

Referee's List.

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

February 2nd, 1911.

Hull v. York.—F. Renton; C. Straiton, W. Mellor.

February 4th, 1911.

Batley v. Bramley.—W. H. Wood; C. E. Heydon, H. Whiteley.

Barrow v. Swinton.—E. H. Smirk; J. R. Robinson, C. Abraham.

Bradford v. York.—W. K. Hirst; H. Schofield, T. W. Smith.

Ebbw Vale v. Huddersfield.—G. Moore; W. Williams, C. Leonard.

Halifax v. Keighley.—J. F. May; A. Kaine, F. Hardwick.

Hull K. R. v. Dewsbury.—F. Renton; F. Wilson, C. Peel.

Hunslet v. Wakefield T.—G. Dickenson; F. T. Rowlands, A. Day.

Leigh v. Runcorn.—W. McCutcheon; C. Gibson, W. T. Chapman.

Rochdale Hornets v. Broughton Rangers.—H. Edmondson; R. H. Moore, T. Entwistle.

Salford v. Oldham.—J. C. Lumley; J. Winstanley, A. Lee.

St. Helens v. Coventry.—A. Hestford; H. Ball, H. Jones.

Warrington v. Hull.—J. W. Whiteley; E. J. Hannaford, W. Gregory.

Widnes v. Wigan.—W. W. Taylor; A. Roscoe, W. O. Johnson.

Lancashire Rugby Combination. Broughton Rangers 'A' v. Rochdale Hornets 'A'.—J. R. Lawton.

Oldham 'A' v. Salford 'A'.—T. Austin.

Runcorn v. Leigh.—R. H. Jackson.

Millom v. St. Helens.—W. H. Hall.

Wigan v. Widnes.—W. Manwaring.

Yorkshire Rugby Combination. Huddersfield 'A' v. Purston W. H.—Fowler.

Wakefield T. 'A' v. Hunslet 'A'.—Larard.

Featherstone R. v. Batley 'A'.—R. L. Smith.

S.E. Lancs. Competition.

Swinton 'A' v. Heyside.—A. Edwards.

Results and Scorers of Last Saturday's Matches.

WAKEFIELD TRINITY, 3 4—18.

Tries: Newbould, Simpson (2), Bennett. Goals: Metcalfe, Newbould (2).

COVENTRY, 1 3—11.

Tries: Fife, Yewlett, Dakin. Goal: Yewlett.

*BATLEY, 5 8—34.

Tries: Davies, Oakland (2), Drummond, Battersby (2), Ward, Rushton. Goals: Lyons (5).

OLDHAM, 1 4—14.

Tries: Smith G. W. (2), Deane, Aver. Goal: Wood.

*WARRINGTON, 2 2—10.

Tries: Waywell, Johnston. Goals: Tilley, Thomas.

*HUDDERSFIELD, 1 6—20.

Tries: Kitchen (2), Moorhouse, Grey (2), Watts. Goal: Grey.

*HULL, 2 7—25.

Tries: Francis (3), Cottrell (3), Rogers. Goals: Wallace.

HULL KINGSTON ROVERS, 2 1—7.

Try: Jones. Goals: Craven, Carmichael.

*HUNSLET, 3 2—12.

Tries: Farrar (2). Goals: Farrar, Place, Batten.

*LEIGH, 1 1—5.

Try: Johnson, T. Goal: Boleswki.

WIGAN, 1 3—11.

Tries: Miller (3). Goal: Sharrock.

DEWBURY, 0 6—18.

Tries: Rhodes (4). Milner (2).

WIDNES, 1 4—14.

Tries: Laws (2), O'Gara, Lally. Goal: Jones.

*ST. HELENS, 1 2—8.

Tries: Trenwith, Flannagan. Goal: Turtill.

*EBBW VALE, 2 2—10.

Tries: Llewellyn, Burgham. Goals: Roberts (2).

KEIGHLEY, 2 0—4.

Goals: Holden (2).

*RUNCORN, 0 0—0.

WIDNES, 2 2—10.

Tries: Johnson, Reid. Goals: Lally, Jones.

LEEDS, 0 0—0.

BRAMLEY, 0 0—0.

*YORK, 0 0—0.

HALIFAX, 0 1—3.

Try: Mesley.

ROCHDALE HORNETS, 1 0—2.

Goal: Jones.

*BARROW, 0 1—3.

Try: McKenny.

*BRADFORD, 2 2—10.

Tries: Town, Baistow. Goals: Baistow, Jagger.

*SWINTON, 1 2—8.

Tries: Davies (H.), Davies (D.B.). Goal: Johnson.

Monday, January 23rd.

*Denotes home team.

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The Northern Union News.

And OLDHAM F. C. OFFICIAL PROGRAMME.

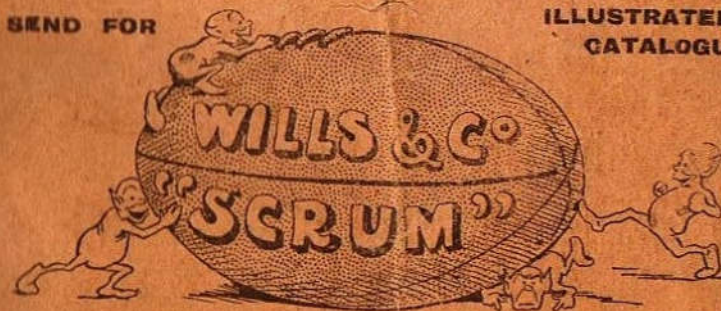
No. 24.] Saturday January 28th, 1911. [One Penny.

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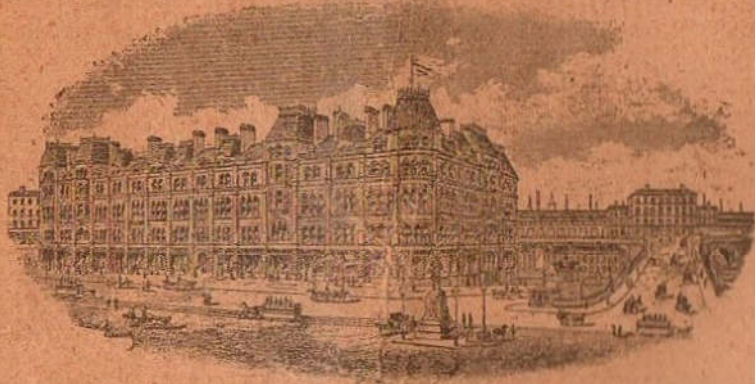
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THE NORTHERN UNION NEWS.

No. 24.]

Saturday, January 28th, 1911.

[One Penny]

MEN AND MATTERS.

Rowdy Spectators. Whilst representative officials of the Union and League were engaged in a most pleasant function at St. Helens, last Saturday, other representatives of the Union were engaged in the unpleasant task of endeavouring to protect visiting teams and officials from the attention of over zealous supporters of their club. As the Runcorn affair is sub-judice, we must at this stage refrain from comment. The newspaper reports from Cavendish Park must be dismissed, for the referee, who after all, was the man on the spot, and must be the deciding factor in matters of this description, has made no official complaint to the League.

Suspension not the Remedy. We can however, plead the cause of the club, who in matters of this sort have rightly perhaps, to accept all responsibility. In the past it has been the custom of our legislators, to suspend the ground on which the offence has taken place. This injures the club, and invariably those directly responsible for the rowdiness escape with a no more serious penalty than two or three League matches postponed to a date later in the season, after the suspension has been removed.

The Club's Opportunity. This method of punishment we regard as utterly unfair to the innocent parties. That they should be regarded as responsible to the ruling authorities for the good conduct of the spectators, we are prepared to admit. But give them the opportunity of shewing their methods of good government, and defer the penalty until the club concerned take action. They know probably those directly responsible for the rowdiness, and they have a remedy in the police court.

Lord Derby and the Union. That our new president, the Earl of Derby, intends to take a more than passive interest in our code, is apparent from his interest in the game at St. Helens. Lord Derby special motored from another important engagement at Preston last Saturday, to be introduced to the members of the Northern Union committee, and his Lordship greatly regretted that another important engagement in Liverpool, prevented his acceptance of the invitation of the St. Helen's club, to a social function which followed the match.

The Fourth Place. The fight for the fourth position in the League still continues. Widnes have considerably improved their prospects during the week, but they are sorely pressed by other clubs, eager and waiting to take advantage of the slightest slip. Hull Kingston Rovers have not of late been taken into the general calculations for the fourth place, but this morning their percentage is only five below that of Widnes, and there are others well up in the fifties, who by no means regard their chances as forlorn.

Juniors and the Rules. The suspension of a junior player to the end of the season, may be regarded perhaps by some, as a severe punishment, but the report was also serious, and the officials are determined to impress upon the juniors that they are equally responsible, and must observe the rules in the same spirit as the seniors. Fortunately such cases as that which occupied the attention of the committee, are extremely rare, and we hope the juniors will in future, play the game, and accept the officials' interpretation of the rules in the same spirit as the seniors.

Northern Union League.—Results up to this morning.

P'ts. Per-					P'ts. Per-				
P.	W.	L.	D.	ForAg's.cen	P.	W.	L.	D.	ForAg's.cen
Wakefield T.	21	18	2	1..319 124..88.09	Halifax	22	11	11	0..201 165..50.00
Wigan	22	19	3	0..406 116..86.36	Salford	21	9	11	1..228 237..45.23
Oldham	22	18	3	1..301 146..84.09	Leigh	20	9	11	0..149 178..45.00
Widnes	21	12	6	3..197 104..64.28	Swinton	21	9	12	0..168 148..42.81
Hull K.R.	21	11	7	3..357 220..59.52	Huddersfield	24	10	14	0..301 244..41.66
Warrington	21	10	6	5..196 169..59.52	Runcorn	22	7	12	3..160 252..38.63
Dewsbury	21	12	9	0..206 155..57.14	Ebbw Vale	22	8	13	1..157 226..38.63
Hunslet	23	13	10	0..269 277..56.52	Bradford	22	8	13	1..136 228..38.63
Keighley	21	11	9	1..174 239..54.76	Broughton R.	21	8	13	0..142 236..38.09
Batley	22	12	10	0..226 144..54.54	Barrow	21	7	14	0..188 294..33.33
Rochdale H.	22	11	10	1..244 188..52.27	York	19	6	13	0..151 246..31.57
Leeds	22	11	10	1..248 211..52.27	Merthyr T.	18	5	13	0..90 337..27.77
Hull	22	10	9	3..204 196..52.27	Coventry	20	4	14	2..183 326..25.00
St. Helens	23	12	11	0..282 244..52.17	Bramley	21	4	16	1..94 328..21.42

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE.

Results up to date.

Scores.				
P.	W.	L.	D.	ForAg't.Pts
Wigan	14	12	2	0..254 66..24
Oldham	13	10	2	1..144 65..21
Widnes	16	9	5	3..154 88..21
Warrington	17	9	5	3..157 133..21
St. Helens	14	7	7	0..178 155..14
Rochdale H.	14	6	7	1..160 127..13
Leigh	15	6	9	0..102 140..12
Swinton	16	6	10	0..139 127..12
Salford	13	5	7	1..103 146..11
Runcorn	16	4	9	3..102 208..11
Barrow	15	5	10	0..97 234..10
Broughton R.	14	4	10	0..88 188..8

YORKSHIRE LEAGUE.

Results up to date.

Scores.				
P.	W.	L.	D.	ForAg't.Pts
Wakefield	14	12	1	1..195 68..25
Halifax	16	10	6	0..159 117..20
Dewsbury	19	10	9	0..197 147..20
Hunslet	16	10	6	0..191 182..20
Batley	17	9	7	1..163 87..19
Kingston R.	16	8	5	3..229 144..19
Leeds	17	9	7	1..203 168..19
Keighley	17	8	8	1..132 213..17
Hull	15	6	6	3..126 143..15
Huddersfield	16	7	9	0..222 142..14
Bradford	17	5	11	1..101 199..11
Bramley	16	3	12	1..70 255..7
York	16	3	13	0..114 238..6

LANCASHIRE COMBINATION.

Scores Per-				
P.	W.	L.	D.	F. A.cen
Wigan	17	13	1	3..327 75..85.29
Oldham	16	13	3	0..270 65..81.25
Wigan H.	18	12	5	1..202 123..69.44
Runcorn	18	11	7	0..160 144..61.11
Pemberton	14	8	5	1..118 103..60.71
St. Helens	15	9	6	0..122 122..60.00
Leigh Sh.	14	7	5	2..93 85..57.14
Warrington	18	10	8	0..193 117..55.55
Leigh	17	9	8	0..183 178..52.93
Swinton	15	4	8	3..97 119..36.66
Broughton R.	16	5	10	1..92 87..34.37
Rochdale H.	16	4	11	1..77 174..28.12
Widnes	17	3	11	3..70 228..26.47
Salford	15	3	11	1..82 151..23.33
Barrow	8	1	7	0..43 136..12.50
Milloom	8	1	7	0..28 144..12.50

YORKSHIRE COMBINATION.

Scores Per-				
P.	W.	L.	D.	F. A.cen
Halifax	14	12	2	0..193 64..85.71
Wakefield T.	11	8	2	1..162 40..77.27
Huddersfield	12	8	4	0..159 77..66.66
Purston W.H.	11	7	4	0..92 77..63.63
Dewsbury	12	5	5	2..107 129..50.00
Leeds	12	5	7	0..99 93..41.66
Featherstoe R.	12	3	9	0..42 182..20.83
Batley	11	1	8	2..42 120..18.13
Hunslet	11	1	9	1..39 153..13.63

THE NEEDS OF RUGBY.

(By the EDITOR.)



WHY is Rugby not so popular as the Association game? True, Rugby has its thousands of adherents, but it must be admitted that the Soccer game is far away ahead of Rugby, both as regards the number of persons who play, and who look on."

"As one, who in his college days played under both codes, and who at the present time officiates week by week, at some of the big Association game, Mr. W. Gilbert Davis sends me the following comments:

"Quite half the playing time at Rugger is spent scrumming, and scrumming does not in any way rouse the ordinary spectator. What fascinates and exhilarates the crowd, is some smart three-quarter play, the running, dodging, and passing, not forgetting the fearless collaring. That is the Rugger that one dreams of, which raises the enthusiasm and admiration.

"This being so, I think it would be an advantage if the scrum could be abolished. If a man intentionally holds the ball, allow the opposite side a free kick if in their own half, and perhaps a throw down by the referee if in the defenders' half. However, abolish the scrum, and we can leave the provision of an effective substitute to the authorities that be."

"Another point that strikes the plain man, is that there are too many players on the field; fifteen a side are too many, eleven aside would, I think, be quite sufficient. The players would then have more room to display their talent. Abolish the scrum, reduce the number of players, and the game would become a more open one, and there would be more opportunity for brilliant running and tackling. If this were done, I think Rugby would become far more interesting, and prove a serious rival to the Association game."

I have taken these interesting matters from "London Opinion," and though I cannot support all the arguments, so ably brought forward by Mr. Davis, I should like him to be present at the meeting of two of our leading League teams. Then I venture to think Mr. Davis would declare that Northern Union football goes a long way towards his ideal Rugger.

Take his first point. Scrummages are by the average enthusiast regarded as a waste of time, for a game of more than the usual number of scrummages, must

necessarily be deficient in open back play. But we have not as yet, devised any better method of bringing the ball into play again. Experiments have been made, and the real remedy to me is the quick breaking up of the scrumage by the forwards, if the ball will not come through in orthodox style.

Mr. Davis declares for smart three-quarter play, running, dodging, passing, and fearless collaring. Well, we have all these in the games between teams who endeavour to play the Northern Union game in the real spirit of the rules. Further, although Mr. Davies has not made the point, would not his object be better served if a penalty was inflicted for direct kicking into touch.

He asks for fascinating and exhilarating play. You get this when the ball is loose. And all games which depend for their upkeep on the patronage of spectators, should tend to the keeping of the ball in play. When the ball is out of bounds there must necessarily be a corresponding waste, which, if of frequent occurrence, the man who has paid, naturally resents. And the Northern Union have as far as they are concerned, solved this problem by penalising touch kicking.

Mr. Davis' last point is also one that the Northern Union have adopted long ago, with the reduction of the forwards from eight to six. And by the fact that the ball comes through to the backs more rapidly than of old, the forwards have opportunity for delightful open play. Forward work has completely changed, and when judicious open play is combined with honest work in the scrummages, as in the case of our best teams, then the forward is equally as important as the most finished back.

I know that Rugby Union adherents will make the reply, that they play the game for themselves and not for spectators. If they are satisfied with the present condition of things, it is not for us to criticise. But there are thousands of Rugby supporters, who have, through force of circumstances, gone over to the rival code. The Rugby game, as played by the Northern Union, is from a spectators point of view, most attractive. And we have heaps of confirmatory evidence of converts from the Rugby code, that from a player's point of view, the new is much superior to the old. And now this view is receiving support from the Colonies.

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Notes and Notions.

(By A. S. M.)

THE claim for compensation in respect to the postponed match, laid by the Bramley club against Wakefield Trinity, has not yet been settled by the League committee. This will be dealt with at the next meeting, to be held at Huddersfield on Tuesday, the 31st inst.

Merthyr Players and Claims.

I understand that the clubs who have made the journey to Merthyr, but who will not receive a visit from that club, owing to its disbandment, have lodged claims, but only that of Coventry, has as yet been accepted. The others will be further considered when they give full details of their claim. There has been, I believe, applications for six of their players, and the League committee will fix the amount of the transfer fee required, and the monies received from such source will go towards the liquidation of the claims for loss of "gate" above referred to. Clubs in the League will receive a circular, stating the amount of the transfer fee fixed on the players, and all registrations to the League secretary must be accompanied by amount required.

Alleged Rowdism at Runcorn.

I was extremely sorry to see such a disgraceful exhibition of feeling displayed against the referee, at the conclusion of the match at Runcorn, last Saturday, where Oldham were the visitors. I had began to hope that such unsportsmanlike and cowardly conduct had become a thing of the past. It is a pity such a blot has been made, on the otherwise spotless season. The official concerned, has of course laid his complaint before the League authorities, and the matter will be fully considered at a special meeting to be held next Wednesday. I am informed that the Oldham club is also laying a complaint, in respect to the molesting of their players, on their way from the ground to the headquarters and dressing rooms. If this is so, it will be considered at the same meeting, with the referee's charge.

Compensation to Junior Clubs.

Certain clubs are not carrying out their obligations to the Junior clubs, in

respect to compensation for players, in accordance with rule 30. This is causing a great deal of dissatisfaction and inconvenience amongst the Juniors, and the League committee have decided that any future case of this description will be dealt with by them, and a penalty inflicted. There appears to be an idea prevalent amongst the Senior clubs, that no compensation is due to a Junior club, if the player they secure is an amateur. This is an entirely wrong impression. The rule does not make any distinction whatever, and it matters not the slightest whether he be an amateur or professional.

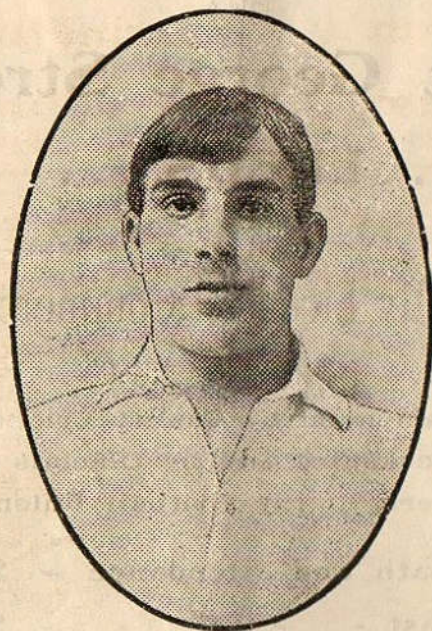
New Clubs.

The new club at Grimsby has secured a list of fixtures in the Hull district for the remainder of the season. There appears to be good grounds for anticipating the formation of at least three new clubs ere the close of the season. I understand one is already being formed at Clifton, and a meeting was held for the same purpose at Ashton-under-Lyne, last night. There have been persistent rumours lately, with respect to the formation of a club at Stockport, and I sincerely hope there is something substantial about them. I have no fears that if a club is formed, it would be a greater success than the old club was in the last year or two of its existence. There is no reason, to my mind, why such a club should not become the force in Rugby circles, it used to be in the old days.

Lancashire Junior Cup Final.

An objection has been laid by the Widnes Rovers' club, against playing the semi-final of the Junior cup at Whelley, as they claim the latter club's ground does not fulfill the requirements of the rule respecting these matches. The matter has been left in the hands of a committee, who will inspect the ground, as if the objection is upheld, the match will be played at Ince, as the Widnes Rovers' ground is also outside the regulations. The date of the final has not yet been fixed, nor has the venue been decided upon, but it is practically certain it will be played in West Lancashire, and the most probable date is February 18, the date of the first round of the Union cup ties.

For results of HOME Matches read across. For AWAY Matches read downwards. 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 those clubs do not meet each other.



(Reproduced by kind permission of "Sports Express," Hull.)

ALFRED MANN,
(Hull Kingston Rovers.)

OLDHAM F. C. Official Programme.

Oldham v. Warrington.

AT

WATERSHEDDINGS, OLDHAM.

Saturday, January 28th, 1911.

PAVILION JOTTINGS.

Two successive victories, away from home. Good!

The Tykes took their defeat at Halifax like true sportsmen; some of the Runcorn crowd took their defeat like —, well, slightly different from what we saw in Yorkshire.

Several of the Oldham players received nice little presents (?) at the close of the game at Runcorn. The spectators were simply tumbling over each other in their hurry to affectionately embrace the wearers of the red and white jerseys.

George Tyson made a capital re-appearance at Watersheddings, with our reserves last Saturday. Considering the fact that he has been out of the arena for such a long period, his display was splendid.

Billy Young has celebrated his twenty-first birthday during the past week.

Patrick Barrett, the new half-back, from Plymouth, had his initial spin on the Watersheddings enclosure, on Thursday afternoon. He shaped very well.

What an unlucky team Oldham are in the matter of Cup tie draws. On the other hand, Hull Kingston Rovers, may be congratulated upon having got the tit-bit of the round.

Tom Llewellyn is expected to turn out with the reserves at Warrington this afternoon.

Next Saturday, Oldham are due at Salford, and no doubt the Willows club will have a bumping "gate." The reserve teams meet at Watersheddings.

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Oldham v. Warrington.

OLDHAM TEAM.

- 1—A. E. WOOD
- 2—C. W. SMITH
- 3—W. DIXON (Senr.).
- 4—G. COOKE
- 5—YOUNG.
- 6—A. E. ANLEZARK
- 7—T. WHITE
- 8—A. E. AVERY
- 9—A. SMITH.
- 10—T. HELM
- 11—McCABE.
- 12—W. B. JARDINE
- 13—WISE.
- 14—J. OWEN

WARRINGTON TEAM.

- 1—J. H. TILLEY.
- 2—R. UNSWORTH.
- 3—G. DICKINSON.
- 4—J. TAYLOR.
- 5—W. WAYWELL.
- 6—E. BROOKS.
- 7—MATT. CREAVEY.
- 8—C. THOMAS.
- 9—F. SHUGARS.
- 10—M. JOHNSTONE.
- 11—W. MORGAN.
- 12—J. W. CHESTERS.
- 13—W. SKELHORN.

Referee—A. SMITH.

Touch Judges—W. O. JOHNSON, T. FOUKES.

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Monday, January 30th, 1911.

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	Points.		Points.
A Coventry		G Swinton 5	
Widnes		Ebbw Vale 2	
B Bramley		H Wakefield Trinity	
Barrow		Batley	
C Dewsbury		I Wigan	
Rochdale Hornets		Leigh	
D Halifax 3		J York	
Hull 3		Hunslet	
E Leeds 7		K Tottenham Hotspur	
Bradford 0		Oldham Athletic	
F Runcorn			
Salford			

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Play and Players.

No. 7—ALFRED MANN, (Hull Kingston Rovers).

(By OBSERVER.)

IHE forwards of Hull Kingston Rovers, have for a considerable period realised that their duties are by no means confined to work in the scrummages. They know that effective combination will bring its own reward, and they naturally tell with pride, the story that this season, twenty-nine tries stand to their credit.

And the recognised leader of this effective band of scrummagers is Alfred Mann, who personally boasts of eight tries. Like many other prominent players in the Northern Union, Mann commenced his football career as an Association player, but forsook that code for the one he considered more fascinating and manly.

His early exploits as a footballer were viewed with parental disfavour, but his strong partiality for the game overcame all difficulties, and his records, both at Bradford and Hull, entitle him to be regarded as one of the finest forwards in the Northern Union.

He is not a player of powerful physique, but possesses remarkable strength and stamina, and should the requirements of the game necessitate a rally towards the finish, Mann appears always equal to the effort required.

He possesses the faculty of being able to divine the intentions of his opponents, and during a spell of aggressive play, is generally in the near vicinity of the ball and ready for the expected weakness in the defence, for he knows where the line is. On defence also, Mann is a most prominent player, for he knows how and when to tackle, and rarely does an opponent manage to escape when once in his grasp.

Possessing plenty of pace, his quick breakaways from the scrum are a feature of his play, and he is on this account, a most useful player, either in attack or defence. I have heard it said

that Mann's brilliance in the loose, is at the expense of his work in the scrummages, but in games which have come under my observation, I have never noticed the slightest shirking of "shoulder work," and this view is amply confirmed by those who see him play each week.

Last season he played in every one of the Rovers' matches, and scored eleven tries. To date, this season, he has only missed one match, against Merthyr, and his absence on that occasion was due to the fact that the officials thought the weak opposition was favourable, to the resting of a much valued forward.

In addition to club matches he has taken part in six County, and six International matches. In his first County match against Cumberland, he scored the only try of the game, and in the majority of the other contests, Mann scored his accustomed try.

In the International matches he has also been successful, his best feats being the scoring of three tries against Wales, at Broughton, and two tries against the Australians at Glasgow.

During the County trial game at York, this season, Mann secured the ball in his own "twenty-five," and beating several opponents, scored a remarkably fine try between the goal posts. It brought a compliment from a well-known Yorkshire County official, who declared that the effort "was one of the brainiest he had ever witnessed."

This compliment was most appropriate and may be applied to Mann's general work on the field. At Hull it was anticipated that he would be included in the touring team to Australia. That International honours will come his way next season, against the Colonials, appears certain, for his form to-day is fully equal to that which has brought him fame in the past.

The Challenge Cup.

Draw for the First Round.

(By the Editor.)

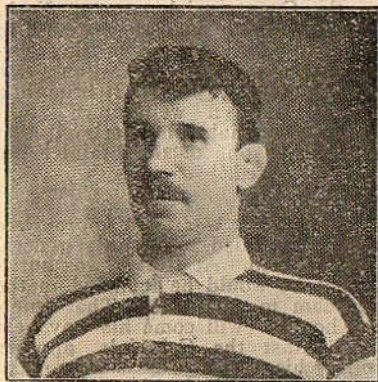
Barrow v. Hull.
 Keighley v. Salford.
 Rochdale Hornets v. Hunslet.
 Normanton v. Broughton Rangers.
 Halifax v. York.
 Coventry v. Warrington.
 St. Helens v. Bramley.
 Cadishead or Pemberton v. Bradford.
 Batley v. Ebbw Vale.
 Hull Kingston Rovers v. Oldham.
 Lane Ends United v. Widnes.
 Leeds v. Leigh.
 Wakefield Trinity v. Swinton.
 Wigan v. Huddersfield.
 Dewsbury v. York Groves United.
 Brookland Rovers or Broughton Moor v. Runcorn.

Probably the two outstanding features of the draw, are the good fortune of the five Junior sides who have qualified, through winning their district preliminary competitions, and the luck of the Yorkshire Senior teams.

Only Hull, Hunslet, Bramley, Bradford and Huddersfield, are called upon to visit Lancashire, as against Salford, Broughton Rangers, Oldham, Leigh, Widnes, Swinton and Runcorn, who are drawn against teams in Yorkshire and Cumberland.

Deserted Manchester.

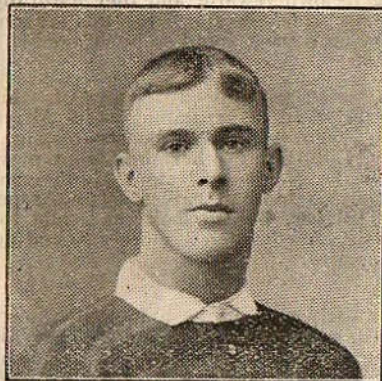
The Manchester district clubs have been particularly unfortunate, for Rochdale Hornets was the only team in the



(Photo by Harold Haigh, Oldham).

J. FERCUSON (Oldham).

half dozen to come out first from the hat. Another curious case of extremes, is the meeting of Barrow and Hull—the West and the East, and that Runcorn will need to travel to Cumberland—a case of North against the South. In fact, the draw is from beginning to end, full of surprising possibilities.



(Photo by Turton, Birkby, Huddersfield).

H. WAGSTAFFE (Huddersfield).

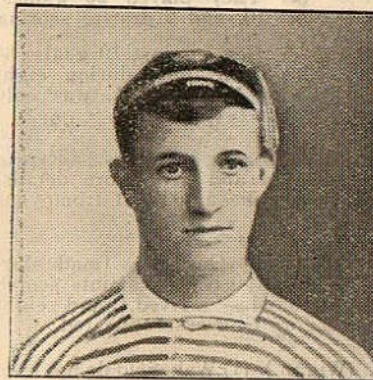
I do not think I need waste much time on the prospects of the five Juniors entering the second round. Had two of these clubs been drawn in opposition, then would there have been possibilities. As it is, even if the Seniors do not bargain for a change of ground, Broughton Rangers, Bradford, Widnes and Runcorn may be regarded as favourites for the next stage and Dewsbury may be relied upon to effectively settle the aspirations of York Groves United.

Now I come to the serious tests, and the match of the round is undoubtedly that at Craven street, Hull, where the Rovers will entertain Oldham. This match is brimful of possibilities, for the Rovers are a mighty side at home. Look at their League record. Ten games played, eight won, one lost, and one drawn, with a total score of 260 points to 79. Their only game lost was against Oldham, and that by the odd point only in 35. Somehow or other, I rather fancy the Rovers will on this occasion, reverse this. But we will wait and see.

Will Wigan Win?

The outstanding match in Lancashire will be Wigan and Huddersfield, though Rochdale Hornets and Hunslet will be little inferior in point of interest. Wigan won at Central Park, but lost at Fartown, and unless the Yorkshire team on this occasion shew extraordinary form, I am inclined to predict a second round appearance for Leytham and his colleagues.

Hunslet have one League victory to their credit against Rochdale, but that match was at Parkside. The Cup tie is at Rochdale, and the Hornets have only



(Photo by Foy, Swinton).

DAI DAVIES, (Swinton.)

yielded at home, this season, to Wigan and Oldham. The Cup engagement will be a strenuous struggle. Rochdale should finish in front.

Hull will need to visit Barrow, and though the local side have lately shewn improved form, Hull are the stronger side, though I should advise the Boulevard officials to leave nothing to chance, and to travel the day before the match.

If they were lost on the journey from Hull to Huddersfield, anything might happen on the long journey to Barrow, and I am really anxious to see them equal Salford's record.

Cup Holders at Home.

The cup holders will entertain Leigh. The teams do not meet in the League, and as Leeds have not yet been defeated on their own ground this season, I am afraid Leigh's prospects for the next round are not particularly rosy. So with Swinton, who are called upon to face as difficult a task as any club in the competition. At the best of times, a match at Belle Vue, does not inspire visitors.

None have come away triumphant this season, and my sympathies are with Swinton. I am afraid, like last year, their cup experiences will be brief.

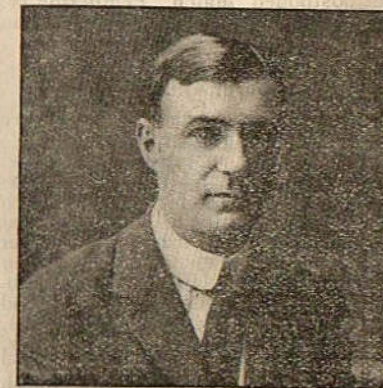
Salford also have trouble ahead, although Keighley are not impregnable, even on their own ground. But the Yorkshire men are mentally tough opponents in cup tie struggles, and had the contest been at Salford, the Lancastrians' prospects would have been brighter. Halifax, erratic though they be, should vanquish York, although in the League match, the Thrum Hall men could only claim superiority by 13 points to 8.

A Chance for Coventry.

Coventry have another opportunity of earning fame, for they receive a visit from Warrington. In the League match, the home men divided the points with a score of ten points—a really creditable performance. But I would warn the Midland players, that in a cup contest, Warrington will need some moving.

Bramley will not, I think, derive much pleasure from their visit to St. Helens, other than a share of a respectable 'gate,' and Ebbw Vale will find Batley even a more difficult task than the beating of Huddersfield last season. The "gallant youths" are now fairly on the war path, and the Welshmen may reasonably expect a warm time. Thus my casual selections for round No 2 are:—

Hull, Keighley, Rochdale Hornets, Broughton Rangers, Halifax, Warrington, St. Helens, Bradford, Batley, Hull Kingston Rovers, Widnes, Leeds, Wakefield Trinity, Wigan, Dewsbury and Runcorn.



(Photo by W. Skewes, Park Crescent).

L. B. TODD, (Wigan).

Junior Jottings.

—0—

Strange to say, none of the three Intermediate matches on Saturday last were played. In each case the visiting team failed to put in an appearance. Broken engagements among the Intermediates have been somewhat frequent this season, and it is quite possible that the defaulters will this time be severely dealt with.

Underbank entertained Netherton, and were surprised to find themselves in arrears at half-time. They soon made up for the deficit however, and were clearly the better team. Great credit is due to the Netherton team for the way they played up.

Birchcliffe made the journey to Flockton, and a good game was the result. Only four points separated the scores at the finish. Well done, Birchcliffe!

Rastrick proved too good for Slaithwaite, though the losers were on their own ground.

Rastrick will be handicapped for some time, as their clever winger, Farrer, unfortunately broke his arm.

NORTHERN UNION LEAGUE.

A meeting of the Northern Rugby League committee was held at the Grosvenor Hotel, Manchester, on Tuesday evening. Mr. J. B. Cooke (Wakefield Trinity) occupying the chair.

The postponed match, Pemberton v. Wigan 'A.' was ordered to be played on April 17.

For late start at Huddersfield, Featherstone Rovers were fined 6s. 6d.

The following reported players were dealt with:—Joseph Carr (Widnes 'A.') for foul charging, suspended up to and including February 4; Mitchell (Halifax) and Lister (Hunslet), for striking each other, suspended up to and including February 4; George Ward (Bramley), for striking, suspended up to and including February 4; Dobson (Barrow), for deliberate charging, was suspended up to and including February 4; Taylor (Barrow), for deliberately striking and kicking, suspended up to and including February 11; Walter Prince (Runcorn), for rough play, suspended up to and including January 28; G. Milburn (Featherstone Rovers), for striking, suspended up to and

Answers to Correspondents.

TYKE (Halifax).—Miller, of Wigan, is a local player, and Leytham was born at Lancaster.

F.P.T. (York).—The record attendance for a match in England is 110,802, at the English Cup final, of 1901.

X.Y.Z. (Huddersfield).—(1) Huddersfield were in the second division, season 1904-5. (2) They played 26 games, won 14, lost 10, and 2 drawn; scoring

33 goals, 55 tries, against 19 goals, 35 tries. (3) Their line, during eight games, up to November 5, was only crossed on one occasion.

SCRUMMAGE (St. Helens).—Repeat your question and give more details. We cannot make any point from your letter.

S.T. (Wakefield).—Our notes (made during the match) give five points scored before Daniells arrived, and eight points before Chavasse appeared.

AJAX (Wigan.) (1) Wakefield do not meet Barrow, Ebbw Vale, Leigh, Oldham, Runcorn, Salford, Swinton, Warrington, Wigan and Widnes. (2) Certainly they must meet all the Yorkshire teams. (3) They play 34 League matches.

W.F.H. (Warrington).—The final for the Northern League will be played on May 5. The Cup final is on April 29.

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, "Northern Union News," 10a, Fountain Street, Manchester. Correspondents desiring a reply other than through this column must enclose stamped addressed envelope.

including February 4; Dixon (Wakefield Trinity), for wrestling, suspended up to and including January 28; Dixon and W. Harrison (Featherstone Rovers), for striking, each suspended up to and including February 4.

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Six defeated sides last Saturday, failed to record a single try.

Batley have recorded 120 points in their last five games.

The benefit match for the late 'Teddy' Beswick, is expected to realise about £120.

The entry for the Yorkshire Junior Cup constitutes a record.

Rhodes, of Dewsbury, scored four tries last Saturday, and Frances (Hull), Cottrell (Hull), and Miller (Wigan), three each.

Leeds have only two away successes this season, but last Saturday's rout, at Fartown, was the first time they have failed to score.

W. G. Simpson, Wakefield's left wing three-quarter back, has scored 22 tries this season. He joined the League leaders when 17 years of age.

A well-known back, connected with a Manchester club, was expected to be transferred in time for to-day's League engagements.

All the Merthyr players who are now on the transfer list, must be registered by the end of the month to qualify for their new clubs in the cup contests.

The Warrington and Widnes match—a fight for the fourth place in the League, ended in a draw, and the eight scores recorded, were all by different players.

T. Barrett, a scrummage half-back from Plymouth, has signed for Oldham, and was expected to play in the Combination match this afternoon.

The six Yorkshire games last Saturday produced a wonderful contrast in the scoring of points. The six victors made 116 points, and the six vanquished, only 17.

Bramley have lodged a claim with the Northern League committee, for compensation for their postponed League game with Wakefield. The match was played on December 27.

Edmund Beswick, the one-time Swinton, Lancashire and England three-quarter back, died in Manchester last Sunday. Swinton and Salford played a benefit match for his dependents only the previous day.

It was a bad day for our referees last Saturday. Messrs. Platt (Swinton), and King (Salford) were in trouble at Barrow and Runcorn respectively, and Mr. W. K. Hirst, was 'laid out' through an accidental kick at Hull.

Broughton Rangers have secured another Cumberland County forward, in F. Robinson, of Aspatria. He had been selected to play for Cumberland (R.U.) against Yorkshire, this afternoon. He is 22 years of age, 5-feet, 10-inches, and 13 stones, 3-lbs.

The Earl of Derby, the new president of the Northern Rugby Union, was present at the match between St. Helens and Wakefield Trinity on Saturday. This was his Lordship's third appearance on the St. Helen's enclosure during the last three weeks, and the announcement that Lord Derby has become a patron of the club will occasion little surprise.

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