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PLAYERS No. 6

WORKINGTON TOWN RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB LTD.

NORTHERN RUGBY LEAGUE

WORKINGTON TOWN

VERSUS

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Vol. 24. No. 3

SATURDAY, 31st AUGUST, 1968.

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NOTES

At a time when it would hardly be right to claim that Dame Fortune was exactly smiling on the Town Club, we today entertain Oldham in our third game of the season, hoping for our first brace of points. Without going into the records it must be a long time, if ever, since the Club has lost the first two home games, and while hat-tricks may be enviable in some kinds of sport, this one would not be very acceptable here. We got off to a bad start against Halifax, were brighter but not bright enough against Castleford, and horror of horrors, we were weakest where Cumberland has been famous for donkeys years, rugby-wise, in the forwards. It used to be said that if a club was short of a good forward somebody went to the pit top and clicked the first one to come up and he was sure to be on a winner. It has been said that we fished them out of the river at the end of the ground here, and that if they come out less than sixteen stone they were thrown back again Now, we have no pack leader, too many of our forwards are caught in possession, and not enough use their weight. Castleford were classic in their passing, equally as good in their backing up, and if our forwards took a leaf out of that book it is not at all too late for some of them to carve a niche for themselves alongside the great names of some of the Cumberland forwards who have been among the finest in the game. There could be no better time than now to start to prove themselves.

On Monday first, September 2nd, which according to some is August Monday, we play Whitehaven at Whitehaven, and the kick-off time is SIX p.m.—6-0 o'clock. No one as yet can have forgotten the 11th of August when we went to the Recreation Ground and lost the Two Towns Cup for the first time in eight years. Not for one moment do I believe that our players were extended on that Sunday

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afternoon, in fact right to the finish they were sure it would all end up alright, but it didn't. There will have to be no such complacency on Monday, or I know one who will be wondering whether to put a shilling in the gas meter, or leave the town.

Next Saturday on this ground our 'A' team (played one, Warrington away, won one), will be playing SWINTON 'A' in the first leg of the Lancashire Shield. This competition, which we have won in the past two seasons, is now on a two-leg basis from the first round to the final inclusive, i.e. you play the opposition at home and away, and the highest aggregate points scorer is the winner. The return game is at Swinton on Saturday, September 21st.

Next Saturday, too, by some process of pairing which it is not my duty to enlarge upon, our 1st team travels to Swinton to play in the first round of the Lancashire Cup. This remains a sudden death competition, and as the cup rounds are usually money spinners, it is to be hoped that we do not get beheaded at Station Road on the day.

You will probably have learned from the press that Jim Crellin has asked to be put on the transfer list, and that the request has been granted. Seventeen games in the 1st team last season, seven more times on the 1st team sheet, 24 1st team engagements in his second season, yet dissatisfied. He has informed the Club that he is understudying nobody, that he wants first team football every week, or else. Well, I am afraid he will have to "or else".

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- 11 SMITH
- 12 McFARLANE
- 13 PATTINSON
- 14 TURNBULL
- 15 WILSON

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- 3 MULLARKEY
- 4 DONOVAN
- 5 MURPHY
- 6 BRIGGS
- 7 CANNING
- 8 OGDEN
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WORKINGTON TOWN FIXTURES

(NORTHERN RUGBY LEAGUE)

Aug. 17—Halifax	1969.
31—Oldham H Sept. 2—Whitehaven A 7—Swinton (L.C.) A 14—Huyton A	Jan. 4—Barrow H 11—Warrington A 18—Doncaster H 26—Cup—1st Round
21—Blackpool H 28—Halifax A Oct. 5—Swinton H 12—Castleford A 19—St. Helens H 26—Doncaster A	Feb. 1—Swinton A 8—Leigh H 15—Cup—2nd Round or Hull K.R H 22—Rochdale H
Nov. 2—Widnes H 8—Salford A 16—Huyton H 23—Rochdale A 30—Wigan H	Mar. 1—Cup—3rd Round or Oldham A 15—Hull K.R A
Dec. 7—Widnes A 14—Salford H 21—Wigan A 26—Blackpool A 28—Barrow A	Apr. 5—Leigh A 7—Whitehaven H 12—St. Helens A 19—Warrington H

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