### ST. HELENS

(Red and White)

- 1—MOSES
- 2—LLEWELLYN
- 3—GREENALL
- 4—FINNAN
- 5—CARLTON
- 6—DICKINSON
- 7—RHODES
- 8—PRESCOTT
- 9—McINTYRE
- 10—SILCOCK
- 11—PARSONS
- 12—DELVES
- 13—KARALIUS

Referee: Mr. E. Clay, Rothwell

Touch Judges:

Mr. R. Tyson, Barrow (red flag). Mr. J. W. Ellis, Widnes (blue flag)

OLDHAM'S OWN SPORTS PAPER

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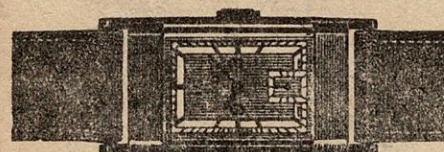
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## NEW INSTRUCTIONS

Arising out of an enquiry into foul play by a Special Committee of the Rugby League, the following are some of the recommendations made by the Council which immediately affects referees and players.

1. Referees are reminded that frequent and deliberate cases of obstruction should be considered as grave offences, and offending players should be punished accordingly.
2. Foul language by players on the field under any circumstances should be classed as misconduct.
3. The Council will take strongest possible action against any club proved in any way responsible for incidents which damage the prestige of the game.
4. Any person occupying an official position in the game is responsible to the Council for his actions and will be punished if they do anything to bring the game in disrepute.
5. Clubs are reminded that they are responsible for providing adequate protection for players and officials, i.e., Referee and Touch Judges.
6. Members of the Council and club officials who make statements to the Press attacking the integrity of other officials in the game or other Committees, shall be deemed by the Council to be guilty of misconduct and shall be dealt with by the Council.
7. Coaches shall not be permitted to run up and down the touch line in order to shout instructions to their teams when a game is in progress.
8. Clubs should encourage a more sporting attitude amongst spectators by appeals on public address systems or suitable articles in programmes.

## MAINE ROAD TICKETS

For the Championship Final at Maine Road, Manchester, on May 12th, we have 100 tickets for sale at 4/- each, which are for the covered enclosure (standing). Application for these can be made at the Secretary's office in the Pavilion.

## WORKINGTON MATCH

Arrangements have now been made to play the postponed Workington match at Watersheddings on Saturday, April 21st, kick-off 3-0 p.m. Although mid-week matches are sometimes unavoidable, we are pleased that Workington have agreed to come on a Saturday. This will give our members and supporters a better chance to attend a Saturday match than a mid-week one.

## BRIEFS

We are sending four of our up and coming players on a special coaching session from June 23rd for one week to Bisham Abbey, which is in the Thames Valley. The players are: Edwards, McKeown, Ayres, O'Brien, and no doubt they will derive great benefit from the experts that they will be under. The players we have previously sent are Davies, O'Grady, Pitchford, and they have benefitted much from this scheme.

There are four teams in the League who play in Red/Cherry and White jerseys, i.e., Batley, Leigh, Oldham, Wigan. St. Helens play in a White jersey with a broad Red band. The home team when opposing these teams must always change to an alternative colour. Next season, suggested legislation is being brought forward that both teams must change to alternative coloured jerseys when opposing one another.

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