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| Date | CLUB | Grd. | F. A. | Date | CLUB | Grd. | F. A. |
|---------|---------------------|------|-------|--------|----------------|------|-------|
| Aug. 19 | HALIFAX | Home | | 25 | | | |
| 21 | BARROW | Away | | 26 | SWINTON | Home | |
| 26 | BLACKPOOL B. | Away | | 30 | WIDNES | Home | |
| 28 | YORK | Home | | Jan. 1 | | | |
| Sept. 2 | BARROW (Lancs. Cup) | Away | | 6 | WARRINGTON | Away | |
| 4 | OLDHAM/ROCHDALE 13 | | | 13 | WIGAN | Away | |
| | v. NEW ZEALAND | Home | | 20 | WIGAN | Home | |
| 9 | HALIFAX | Away | | 27 | ROCHDALE H. | Away | |
| 16 | ROCHDALE H. | Home | | Feb. 3 | LIVERPOOL CITY | Away | |
| 23 | HUNSLET | Away | | 10 | | | |
| 30 | BARROW | Home | | 17 | LEIGH | Home | |
| Oct. 7 | WORKINGTON T. | Home | | 24 | WIDNES | Away | |
| 14 | YORK | Away | | Mar. 3 | | | |
| 21 | WARRINGTON | Home | | 10 | LEIGH | Away | |
| Nov 4 | WHITEHAVEN | Away | | 17 | ST. HELENS | Home | |
| 11 | HUDDERSFIELD | Away | | 24 | HULL | Away | |
| 18 | HULL | Home | | 31 | LIVERPOOL CITY | Home | |
| 25 | SALFORD | Away | | Apr. 7 | HUNSLET | Home | |
| Dec. 2 | WHITEHAVEN | Home | | 14 | | | |
| 9 | WORKINGTON T. | Away | | 20 | SWINTON | Away | |
| 16 | ST. HELENS | Away | | 21 | BLACKPOOL B. | Home | |
| 23 | SALFORD | Home | | 23 | HUDDERSFIELD | Home | |

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

THE PAVILION :: WATERSHEDDINGS



SEASON 1961-62

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No. 11—Tuesday, 26th December, 1961

Kick-off 2-30 p.m.

OLDHAM v. SWINTON

TO ALL OUR PLAYERS, MEMBERS, PATRONS AND SUPPORTERS
AT HOME AND BEYOND THE SEA WE WISH THEM
THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

It is always a pleasure to welcome the Swinton Club to Watersheddings at the Festive Season, a visit that has been going on for a long period of years.

It was the Swinton Club that opened our ground in the dim distant past on September 28th, 1889 when 7-000 spectators paid admission.

Swinton won the match by 2 goals, 1 try, 2 minor points to Oldham 1 minor point.

Like all clubs, Swinton have had their lean times after their brilliant ones, and without doubt they are today one of the most attractive teams in the Rugby League having in recent seasons made some very shrewd additions to their playing strength, plus a very good coach in Cliff Evans who will be remembered as the ex Salford and ex Leeds player. Our team will have to give of its best to record victory and we expect a game worthy of the name.

PIONEERS

It is a pleasure for this club to loan our ground for a curtain raiser prior to the Widnes match on Saturday next, 30th December for a visit of a Canadian High School Team who will be playing the Oldham Junior League, kick-off 1-30 p.m.

These boys are the pioneers of the Rugby League in Canada, and as far as publicity goes, who knew that the Rugby League game was played in Canada. But here will be the boys from St. John High School, Prince William Street, St. John, New Brunswick, who will be in the charge of Mr. Frank Mugglestone.

The party is coming over by air and the boys are paying their own expenses.

They will play four games as follows :-

Dec. 26th—Castleford "B", prior to Castleford v. Featherstone game

Dec. 30th—Oldham Junior League, prior to Oldham v. Widnes game

Dec. 31st—Leeds & District at Buslingthorpe Vale.

Jan. 3rd—Royal Army Pay Office at Halifax.

The Canadians making the journey are as follows, age in brackets :-

Full Back—R. Belyea (18)

Wings—J. McElman (17), P. Brown (17), D. Grant (17).

Centres—B. Lynch (18), B. Baxter (18), F. Shaw (17).

Off Halves—M. Hornyak (16), S. Mills (16).

Scrum Half—D. Lunergan (15).

Front Row—B. Malcolm (18), A. Stevenson (16), J. Buckley (15).

Hooker—T. Bird (16).

Second Row—A. Jewett (16), B. Church (17) also hooker, D. Wyers (17).

Loose Forward—P. Taylor (16) also Scrum half.

May we wish them a pleasant trip to England and a safe return home with pleasant memories of their visit to Oldham.

REMEMBRANCE

Every Festive Season we receive the usual Season's Greetings from all over the world, from our supporters who are in the Forces and the exiles who live in distant parts.

From America, Canada, Germany, The Royal Air Force Detachment in Labuan, North Borneo and from two H.M. Submarines at Sea, (one has a photograph of our team pinned up in the mess) comes remembrance of Watersheddings and its environment.

To all, we reciprocate the good spirit in which they are sent.

HOOLIGANISM

The Northern Rugby Football League circularised all Clubs instructing them to prosecute any person who assaults players, the referee or the touch judges.

One Club is already taking action in a case of this nature. Let this be a timely warning to that very small minority of spectators who fail to control their actions.

SLOW, QUICK-QUICK SLOW — FOR R.L. TOUCH JUDGES

by CYRIL BRIGGS

Whatever sport you prefer, you will find in your presence ready wits—men with droll humour who can set you smiling even if your team is playing badly or the tummy is not what it may be.

RL fans often allege that the officials should supply the men in the middle with a white stick and a dog. Besides they tell him some unkind things about that piece of his stock in trade—the whistle.

But have we who have watched the RL game for so long taken stock of the present situation and that of the years between the wars? Hookers were not supposed to enter into passing movements in the 20's, in fact one or two players were so slow in moving about that the prop forwards had constantly to wait the arrival of the Number Nine.

BATHCHAIRS!

The funny men would yell to the hooker who had little pace—"bring him a bathchair". There was nothing really funny about it when you compare some of the hookers of those days with men like Tommy Harris, of a year or two ago.

So RL has progressed in one way—it has the speed merchants, but they are often reluctant to show their wares. I believe it was the Australian team of 1921 who made the men who ran our league at the time suddenly change their minds and go in for faster forwards. Why Latta was pushed into the Kangaroos backs more than once, even if he came as a second row man.

Watkins and Company were so fast that they could whip through opposition ranks with the lightning jump of a real Kangaroo. I was present when Watkins left Widnes gasping. They just couldn't nail him. He was yards faster than any Chemic back—and scores of other three quarters as well.

So eventually we saw the fast men push out the moderately moving types. But speed in the pack, or rather out of it, slowed down the game! The fast men in the backs suddenly found themselves being headed off. And to be caught by a forward was suddenly a shock for some players who had simply toyed with the old type forwards when it came to pace.

CHANGES

Even the props and men who thought they should be wheeled from scrum to scrum, found that they had to do track work, and at the end of the tape was a chap with a stop watch! Gradually things changed in the RL

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- 7—PITCHFORD, F.
- 8—GODDARD, P.
- 9—McINTYRE, L.
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- 11—SMETHURST, P.
- 12—RAE, J.
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WILSON'S FAMOUS ALES

world, and a man who could cover a certain distance in a given time was preferred to the ball player—a man who could send out and take a pass at any angle.

It was a case of speed, speed and more speed. Very nice when things click, but so awfully boring when we see the referee signaling forward passes or knocks on. The amazing thing as far as I am concerned, is that referees have practically the same duties today as they had when we saw Frank Renton's handle-bar moustache flowing in the breeze and his knicker bocker suit offering sharp contrast to the jerseys of the players.

Rules have altered and will continue to alter, in fact the official guide could almost be filled with the changes and swops, swops and changes that have gone on in 30 years. But while a ref. may be able to move around a little faster—I doubt it—than some of the pre-war officials, his duties in the main are almost the same.

We want speed on the field but not off it! There are some touch judges who give the crowds the impression that they can move quicker than lots of players. But the quickness of the play (sporty and otherwise) often beats the eye. What I'm indicating is that referees are expected to keep pace with the fast moving play and detect all sorts of other things. It is just impossible.

MORE HELP

The referee of today should have more help from the touch judge, so why not let the man on the line help detect offside, and other responsibilities which fall on the shoulders of his soccer counterpart?

The touch judge is an essential job of RL but there seems little qualification. Men have to attain a certain standard in refereeing—but flag wagging is simple. Why? Simply because the RL regulations will not let him work too hard. He works to rule. It is the best union in the world. He sometimes gets extra time—but only when there are extraordinary happenings.

In the main he is colder than a boy scout eating ice cream at Water-sheddings in December. He wants to do more; we as watchers want him to enter more into the spirit of the occasion; and present circumstances demand it. So why not allow him to give more aid to the referee?

Every touch judge does not agree with the referee. The FA laws demand that they must not do so. That diagonal system at Soccer was meant to cut out a lot of sharp practices and unfair play. RL must keep abreast with its own rulings. Speed and more speed is the demand, but touch judges must trail behind in the march of supposed progress.

COMING AUSTRALASIAN TOUR

It is pleasing to note that the tour of Australia and New Zealand will now take place at the end of the present season. Players from every Club will now be able to catch the eye of the selectors as a trip such as this is an event in a players life, money could not buy the outing, the places visited and the V.I.P.s which are met, the wonderful reception which is accorded the English Rugby League team is beyond description. One may speak to any player that has been lucky enough for a previous visit and he is always ready for a second or third trip.

Much speculation as to who will be selected remains, certain stars of our game are sure but there is always some "out of the clouds". And so it is with the Managers as the competition is keen and applications for the Managerships have to be sent in by 31st December, 1961. So good luck to all that are chosen.

MEMBERS' CHRISTMAS DRAW

May we offer thanks to the members who have made the Christmas Draw once more a success. Although the gross receipts are somewhat under our previous draw, the effort has been well worth while and a fine contribution to the Players Welfare Fund.

WEMBLEY CUP FINAL TICKETS

All seating tickets for the Cup Final have now been sold. Ground Enclosure Tickets at 3/- each can still be obtained from the Rugby League Offices, 180 Chapeltown Road, Leeds. 7. A stamped addressed envelope should accompany each application.

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FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES AND SCORERS—1961-62

(Up to and including Saturday last)

| Palyer | App. | T. | G. | Palyer | App. | T. | G. |
|------------|------|----|----|-------------|------|----|----|
| Noon | 19 | 17 | 13 | Morgan | 1 | | |
| Sims | 19 | 6 | 73 | Parker T | 1 | | |
| Patterson | 15 | 3 | | Robinson | 13 | 4 | |
| Holden | 15 | 7 | | Nestor | 10 | 4 | |
| Davies | 3 | | | Bird | 14 | 11 | |
| Kenny | 4 | 2 | 3 | Smethurst | 10 | 2 | |
| Kellett | 20 | 10 | | Pycroft | 2 | | |
| Pitchford | 21 | 7 | | Goddard, P. | 9 | 1 | |
| Payne | 17 | | | Mumberson | 4 | | |
| McIntyre | 18 | 4 | | Lord | 3 | 5 | |
| Winslade | 11 | | | | | | |
| Dufty | 11 | 3 | | | | | |
| Rae | 13 | 5 | | | | | |
| Parker, D. | 19 | 2 | | | | | |

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Up to and including Saturday last)

| | Barrow | Blackpool | Huddersfield | Leigh | Liverpool | OLDHAM | Rochdale | Salford | St. Helens | Swinton | Warrington | Whitehaven | Widnes | Wigan | Workington |
|--------------|--------|-----------|--------------|-------|-----------|--------|----------|---------|------------|---------|------------|------------|--------|-------|------------|
| Barrow | ... | 20-10 | | | 33-0 | 11-5 | | 7-13 | 2-34 | | | | 5-10 | | 8-12 |
| Blackpool | 18-10 | ... | 2-23 | 13-7 | | 5-20 | 20-4 | | | | 6-18 | | | 8-33 | 5-22 |
| Huddersfield | | 33-12 | ... | 15-5 | | 16-7 | | | | | | 34-10 | | | |
| Leigh | | | ... | ... | | | 4-7 | 33-10 | | | | | | | 5-28 |
| Liverpool | | | | 5-9 | ... | | | 11-22 | | 4-34 | | | | | |
| OLDHAM | 40-0 | | | | | ... | 53-9 | | | | 35-5 | 45-10 | | | 14-12 |
| Rochdale | | 15-15 | 0-10 | | | | ... | | 2-14 | | | 6-6 | | 8-28 | 4-14 |
| Salford | | | 8-26 | | 8-5 | 4-50 | | ... | 7-24 | | | | | | |
| St. Helens | | | | | | | | | ... | | | 44-0 | | | 16-7 |
| Swinton | | | 11-9 | | | | | | 15-6 | ... | | | 16-2 | 4-7 | |
| Warrington | | 31-8 | | | 27-2 | | | 32-11 | | 18-12 | ... | 25-4 | 15-10 | | |
| Whitehaven | | | 5-5 | 5-15 | | 7-25 | | | 3-10 | 0-24 | | ... | | 6-26 | |
| Widnes | | | 8-18 | | | | | | 13-12 | | | | ... | | 8-16 |
| Wigan | 39-3 | 31-5 | | 25-6 | 45-0 | | 22-5 | | | 6-13 | | 31-11 | | ... | |
| Workington | 24-10 | 25-5 | 30-5 | | | 17-5 | | 52-0 | | | 11-2 | | | 10-16 | ... |

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

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