

Referee's List.

The following is a list of the officials for the week's matches.

NORTHERN LEAGUE.

Monday, December 26th, 1910.

Coventry v. Salford.—W. McCutcheon;
H. Ball, W. Gregory.
Broughton Rangers v. Halifax.—W. H. Wood; T. Foulkes, J. Winstanley.
Dewsbury v. Batley.—G. Moore; P. Hardwick, C. Peel.
Ebbw Vale v. Merthyr.—J. C. Lumley; W. Williams, J. Vaughan.
Hull K. R. v. Hull.—B. Ennion; F. Wilson, W. Mellor.
Hunslet v. Leeds.—A. Hestford; W. Whiteley, H. G. Roebuck.
Keighley v. Barrow.—T. H. King; J. R. Bowes, A. Loyne.
Oldham v. Swinton.—J. W. Whiteley; J. Entwistle, F. Turner.
Rochdale Hornets v. Bradford.—H. Farrer; A. Roscoe, J. H. Crawshaw.
Runcorn v. Widnes.—G. Dickenson; A. Jones, J. A. Blackburn.
St. Helens v. Wigan.—F. Renton; E. Bennett, J. Hayes.
Wakefield T. v. Huddersfield.—E. Tonge; S. Mortimer, D. Fitzgerald.
Warrington v. Leigh.—W. W. Taylor; E. Garnett, E. Williams.
York v. Bramley.—C. Platt; R. H. Cooper, M. Carr.

Tuesday, December 27th, 1910.

Batley v. Hull.—T. F. May; H. G. Roebuck, F. Hardwick.
Bramley v. Wakefield T.—G. Dickinson; J. R. Bowes, T. W. Smith.
Broughton Rangers v. Rochdale Hornets.—E. H. Smirk; R. H. Moore, G. Hutchins.
Hunslet v. St. Helens.—B. Ennion; F. J. Rowlands, D. Fitzgerald.
Keighley v. Bradford.—F. Renton; A. Loyne, D. Longbottom.
Leeds v. Dewsbury.—H. Edmondson; S. Goldsmith, F. Bennett. (11 o'clock kick-off).
Merthyr v. Ebbw Vale.—J. C. Lumley; J. Vaughan, W. Williams.
Salford v. Swinton.—W. H. Wood; E. J. Hannaford, J. Jones.
York v. Huddersfield.—W. McCutcheon; W. Emmott, T. Walsh.

Saturday, December 31st, 1910.

Batley v. St. Helens.—W. McCutcheon; F. W. Smith, A. Loyne.
Bradford v. Keighley.—F. Renton; H. Whiteley, S. Mortimer.
Bramley v. Runcorn.—B. Ennion; H. Adams, C. Peel.
Halifax v. Huddersfield.—C. Platt; C. Straiton, F. T. Rowlands.

Hull v. Broughton Rangers.—G. Moore; W. Emmott, F. Wilson.
Leeds v. Oldham.—J. F. May; J. A. Hall, D. Longbottom.
Leigh v. Hull K. R.—W. K. Hirst; J. Entwistle, H. Farmer.
Rochdale Hornets v. Dewsbury.—A. Smith; W. T. Chapman, C. Gibson.
Salford v. Barrow.—G. Dickenson; A. Jones, T. Foulkes.
Swinton v. Wigan.—H. Edmondson; A. Lee, G. Hutchins.
Wakefield T. v. Hunslet.—S. Tillison; J. W. Scholes, H. G. Roebuck.
Widnes v. Ebbw Vale.—T. H. King; H. Yates, R. H. Jackson.

Lancashire Rugby Combination.

Monday, December 26th, 1910.

Leigh 'A' v. Warrington 'A'.—J. R. Lawton.
Leigh Shamrocks v. Rochdale Hornets 'A'.—H. Lowe.
Swinton 'A' v. Oldham 'A'.—R. H. Jackson.
Widnes 'A' v. Runcorn 'A'.—W. Manwaring.
Wigan 'A' v. St. Helens 'A'.—W. Nevins.

Saturday, December 31st, 1910.

Broughton R. 'A' v. Pemberton.—J. Dutton.
St. Helens 'A' v. Wigan Highfield.—F. Turner.
Wigan 'A' v. Swinton 'A'.—J. R. Lawton.

Yorkshire Combination.

Monday, December 26th, 1910.

10-30 a.m. Batley 'A' v. Dewsbury 'A'.—J. W. Priestley.
Huddersfield 'A' v. Wakefield T. 'A'.—A. Day.
Leeds 'A' v. Hunslet 'A'.—F. W. Tattersall.
Purston W. H. v. Featherstone R.—G. Fowler.

Tuesday, December 27th, 1910.

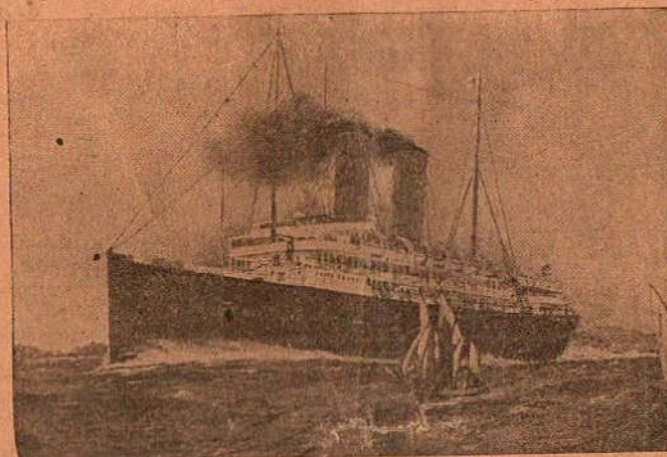
Featherstone R. v. Dewsbury 'A'.—F. W. Tattersall.
Huddersfield 'A' v. Halifax 'A'.—R. H. Cooper.
Hunslet 'A' v. Wakefield T. 'A'.—R. L. Smith.

S. E. Lancashire Competition.

Monday, December 26th, 1910.

Salford 'A' v. Heyside.—J. E. Smith.

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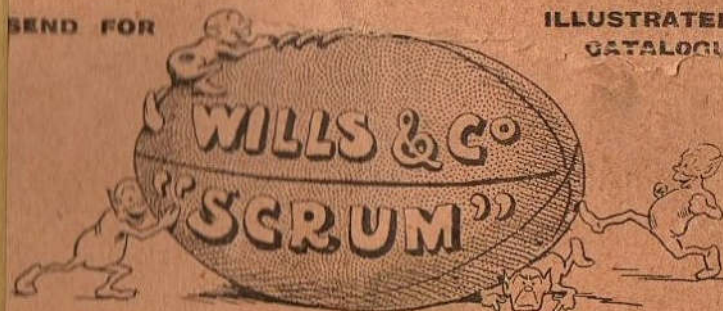
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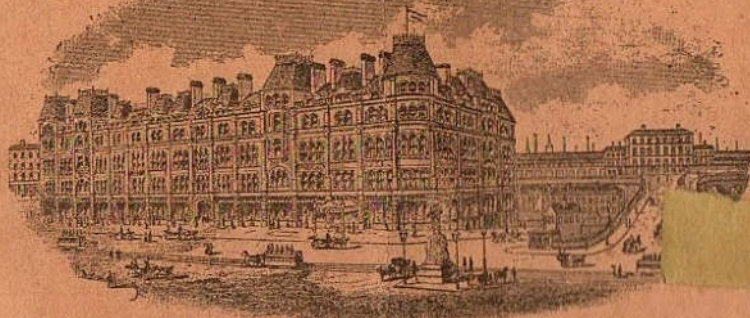
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Notes and Notions.

(By A. S. M.)

MY first object this week must be to remedy an error which somehow or other crept into my last article. I know the usual customary practice is to hurl all sorts of questionable blessings upon the head of the poor defenceless printer. But even this means of evaporation of feelings is denied me. It is the season of peace and goodwill.

The Error.

It is a most remarkable peculiarity, that if a mistake occurs it generally concerns the most important part. So in this case. In the paragraph referring to the proposed Australasian visit, it states that the terms offered are 70 per cent. of gross receipts of club matches, and 60 per cent. of net takings at representative matches. This latter part is incorrect, and as there was considerable controversy and argument amongst club officials and followers, upon the terms of the last tours. I most particularly desire to draw my readers attention to the fact that the exact terms are 70 per cent. of gross "gates" in club matches, and 60 per cent. of gross receipts in representative matches. Not net as stated last week.

Knottingley's Case.

Several rather important matters arose in connection with the first round of the Qualifying stages of the Cup competition. But I think the one around which most discussion took place, was the point which arose during the hearing of the Knottingley v. Normanton protest. The nature of the protest was that Normanton had played certain men in the match who were not eligible, not being bona-fide members of the club. The Knottingley contention was that the players named were on the League register of divers Northern Union League clubs. Now had this been the only point on which the protest was laid, it would not have occupied many minutes of the committee's valuable time. Such players would be eligible so long as they had not signed on as professionals for the Senior club for the current season.

A Fine Point.

It however, transpired during the hearing of the case, that the Normanton club were paying their players for playing, but had not registered them as professionals. This was a distinct breach of

the professional laws. The question then arose, Did such breach destroy the eligibility of the players? Did it destroy their bona-fides? Personally, I am with the majority of the committee in finding that it does not. The Professional rules and the Cup rules are distinctly separate. It is however, a very fine point, and a debatable one. It is also one of those points that arise which go to prove that however vast and comprehensive a set of rules are, there are always some that may still call for legislation.

A Matter for the Juniors.

It appears that the system of paying their players is different at Normanton, than that prevalent amongst the Senior clubs. What they do is to deduct the expenses of their home matches, and if any balance is left it is divided amongst the players. They receive nothing for away matches, and the Normanton representative stated this method of payment was fairly common amongst Juniors in Yorkshire. Players, he said, especially those who had played for Senior clubs, were averse to signing the necessary forms, as they were then bound fast for the season. What I want to emphasise is this: that it matters nothing what method is employed, or what amount is paid to players. So long as they are being paid, they are professionals, and must be registered as such. Clubs however, must on no account register players as professionals, who are not actually receiving payment for playing, above reasonable out of pocket expenses, according to rule.

An Added Responsibility.

Apart altogether from any rules or by-laws of the Union clubs registering players as professionals—whether they pay them or not—are taking upon themselves a tremendous responsibility, under the Workmen's Compensation Act. This responsibility is just as great for the Juniors as for the Seniors, but whilst the latter are better able to meet any calls, arising under the Acts, and are also insured, the Juniors are in no way covered against any such contingency. True certain clubs have a scheme of their own—usually contributed by the players themselves—but I seriously question whether this would clear them under the Acts, if the compensation paid is less than would be legally due.

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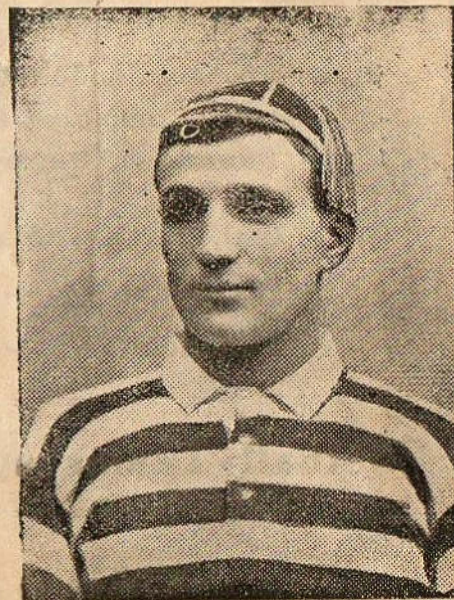
SCORES AT A GLANCE.

[illegible]

For results of HOME Matches read across. For AWAY Matches read down wards. In the latter case the last number is the score of the club whose name figures at the head of the column. Where a — appears it signifies that these clubs do not meet each other.



Councillor C. PLATT (Swinton).



T. WHITE (Oldham).

OLDHAM F. C. Official Programme.

Oldham v. Hull Kingston Rovers

AT

WATERSHEDDINGS, OLDHAM.

Saturday, December 24th, 1910.

PAVILION GOSSIP.

There was an election at Leigh last Tuesday week, and the Oldham team was returned—defeated.

The defeat of the champions at Leigh, was somewhat of a fluke; but still we cannot always have the press crying out "Lucky Oldham!"

There were a lot of blue favours sported at Leigh, chiefly rosettes in button-holes. After the match, the Oldham followers sported theirs in their faces. They did look blue.

Never mind. We took it out of Huddersfield!

Extract from the Huddersfield programme of last Saturday's date:—

"We want to begin a new era to-day against Oldham. Only three weeks ago we played them to a point at Watersheddings, and were indeed very unlucky to lose. Leigh had the honour of beating them so late as Tuesday last, and surely what Leigh can accomplish, Huddersfield can do."

It would be ungenerous on our part to comment upon the "new era," which was opened so auspiciously (?) last Saturday. We should strongly advise our Huddersfield friends to forget last Saturday, and again commence a "new era." Hear, hear!

What a slating! Just imagine, 28 points to 3, and Oldham without three Internationals—Anlezark, Avery and Arthur Smith.

Overheard in an Huddersfield tram-car, coming to Huddersfield from Fartown, after last Saturday's game. 1st Tyke: "I think we owt to kick off sooner than quarter to three, at this time 'at yer.'" His pal, No. 2 Tyke: "Ger aht man; what at a talking abaht; we should have ta kick off at hawf past ten 'it morning ta catch them Ouldhamers." (Fact).

It is not true that George Smith is qualified for an old age pension; but it is quite true that he keeps beating a lot of those nippers who fancy their speed.

When "G.W." scored his first try on Saturday, there was one "old sport" on the covered stand, who was delighted with the "speed of the old 'un." A few minutes later, Young had a dash on the other wing, and the same gentleman exclaimed, "By jove, what a ripping youngster!"

It would appear that the accident to Young at Rochdale, when he had his jaw bone damaged, has had a good effect. It appears that on Saturday, that when he scored a try, he never spoke a word to the Huddersfield Kitchen maid; "they never spoke as they passed by." (Suffragettes please copy).

Eh! Next Monday. Swinton at Watersheddings!! Well, they are always welcome, and more so than usual—if that be possible—on account of the close fight at Broughton, recently. May we have a fine day, and a good crowd is certain.

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Oldham v. Hull Kingston Rovers.

OLDHAM TEAM.

- 1-T. W. SMITH
- 2-DEAN.
- 3-COOK.
- 4-YOUNG.
- 5-DIXON (Senr.).
- 6-WHITE.
- 7-FERGUSON (Capt.).
- 8-McGABE.
- 9-OWEN.
- 10-JARDINE.
- 11-WISE.
- 12-WRIGHT.
- 13-LONGWORTH.

HULL TEAM.

- CARMICHAEL (Full Back).
DILCOCK, Ring Wing.
HUGHES, Right Centre.
PHIL. THOMAS, Left Centre.
W. HYAM, Left Wing,
B. CRAVEN, Scrum Half.
R. JONES, Outside Half.
A. MANN, Forward.
J. BEARDSWORTH, "
W. HUSKINS, "
W. SANDHAM, "
R. FEARNEY, "
C. McDONALD, "

Referee: W. H. WOOD.

Touch Judges: G. E. DICKINSON and C. GIBSON.

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OLDHAM.

Twice Nightly, at 6-50 & 9.
Monday, December 26th,

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By FRANK ADAIR.

Miss MARGUERITE TREVOSPER as "Olya."
Mr. DOUGLAS B. WATSON as "Lord St. Ives"
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Saturday, December 24th	Monday, December 26th,
Points.	Points.
A Coventry	A Broughton Rangers
Rochdale Hornets	Halifax
B Broughton Rangers	B Hunslet
Salford	Leeds
C Halifax	C Rochdale Hornets
Hunslet	Bradford
D Huddersfield	D St. Helens
Hull	Wigan
E Leeds	E Wakefield Trinity
Batley	Huddersfield
F Wigan	F Warrington
Swinton	Leigh
G Oldham Athletic	G Sheffield United
Sheffield Wednesday	Oldham Athletic

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Play and Players.

No. 2—T. WHITE (Oldham).

(By OBSERVER.)

A HALF-BACK who has vastly improved his playing reputation this season, is Tom White, of Oldham. In fact I make bold to say, with all due respect to John Thomas of Wigan, that White is to-day, the most effective outside half-back in the Northern Union.

I have witnessed his progress with interest, but his remarkable jump to the front is extraordinarily surprising, when one remembers his moderate displays last season. But that White has at last effectively come, no one can deny. And he may yet even go further.

His methods are strikingly similar to those of two other great outside half-backs, Thomas and Davies. But to me, and I have carefully watched his two latest displays, Tom White is a wee bit more forceful than either. His breakaway is a really inspiring effort, and be the distance twenty yards or fifty, he appears to be equal to the effort.

We have many clever half-backs, who are great individual players. They are for effect to a certain point, after that they lose touch with their colleagues, and movements full of promise are thrown away, simply because the support is lacking. But White seems to rise above this difficulty. Give him the ball and he realises his power. He does not fritter away the little seconds of time, which mean all the difference to an attacking player. He hustles to some purpose, and his dash and daring carry him triumphantly through, where another half-back, equally resourceful perhaps, but adopting more careful methods, would fail because of the seconds lost at the commencement of the movement.

There is no position in the team which calls for method, more than half-back.

He can make or mar his side, for he must use prompt judgement as to effective attack or determined defence. And White combines all these qualities, though I like him best when tries are being made. His runs are full of inspiration, and his graceful swerve is the undoing of the best defender. His ability to "side-step" is of value. White has more than one clever try to his credit by his remarkable finish.

He is unorthodox in what I may term scrummage tactics—movements which never progress beyond his opponents' three-quarter line. But he serves his centres when he realises that they are better able to make headway, and though during the last two months, White has wonderfully improved his scoring aggregate, I think a careful analysis would reveal the fact, that his three-quarter backs have also profited well by his tactics.

If the Oldham forwards will do their duty, the champions will be a most formidable side, by reason of their great club superiority at half-back, and the combination of Anlezark and White should do much to retain the honours of the season at Watersheddings.

White came to Oldham from Bath, and had previously played for the town club and Bristol. He held County honours for Gloucester (Rugby Union) and has been honoured by his adopted County, under Northern Union rules. He was capped this season for England, against Wales. Was born at Bath, 26 years ago.





The Northern Union players have a particularly hard task during the Christmas holiday season, for 34 League games are to be decided before Tuesday evening next.

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MEN OF MARK.

No. 14—Councillor PLATT, (Swinton.)
(By ARGUS)

FEW officials have "hustled" so much as Councillor Charles Platt, of Swinton. And his hustling has been with purpose, even if his experiences have been varied, for although young in years, he is, apart from his football abilities, a well respected local Councillor, and is chairman of several important committees of the Swinton and Pendlebury Urban District Council.

His football career commenced in 1890, when he was a player, captain and secretary of the New Barns (Salford) club. Then in 1892-3 he joined the Salford club, and played with the "Reds" reserve team, afterwards, at Mr. W. Parlane's invitation, becoming a member of the Manchester Rangers' team, for which club he played for a season.

Then in 1896-7 he made his final change by joining Swinton, and was a regular playing member of the team. For three seasons he turned out with the reserve team forwards—then the Swinton Juniors were a power in the land, for they won the Lancashire Combination Championship, two seasons in succession.

In 1899, Mr. Platt was appointed assistant secretary to the club, and afterwards made secretary, and he occupied this position at the time of the clubs conversion to a limited liability company. He retired from the secretaryship in 1906, and is now the honorary treasurer of the club.

In addition to his club duties, he represented Swinton, on the Lancashire County committee, during season 1907-8 and 1908-9, and in 1905-6 was elected to the referees' list. He has had charge of one County match, and important ties in connection with the Lancashire and Yorkshire County Cup competition.

Mr. Platt is also a vice-president of the Lancashire and Cheshire Referees' Society; the Manchester and District Society, and the Manchester and District Rugby League, and is also more than passively interested in the Wardley Lane football club.

My brief biography would be incomplete were I not to mention, that on two occasions, when Swinton arrived on opponents' ground, one short of the required number to make up a full team, Mr. Platt manfully filled the vacancy, and played throughout a strenuous game, with credit to himself and his side. A useful sort of official, and one who is whole-hearted in the development of Northern Union football.

M. A. P.

Oldham's score of 28 points, at Huddersfield, last Saturday, is the highest they have made this season.

York have still to win their first match in the Yorkshire League, whilst Wakefield are as yet unbeaten.

Last Saturday proved a good day for visiting clubs, for six secured maximum League points. The previous week every home team won.

Turtill's try, from the full-back position, was one of the most thrilling incidents seen on the Warrington ground for some years.

Dai Furnish, the Welsh centre three-quarter back, attached to the Halifax club, played a capital game with the reserves last Saturday.

Warrington lost their proud record of being unbeaten on their own ground this season. To St. Helens is the honour due of being the first victors.

J. Dutton, the Combination referee, has met with a nasty accident at his work, which resulted in two of his fingers being cut off.

When will G. W. Smith enter the veteran stage? His form in the last few matches has been wonderful for a man of his years.

Widnes avenged their recent defeat on their own ground by Leigh, in the return match last Saturday. This is the first victory at Mather Lane, since 1898.

Percy Eccles, the Halifax "wing three," was in great form last Saturday. Against the Dewsbury Reserve team he kicked four goals, and scored four tries.

The Swinton team boast the best defence in the Union. Only 55 points have been allowed to opponents in 13 games.

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Junior Jottings.

Manchester and District League.

Flixton visited old time opponents at Trafford Park, and a grand game ended in a victory for the visitors by six clear points; the tries being scored by Taylor and Stott. St. Bartholomews failed to beat the Flixton defence.

Huddersfield and District N.R. Union.

The Intermediates practically had the day to themselves on Saturday last. Of the games played, only one could be said to have been interesting. Rastrick Res., Netherton Res., and Underbank Res., rather easily accounted for the opposition.

At Slaithwaite, the home team beat the clever Marsh 'A' lads by 4 points. After promising well, the Marsh club have met with some rude shocks. Is the team saving up its energies for the County Intermediate cup?

There are several good games down for decision during the holidays. Perhaps the pick are at Rastrick to-day, where Underbank are the visitors; and at Bichencliffe on Monday, when the home men will entertain their neighbours from Rastrick. The latter game is always a keen one, while Rastrick can be depended upon to do their utmost to reverse the verdict of Round 1, of the N.U. Cup Qualifying ties, when Underbank beat them.

Halifax and District Intermediate League

League table up to date.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Campbells	8	5	0	3	13
Catherine Slack	8	5	0	3	13
Elland W.	8	5	1	2	12
Beacon Hill	8	5	2	1	11
Hebden Bridge	6	4	0	2	10
Sowerby Bridge	9	3	4	2	8
Caddy Field	10	2	6	2	6
Luddenden H.	11	1	9	1	3
5th Bat. R.F.A.	8	1	7	0	2

The League at Halifax is in a good position, and the interest shewn in the matches is very commendable. Even the weaker clubs are full of enthusiasm, and play the game because they like it, in spite of their lowly reputation in the League.

Answers to Correspondents.

F.T. (Hebden Bridge).—Certainly. When the opposing half-back has his hands on the ball, presumably it must be out of the scrummage.

JUNIOR (Halifax).—We should say the player was off-side, though the referee may have seen the incident from another point of view.

W.H. (Leeds).—Fred Webster, the Leeds captain, was born at Chesterfield.

DOUBTFUL (Rochdale).—It is possible, and if you will look up your official handbook, page 31, you will see a special note: "A player may be in touch and yet play the ball with his foot, if the ball be not in touch."

BUNKER (Oldham).—You must give your opponent five yards, and the referee can award a penalty for this breach.

DEJECTED (Salford).—April, 1906. Matches played in League, 6; scores for, 3 goals, 9 tries; scores against, 15 goals, 26 tries. If you wish to include the match on March 24, 1906, add 6 goals, 7 tries, to scores against.

The fight for the first four gives promise of great interest, and it will make the public take a greater interest in the doings of the Juniors, who will be a valuable addition to the Halifax club in the future.

Hebden Bridge, the "babes" of the League, are shewing they can produce some good players, as they have done in the past.

Huddersfield and District N.R. Union.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Flockton	11	8	3	0	16
Rastrick	9	7	2	0	14
Underbank	8	7	1	0	14
Huddersfield 'A'	6	6	0	0	12
Birchcliffe	9	4	5	0	8
Netherton	10	3	7	0	6
Slaithwaite	9	3	6	0	6
Meltham	12	2	10	0	4
Moldgreen	10	2	8	0	4

Intermediate League.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	P.
Rastrick Res.	10	10	0	0	"e,"
Netherton Res.	9	8	1	0	inst
Underbank Res.	12	6	4	2	icked
Hillhouse C.	11	5	5	1	
Slaithwaite Res.	10	4	4		
Birchcliffe Res.	12	4	7		
Marsh 'A'	9	4	4		best
Marsh 'B'	10	1	9		points
Moldgreen Res.	9	0	8		in 13

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