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Message from the President of the Supporters' Club

Mr. JOHN McCALLUM

It's been a long, hot summer

And there have been some heated words, too, among certain sections of supporters about the cold draughts that blew around Watersheddings during the 1958-59 season.

To hear them talk you would think that last season Oldham reached a low level in rugby skill never before known in the annals of the game.

Those of us blessed with retentive memories and appreciative understanding know that the skilful exhibitions far outnumbered the disappointing games.

That does not mean we must be so naive as to overlook certain important happenings. The transfer of two top ranking forwards was particularly regrettable.

But I maintain that a satisfied, mediocre footballer is of infinitely greater value to a club than a dissatisfied star. As I write this article Oldham are negotiating for the purchase of star forwards to fill the very obvious gap.

The result of these negotiations may well be a determining factor in the success or failure of our new manager-coach Frank Stirrup, to whom I personally, and as President of the Supporters' Club, extend a warm-hearted welcome.

I believe Frank has the ability to impart his great, creative knowledge of rugby to those able and WILLING to learn.

I can foresee a revival of that fast passing, scintillating brand of rugby for which Oldham became renowned. All of us know what a great part Frank had in building the side that in recent years took Oldham to the top.

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But in saying 'welcome' to Frank I have to say 'goodbye'—
at least for the time being — to a great friend of mine and a
very great friend of Oldham football club . . . 'Sandy' Campbell.

After serving ten years, Sandy is no longer a committeeman.
For one reason or another members in their democratic ballot
decided they no longer want him.

Perhaps it was because Sandy was one of the least publicised
committee-members. What he did he did quietly, efficiently and
without fuss.

I remember once when he and I were to do a job together
at the ground, I asked him what would be the most convenient
time. He replied: "Eight o'clock in the morning".

I got there at ten past eight — and that was some effort!
— but Sandy was already hard at work with his sleeves rolled
up.

Sandy was a famous soccer player in this town in the days
when Oldham Athletic was a First Division Club. Later rugby
became his love.

I hope it will be for many more years . . . I think we will
be seeing his famous bowler in the committee box again one day.

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Oldham F.C. President's Message

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am writing this foreword after having seen the players commence their training for the forthcoming season, and what I have seen gives me plenty of hope for our chances.

Those players who were under a cloud last season, some from injuries, some from illness, seem to have recovered one hundred per cent, and are eager to prove it.

I have spoken to them and they are very anxious to get going and show they are match fit and capable of taking on the best in the game.

The players seem happy at the choice of manager, recognising in him a great footballer, and I feel sure that the atmosphere prevailing in the dressing rooms and on the training pitch augers well for the future.

With this background one can think in terms of a successful season and plan accordingly.

A few alterations have taken place at Watersheddings, and coupled with the painting that has been done during the close season, we look forward to having a club, ground and team each vying with the other in brightness.

Not least amongst these alterations is the new canteen erected under the scoreboard by the Supporters Club.

This will enhance the looks of our ground and, with the facilities, help in providing for the needs of our supporters.

Thus the aims of the Supporters' Club are running parallel with the objects of the parent club, i.e., to provide a team and club second to none in the Rugby League, and I would like to encourage more and more of our members and supporters to join the Supporters Club, and help along the good work.

One last word on team building.

A winning team cannot be attained by buying a galaxy of stars — other clubs have proved this — but by blending, your team can be built up successfully.

So much of it was "unofficial". Now that Frank is officially the man to lead the way I am sure everybody connected with the club, from the committee room to the supporter on the terraces, will give him their complete backing.

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This means that you must occasionally go into the market in a big way to get the player you need, and who you know will blend with your style of play.

This we shall do as and when the need arises, and the player or players are available, for we know that the faithful support we have always had in the past, will assuredly be given in the future, if our team continues to play the type of open football for which they have become renowned.

May I wish the Supporters' Club Officials and Members another very successful year, and express the hope that their efforts and their members be doubled.

Your sincerely,

WILLIAM HOWARD,

President, Oldham Football Club.



Griff Jenkins coaches Sean Quinlan to play the ball

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Oldham Football Club Secretary's Report

PLAYING RECORD

The playing record for season 1958-59 can be considered satisfactory taking in the difficulties that have beset the club by way of injuries, indifferent health of some players and the loss of two forwards by being transferred. In the annual charity match at Rochdale prior to the commencement of the season our display did not create the confidence that was to come along. The League programme commenced with two victories but in the third match we lost to Wakefield at Wakefield. Our Australian Tourists, Alan Davies, Frank Pitchford and Ken Jackson had not returned when this match was played. However, with the return of Davies and Pitchford, Ken Jackson was still absent, having had a cartilage operation. Our team ran into form and won the next 14 matches, including Lancashire Cup ties. We then received a very unexpected defeat at Salford, a match that we were fully expected to win. Another defeat at Wigan damped our hopes somewhat, but a further 4 wins against Workington, Widnes, Wigan and Swinton and a drawn game at Hunslet revived our spirits. Our visit to St. Helens proved our undoing and we were decisively beaten by a better team on the day. The New Year brought a succession of disappointments, five league defeats up to March 14th appeared to damp our hopes of appearing in the first four of the League Table. From the 21st March we recorded victories against Barrow, Swinton, Hull, Liverpool and Salford, and then came the unexpected defeat at Widnes, a heavy defeat in which the form of our team reached rock bottom. Hunslet, Whitehaven and Barrow then fell to our team and a slender chance of our first four League status appeared a little brighter. Our last league game against St. Helens at Oldham produced a pulsating game and a narrow victory by 15 points to 14 points placed us in the fourth position off the league and in the play-off. Our visit to St. Helens on the 2nd May and with a team not up to strength we received the largest defeat of the season by 42 points to 4 points. Our team gave an inept display and we caught St. Helens in one of their best moods and consequently we suffered.

Although a lower standard of play has been given generally by our team than in the past, displays have been good, bad and indifferent. There has not been that display of consistency, and I think that something has been accomplished in finishing in the fourth position of the league with the material at our disposal.

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The committee realise that much remains to be done to strengthen the team especially in the forwards. Much time has been spent in their efforts to strengthen the team with players from our game but without success. A first-class standard of efficiency must be maintained if we are to take our position with the leading clubs.

Comparison of our League final position for the past ten years is as follows:—

		Position	P	W	D	L	For	Ag't.
1949/50	.. ..	18	36	15	4	17	395	411
1950/51	.. ..	15	36	17	2	17	403	347
1951/52	.. ..	5	36	25	1	10	558	331
1952/53	.. ..	9	36	22	2	12	599	280
1953/54	.. ..	12	36	17	4	15	504	366
1954/55	.. ..	2	36	29	2	5	632	313
1955/56	.. ..	9	34	20	-	14	658	455
1956/57	.. ..	1	38	33	-	5	893	365
1957/58	.. ..	1	38	33	1	4	803	415
1958/59	.. ..	4	38	28	1	9	791	476

LANCASHIRE CUP

For the third successive season we won the Lancashire Cup and this must rank as one of our best achievements of the season. Our progress to the final was as follows:

1st Round	Whitehaven (H)	.. ..	Won	49 points to 5 points
2nd Round	Wigan (H)	.. ..	Won	19 points to 7 points
Semi-final	Widnes (H)	.. ..	Won	9 points to 4 points
Final	St. Helens (at Swinton)	.. ..	Won	12 points to 2 points

The financial return from the Lancashire Cup ties were very satisfactory and the following net returns to the Club are herewith shown:

Whitehaven	.. ..	£584 19s. 3d.
Wigan	.. ..	£1221 6s. 7d.
Widnes	.. ..	£815 14s. 6d.
St. Helens (Final)	.. ..	£1753 11s. 1d.
Total	.. ..	£4375 11s. 5d.

The above amounts are included in the gate receipts of the Balance Sheet.

Although we had the luck to be drawn at home up to the final we had some excellent games at Watersheddings and the Widnes tie proving stiff opposition. This match was played under dismal conditions, heavy rain falling all through the match, which no doubt affected our open style of play. In the final at Swinton we met worthy opponents in St. Helens and in a stirring match we ran out winners. Our thanks to the players for the efforts they put into the County Cup Competition.

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CHALLENGE CUP

Once again we had hopes that this would be our Wembley Year; how patient our members and supporters have been awaiting this great day. But this was not to be. In the first round we were fortunate in being drawn at home against St. Helens. What a pity we had to clash so early in the draw. But this is the luck of the draw. The match was played at Watersheddings, February 21st, and conditions were not of the best; a drizzling rain throughout the game made conditions for both teams heavy going. We had our opportunities to win the match but we finished on the losing side by the narrow margin of 7 points to 6 points. At this period of the season our team appeared to be having an indifferent spell and appeared to have lost form and confidence, and the defeat by St. Helens in the first round, was once more a big disappointment to the members in our efforts to bring the blue riband of the game to Watersheddings.

The net receipts received by the Club from this match was £1284 13s. 3d., and this amount is included in the Gate Receipts of the Balance Sheet.

REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS

Alan Davies—Lancashire v. Cumberland; Lancashire v. Yorkshire; Great Britain v. France (at Leeds); Great Britain v. France (at Grenoble).

Derek Turner—Lancashire v. Yorkshire.

Alan Kellett—Lancashire v. Yorkshire.

Charlie Winslade—France v. Wales (at Toulouse); France v. Great Britain (at Grenoble).

Ike Southward—Great Britain v. France (at Leeds); France v. Great Britain (at Grenoble).

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SIGNINGS

Geoff. Sims (Leigh Colts); Derek Chatterton (Widnes); Brian Byrne (Leigh Colts); John C. Govan (Wigan Road); J. Hunter (Leigh R.U.); Brian Hatherhall (Leigh Colts); Len Mee (Leigh Colts); Brian Pendlebury (Leigh Colts); J. Buckley (Oldham Ex-Schoolboys); Sean Quinlan (Blackrock R.U., Ireland); Peter Goddard (Greenacres); Geoff. Kelly (Rochdale Hornets); Bob Pagsley (Bridgend R.U., Wales); Dick Smith (Waterhead); Len McIntyre (Barrow); Ike Southward (Workington).

RELEASES

F. Sims and L. Laverty were released unconditionally from their professional contracts with the club.

CHARITY MATCH

The Annual Charity Match was played at Rochdale on Saturday, 9th August, 1958, and our share of the receipts was £265 11s. 5d. A sum of £6 18s. 4d. was brought forward from the previous year making a total for distribution of £272 9s. 9d. A sum of £270 was distributed to the local amateur Rugby League football organisations as follows:

Oldham Junior R.L.	— £140	Oldham Continuation R.L.	— £55
Oldham School Boys	— £65	St. John Ambulance Brigade	£10

The sum of £2 9s. 9d. is carried forward to next season.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

For the period under review the Committee have held 47 meetings and the attendances have been as follows:

	Poss	Attd	Sick	Abst		Poss	Attd	Sick	Abst
W. Howard	47	45		2	F. S. Holt	47	46		1
J. Coulthard	47	47			J. W. Lewthwaite	47	46		1
A. Cordwell	47	47			F. L. Ridgway	47	46		1
F. W. Ashworth	47	46	1		E. Thomas	47	46		1
A. F. Campbell	47	38	9		R. L. Thomas	47	46		1
B. Day	47	41	3	3	E. Watkins	47	47		

Mr. F. L. Ridgway has been chairman of the Rugby League for the past season and Vice-chairman of the Northern Rugby League Management Committee and has given much time to the game and has filled the office with dignity. Mr. F. W. Ashworth has been the Club's representative on the Lancashire County Rugby League and he also has filled the office with the usual dignity as our representative. Both gentlemen have given their respective reports as delegates to the office they have filled.

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MEMBERSHIP

The membership for the past season shows a decrease from the previous season of 482, which is to be regretted. The centre stand and side stand membership which constituted the Pavilion side of the ground was discontinued for the season and made an average price of membership for the whole standing accommodation.

A sum of £7654 2s. 6d. was received from membership fees which was a good financial start for the season. Our members must be complimented in rallying round the club in providing such a good financial send-off.

	1950/51	51/52	52/53	53/54	54/55	55/56	56/57	57/58	58/59
Life Members	91	90	89	87	85	84	80	78	77
Enclosure and 'E' Stand	776	761	932	911	920	1027	1032	1029	1047
Pavilion Side	373	357	400	425	374	487	378	476	650
Side Stand	526	599	750	620	593	779	721	904	314
Ground	168	170	250	242	80	292	308	354	375
Juvenile	95	74	110	129	144	250	289	396	432
Paddock	153	153	249	166	139	229	204	251	181
	2182	2204	2778	2580	2335	3148	3012	3488	3006

The prices of membership were as follows:

Enclosure Seats	..	£4 0 0	Paddock (Popular Side)	£2 2 6
'E' Stand	..	£3 10 0	Ground (behind post)	£1 15 0
Pavilion Side	..	£2 10 0	Juvenile	 10 0
Side Stand (Popular Side)	£2 7 6			

SUPPORTERS' CLUB

Thanks are due to the Supporters' Club for the service given in running the canteens on the ground. No donations in cash have been made but they have provided the recording clock of the time of the game over the Score Board. A new flag pole will be erected during the close season at the Supporters' Club expense. The canteens are ably staffed and well equipped and have provided the necessary stimulants during the season. Our thanks go to the enthusiastic band of officials, members of the Supporters' Club, and to the ladies for the service they have given.

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POOLS ORGANISATION

The Pools Organisation which is run separately from the Club has functioned with efficiency and with great success. An average of over £200 per week has been allocated to the Club by this splendid organisation. Their efforts have resulted in what we see on our ground by the fine covering of the Watersheddings Street end of the ground. Any money received from the Pools Organisation is to be spent on ground improvements and which is money wisely spent for the comfort of our members and supporters. A very special word of thanks must go to the officials who run the Pools Organisation and we trust that their efforts will go from success to success.



Cracknell avoids a tackle by Prinsloo. Oldham v. St. Helens

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Match Results and Details 1958-9

ROCHDALE HORNETS v. OLDHAM

August 9th, 1958. Law (Charity) Cup. Away. Lost 25-10.

Rochdale—Trumble; Buxton, Short, L. Jones, Smith; Chisnall, Fishwick; Scholes, Dagnall, Hanson; Parsons, Bailey, Parr.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Nestor, Ayres, Eddy; Kellett, Jones; Rowbottom, Keith, Lomas; Winslade, Little, Daley.

Rochdale Scorers—Goals (5): L. Jones 5. Tries (5): Fishwick 1, Smith 1, Chisnall 2, Short 1.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (2): Ganley 2. Tries (2): Jones 2.

Referee: Mr. K. R. Rathbone (St. Helens) Attendance 6,471
Receipts £743

OLDHAM v. HALIFAX

August 16th, 1958. R.L. Home. Won 21-10.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Noon, Ayres, Nestor; Kellett, Jones; Lomas, Keith, Vines, Winslade, McKeown, Turner.

Halifax—Briers; Snowden, Burnett, Palmer, Williams; Dean, Jones; Thorley, Taylor, Wilkinson, Jarman, Sparks, Clift.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (6): Ganley 6. Tries (3): Kellett 1, Nestor 1, Cracknell 1.

Halifax Scorers—Goals (2): Dean 1, Briers 1. Tries (2): Burnett 1, Palmer 1.

Referee: Mr. A. E. Durkin (Dewsbury) Attendance 16000

BLACKPOOL v. OLDHAM

August 19th, 1958. R.L. Away. Won 12-34.

Blackpool—Lowe; Emmett, Ryder, Foden, Foster; Brennan, Dunn; Fisher, Knowles, Grundy, Standish, Maughan, Taylor.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Nestor, Ayres, Noon; Kellett, S'irrup; Rowbottom, Keith, Vines, Winslade, McKeown, Turner.

Blackpool Scorers—Goals (3): Maughan 3. Tries (2): Emmitt 2,

Oldham Scorers—Goals (8): Ganley 8. Tries (6): Keith 2, McKeown 1, Rowbottom 1, Turner 1, Cracknell 1.

Referee: Mr. R. Welsby (Warrington).

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WAKEFIELD v. OLDHAM

August 23rd, 1958. R.L. Away. Lost 23-7.

Wakefield—Lockwood; Smith, Holliday, Fox, Houlden; Poynton, Rollin; Evans, Shaw, Kelly, Firth, Chamberlain, Traill.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Edwards, Ayres, Sims; Kellett, Stirrup; Rowbottom, Keith, Vines, Winslade, McKeown, Turner.

Wakefield Scorers—Goals (4): Fox 4. Tries (5): Rollin 3, Houlden 1, Smith 1.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (2): Ganley 2. Tries (1): McKeown.

Referee: Mr. J. Manley (Warrington). Attendance 13,200.
Receipts £1254

OLDHAM v. WHITEHAVEN

August 30th, 1958. 1st Round Lancs. Cup. Home. Won 49-5.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Davies, Ayres, Sims; Kellett, Stirrup; Little, Keith, Vines, Winslade, McKeown, Turner.

Whitehaven—McKeown; King, Shepherd, Gibson, Smith; Hanley, Hadley; McAlone, McKinnell, Matthews, Temby, Robinson, Garrett.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (8): Ganley 8. Tries (11): Davies 4, Cracknell 1, Little 1, Keith 1, Ayres 1, Winslade 1, Sims 2.

Whitehaven Scorers—Goals (1): Matthews 1. Tries (1): Temby.

Referee: Mr. G. Wilson (Dewsbury). Attendance 12,000.

OLDHAM v. WORKINGTON

September 2nd, 1958. R.L. Home. Won 30-4.

Oldham—Ganley; Sims, Davies, Edwards, Cracknell; Kellett, Pitchford; McKeown, Keith, Vines, Winslade, Little, Turner.

Workington—Stephenson; Glover, McDowell, McAvoy, O'Neil; Roper, Toohey; Herbert, Eden, Armstrong, Eve, Stamp, Ivison.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (6): Ganley 6. Tries (6): Davies 1, Keith 1, Cracknell 1, Sims 1, Kellett 1, Winslade 1.

Workington Scorers—Goals (2): Stephenson 2.

Referee: Mr. E. Clay (Rothwell). Attendance 11,721

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HALIFAX v. OLDHAM

September 6th, 1958. R.L. Away. Won 11-27.

Halifax—Owen; Snowden, Burnett, Palmer, Williams; Dean, Jones; Wilkinson, Taylor, Pearce, Jarman, Sparks, Marchant.

Oldham—Ganley; Sims, Davies, Cracknell, Eddy; Kellett, Stirrup; Dufty, Keith, McKeown, Winslade, Little, Turner.

Halifax Scorers—Goals (1): Owen 1. Tries (3): Sparks 1, Williams 1, Palmer 1.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (6): Ganley 6. Tries (5): Kellett 1, Winslade 1, Little 1, Davies 1, Ganley 1.

Referee: Mr. F. Smith (Barrow).

Attendance 15,301.

Receipts £1,520.

OLDHAM v. WAKEFIELD

September 13th, 1958. R.L. Home. Won 28-11.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Davies, Noon, Eddy; Kellett, Hatherall, Rowbottom, Keith, Dufty, Winslade, McKeown, Turner.

Wakefield—Round; F. Smith, Metcalfe, Fox, S. Smith; Holliday, Rollin; Harrison, Shaw, Evans, Chamberlain, Kelly, Traill.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (5): Ganley 5. Tries (6): Eddy 2, Dufty 1, Noon 1, Cracknell 1, Kellett 1.

Wakefield Scorers—Goals (1): Fox 1. Tries (3): Rollin 1, Holliday 1, Round 1.

Referee: Mr. G. Wilson (Dewsbury).

Attendance 14,500.

OLDHAM v. WIGAN

September 16th, 1958. 2nd Rd. Lancs. Cup. Home. Won 19-7.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Davies, Noon, Eddy; Kellett, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Keith, Dufty, Winslade, Little, Turner.

Wigan—Cunliffe; Chisnall, Ashcroft, Ashton, Sullivan; Boston, Bolton; Barton, Sayer, McTigue, Cherrington, Collier, Evans.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (5): Ganley 5. Tries (3): Davies 1, Keith 1, Pitchford 1.

Wigan Scorers—Goals (2): Cunliffe 2. Tries (1): Sayer.

Referee: Mr. R. Gelder (Wakefield).

Attendance 20,543.

Receipts £2,810.

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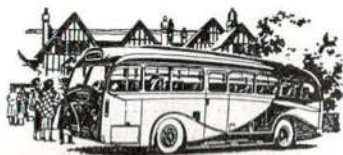
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ROCHDALE HORNETS v. OLDHAM

September 20th, 1958. R.L. Away. Won 13-14.

Rochdale—Cahill; Buxton, Jones, Short, Ralph; Smith, Fishwick; Scholes, Richardson, Hanson, Parsons, Bailey, Parr.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Davies, Noon, Sims, Kellett, Pitchford, Rowbottom, Keith, Dufty, Winslade, Little, Turner.

Rochdale Scorers—Goals (2): Richardson 2. Tries (3): Bailey 1, Hanson 1, Buxton 1.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (4): Noon 4. Tries (2): Davies 1, Kellett 1.

Referee: Mr. G. Battersby (Barrow)

Attendance 9,533.
Receipts £1,054.

OLDHAM v. BLACKPOOL

September 27th, 1958. R.L. Home. Won 44-3.

Oldham—Mee; Cracknell, Davies, Noon, Sims; Stirrup, Hatherall; Rowbottom, Keith, Dufty, Little, McKeown, Turner.

Blackpool—Lowe; O'Brien, Wood, Ryder, Meadows; Brennan, Dunn; Fisher, Lennon, Grundy, Parker, Standish, Knowles.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (7): Noon 7. Tries (10): Noon 2, Stirrup 1, Cracknell 2, Keith 1, Sims 2, Little 2.

Blackpool Scorers—Goals (0). Tries (1): Lennon 1.

Referee: Mr. C. Whiteley (Warrington). Attendance 10,391.

OLDHAM v. WIDNES

September 30th, 1958. Lancs. Cup (S.F.) Home. Won 9-4.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Davies, Noon, Sims; Kellett, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Keith, Dufty, Winslade, Little, Turner.

Widnes—Kinsey; Heyes, Thompson, Broome, Dawson; Myler, Kenney, Smith, Kemel, Bate, Griffin, Thompson, Major.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (3): Ganley 3. Tries (1): Pitchford.

Widnes Scorers—Goals (2): Dawson 2.

Referee: Mr. M. Coates (Pudsey).

Attendance 13,674.
Receipts £1,900.

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WARRINGTON v. OLDHAM

October 4th, 1958. R.L. Away. Won 13-20.

Warrington—Fraser; Bevan, Challinor, Naughton, O'Grady; Edwards, Regan; Silcock, Wright, Hanniex, Gaskell, Gilfedder, Major.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Davies, Noon, Eddy; Kellett, Pitchford, Rowbottom, Keith, Dufty, Winslade, Little, Turner.

Warrington Scorers—Goals (2): Fraser 2. Tries (3): Challinor 1, Bevan 1, Edwards 1.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (4): Ganley 4. Tries (4): Noon 1, Eddy 1, Davies 1, Keith 1.

Referee: Mr. M. Coates (Pudsey)

Attendance 16,627

OLDHAM v. ROCHDALE

October 11th, 1958. R.L. Home. Won 22-18.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Davies, Noon, Eddy; Kellett, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, Dufty, Winslade, McKeown, Little.

Rochdale—Cahill; Smith, Jones, Buxton, Ralph; Chisnall, Fishwick; Scholes, Dagnall, Hanson, Parsons, Bailey, Parr.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (5): Ganley 5. Tries (4): Davies 1, Cracknell 1, Pitchford 1, Keith 1.

Rochdale Scorers—Goals (3): Jones 3. Tries (4): Smith 1, Parr 1, Fishwick 1, Chisnall 1.

Referee: Mr. J. Flanagan.

Attendance 13,096.

LIVERPOOL v. OLDHAM

October 18th, 1958. R.L. Away. Won 13-28.

Liverpool—Ashby; Halton, Speakman, Hunt, Donaldson; Twiss, Walker; Payne, Fishwick, Simpson, Davies, Cartledge, Tobin.

Oldham—Ganley; Sims, Davies, Noon, Eddy; Kellett, Stirrup; Jackson, Keith, McKeown, Winslade, Little, Turner.

Liverpool Scorers—Goals (5): Twiss 5. Tries (1): Fishwick.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (8): Ganley 8. Tries (4): Stirrup 1, Sims 1, Kellett 2.

Referee: Mr. T. W. Watkinson (Pendlebury) Attendance 2,000

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OLDHAM v. ST. HELENS

October 25th, 1958. Lancs. Cup Final at Swinton. Won 12-2.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Davies, Noon, Ety; Kellett, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Keith, Jackson, Winslade, McKeown, Turner.

St. Helens—Fearis; Voilenhoven, Greenall, Large, Carlton; Howard, Murphy; Terry, McKinney, Brown, Briggs, Delves, Karalius.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (3): Kellett 1, Ganley 2. Tries (2): Kellett 1, Davies 1.

St. Helens Scorers—Goals (1): Fearis 1,

Referee: Mr. R. Gelder (Wakefield) Attendance 38,780

Receipts £6,933 (Comp. Record).

FEATHERSTONE v. OLDHAM

November 1st, 1958. R.L. Away. Won 8-30.

Featherstone—Cooper; Kinsey, Greatorex, Woolford, Smith; Mullaney, Fox; Moore, Ward, Hockley, Clamp, Jones, Lambert.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Davies, Noon, Ety; Kellett, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Keith, Jackson, Winslade, McKeown, Turner.

Featherstone Scorers—Goals (1): Fox 1. Tries (2): Woolford 1, Clamp 1.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (6): Ganley 6. Tries (6): Cracknell 1, Pitchford 1, Kellett 1, Davies 2, Noon 1.

Referee: Mr. C. Appleton.

Attendance 8,000.

Receipts £740.

OLDHAM v. FEATHERSTONE

November 8th, 1958. R.L. Home. Won 12-7.

Oldham—Stirrup; Cracknell, Davies, Noon, Sims; Kellett, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Keith, Jackson, Winslade, McKeown, Turner.

Featherstone—Cooper; Kinsey, Greatorex, Smith, Woolford; Mullaney, Fox; Moore, Ward, Hockley, Clamp, Jones, Lambert.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (3): Noon 3. Tries (2): Sims 1, Cracknell 1.

Featherstone Scorers—Goals (2): Fox 1, Cooper 1. Tries (1): Greatorex.

Referee: Mr. G. Wilson (Dewsbury).

Attendance 11,043.

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SALFORD v. OLDHAM

November 15th, 1958. R.L. Away. Lost 14-9.

Salford—A. Gregory; Walker, Cheshire, Preece, Jones; Lowden, H. Gregory; Smith, McGuinness, Hancock, Council, Stott, Hartley.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Davies, Noon Eddy; Kellett, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Keith, Jackson, Winslade, Dufty, Kelly.

Salford Scorers—Goals (4): Lowden 4. Tries (2): Preece 1, McGuinness 1.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (3): Ganley 3. Tries (1): Winslade 1.

Referee: (Mr. L. Wingfield.

Attendance 6,000.

OLDHAM v. LEEDS

November 22nd, 1958. R.L. Home. Won 13-12.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Noon, Davies, Quinlan; Kellett, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, McKeown, Winslade, Little, Kelly.

Leeds—Jones; Hemmingway, Lendill, Jones, Hodgkinson; Brown, Pycroft; Skelton, Simms, Robinson, Tomlinson, Ward, Dick.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (2): Ganley 2. Tries (3) Cracknell 1, Noon 1, Winslade 1.

Leeds Scorers—Goals (3): Jones 3. Tries (2): Lendill 1, Tomlinson 1.

Referee: Mr. A. Howgate (Dewsbury)

Attendance 13,417

WIGAN v. OLDHAM

November 29th, 1958. R.L. Away. Lost 19-7.

Wigan—Cuncliffe; Boston, Ashton, Holden, Sullivan; Bolton, Thomas; Bretherton, Sayer, Collier, Cherrington, McTigue, Evans.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Davies, Noon, Eddy; Kellett, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, Dufty, Winslade, Little, Kelly.

Wigan Scorers—Goals (5): Cuncliffe 4, Thomas 1, (Dropped Goal). Tries (3): Boston 1, Sayer 1, Collier 1.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (2): Ganley 2. Tries (1): Eddy 1.

Referee: Mr. J. Manley (Warrington)

Attendance 24,782

Receipts £2,388

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OLDHAM v. WIDNES

December 6th, 1958. R.L. Home. Won 44-8.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Davies, Ayres, Eddy; Kellett, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Keith, Little, Winslade, Kelly, Turner.

Widnes—Wright; Kinsey, Broome, Thompson, Dawson; Myler, Keavney; Smith, Kemel, Bate, Griffin, Hill, Major.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (10): Ganley 9, Turner 1 (dropped goal). Tries (8): Cracknell 2, Kellett 2, Keith 2, Winslade 1, Ayres 1.

Widnes Scorers—Goals (1): Dawson 1. Tries (2): Myler 1, Thompson 1.

Referee: Mr. A. E. Durkin (Dewsbury) Attendance 9,038

WORKINGTON v. OLDHAM

December 13th, 1958. R.L. Away. Won 0-23.

Workington—Stephenson; Southward, Wookey, O'Neil, McArthur; Faulder, McDowell; Herbert, Moss, Armstrong, Stamper, Martin, Eve.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Noon, Ayres, Eddy; Davies, Pitchford; Little, Keith, McKeown, Winslade, Kelly, Turner.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (4): Ganley 4. Tries (5): Kelly 1, Ayres 1, Little 1, Noon 1, Pitchford 1.

Referee: Mr. A. Howgate (Dewsbury) Attendance 6,031

OLDHAM v. WIGAN

December 20th, 1958. R.L. Home. Won 21-18.

Oldham—Ganley; Nestor, Davies, Ayres, Eddy; Kellett, Pitchford, Rowbottom, Keith, Little, Winslade, Kelly, Turner.

Wigan—Griffiths; Boston, Ashton, Holden, Sullivan; Bolton, Thomas; Barton, Sayer, Collier, Bretherton, McTigue, Evans.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (6): Ganley 6. Tries (3): Davies 2, Kellett 1.

Wigan Scorers—Goals (3): Griffiths 3. Tries (4): Boston 1, Sullivan 2, Evans 1.

Referee: Mr. E. Clay (Rothwell) Attendance 15,200

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OLDHAM v. SWINTON

December 25th 1958. R.L. Home. Won 8-7.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Ayres, Davies, Quinlan; Kellett, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Kelly, McKeown, Winslade, Little, Turner.

Swinton—Gowers; Critchley, Mather, Blan, Doughty; Parkinson, Cartwright; Thompson, Roberts, Moses, Lamb, Norburn, Haynes.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (4): Ganley 4.

Swinton Scorers—Goals (2): Gowers 2. Tries (1) Doughty.

Referee: Mr. N. T. Railton (Billinge). Attendance 15,093

HUNSLET v. OLDHAM

December 26th, 1958. R.L. Away. Drawn 14-14.

Hunslet—Langton; Grainger, Stockdill, Preece, Walker; Gabbittas, Doyle; Cooper; Smith, Boland, Poole, Gunney, Shaw.

Oldham—Ganley; Quinlan, Davies, Ayres, Eddy; Nestor, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Goddard, Lloyd, Winslade, Little, Turner.

Hunslet Scorers—Goals (4): Langton 4. Tries (2): Walker 1, Stockdill 1.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (4): Ganley 4. Tries (2): Pitchford 1, Quinlan 1.

Referee: Mr. T. W. Watkinson (Pendlebury.)

ST. HELENS v. OLDHAM

December 27th, 1958. R.L. Away. Lost 22-6.

St. Helens—Moses; Vollenhoven, Greenall, Smith, Prinsloo; Rhodes, Murphy; Terry, Rose, Briggs, Huddart, D. Karalius, V. Karalius.

Oldham—Ganley; Nestor, Davies, Ayres, Eddy; Kellett, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Goddard, McKeown, Winslade, Kelly, Turner.

St. Helens Scorers—Goals (5): Rhodes 5. Tries (4): Murphy 1, Huddart 1, Prinsloo 1, Greenall 1.

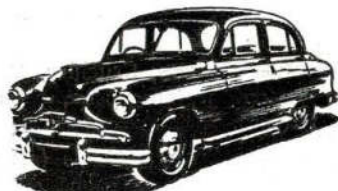
Oldham Scorers—Goals (3): Ganley 3.

Referee: Mr. A. E. Durkin (Dewsbury). Attendance 28,000.
Receipts £2,715.

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OLDHAM v. LEIGH

January 3rd, 1959. R.L. Home. Won 19-16.

Oldham—Ganley; Sims, Davies, Nestor, Eddy; Kellett, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Keith, Lomas, Winslade, Little, Kelly.

Leigh—Hewitt; Kindon, Lewis, Fisher, Morgan; Gibson, Fallon; Robinson, Tabern, Owen, Hurt, Martyn, Dickens.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (5): Ganley 5. Tries (3): Eddy 1, Davies 1, Pitchford 1.

Leigh Scorers—Goals (2): Fallon 2. Tries (4): Robinson 1, Owen 1, Martyn 1, Fallon 1.

Referee—Mr. K. R. Rathbone (St. Helens). Attendance 10,063

LEEDS v. OLDHAM

January 31st, 1959 R.L. Away. Lost 18-15.

Leeds—Quinn; Hemingway, Hallas, Jones, Garside; Brown, Pyecroft, Skelton, Prior, Robinson, Tomlinson, Sewell, Ward.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Nestor, Noon, Eddy; Kellett, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Keith, Lomas, Winslade, Little, Kelly.

Leeds Scorers—Goals (3): Jones 3. Tries (4): Hemingway 2, Garside 1, Skelton 1.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (3): Ganley 3. Tries (3): Nestor 1, Pitchford 1, Eddy 1.

Referee: Mr. D. T. H. Davies (Manchester). Attendance 20,000
Receipts £2,005

OLDHAM v. WARRINGTON

February 7th, 1959. R.L. Home. Won 19-8.

Oldham—Ganley; Sims, Kellett, Noon, Eddy; Daley, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, Lomas, Winslade, Little, McKeown.

Warrington—Regan; Bevan, Challinor, Fraser, O'Grady; Edwards, Greenhough; Silcock, Harper, Brindle, Gilfedder, White, Major.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (5): Ganley 5. Tries (3): Kellett 1, Noon 1, Sims 1.

Warrington Scorers—Goals (1): Fraser 1. Tries (2): Fraser 1, Bevan 1.

Referee: Mr. G. Philpott (Leeds). Attendance 12,000.

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LEIGH v. OLDHAM

February 14th, 1959 R.L. Away. Lost 11-7.

Leigh—Hewitt; Hutson, Lewis, Fisher, Callaghan; Chadwick, Fallon; Robinson, Tabern, Owen, Hurt, Martyn, Dickens.

Oldham—Kellett; Sims, Noon, Ayres, Etty; Nestor, Pitchford; Jackson, Goddard, Little, Winslade, Dufty, McKeown.

Leigh Scorers—Goals (4): Fallon 4. Tries (1): Martyn.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (2): Noon 2. Tries (1): Nestor.

Referee: Mr. C. Appleton (Warrington). Attendance 10,000.

OLDHAM v. ST. HELENS

February 21st, 1959. 1st Rd. Chall. Cup. Home. Lost 6-7.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Nestor, Davies, Etty; Kellett, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, Little, Winslade, Dufty, McKeown

St. Helens—Moses; Vollenhoven, Greenall, Fearis, Prinsloo; Howard, Murphy; Terry, Bowden, Briggs, Huddart, D. Karalius, V. Karalius.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (3): Ganley 3.

St. Helens Scorers—Goals (2): Fearis 2. Tries (1): Greenall.

Referee: Mr. E. Clay (Leeds) Attendance 23,000

WHITEHAVEN v. OLDHAM

February 28th, 1959. R.L. Away. Lost 14-3.

Whitehaven—Shepherd; Hughes, Baker, Gibson, Smith; McMenemy, Davies, McAlone, McKinnel, Temby, Neale, Burns, Robinson.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Davies, Noon, Etty; Nestor, Pitchford; Jackson, McIntyre, Smith, McKeown, Dufty, Kelly.

Whitehaven Scorers—Goals (1): Temby 1. Tries (4): Davies 1, Baker 1, Temby 1, Smith 1.

Oldham—Goals (0). Tries (1): Nestor.

Referee: Mr. C. F. Appleton (Warrington). Attendance 4,000.

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HULL v. OLDHAM

March 14th, 1959. R.L. Away. Lost 20-8.

Hull—Keegan; Cowan, Cooper, Boustead, Watts; Matthews, Finn; Scott, Holdstock, J. Drake, Sykes, Sutton, P. Whiteley.
Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Nestor, Noon, Sims; Kellett, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, McKeown, Winslade, Little, Pugsley.

Hull Scorers—Goals (4): Keegan 4. **Tries** (4): Matthews 2, Watts 1, Boustead 1.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (1): Ganley. **Tries** (2): Noon 1, Nestor 1.

Referee: Mr. D. T. H. Davies (Manchester). **Attendance** 10,000
Receipts £969.

OLDHAM v. BARROW

March 21st, 1959. R.L. Home. Won 39-13.

Oldham—Ganley; Southward, Davies, Nestor, Sims; Kellett, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, Lomas, Winslade, Little, Pugsley.
Barrow—Dawes; Woolveridge, Rea, Hamblett, F. Goodwin; Hanley, Ball; Donaldson, Delves, Whitehead, Dacie, Wilson, D. Goodwin.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (9): Ganley 9. **Tries** (7): Lomas 2, Davies 1, Pitchford 1, Sims 1, Southward 1, Keith 1.

Barrow Scorers—Goals (2): Ball 2. **Tries** (3): Rea 1, Dawes 1, Delves 1.

Referee: Mr. G. Wilson (Dewsbury). **Attendance** 10,220.

SWINTON v. OLDHAM

March 27th, 1959. R.L. Away. Won 19-8.

Oldham—Ganley; Southward, Davies, Noon, Sims; Kellett, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, Lomas, Winslade, Little, Pugsley.
Swinton Scorers—Goals (1): Gowers 1. **Tries** (2): Cartwright 1, McGovern 1.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (5): Ganley 5. **Tries** (3): Southward 1, Davies 1, Keith 1.

Attendance 14,000.

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OLDHAM v. HULL

March 30th, 1959. R.L. Home. Won 5-0.

Oldham—Ganley; Southward, Davies, Noon, Nestor; Kellett, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, McKeown, Lomas, Little Pugsley.

Hull—Keegan; Boustead, Cowan, Cooper, Gill; Matthews, Finn; Scott, Harris, Hamblin, Sykes, W. Drake, Whiteley.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (1): Ganley. Tries (1): Noon.

Referee: Mr. R. Gelder (Wakefield). Attendance 15,321.

OLDHAM v. LIVERPOOL

April 4th, 1959. R.L. Home. Won 67-6.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Nestor, Noon, Sims; Kellett, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, Lomas, McKeown, Little, Pugsley.

Liverpool—Briers; Barton, Speakman, Teggū, Dohaldson; Blythen, Woodrow; Simpson, Fishwick, Cartledge, Hockenhall, Winstanley, Karalius.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (14): Ganley 14. Tries (13): Cracknell 4, Kellett 4, Jackson 1, Pitchford 1, Sims 1, Little 1, Noon 1.

Liverpool Scorers—Goals (3): Simpson 3. Tries (0).

Attendance 8,500.

OLDHAM v. SALFORD

April 7th, 1959. R.L. Home. Won 25-10.

Oldham—Ganley; Southward, Davies, Nestor, Cracknell; Kellett, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, McKeown, Duffy, Lomas, Pugsley.

Salford—Gregory; Bettison, Cheshire, Preece, Jones; Lowden, Banks; Hancock, McGuinness, Adamson, Council, Alder, Stott.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (5): Ganley 5. Tries (5): Davies 1, Cracknell 2, Southward 1, Pitchford 1.

Salford Scorers—Goals (2): Lowden 2. Tries (2): Preece 1, Bettison 1.

Referee: Mr. G. Wilson (Dewsbury). Attendance 8,177.

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WIDNES v. OLDHAM

April 11th, 1959. R.L. Away. Lost 28-6.

Widnes—Pimblett; Chisnall, Broome, Thompson, Bright; Myler, Keavney, Smith, Rimmer, Bate, Hill, Rose, Sherman.

Oldham—Ganley; Southward, Davies, Noon, Nestor; Kellett, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, Little, Dufty, Lomas, Pugsley.

Widnes Scorers—Goals (5): Pimblett 4, Keavney 1 (dropped). Tries (6): Myler 3, Pimblett 1, Thompson 1, Chisnall 1.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (0). Tries (2): Southward 2.

Referee: Mr. J. W. Jowett (Leeds). Attendance 6,939.

OLDHAM v. HUNSLET

April 14th, 1959. R.L. Home. Won 32-12.

Oldham—Ganley; Southward, Davies, Noon, Cracknell; Kellett, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Keith, Lomas, Winslade, Dufty, McKeown.

Hunslet—Langton; Colin, Stockdill, Preece, Walker; Gabbitts, Doyle; Hatfield, Smith, Eyre, Robbins, Gunney, Shaw.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (10): Ganley 10. Tries (4): Southward 2, Kellett 1, Noon 1.

Hunslet Scorers—Goals (3): Langton 3. Tries (2): Colin 2.

Referee: Mr. A. Howgate (Dewsbury). Attendance 12,442.

OLDHAM v. WHITEHAVEN

April 18th, 1959. R.L. Home. Won 29-9.

Oldham—Ganley; Southward, Davies, Noon, Cracknell; Kellett, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, Lomas, Winslade, Dufty, Pugsley.

Whitehaven—Forster; Smith, Coles, Gibson, Stephenson; Hughes, Davies; McAlone, McKinnell, Vincent, Temby, Neale, Robinson.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (7): Ganley 7 (1 dropped goal). Tries (5): Southward 2, Pitchford 2, Cracknell 1.

Whitehaven Scorers—Goals (5): Forster 5. Tries (3): Robinson 1, Stephenson 1, Gibson 1.

Referee: Mr. H. Harrison (Horbury). Attendance 11,078.

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BARROW v. OLDHAM

April 20th, 1959. R.L. Away. Won 20-21.

Barrow—Dawes; Barker, Rea, Woolveridge, Lowther; Haney, Harris; Donaldson, Wilson (J.), Robinson, Grundy, Jackson (J.), Delves.

Oldham—Ganley; Southward, Davies, Noon, Nestor; Kellett, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, Lomas, Winslade, Dufty, Pugsley. Barrow Scorers—Goals (4): Dawes 4. Tries (4): Grundy 1, Wilson 2, Rea 1.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (6): Ganley 6. Tries (3): Nestor 1, Noon 1, Pugsley 1.

Referee: Mr. R. Gelder (Wakefield) Attendance 6,247.

OLDHAM v. ST. HELENS

April 27th, 1959. R.L. Home. Won 15-14.

Oldham—Ganley; Southward, Davies, Nestor, Cracknell; Kellett, Pitchford; Jackson, Keith, Little, Winslade, Dufty, Pugsley.

St. Helens—Moses; Vollenhoven, Greenall, McGinn, Prinsloo; Smith, Murphy; Terry, Bowden, Prescott, Briggs, D. Karalius, Huddart.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (3): Ganley 3. Tries (3): Keith 1, Nestor 1, Southward 1.

St. Helens Scorers—Goals (1): Briggs 1. Tries (4): Murphy 1, Vollenhoven 2, Smith 1.

Referee: Mr. C. Appleton (Warrington). Attendance 19,000. Receipts £1,800.

ST. HELENS v. OLDHAM

May 2nd, 1959. R.L. Champ. S.F. Away. Lost 42-4.

St. Helens—Rhodes; Large, Greenall, McGinn, Prinsloo; Smith, Murphy; Terry, McKinney, Prescott, Briggs, Huddart, Karalius.

Oldham—Ganley; Cracknell, Davies, Kellett, Nestor; Daley, Pitchford; Rowbottom, Keith, Lomas, Winslade, Dufty, Little.

St. Helens Scorers—Goals (6): Rhodes 6. Tries (10): Large 3, Murphy 1, McGinn 1, Terry 1, Greenall 2, Huddart 2.

Oldham Scorers—Goals (2): Ganley 2.

Referee: Mr. M. Coates (Pudsey). Attendance 22,000. Receipts £2,477.

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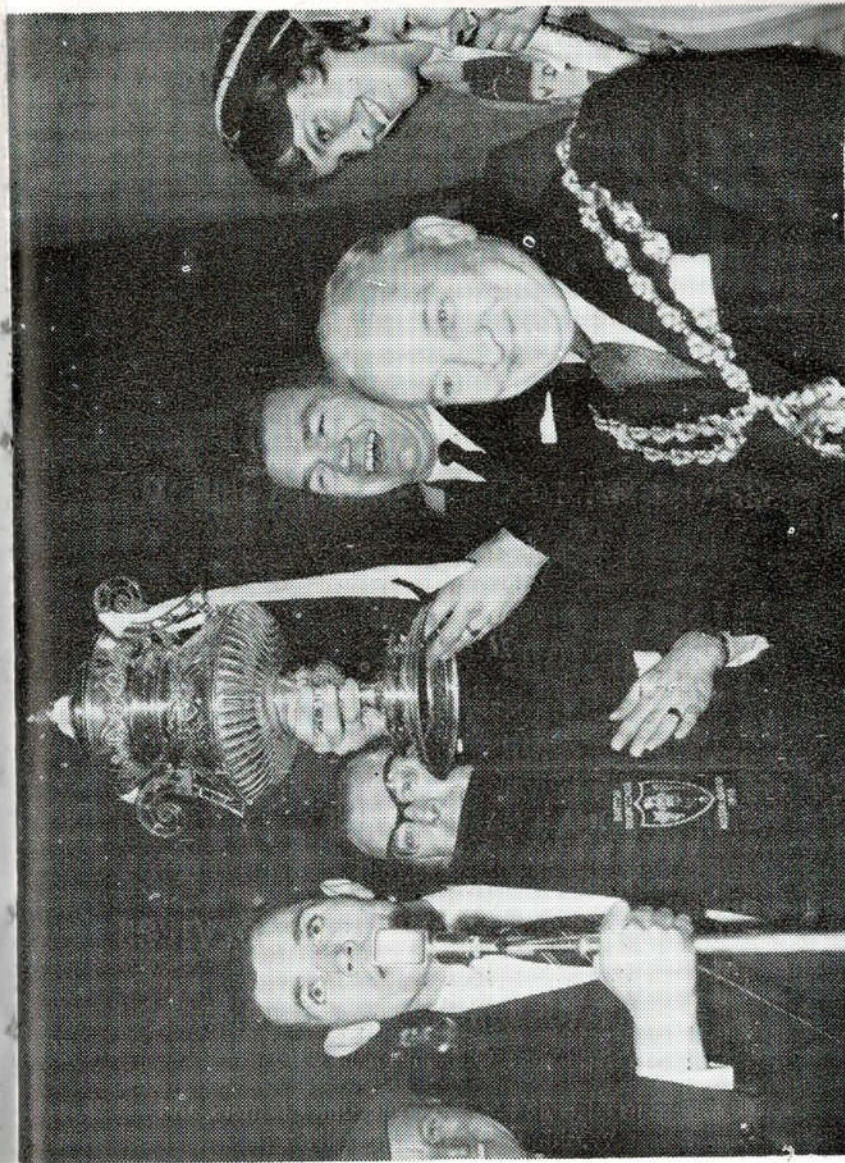
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While Alan Davies pauses for words on the Town Hall steps, winger John Etty gives the Lancashire Cup a wave
October 27th 1958

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Tired but happy, the Oldham players relax in the dressing-room after winning the Lancashire Cup for the third time in succession

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What of 1959 ?

What does the new season hold for our favourite game and our favourite club? Every follower has his own pet opinion on how Rugby League could be improved, and, naturally, every Oldham fan is hoping for great things from the Watersheddings boys in 1959-60. But, by way of a change, let's take a look at the overall picture, rather than just a part of it, as the kick-off day approaches.

This year brings us the Australians, challenging to regain the honours lost to Alan Prescott and his British battlers "Down Under" in the summer of 1958. That was a big blow to Aussie pride and the disaster seems to have had its repercussions behind the scenes if the team-building difficulties which have beset the Kangaroos throughout the summer are anything to go by.

But while it is probable that the latest Australian party will contain a preponderance of newcomers to this country, this does not mean any lightening of our task in keeping a grip on the "Ashes".

We cannot be complacent or over-confident about the outcome, bearing in mind the fighting spirit of the men in the green-and-gold jerseys and their capacity for rising to the occasion when the odds seem heaviest against them.

The Tests will naturally be the big talking point in the first half of the new season and, despite our triumphs in the last series overseas, it would be stretching a point to suggest that our team for the Ashes defence is readymade — cut and dried, as it were. The foundation of the thirteen is probably there, right enough, but the side is far from complete, and competition for places will be keener than ever.

Oldham followers will naturally hope for club representation in the Great Britain Test side, and those who fancy their chances of making the grade will be on their toes from the word "Go". Is Frank Stirrup the man to do it? I think so.

But Tests and internationals will not diminish interest in the "top four" tussle, the struggles for county cups and, above all, the effort to reach Wembley for the Challenge Cup final and Rugby League's day of the year. These, after all, are the month by month, year by year attractions that keep the fans talking, the turnstiles moving, and the club treasurers beaming.

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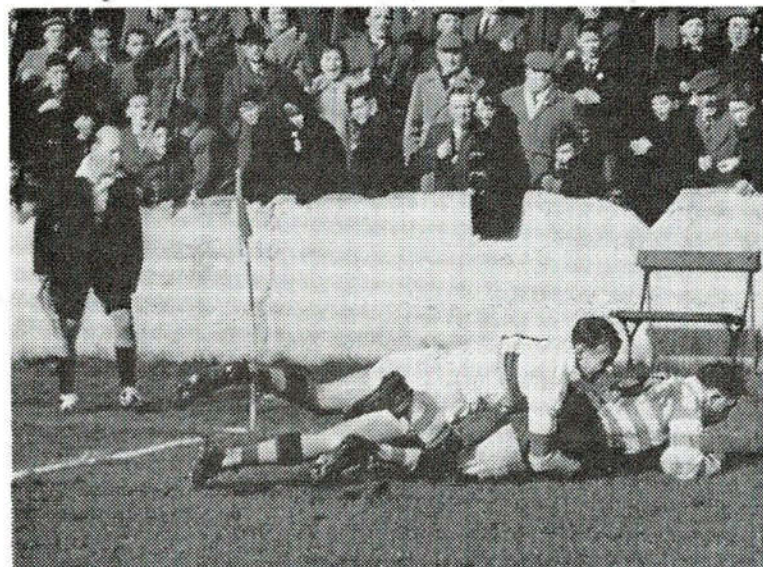
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At the moment, Lancashire holds both the League Championship and Challenge Cups, and if they stay in the county, with the possibility of one or the other coming this way, so much the better for our hopes of a prosperous winter.

Win or lose, our fans, and those throughout the three counties where our code is played, are brimful of confidence. They want a controversy-free season, an improvement in the all-round playing standards and, if it is not too much to hope for, a better spirit in the approach to the game. In this the followers no less than the players, can play their part. And I'd like to see Oldham lead the way.

— By L.G., No. 6 Branch.



Forster cannot stop Cracknell diving over for a try
Oldham v. Whitehaven — 25th April, 1959

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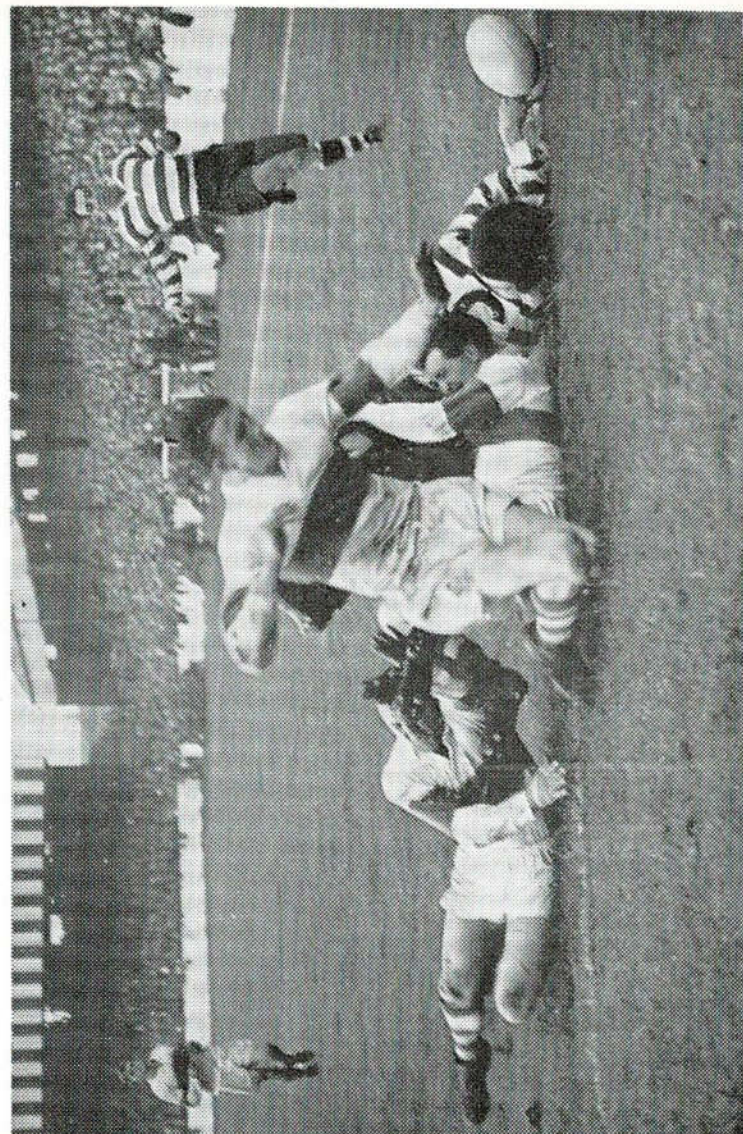
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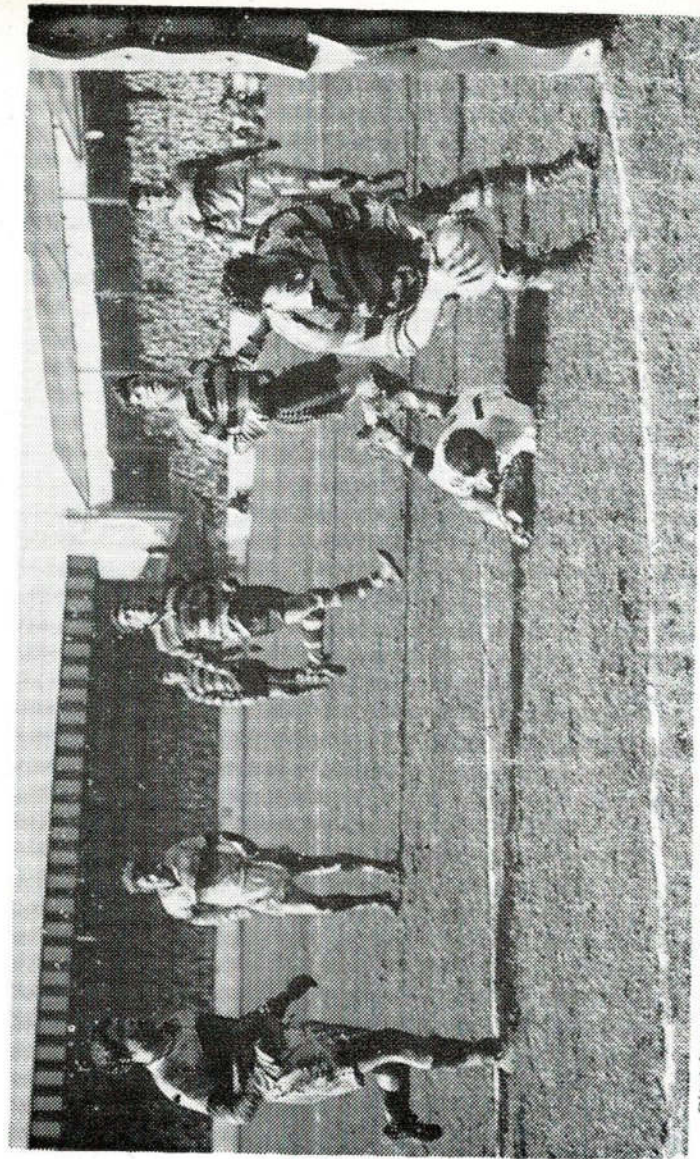
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Pitchford leaves full back Forster (Whitehaven) clutching the air as he goes over between the posts.
Oldham v. Whitehaven, April 25th 1959

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15.	LEEDS	..	..	..	..	Home
18.	DEWSBURY (7 p.m.)	..	..	..	..	Away
22.	SALFORD	..	..	..	..	Away
25.	WARRINGTON (6.30 p.m.)	..	..	..	..	Home
29.	WHITEHAVEN (Lancs. Cup)	..	..	..	..	Away
Sep. 5.	HALIFAX	..	..	..	..	Away
8.	HALIFAX (6.30 p.m.)	..	..	..	..	Home
12.	HUNSLET	..	..	..	..	Home
19.	WIDNES	..	..	..	..	Home
26.	BLACKPOOL	..	..	..	..	Away
Oct. 3.	AUSTRALIA	..	..	..	..	Home
10.	BARROW	..	..	..	..	Away
17.	WORKINGTON	..	..	..	..	Home
24.	WARRINGTON	..	..	..	..	Away
31.	BARROW	..	..	..	..	Home
Nov. 7.	ROCHDALE	..	..	..	..	Away
14.	BLACKPOOL	..	..	..	..	Home
21.	WHITEHAVEN	..	..	..	..	Away
28.	ROCHDALE	..	..	..	..	Home
Dec. 5.	WIGAN	..	..	..	..	Away
12.	HULL	..	..	..	..	Home
19.	DEWSBURY	..	..	..	..	Home
25.	SWINTON	..	..	..	..	Home
26.	WORKINGTON	..	..	..	..	Away
Jan. 2.	LIVERPOOL	..	..	..	..	Away
9.	WAKEFIELD	..	..	..	..	Home
16.	LEIGH	..	..	..	..	Home
23.	ST. HELENS	..	..	..	..	Away
30.	WIDNES	..	..	..	..	Away
Feb. 6.	SALFORD	..	..	..	..	Home
13.	R.L. Cup	..	..	..	..	
20.	WAKEFIELD	..	..	..	..	Away
27.	R.L. Cup	..	..	..	..	
Mar. 5.	LEEDS	..	..	..	..	Away
12.	WIGAN	..	..	..	..	Home
19.	LEIGH	..	..	..	..	Away
26.	HUNSLET	..	..	..	..	Away
Apl. 2.	LIVERPOOL	..	..	..	..	Home
9.	ST. HELENS	..	..	..	..	Home
15.	(G.F.) SWINTON	..	..	..	..	Away
16.	(E.S.)	..	..	..	..	
18.	WHITEHAVEN	..	..	..	..	Home
23.	HULL	..	..	..	..	Away
30.						

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It's Frank's big chance — he's set to take it

by W.D.

(Reprinted by kind permission of the Oldham Evening Chronicle)

Frank Stirrup, Oldham's new manager-coach, takes over his duties at Watersheddings on Tuesday, 28th July. But already that 34 year old wizard of Rugby League, who has thrilled thousands with his superb half-back play, is lining up his big guns to keep Oldham on top.

When I called at Frank's home in Leigh — this rugby man lives on Kugby Road in that rugby-mad town — and I said I wanted to talk about his new job, those bright eyes lit up, Stirrup wanted to talk as well.

TRAINING METHODS

"I don't propose to make any drastic changes in the methods adopted by Griff Jenkins at Watersheddings — plenty of track work and plenty of ball practice.

"But I am aware that the moves want working out more finely. The team has proved over and over again that it can carry them out to perfection on training nights. But often they have fallen down on match days.

"There is a reason for that and I intend to find out just what it is".

FAILING FORM

I am also puzzled why the team has in the past roared into the start of the season and then around the vital Christmas period started to lose form.

"Right now I don't think it is altogether the training — perhaps there has been a tendency to do too much — but certainly something is wrong."

WEMBLEY

"I think if I can check the slip as the year turns we will have the answer to the Wembley puzzle. I am on 12 months' trial and I know if I get the boys to Wembley my chances of staying at Oldham will be brighter".

THE 'A' TEAM

"First let me say that I feel the reserves are in capable hands under Norman Pugh, but in the past I feel they have not been encouraged enough. They have despaired.

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"I intend to let these young lads see plenty of me and I want them to be sure that if they possess what it takes to make the big game, they will get their chance.

"In the past some of our lads have begun to think that people didn't know they existed. I must kill that feeling and let them know that more than existing they are vital to the continued prosperity of the club".

FAVOURITISM

"To pretend that there have not been allegations of favouritism at Watersheddings would be silly. I know that some of the lads think that it has been a priority to come from Leigh.

"I also came from Leigh, but I want to make it quite clear that it will not influence me in any way. It's the best man for the job, even if he comes from Timbuctoo.

"My mind is already made up that I will travel to and from training by myself and I will also be alone travelling to games or to meet the team coach. If there is a feeling of favouritism at Watersheddings, I want to get rid of it quickly".

TEAM SELECTION

"The committee told me when I got the job that I would have an advisory committee to assist me in selection. They also made it clear that I would at all times have the last word.

"I will respect the opinions of the committee and listen to any reasons they may have. But if I am the man who has to take the can for selection, naturally I will have to be careful.

"The aim is to field the strongest team. I know that the advisory committee want that as much as me. I am sure we will work together."

REPLACEMENTS

"We need a couple of forwards and everybody at Watersheddings is acutely aware of that. Even with pots of money the ready-made market is bare so we will have to look around.

"Already I have a couple of youngsters in mind but so far I haven't approached the committee. They have the last say, but I know I can help them by keeping my eyes wide open for prospects."

HIS OWN FOOTBALL

"I am still a registered player at the club and if an emergency arises I may have to play. I hope I never have to because I do not believe in managing the team from the field.

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GENERAL SITUATION

"I believe Oldham is still a great team. We have a grand set of backs and with a little coaching some of them can be brilliant.

"I have a couple of players in mind who just want the rough edges trimming off their play to be placed in the star bracket. I firmly believe these edges can be eliminated.

"I am not a miracle man but I now have the job I have dreamed of, and with the best club in the world. My aim will be to keep it, and I know to do that I have to produce results.

Frank and his family are due for a fortnight's holiday and after that he joins Alan Prescott and several other well-known names at a coaching course for senior coaches at Lilleshall.

In five short weeks he will come to Watersheddings as the new coach. He leaves me in no doubt that he will come full of ideas and a wealth of Rugby League knowledge to make his ideas work.

For years Frank Stirrap has been to the fans "Mr. Football". It is a tag he is very capable of keeping right through his coaching days.

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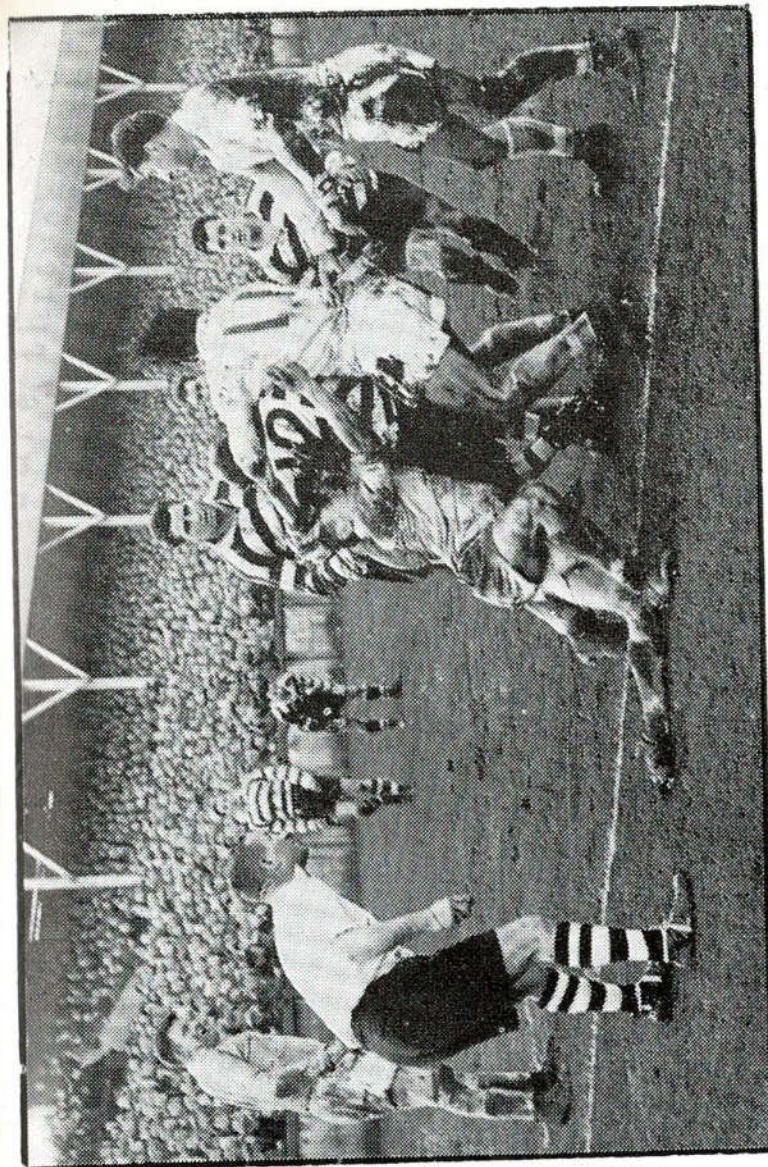
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Kelly, the Oldham forward makes a desperate attempt to score a try, but he is pulled back by St. Helens defenders
St. Helens v. Oldham, December 20th 1958

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Rocky talks about Mr. Football

by **ARTHUR BROOKS**

of the Daily Mirror and Sunday Pictorial

The sun-tanned Rugby League star with the beefy shoulders and a toothpaste advert grin had just stopped laying bricks at the bungalow he's building for his family in the little Yorkshire town of Ossett.

He didn't mince his words when he said: "Watch Trinity this season! We're banking on a top-four shop, thanks to a fast-moving pack and a good set of young 'uns in the backs".

He didn't pull any punches either when I told him his old team-mate Frank Stirrup had just been appointed Oldham's new manager-coach.

For Derek "Rocky" Turner, the ex-Oldham pin-up player who has taken a stone off his Ingmar Johansson frame during the close season, paid this big tribute to "Mr. Football":

"He has all the moves up his sleeve. He's just the man for the job. He's bound to have the respect and confidence of all the lads at Watersheddings. He's crowned a brilliant playing career by getting hold of the reins at Oldham. I congratulate the Watersheddings committee on a wise choice".

And then, before the man who rocked Oldham with his power play during his all-too-short stay at Watersheddings went back to his half-finished bungalow, he casually asked about pack replacements at Oldham.

Rocky is lucky.

He's with a grand, all-round, attractive outfit at Wakefield — and props down just behind an equally tiger-like forward.

You don't need reminding that the name is Don Vines.

And you don't need reminding that Vines is also an ex-Oldham star who, besides being completely fearless, can ball-handle in the best Bryn Day and Goldswain tradition.

There was a smile on Rocky Turner's face when he realised — unless Watersheddings clinch those urgently-needed signings to replace Messrs. Vines, Little and Turner — that Oldham stand a good chance of finishing **BELOW** Trinity at the end of the 1959-60 season.

But I know what he also had in mind . . .

That if Oldham give "Mr. Football" his head in his first year as his old team's boss, then anything can happen.

And that could mean another championship play-off for the club Stirrup has never let down — and maybe a Wembley final.

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Ike Southward

Oldham Football Club's star winger started his career as a scrum-half with Glasson Rangers, a local Junior Club in the Workington area. He was spotted by Workington Town's scouts and was signed by them in 1952 when he was 17 years of age. It was whilst he was with Workington that he developed into the great player he is today.

Ike soon began to show his paces in his new career as a professional footballer, for the season following his signing for Workington, he was selected to play for the England under 21 team against France at Leigh and also for the return match with France played in Avignon (1953).

He has had the honour of playing twice on that beautiful turf at Wembley, unfortunately he was on the losing side on each occasion, when Workington lost to Barrow by 21 pts. to 12 pts. in 1955 and again when Wigan defeated them by 13 pts. to 9 pts. in 1958. Also in 1958 he played in the Championship Final at Odsal Stadium against Hull, and again he had to be satisfied with a loser's medal. In 1955, he broke Workington's scoring record, 7 tries and 6 Goals against Blackpool.

Whilst doing his National Service in 1956-57, Ike had another honour bestowed upon him by being picked to play for the Army against both the R.A.F. and The Royal Navy. Both these games were played on the well-known ground at Twickenham.

His first full International came in 1956 when he played for Great Britain against France at Bradford. In 1958, Ike was again in the honours list when he was selected to tour Australia and New Zealand. He played in 3 Tests in Australia and 1 in New Zealand. Again in 1959, he was automatic choice to play for Gt. Britain in both Test Matches against France.

He has also represented Cumberland on numerous occasions during his seven years in Rugby League Football.

As you all know Ike signed for Oldham in 1959 for the record fee of £10,500, and during the few matches he played at the end of the season he showed us some of the things to expect of him in Season 1959-60.

So to conclude, we wish Ike the best of luck, and may he get his Cup Winners Medal whilst he is at Watersheddings.

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Ike Southward scored his first try for Oldham last Saturday, but this was one occasion he did not get away. Oldham v. Barrow 28th March, 1959

COUNTY CUP DRAW — 1959/60

YORKSHIRE CUP

BRADFORD N. v. HULL
HUDDERSFIELD v. DONCASTER
LEEDS v. KEIGHLEY
DEWSBURY v. CASTLEFORD
BRAMLEY v. YORK
HUNSLET v. BATLEY
FEATHERSTONE R. v. HULL K.R.
HALIFAX v. WAKEFIELD T.

LANCASHIRE CUP

WORKINGTON T. v. WARRINGTON
WHITEHAVEN v. OLDHAM
SWINTON v. ST. HELENS
LEIGH v. BLACKPOOL B.
SALFORD v. LIVERPOOL C.
WIGAN v. ROCHDALE H.
WIDNES v. BARROW

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Southward tackles Doyle with McKeown and Duffy only too ready to help

Oldham v. Hunslet — 18th April, 1959

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Should substitution be allowed ?

YES !!! , . . . says CYRIL BRIGGS

The Rugby League game has often been threatened with strangulation by the ball of red tape which seems to pop up here, there, and everywhere. Now don't class me as a "knocker" for I believe in the very future of the game and will do everything possible to further its cause.

But are we being fair to ourselves and our neighbours? I don't think so. Last season I saw a match which promised to be a keen, if not thrilling affair, totally ruined after half-an-hour when one side lost a player in a key position. From then on — it was a draw at the time of the injured player's departure — the encounter became one-sided.

Of course, the home spectators while not unsympathetic with the visiting team's plight, were constantly cheering their own players to greater deeds. But, as a spectacle the game was as good as over at half-time. Yet, the onlookers might have changed their tune had one of their own players been taken to hospital.

Now, is the Rugby League always going to turn a deaf ear to the matter of substitution? It would seem like it.

We have heard many versions of the sharp practices which may be adopted by some unsporting officials if substitution were allowed. But if the rule was strict and a doctor was called upon to give his verdict on whether a player was or was not fit to continue, then I don't think there would be any grumble from anyone, especially the opposition who had a full complement of players.

I may have changed my tune, but surely anyone is entitled to a different outlook in the face of changing conditions. It is surely one of the Rugby League's mistakes not to live with the times. I am not making a sweeping claim for substitution without thought. I know what goes on in America with their Football game, which is fundamentally based on our code.

It is possible in American Football to bring on an offensive personnel when the occasion arises or to substitute three or four players when a side is in a tough defensive spot.

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troops to see certain sections in action. As a motorist the petrol position intrigued me just as much as the chap who was called upon to take the goal-kicks and then sent to the bench after he had taken them!

That position would be ludicrous if attempted in Rugby League. We would have fantastic results and the laughs then would be against the code. Continuing the theme against substitution, I have an amusing tale of my days amongst the junior movement.

A young half-back who was noted for his clever play and fiery hair, did not show up well in an important match. The followers of the team were very surprised at the young star's loss of form. But in the second half there was a transformation and the half-back really ran the opposition into the ground.

The players name was on everyone's lips for weeks afterwards, until someone began "to tell tales out of school". It would appear that there had been **two** players for one position, and the man who played so badly in the first stage had actually swapped his gear with his twin brother and stayed in the dressing room in the second 40 min. Of course, it was a tall story, but it turned out to be true after a protest (too late, I fear) had been made.

There could be some clever moves in an effort to beat the substitution law, but stringent rules could make it work. Remember, you opponents of the idea, that a R.L. player is more likely to be injured than at most sports. So why not let the public see real matches all the time and not occasional shambles.

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Final Tables . . . 1958-9

NORTHERN RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

	P		W	L	D		FOR			AGAINST			
							G	T	Pts.	G	T	Pts.	Pts.
St. Helens	38	..	31	6	1	..	180	215	1005	120	70	450	.. 63
Wigan	38	..	29	9	0	..	180	178	894	112	89	491	.. 58
Hunslet	38	..	27	8	3	..	159	167	819	113	89	493	.. 57
Oldham	38	..	28	9	1	..	184	141	791	96	95	477	.. 57
Wakefield T.	38	..	27	10	1	..	149	164	790	102	63	393	.. 55
Swinton	38	..	27	10	1	..	125	147	691	98	82	442	.. 55
Hull	38	..	25	12	1	..	161	158	796	94	75	413	.. 51
Widnes	38	..	23	15	0	..	129	138	672	93	96	474	.. 46
Warrington	38	..	22	16	0	..	141	166	780	135	105	585	.. 44
Bradford N.	38	..	20	16	2	..	112	123	593	121	107	563	.. 42
York	38	..	20	17	1	..	132	119	621	131	120	622	.. 41
Halifax	38	..	19	17	2	..	133	143	695	135	108	594	.. 40
Featherstone R.	38	..	18	17	3	..	114	123	597	137	113	613	.. 39
Leeds	38	..	19	19	0	..	115	126	608	124	135	653	.. 38
Keighley	38	..	18	19	1	..	130	100	560	133	121	629	.. 37
Leigh	38	..	18	20	0	..	135	105	585	125	104	562	.. 36
Barrow	38	..	18	20	0	..	105	121	573	127	116	602	.. 36
Hull K. R.	38	..	18	20	0	..	127	96	542	122	125	619	.. 36
Huddersfield	38	..	18	20	0	..	135	101	573	148	127	677	.. 36
Workington T.	38	..	16	19	3	..	92	105	499	117	117	585	.. 35
Whitehaven	38	..	17	21	0	..	124	137	659	135	119	627	.. 34
Salford	38	..	16	21	1	..	108	129	603	136	136	680	.. 33
Bramley	38	..	15	22	1	..	110	63	409	114	117	579	.. 31
Blackpool B.	38	..	15	23	0	..	117	81	477	135	161	753	.. 30
Castleford	38	..	13	25	0	..	130	89	527	141	150	732	.. 26
Rochdale H.	38	..	11	26	1	..	79	80	398	137	125	649	.. 23
Batley	38	..	10	27	1	..	125	61	433	143	131	679	.. 21
Liverpool C.	38	..	8	30	0	..	121	78	476	180	198	954	.. 16
Dewsbury	38	..	7	31	0	..	93	64	378	155	183	859	.. 14
Doncaster	38	..	5	33	0	..	85	53	329	171	194	924	.. 10

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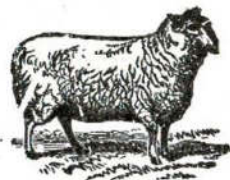
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LANCASHIRE LEAGUE

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
Wigan	28	23	5	0	683	341	46
St. Helens	28	22	5	1	730	312	45
Oldham	28	21	7	0	607	361	42
Swinton	28	17	10	1	397	353	35
Widnes	28	17	11	0	517	366	34
Leeds	28	17	11	0	485	450	34
Warrington	28	15	13	0	574	435	30
Workington	28	13	14	1	400	420	27
Whitehaven	28	13	15	0	451	424	26
Leigh	28	12	16	0	417	425	24
Salford	28	11	16	1	409	522	23
Barrow	28	9	19	0	352	533	18
Blackpool B.	28	7	21	0	314	660	14
Rochdale H.	28	6	22	0	276	542	12
Liverpool C.	28	5	23	0	353	821	10

YORKSHIRE LEAGUE

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
Wakefield T.	28	23	4	1	604	219	47
Hunslet	28	22	4	2	656	324	46
Hull	28	20	7	1	615	274	41
Halifax	28	17	10	1	556	385	35
Bradford N.	28	15	11	2	457	412	32
Hull K.R.	28	16	12	0	436	424	32
York	28	15	12	1	419	378	31
Featherstone	28	14	12	2	494	412	30
Huddersfield	28	14	14	0	425	494	28
Keighley	28	12	15	1	396	471	25
Bramley	28	12	16	0	332	431	24
Castleford	28	10	18	0	430	525	20
Batley	28	6	21	1	299	516	13
Dewsbury	28	5	23	0	269	670	10
Doncaster	28	4	25	0	255	708	6

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Kellett and Sims formed a new right flank in Oldham's three-quarter line against Warrington last Saturday, and both scored a try. Kellett is seen cutting through in the photograph above with Sims waiting for a pass.
Warrington v. Oldham — 14th February, 1959

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Winslade struggles over for a try
Oldham v. Workington — 3rd September, 1958

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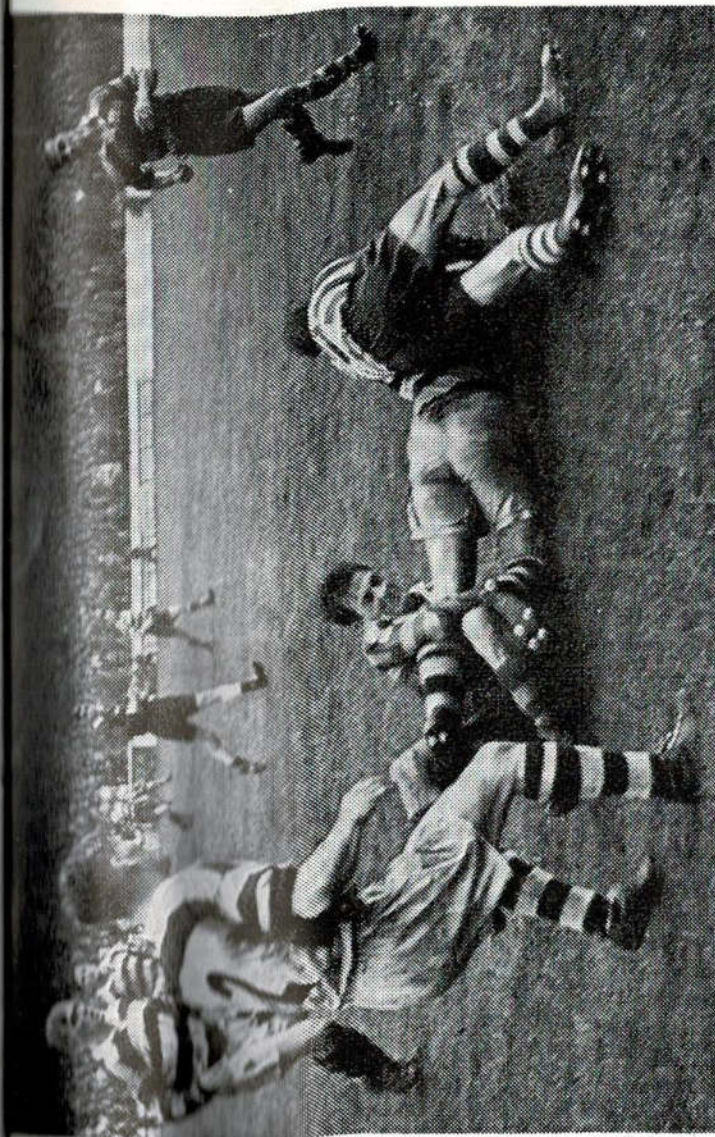
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Sims and Noon bring down Smith the Widnes forward. This was one of the few photographs that could be taken in the foul weather conditions under which the Lancashire Cup semi-final was played.

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Two Divisions Must Come

says CYRIL BRIGGS

Sooner or later the Rugby League will have to split into two divisions. Take the case of St. Helens. Recently, I saw them whack a team with "first four" aspirations — Widnes. And although the "Chemics" were not up to strength, the might of the Saints was much too good for them, so much so, that the margin of 34 points could have been widened.

Why should there be two divisions. Well, St. Helens are making no secret of the fact that they are out to sign more stars. I realise that the Saints directors are in a happy position of having too many players for two positions, and that there is a big pool of talented local youngsters to draw from. This season and late last year the St. Helens club parted with star after star because they did not seem to fit into the Knowsley Road pattern.

Here are some of the men they unloaded to other clubs: Syd Phillips, Keighley; Nat Silcock and Josh Gaskell, Warrington; Ron Robinson, Walter Delves and Len McIntyre, Barrow, George Parsons and John McGuinness, Salford; Arthur Pimblett, Widnes; and "Todder" Dickenson, Leigh.

Now those transfers have brought the Saints a lot of money, but it has enabled them to pick and choose the best in this and other lands. When you consider that big fees were paid to induce Tom Van Vollenhoven, Jan Prinsloo and Ted Brophy to leave their native South Africa, and Whitehaven and Huddersfield were persuaded to part with Dick Huddart and Brian Briggs respectively, you will see that the Saints are building up a side which may be almost invincible.

There's plenty of money in St. Helens for Rugby League football these days. For the league games with Widnes there was a gate of 18,000 with receipts nearly £2,000, and 30,000 have watched at least one game. But the Saints directors believe that if a better player is on offer than one they have already got they will make some kind of bid for him.

The present Saints team must be worth £80,000 or £90,000. How are teams like Workington, Whitehaven and Barrow to compete with such a team, let alone Liverpool City, and the lesser lights in the Lancashire League? Surely this is a point in favour of splitting the unwieldy Northern League! Many clubs in the league just cannot stand this competition and therefore many matches are more or less a foregone conclusion. While the St. Helens fans are delighted with prolific scoring, it is not a happy situation for supporters of other clubs.

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I have it on good authority, that St. Helens will be making more offers to South African stars.

Wakefield Trinity, Oldham and Wigan seem to have a bottomless purse, if there is such a thing these days. Wakefield have been spending money like water this season and the signing of Derek Turner from Oldham for £8,000 surely showed the sporting world that the R.L. game which was supposed to be dying a slow death, has a lot of cash left and is still able to attract the crowds should the fare be exciting enough to watch.

I'm reminded by one writer, much older than myself, that no matter how you try, you will always have some poorer relations. That's how it is in the Rugby League. Teams like Bramley, Castleford and Doncaster cannot afford to pay big money for internationals. So they carry on season after season just hoping for the best. There will be an end to it some day until they are up against teams where they have a reasonable chance of winning.

Many clubs have dropped out of professional rugby in the last half century through lack of funds. But really, the trouble started when the smaller clubs were being hammered unmercifully by the bigger boys. It was like patting a heavyweight into the boxing ring against a bantamweight. The contest was just as unequal.

R.L. must live with the times. The bigger clubs want a better league. The supporters of the teams in the top half of the Northern League say let us have more games like St. Helens v. Wigan; Wakefield v. Warrington; Hunslet v. Leeds, etc. But that unconstitutional rule — the two thirds majority — simply will not let the bigger clubs break away.

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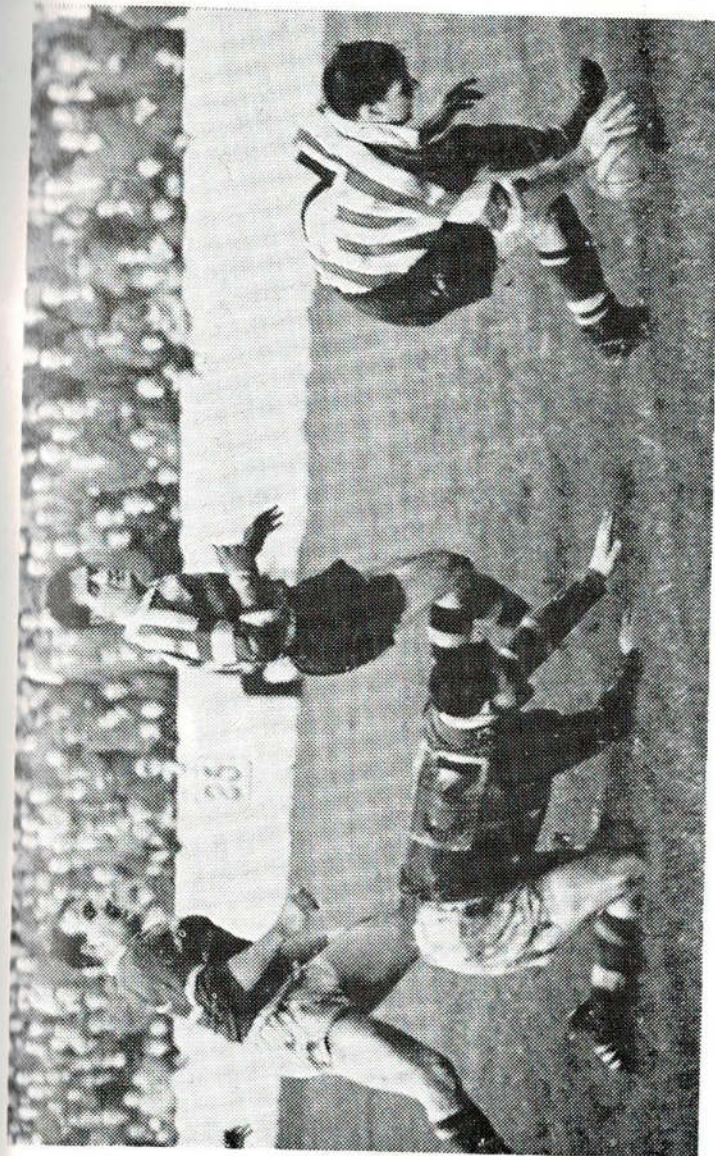
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Bigger "Gates" with Two Divisions

by CYRIL BRIGGS

Have you ever witnessed the exciting picture of a Rugby League ground bursting at the seams with spectators? Yes, even in these days when some people are expecting the shutters to be put up at one or two venues, "gate" capacities are being recorded.

I have seen 103,000 at Odsal — and the few thousand who gained free admission without the slightest difficulty — bulging grounds at Watersheddings, Fartown, and Craven Park, with "no more room" notices at Salford, St. Helens, and Widnes. The golden years may have been placed in the history books for some clubs, but these lappy scenes could come again to many if the R.L. made the only possible change in the Northern League set-up — two divisions.

It sounds easy, but it could be quite a simple change and the clubs who might be destined to stay in the second division for a large number of years, would not suffer. Take the Wigan—St. Helens game for instance. Here on Good Friday was all the promise of a big first division thriller. The two clubs were, and are, desperate for points for that "first four" placing. Everywhere there was an atmosphere of expectation and no wonder 47,747 souls paid some of the holiday money to get into Central Park.

Adding to that amazing total which is an all-time record for Wigan's spacious headquarters, were many stewards, gate-men, police, pressmen, ambulance men, officials and V.I.P.s. So well over the 48,000 mark was chalked up. The "gate" was even bigger than the Burnley-Manchester United game during the holidays and some people claim that the game of Rugby League football "is dying".

Sporting people will pay heavily to see something out of the ordinary. They don't want to witness one-sided games with "cricket scores" and the winning team playing in low gear. The Rugby League game has got to be good, and surely the Wigan record crowd on Good Friday was ample evidence of what is really required — two well matched teams with something at stake.

But the amazing thing is that the opponents of an even split in the Northern League would have us forget the silly position of one club actually getting to the "top four" without having met some of its nearest rivals. It could happen that a

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team well down in the league the previous year, but having a wonderful run the following season, could only meet its championship rival in the final.

The smaller clubs in the league get a cut out of that huge "gate" at Cenral Park and also the other big cash returns from Oldham and Wigan. These clubs have to grin and bear it.

Year after year, they pay much more into the league pool and also the cup pool than they receive. Oldham and Wigan public say they will pay big money every fortnight if they can be assured of a good return for their cash. They, the supporters, want to see a rattling good game at Watersheddings and Central Park on alternate weeks. They don't want to see chopping blocks in action.

It is the same at St. Helens, but while the Saints fans recently went to Knotty Ash, Liverpool, to test the capacity of the stands and terraces, I'm afraid that Wiganers thinking that the game was a foregone conclusion did not patronise the away game with Liverpool as they might have done.

Say what you will about Rugby Union code. Laugh about some of their laws and antics, but they know how to arrange their fixtures. They know the strong and weak clubs and therefore arrange their fixtures accordingly. It is not snobbery — it's just plain good business, even though some of the bigger R.U. clubs don't care a hoot about the money taken at the turnstiles.

The point may be argued that I have chosen the very hot-bed of R.L. in South-west Lancashire to base my comments on. My opponents to two divisions may say "What about places like Castleford, Huddersfield, or Barrow"? Let me take your minds back, you anti-two-divisioners, to the time when 25,000 "gates" were not uncommon at Fartown; when Craven Park was packed to the doors, when Castleford could take on any club in the league with an even chance of beating them.

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St. Helens v. Oldham — 3rd January, 1959

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Cracknell completed Oldham's scoring with his fourth try. Ganley converted it, to create a new record of 14 goals in one match.
Oldham v. Liverpool City — 4th April, 1959

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A Plan for 3 Divisions

by LEN WHITEHURST, 20 Mulberry St., Manchester 2

Teams bracketed on the left side would have an interest in promotion, relegation or top four prospects right up to or three games.

The inter-division matches being especially attractive.

DIVISION ONE

Play each other plus 5 teams from Division 2 and 5 from Division 3

Team	1	}	Top four play offs
Team	2		
Team	3		
Team	4		
Team	5	}	Relegated
Team	6		
Team	7		
Team	8		
Team	9		
Team	10		

DIVISION TWO

Play each other plus 5 teams from Division 1 and 5 from Division 3

Team	1	}	Promoted
Team	2		
Team	3		
Team	4		
Team	5	}	Relegated
Team	6		
Team	7		
Team	8		
Team	9		
Team	10		

DIVISION THREE

Play each other plus 5 other teams from Division 1 and 5 from Division 2

Team	1	}	Promoted
Team	2		
Team	3		
Team	4		
Team	5	}	
Team	6		
Team	7		
Team	8		
Team	9		
Team	10		

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Appearances - Scorers 1958/9

FIRST TEAM ONLY

POSSIBLE MATCHES — 45							No.	T	G
Name									
Ganley	..	..	..	..	..	..	42	1	192
Kellett	..	..	..	..	..	..	41	18	1
Keith	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	13	
Winslade	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	6	
Pitchford	..	..	..	..	..	..	36	13	
Davies	..	..	..	..	..	..	36	19	
Cracknell	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	20	
Little	..	..	..	..	..	..	31	6	
Noon	..	..	..	..	..	..	30	13	16
McKeown	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	2	
Etty	..	..	..	..	..	..	22	6	
Jackson	..	..	..	..	..	..	22	1	
Rowbottom	..	..	..	..	..	..	22	1	
Turner	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	1	1
Nestor	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	7	
Dufty	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	1	
Sims	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	10	
Lomas	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	2	
Ayres	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	3	
Kelly	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	1	
Pugsley	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	1	
Southward	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	10	
Stirrup	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	2	
Vines	..	..	..	..	..	..	5		
Quinlan	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	
Goddard	..	..	..	..	..	..	3		
Hatherhall	..	..	..	..	..	..	2		
Edwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	2		
Jones	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	
Daley	..	..	..	..	..	..	3		
Smith	..	..	..	..	..	..	1		
McIntyre	..	..	..	..	..	..	1		
Lloyd	..	..	..	..	..	..	1		
Mee	..	..	..	..	..	..	1		

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Oldham Junior Rugby Football League

The Rugby League Council have seen fit to terminate the Membership of three Districts as Full members of the Rugby League namely Manchester, Leeds and Oldham. The Oldham League have been members for over Thirty years during which they have never failed to meet their obligations to the Rugby League. Due to being full members of the Rugby League Manchester and Oldham Leagues fought and in the end won the right for the Amateurs to play football on a Sunday a right which has not been over indulged.

What is behind the action taken by the Rugby League Council? They have not, informed the Leagues concerned but it is reported that the Amateur side of the game is to be reorganised, when, we do not know, but those who intend to do this had better go about it in the right way because those who spend their time with the Amateurs will not be told what they must do in their own time by those who never go on an Amateur ground.

We also know that some of the Senior Clubs are not in favour of the action taken by the Rugby League Council but those are in the minority. It is sad to think that those who are placed to guide our great game through its way see right to tamper with the roots of the tree that in some way feeds the tree that keeps our great game going.

Have these people stopped to think what would happen if all these interested in the Amateur game turned round and said "Alright you can have the full control of the Amateurs", what position would they be in? Most of the Council members very rarely go on to an Amateur ground to see these Amateurs YET they have the nerve to come and tell those who spend their own time and money in the interest of the Amateurs how and what they must do.

Before it is too late let us hope the ones that are in charge of the running of the Rugby League see the light and leave right alone.

Once again may I thank the Committee of the Supporters Club for the honour they do me in allowing me this small contribution to their Year Book and wish it every success.

JOHN BURKE, Hon. Secretary and Organiser

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Ganley and Pugsley tackle Hambling — an illustration of the tough cover defence put up by Oldham against Hull at Watersheddings on Easter Monday.

Oldham v. Hull — 4th April, 1959

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Ganley goes into tackle Spark against Halifax. 16th August, 1958

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Pools and Copyright - a way out

by Cyril Briggs

Whatever the final outcome of the present litigation over the copyright of the Football League Fixtures, Rugby League Clubs must mind their P's and Q's in future. Most R.L. clubs or rather, their Supporters Clubs, enjoy the profits from the lotteries which are legalised. But the big point is that the clubs use the Soccer fixtures and naturally, if the bigger pools are called upon to pay a copyright fee then the R.L. clubs would have to do likewise as they get most of the pools cash.

What I cannot understand is that the R.L. clubs don't formulate some system of their own. There are at least fourteen games per week and such things as highest or lowest scores could be placed on the weekly coupons as well as other combinations to attract the punter. In addition, there are two reserve team leagues — the Lancashire Combination and the Yorkshire Senior Competition. Next season, the Rugby League, which will involve some of the better 'A' teams — the Combination, that is — is to be revived and this will give additional matches.

A R.L. pool system may be complicated, but this is better than the thirty Northern League Clubs paying out considerable amount of money in copyright fees and by doing so, help the rival code to pay its way.

The Football League having won this action — let us not forget that the Rugby League itself places a ban on the publication of its fixtures, claiming that the work of Mr. William Fallowfield, the League Secretary, is an original act of authorship.

There is no ban however on the Press using the fixtures in whatever form it likes, but people who publish the fixtures for profit, such as the printers of wall-sheets containing advertisements, are called upon to pay £5 to the club whose fixtures have been used. There is, however, a proviso. It is, that the club should remit the fee if it feels that the fixtures have been used to good purpose and are definitely of great help in the way of publicity for game and club.

I shouldn't be in the least surprised to see an appeal to a higher court in the present case. So much is at stake both financial and general principle angles are involved. So pool promoters within the Rugby League must be au fait with the position.

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It seems remarkable to present day thinkers that the Rugby League once set itself against any connection whatsoever with the pools. One bye-law was to the effect that no person holding an R.L. official position could be associated with a pool. It ruled out one or two people who are now "on the inside", although a supporters' organisation which has kept one club flying, had a tip-top pool chief as its President!

There must be an early gathering of the R.L. clubs running these small legalised lotteries. They must be uniform in their aim and rules, for it is not generally realised that some clubs in the Northern League would be in extreme difficulties if the money from the pools did not come in regularly and at a hefty rate.

New club-rooms have been erected here and there from pools money. One club spent thousands on new stands and some of the big transfer deals have been prompted by help from the lotteries. Wakefield Trinity, with a wonderful backing from the supporters, were the chief spenders last season. They had not much to show at the end of the season as far as honours were concerned, but enthusiasm has been awakened at Belle Vue. A big future for R.L. at Wakefield is assured.

Clubs have, at last, come to realise that money-raising efforts by Supporters' clubs helps to defray a lot of the parent club's expenditure. But it is remarkable how these money-making efforts have been overlooked in the past. There is hardly a R.L. ground on which a goodly sum of cash couldn't be spent. There are not enough stand seats for those who wish to pay for them.

Take the mighty Odsal Stadium at Bradford, for instance, I know that it is owned by the Bradford City Corporation. It is by far the biggest arena in England, Wembley included, but there are not the same facilities at the Yorkshire ground as there are at the famous Middlesex stadium. It would take many thousands of pounds to make Odsal into a perfect stadium, even though it has accommodated 103,000 people on the occasion, in 1954, when Warrington and Halifax battled out the replay of the Challenge Cup, mid-week.

What happened that night, Thousands of people walked into the ground without paying. Hoardings had been pushed down in the rush, the gate-keepers were overwhelmed. People who had purchased tickets could not get into their places, for they been taken up previously by people who saw empty seats and occupied them.

Leading Scorers 1958/9

GOALS

B. Ganley (Oldham)	..	..	..	192
H. W. Langton (Hunslet)	..	..	..	184
F. Griffiths (Wigan)	..	..	..	176
P. Fearis (St. Helens)	..	..	..	167
N. Fox (Wakefield T.)	..	..	..	148
L. Jones (Leeds)	..	..	..	131
C. Kellett (Hull K.R.)	..	..	..	128
V. Yorke (York)	..	..	..	127
E. Fraser (Warrington)	..	..	..	121
A. Lunn (Castleford)	..	..	..	120
S. Thompson (Batley)	..	..	..	120
K. Gowers (Swinton)	..	..	..	118
G. Owen (Halifax)	..	..	..	103
J. Wilson (Bramley)	..	..	..	103
P. Bateson (Hull)	..	..	..	99
T. Dawes (Barrow)	..	..	..	98

TRIES

T. Vollenhoven (St. Helens)	..	..	..	62
B. Bevan (Warrington)	..	..	..	54
W. Boston (Wigan)	..	..	..	54
G. Hemmingway (Leeds)	..	..	..	40
I. Southward (Workington & Oldham)	..	..	..	38
F. Smith (Wakefield T.)	..	..	..	37
A. Murphy (St. Helens)	..	..	..	37
F. Myler (Widnes)	..	..	..	35
M. Sullivan (Wigan)	..	..	..	34
W. Walker (Hunslet)	..	..	..	33
K. Williams (Halifax)	..	..	..	32
R. Greenough (Warrington)	..	..	..	31
R. Burnett (Halifax)	..	..	..	30
A. Snowden (Halifax)	..	..	..	29
C. Woolford (Featherstone R.)	..	..	..	29
M. Davies (Bradford N.)	..	..	..	28
S. Lowden (Salford)	..	..	..	28
M. Martyn (Leigh)	..	..	..	28



Ken Jackson played his first game for Oldham's first team since he injured his knee in Australia and had an operation.
Here he is seen tackling Scholes the Hornets player.
Oldham v. Hornets — 18th October, 1958

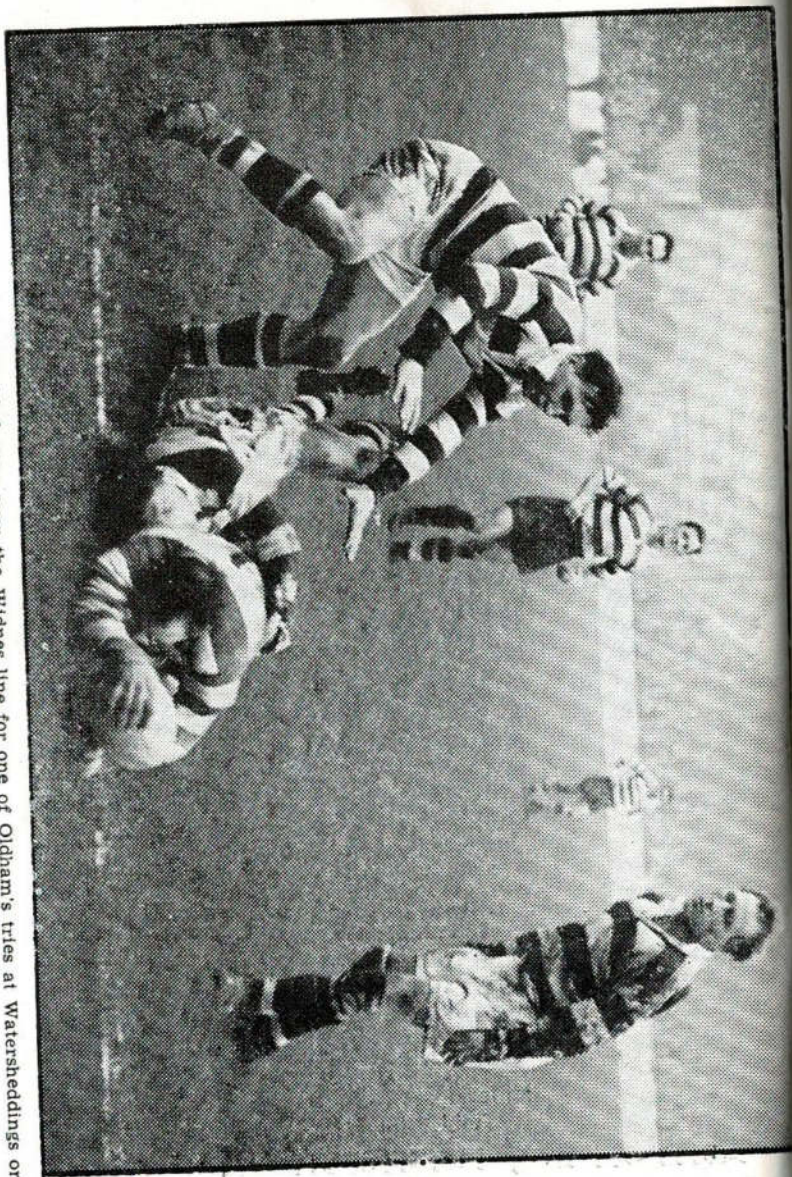
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Charlie Winslade despite being tackled goes over the Widnes line for one of Oldham's tries at Watersheddings on Saturday, December 8th 1958



Sid Little chased by Hadley scores against Whitenaven 30th August, 1958

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R. E. COUSINS, Hon. Secretary; H. BRERETON, Hon. Treasurer

No. 5 Branch — ASHTON ROAD BRANCH

Statement of Accounts 19-10-58 to 30-4-59

Headquarters:— Primrose View Hotel, Ashton Road, Oldham

INCOME

	£	s.	d.
50 Members Cards	..	..	2 10 0
50 Year Books	..	..	2 10 0
30 Lapel Badges	..	..	3 0 0
1 Blazer Badge	..	..	10 0 0
20 Xmas Draw Ticket Books	..	..	10 0 0
12 Dance Tickets — Oldham Town Hall	..	..	3 0 0
16 Dance Tickets — King St. Stores	..	..	3 4 0
1 Photo of New Stand	..	..	3 0
Income from 28 Club	..	..	14 0 0
	£38	17	0

EXPENDITURE

	£	s.	d.
50 Members Cards	..	..	2 10 0
50 Year Books	..	..	2 10 0
30 Lapel Badges	..	..	3 0 0
1 Blazer Badge	..	..	10 0 0
20 Xmas Draw Ticket Books	..	..	10 0 0
Paid to C. Lingard	..	..	3 0 0
Paid to C. Lingard	..	..	3 4 0
1 Photo of New Stand	..	..	3 0
Expenses	..	..	10 0
Cash at Bank	..	..	13 10 0
	£38	17	0

F. Daley Benefit — £8

Signed — J. STEVENSON, Hon. Secretary.

N. KENT, Hon. Treasurer.

No. 6 Branch — MIDDLETON JUNCTION BOWLING CLUB

Summary of Accounts, 31/3/59

	£	s.	d.
18 Lapel Badges (3 in stock)	..	..	15 0
26 Year Books	..	..	1 6 0
32 Members Cards	..	..	1 12 0
1 Tie (given per Mr. McCallam to Crompton)	..	..	..
1 Tie sold	..	..	15 0
2 Blazer Badges returned	..	..	..
	£4	8	0

	£	s.	d.
Concert held 24th April 1958	..	..	8 7 0
20 Books, (tickets Wakes Draw)	..	..	..
16 Dance Tickets (Con. Club) 1958	..	..	3 4 0
36 Tickets (Queen Dar..e) King St.	..	..	7 4 0
Concert held — F. Daleys Benefit	..	..	5 19 7

No. 9. Branch — ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending 31st March, 1959

INCOME

	£	s.	d.
Cash in Hand B/F	..	..	8 7 4
Membership Fees — 70 at 1/-	..	..	3 10 0
Sale of Badges — 18 at 2/-	..	..	1 16 0
Sale of Blazer Badges — 7 at 10/-	..	..	3 10 0
Sale of Yearly Handbooks — 28 at 1/-	..	..	1 8 0
Proceeds for Grand National Draw 1958/59	..	..	13 18 0
Proceeds from Xmas Draw	..	..	13 7 3

EXPENDITURE

	£	s.	d.
Paid to Mr. C. Lingard for—			
70 Members Cards at 1/-	..	..	3 10 0
Paid to Mr. C. Lingard for—			
18 Badges at 2/-	..	..	1 16 0
Paid to Mr. C. Lingard for—			
7 Blazer Badges at 10/-	..	..	3 10 0
Paid to Mr. C. Lingard for—			
28 Yearly Handbooks at 1/-	..	..	1 8 0
Registration of Lotteries for 1959	..	..	1 0 0
Postages etc.	..	..	1 19 6
Presentation to Daley Benefit	..	..	5 0 0
Socials Expenses & Subsidising of Coaches	..	..	10 8 8
Cash in Hand	..	..	17 4 5
	£45	16	7

No. 11 Branch — OLDHAM RUGBY FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS CLUB

Balance Sheet for Season 1958/59

INCOME

Dance Tickets — (Central Con. Club) 12 at 4/-	£	s.	d.
Wakes Draw — 20 Books at 11/6	..	11	10 0
Members Subscriptions ..	..	1	2 0
Year Handbooks — 30 at 1/-	..	1	10 0
Dance Tickets — 1 doz. at 5/-	..	3	0 0
1 Blazer Badge ..	..	2	4 0
3 Coat Badges ..	..	6	0 0
2 Xmas Draw Tickets at 10/-	..	1	0 0
Dance Tickets — 1 doz. at 4/-	..	2	8 0
Dance Tickets — 1 doz. at 4/-	..	2	8 0
Dance Tickets — 20 at 6/6	..	6	10 0
£34 6 0			

132

RETURNED

Plus— 5 Tickets — Dance at 4/-	£	s.	d.
Central Con. Club ..	..	1	0 0
4 Wakes Draw Books ..	..	2	6 0
13 Year Books ..	..	13	0 0
8 Dance Tickets at 4/-	..	1	12 0
10 Dance Tickets at 4/-	..	2	0 0
11 Dance Tickets at 6/6	..	3	11 6
£11 2 6			
£23 3 6			
£34 6 0			

Signed—A. PARKER, Secretary; 27/4/59

EXPENDITURE

7 Tickets — Central Con. Club ..	£	s.	d.
16 Books — Wakes Draw ..	..	9	4 0
Members Subscriptions ..	..	1	2 0
Year Handbooks — 17 at 1/-	..	17	0 0
Dance Tickets — 1 doz. at 5/-	..	3	0 0
1 Blazer Badge ..	..	2	4 0
3 Coat Badges ..	..	6	0 0
2 Xmas Draw Tickets at 10/-	..	1	0 0
Dance Tickets — 4 at 4/-	..	16	0 0
Dance Tickets — 2 at 4/-	..	8	0 0
Dance Tickets — 9 at 6/6	..	2	18 6
£23 3 6			

No. 15 Branch — MOSSLEY

Summary of Accounts from 18-11-58 to 31-3-59

INCOME

To Sale of Members' Cards, 84 at 1/-	£	s.	d.
To Sale of Metal Badges, 38 at 2/-	..	4	4 0
Proceeds from Concert Tickets, M.L.C.	..	3	16 0
Proceeds from Raffle at M.L.C.	..	7	15 0
Proceeds from Social at Butchers Arms	..	5	14 4
To Sale of Concert Tickets (Central Con. Club)	..	5	2 1
Proceeds from Raffle at Central Con. Club	..	2	12 6
5 6 0			

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EXPENDITURE

Wreath for late Treasurer (W. Crowther)	£	s.	d.
Postage ..	..	1	5 0
5/1/59, Paid to Mr. C. Lingard—	..	..	1 0
For 26 Badges			
" 62 Members Cards	..	5	14 0
Printing for Concert (M.L.C.)	..	5	0 0
Advert for Concert at M.L.C.	..	1	15 0
Printing for Social ..	..	11	0 0
Advert for Social ..	..	15	0 0
Social Expenses ..	..	8	0 0
Catering for Social ..	..	1	16 0
Printing for Concert (Central Con. Club)	..	2	13 0
Draw Tickets — 1000 Roll	..	2	1 0 0
Artists Fees and Drinks ..	..	2	3 8
Raffle Prizes ..	..	1	5 6
1 Duplicate Cash Receipt Book	..	1	9 0
24 Cheque Book ..	..	4	0 0
Cash at Bank ..	..	12	3 9
£34 9 11			

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