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Fixtures for the Season

Date	Opponents	Venue	Date	Opponents	Venue
Aug. 10—Rochdale H.	Away		Dec. 7—		
(Charity Match)			14—Liverpool	Away	
17—Halifax	Home	3-0	21—Whitehaven	Home	2-30
22—Barrow (Thurs.)	Away		25—Swinton (Wed.)	Home	2-30
24—Wakefield	Away		26—Hull (Thurs.)	Away	
26—St. Helens (M.)	Home	7-0	28—Warrington	Away	
31—Barrow (L.C.)	Home	3-0	Jan. 4—Leeds	Home	2-30
Sept. 2—Huddersfield (Mon.)	Away		11—Barrow	Home	2-30
7—Halifax	Away		18—Widnes	Away	
14—Warrington	Home	3-0	25—Workington	Home	3-0
21—Leigh	Home	3-0	Feb. 1—Wigan	Away	
28—Workington	Away		8—R.L. Cup		
Oct. 5—Hunslet	Home	3-0	15—St. Helens	Away	
12—Rochdale	Away		22—R.L. Cup		
19—Hull	Home	3-0	Mar. 1—Blackpool	Home	3-0
26—Blackpool	Away		8—Widnes	Home	3-0
Nov. 2—Wakefield	Home	3-0	15—Whitehaven	Away	
9—Salford	Away		22—Rochdale	Home	3-0
16—Liverpool	Home	2-30	29—R.L. Cup semi-final		
23—Leigh	Away		Apl. 4—Swinton (G.F.)	Away	
30—Salford	Home	2-30	5—Wigan	Home	3-0
			7—Huddersfield (E.M.)	Home	7-0
			12—Hunslet	Away	
			19—Leeds	Away	

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No. 6—Saturday, 21st September, 1957

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM v. LEIGH

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS & VIEWS

Once again our victory over Warrington, being the second in one week, was a very narrow affair, and we must consider ourselves somewhat fortunate in coming out on the right side of the game. Let us face facts, and state that our team are not functioning as last season, and no one realises more than the players themselves that the smooth passing machinery is not being shown, passing that thrilled the crowds last season. What is the reason for this? Are we having too much football? The season commenced on Saturday, 17th August, and in the period ending last Saturday, we have played seven league matches and two cup-ties. Also, in the same period, we have had players appearing in County matches. A rather strenuous opening to the season. However, we are hoping that the team will settle down to the style of football we know they are capable of.

Our matches against Warrington have been of an enjoyable nature and we were up against capable opponents — a big, good side — and much will be heard of the Warrington make-up. Going back to the match of Saturday last, some of our players made bad handling mistakes when well placed, and some of our forwards have developed the habit of trying to go through a stone wall instead of parting with the ball. However, matters will surely right themselves and we expect to see a great improvement in the match today. There is one bright feature insomuch that Alan Davies has stated that he feels confident enough for a game. We have missed this player very much and we are hoping that whichever of our teams he appears in he will stand up to the rigours of the game after his serious injury received in Australia.

Our Visitors

Today we entertain attractive visitors from Leigh, who so far this season have been badly hit with injuries and illnesses of players. Their difficulties in this respect have been great and on Saturday last they had to cancel their "A" team fixture, so desperate has been the position, and the team that represented them at Bradford on Saturday last, received a very heavy defeat, but they fulfilled the fixture, much to the credit of the Leigh club Directors.

THE AMATEUR GAME AND THE PROFESSIONALS

by WATCHER "Warrington Guardian Series"

Look through some old copies of the official Rugby League Guide and pay special attention to the section dealing with the amateur movement. The information will astound you. There are scores and scores of teams you have never heard about and probably will never see again. Then, if you can, get a copy of the Guide for a year or two before the war and make a mental note of the clubs that have dropped out.

You will also find quite a lot of junior clubs have folded up since 1937. Has there ever been an inquiry about the death of these clubs? If there has, it has probably been confined to a few words of regret. What a shocking state of affairs. Just for the sake of a few pounds, scores of young players could still be playing in the amateur ranks or even in first class football. I am, of course, dealing with juniors who have played since the war and whose former clubs have become extinct.

Combination Loss

Let me depart from the junior movement for a few moments to show how strange it seemed to lots of keen R.L. folk that teams in the Lancashire Combination ("A" teams to you) that clubs like Cadishead and Irlam, Ince All Blacks, Thatto Heath, Pemberton Rovers and Twelve Apostles were allowed to put up the shutters with apparently no fight to keep them from going out.

If those five clubs were operating today, the Lancashire R.L. Committee would have no cause to complain about lack of fixtures for the "A" teams. Here I should explain that stronger teams like Oldham, Wigan, St. Helens and Leigh would like to play against the pick of the reserve teams from Yorkshire. Unfortunately, the efforts by Lancashire officials to revive what was once known as the Rugby League Combination, covering the reserve teams of both counties, have not been successful. There is a lack of interest from Yorkshire.

League's Help in Rentals

Now back to the amateurs. The bug-bear for years has been the shortage of suitable grounds, but in certain areas this difficulty has been overcome. And what is more pleasing, is the fact that the League assists clubs to pay rentals for the pitches.

What has been worrying the amateur movements for a long while is the lack of having the right type of person to help on the administration side. We have heard it said time and again that if old players could be found to take a number of youngsters in hand, or if two or three adults offered to "run" a group of teenagers, junior leagues would be much stronger.

Some senior clubs are finding it beneficial to pay club secretaries a nominal sum at the end of the season as compensation for such things as bus fares, phone calls, postage stamps, etc. But there is one stipulation — the team and the secretary must complete the season. This is a good idea and one which should be adopted by every senior club.

Now that there is more money available, perhaps the senior clubs could advertise the fact that adults — particularly old players — would be paid if they "ran" a junior team. The payment would not interfere with the amateur status of that official.

Could I also appeal to clubs to give more consideration to applications for curtain raisers? Most of the important clubs now have practice pitches which enables the usual playing area to make a recovery after the weekly game. Except for really bad weather should "curtain raisers" be postponed. The spectators are often bored with waiting for the kick off and the "records" are too often off the beat. Schoolboy or amateur games before the senior matches are appreciated by lots of people who would turn up much earlier at the ground, thus relieving the congestion at the turnstiles. There's more to it than that — the call is "SAVE THE JUNIORS".

List of Appearances and Performances—First Team only

(Up to, and including, Saturday last)

Player	A.	G.	T.	Player	A.	G.	T.
Ganley	9	51	1	Little	8		5
Cracknell	9		6	Dufty	2		
Ayres	3			Turner	8		4
Nestor	8		3	Stirrup	2		
Etty	9		4	Jarman	6		1
Moat	5		1	Daley	3		
Pitchford	9		2	Noon	7		4
Jackson	8		1	Rowbottom	1		
Keith	7			Carruthers	2		
Vines	6			Winslade	5		

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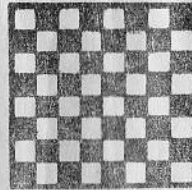
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OLDHAM

Blue and White

- 1—GANLEY, W. B. (Capt.)
- 2—CRACKNELL, R.
- 3—NESTOR, V.
- 4—NOON, J.
- 5—ETTY, J. W.
- 6—MOAT, R.
- 7—PITCHFORD, F.
- 8—JACKSON, K.
- 9—KEITH, J.
- 10—JARMAN, A.
- 11—WINSLADE, C.
- 12—LITTLE, S. D.
- 13—TURNER, D.

LEIGH

Red and White

- 1—HEWITT
- 2—HUTSON, E.
- 3—GULLICK
- 4—HOLDEN, E.
- 5—KINDON
- 6—BRIGHT
- 7—FALLON
- 8—ROBINSON
- 9—CLARKE
- 10—CROOK
- 11—HURT
- 12—McFARLANE
- 13—FOSTER

ALL
THE
RESULTS

Referee: Mr. GOTT of Wakefield

Touchlines:

Mr. W. Twentyman, Maryport (Red) Mr. W. J. Walton, Barrow (Blue)

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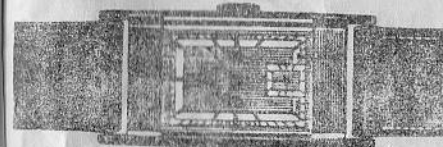
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PEN PICTURE NO. 3

DEREK TURNER—Loose Forward

Height 5ft. 10½ins. Weight 13st. 4lbs.

Derek Turner was born at Alverthorpe, near Wakefield and he is 24 years of age. He commenced his Rugby League career after leaving school, playing with Ossett Juniors. He teamed up with Hull Kingston Rovers in September, 1951 as a mere youngster.

He was secured from Hull Kingston Rovers in August, 1955 at a fee of £2,500. Whilst with Hull Kingston Rovers, Derek had been attracting the attention of several clubs — Halifax, Wigan, Leeds — to mention just a few, and the Oldham club saw him play twice and fixed him up while the others were still in doubt as to his playing ability.

Derek has played for his native Yorkshire three times and was a recent World Cup Tourist. While playing in the World Cup Series, he enjoyed every game that he played in.

He is a tough player who takes hard knocks with a grin. Because of this hardness Derek is named "Rocky" by his team mates. He is married and works in the building trade.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY LEAGUE RESULTS

(Up to, and including, Saturday last)

	Barrow	Blackpool	Leeds	Leigh	Liverpool	OLDHAM	Rochdale	Salford	St. Helens	Swinton	Warrington	Whitehaven	Widnes	Wigan	Workington
Barrow	---					10-27									
Blackpool		---		9-15			12-17					13-18			
Leeds	52-12	68-6	---						23-5						
Leigh				---											
Liverpool					---						5-18				
OLDHAM						---			7-21		17-15				
Rochdale							---					15-8			
Salford							15-4	---						5-16	
St. Helens									---						
Swinton										---				3-28	
Warrington					36-6						---				
Whitehaven								6-13				---			
Widnes									13-22	15-12			---		
Wigan			30-17											---	35-11
Workington	15-0						33-6								---

Home Team on left. Away Team on top. Home Team's score given first.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY LEAGUE TABLE

(Up to, and including, Saturday last)

Team	Home				Away				F.	A.	Pts.
	P.	W.	D.	L.	W.	D.	L.				
Leeds	4	3	0	0	0	0	1	160	43	6	
Wigan	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	83	33	6	
Warrington	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	69	28	4	
St. Helens	3	—	—	—	2	0	1	48	46	4	
Rochdale	4	1	0	0	1	0	2	42	68	4	
Workington	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	59	41	4	
Oldham	3	1	0	1	1	0	0	51	46	4	
Widnes	3	1	0	1	1	0	0	44	39	4	
Whitehaven	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	42	41	4	
Salford	3	1	0	1	0	0	1	32	36	2	
Leigh	1	—	—	—	1	0	0	15	9	2	
Swinton	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	17	43	0	
Liverpool	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	11	54	0	
Barrow	3	0	0	1	0	0	2	22	94	0	
Blackpool	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	40	116	0	

Ground Matters

No doubt our members and patrons will appreciate the new concrete terracing in the paddock and the open end of the ground, and the added comfort in standing on level ground — if standing can be a comfort. Now the Committee turn to a little necessary luxury for the players. Our dressing accommodation for our own players and visitors is still going on in the same old way as it did fifty years or more ago. So whilst the going is good, we are now going to erect toilets and wash basins for the players of both teams at the side of the present dressing rooms. It is felt that this is a much-wanted necessity for the dressing rooms to be self-contained.

As previously stated in past issues of the programme, the covering of the open end of the ground must take place, and it will be in operation for the opening of next season. We must give covered accommodation for the man-in-the-street, as they say. Other improvements are provision of modern new turnstile boxes of brick construction. The maintenance of the present turnstile boxes is great, and some look in a very distressed condition. The old type of entrance appears very antiquated, dark and short of space.

Lancashire Cup Semi-final

The date for the semi-final of the Lancashire Cup against St. Helens, at St. Helens, has now been fixed for Wednesday, 2nd October, and the kick-off will be at 5-30 p.m. Maybe this time will have to be made a little earlier though.

We are allowed 300 seat tickets, and the prices are 4/- 5/- and 6/- each. A very limited number being at 5/- and 6/-. Seatholder members are being given preference to purchase these — by postal application only — enclosing coupon "C" from back of the members' card, remittance and stamped, addressed envelope to Pavilion, Watersheddings.

Referee Appointments

September 28th	Workington v Oldham — Mr. C. F. Appleton
October 5th	Oldham v Hunslet — Mr. H. Harrison
October 12th	Rochdale v Oldham — Mr. T. W. Watkinson
October 19th	Oldham v Hull — Mr. E. Clay
October 26th	Blackpool v Oldham — Mr. F. Smith

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