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Vol. 21. No. 20

SATURDAY, APRIL 30th, 1966

John Peel

ON

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NOTES

April 30th. It must be as you read this, the last day in the fourth month, a date when not many years ago, Rugby League and all its subsidiary efforts, in those days the Championship play-off and the Cup Final only, would have been over and done with for the season. Things were good in the game in those days, it was a healthy, popular, pleasant recreation not only for the spectator, but also for all those connected with it, but what is the position today. Outdoor spectator sports have all suffered from the attendance angle. The reasons given for this are many and varied, and while the writer has decided views on some of them, this would not be the place to air those. Of one thing we can be certain, the game, from the attendance point of view, in this part of the country, has gone back to such an extent, that to say it is alarming is putting it mildly. Whitehaven had a little over THREE HUNDRED AT A NORTHERN RUGBY LEAGUE GAME two weeks ago, and in case that the full implications of that have not gone home, I would suggest that you *read the capitals again*. Whatever you may read in print, there can be but one end to that kind of business. Certain commitments have got to be met. Players must be paid, rates must be paid, you cannot heat water without electricity or gas, telephone, food coach and other bills must be met from month to month to mention but a few, and without these items no club can carry on. Some help comes from the Auxiliary, Development or whatever they may be called sources, but they can only help. The bulk of the income must come from the interest fostered in the game, and when you get down to THREE HUNDRED, you have got to face the stark realism that the game is not wanted. That, one is sorry to say, is the position not far from

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where these notes are being typed, and what is it right here? We in Workington have not exactly been encouraged to bend over backwards by the support that we have had. There are they who say that all that could have been done for the game locally, has not been done, but I would not subscribe to that line of thought. You cannot get a quart into a pint pot, and I would say most respectfully that much of the hot air that is expended by the once in a while three bob supporter of rugby league football could be much better utilised if it was expended in an effort to supplement the games resources instead of decrying it, for by that means be sure, that you would be taking the first step towards ensuring that we do not get down to the three hundred standard right here. Milton was the sage who wrote "So many minds, so many opinions", and it is nice to be able to natter on the pros and cons of the rules and regulations. Play ball, offside, tap penalty, referees, these are but a few of the debateable parts of our game, and you could talk all day about each of them, but let the talk be as constructive as possible.

We meet Oldham today, this by virtue of the fact that we had a top eight place in the League table when our programme was completed. That position was not achieved without effort, and it needed effort on the part of more than the players. It was team work from the Board room through to the Agent and ticket seller, players and staff, and if you have been a contributor to this, you must have some satisfaction from that eighth position. If you have not been a contributor you have missed the best part of the pleasure, but the door is wide open for you in season 1966-67.

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Touch Judges:

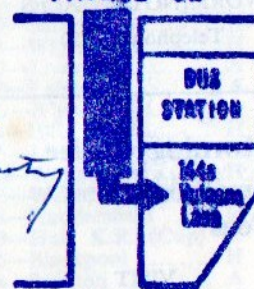
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THE 5 PERIODS ARE: August 18 to October 2, October 4 to November 27, November 29 to January 22, January 24 to March 19, March 21 to May 21.



WORKINGTON TOWN FIXTURES

(NORTHERN RUGBY LEAGUE)

1965.	Jan. 1—Wakefield	H	5	12
Aug. 21—Hull	H	28	8	
23—Barrow	A	17	17	
28—				
30—Barrow	H	13	7	
Sept. 4—Widnes	H	22	5	
11—Salford (LC)	A	5	14	
18—Oldham	H	28	7	
25—Blackpool	A	16	9	
Oct. 2—Hull	A	23	14	
9—Rochdale	H	9	4	
16—Leigh	H	37	12	
23—St. Helens	H	4	43	
30—Swinton	H	24	4	
Nov. 6—Hull K.R.	A	11	5	
13—St. Helens	H	3	7	
20—Wigan	A	8	29	
Dec. 4—Widnes	A	0	7	
11—Salford	H	8	10	
Jan. 8—Rochdale	A	8	4	
29—Salford	A	8	7	
Feb. 5—Wigan	H	7	3	
17—Liverpool	A	8	2	
19—Leigh	A	5	6	
26—Bl'pool (R.L. Cp) ..	A	16	2	
Mar. 3—Hull K.R.	H	5	0	
5—Liverpool	H	24	2	
10—Whitehaven	H	24	0	
12—Wakefield	A	2	17	
14—Huddersfield	H	3	10	
19—Hull K.R. (Cup) ...		5	7	
26—Blackpool	H	23	5	
Apr. 4—Swinton	A	21	2	
9—Warrington	A	0	10	
11—Whitehaven	A	22	0	
16—Huddersfield	A	8	4	
18—Warrington	H	13	0	
23—Oldham	A	5	15	
30—Oldham	H			

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