

HEAVY GROUND MADE PROGRESS SLOW

Oldham subdue tough Widnes for a 12-2 win

BARROW SHARE THE POINTS THROUGH HOBSON 'OWN GOAL'

HEAVY drizzle, swept by cold biting wind, dashed hopes of a good attendance at Boundary Park this afternoon for the visit of Barrow. Both sides were as selected, with left-wingers Eric Over and Billy Ormond each turning out against their former clubmates.

ATHLETIC: Teece; Naylor, West; Hobson, Muir, Thompson; Walker, Murray, Duffy, Neale, Over.

BARROW: Lowery; Laird, Jackson; Kings, Wilson, Keen; Callaghan, Armstrong, Gordon, Birch, Ormand.

Referee: Mr. M. McCoy (Doncaster).
With the ball skating about on the wet surface Athletic tried to get the attack moving on the left and then Walker beat two men before feeding Duffy.

The centre-forward was narrowly offside and then there were two quick escapes for the Athletic goal.

Coming out to collect a high lob Teece saw the ball shoot between his legs but he recovered, but his clearance hit Gordon and again the ball trickled dangerously across the goalmouth before running dead inches outside the post.

Both sides were finding it difficult to master the conditions and after an unsuccessful run by Walker, a scramble in the Barrow goalmouth saw Neale get in the first real shot which Lowery collected at the second attempt.

Play was mainly in the Barrow half and when at last Gordon seized a long ball to make a breakaway raid for the visitors, West was on hand to turn the ball back to Teece.

Then Walker sent Murray away but the Athletic captain found the way to goal blocked by three defenders. Minutes later Athletic came literally within inches of a goal as Over flashed across a low centre which skidded past Duffy's outstretched foot as he dived in vain.

Short-lived joy

In the 20th minute Athletic took the lead and there was no doubt that they deserved the goal. Walker took a quick throw in on the right to find Duffy and beating one man, the centre-forward whipped the ball across for MURRAY to pick his spot coolly with a well-placed header.

Athletic's joy was short-lived. Within a minute Barrow were on level terms, and it was a tragic own goal by Wilf Hobson that put them back in the game.

From the kick off the visitors had swept into the attack and, attempting to cut out a low cross from Gordon, HOBSON flashed the ball into his own net.

Athletic came back with a promising move from Murray and Over but when the inside right flicked the ball back to his wingers Over's shot passed across the face of the goal and outside.

Athletic were still trying when Duffy threw himself full length to head a Walker cross outside the post.

Then came another Barrow bid, with this time Ormond coming into the picture to whip over a dangerous low centre which Teece punched out for West to clear.

After a clash of heads Murray received attention from the trainer and Athletic were on the attack again, with Thompson pushing a raking pass through the middle to Duffy, but the leader's shot was well-saved at the foot of a post by Lowery.

Scuffle: names taken

Teece was bundled over the dead ball line by Gordon to win a corner for Barrow but play swept rapidly upfield for Walker to gain Athletic a quick unrewarding corner on the right.

A rough element had crept into

the game in the closing minutes of the half, and after a number of robust exchanges Barrow gained a free-kick on the edge of the area.

Armstrong crashed the ball into the Athletic line-up, and then there was a remarkable scuffle in which both Muir and Armstrong came to blows and had their names booked by the referee.

Half-time:—

ATHLETIC	1
BARROW	1

With conditions far from perfect, both sides had worked hard to provide entertaining football and when Barrow had drawn level through the unfortunate Hobson goal Athletic could well count themselves unlucky. Towards the end of the half, Barrow had come back into the game more but the Athletic defence had held firm and kept the forwards at bay.

Straightaway the referee earned a warm round of cheers from the crowd as he penalised Muir for a doubtful foul and then Armstrong whipped in a sharp shot which Teece fielded safely.

It was Barrow's last threat for a period of about 10 minutes as Athletic piled on the pressure in an attempt to snatch the winner.

First Neale hit a shot high into the crowd and then Hobson emulated the feat before Duffy flicked the ball inside to Murray and two defenders blocked out the shot.

Still Athletic kept up the goal hunt an again were literally inches from a goal as Murray got his head to a Thompson free-kick and the ball shaved the upright.
Then came a series of remarkable escapes for the Barrow goal following a corner on the right. In rapid succession, Murray, Hobson and then Walker saw shots blocked on the line and when the ball eventually went behind for a corner Neale got his head to Over's kick and the ball was again deflected just outside the post.
At last the siege was lifted and Barrow had a couple of good opportunities but could not press their advantage home.

Barrow escape again

Thompson and Over were working hard in an attempt to get the Athletic forwards back in action but when the left-half flicked the ball through to try and reach Duffy, a defender intercepted and another chance was lost.

Nothing was going right for Athletic but a foul on Murray outside the area gave them another chance. Lowery was there to punch out, however, and then another raid by Walker saw the ball pass straight to a defender, with both Neale and Duffy waiting unmarked.

This raid was followed with another remarkable escape for Barrow, again from a corner on the right as Murray blazed in a shot which was charged down on the line by Wilson. Then Over went through to try a shot on his own but Lowery confidently dealt with the sharp rising ball.

Final:

ATHLETIC	1
BARROW	1

Attendance 5,283

One of the two last surviving members of Bury's 1900 Cup-winning side, Fred Thompson, the goalkeeper, has died in his 85th year, at Doncaster. He joined Bury in 1896.

OLDHAM selectors decided that Ron Rowbottom should oppose his old club, Widnes, for the meeting there today. Ken Jackson was given a further week's rest and Rowbottom came in on the open side of the front row. Widnes centre and coach, Jack Broome, was making his 50th successive appearance.

WIDNES: Wright; Ratcliffe, Broome, Thompson, Dawson; Myler, J. Smith; T. Smith, Kemei, Bate, De Witt, D. Smith, Galligan.

OLDHAM: Ganley; Cracknell, Ayres, Davies, Eddy; Daley, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Keith, Vines, Winslade, Little, Turner.

Referee: Mr. C. F. Appleton (Warrington).

Oldham won the toss and Widnes kicked off into driving rain. Despite two scrums Widnes retained possession and fought hard to break down the Oldham cover. Bates fumbled the ball for Eddy to fly-kick into touch five yards from the Widnes line.

Again Widnes won the scrum, but it was Oldham that scored. Derek Smith passed to Thompson but CRACKNELL shot in to intercept and go over for an unconverted try.

Then, a few minutes later, Broome came crashing through the middle to gain 25 yards before he was stopped. A minute later Broome put in a kick to take Widnes to within five yards of Oldham's line.

Oldham forced their opponents back and snapped up a loose ball.

NO "A" TEAM GAME

After a night and day of almost continuous rain, the officials of Oldham and Widnes, together with the referee, Mr. K. R. Rathbone, decided that the ground at Water-sheddings was unfit for the "A" team game which was to be played this afternoon. It is expected to be replayed later in the season.

Vines was the taker but in a tackle he was penalised.

Widnes brought up Dawson to try for a goal but, from 30 yards, he was well short.

At a scrum Widnes were penalised. GANLEY, despite the tricky wind, landed a goal.

Ganley does it again

A minute later Widnes were on the wrong end of another penalty, when they fell off-side in their own quarter. With a sure kick, GANLEY landed the goal.

Now it was Widnes attacking. First Dawson tried a breakthrough on the left wing and then the ball moved inside. There it was fumbled by Bate.

A scrum followed and at it Oldham were penalised. From 24 yards Dawson was wide with his kick.

More trouble came for Oldham in the height of another Widnes thrust. Twice Ganley brought off great tackles but Oldham couldn't keep on-side. This time DAWSON put his side on the board with a goal.
From the kick-out a deep Ganley kick ran dead. Widnes gathered from their own drop-out but a minute later fumbled the ball to cause a scrum.

AT THIS THEY WERE PENALISED. FROM 50 YARDS AND, IN SUCH A TRICKY WIND THAT MADE A GOAL SEEM IMPOSSIBLE, GANLEY LIFTED THE BALL FROM THE MUD TO SEND IT BETWEEN THE POSTS.

An Eddy kick through put the defence on one leg. Following a Davies run he took the pass to kick the ball high into the air. Full-back Wright was beaten but, with nobody around, the ball ran dead.

Widnes attacked again a minute later and almost got two points. Ganley was penalised for a very doubtful voluntary tackle, but Dawson was wide at goal.

Half-time:—

WIDNES	1	0-2
OLDHAM	3	1-9

The rain wind and heavy mud were making it hard for both sides and there was plenty of ball fumbling. Oldham's attacks, when they did come, had so far been smoother than the Widnes efforts.

With the wind at the back of them Widnes soon disclosed their tactics with a deep Broome kick, but it didn't find touch. A minute later Widnes were penalised at a play-the-ball. Ganley found touch near the halfway line.

Despite winning this scrum and another one seconds later Oldham were slowly forced back into their own quarter. With dogged determination the forwards cleared the danger, eventually passing for Ayres to send Cracknell on a short run.

A Winslade error almost gave a try to Widnes. He lobbed a pass but it missed Ayres and Dawson fly kicked. Luckily it went into touch.

Roaring away

A minute later Oldham went roaring down the right flank. Turner put Ayres in to send Cracknell racing away. There was only the full-back to beat but, with cool precision, Wright brought the winger down.

In the next attack even Wright couldn't stop CRACKNELL. Pitchford made the chance with a great pass and the Oldham winger raced home for the corner. Ganley hit the cross-bar with his kick.

Scrum were becoming a feature of the game and inside five minutes there were four. At the last of the bunch Vines was guilty of holding the ball too long and losing possession. Luckily for Oldham Thompson's pass to Ratcliffe went skating into touch and although Oldham were penalised at this scrum, they won possession when Dawson found touch further up.

Spotting all along the line, Widnes took Oldham before they had time to move with the ball. Possession went back to the home side when Rowbottom was penalised in a tackle.

Final:

WIDNES	1	0-2
OLDHAM	3	2-12

Attendance: 6,000.

WALES HOLD ENGLAND TO A 3-3 DRAW

WALES took the lead against England at Twickenham in the first minute. TERRY DAVIES landed a penalty for a scrum offence from a full 45 yards.

The Welsh pack was inspired, with W. R. Evans putting in some grand line-out work, and only once in the first 15 minutes were shaky England out of their own half.

The first time Horrocks-Taylor evaded H. Morgan, England's backs swept through into the Welsh 25, but the terrier-like Morgan was there again to clear with a fine touch-kick.

Malcolm Thomas tried a long drop at goal after a bad pass-out by Morgan, and after 24 minutes, T. Davies was wide with another long penalty, but he was in brilliant form, finding touch repeatedly with long, raking kicks.

A beautiful high-kick by Cliff Morgan had England in trouble right under their posts. Robbins touched down to save a try from the scrum that followed. A long kick by Jackson took England into the Welsh "25" again, but W. P. C. Davies muffed his pass from the line-out.

Just before half-time Devereux charged down a Jeeps kick and sent Collins tearing through. He passed inside, but Devereux knocked forward right on the line.

Half-time: England nil, Wales 3.

The Welsh hooker, B. V. Meredith, took a hard knock on the head a minute after the restart and was off for five minutes. From a penalty for a scrum offence on the halfway line, T. Davies struck the right-hand post with an excellent kick—a lucky let-off for England. Horrocks-Taylor was lying much deeper and Jeeps throwing a longer pass from the scrum.

After 50 minutes, Wales had Devereux off for eight minutes with a facial injury.

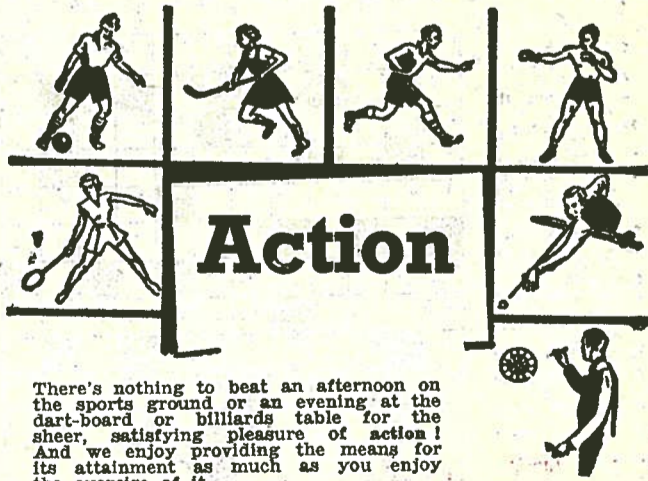
A brilliant move involving Jeeps, Butterfield and Robbins sent THOMPSON over in the left corner to put England on level terms after 66 minutes. Currie's kick failed. It was England's first try against Wales since 1954.

Cliff Morgan touched down just in front of the eager Robbins to save the Welsh line after a high kick by Horrocks-Taylor had caught Davies in possession.

Morgan was there again to check Jeeps eight yards from the Welsh line. England pressed heavily and Thompson was held when trying to dive over.

Finally a terrific burst was made by Butterfield, but Wales held on and fully merited to draw a grand match.

Final: England 3, Wales 3.



There's nothing to beat an afternoon on the sports ground or an evening at the dart-board or billiards table for the sheer, satisfying pleasure of action! And we enjoy providing the means for its attainment as much as you enjoy the exercise of it.

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:: SATURDAY MAGAZINE ::

The racegoing public is getting what it wants, but . . .

Tote minimum should never have been raised

19th-HOLE TOPICS

Seeding will lead to many arguments

THE introduction of a seeded draw for the Amateur Golf Championship at St. Andrew's from June 2-7 will take some of the glamour from the event, and will also lead to many arguments in the golf clubs.

In theory, seeding should ensure that only the top-class golfers get through the quarter-finals. It is aimed at preventing a lesser-known player bursting through largely through having the "luck of the draw."

Opinions will continue to differ, though, about whether golfers of recognised greater skill should be allowed an easier path to the last few rounds.

The seeding should ensure that the championship works up to a great finale with two really top-line players fighting out the last match. With no world classification of golfers, few envy the men who have to nominate the 16 seeds.

ANOTHER talking-point will be the championship committee's decision that a golfer can choose his region for the 36-hole stroke qualifying competition on May 10.

Will a lesser golfer elect to attempt to qualify in an area where the opposition would be lighter, even though there are fewer places to be won? Again, the right of choice will enable a man to go to the course best suited to his own game.

AS holders of the Ryder Cup, Britain's professional golfers are negotiating from strength. The PGA have given notice to all concerned—and that means holiday resorts, commercial firms and individuals likely to be interested as sponsors—that the 1961 Ryder Cup match is up for tender.

Any offer which guarantees £12,000 profit for the PGA will be entertained.

MORE than £32,000 in prize money can be won by tournament golfers in the British Isles this year. Not a large amount compared with the fabulous sums played for in the United States. But still a record for this country.

The latest addition to the list is responsible for the topping of the £30,000 mark. The new Irish Hospitals 72-holes event at Woodbrook, Dublin, on May 16-18, is worth £5,000—another record.

RACEGOERS who have been moving about Northern courses during the past six or eight months have noticed a big falling off of the investors at the windows of the tote booths. Now, at last, it has been realised that the decision, made last summer, to raise the minimum stake from 2s. to 4s. is very unpopular, writes The Ringer.

The racing crowds today rightly include a big number of women and a new clientele formed by people interested in the racing and quite prepared to invest a limited amount on most, if not all, races on the card. As for the old-time gambler, they are few and far between.

Racing is an attraction—a growing attraction, I believe—and the course authorities, the totalisator board and that mighty Jockey Club will need to keep up with what the public wants if the courses are to prosper. Some new amenities now provided on Northern courses are excellent. Others must follow.

Soon the tote will be compelled to go back to the 2s. minimum and the sooner it introduces a 2s. 6d. and 5s. double or a sequence of accumulators the better, for they will have to come.

Capt. Ryan Price's latest French purchase, Malacca III, has arrived at his Findon stables and is being trained for his first appearance over hurdles at Birmingham next month. Malacca III will be one of Capt. Price's five entries for the Triumph Hurdle at Hurst Park in March which decides the four-year-old championship.

Malacca III, a good winner on the flat in France, paid one previous visit to England to contest the St. Leger in September. With Serge Boulenger riding, the colt was a quiet tip for that classic, but he never reached the fighting line and finished in the rear division.

Still, he is a colt of the highest class and nothing is more certain than that he will be placed to win before the season ends. As I have remarked before, these good-blooded French importations seem to take to hurdling.

Kinnersley trainer Fred Rimell is sending no fewer than seven horses to Wolverhampton on Monday and at least two of them should win. E.S.B., the 1956 Grand National winner in the Stafford Chase and Floater in the final event look best of the bunch.

The High Level Handicap Hurdle may be won by Starclif (T. Molony), which was seen to advantage when runner-up to Dealer at Leicester ten days ago. The chief danger now may be the Middleham-trained Rathmoyle.

Next week's flat racing fixtures—Monday and Tuesday: Wolverhampton. Friday: Lingfield Park. Saturday: Lingfield, Catterick, Warwick.

RUGBY TRAINING ON SOCCER GROUND



Manchester United's ground seems just like home to ERIC EVANS, the England rugby captain, thanks to the rugged tackle obligingly supplied by United's England centre-forward, TOMMY TAYLOR.

Evans, who led the England team in the rugby international against Wales at Twickenham this afternoon, lives in Manchester and, through the co-operation of Manchester United manager, Matt Busby, does his training at Old Trafford. The United players often help him.

BIG RESPONSE TO CLUB'S FIRST TRIP

A GRATIFYING response has been shown by members of the new Chadderton Angling Club to the first trip organised by the club. The outing will be to the River Weaver on January 26, and the coach is almost fully booked. Any member who has not yet handed in his name should do so immediately.

At last week's meeting further outings were arranged for the coming year to many assorted venues. In view of the present high weights of fish being caught on the River Trent, the next trip will be to Hazelford on the Trent on March 9.

A most remarkable river is the Trent, for although polluted regularly and looking like the wash-tub, roach and gudgeon thrive in the water. Results of recent matches have ranged from 4lb. to the teens of pounds.

In April, the club hope to do some trouting and are visiting that beautiful lake, Ullswater. Here, for the price of a Rivers' Board licence, one can obtain excellent trout fishing and in summer some good perch fishing.

One of the club members visited the spot last April and caught 30 to 40 trout in one day, so that should be a good recommendation.

Other trips will be Boroughbridge or Ullchelf in June, Brickpits at Rhyl in July, Clumber Park in August, and Ellesmere in September.

THE Welcome Anglers will be holding their annual party and prize presentation ceremonies on Saturday, January 25, at their headquarters, the Havelock Inn. On the previous day the annual general meeting will be held, all members are expected to attend.

THE Waterhead Anglers have organised another piking trip to Tattersall on January 26. Names of members wishing to go on the trip should hand their names to the match secretary, Mr. Harry Tetlow, of 52 Counthill Road, or add them to the list to be found in their clubroom at the George and Dragon Inn, Waterhead.

Some of the Waterhead members visited Ogden Reservoir last Sunday and were amazed to find the water as calm as a mill pond with fish rising all over the reservoir. The whole surface boiled with fish. Looking forward to intense sport, they hurriedly tackled up and cast in.

Angling Notes by KB

I would like to say that they all had heavy catches, but unfortunately this was not so. They didn't have a bite between them, although the fish were actively on the move most of the day.

The Waterhead club have decided to stock their reservoir at Brushes in the near future with 100 10-12 inch roach and 50 bream of 2-5lb.

MEMBERS of the Dog Angling Club should note that the re-arranged annual general meeting will be held at the Dog Inn on Monday. This meeting was originally called on January 6, but had to be abandoned as only five members turned up.

The officials hope that this Monday the Dog members will take a little more interest in the club's affairs and present themselves at the new annual general meeting.

Worcester to use Warwick's nets

Worcestershire CCC, whose indoor cricket school was closed at the end of last winter, are to send their players to the Warwickshire indoor nets at Edgbaston.

The nets will be set aside for the exclusive use of the Worcestershire players each Monday, free of charge.

"It is a very nice gesture by Warwickshire to help us out in this manner," said Mr. J. Lister, the Warwickshire secretary.

N Zealander's 14 wickets

New Zealand fast bowler John Hayes strengthened his claim for inclusion in the team to tour England this year with match figures of 14 for 65 in a Plunket Shield cricket match at Auckland today.

He helped Auckland beat Wellington, the Shield holders, by an innings and 200 runs. Geoff Rabone, Auckland's Test batsman, scored 70

CROSSWORD No. 1374

ACROSS

- 1 Merchandise shipped (5).
- 4 Vaults (6).
- 8 He wields the rod (5).
- 10 Game group (5).
- 12 Drives back (6).
- 14 Chau with an appointment for a command (7).
- 17 Learning (4).
- 20 Called something else (7).
- 22 Cloudy (7).
- 24 Mr. Linklater? (4).
- 28 Blue-peniters (7).
- 27 Ghastly, possibly (6).
- 30 A symbol to know (6).
- 31 Not just slight (6).
- 31 As uncommon as can be (8).
- 32 Black man! (5).

DOWN

- 1 The fascination of March (5).
- 2 Daughter of Lear (5).
- 3 It might be grand (6).
- 5 Ready for anything? (4).
- 6 Sounds a fine-looking cab (6).
- 7 Finished the puzzle? Yes! (6).
- 9 What a draughtsman who's made an error may have to do? (7).
- 11 Soothes everyone to start with (6).
- 13 Lady onlooker? (7).
- 15 Animal impersonator? (4).
- 16 Jet-propelled water (6).
- 18 Stragglers bring it up (4).
- 20 Some beverage, this! (6).
- 21 Quarrel pettily (6).
- 24 What's wanted (5).
- 25 Fastidious (5).
- 26 Difficult of belief (5).
- 28 Here the puzzle does! (4).

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION.—Across: 3, Manicure. 8, Rice. 9, Deserted. 11, Car parks. 13, Glad. 15, Atlantic. 18, Ten-on-saw. 19, Inch. 21, Sessions. 25, Complete. 26, Kiwi. 27, Grasping. Down: 1, Eric. 2, Scar. 4, Aver. 5, Ides. 6, Until. 7, Ended. 8, Daunt. 10, Skein. 12, Acton. 14, A-gain. 16, Tepee. 17, Copse. 19, Incog. 20, Comma. 21, Slap (rev). 22, Stun. 28, O.B.-it. 24, Skip.

King-size cunning

By Ewart Kempson

ONE of the ingredients in the make-up of a first-class player is a little pinch of low cunning.

Both sides vulnerable; dealer North.

♠ A 5 3
♥ 10 5 4 2
♦ A J 10 5
♣ A 9

♠ K Q J N ♠ 10 8 7 6
♥ J 7 W E ♥ Q 8 6
♦ 8 7 6 4 S ♦ 9 3
♣ K J 8 3 ♣ 10 7 4 2

♠ 9 4 2
♥ A K 9 3
♦ K Q 2
♣ Q 6 5

North bid one diamond, South responded with one heart, North raised to three hearts and South bid four hearts: practically routine bidding. West led the king of spades, dummy won and two rounds of hearts left East with the winning queen.

South can now make

his contract if the adverse diamonds are divided three and three, for, on the 13th diamond, he will discard a spade and so lose one trump, one spade and one club.

But instead of playing out the king, queen and two of diamonds, South resorted to a little low cunning. He played the king and then the two. When dummy played the ace and then led the knave, it was only natural for East to assume that South had no more diamonds and that West held the queen.

Three tricks

So East discarded a spade and South produced the queen. The declarer then entered dummy with the ace of clubs to lead the 13th diamond on which he dis-



carded a spade. East-West now had to be content with three tricks and South made game and rubber.

Quiz

You are West, the dealer, at love all.

♠ K 2 ♠ A Q 7 3
♥ A K J N ♥ 5 2
♦ 9 8 3 W E
♣ 6 4 2 S ♣ K 8

West bids one heart, North butts in with two diamonds, but West lands the contract at four hearts. North leads the queen of diamonds. Which card should West play from dummy, and why?

My Solution: It is probable that North has six diamonds, but certainly not the ace. If the king is played, South will win, lead back a diamond and trump the third round of diamonds.

If North holds the guarded queen of hearts, the contract will be defeated. So, at Trick 1, West must play dummy's eight of diamonds.

Get the supporters out of this whirl

Determined policy is needed now

JUST a friendly bit of advice to the Hornets' board, which I want them to take in the spirit in which it is given. Make up your minds which policy to adopt and then stick to it. The announcement on Thursday indicated that this is now the aim, but happenings during the past few weeks give no guarantee that finality has been reached.

Because of switches and changes made in this short time supporters have been in a whirl, wondering if the officials were just chasing shadows instead of 15st. forwards. Eight days ago the board through the chairman, Mr. Arthur Walker, promised there would be a signing before today's match against Workington Town.

By Monday last I had a hunch that this would not materialise and, in fact, it did not come off. There are reasons for the failure to fulfil the promise, but those reasons were just as apparent when the promise was made. I am the last to

In the HORNETS' NEST by Touchjudge

suggest that there has been the slightest intention to mislead the public, but the official aim ought to be determined and put plainly.

Lack of the wherewithal to finance signings is, of course, at the bottom of the whole matter, but, potentially and in fact, the money position should be much more healthy at the Athletic Grounds than it was a year ago. That does not mean they are wallowing in wealth, but there is a guaranteed income from the Supporters' Club efforts and the elimination of entertainments tax must have some beneficial effect.

One player less

The intention to strengthen the team has been stated more than once, and activity last weekend backed this up until deal after deal fell through and the week ended with one player less—not one more on the books. My personal opinion is that this is just the moment when the board should be prepared to take a risk for the sake of keeping what support there is left in the town.

Enthusiasm for the forthcoming first round of the Challenge Cup is non-existent. True, the Hornets have been given one of the most difficult games of the round at a time when they are finding it hard to capture their best form and have not seen a winning bonus for a month.

The two junior clubs in the competition proper are probably going into action with greater enthusiasm than the Hornets whose stock is very low indeed. Even if the next fortnight passes without a signing we may begin to discern a little more ginger in the team and among supporters—Hull were favourites when Hornets won the cup, and if that recollection does not help a lot just now it ought at least to be a little tonic to a side whose first job is to get out of the dumps.

Sprint track

There was unusual activity at the Athletic Grounds early this week when a 75-yard sprint track was made alongside the boundary wall near the main stand car park. Lack of full facilities for sprinting has been apparent since one of the best tracks in the North was grassed over for the greyhound racing. Until the Supporters' Club erected a wall around the playing pitch and claimed a little extra space for enclosure patrons, there was a narrow area used for sprinting, but wide enough for only one runner. The new track should prove beneficial.

Before he left Rochdale on Thursday to sail from Tilbury back to Australia yesterday, Tom Duffy, the former Hornets forward whose last club was Blackpool Borough, called to say good-bye.

Tom takes back home with him his Rochdale wife. He goes, too, acknowledging that he never attained the success as a player that he desired but he added that

STATEMENT BY HORNETS DIRECTORS

The following statement was issued to the Press by Rochdale Hornets on Thursday:

At the board meeting of the Hornets directors on Monday evening the agenda included once again the important item of strengthening the team by the acquisition of suitable players, payment of debts, and the redemption of certain debentures.

Regarding the first item, the acquisition of players, the directors received reports on the availability and price of certain players, and it was agreed that if the public are to be satisfied, it would be folly to dissipate the small capital available on mediocre players. It was decided

that any purchases made should involve players of top quality and with lengthy football life in front of them.

This policy is out of range at the present but further discussions brought forth the following decision: A special fund is to be created for the sole purpose of team strengthening and to start the same, £500 is to be transferred immediately from the club's account. The directors felt that if home gates of 6,000 can be attained regularly by the loyal support of all rugby fans, it will not be long before they are in a position to sign the needed star players.

This would also enable the efforts of our admirable Sup-

porters' Club to be crystallised into more tangible form.

Debts which were formidable in August, both in amount and age, have been and will continue to be whittled down, and extreme gratitude is felt for our long-suffering creditors. Contract responsibilities have been met, the latest being the return fare to Australia for T. Duffy, which was honoured on Monday evening.

The debenture position is also under review and commitments will be met as and when they arise.

Traning facilities are continually being improved and after the purchase of spiked shoes, track suits, etc., work is now about to commence on a sprint

track at the rear of the main stand with the help and advice of Mr. Roberts, head groundsman at The Firs, Manchester University Athletic Ground. A first-class masseur has also been engaged and this should prove of benefit in keeping the players fit.

The directors are determined to carry out their avowed task which is to provide an attractive side capable of competing on even terms with the best, and they, the directors, will not be panicked into signing players who are no better than our present ones.

In conclusion, the directors thank all who are joining the ever-growing band of helpers who are slowly but surely putting Rochdale Hornets' finances on an even keel.

Club can hold up its head for home victories

ROCHDALE AMATEUR LEAGUE Railway Street gave Whitworth a whacking

WHITWORTH, the Amateur Cup holders, were beaten 6-0 when visiting Railway Street in Saturday's replay. Railway Street opened the score after five minutes and by half-time led 2-0. While Whitworth's forwards had made many attempts to break down the home team's defence they were not successful. After the interval, Railway Street immediately increased their score. They later proved their superiority by adding a further three goals. Scorers for the winners were Openshaw (3), Lomax (2) and Stillie.

Rochdale Athletic visited Todmorden YC and just entered the second round as the result of an odd-goal-of-five victory. Athletic opened the score after ten minutes only for Todmorden to equalise twenty minutes later, but Athletic again went in front just before the interval. The second half saw a very evenly-contested game, with each side again scoring. Turner and Heyes scored for Todmorden, and Oddie, Sinkinson and Diggle netted for Athletic.

In a first division game, Bay Horse, in their thirteenth league game, obtained their first league victory of the season, when at home they defeated Walsden by 4 goals to 1.

The first half saw Bay Horse right on top to lead 3-0 at half-time. In the second half Walsden got definitely on top, but some fine defensive work by Bay Horse kept

out all scoring efforts with the exception of one goal, and Bay Horse added a further goal to their score. Dolan (3) and White scored for Bay Horse, and Cordingley for Walsden.

Gravelhole have definitely slumped during the past weeks and, visiting Heymain Recs., the home team completed the double as the result of a 4-1 victory. Both sides defended well for a goalless first half, but in the second, Heymain, with the advantage of a strong wind, never let up to score four goals against one in reply, two of their goals being obtained in the first five minutes. Heywood, Garner, Wright, Webb and Price netted for Heymain and Brown for Gravelhole.

In the second division, Shaw Fine Spinners are showing greatly improved form and quietly climbing the league table. They put up a good performance when visiting Whitworth Reserves and winning 7-1. Love scored for Whitworth, and Whittle (3), Ireland (2) and Ingham and Sneyd for Shaw.

Market House returned to winning form when entertaining Shiloh Spinners, who were beaten 8-3. After leading 4-0 at half-time, Market House took their score to seven before Shiloh began to reduce the arrears. Drury, Lett and Jeffries (2 each), McCarroll and Lord scored for Market House, with Baynham (2) and Martin for Shiloh.

Birch St. Mary's visited Turner Bros. and surprisingly scored a 2-1 victory. Not content with scoring their own goals, Birch also scored for Turner's as the result of a deflection. Fern (own goal) scored for Turner's and Mulleney and Jones for Birch.

Dunlop SC, at home to Rochdale Athletic, had a welcome victory by the odd goal of five. Crossley and Meeling (2) scored for Dunlop, and Murphy got both Athletic's goals.

The draw for the second round of the Amateur Cup, to be played on February 1, is: Bay Horse v Heymain Recs; Shiloh Spinners v Shaw Fine Spinners or Walsden; Gravelhole or Boots Social v Rochdale Athletic; Railway Street v A & A Crompton or Turner Bros.

The three outstanding first-round ties will be played on January 25.

FIRST DIVISION

Club	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Heymain Recs.	13	10	2	1	60	31	21
Railway Street	12	8	2	2	54	32	18
Rochdale Ath.	11	7	2	2	46	20	16
Whitworth AFC.	12	5	1	6	50	33	16
Gravelhole	12	8	4	0	39	29	16
A. & A. Crompton	13	6	1	2	29	41	13
Todmorden YC	14	5	3	1	38	35	11
Walsden	11	4	7	0	27	39	8
Industry	14	3	9	2	31	43	8
Turner Bros.	13	3	9	1	34	61	7
Bay Horse	13	1	10	2	33	77	4

SECOND DIVISION

Club	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tudor Rose	13	11	0	2	64	21	24
Boots Social	12	11	1	0	77	24	22
Market House	13	8	5	0	49	34	16
Fine Spinners	15	7	1	7	51	59	15
Whitworth	14	6	7	2	36	43	14
Rochdale Ath.	15	5	7	3	49	56	13
Dunlop SC	13	4	7	2	32	44	10
Shiloh Spinners	13	4	8	0	31	44	8
Turner Bros.	13	3	9	1	35	66	7
Birch St. Mary's	15	3	11	1	34	66	7

NO team can be expected to be at its peak in every game. Unfortunately the soccer public of Rochdale expect the Spotland side to be different to any other Football League club. They do not tolerate anything less than victory for Rochdale at Spotland.

Therefore, last Saturday's defeat by Bradford City has brought in its train the usual bickering and threats of "keeping away."

Admittedly, the Bradford City display did not do Rochdale any good, but the loyal supporters, the type of soccer follower who keeps the game going so that there is still something for the "floater" to watch when he occasionally feels in the mood, would not take this defeat particularly to heart.

He remembers that Rochdale have still won as many home games as any team in the Northern Section. Only five of the 92 Football League clubs have, in fact, won more.

He remembers that Rochdale have given their supporters more goals than any other club in the section. They have netted 39 at Spotland, six more than the next best, a distinction shared by Bury, Hartlepool United and Carlisle United.

Die-hards' loyalty

In other words, if any supporters merely go to see their own team win or to see goals scored then they could not have chosen a better place than Spotland this season.

If the size of the "gates" recently have been any criterion, however, those who boosted the Bradford City attendance up to the 7,000 mark were last there for the FA Cup-tie against Darlington.

And we all know what happened in that ill-fated game. Including the FA Cup-tie match only three of the last eight home matches have been played before crowds exceeding 6,500. All three were lost. The other five were won.

The die-hards do, therefore, get some consolation for their loyalty. They see things at their best as well as at their worst and last Saturday was by no means the worst we have seen this season.

Success too, is comparative. For Gateshead or Southport, whose "gates" are poorer even than Rochdale's, there is far more credit in reaching a high position in the table than if Bury, Chesterfield, Hull City or similar clubs do so.

Providing there is good management money is generally the guiding factor in the success of clubs in the Second and Third Divisions.

Reliance on support

Last Saturday, for instance, Lincoln and Rotherham played to "gates" of under 10,000 while Liverpool had over 50,000. It is only too obvious which club is going to have most success in the long run.

This applies, in a lesser degree, among Northern Section clubs. Your Lincolns, Doncasters, Hulls and Barnsleys will continue to drop into the Third Division and to go back to the Second because their

SPOTLIGHT ON SPOTLAND by CRITIC

support is good for the Third Division but poor for the Second.

Once in the Second Division they cannot buy players good enough to keep them there as their promotion side distintegrates. Port Vale is another example.

To maintain a fair position in next season's national Third Division will require better support than has been necessary for an average place in the Northern Section.

It has been well said that a town eventually gets the sort of football it is willing to support.

What does Rochdale want? I ask the question and leave the public to give the answer.

On last Saturday's "gate," Rochdale could just about pay their way with the help of the Supporters' Club contribution. Obviously with a "gate" of 4,000—and there have been three recently—they are not doing so.

Another 7,000 attendance next Saturday for Carlisle United's visit followed by a five-figure "gate" for the Stockport County home match the week after would really show that the public want national Third Divisional football.

Unique meeting

I gather that those patient shareholders who have waited a considerable time to attend an annual meeting will not have much longer to complain.

As the Rochdale Chairman said some time ago, when it does come off this annual meeting will be unique, for it will bring Rochdale right up-to-date and I am told they intend to stay up-to-date in future.

An experiment which interests me considerably takes place in the Rochdale Reserve side today. Brian Green is starting what should be an extended trial as full-back.

He has played there in practice matches and has shown an aptitude for the position. Rochdale would not be averse to reducing the average age of the defence and as they have not succeeded in signing a new defender I am wholly in favour of the present move.

I have no crystal ball but I must quote a sentence from this column which was published on October 26, 1957. It reads: "A player who might well be given a lengthy trial in a defensive position is Brian Green."

Girl's fast 220-yd run

Betty Cuthbert, Australian triple Olympic gold medalist (100 metres and relay) today equalled the world 220-yard record with a time of 23.6sec. at Leederville Oval, Perth.

DARTS AND CRIB LEAGUES

Leeds have not won the League Championship yet

DUKE OF YORK FINISH TOP

News of the World sub-area final

Wilson's Brewery

Table with columns: P, W, L, F, A, Pts. Rows include Duke of York, Waggon & Horses, Royal Oak, etc.

The last eight in the Oldham sub-area will be throwing off to decide which one shall go forward to the Manchester area final at the Red Lion, Blackley, on February 19.

Wilson's Brewery darts results last Monday (crib in brackets): Plough 6 (0), Duke of York 1 (7), Queen's 2 (6), Five Ways 5 (1), Old White Hart 5 (5), New Inn 2 (2), Albert 5 (1), Church 2 (6), Halfway House 4 (2), Eleven Ways 3 (5), Talbot 4 (3), Royal 3 (4), Musicians 1 (2), Whip 6 (5).

LEEDS ST. JOHN'S club was formed in 1869 by T. J. Ogden, and his brother Joe was one of its leading spirits from its formation.

HOLLINWOOD

Last Tuesday's results in the Hollinwood Darts League (crib in brackets): Royal Oak 7 (4), Oxford 0 (3), Colliers Arms 7 (6), Struggler 0 (1), White Hart 5 (4), Bridgewater 2 (3), Yew Tree 3 (4), Greaves Arms 4 (3), Bowling Green 2 (2), Fallsworth CC 5 (6).

The last eight in the Oldham sub-area will be throwing off to decide which one shall go forward to the Manchester area final at the Red Lion, Blackley, on February 19.

Table with columns: P, W, L, F, A, Pts. Rows include Whip, Church, Eleven Ways, Talbot, Albert, Old White Hart, Five Ways, New Inn, Duke of York, Musicians, Church.

The Leeds St. John's Sunday School started the club, and for the first year the membership was exclusively confined to scholars of that establishment.

Table with columns: P, W, L, F, A, Pts. Rows include Yew Tree, Bridgewater, White Hart, Greaves Arms, Oxford, Ferranti, Bowling Green, New Moston BL, Mare & Foal, Fallsworth, Colliers Arms, Commercial, Struggler.

A. BROOKS (Swan Inn, Dobcross), T. JONES (Lord Nelson), T. MALLOY (Crompton Bowling Club), J. GARLICK (Oldham Chronicle), J. ORLSTON (Mess House), W. SLATER (Australian Inn), R. GREEN (Ivy Leaf, Manchester area winner, 1957), and N. RADCLIFFE (Cotton Tree Inn, Middleton).

Table with columns: P, W, L, F, A, Pts. Rows include Whip, Church, Eleven Ways, Talbot, Albert, Old White Hart, Five Ways, New Inn, Duke of York, Halfway House, Royal, Plough, Musicians.

Both of these men and J. A. Miller of St. John's, all became secretaries of the Yorkshire Rugby Union.

Table with columns: P, W, L, F, A, Pts. Rows include Bridgewater, New Moston BL, White Hart, Fallsworth CC, Yew Tree, Mare & Foal, Struggler, Greaves Arms, Oxford, Colliers Arms, Bowling Green, Royal Oak, Commercial.

CIRCULAR

Table with columns: P, W, L, F, A, Pts. Rows include Unity Hall, Coldhurst Lib., Railway, Miners, Weavers, Waterhead, Phoenix, Hope, Canteen, Bank Top, St. James's Cons., Clarence, Bent Hall.

THRELFALL BREWERY

Table with columns: P, W, L, F, A, Pts. Rows include Church, Mess House, Australian, Plough, Nelson, Highfield & Park., Brighton, Sergeant.

The first ground of the Johnians was in the Militia Barracks, where the club played on cinders for many years.

SHAW ROAD

Table with columns: P, W, L, F, A, Pts. Rows include White House, Prince of Wales, Halfway House, Spinnners, Egerton, Gold Diggers, Junction, Wheatsheaf, Minders, Hartford.

The Challenge Cup semi-finals will be played at Phoenix BC next Wednesday.

Table with columns: P, W, L, F, A, Pts. Rows include Bank Top Tavern, Spotted Cow, Musicians, Greaves, Junction (R), White Hart, Junction (M), Bull's Head, Spinnners, Nimble Nook, Bent Hall, Radcliffe, Gardeners.

Here the club took part in many rousing games for the Yorkshire Challenge Cup. In 1887, the John's were runners-up for that trophy.

Norden YCOB won by odd goal

NORDEN YCOB had the advantage of the wind and slope in the first half of their home game with Heywood St. James's.

Table with columns: P, W, L, F, A, Pts. Rows include Waterhead, Weavers, Canteen, Unity Hall, Railway, Bank Top, Miners, Bent Hall, Hope, Phoenix, St. James's Cons., Coldhurst Lib., Clarence.

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About 1889, several Leeds gentlemen conceived the idea of securing a first class city ground for football, cricket and other pastimes.

Defence were on top in the Sacred Heart v. YMCA Old Boys game until fifteen minutes after the interval when YMCA were reduced to ten men through injury to one of their players.

The Miniature Rifle Club has been given permission to use a room at the Oldham Sewage Works for a further period of twelve months.

Results for Monday, January 6: Radcliffe 1, Junction (R) 6; Spinnners 7, Old Bent Hall 0; Gardeners 2, Spotted Cow 5; Greaves 2, Bank Top Tavern 5; Nimble Nook 3, Junction (M) 4; White Hart 4, Bull's Head 3.

The Leeds St. John's club was invited to become the football section of the new organisation and agreed to this proposal.

Milton had the better of the opening stages of their home game with Castlemere Old Boys and deservedly took the lead in the 20th minute.

Brights to snatch a half-time lead in the 44th minute. The second half was dominated by Brights who added six goals.

however, played the better football and made it 3-1 before Spotland got their second goal.

The Leeds St. John's club was invited to become the football section of the new organisation and agreed to this proposal.

Brights had a comfortable 7-0 away win over Lanehead who lost the game in the first half, when, with the advantage of the slope they not only failed to score but allowed

"B" DIVISION The leaders, Whittle's, were fortunate to gain both points in their away game with St. Gabriel's as the home team had more of the play but failed in front of goal.

Table with columns: P, W, L, D, F, A, Pts. Rows include Shawforth, Littleboro' Parish, Sacred Heart, Norden YCOB, St. Aidan's, Castlemere OB, Milton, Wardle Parish, YMCA Old Boys, Lanehead, Heywood St. James, St. Vincent's, All Saints.

When the Yorkshire Senior Competition was formed for the leading Rugby Union clubs of the county in 1892-3 season, Leeds were not included.

Had Shawforth wished they could have defeated All Saints by more than the four goals Povey scored in the first half.

Outgate Baptists led Syke Methodists 1-0 at half-time and it was not until ten minutes from the end that the home team equalised.

Table with columns: P, W, L, D, F, A, Pts. Rows include Whittle's, Facit Parish, St. Gabriel's, St. Patrick's, Newhey St. Thomas, Milnrow Parish, St. Peter's, Thornham, Th'nham St. James, Outgate Baptists, Syke Meiths, Spotland Meths, Buckley Hall, West St. Bapts.

The following year with an identical number of points, 25 from 22 games, the club was placed fourth.

Had Shawforth wished they could have defeated All Saints by more than the four goals Povey scored in the first half.

After an even first half Thornham led St. Patrick's 1-0 at the half-way stage of their game at Slat-tocks.

Table with columns: P, W, L, D, F, A, Pts. Rows include Bright's, Shawforth, Littleboro' Parish, St. Aidan's, Milnrow Parish, Facit Parish, Wardle Parish, Norden YCOB, YMCA Old Boys, Sacred Heart, Castlemere OB, Newhey St. Thomas, Lanehead.

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Spotland Methodists 1-0 at half-time but Spotland equalised shortly after the resumption.

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OLDHAM ARE OUT TO GET RID OF MUD PATCH



Pitchford tries to break through the Barrow defence, chased by Grundy and watched by Castle (right)—a scene from the game at Watersheddings last Saturday which Oldham won 24-5.

IT'S that ground again. During the close season Oldham spent over £2,000 on redraining and turfing a large area of the playing pitch. Down came the rains last week and back came the dreaded mud. There was nothing like same area of mud as this time last year, but Oldham have acted quickly.

On Monday morning, the ground sub-committee chairman, Mr. Frank Ridgway, and the secretary, Mr. Bert Summerscales, met a man from the Sports Turf Research Station, Bingley, for an on-the-spot conference.

The expert took samples of the soil and next week the club will get an opinion on the best way to be rid of this last patch of mud bang in the middle of the field.

"We will act as soon as we can on the recommendations," said Mr. Bert Summerscales. "It is our definite aim to make the field fit to play on all the year round."

SURVEY FROM WATERSHEDDINGS

By W.D.

sheddings on Thursday night, and on the other end was mystery man Rowley Moat. "Could you find out if I am in either of the teams this week?" he asked. And he was told to report for the "A" team.

Rowley had nothing else to say—neither about his injury nor his absence from the club since before Christmas. He did say that he had just returned from his honeymoon and was ready for some more rugby.

"He did not mention anything about wanting a transfer," a club official said. "As far as I know he is quite happy to come back to the reserves."

Maybe there will be another chapter to this story on Monday night when the committee meet.

Oily problem

Oldham's "feet-first" decision this week has had quick response. Following the story in Thursday's Chronicle that the club were to appoint a chiropodist, Oldham have had two calls from experts offering their services.

"We have not done anything about the offers yet," I was told yesterday, "but we certainly appreciate the quick response."

Finding out that feet and not the boots were running up expenses was the job of Mr. Bert Summerscales, and now he is faced with another teaser. "What happens to all the olive oil that is bought at Watersheddings?"

Bert tells me that each fortnight, the club slips through a full gallon of olive oil. "It is not," he states categorically, "intended for drinking. It is merely for massage purposes."

Off to the Midlands

This week's trip is taking a couple of Oldham officials down into the Midlands. The destination is unknown, but the purpose is clearly to take another look at a Rugby Union back who has interested the club in the past.

The young man—"We would rather not say what his position is"—was originally spotted by Oldham officials when they were out watching another player.

Since then the other player has fallen by the wayside littered with Oldham's prospects. And there is no doubt that if this latest winger (that's my guess) does not match up to required standards, he will fall there also.

Hull KR have a plan

Bill Spaven says his team have a plan to get into the second round of the Challenge Cup. Naturally, he wouldn't say what the plan was, because Bill is an official of the Hull Kingston Rovers club.

By now everybody knows that Hull KR are the team which, on February 8, comes to try and put Oldham out of the Challenge Cup before they get into it proper.

"We have a plan," he told me in Leeds this week. "that we think will give Oldham a fright." Well, I can tell Mr. Spaven that Oldham just don't believe in ghosts any more.

The beautiful side of Rugby League goes on show at King Street Stores on Tuesday night, when Oldham will select its Rugby Queen at a dance organised by the Supporters Club.

Points of merit are given for the usual feminine charms, but in addition, Oldham's queen is expected to know a little about Rugby League football. As the competition for the National Queen is to be held in Oldham later this year, this local contest has an extra interest.

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE					
	P	W	L	D	Pts
St. Helens	21	18	3	0	36
OLDHAM	17	15	2	0	30
Wigan	18	13	5	0	26
Workington	17	12	4	1	26

Schools rugby

Higginshaw's defence kept well on top

LEAGUE "A"

Higginshaw 9, Clarksfield 0.

Apart from various patches of very heavy ground the surface was fairly holding. Winning the toss, Clarksfield elected to play uphill, fielding three reserves. They did well to hold the heavier Higginshaw pack but eventually the home side got through for an unconverted try with a great turn of speed from left-winger Evans.

Despite the advantage of the slope in the second half Clarksfield were unable to penetrate the close marking of the Higginshaw defence. Clarksfield were handicapped by the absence of their regular hooker Atherton, and while Broadbent, who substituted, did fairly well, he would have been far better employed in his usual position in the backs. Russell added a further try and in the closing minutes, with Clarksfield's full-back off injured, he ran in an unconverted try.

Higginshaw 3, Clarksfield 9.

To supplement the small number of fixtures in the "D" league, a practice match was arranged between a mixed 1st and 2nd year Higginshaw team and Clarksfield first year team. Much good and enthusiastic rugby was seen but spectacular open play was sadly lacking due to the close spotting of the defences and the tendency to lay offside at the "play-the-ball." Higginshaw scored within three minutes, when their right-wing intercepted a rather risky inside pass. Marcroft equalised before half-time and in the second half Clayton burst through downhill for a great try while Stevenson made the result certain with another try after some mixed play near the Higginshaw line. Lockwood had hard luck when he beat all the opposition, but, due to unfamiliarity with the ground, he ran on over the dead-ball line before grounding. Honours from the set scrums were about even. In the loose Oddie, propping for Clarksfield, gave a great exhibition. Blaney did well for Higginshaw but some good tackling limited his potentialities.

W.H.

Ken Bousfield is 7 behind the leader

Ken Bousfield, British Ryder Cup player, was in fourth place with 142—seven strokes behind the leader—as he entered the third round of the Transvaal open golf championship at Johannesburg today.

Gary Player, South Africa's outstanding young professional, led with 135 after a five-under-par 67. Bousfield had a second round of 69.

Player was closely followed by Bobby Locke (South Africa), British Open Champion, who had 69 for 137. Dai Rees, Britain's Ryder Cup captain, who was only three strokes behind the leaders after the first round, fell back with a round of 74 for a total of 145.

FOUR PLAYERS OFF IN FIVE MINUTES

Saddleworth Rangers 0 5-15
Spotland Rangers 1 1-5

SADDLEWORTH RANGERS entertained Spotland Rangers at Greenfield last Saturday in a great game of Rugby League Football. The ground was deep in mud, making the ball hard to handle, but this made no difference to either side. They swung the ball about and only good tackling kept the score down for the first 20 minutes.

Then Leaming opened up a gap in the visitors' defence and shot through to score a brilliant try under the posts. Leaming again crossed near the posts but both kicks at goal failed.

Spotland seemed to tire near the interval and Saddleworth took advantage and scored two further tries by Evans and McLean.

Still good football

After the interval both sides kept up the good football with Spotland coming more into the game and only the home side's sure tackling keeping them out. But a movement by Ashworth and Bentley ended in a grand try by Ollerenshaw, to which Kettleton added the goal points. Pickering made the game safe for Saddleworth when he scored a grand try after some neat inter-passing by the home threequarters.

Royton 5 9-37
Higginshaw 2 0-4

In their away fixture at Royton, Higginshaw found the home side in a merry mood. Royton ran up a score of 37 points against Higginshaw's 4.

Waterhead 1 1-5
St. Anne's 5 9-37

Four players were sent off in the space of five minutes in the opening stages of this game. Foy and Birgin each scored three tries while Cawthorne landed five goals out of the Saints' total.

In the Intermediate Section the clubs took part in the County Cup and played the Area Semi-Finals.

The game played at Manor Flatts was a real thriller, St. Anne's just beating Greenacres with a little more speed to win by 25 points to 16. Playing down the slope in the first half, Greenacres used it to good advantage and kept the Saints penned in their own "25."

The home side opened the scoring with a penalty goal, and then Mathews crashed over for a good try. After this St. Anne's relied on fast passing and made some strong thrusts up the field.

From a scrum near halfway the Saints' scrum-half worked the blind-side and sent Travis racing away to score a grand try in the corner.

Greenacres scored their second try with a neat passing movement, which sent Payton over. The kick at goal failed but Cullen kicked his second penalty goal to increase Greenacres lead.

Near half-time St. Anne's applied strong pressure and after failing to cross on the left-wing, a quick pass

found a gap on the right, and Tully touched down for a try.

With the score at 10-9 in Greenacres favour, St. Anne's were putting on the pressure. O'Connell cleared his line and started a grand passing movement which put the Saints in the lead, when Travis scored a great try in the corner.

The slope in the second-half began to tell its tale on Greenacres, and the Saints soon got on top. Greany, playing strongly at loose-forward for the visitors and Walsh at scrum-half, led many strong raids.

McGladdery scored under the posts but O'Connell missed an easy kick at goal.

To O'Connell a goal

Back came Greenacres with a grand try by Cullen when he snapped up the ball from a Saints' mistake.

The score was now 13-12 for Greenacres.

St. Anne's swarmed down the field and when a try seemed certain, O'Connell dropped a goal. At this point Greenacres lost Marland with a knee injury and this swung the game round in favour of St. Anne's. Travis scored his fourth try and Higgins a try, to which O'Connell added the goal points, bringing the Saints' total to 25 points. Just before the end Harrison cleverly beat a surprised Saints' defence to score a late try for Greenacres, and bring their total to 16 points.

In the other semi-final at Bower Lane, Strinesdale beat Ferranti by 30-9. The Area Final which should have been played today, will have to be held over as there is an appeal to the County Committee.

There will be a special meeting at the Roebuck Hotel tomorrow (Sunday) at 1.0 p.m. and it is important that all clubs are represented.



The last time ALAN DAVIES (left) and PHIL JACKSON met, they were playing together, but when they lined up last Saturday they were on opposite sides. And Oldham's Alan Davies left no doubt that Barrow's Phil Jackson is better alongside him than opposite him. Oldham won 24-5 and in so doing Davies completely "buried" his international partner from Barrow.

A Referee's own viewpoint PROFESSIONAL RULE

WITH the incorporation of what has become widely known as the "professional rule" into the BACC rules of snooker, all players in leagues, competitions, etc., playing under these rules will be able to bring it into operation. Rule 14 (Snooker) now reads as follows:—

A player who contravenes any rule of this game (a) cannot score, (b) loses his turn, (c) forfeits such

By FRED MAYALL

points as are exacted under these rules, the same being added to his opponent's score, and (d) in addition, the striker has the option of playing from where the balls have come to rest, OR REQUESTING THE OPPONENT TO PLAY THE STROKE.

The only addition is paragraph (d), and it means that irrespective of what the referee thinks, if a player considers himself at a disadvantage after a foul stroke he can instruct his opponent to play the next stroke.

THE Manchester Referees' Association, who have been solidly behind the BACC when that body refused to recognise the rule, are still divided on the matter, although they will of necessity have to abide by the ruling of the governing body.

Even those that favour the new rule do not like the way it is being applied, as it takes the control of the game away from the referee for that particular stroke, a thing that cannot happen in any other sport.

It would have been far better from the referee's point of view if the rule had said "the player may ask the referee to tell his opponent to play the next stroke," because under the present ruling I can foresee confusion and argument between players, with the referee powerless to do anything because he has lost control for that short period.

I WOULD advise all players to use this rule with very great caution or they may fall into a trap of their own making, because if the other player takes the next stroke as requested and unexpectedly scores from it, he carries on with his break.

Also there are times where a first-class referee is in charge when he will know better than the player which rule should be applied.

AN instance of this is shown in the diagram. With the pink and black left on the table, "A" (20 points in front) tries to cut the pink in the top pocket as shown. Not only does he miss it, but he leaves it hanging over the pocket and goes in-off in the bottom pocket.

This leaves "B" his opponent, not snookered but in a hopeless position. If "B" pots pink he loses the game—and he cannot tell "A" to take the next stroke, for he would still lose.

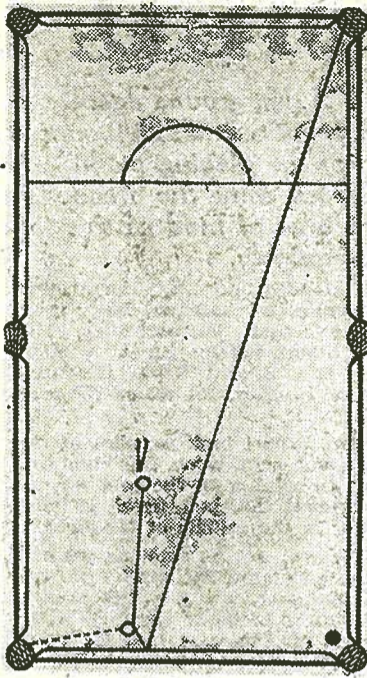
This is only one of many positions where Rule 15 can be applied, and the referee can take any appropriate action to restore the balance of the game. In this case the pink and also the black could be respotted as one solution to the problem.

THE Open Snooker Handicap organised by Healey Conservative Club, which must have one of the biggest entries in the country, has once more an attractive prize list, valued at £70.

Entries should be sent to Mr. Bob Hodgson, Healey Conservative Club, Market Street, Whitworth, Rochdale, with a 5s. entry fee. They close on Saturday, February 1. If players will state their best nights for playing, the committee will endeavour to accommodate them.

CENTENARY 501

	P.	W.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
HCGSC	13	13	0	70	21	26
Lord Nelson	12	11	1	62	22	23
Radcliffe	12	9	4	47	44	28
Mess House	13	8	5	52	39	16
Featherstall "B"	12	8	4	45	39	16
North Chadd. Ladies	13	5	8	38	58	10
Spinners, Lees Rd.	13	4	9	38	53	8
Waterhead SC	13	4	9	38	56	8
Salisbury Hotel	13	4	9	38	58	8
Central Labour	13	3	10	43	48	6
Moorside "A"	13	2	11	33	58	4
Highest Score	Schofield's Weekly Prize: Week 14, A. Schofield (Moorside "A") 177; Week 15, E. Saunders (Spinners) 171.					



ENGLAND GOALIE HAS A SON



At least one man will be rushing back from this afternoon's game at Old Trafford to his home in Royton. EDDIE HOPKINSON, England and Bolton Wanderers' goalkeeper yesterday became a proud father when his wife Sheila presented him with a 7lb. 10oz. son (Paul Edward) in Woodfield Maternity Home.

CHADDERTON SNOOKER LEAGUE SPRINGBANK NEARLY BEAT LEAGUE LEADERS

SPRINGBANK, at home to Land's End in the Chadderton Snooker League last Monday, nearly caught the league leaders on the hop. It was a see-saw match, F. Dyson winning by 42 for Land's End, S. Bolton by 71 for the Bank, and then G. Lockwood and S. Pope putting the Middleton team comfortably in the lead after four frames.

Then came the surprise of the match. H. McNally beat W. Taylor 88-49, but it was just three short of making it a victory for Springbank.

An even closer finish was seen at Fallsworth Cycle Club, where Pearson, Osborne and Moreton won the first three frames for the home team. T. Bell then put N. Chadderton Social into the game with a 98-39 win against J. Siddall. H. Linyard then won the last frame by 10, but Social Club were still one short of Cycle's total.

Avro's won all five

At home to Platt's, Avro's won all five frames, their best winners being R. Power (37) and H. Southern (35), and the total margin was 114. Nimble Nook also had an easy win at home to N. Chadderton Cons., taking four of the frames to win by 135.

Royton Cons. found that it needs only two good wins by your opponents and you've lost the match. T. Coleman (40) and T. Hulme (38) gave Chadderton Reform a good lead, and although Royton won the other three frames, they reduced the deficit by only 29.

Chadderton Band had an easy home win over Shaw Road Cons., who won only one frame, and

Schoolboy soccer query

Mr. John Rankin (Lab., Govan), is to ask the Secretary of State for Scotland "if he is aware of the increasing pressure on Scottish boys who have not yet attained the school-leaving age of 15 years to join the ground staffs of English football clubs, and what steps he proposes to take to stop this practice in view of the disturbing effect it has on the education of school-boys in general." The question will be asked on Tuesday.

Note: The question has been discussed both by the Football

Association and the Football League. Before clubs at the moment is a proposal by the Football League Management Committee as follows:

"All amateur players shall be registered with the League, and clubs shall not enter into any negotiations for registration, directly or indirectly, with any amateur player on the roll of a recognised school until the day following the end of the holidays of the term in which he leaves or on the day he takes up full employment."

World Cup problem IRISH FA MAKE APPEAL ABOUT SUNDAY GAMES

THE Irish FA stated today that they are to appeal to FIFA, who organise the World Cup competition, against being required to play Sunday matches in the finals in Sweden during the summer.

A meeting of the Irish FA international committee was called last night in Belfast to discuss the World Cup position arising from Northern Ireland's win over Italy on Wednesday, which enabled them to qualify for the finals. This at once meant the probability of being called upon for Sunday play, which is against the rules of the Irish FA.

A statement issued today said that it had been decided to make known to FIFA that the Irish FA could not take part in Sunday football. Representations will be made with the object of being allowed to play the World Cup matches on days other than Sundays.

LEAGUE THREE NORTH (including January 11)						
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	Pts
Bury	27	16	5	6	58	26
Scunthorpe	26	15	6	5	51	30
Barrow	29	11	11	7	47	42
Chesterfield	28	13	7	8	49	46
Bradford City	27	11	10	6	38	27
Hartlepool	28	12	8	8	51	46
Mansfield	25	12	7	6	56	46
ROCHDALE	27	14	2	11	58	43
Accrington	26	12	6	8	46	41
Tranmere	27	11	7	9	56	44
ATHLETIC	27	10	8	9	42	44
Stockport	26	10	7	9	41	36
Hull City	26	10	7	9	38	43
Halifax Town	28	9	10	10	43	49
Wrexham	27	10	6	11	41	38
Gateshead	28	7	11	10	40	50
Carlisle	28	11	3	14	50	48
Bradford	29	9	6	14	44	61
Workington	26	8	7	11	38	43
York City	27	8	7	12	36	46
Darlington	26	10	2	14	41	53
Chester	26	7	6	13	32	39
Southport	28	6	4	18	33	58
Crewe Alex.	28	5	4	19	28	54

HALF-TIME SCORES

FIRST DIVISION
Birmingham 1, Burnley 1.
Blackpool 2, Wolves 1.
Chelsea 2, Newcastle 1.
Leicester 0, Arsenal 0.
Luton Town 0, Aston Villa 0.
Manchester United 4, Bolton 1.
Notts Forest 1, Leeds 1.
Portsmouth 1, Manchester City 1.
Sunderland 1, Everton 0.
Tottenham 1, Preston 1.
West Brom 3, Sheffield Wed. 0.

SECOND DIVISION
Barnsley 0, Fulham 0.
Blackburn 2, Bristol Rovers 0.
Bristol City 1, Charlton 0.
Cardiff 1, Leyton Orient 1.
Grimmsby 3, Rotherham 0.
Huddersfield 2, Notts County 0.
Ipswich 0, Lincoln 0.
Liverpool 0, Middlesbrough 0.
Sheffield Utd. 0, Derby 0.
Stoke 0, Doncaster 0.
West Ham 1, Swansea 0.

THIRD DIVISION (North)
Accrington 1, Southport 1.
Bradford City 2, Crewe 1.
Bury 3, York 1.
Chester 0, Carlisle 0.
Chesterfield 1, Bradford 1.
Gateshead 1, Darlington 0.
Hull 1, Rochdale 0.
Mansfield 0, Scunthorpe 1.
Oldham 1, Barrow 1.
Stockport 2, Halifax 0.
Tranmere 1, Hartlepool 2.
Workington 2, Wrexham 1.

THIRD DIVISION (South)
Bournemouth 1, Brentford 0.
Coventry 2, Crystal Palace 0.
Exeter 0, Newport 0.
Gillingham 0, Port Vale 2.
Millwall 0, Plymouth 1.
Norwich 1, Colchester 1.
Queens Park R. 3, Southampton 0.
Reading 2, Northampton 2.
Shrewsbury 0, Watford 2.
Southend 0, Brighton 1.
Swindon 1, Aldershot 0.
Walsall 0, Torquay 0.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE (Div. I)
Airdrieonians 3, Rangers 3.
Celtic 1, Aberdeen 0.
Dundee 2, Clyde 0.
East Fife 0, Hearts 2.
Hibernians 2, Falkirk 2.
Partick 2, Motherwell 2.
St. Mirren 0, Raith 4.
Third Lanark 0, Kilmarnock 0.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE (Div. II)
Arbroath 3, Berwick 0.
Ayr 0, Dunfermline 2.
Brechin 1, Morton 1.
Cowdenbeath 3, Stranraer 0.
Dumbarton 2, Montrose 0.
East Stirling 0, Albion 0.
St. Johnstone 0, Alloa 1.
Stenhousemuir 1, Dundee Utd. 4.
Stirling Albion 1, Forfar 2.

OLDHAM BOYS IN SEMI-FINALS

TWELVE Oldham schoolboys won through to the semi-finals of the Lancashire schools boxing championships on Friday. The quarter-finals were held at Redbrooke S.M. School, Rochdale. Six Oldham boys won their bouts last evening, and the other six semi-finalists were walk-overs. The six winners were V. Burston (Hollins S.M.), J. Mullins (Robin Hill), J. Jewitt (Derker), J. Cudworth (Waterloo), T. Gallagher (Henshaw's), and A. Savage (Clarksfield).

The six boys with walkovers were V. Barratt (Hollinwood), R. Grimsditch (Waterloo), A. Boswell (Derker), A. Nelson (Derker), D. Jones (Derker) and A. Bradshaw (Derker).

Three other Oldham boys narrowly missed a crack at the semi-finals. They were E. Jackson (Hollinwood), V. Smith (Hollinwood) and A. Jones (Derker). They each won one bout, had to fight a second time and lost.

The semi-finals will be held next Friday at Fallsworth SM School.

Next week's
**GREEN
FINAL**
will have
16 pages

Jack Solomons
inside story
and first of
**GREATEST
STORIES
IN SPORT**

Graver decides not to
join Lincoln City

Lincoln City's attempt to sign Andy Graver, centre-forward, for the third time, has fallen through. Graver told Ray King, the Boston player-manager, today, "I am content with Boston and intend to stay with them as long as they retain my services."

Rugby Union Notes

Second of rugger film shows
should be very interesting

ON Tuesday next (8 p.m.), the second of the film shows will be given. The last show was very well attended, but there was a little disappointment when the film of the international match failed to arrive. However, Frank Kershaw has every confidence in the two films arriving in good time for Tuesday's show, and it is hoped there will be a good attendance. A further instructional film will be shown, together with "Lions at Play" a film of the last British Isles touring side in South Africa, which played such enterprising rugger.

Last Saturday, four of Oldham's five teams fielded, won, the Colts being only narrowly defeated. The first team was forced to make several late changes, but they, nevertheless found the Bingley opposition below the standard expected of a Yorkshire side. There does seem to be something wrong with team organisation which requires the first team skipper to be searching for three players to make up his team, ten minutes after the game was due to begin.

Once the game started, Oldham ran out easy winners in a scrappy game, 14-0, the only feature of any note being the fine wing-forward display of S. Woodhead.

The "A" team visited Bingley and won 15-8. This was a good game, with plenty of enterprising football

from both sides. Oldham had a 12-point lead at one time, but Bingley added eight quick points. D. Adams, who scored two tries for Oldham, was in fine form. A. Shaw also scored an excellent try, running from his own "25." P. Shaw played well at scrum-half, and R. Tweedale had a good game on the wing. Again R. Slater got a monopoly of the ball with his fine hooking.

The Borough side, weakened by calls for the first team, were beaten 8-3 by the much-improved Sedgley Park side at Keb Lane. This was a game of little incident. Sedgley sportingly lent Oldham a player, and played 14 a side. Lang and Murphy made a welcome return to the Oldham side after injury, and S. Nicholas had a good game forward. However this side still commits too many petty infringements, especially in the lines-out.

The Extra "A" team's win 12-9 at Bingley was very encouraging. A special word of praise must go to B. Jinks, who has captained the side throughout the season and, despite the many setbacks of his side, has tried to get a winning combination. D. Bowes and E. Radkin were good forwards—in fact, there was an improvement all round among the forwards and N. Platt had a good game at scrum-half.

Today the first team are without a fixture for the first time this season, so they have a well-earned

Seel Park Notes

INJURIES AND BAD PLAY BEAT MOSSLEY

LAST week, at Mossley, two points were thrown away. After leading one-nil at half-time, and playing with the wind in the second half, it looked certain that Mossley would beat Wrexham easily, but bad play and injury lost the game 3-2.

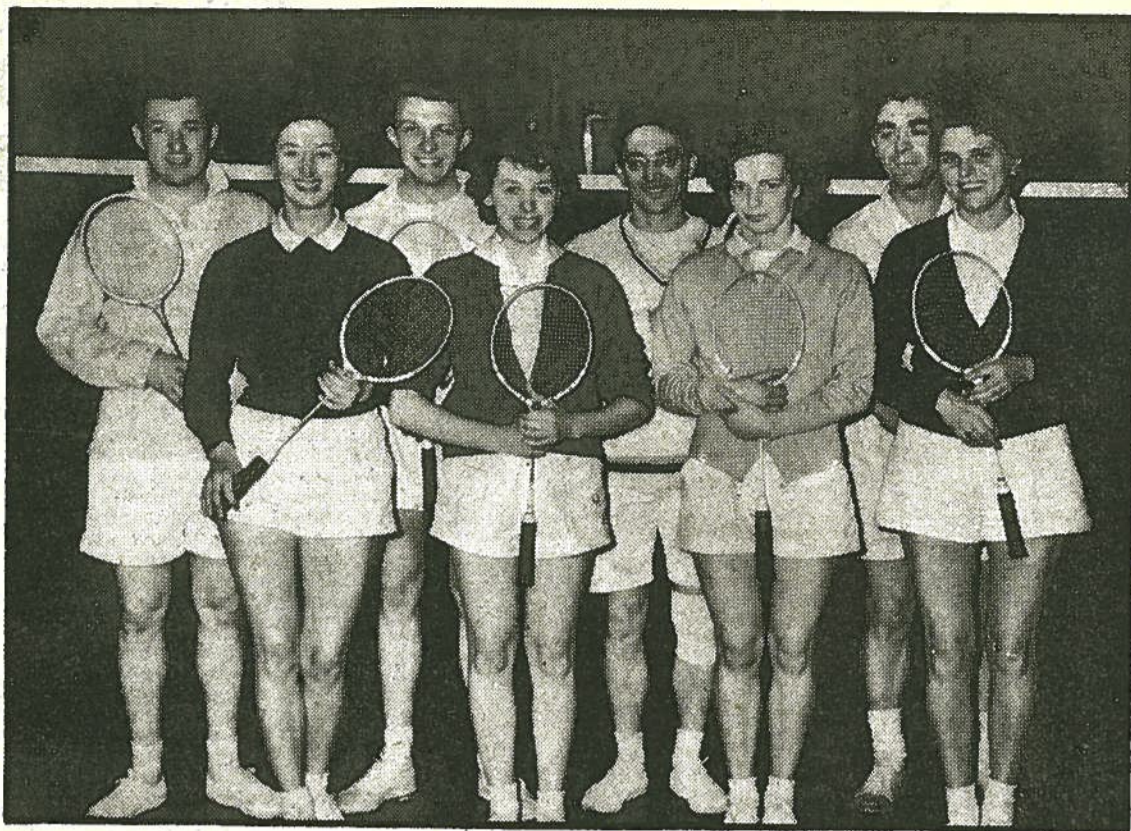
A lot of the trouble can be laid on Kaye, Eckersall and Barker, who, unfortunately, were injured just before half-time. None of the three will be fit to play this week, and that means five men out of action, including Pilling and Brierley.

The search for a new forward still goes on, but the man Manager Chingley was hoping to sign was transferred to another club for a fee. We have had to release G. Allman, the centre-forward, this week.

He didn't quite fit into the forward line.

Next week Mossley play Stalybridge Celtic at Stalybridge, kick-off 2-30 p.m. This is the local derby match.

W. Swinburn has been engaged to ride for P. J. Prendergast's Irish stable next season.



Finalists in the Oldham Badminton Championships.—Left to right: J. Cole, Mrs. M. Cole, B. Maddocks, Miss M. Thorpe, N. Gleave, Mrs. F. Bellby, A. Bolton, Miss M. Mason.

Junior schools

Alexandra get step nearer championship

IN Division I Alexandra retained their place at the top of the table as a result of a 3-2 win over their nearest rivals, Freehold. This was a ding-dong struggle, worthy of the two top teams. Freehold's goalkeeper earned the title of best player on the field, with Earle, of Alexandra, running him a close second.

Although Alexandra deserved to win, Freehold never gave in and made some spirited attacks on the Alexandra goal. Alexandra defence held out, however, and the school went a step nearer to the Division I title.

Butterworth, Dobson and one own-goal counted for the winners. Gallagher and Bailey got Freehold's goals.

Werneth entertained Hathershaw at Red Flats in a thrill-packed game that held the interest to the end. Werneth, 2-1 down at one stage, fought back so well that they took a 3-2 lead and it was only in the last two minutes that Hathershaw got two goals to give them a 5-3 win. Boyd (2) and Ainley scored for Werneth and Daubney (2), Taylor (2) and McCorquodale brought two points to Hathershaw.

In Division 2, Roundthorn seem to have made the issue safe by their latest victory over Northmoor. This 5-2 win puts them four points clear of their nearest rivals, Derker, and with only three more league games to play it looks fairly safe for the Roundthorn boys.

Derker visited Fitton Hill and ran out worth winners over a team that is having little luck. Every so often schools have a lean year, when nothing goes right, and Fitton Hill are sharing that experience now. Although they haven't won a match they deserve a lot of credit for always turning out and playing such a sporting game.

With the score 12-0 in Derker's favour, the scorers were Henthorn (4), England (4), Blainey, Debnam, Brogan and Riddall with the wingers Henthorn and Blainey and half-back Riddall outstanding. Murphey was best for Fitton Hill.

In Division 3, St. Anne's had to concede two points to visitors Moor-side, who won by 4-0. With the Turner twins and Ogden doing well for Moor-side, they were meritorious winners, although Lees, Dunn, Kane and Martindale tried hard for St. Anne's. Howards and B. Turner 3 (1 penalty) scored the goals.

In Division 4, a 4-0 win for Higginshaw put them at the top of the table after their game against St. Mark's, but their nearest rivals, Birch Hall, have two games in hand. Wolfenden and Taylor (3) were their scorers. T.M.J.

MCC's quick wickets

The MCC team at Kampala, Uganda made a fine start to the last match of their East African tour today, taking six wickets for 55 runs against Uganda before lunch. Three wickets falling to catches off Bailey.

The two-day match is being played on a coir matting wicket.

Cross-country winner

George Knight (Essex) won the inter-counties cross-country championship at Trentham Park, Stoke-on-Trent, today in 40min. 17sec. A. Cocking (Yorkshire) was second and J. W. Anderson (Northumberland and Durham) third.

JIM COLE NEARLY TRIPLE CHAMPION

IN last night's Oldham badminton finals, Jim Cole came within an ace of becoming the first player in the Oldham League ever to be triple champion. He had beaten Brian Maddocks, last year's singles champion; he had won the men's doubles with Maddocks, beating N. Gleave and A. Bolton; and he was leading 14-10 in the second game in the mixed doubles with his wife, Mavis.

But Brian Maddocks and Maureen Thorpe, having lost the first game, managed to fight back and win that second game 17-14 and took the third game 15-11.

In the women's singles Mrs. F. Bellby defended her title against a previous winner, Miss M. Mason, and won comfortably 11-6, 11-1.

Her defence and positional play was much too good for Miss Mason, who was never in the match after leading 4-0 in the first game.

55-minute struggle

The men's singles between Maddocks and Cole lasted 55 minutes, Cole winning 15-12, 10-15, 15-8 after some long and exhausting rallies. In the first game Cole appeared much stronger and led 11-7. Maddocks levelled at 11-11 then led the game slip away through overhitting. Cole led 8-1 in the second game, but Maddocks brilliantly overhauled him to win 15-10 after having three game points.

In the third game it was Maddocks's turn to lead, 5-1, but he started slashing too much and overhitting again. This put Cole on top and he ran out a worthy winner, 15-8.

The women's doubles was a slight anti-climax after the singles, for Miss M. Mason and Miss M. Thorpe, playing Mrs. T. Bellby and Mrs. M. Cole, were much too good and won comfortably 15-4, 15-6. Mrs. Bellby and Mrs. Cole, playing a front-and-back combination, just could not penetrate the defence of Miss Mason and Miss Thorpe, who played a "sides" formation.

Strong doubles pair

Cole and Maddocks paired up for the men's doubles and beat A. Bolton and N. Gleave 17-15, 15-6. Bolton and Gleave were 13-5 down in the first game but managed to set at 14-14. They then lost their service, and Cole and Maddocks grasped the opportunity to win 17-15.

TODAY'S RACING

SANDOWN PARK

1 0-RIPLEY SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE. 2 miles. 11 0 HELVETIAN 6yrs A Boyle 1 11 10 FAIR LEGEND 6yrs ... T Redmond 2 11 5 HIGH GEAR 9yrs ... N F Morrissey 3

WORCESTER

1 15-BEGINNERS' CHASE. 2 miles. 11 9 MONOPOLY 5yrs ... Mr J Lawrence 1 11 9 K.E. 5yrs P Major 2 11 9 THE REASON WHY 5yrs...M Roberts 3

1 30-LONDESBOURGH HANDICAP CHASE. 2 miles and 25 yards. 11 0 SERINGAPATAM 6yrs ... W Rees 1 10 5 TRAPEZE II 9yrs Mr J Leigh 2 11 13 BRIAN OGE 7yrs D V Dick 3

1 45-POWICK SELLING HURDLE. 2 miles 11 10 CRITERION 9yrs P Doherty 1 11 10 CARNELIAN 9yrs...Mr A C M Porter 2 11 13 DUCTILITY 9yrs R J Hamey 3

2 0-MILDWAY MEMORIAL CHASE. 3 miles, 5 furlongs and 25 yards. 10 7 POLAR FLIGHT 5yrs G Slack 1 10 6 HALL WEIR 8yrs W Rees 2 10 8 TIBERETTA 10yrs M McCourt 3

2 15-HINDLIP HANDICAP CHASE. 3 miles. 11 11 VICTOR VI 5yrs V Speck 1 10 9 MORNING AFTER 5yrs Mr J Lawrence 2 11 0 ROYAL TOURNAMENT 5yrs B Lawrence 3

2 30-STAND NOVICES' CHASE. 2 miles and 25 yards. 12 7 LIMEVILLE 7yrs A Freeman 1 11 10 ROCK HYACINTH 7yrs...O Brennan 2 12 7 YES SIR II 9yrs D Ancil 3

2 40-BROMSGROVE HANDICAP HURDLE. 2 miles and 5 furlongs. 10 6 COLOPTIMIST 5yrs D Leslie 1 10 8 BLEWBURY 7yrs R Richards 2 10 13 PETER OF CROSSWELL 5yrs E Foster 3

3 0-CARDINAL HANDICAP HURDLE. 2 miles, 5 furlongs, 75 yards. 11 13 FOUNDRY 5yrs F Winter 1 10 2 DANDY SCOT 8yrs E Campbell 2 10 7 PICK AND CHOOSE 7yrs...H J East 3

3 15-COVENTRY HANDICAP CHASE. 2 miles. 10 3 BELIQUX 5yrs J Foster 1 10 11 COMMON SENSE 7yrs ... T Molony 2 10 0 PRICE REVIEW 7yrs ... R Morrow 3

3 30-VILLAGE FOUR-YEAR-OLD HURDLE. 2 miles. 11 5 PUNDIT H Sprague 1 11 10 NOSTALGIA W Lees 2 11 5 LOVE STORY F Winter 3

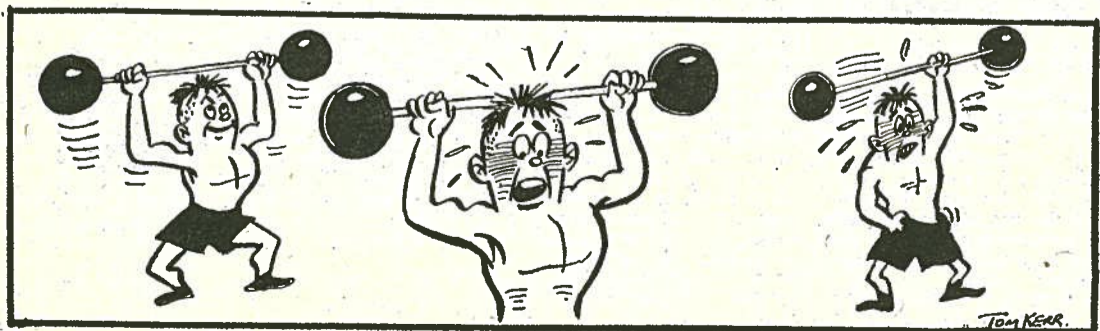
3 45-HIMBLETON FOUR-YEAR-OLD HANDICAP HURDLE. 2 miles. 11 3 CONKERS SCORE J Bullock 1 10 7 BILLY BARKER F McMahon 2 11 11 ENORA H Doherty 3

Title contender wins

Harold Johnson, one of the leading contenders for Archie Moore's world light-heavyweight championship, scored an easy points victory at Syracuse, New York, last night over Bert Whitehurst, of Baltimore, in a ten-round bout. It was his 57th victory in 65 bouts.

Frank Tyson, the England Test fast bowler, took four wickets for 61 runs in a Melbourne district cricket match today. Despite this effort Tyson's side was defeated.

BOBBY DAZZLER ... By Tom Kerr



WEMBLEY WINDSORS advertisement featuring odds for the Rugby League Cup and F.A. Cup, including names of teams and bookmakers.

Full multiplied odds for the double event. Write your bets on plain paper and post to WINDSORS, P.O. BOX 146, HAREWOOD STREET, LEEDS. 1

Cycling is going to cost more

BECAUSE of the rising costs, cycling is going to cost more in the future for Oldham and District Cyclist Union, the members were told on Wednesday evening by the secretary, Mr. Charles Mann.

The Union has not got a reserve fund to draw on, and he appealed to the 26 clubs in the Union to give bigger donations.

"Instead of members paying more subscriptions, the clubs are being asked to donate more to the Union to keep it flowing as we want to, and we don't want to give it up through lack of money," said Mr. Mann.

He was speaking to members from clubs from various parts of Manchester, Cheshire and Oldham at the annual prizegiving of the 61-year-old union at Fallsworth Cycle Club.

The prizes were presented by the president, Mr. W. Shuttleworth. The only record that had been broken in the championships and trials was by Ian Livingston (Dukinfield CC) on May 26 on J.5A. course, in a 25-mile time trial. The 30-mile time trial was held for the second successive season, and was won by J. Keith.

Union Championship (Law Swallow Cup): K. S. Miller (Royal Oak RC), 21.087 miles an hour.

Handicap Championship (Union Cup): E. E. Thompson (Apollo Wheelers), 23.829 miles an hour.

Fastest Novice J. V. Frealey (RORC), 1hr. 7min. 48sec.

25-mile TT.—First Handicap (women), 25-mile time trial: Miss H. O'Connell (RORC). Second Handicap, 25-mile TT: M. Murray (Apollo). Law Swallow Cup for fastest team Dukinfield CC (I. Livingston, H. Bamforth and P. Gartside).

100-mile TT: 1. J. Keith (Middleton CC); 2. P. Pemberton (Dukinfield CC); 3. P. Gariside (Dukinfield CC). First Handicap: A. Hulsh (Saxon RC). Second Handicap: R. Williams (Manchester Victoria W.). Third Handicap: J. G. Stewart (Manchester Clarion). Union Rose Bowl for fastest team: Middleton CC (J. Keith, G. Miller and W. Sutcliffe).

50-mile TT: 1. J. Keith (Middleton CC); 2. P. Williams (Middleton CC); 3. T. G. Lawrence (Westwood RC). First Handicap: R. Thomas (S. Lanes RC). Second Handicap: L. Tomlinson (Manchester Clarion). Third Handicap: B. Thompson. Halford Shield for fastest team: Middleton CC (J. Keith, P. Williams and J. Wood). First Handicap (women): Mrs. K. Currie (RORC).

25-mile TT: 1st fastest, I. Livingstone; 2. K. S. Miller; 3. K. Keith. First Handicap: D. Potter (Westwood). Second Handicap: M. Murray (Apollo W.). Third Handicap: E. Taylor (Manchester Victoria W.). These received vouchers.

Her 15-year-old brother Jon is certain to represent Australia in the 400yd. and relay swimming events. He recently bettered the national junior record and yesterday broke the world free-style record for 440yd. with a time of 4min. 25.9sec.



The amazing water babies

THOSE amazing Australian "water babies," Ilsa and Jon Konrads, will visit this country next summer.

Their brother-and-sister act looks like being the swimming sensation of the Empire Games in Cardiff.

Ilsa, a 13-year-old Australian schoolgirl, recently broke the women's record for the 880yds. free-style with a time of 10min. 17.7sec. The best English performance for men is only 4.8sec. faster!

On Saturday, Jon broke the 880 yards records with a time of 9min 17.7sec. He has also broken the 800 metres and 400 metres during the New South Wales Championships.

Neither of the Konrads could swim when they arrived in Australia from Latvia seven years ago. In four years under Sydney coach Don Talbot both Jon and Ilsa have reached world class.

Friendly rivalry between LORRAINE CRAPP (left) and 13-year-old ILSA KONRADS gives Australia good prospects for the Empire Games in Cardiff.

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MANCHESTER LEAGUE

Austerlands took 'easy' victory

AUSTERLANDS INSTITUTE gained two good points in their Manchester League, Division II, match with Crossley Bros. at Gorton, last Saturday, winning 3-1. In the early stages, the Austerlands team played well together and took the lead through Mayall, the lead very soon after being increased by a great goal by inside-left H. Sladin.

The visitors continued to have the greater part of the game up to half-time, but no further scoring took place.

In the second half, the visitors took things far too leisurely, and as a result the Crossley Bros. team came back into the game and shook the visitors by soon reducing the lead. But for good work by Alberts at centre-half and Hanley in goal, they would have equalised, if not taken the lead.

The football at this stage deteriorated, too much big kicking taking place, and again the Austerlands forwards failed to bring in the play to their half-backs when facing their opponents' goal, and as a result were robbed of the ball time after time.

The home team were the more dangerous in the closing stages of the game, but centre-forward Mayall put the result beyond doubt in the last ten minutes, scoring a good opportunist goal to give the Austerlands team a 3-1 victory.

Last ten minutes were enough

THE return North Division fixture with Assheton Amateurs last Saturday gave Chadderton United a deserved 4-3 win after being 3-2 down ten minutes from time.

Assheton took the lead when the left-half's shot struck Ainsworth, the United centre-half, and evaded Murray, who had positioned himself for the original angle.

Anderson leveled for United after a goalmouth melee in which several

With the Oldham Amateurs STRINESDALE GOT THEIR REVENGE

WITH wins by the top three teams, the position in Division II remains unaltered. Strinesdale defeated Gas Board on their Lees ground and thus gained revenge for their defeat earlier in the season. Dronsfield's accounted for Haggate "B," and Roundthorn Reserves gained a good away victory over J. Stott's, who are fourth in the League.

In Division I Roundthorn had a good win over Buckley and Taylors, who now slip to fourth position; Ivy United, completing the double over J. Clares, move to third position. Roundthorn are four points behind League leaders Haggate "A," who were without a game last week.

Delph 4, Spinners 6.

A really fine display by the Spinners' goalkeeper, Malleieu, was one of the main features, especially when, with half an hour of the game left and Spinners leading 6-2, Delph came fighting back to take command but could only beat the goalkeeper twice. His saves during this period were quite astonishing. Both inside-forwards scored twice from difficult positions. Scorers: Delph, Hall, Hawkins, Wilson and Lawton; Spinners, Booth (2), Lincoln (2), Kanes and Hutchins.

J. Clares 1, Ivy United 6.

After 20 minutes even play, Ivy established a 2-1 lead in the next three minutes and it was this score at half-time. Afterwards Ivy really got on top and put three more goals into the net in a short period. Goal No. 6 came when centre-half Whittle put in his own net. Clares could not hold this Ivy attack and created gaps in their defence. Scorers: Whatkins for Clares; Bramall (2), Barrow, Burn and Bowskill.

Belgrave 1, Greenfield Am. 6.

Belgrave held Greenfield to 3-0 with 15 mins to play, but Greenfield inspired by the brilliant wing-half Parkin proved too much for plucky Belgrave. A clean and interesting game was seen the whole 90 minutes, with a grand display in goal by J. White, of Belgrave. Cockayne scored three goals; Dodds, Rhodes and Show brought the Greenfield total to six. A consolation goal was scored for Belgrave by George, with only seconds remaining.

North West Gas Board 4, Strinesdale 6.

Conditions were against good football on the Lees ground. Players found difficulty in keeping their foothold and the ball stuck in the heavy mud. Both sides tried to master the conditions, but mistakes were frequent. A goal by Dale was equalised when full-back Whitehead drove into his own goal in trying to clear, but the visitors were soon in front again and led 3-2 at the interval. A further goal by Strinesdale made the game look safe, but the Gasmen flung everything into their attack and often had the Dale defence worried. Reserve keeper Simpson was outstanding during this period. The League leaders just about deserved their victory. Mallam for Gas Board was the best player on view. Scorers: Gas Board, Mallam (2), Coward; Strinesdale, Millar (4), Derbyshire and Jones. Roundthorn 10.

Buckley and Taylor 3.

Played under heavy conditions, both sides tried to swing the ball about and play good football. The home attack was generally on top and established a 7-2 lead by half-time. Chadderton, the home leader, scoring four times. In the second half, Buckleys rallied, but Roundthorn added further goals to a single one from the visitors. Prime scored twice and Mills also got two. Cartwright scored once and No. 10 was an own-goal. Higgins, Brown and Spencer scored the Buckley goals.

J. Stott's 1, Roundthorn Res. 4.

The home team did not give Roundthorn the hard game they expected. Roundthorn took the lead after half an hour and Stott's drew level rather luckily 10 minutes later. A further goal came to Roundthorn close on half-time. Later the game became very poor and although Roundthorn scored two quick goals neither side provided the standard their league position merited. Scorers: Roundthorn, Fletcher (2), Shaw and Clarke; J. Stott's: Holmes.

Druid Lads were too strong for the J. Chadwick's gallant second team, winning by 10 goals to 1. Revill scored five, Holt three, Wolstencroft and Price one each. The Chadwick goal was hit by Powell.

Dronsfields registered a good away 6-3 victory over Haggate 'B'. The visitors were strong at forward, all their line being among the scorers. These included, Sellors, Taylor, Deveney, Abbers and Wrigley (2). Haggate scored through their centre and Aspin and Wilson.

Tuesday League

SANDERSON'S 4 MADE LIONS' VICTORY SURE

AT Westwood Park, Oldham Industrial were outplayed by Red Lion, who were not at full strength. The winners took complete control from the start and the issue was never in doubt. The final score was 6-1, Sanderson netting four times for the Lion. Oldham's goal came from a penalty.

Rochdale Pioneers entertained Middleton & Tonge at Firgrove. The early part of the game was very evenly contested, but later Middleton got on top and won 3-1. Beswick (2), Hudson scored for Middleton and Lord for the Pioneers.

Bury Co-op played Ashton Traders in a clean, sporting game. Play was very even, each side attacking. Ashton had only 10 men, but they won with the odd goal in seven. Scorers were: Ashton, Platt (2), Thompson and Smith; Bury, Barrington, Entwistle and Anslow.

Rochdale Trades travelled to Marsden to play Saddleworth Police, and had a comfortable win. Both teams tried to play copybook football, but at times the ground conditions spoiled some very good moves. Povey opened the scoring for the Trades and then they went all out on attack. Wood, in Trades goal, had a very easy game. Six more goals were scored and Trades won easily by 7-1. Trades goals were scored by Butterworth (5), Finnigan and Povey. Saddleworth's lone goal was netted by their outside-right.

Playing Cards, Whist Scoring Cards.—Hirst, Kidd & Rennie Ltd., Union Street, Oldham.

Steel's goalie was carried off in honour after great show

DOUBLE congratulations to Chloride Recreation. First, on entering the semi-final of the Manchester Junior Cup with a 5-3 win over Manchester League side Lancashire Steel. Secondly, Corfield, Shannon and Cheadle, who have been selected to play in the Manchester County Amateur XI against Lancashire FA in the second round of the Northern Counties' Amateur Cup at Mossley on February 15.

Most of the clubs were engaged in first-round League Shield matches. There was only one draw and that was at Prestwich, where the Borough shared four goals with Block Lane. Clubs to take a definite step forward are Bardsley, A. & A. Crompton's, Robinson's Recs., CWS (Radcliffe) and English Steel. The latter provided the surprise of the round with a 4-2 win over Dukinfield St. Mary's only two weeks after losing 4-0 to the Saints on the same ground in a league match.

Even the most ardent Steel supporter would admit that their team should never have won, for they were saved by goalkeeper Theaker, who played the game of his life and was carried off in honour after the final whistle had gone.

A large crowd saw this match which had all the thrills of a fifth-round cup-tie at Maine Road. Dukinfield hammered away at the Steel goal for 80 per cent of the match, but only a scrambled goal and a McManus penalty beat Theaker. In breakaway attacks,

Parks and Harrop each scored twice.

When local rivals Ashton National and Bardsley meet in a cup match there's bound to be fur flying. So it was on Saturday and when Bardsley went into a 3-0 lead the National supporters urged their team to greater effort. They responded with two goals, and with Brierley and Johnson injured Bardsley had to fight hard to keep their lead.

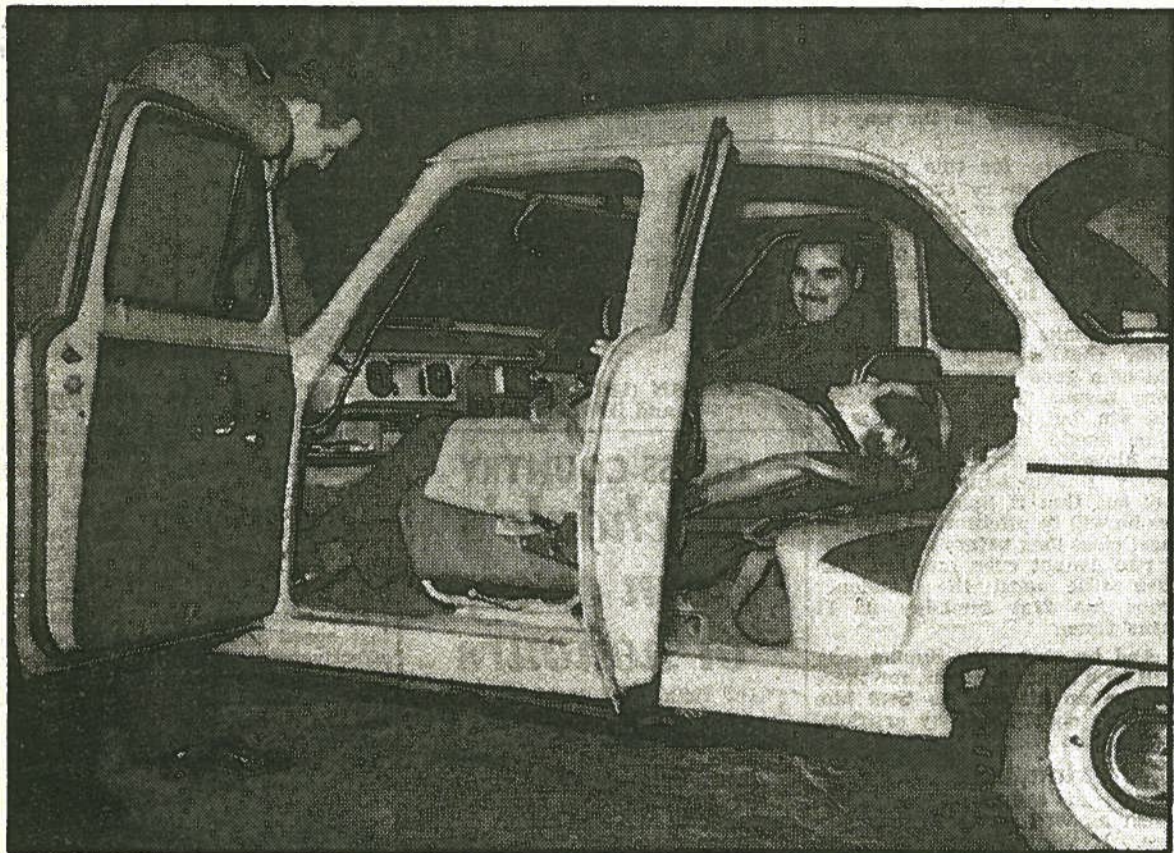
Another match which sent the spectators home well pleased with the fare served up was at Prestwich, where it was anybody's game up to the last minute. The replay on Block Lane's ground Chadderton should be well worth seeing. Moss put Block Lane two goals in front and when Prestwich lost Davenport through injuries all looked lost. But with only eight minutes to play Brigg scored, and then two minutes from time Coghlan equalised.

After several good displays the Prestwich outside-right Chappell has been signed by Manchester City.

Although Osram lost 10-2 to CWS (Radcliffe) they scored first three goals and yet were 2-1 down. That's right! Derbyshire opened the scoring for Osram and then their defence put into their own net twice! Although they held their own up to half-time they were no match for CWS in the second half, Boardman hitting four goals while wingers Cooper and Lee did despite their lack of victory. The approach work.

3rd Division clubs' cries have again gone unheard

RONNIE ADAMS LEADS WORKS ZEPHYR TEAM



ROUND THE THIRD NORTH

TODAY marks a milestone in the footballing life of goalkeeper Ray Minshull, who makes the 250th League appearance of his career.

Minshull began with Liverpool as an amateur just before the war. He moved on to Southport in 1951, and after qualifying for a benefit with the Haig Avenue club was recently transferred to Bradford Park Avenue.

His arrival has coincided with a revival by the Yorkshire club, who have won three of the four matches they have played with him in the team.

WHILE they may find a successful promotion bid just beyond their efforts, it is almost certain that Barrow, today's visitors to Boundary Park, will finish in a

higher position in the table this season than for many years past.

Their best-ever performance was in 1931-2 when they were fifth. Last winter they finished tenth, their highest placing since the second post-war season in which they ended in seventh position.

ALTHOUGH their League record is not as good as it might be, Darlington have been more than compensated for their disappointments by reaching the fourth round of the Cup in which they visit Chelsea next Saturday.

One member of the Quakers' team who will be after a personal record of having scored in every round of the competition to date is centre-forward Ron Harbertson.

Winner of the 1956 Monte Carlo Rally, RONNIE ADAMS, of Lisburn, County Antrim, watches from behind the wheel as his co-driver for this year's Rally, E. T. McMILLEN (Belfast) tries the reclining seat which will be their only bed during the 2,000-mile day and night drive from Glasgow, which begins next Tuesday night.

I. H. TITTERINGTON (Belfast), who will share the driving and navigating with them, looks from outside the car.

Adams, one of Britain's outstanding rally drivers, is leading the works team of Ford Zephyrs in the Rally, Europe's toughest motoring event.

On arrival at Monte Carlo, the crews will have from six to ten hours' rest before tackling the final test over the 650-mile mountain circuit with its secret controls adding to the hazards of snow and ice.

ALONG with other Northern sports writers I was at Sheffield on Monday when Mr. Joe Richards, president of the Football League, and Mr. Alan Hardaker, secretary, announced the new proposed amendments to the present League rules.

It was an enlightening meeting, stressing the steps which are now being taken to improve football as a whole, but I left with the uncomfortable feeling that again the cries of the Third Division clubs had gone unheard.

Of major importance to the big clubs, of course, was the proposed payment of a £17 week maximum basic wage, with £3 in addition to each member of a club's first team.

Whether the Players' Union will find this suggestion to their liking remains to be seen, but as far as clubs like Athletic are concerned, it means little.

With attendances what they are in the Third Division, few, if any, clubs can afford top wages. To them, £20 each for eleven players, plus possible winning bonus money, would amount to an astronomical figure. That is just one of the many proposed changes that ignores the lowly Third Division clubs.

Little say in matter

This week I spoke with Mr. Frank Swift, chairman of the Athletic board, about the amendments. Although he said he had not studied them closely, he agreed in the main they meant little to Athletic.

"The Third Division North have only two representatives on the League Committee, while each First and Second Division club has one representative. Obviously we can have very little say in the matter," said Mr. Swift.

Discussing the new suggestion on transfer fees, that players would be allowed to receive up to £300 from the club in addition to their share of the benefit, Mr. Swift said again the Third Division could hardly be affected.

Few clubs would be able to pay £300 in addition to the benefit share, and, of course, only rarely are the transfer fees high enough to justify that.

As far as the little clubs go then, the proposed new amendments do

BOUNDARY PARK NOTES BY A.G.W.

nothing. The players will benefit if their particular club can afford to pay the suggested rates, and it should all lead to better-class football, which is the League's ultimate aim.

Money difficulties

Stressing again, however, that Athletic would not be affected if the amendments became law, Mr. Swift said the club's financial position was still far from healthy.

"I feel that the supporters should know this," he said, "and really appreciate the club's difficulty. We are being pressed on all sides for the money we owe; there are rates, taxes, and monies owing on transfer fees."

It was impossible under these circumstances to be expected to pay top wages, and in fact, said Mr. Smith, the question of where summer wages were going to come from was still unanswered.

"We keep looking to the gates for money, but last week was a perfect example of what is happening. The team, which has only been defeated once in 16 games, attracted the biggest gate of the Third Division North at York—but it was barely over 8,000.

Press relations

Turning to a more selfish aspect of Monday's meeting, I was pleased indeed to hear the new regulation covering writing for the Press. The new rule would read—

"Any player, official, referee or linesman contributing any article to any newspaper or journal, or allowing himself to be interviewed by or discuss with anyone on behalf of any newspaper or journal or any other medium, any matter which is deemed by the Management Committee as being contrary to the best interests of the League, may be acquired to appear before the Committee or such commission as the Committee may appoint."

At first glance the amendment looks longwinded and strict—but it is not so, as Mr. Richards explained.

The Committee has no objection whatsoever to players and officials commenting on matches or club affairs, or even writing for the newspapers, but the rule was aimed rather to "stop the bad player taking all he can out of the game."

The League simply wants discretionary powers over the articles which a certain type of player would write and blackguard the game, said Mr. Richards.

The sportswriter has, then, in effect been given, theoretically, a free hand in interviewing personalities and club and match officials when seeking to brighten his work.

The previous suggestion that players and officials should be barred from writing articles or giving interviews without permission from the League could only have led to bitterness and ill-feeling all round.

The many other amendments announced at the meeting if affecting the Third Division clubs little, did seem to lead towards a brighter football future, and the attempts to protect amateurs and schoolboys are to be applauded.

Perhaps, as Mr. Richards hoped, the new rules will be in force for season 1958-9.

Tickets for Bury game

February 8 brings along another of the games which can loosely be described as a "local derby," when Athletic travel to Bury. If supporters want to have a reserved seat at the game, I heard from the Bury club this week that the centre stand seats will cost 7s.

Supporters can book their seats now by writing direct to the Bury club at Gigg Lane.

Ashton Road closing on Div. II leaders

DIVISION 1

Emmanuel PC	3
Westwood Mor.	2

YET another game Westwood could have won if they could have played the second half as well as they played the first half. With a two-goal lead at one time, they were easily the best team and with a bit more luck they could have had more goals.

However, the home side improved at half time and their halfbacks got on top of the Westwood inside forwards, who could not get the ball through. The home side just deserved to win for their second half revival.

The scorers were, Emmanuel PC: Wood, Haggis and Heathcote. Westwood: Heath 2.

Edge Lane Meths.	4
St. John's, Hollinwood	3

The wind spoiled what could have been a good game. Edge Lane took an early two-goal lead and then went on the defensive. St. John's scored a good goal which put them back into the game and the scores went to 3-3, but Edge Lane clinched the game with a goal ten minutes before time.

The scorers were, Edge Lane: S. Kenworthy 2, Woolley and Byron. St. John's: Botham 2, and Hunt.

Glodwick Meths.	2
St. Mark's	2

Glodwick fielded only ten players in this game, but more than held their own. St. Mark's forwards were always a danger, but their defence were uncertain. If the Glodwick forward line had had a sharpshooter, they could have won the game by two or three goals.

The scorers were, Glodwick: Henthorne 2. St. Mark's: Morton and Maden.

Cowhill Meths.	1
Watersheddings Meths.	1

OLDHAM SUNDAY SCHOOLS' LEAGUE

DIVISION 2.

Both sides toiled manfully to master the heavy conditions and made it a most enjoyable game. Cowhill scored after five minutes and they would have had the points safe in the first hour if their finishing had been of the same standard as their approach work.

Watersheddings were more dangerous later in the game and they equalised in the 78th minute when injured half back Stanley, playing on the wing, scored.

The scorers were Cowhill: Bradock. Watersheddings: Stanley.

Washbrook Meths.	2
Eaves Lane Meths.	3

Washbrook were the first to score after 25 minutes, but within the next minute Eaves Lane had equalised. Eaves Lane took command and led by 3-1 and it was only in the last minute that Washbrook were able to reduce the arrears. In a sea of mud good football was impossible.

The scorers were, Washbrook: Sandford and Hanson. Eaves Lane: Simms, Hurst and Mitchell.

Millgate Meths.	1
St. Aidan's	2

In the first half, play was very even with Millgate having more chances to score than St. Aidan's, who took the chance offered to them to gain a 1-0 lead.

In the second half Millgate had a period of ascendancy and they equalised and looked as though they might take command. The woodwork saved two certain goals, but these must have made them despondent and St. Aidan's came again to take the lead and the points.

The scorers were, Millgate: Davies. St. Aidan's: Murphy and Humphries.

George St. Meths.	6
Cowhill Meths. Res.	0

George St. the Div 2 leaders, had an easy win over lowly placed Cowhill Res. The defeat of Holl Congs v Springhead Congs makes the leaders' position stronger, but Ashton Rd are coming up fast. The scorers were George St.: Moffatt 3, Tapping, Evans and Probert.

St. Aidan's	7
Hollinwood Congs	1

A grand display of goalkeeping by Langan of St. Aidan's plus some bad defensive mistakes by Holl. Congs, made this the shock result of the day.

Hollinwood looked the best side in the first half, but in the 30th and 31st minutes St. Aidan's scored two surprise breakaway goals. They never looked back after this and were always quicker on the ball and more direct.

St. Aidan's deserved their victory but Holl. Congs must be commended for a sporting and clean game. J. Stewart's goal for Holl. would have beaten any goalkeeper.

The scorers were, St. Aidan's: Cadwallader 3, Corkett, Griffiths, Astley and Cumberbirch. Holl. Stewart.

St. Stephen's	2
Christ Church	0

St. Stephen's were deserved winners over a Christ Church side which failed to take their chances. The home side were the more direct in a match which produced little good football. Christ Church's immediate need is a sharp shooter. The scorers were, St. Stephen's: Birchall and Wright.

Saddleworth Church	4
St. Hugh's	8

Although St. Hugh's had played most of the match with only ten players, after losing one of their players who had to be taken to hospital, St. Hugh's scored two quick goals before Saddleworth opened their account and 2-1 was the score at half-time.

Saddleworth drew level with a penalty, but could not hold the lively St. Hugh's attack, who scored five more in their convincing win after a good clean game.

The scorers were, Saddleworth: King (2), Hill and Galloway. St. Hugh's: Gardner (3), Gaunt (3), Casey and Newman.

St. Thomas's, Lees	1
Edge Lane Res.	5

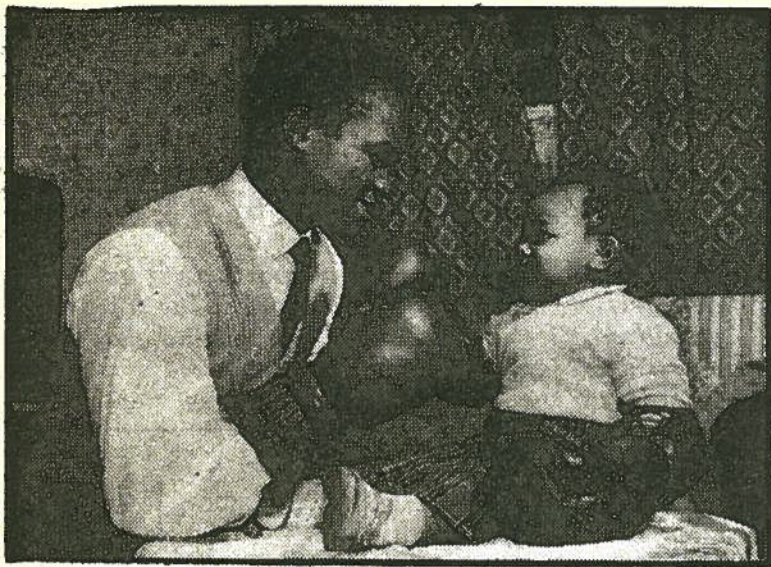
In the first 15 minutes, Thomas's looked as though they really meant business and a well-taken goal gave them the lead which they had until just before half time. They had missed many chances through falling offside.

In the second half it was all Edge Lane and they dominated the game scoring at will. The Leesfield captain kept trying to encourage his side, but the heavy ground just tired them and they were glad to hear the final whistle. The scorers were, St. Thomas's: Bayley. Edge Lane: Thompson (2), Dennis (2), and Grindrod.

Springhead Congs	1
Ashton Rd. Congs	5

Springhead crashed on their own ground and were well beaten by a strong Ashton Rd. team. The scorers were, Springhead: Neal. Ashton Rd.: Ford (2), Mellor, Broadbent and Dean.

Clubs successful in the Challenge Cup Round 1, are reminded that the draw for Round 2, will take place at Queen St. School on Monday night January 20, at 7-45 p.m.



Sixteen-month-old Hogan Bassey junior is unevenly matched with his father, world featherweight champion HOGAN BASSEY, but the contest, at their Liverpool home began and ended with smiles. Bassey senior, who is 25, has a non-title fight with Belgium's Pierre Cossemyns at Liverpool on January 23 and negotiations are under way for the Nigerian boxer's first defence of the title he won in Paris last June.

3rd NORTH PLAYERS



FLOCKETT (Bradford C)

Although they have lost considerable ground in the promotion race in recent weeks, Bradford City's defensive record is still among the best in the Northern Section. Much of the credit must go to goalkeeper Geoff Smith and full-backs George Mulholland and Tommy Flockett.

A North-Easterner from Ferryhill, Durham, Flockett joined the Yorkshire club from Chesterfield during the close season in exchange for centre-forward Douglas Kelly. Flockett learned his football with Spennymoor, the well-known non-League team, from where Chesterfield recruited him in 1949. He made his bow for the Derbyshire club during the 1949-50 season.

GRIFFITHS (Halifax T)

Despite having been in the game for longer than many present-day players, George Griffiths is still able to hold his own with the younger members of the Halifax Town team. After playing for Earls-town, his local club, Griffiths signed for Bury in 1942.

When football resumed on a fully competitive basis at the end of the war he was well-established in the senior side at right-back. He made 241 League appearances for Bury in eight post-war seasons and was transferred to Halifax in the summer of 1954.

Griffiths was immediately appointed captain of the side, and in the past three years has missed only a handful of matches.

HARBERTSON (Darlington)

After losing four consecutive away matches, Darlington sprang something of a surprise when they went to Norwich and defeated the Southern Section team in the third round of the Cup a fortnight ago. The scorer of their first goal was Ron Harbertson.

A Yorkshireman from Redcar, Harbertson first came into prominence as a winger or inside-forward with Bradford City seven years ago. He played fairly regularly in the senior side before moving to Grimsby Town in the 1954 close-season. After only 12 months there, he went outside the League to sign for Ashington.

Darlington persuaded him to return to the Northern Section a year ago. In recent weeks Harbertson has switched to centre-forward and is currently his side's leading scorer.

Orkney's worst gale

The Orkney Islands yesterday had the worst gale of the winter. At times it reached hurricane force. Gusts up to 94 miles an hour were recorded at Kirkwall Airport.

FLOCKETT (left), GRIFFITHS and HARBERTSON

Hurst Central beat Lees 4-2 to take league lead

HURST CENTRAL beat Lees 4-2 in the Ashton League last Saturday and this put Central clear at the head of the table. Lees will not have to drop many more points or their chances will rapidly fade.

A great game was seen at Austerlands, where Hurst Nook were surprised and had to fight every inch of the way. The Nook only won in the closing stages by 2-1. W. Hewit, in the Austerland Reserves' goal, made some very good saves.

Mossley Amateurs won 3-2 against Ashton National, and Uppermill, coming back to form, won very easily at Hyde Lads by 9-1, Harrison getting a hat-trick. Pattrouex had a great game against English Steel, a draw being a good result. Denton British Railway got their usual defeat—10-3—by Ashton St. Mary's.

The only cup game of the day ended in a draw. Stamford Villa, after having a four-goal lead, let Mossley Wool stage a fighting finish. The Villa defence fell to pieces and the match ended 4-4.

Bird fires a house

A bird decided to build its nest on the roof of a 12-family house at New Haven, Connecticut. It picked up a lighted cigarette as building material—and set the roof and attic on fire.

MEMORY CORNER

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Cup-ties held sway on January 14, 1933, with left-winger Foster Hedley scoring four of Chester's five goals in their surprise victory over Fulham. Such scoring feats by wingers are far from common, but to show that this was no flash in the pan Hedley followed up with three more in a Third Division League match with Accrington a week later.

TEN YEARS AGO

January 17, 1948, saw the establishment of a new attendance record for a League match in England, when 81,962 people went to the Maine Road ground, then the temporary home of Manchester United, to see the eventual Cup winners draw 1-1 with Arsenal, who were destined to win the First Division championship. United finished in second place for the second consecutive season. Receipts for the Maine Road encounter were £5,656.

TWELVE MONTHS AGO

On January 15, 1957, Freddie Steele, who had guided Port Vale to promotion from the Northern Section and a triumphant run to the FA Cup semi-final in the 1953-4 season, resigned as manager of the Potteries club. Steele, the former Stoke City and England centre-forward, who had previous had a spell in charge at Mansfield, thus joined the ever-lengthening list of managers who have had to "carry the can" for non-success. Port Vale's decline culminated in their relegation to the Southern Section at the end of last season.

Spinks won't fight champion —except for very big purse

THERE is no possibility of that bright young flyweight Terry Spinks meeting the British champion Frankie Jones, in the near future—unless someone is willing to put up something really extraordinary in the way of purse money.

The authority for this piece of intelligence—in every sense of the word—is none other than Spink's manager, Sammy McCarthy, who has perhaps the brightest prospect in British boxing on his hands and does not want to see him made to run before he can walk properly.

The Spinks connections do not consider that a fight with Jones would be a good thing for the Scot by any means. They think Spinks would win, but point out that if he did, he would not necessarily be doing himself a good turn.

Snowy Buckingham his trainer, points out that if Spinks can beat Jones he will be pitchforked into the highest class long before he is ready. The two cannot even meet for the British title until the Londoner reaches his 21st birthday in 14 months' time.

And by that time Spinks may well be a bantamweight, for there will be no attempt to hold him down to eight stone by artificial means.

£5,000 rumoured

Money, of course, can talk—in English as well as any other language. If the offer is big enough, rumours of a Jones-Spinks match may become fact. McCarthy mentioned to me the sum of £5,000—and that means that they will remain just rumours.

Spinks did himself a good turn in London on Tuesday when in three rounds he beat Malcolm McLeod (Coventry) for the second time. In their previous fight McLeod gave him more trouble than any of his other opponents. This time Spinks showed his improvement and was dominant.

He also raised a few sighs of relief around the ringside, for the following night he was being presented with his award as the Best Young Boxer of 1957 at the Boxing Writers' Club dinner.

Willie Towel continues to make progress towards a world lightweight title fight, though he surely needs more experience before he actually gets into the same ring with Joe Brown.

His defeat of the sixth-ranking Orlando Zulueta at the Empress Hall on Tuesday was a good performance but his brother Alan, who trains him, wants a few more highly-ranked opponents from whom Willie can learn.

Sporting queries

CURIOS, Shaw Road.—The score of the final match of the 1953-4 season when Everton gained promotion to the First Division by beating Athletic at Boundary Park was 4-0. The scorers were Parker (2), Jones and Hickson. Athletic have not applied for re-election to the Third Division North since the end of the Second World War.

ROEBUCK HOTEL.—Young Stribling, the boxer, was riding a motor-cycle in Georgia, USA, when he was hit by a car. They amputated his left foot, but he died 24 hours later on October 4, 1933. He was 29 years of age and in the ring was known as the Georgia Peach.

RUGBY LEAGUE ABC



FINNAN (left), GANLEY and HELME

FINNAN (St. Helens)

Bill Finnan is the out-half or centre that St. Helens sold to Salford for £1,000 and were very pleased to buy back two or three seasons later for twice the fee they had received. Strong and fearless in attack and defence, Finnan seemed certain to progress further than Lancashire county standard.

His critics say that Finnan has lost speed and with it a lot of his effectiveness. Maybe his chance to prove them wrong will come with another club, for while he is not officially on the transfer list, Finnan has already been discussed in transfer talks with Rochdale Hornets and Leigh.

GANLEY (Oldham)

A famous son of a famous footballing father, Bernard Ganley has never regretted his decision to travel from Leigh to Oldham in search of rugby fame. There are those who argue that Ganley would never have become an international purely on ability as a full-back, and that his remarkable successes as a goalkicker have helped to earn him a cap.

Yet Ganley has improved out of all recognition as a full-back in recent seasons, and it may be true that his progress as a marksman has helped to give him the confidence which makes him the all-rounder he is today. It is extremely doubtful if there has ever been a Rugby League history a more accurate goalkicker from near and medium range than Ganley. With the record for the quickest 100 goals already in his pocket, he can sweep the goalkicking honours board clean this season and earn a trip to Australia with the British side.

HELME (Keighley)

The only man to have won two Lance Todd trophies as the outstanding player in the Challenge Cup final, Gerry Helme has moved on from Warrington to Keighley on a free transfer. Though he has been out of the game for several months, Helme is confident that he can regain his form in time to help Keighley by the time the cup ties are here.

It was generally believed that Helme would hang out for a player-coach job, but as a vacancy was slow in presenting itself, Helme has wisely decided to keep his hand in as a player in the meantime. Helme gave his name to a type of arm-throw tackle which is now vetoed.

Individual titles

With positions of 2nd, 1st, 1st, 1st, 1st, Joe Salt had no difficulty in retaining his title of League Champion, with Edgar Noble as runner-up.

The Youths were not to be outdone, and Rochdale easily won the title of Youth Champion, in Alan Dewhurst, with his clubmate, Colin Robinson, runner-up. With the former holding the East Lancs. Youth title, and Colin Robinson the new Lancs. County Youth champion, Rochdale are sitting pretty.

In addition, both team titles went to Rochdale for they finished as Senior and Youth Champions, to hold the League Shield and Taylor Cup.

Clayton-le-Moors, a much-improved team, deposed Royton Harriers from the runners-up position, and the local club finished third. One has to go back to the 1930s to find Royton Harriers in such a low position. As they have been champions 16 times, and when not winners, runners-up, they have every reason to be proud of their record, and can afford to sincerely congratulate Rochdale Harriers, who have had a clean sweep of all the honours. O.T.

Stirling Moss as the 1958 champion

Britain's Sterling Moss enters the Argentine Grand Prix motor race at Buenos Aires tomorrow with great prospects this year of being world champion for the first time.


His chances were a big talking point today after last night's announcement by present champion Juan Manuel Fangio (46) that he would not seek the 1958 championship.

Fangio competes in tomorrow's race in a Maserati and Moss in a Cooper.



Cuba's ORLANDO ZULUETA was beaten by South Africa's British Empire lightweight champion, Willie Towel, at the Empress Hall, London, on Tuesday. Zulueta is listed sixth in the world lightweight rating.

FACTS AND FACTS



The Great Fred Archer
 WAS BORN ON Jan 15th 1857
 IN Cheltenham.
 Acknowledged to BE THE
 PREMIER JOCKEY, Fred RODE
 HIS FIRST WINNER WHEN ONLY
Thirteen!
 HE WAS
 CHAMPION
 JOCKEY FROM
 1874 TO 1886
 HE DIED TRAGICALLY
 BY HIS OWN HAND
 IN 1886, WHILST
 SUFFERING FROM
 AN ILLNESS!

RUNNERS & RIDERS

F. ARCHER

8,084

MOUNTS.

2,748

WINNERS.

HE RODE **Five** DERBY WINNERS AND **Six** S'LEGER WINNERS!

Spike/58.

No Ramadhin but an Eaglet: Oldham has a draughts team: Local man Cambridge captain

LITTLEBOROUGH, who failed to sign Sonny Ramadhin this week, have engaged a Pakistan Test allrounder as professional for next season. He is Israr Ali, a 27-year-old fast bowler and hard-hitting batsman, who has played in two Tests for his country.

Last season he toured this country with the Pakistan Eaglets, who were skippered by Crompton's new professional, Hanif Mohammad.

All's two Test matches were against India in 1952 when in four innings he scored 25 runs and bowled three overs for 11 runs.

The story behind the signing goes back to last summer when No. 1 Pakistani all-rounder, Fazal Mahmood, deputised for Littleborough against Rochdale at Hare Hill. Littleborough would have liked Mahmood as their 1958 professional but he was re-signed by East Lancashire.

He did, however, recommend to them Israr Ali who, he said, would have just as much success in League cricket as he himself had had. Negotiations went on from that point, but because telegrams did not reach the Pakistanis owing to Israr or Fazal being away, Littleborough did not receive up-to-date figures of Israr's performances until Tuesday of this week.

They arrived a few hours before Messrs. D. E. Uttley and H. Ratcliffe (president and chairman respectively) carried to Sonny Ramadhin the maximum terms Littleborough was prepared to offer. Ramadhin did not accept; Littleborough had a special meeting and decided to sign Israr. By the time Ramadhin had changed his mind, Littleborough were committed.

THE Lancashire Draughts' Association held a meeting last Saturday at Bolton under the chairmanship of the Rev. C. E. Shaw, Vicar of Waterhead, and the other Oldham delegate who was there was Mr. J. Keate, of Marine Street, Oldham Edge.

They came home with the welcome news that the Association has decided to accept an Oldham team in the Lancashire League. The fixtures are as follows: January 25, Ashton (home); February 22, Ashton (away); April 12, Bolton (home); March 15, Bolton (away).

Prominent in the Oldham team will be Mr. Murphy, the Royton champion, and Mr. Pearson, the Chadderton champion. And in the Lancashire county team to play Yorkshire on February 15 (probably in Manchester) is none other than the Vicar of Waterhead himself, who boasts that he is Oldham's unofficial champion.

EARLIER this week, Harold Fish, former student at Oldham Hulme Grammar School and a

MIRROR OF SPORT

Cambridge soccer blue, became the captain of the University Association Football Club for 1958. It was soon after his entry into Queen's College at Cambridge that Harold won his place on the University first team at left-back.

Last year, he held the post of club secretary and, following tradition, was elected captain for this year. During the winter break, Harold, who lives in the Garden Suburb, has been a regular playing member of the all amateur side, Northern Nomads.

He was in Northern Nomad's side which were defeated by Oldham Athletic Reserves at Boundary Park last Saturday.

Although he has seen his greatest success on the soccer field, Harold is an all-round sportsman and when possible turns out for Royton Cricket Club in the Central Lancashire League. He also toured last summer with a Cambridge representative XI.

WHILE swimming clubs in Oldham, through no fault of their own, are in danger of extinction — Chadderton, Lowermoor, Robin Hill, for instance — Royton and Crompton are already looking ahead to season 1958.

Crompton, in fact, started a team-swimming and water-polo training scheme last week, and all swimmers are welcomed to these training nights, which are held every Thursday.

OXFORD may use an American-designed boat for this year's Boat Race, a representative of the Hammersmith boat-builders who are making the craft said this week that although the stocks for the new shell had not yet been laid down, the Oxford president, Gavin Sorrell, had ordered the boat to be made.

The same style of craft was used at Henley Regatta last year by Yale University, and then bought by the Amateur Rowing Association.

Oxford have experimented with it,

obviously with some success, for they decided to have one constructed for this year's race on April 5. They call it a "banana boat," because row and stern rise further out of the water than the traditional English shell.

The spokesman for the builders said the boat would cost almost double to make, mainly because it meant laying down completely new stocks. Cambridge, however, will use a craft of orthodox pattern, except for one or two slight modifications.

JEAN PRAT (34), France's greatest-ever Rugby Union player, who recently received the French insignia of Commander of the Order of Sports Merit, still captains Lourdes who have won the national championship five times since the war.

In Lourdes, boys learn to play rugby almost as naturally as they learn to read and write. There are courses at which Jean Prat and his brother Maurice, the international centre-three-quarter, lend a hand.

Several Lourdes schoolmasters customarily deprive boys of rugby lessons as a severe punishment.

SCOBIE BRESLEY, champion jockey on the flat last season recently returned to his native land after five years absence. Bresley has been riding quite a few winners. An Australian correspondent writes: "Australian racing experts see big changes in Scobie's style, especially in his power-packed finish." (Not exactly the opinion in this country).

"Bresley does not appear to crouch as much as he did, and rises in the saddle when gathering his mount for a final effort. He uses the whip more from an upright position and seems to get added strength from using it that way."

Louis XIV oak felled

An oak tree dating from the reign of King Louis XIV of France, who died in 1715, has just been felled in the state forest of Blois in the Loire Valley.

It was beginning to suffer from old age. Its timber was sold for £1,345 to a merchant who supplies Paris furniture makers.

16 Anconas, pullets and year olds, all laying; also 2 Pedigree Cockerels; 413 the lot.—Cooks Croft, Den Lane, Springhead, Oldham.

To the Members of the Oldham Repertory Theatre Club

Evenings at 7-15. Matinees: Tuesdays at 7-30. Saturdays at 4-0.

in the COLISEUM THEATRE, Oldham

Week commencing MONDAY, January 20. Next Week, Mon., Jan. 27. 20th Birthday Production, a new play, SENSATION STREET by Marjorie Squires

MRS. GIBBON'S BOYS

By W. GLUCKMAN and J. STEIN.

Members and Guests Only. Usual Prices. Matinees: Tue., 2/-, and Sat., 2/6.

DON'T FORGET THE THEATRE HALL, FRIDAY, MARCH 7.

Limited number of tickets available at the Box Office

BIRTH
 HOPKINSON (née Smith).—At Woodfield Maternity Home, to Sheila and Edward, a son (Paul Edward). Grateful thanks to Doctor and Staff.—26 Oldham Road, Royton.

THE Chadderton & District Amateur Bowling League Annual General Meeting, 1958, will be held at North Chadderton Conservative Club, Victoria Street, on Thursday, Jan. 30, at 8-0 p.m. Intending entrants are requested to send delegates.

BETHOVEN M. & S. CLUB
 Members Please Note—
 Sunday, Jan. 19—JOHNNY VALENTINE

Holiday Accommodation
 DOUGLAS
 CROSSLEY, 8 Mona St. Tel. 3804. H.C. High T.B.E. 12/6 June & Sept.

BABBACOMBE, Torquay.—Aparts., cooking, attendance. Home from home. Central.—24 St. Margaret's Ave., Westhill.
PAIGNTON, Devon.—Bonair Hotel, sea front. Tel. 59461. All bedrooms fitted h. & c. Central heating. Comfortable lounges. Beautiful sands. Garage. No objection to children. Full board-residence.—Brochure on application.

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"JAILHOUSE ROCK" now in stock at The Pop Shop (7 bus stop), Egerton Street (MAIN 5139).

EMPIRE

SUN. (open 5-0) Abbott & Costello
 GO TO MARS (U)
 Ann Sheridan Stirling Hayden
 TAKE ME TO TOWN (U) Tech.

MONDAY Cont. 1-30 ALL WEEK
 PATRICIA MEDINA HENRY HULL
 RICHARD DENNING GERALD MOHR

THE BUCKSKIN LADY

(A) at 1-30, 4-9, 6-38, 9-18
 RORY CALHOUN

THE BIG CAPER

(A) at 2-47, 5-17, 7-56

Grosvenor

SUNDAY for SEVEN DAYS
 CHARLES CHAPLIN
 with DAWN ADAMS in

A KING IN NEW YORK

(U) Sun. 5-30 8-10. W'kdays 2-35 5-30 8-25
 Paul Carpenter Gordon Jackson
 BLACK ICE
 (U) Sun. 7-10 only. W'kdays 1-30 4-25 7-20
 L.C.P. 7-20

RADIO AND TV

BBC TELEVISION
 6 0: News
 6 5: Six-Five Special.
 7 0: News Fargo.
 7 25: News.
 7 30: Dixon of Dock Green.
 8 0: Frankie Vaughan Show.
 9 0: Playhouse.
 10 30: Sports Special.
 11 0: News.
 11 15: War in the Air.

ABC TELEVISION
 6 0: Jack Jackson.
 6 30: Highway Patrol.
 7 0: Web.
 7 30: The Restless Gun.
 8 0: Wrestling.
 8 30: Val Parnell's Saturday Spectacular.
 9 30: M. Squad.
 10 0: News.
 10 5: The Ghost Goes West.
 11 45: Epilogue.

NORTH—434 metres
 6 0: News.
 6 15: Northern News.
 6 25: Sport Spotlight.
 7 0: Those Were The Days.
 7 30: In Town Tonight.
 8 0: Variety Playhouse.
 9 0: News.
 9 15: Fish Out of Water (play).
 10 45: Lighten Our Darkness.
 11 0: News.

LIGHT—1,500 and 247 metres
 6 0: Guitars Club.
 6 30: Just Jazz.
 7 0: Radio Newsreel.
 7 24: Football.
 7 30: Saturday Night on the Light.
 10 30: News.
 10 40: Donald Peers.
 11 15: Edmundo Ros.
 11 55: Late News.

PAVILION, LEES

SUN., MON., TUE., WED. L.C.S. 7-20
 PAT BOONE
BERNARDINE
 CinemaScope (U) Colour
 Marshall Thompson
 LURE OF THE SWAMP (A)

GAUMONT OLDHAM

SUN. Glenn Ford Julia Adams
THE MAN FROM THE ALAMO (U) Tech
 Nigel Patrick Jack Warner
 FORBIDDEN CARGO (U)

MONDAY Cont. 1-30 ALL WEEK
 Ian Carmichael Terry Thomas
 Richard Attenborough Dennis Price
PRIVATE'S PROGRESS
 (U) Screen 1-35, 5-10, 8-45

THE BABY AND THE BATTLESHIP

(U) EastmanColor Screened 3-15, 6-50
 Last complete programme at 6-45

ODEON OLDHAM

SUN. Bud Abbott Lou Costello
AFRICA SCREAMS (U)
 John Payne Arlene Dahl
CARIBBEAN GOLD (U) Tech

MONDAY Cont. 1-45 ALL WEEK
Norman Wisdom

JUST MY LUCK

(U) at 2-20, 5-40, 8-55
 JOHN SAJON JUDY MEREDITH
SUMMER LOVE
 (U) at 3-50, 7-5
 Last complete programme at 7-5

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THIRD—464 and 194 metres
 6 30: World of Books.
 7 0: Record Review.
 8 0: The Guillotom in Evolution.
 8 20: Petite Messe Solennelle.
 9 50: The Manipulators.
 10 10: Chamber Music.

LUXEMBURG—208 metres
 6 0: Barry Aldis.
 7 0: Rhythm on the Range.
 7 30: Intrigue.
 8 0: Jamboree.
 10 0: Irish Requests.
 10 30: Spin with the Stars.
 11 0: Bringing Christ to the Nations.
 11 30: Record Round-up.

AFN—344 metres
 6 0: Music in the Air.
 7 0: News.
 7 5: Grand Ole Opry.
 7 30: Country Style.
 7 55: Johnny Lee Willis.
 8 0: Jazz.
 8 25: It's New.
 8 30: Operation Entertainment.
 9 0: Music from Hollywood.
 9 30: News.
 9 35: Dance Date.
 10 0: Sports Night Cap.
 10 5: America's Popular Music.
 11 0: News.
 11 5: Late Requests.
 12 0: News.

Ron Holmberg, the United States Davis Cup tennis player, was taken to hospital in Sydney early today with appendicitis. He was to have played in the first round of the Australian lawn tennis championships today.

