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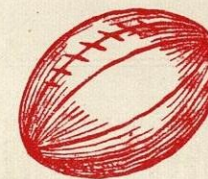
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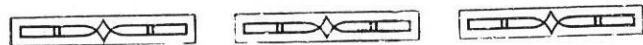
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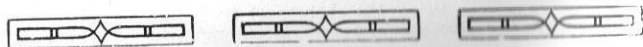


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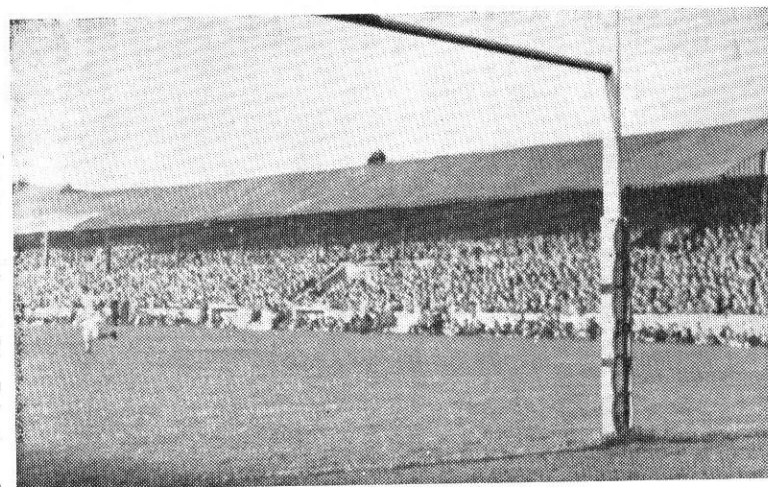
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Foreword.....

FROM THE CLUB PRESIDENT

I welcome the idea of a Souvenir Programme and also the opportunity to write this article. The achievements of our team this season have merited publicity and no praise can be too high.

Having won the Lancashire Challenge Cup and the Lancashire League Championship Cup our team now enters upon its further endeavour to bring the Rugby League Championship Cup to Oldham for the first time for forty-five years. I am sure that all of us feel confident that, given an even break, our boys, playing the type of fast, open football for which they are noted, will prove successful at Odsal, and provide a magnificent finale to a most glorious season.

The Supporters' Club are therefore to be commended for their thoughtfulness and diligence, in ensuring that those who follow the fortunes of our team, shall have the opportunity of purchasing a reminder of the many pleasant and thrilling hours of football our team have given to us this season.

I feel quite sure that many of the thousands who have constantly supported our team will embrace this opportunity to possess this Souvenir Programme, and by so doing pay tribute to our team, and assist the Supporters' Club in raising money which will ultimately be used to the benefit of Oldham Football Club.

The work of the Supporters' Club is very essential to every club and I would urge all our members and supporters to join, so that our club shall rank amongst the best in the League.

Recently I have been going around with the Officials of the Supporters' Club forming sub-branches in various parts of the town and out-districts. Everywhere I have been, I have found a great deal of interest and enthusiasm in the affairs of Oldham Football Club and our visits have been welcomed. Since early March six sub-branches have been formed and all are active. If you live in any of these districts you will find a welcome awaits you at the meetings of the sub-branch.

The Supporters' Club is now getting over a thousand strong, but I am sure there are many more supporters waiting to become members. With an average of thirteen thousand per match at our home games, we should, could, and must have a membership of five thousand in our Supporters' Club, and the development of these sub-branches has this aim in view. This work is still continuing, and will go on until we have covered every area from which we draw our support.

In conclusion I would like to thank all who have turned up match after match giving voiceful support to our team, and financial support to our club. May the numbers increase, both at home and away games, for I know how much our team appreciate the roar of encouragement that greets them when they turn out, and cheers them on to further efforts during the game.

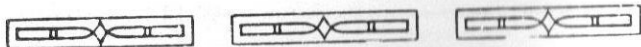
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Membership of the Supporters' Club is open to all followers of the Oldham Football Club. Details are available from the Secretary or any member of the Committee. Annual subscription 1s.

FROM THE SUPPORTERS' CLUB PRESIDENT

It gives me great pleasure to contribute a short note on behalf of the Committee, Vice-Presidents and the members of Oldham Football Club Supporters' Club to this Souvenir Brochure, which is being published to commemorate the occasion of our team reaching the final of the Rugby League Championship for 1957.

It was in the season 1954-55 that our Club last appeared in the final, which we lost to Warrington at Maine Road, and it is now the great wish of all the followers of the Rugby League Code in Oldham and District that we will be worthy winners at Odsal against Hull.

I should like to thank the many people who, by their help, have made the publication of this Souvenir possible, especially including the advertisers.
J. READ.

FROM THE SUPPORTERS' CLUB SECRETARY

On behalf of all sub-branches and members of our Supporters' Club we wish our team every success at Odsal on Saturday, May 18th, 1957, against such worthy opponents as Hull, the present Rugby League Champions. The clash of these two teams; the leading Lancashire team and leading Yorkshire team of this season, can surely be a tremendous Battle of the Roses. We naturally hope the Rugby League Championship Cup can find a resting place at Watersheddings alongside the Lancashire Cup and Lancashire League Cup.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all playing staff for the fine football they have given us this season, and to hope that their success is maintained next season.
C. LINGARD.

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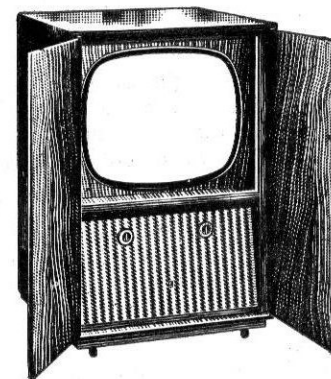
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OLDHAM *Pen Pictures*

- Bert Ganley** (full back). Age 25. 5ft. 9½ ins. 12 st. Son of a former Leigh, Leeds and Huddersfield half-back, and came from Leigh junior football. An expert goal-kicker who has beaten his own club record this season. But for a spell on the injured list earlier on he would almost certainly have topped Jim Sullivan's League record of goals. Acting as team captain at present.
- Dick Cracknell** (right wing). Age 27. 5ft. 10 ins. 12 st. Yet another son of a famous father. Came from Huddersfield in 1953 and has won all the Cup and League Medals available with Huddersfield and Oldham, in addition to gaining Test honours.
- Dennis Ayres** (right centre). Age 22. 12st. 7 ins. 5 ft. 10. A local player signed from Rugby Union. Started as a stand-off but has moved to centre with great success. Can score, as well as make, tries.
- Alan Davies** (left centre). Age 23. 5ft. 10½ ins. 13 st. 7 lbs. Product of Leigh junior football and son of a former Leigh player. Has captained the side this season and is a player of class. Played for Great Britain, England and Lancashire, and is in the World Cup team.
- Vincent Nestor** (centre). Age 19. 5ft. 10. 11 st. 10. Joined the club this season from Tyldesley R.U. Club. A promising player who has now found a more or less regular place on the team sheet.
- John Etty** (left wing). Age 29. 6ft. 13 st. Signed from Batley last season and has been an outstanding success on the wing, although he had plenty of experience at centre while with Batley. Has played for Yorkshire.
- Frank Daley** (stand-off). Age 32. 5ft. 8. 12st. A crafty player and a sound footballer. Has played in the pack but is more at home in the backs. Joined Oldham from Leigh in 1949.
- Frank Pitchford** (scrum-half). Age 22. 5ft. 5. 11 st. One of the best scrum-halves in the game today and has already been in the honours list. Another Leigh product, and showed promise in schools and junior R.L. before signing for Oldham in 1952.
- Frank Stirrup** (utility back). Team captain, who has been kept out of the side lately by Daley. Can play in most of the back positions, and also at full-back. Previously played with Leigh and Salford.
- Ken Jackson** (prop.). Age 26. 6ft. 14 st. Played for the Oldham junior league team, St. Mary's, before going to the Watersheddings. Has developed into a fine forward and has won County honours. Is an emergency reserve for the World Cup team.
- Jack Keith** (hooker). Age 31. 5ft. 11. 12 st. 10. A Yorkshireman, born in Leeds, and played schools football at Hunslet. Gained County and international honours as a schoolboy.

Oldham Pen Pictures — continued

- Don Vines** (prop). Age 24. 5ft. 10. 14 st. 6. Signed from Newbridge (Wales) last season and has settled down well in the Oldham pack. A great worker in the loose.
- Sid Little** (second row). Age 24. 6ft. 14 st. There's nothing little about Sid except his name. Born at Carlisle, he played for Cumberland and the Harlequins at R.U. before joining Oldham. Has won Test honours and is in the World Cup team.
- Charlie Winslade** (second row). Age 25. 6ft. 1½ ins. 15 st. 4. Born in Maesteg (Glamorgan) and won a Welsh Schoolboy R.U. Cap. Signed for Oldham in 1950 and has gained international honours in the League code.
- Derek Turner** (loose-forward). Age 25. 5ft. 11. 13 st. 10. Left Hull K.R. for Watersheddings last season and it has proved a good move, both for Oldham and Derek. Won his Test place for Great Britain and is in the World Cup team.
- Allan Jarman** (forward). Age 24. 5ft. 11. 13 st. 10. Reserve forward who hails from Rochdale and is a product of Oldham Junior football. Been at Oldham three seasons.
- Griff Jenkins** (manager-coach). A former Swinton player who's work over the past two or three years has had much to do with the Oldham team's success.

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THE £200 CHEQUE

The Supporters' Club President, Mr. J. Reed, presents a cheque for £200 from the Supporters' Club to the parent club at the commencement of the 1956-7 season. Receiving it is the Club President, Mr. W. Howard (left) with the Supporters Club Secretary, Mr. C. Lingard (centre) watching.

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CLUB NOTES

Oldham's total of 893 points scored in League games is the highest in the club's history.

Bert Ganley has set up a new goal record this season, beating his previous best of 147 during 1952-53.

The Oldham try record for a single season stands to the credit of Reg Farrar who scored 49 during 1921-22.

Full-back Tommy Rees kicked nearly 700 goals for the Oldham Club in the 1920's and 30's.

The highest officially recorded attendance for any match at Water-sheddings was the 21,900 who watched the match with Halifax on 13th October last year, though it is recorded that 28,000 crammed into the ground for the match with Huddersfield in February 1912.

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CUP
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this season



LANCASHIRE
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CUP
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OLDHAM RUGBY LEAGUE TEAM 1956-7

Photo by A. E. Petrie, 62 Little Bank St., Oldham

Back:—	Vines	Jackson	*Turner	*Winlade	*Little	Jarman	*Davies
Centre:—	*Cracknell	Ayres	Nestor	Stirrup	Etty	Keith	Ganley
Front:—			*Pitchford	Daley			

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OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB—A BRIEF HISTORY

by "D'ARTAGNAN"

A meeting of Rugby enthusiasts at the Prince Albert Hotel, Union Street, Oldham, in September 1876, led to the formation of what was later to become the Oldham R.L. Football Club. There are, however, reports that this meeting took place a few years earlier. The pioneers started a Rugby Union team and played their first match on a ground at the rear of the Glodwick Spinning Company Mill in October. Stalybridge were the opponents, and the players changed at the Shakespeare Hotel, Glodwick.

Stalybridge won that opening game and the first season proved to be quite a moderate one so far as results were concerned. The club was well established, however, and there were so many players that it was possible to run a second team. Oldham can lay claim to being the first Lancashire team to play in Yorkshire, for they played at Wakefield in October, 1877.

Some interesting stories recorded about those early days, when "touch downs" and "dead balls" were counted in the scoring. In one game the Oldham team left the ground after a dispute over a decision. In November, 1878, a game was played under artificial lights at Oldham, but it was stated to be not completely successful. The Oldham ground was flooded before a game against Cheetham in 1884, and it was agreed that the result should count as a draw, whatever the score. The match had to be abandoned at half-time. Games against Southport Olympic were a mixture of rugby and soccer.

Before moving to the present ground at Watersheddings Oldham shared the ground of the Oldham Cricket Club at Clarksfield. The first game at Watersheddings was on September 28th, 1889, when Swinton defeated Oldham by 2 goals, 1 try and 2 minors to 1 minor. There were 7,000 spectators, and the Oldham players wore new red and white perseys.

The Club had a more successful period after moving to their new ground, and when the "split" of 1895 took place, Oldham were among the clubs who broke away and formed the Northern Union. In the first season of the new organisation Oldham tied with Runcorn at the top of the Lancashire Senior Competition. The playoff, at Broughton, was won by Runcorn, but honours were not to be long denied. In the third season (1897-98) Oldham won the Lancashire Championship and were defeated in the N.U. Cup Competition by the narrow margin of 3-0 by Batley, the ultimate Cup winners.

Then, in the following season, Oldham became the first Lancashire team to win the N.U. Challenge Cup when they defeated Hunslet by 19 points to 9 at Fallowfield, Manchester. This was the third time the Cup had been played for, and Batley had won it on both previous occasions. The successful Oldham team was: R. L. Thomas; S. Williams, S. Lees, T. Fletcher, T. Davies; A. Lees (capt.), J. R. Lawton; E. Bonsor, J. Moffat, E. Telfer, H. Broome, H. Ellis, W. Barnes, G. Frater, J. Lees. There were, of course, still fifteen players on each side in those days. The Oldham tries were scored by J. Lees 2, Williams 2 and Moffat, while A. Lees and Thomas each kicked a goal. The attendance was nearly 16,000 with receipts of close upon £1,000.

In the 1900-01 season Joe Ferguson played the first of his many games for the team, and Oldham won Lancashire Senior Competition



(Photo—"Oldham Chronicle")

PRESENTATION FROM THE SUPPORTERS' CLUB
to the Oldham players A. Davies, S. D. Little & D. Turner who are selected to represent Great Britain in the World Cup series of 1957. Travel Cases were presented on the Ground at the Easter Monday match by the Club President Mr. W. Howard.

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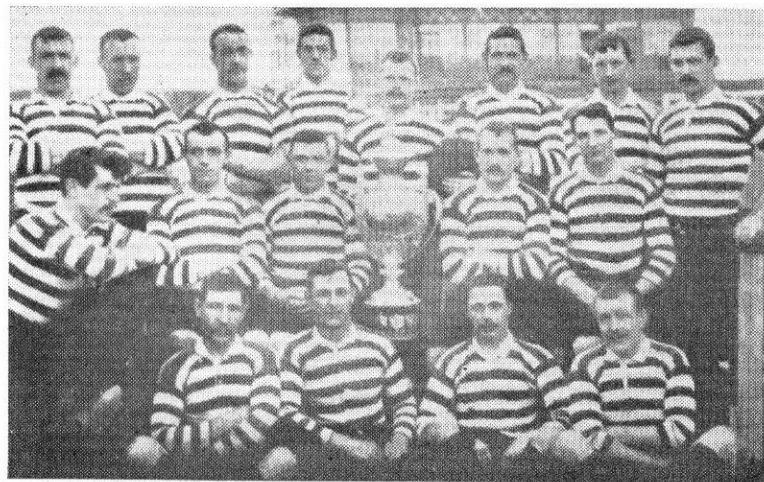
A Brief History — continued

honours. There was such a crowd on the ground for the Swinton game that play was interfered with and a replay was ordered.

Oldham were building a strong team at this period and in the next few years they contested several League Finals. They were at the top of the First Division in the Two Divisions season of 1904-05, and then when the present play-off system was constituted they took part in the League Final in five consecutive years. The first three occasions all ended in defeat, but Oldham did not despair, and they had their reward when the Championship was theirs in the successive seasons of 1909-10 and 1910-11.

Baskeville's New Zealand "pioneers" visited Watersheddings in November 1907, when Oldham won by 8 points to 7. George W. Smith, vice-captain and a leading member of the touring team, joined Oldham when the tour ended. He remained with Oldham until a broken leg (sustained in a game against Rochdale Hornets) ended his career eight years later. He subsequently became trainer to the Oldham team.

Following their League successes Oldham had another tilt at the N.U. Challenge Cup, and when they reached the Final of the 1911-12 Competition they were regarded as strong favourites, such was their power at this period. Arrangements were made for a triumphant home-coming, and an expensively decorated and illuminated tram-car awaited the team's return with the Cup. Unfortunately, Dewsbury (who provided the opposition) had different ideas. They were holding Oldham to 5-3 when the Lancastrians had Avery sent off, and in the ensuing play Rhodes of Dewsbury scored this second try and Neary kicked a goal to give Dewsbury an 8-5 victory. Oldham's team was:— Alf Wood; Cook, Deane, Davies, Williams; Anlezark (capt.), J. Lomas; Ferguson, Avery, Smith, Wright, Wise and Wiltshire. The Oldham try was scored by Cook, and Ferguson kicked the goal.



THE FIRST TIME OLDHAM WON THE CUP

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G. Frater, T. Fletcher, T. Sellers, R. L. Thomas, S. Lees, T. D. Davies,
T. Martin, S. Williams, J. R. Lawton, W. Barnes.

Oldham Players' Test Appearances v. Australia

- BERT AVERY (forward)—Sydney 1910, Newcastle 1911, Birmingham 1912.
 A. BROUGH (forward)—Sydney (2) 1924.
 ALAN DAVIES (centre threequarter)—Wigan 1956, Bradford 1956, Swinton 1956.
 W. HALL (centre threequarter)—Sydney (1) 1914, Sydney (2) 1914, Sydney (R.D.) 1914.
 H. HILTON (forward)—Brisbane 1920, Sydney (1) 1920, Sydney (2) 1920, Salford 1921.
 D. HOLLAND (forward)—Sydney (1) 1914, Sydney (2) 1914, Sydney (R.D.) 1914.
 SID LITTLE (forward)—Swinton 1956.
 W. LONGWORTH (forward)—London 1908, Newcastle 1909, Birmingham 1909.
 J. OSTER (stand-off half)—Swinton 1937.
 T. E. REES (Guardsman) (full-back)—Hull 1929.
 S. RIX (wing threequarter)—Sydney (1) 1924, Sydney (2) 1924, Brisbane 1924.
 R. SLOMAN (forward)—Brisbane 1928, Sydney (1) 1928, Sydney (2) 1928.
 A. SMITH (forward)—London 1908, Newcastle 1909, Birmingham 1909.
 DEREK TURNER (forward)—Bradford 1956, Swinton 1956.
 G. TYSON (wing threequarter)—London 1908, Newcastle 1909, Birmingham 1909.
 ALF WOOD (full-back)—Edinburgh 1911, Birmingham 1912, Sydney (R.D.) 1914.
 T. O'GRADY (wingman)—Sydney (1), Auckland (2), Greymouth (1).
 N.B.—(R.D.) indicates the famous "Rorke's Drift" Test Match when Great Britain won with ten men.

Oldham Players' Representative Honours, 1956-57

- R. CRACKNELL—Yorkshire v. Lancashire.
 A. DAVIES—All three Tests v. Australia. R.L. v. Rest. Lancashire v. Cumberland and Yorkshire. Selected for World Cup Team.
 K. JACKSON—Rest v. R.L. R.L. v. Australians. Reserve for World Cup Team.
 J. KEITH—R.L. v. Australians.
 S. LITTLE—Third Test v. Australia. All three Tests v. France. R.L. v. Rest. Cumberland v. Lancashire. Selected for World Cup Team.
 T. O'GRADY—Lancashire v. Cumberland and Yorkshire.
 F. PITCHFORD—R.L. v. Rest. R.L. v. Australians. Lancashire v. Cumberland and Yorkshire.
 D. TURNER—Second and Third Tests v. Australia. All three Tests v. France. R.L. v. Australians. Selected for World Cup Team.

A Brief History — continued

The Great War interfered seriously with football at Oldham, as elsewhere, but one outstanding game was the first N.U. Cup Final to be played at Watersheddings. This was between Huddersfield and St. Helens in 1915, and in winning by 37 points to 3 Wagstaff's team ran up a score that has never been beaten in the R.L. Cup Finals. The attendance was given as 8,000 with receipts of £472.

But Oldham were not content with staging the Cup Final. They wanted to be playing in it, and play in they did! In 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1927, Oldham set up the remarkable record of playing in four successive Challenge Cup Finals. Furthermore, five of the players (Ernie Knapman, Syd Rix, George Hesketh, Albert Brough and Bob Sloman) played in all four Finals.

In 1924 Wigan had a substantial 21-4 victory at Rochdale, but Oldham had their turn the following year when they defeated Hull K.R. by 16 points to 3 at Headingley. Swinton triumphed at Rochdale by 9-3 in 1926 but when the same teams met at Central Park a year later Oldham gained their revenge with a handsome 26-7 victory.

That 1924 Final at Rochdale was a sensational one, for more than 40,000 spectators crammed into the ground and crowded onto the touch lines. Police on horse-back kept them from the pitch. Johnny Ring, the Wigan wingman, said that he nearly ran into a horse in scoring the last try, and that he knocked a spectator over as he was touching down.

Great days at Oldham, those. Several players have already been mentioned, and to them can be added Reg Farrar, Evan Davies, Herman Hilton, Joe Corsi, Jack Read and Fred Ashworth, among others. Nor was it only on the field of play that Oldham were well served, for in Messrs. Joseph Platt and G. F. Hutchins the club, and the Rugby League game, had two great administrators. Mr. Platt was secretary of the Northern Union for the first 25 years of its life, resigning in June, 1920. Mr. Hutchins held many offices in the game and had twice been to Australia as joint manager of England Tour teams. A Stand at Watersheddings has been named after him as a tribute to the great work he did.



CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS 1927

Back Row—C. Marsden (trainer), A. Brough, S. Rix, H. J. Comm, E. Foote
 Centre—A. J. Higgs, R. Marlor, J. M. Scaife, J. Read, A. Baker,
 F. W. Ashworth, T. E. Holiday
 Seated—T. Jeremiah, R. Jones, R. Sloman (capt.), G. Hesketh, A. Johnson

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A Brief History — continued

Following the successful run during the middle 1920's came a rather leaner period. Apart from a Lancashire Challenge Cup win in 1933 there was little of note in the years leading up to the last war, or in those after it. Oldham had some great players even then, however. Alec Givvons, Edgar Brookes, Tom Rees, Tom Holliday, Billy Mitchell, Harry Ogden, Bryn Goldswain, Joe Mahoney and Norman Harris maintained a high standard, even if Oldham were not appearing as regularly among the honours.

But the Oldham officials were not content with just an ordinary good team. They wanted a tip-top side and they set out to build one. How successful they have been is shown by the events of the last two or three seasons. It was a great disappointment to many Oldham people when Terry O'Grady was allowed to go to Wigan but it speaks volumes for the results of Oldham's team-building that they could afford to part with a player of O'Grady's capabilities. In Wales, in Yorkshire, and more locally in Oldham and Leigh, recruiting has gone on, and in almost every case the judgement has been proved sound. Nor must the part played by Grif Jenkins be overlooked. As coach he has done a great deal towards achieving the present standard of excellence.

Oldham have played some beautiful football this season—football which has given pleasure to opposing supporters as well as their own. They have scored more points in League matches than any previous Oldham team has done. They have won the Lancashire League Championship and the Lancashire Challenge Cup.

There was a cup defeat at Leigh which caused great dismay at the time but the team completed the season at the head of the Rugby League table. Can they round the season off by winning the Championship Trophy? Many Rugby League supporters, and not only those belonging to Oldham, will feel that it is only poetic justice if, as League leaders on the season's results, they do.



(Photo—'Oldham Chronicle')

CHAMPIONSHIP FINALISTS 1955

Back Row—G. Jenkins (Manager-Coach), B. Goldswain, H. Ogden, K. Jackson,
S. Little, C. Winslade, J. Keith, J. Eddy
Centre—R. Barrow, F. Stirrup, A. Davies (capt.), R. Cracknell, T. O'Grady
Front Row—F. Daley, K. Tucker (mascot), F. Pitchford

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Previous Oldham Teams in the Championship Final

The Oldham team of 1957 has joined many of its illustrious predecessors in reaching the Rugby League Championship Final Play-off. The following games of Oldham final teams of the past should arouse many memories for Watersheddings followers.

In 1904-05 Oldham won the championship by virtue of topping the Northern Rugby Football League, before the top four play-off was started. No team record is available, but the scorers in that season were: Tries—Cash 13, McLean 8, Spottiswoode 7, Civil 6, Dixon 6, A. Lees 6, Lewis 4, Owens 4, Carpenter 3, Jardine 2, Topham 2, Vowles 2, Ellis 1, Ferguson 1, Frater 1, Kelly 1, Lawton 1, Dai Thomas 1, Tyson 1, White 1, Wilkinson 1, Williams 1, Wilson 1. Goals—Ferguson 43, White 5, R. L. Thomas 2, Dixon 1, Frater 1, Tyson 1.

1907—Oldham 3, Halifax 18, at Huddersfield.

Oldham—R. L. Thomas; Tyson, W. Dixon, Avery, White; Lees, Yewlett; Ferguson, Smith, Vowles, Topham, Wilkinson, Longworth.
Try: Ferguson.

1908—Oldham 7, Hunslet 7, at

Oldham—R. L. Thomas; Tyson, W. Dixon, Llewellyn, G. W. Smith; White, Beynon; Ferguson, Avery, A. Smith, Wright, Longworth, Wilkinson
Goals: White 2. Try: Wright.

1908—Oldham 2, Hunslet 12. Replay at Wakefield.

Oldham—R. L. Thomas; Tyson, W. Dixon, Llewellyn, Oldershaw; White, Beynon; Ferguson, Avery, A. Smith, Wright, Longworth, Wilkinson
Goal: White.

1909—Oldham 3, Wigan 7, at Salford

Oldham—Wood; Tyson, Deane, Llewellyn, G. W. Smith; W. Dixon, Anlezark; Avery, Ferguson, A. Smith, Owens, Topham, Jardine.
Try: Jardine.

1910—Oldham 13, Wigan 7, at Broughton

Oldham—Wood; McLean, Deane, Billy Dixon, G. W. Smith; Anlezark, White; Ferguson, Avery, McCabe, A. Smith, Owens, Wright.
Goals: Ferguson 2. Tries: Dixon, G. Smith, McCabe.

1911—Oldham 20, Wigan 7, at Broughton

Oldham—Birdie Dixon; G. W. Smith, Deane, Lomas, W. (Billy) Dixon; Anlezark, White; Ferguson, A. Smith, Avery, Wright, McCabe, Owens.

Goals: Lomas 4. Tries: White 2, Lomas 2.

1922—Oldham 2, Wigan 13, at Broughton

Oldham—Knapman; Finnerty, Hall, Davies, Farrar; Tighe, Bates; Brown, Tomkins, Marlor, Sloman, Collins, Hilton.

1954—Oldham 3, Warrington 7, at Maine Road, Manchester

Oldham—Stirrup; Barrow, Cracknell, Davies, O'Grady; Daley, Pitchford; Ogden, Keith, Jackson, Winslade, Little, Goldswain.
Try: Pitchford. Attendance 49,434. Receipts £11,516.

HULL Pen Pictures

- Colin Hutton** (full-back). Joined Hull from Widnes in March 1951 as a centre, but has settled down at full-back and given yeoman service. Expert goal-kicker and, like Bert Ganley, has beaten his own club record this season.
- Stan Cowan** (right wing). Signed from Selkirk, the Scottish R.U. club in July, 1954, but suffered with cartilage trouble after arriving at Hull. Can play centre or wing.
- Keith Bowman** (wing threequarter). A former Pocklington R.U. winger, strong and fast. Has played for Yorkshire and came to Hull from Hunslet. His father, who died on the day of the Championship semi-final, played for Hull and England. Was in last season's side.
- Goeff. Dannatt** (right centre). A newcomer, but one who has shown great promise. Was prominent in Hull's semi-final win over Barrow a fortnight ago.
- Carl Turner** (left centre). A Welshman who has been at the Boulevard since 1949 and had previous experience with Gloucester, Maesteg and Aberavon. Good on attack or defence, and can play at centre or stand-off.
- Ivor Watts** (left wing). Welsh born but joined Hull from Glasston Rangers (a Cumberland team) in October 1945. Has had Cumberland County honours, and was given a benefit by Hull last season. Not very big, but a great-hearted player.
- Brian Darlington** (wing threequarter). A schoolmaster and P.T. instructor who only came into the game a month before playing in last year's championship final, and has shown great promise, though still gaining experience.
- Bernard Conway** (centre or stand-off). A Billy Batten 'discovery' who came from Fitzwilliam Juniors in 1948. Has played stand-off before Moat took over, and was in last season's successful side.
- Rowley Moat** (stand-off). A local product who didn't settle down at first but developed into a great attacking stand-off. Set up a League record for tries from his position last season. Has had some competition for his place this season but has won it back.
- Tommy Finn** (scrum-half). From St. Helens, and played trial games before Hull signed him a couple of years ago. Quick off the mark, a sure tackler, and throws out an accurate pass.
- Mick Scott** (prop). One of the best props in the game and a product of Boulevard Juniors. Joined Hull 8 years ago when he was only 17 and has won County and International honours.
- Tom Harris** (hooker). Great Britain's hooker, and a Welshman signed from Newbridge in December 1949. Toured Australia in 1954 and will be there again this summer with the World Cup Team. Is rated as the game's fastest hooker in the loose.

Hull Pen Pictures — continued

- Jim Drake** (prop). One of the Heworth twins. An aggressive player and always a handful for the opposition. Has settled down at prop since Bob Coverdale left.
- A. Sykes** (second row). A comparative newcomer and has a difficult task in filling the place of Harry Markham, who is out of action. Is making a good job of it though.
- Bill Drake** (second row). The other half of the Heworth twins. Used to play soccer but is ideally built for R.L. and has played some great games for Hull. Equally at home as loose-forward.
- John Whiteley** (loose forward). Joined Hull six and a half years ago and has developed into one of the best loose forwards in the game. Only three players who were in the 1954 World Cup party have won a place again this time, and Whiteley is one of them.
- Harry Markham** (second-row). Another local product who has gained International and County honours. Unfortunately a recent operation will keep him out of the team for the final.
- Roy Francis** (manager-coach). A well-known player who started in the thirteen-a-side game with Wigan in 1936 and came to Hull via Barrow, Dewsbury and Warrington. Won Test honours as a winger. Finally hung up his boots last season, to concentrate on coaching and has just had his contract renewed until 1961.

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Oldham First Team Scorers 1956-57

(up to May 6th, 1957)

Matches Played — LEAGUE 38 OTHERS 9 TOTAL 47

Player	Appearances	Tries	Goals
J. W. Etty ...	45	41	—
R. Cracknell ...	43	27	19
D. M. Ayres ...	41	26	—
F. Pitchford ...	42	20	—
D. Turner ...	41	18	—
J. Keith ...	45	14	—
A. Davies ...	38	17	—
F. Stirrup ...	34	9	—
V. Nestor ...	18	9	—
S. D. Little ...	42	8	—
K. Jackson ...	45	5	—
C. Winslade ...	44	4	—
W. B. Ganley ...	41	2	191
F. Daley ...	20	3	—
D. G. Vines ...	31	2	—
J. Rodgers ...	12	2	3
T. O'Grady ...	1	1	—
J. O'Brien ...	1	1	—
R. Bailey ...	2	1	—
A. Kellett ...	1	1	—
A. Tomlinson ...	7	—	—
A. Jones ...	1	—	1
J. Noon ...	1	—	—
A. Carruthers ...	2	—	—
A. Jarman ...	5	—	—
J. H. Edwards ...	2	—	—
W. Riley ...	2	—	—

Totals ... Tries 211 Goals 214 Points 1061

NORTHERN RUGBY LEAGUE TABLE - SEASON 1956-7

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