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The Northern Union News.

And OLDHAM F.C. OFFICIAL PROGRAMME.

32.] Saturday March 25th, 1911. [One Penny.

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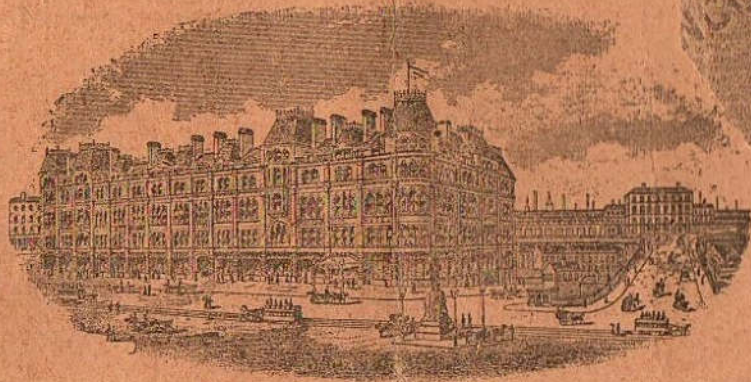
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THE NORTHERN UNION NEWS.

No. 32.]

Saturday, March 25th, 1911.

[One Penny]

MEN AND MATTERS.

The Rugby Union committee **Youthful** have now thoroughly agreed **Amateurs** as to the age limit for players who regret early indiscretion. There will in due course, be added to the professional rules, a bye law, which in effect will state "that any player signing a recognised form of the N.U. (any League) or playing under N.U. rules, over 17 years of age, be an acknowledged N.U. player." So hurry up boys, and enjoy yourselves while you are young.

The cup-ties, so far, have **Record at** not been favoured in regard **Headingley.** to weather conditions. But the receipts are well up to the average, and the official returns last Saturday are—

	Attendance	£
Leeds v. Wigan	24,815	660
Oldham v. Rochdale H.	20,000	461
Salford v. Batley	8,000	196
Broughton v. Bradford	8,000	142
Tuesday.		

Rochdale v. Oldham 17,000 ... 380

Never were the prophets more **Rochdale's** confused than by the result **Re-Play.** of the Rochdale v. Oldham cup-tie. We ourselves were at fault, but we must acknowledge our error and congratulate the Hornets on their most note-worthy victory of the season. From a financial point of view the success from the cup-ties assures Rochdale of a record year.

Oldham's withdrawal from **Players' Ambitions.** the challenge cup competition, will allow the champions to concentrate all their efforts on retaining the League trophy. But there is all the same, a feeling of disappointment at Watersheddings, where several prominent members of the team were anxious to sport a cup medal. And James Lomas, up to a week ago, appeared likely to attain the height of his ambition after weary years of waiting.

The question raised by a club with "first four" possibilities, **Full Strength!** as to the Bradford and Hunslet match is somewhat peculiar. In the game under notice, Hunslet won, and it was alleged that their success was assisted by the Bradford officials only playing a weakened side. The inference, of course, was that the Yorkshire team were saving themselves for the cup-ties.

The League committee who **The Penalty of Age.** considered the matter, whilst agreeing that the explanation of Bradford was not entirely satisfactory, found that the circumstances did not constitute an infringement of the rule. As the match was played at Bradford, and Hunslet were not to blame, no good purpose could have been served by any other decision. And with all due respect to the complaining club, Bradford must of necessity pay a penalty by playing veterans.

Northern Union League.—Results up to this morning.

P'ts. Per-								P'ts. Per-							
P. W. L. D. For Ags. centge								P. W. L. D. For Ags. centge							
Oldham	27	23	3	1	382	176	87.03	Rochdale H.	27	13	13	1	262	226	50.00
Wigan	27	22	5	0	490	151	81.48	Swinton	26	13	13	0	204	166	50.00
Wakefield T.	26	20	5	1	375	170	78.84	Keighley	25	12	12	1	204	375	50.00
Hunslet	29	19	10	0	353	306	65.52	Salford	27	12	14	1	290	280	46.29
Widnes	26	15	8	3	244	126	63.46	Broughton R.	26	11	14	1	175	255	44.23
Hull K.R.	27	15	9	3	485	274	61.11	Leigh	25	11	13	0	177	263	44.00
Hull	30	16	11	3	337	250	58.33	Bradford	27	9	17	1	159	310	35.18
Leeds	26	14	10	2	308	232	57.69	Runcorn	27	7	17	3	181	318	31.48
Dewsbury	26	15	11	0	259	202	57.69	Barrow	27	8	18	1	216	373	31.48
Warrington	27	13	9	5	229	250	57.40	Ebbw Vale	26	8	18	0	162	271	30.76
Halifax	29	16	12	1	321	223	56.89	Merthyr T.	18	5	13	0	90	337	27.77
Huddersfield	30	16	14	0	489	256	53.33	York	24	6	18	0	175	336	26.00
Batley	27	13	13	1	259	207	50.00	Coventry	25	5	19	1	219	416	22.00
St. Helens	29	14	14	1	349	346	50.00	Bramley	28	5	22	1	133	434	19.64

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE.

Results up to date.

Scores.								P.W.L.D.ForAg't.Pts							
P.W.L.D.ForAg't.Pts								P.W.L.D.ForAg't.Pts							
Oldham	18	15	2	1	225	95	31	Wakefield	19	14	4	1	251	114	29
Wigan	18	15	3	0	330	81	30	Hunslet	20	14	6	0	253	206	28
Warrington	21	11	7	3	178	164	25	Halifax	21	14	7	0	233	173	28
Widnes	20	10	7	3	173	104	23	Leeds	21	12	7	2	263	189	26
Rochdale H.	18	8	9	1	174	149	17	Huddersfield	21	12	9	0	402	154	24
St. Helens	17	8	8	1	203	179	17	Kingston Rov.	20	10	7	3	283	183	23
Salford	19	8	10	1	157	188	17	Batley	22	11	10	1	212	151	23
Swinton	20	8	12	0	155	149	16	Hull	20	10	8	2	215	187	22
Leigh	19	8	11	0	126	193	16	Dewsbury	21	11	10	0	212	180	22
Broughton R.	18	11	7	0	116	203	14	Keighley	21	9	11	1	167	349	19
Runcorn	21	4	14	3	120	273	11	Bradford	22	6	15	1	116	280	13
Barrow	19	5	13	1	106	285	11	Bramley	21	3	17	1	92	343	7
								York	21	3	18	0	138	328	6

LANCASHIRE COMBINATION.

	P.W.L.D.				Scores Per-	
					F.	A.centage
Wigan	22	18	1	3	421	79.88.63
Oldham	21	17	4	0	355	81.80.95
Wigan High.	23	16	6	1	271	147.71.73
Pemberton	17	11	5	1	157	114.67.64
Warrington	22	14	8	0	240	125.63.63
Runcorn	22	13	9	0	185	180.59.09
St. Helens	19	10	9	0	150	166.52.63
Leigh Sham.	16	7	7	2	100	114.50.00
Leigh	22	11	11	0	206	245.50.00
Broughton R.	21	7	13	1	127	212.35.71
Swinton	19	5	11	3	106	173.34.21
Rochdale H.	20	5	14	1	101	222.27.50
Salford	21	5	15	1	109	201.26.19
Widnes	21	3	15	3	78	276.21.42
Millom	10	2	8	0	52	157.20.00
Barrow	11	2	9	0	56	193.18.18

YORKSHIRE LEAGUE.

Results up to date.

	Scores.						
	P.	W.	L.	D.	For	Ag't.	Pts
Wakefield	19	14	4	1	251	114	29
Hunslet	20	14	6	0	253	206	28
Halifax	21	14	7	0	233	173	28
Leeds	21	12	7	2	263	189	26
Huddersfield	21	12	9	0	402	154	24
Kingston Rov.	20	10	7	3	283	183	23
Batley	22	11	10	1	212	151	23
Hull	20	10	8	2	215	187	22
Dewsbury	21	11	10	0	212	180	22
Keighley	21	9	11	1	167	349	19
Bradford	22	6	15	1	116	280	13
Bramley	21	3	17	1	92	343	7
York	21	3	18	0	138	328	6

YORKSHIRE COMBINATION.

	P.W.L.D.				Scores Per-
					F. A. centage
Wakefield T.	15	12	2	1	237 55.83.33
Halifax	15	12	3	0	193 71.80.00
Huddersfield	14	9	5	0	209 104.64.28
Purston W.H.	13	8	5	0	113 169.61.53
Dewsbury	14	15	6	3	112 147.46.42
Leeds	15	5	10	0	105 138.33.33
Batley	15	4	9	2	91 185.33.33
Featherst'eR.	15	4	10	1	78 202.30.00
Hunslet	14	1	10	3	55 200.17.85

MY NOTE BOOK.

The International Teams.

(By THE EDITOR).

THE various committees of the Northern Union have had a busy week. The cup semi-finals needed attention, and there was the selection of the teams to represent England and Wales, at Ebbw Vale, next Saturday. Then the League had several important matters to consider, and as the Lancashire County committee also held a meeting, the gathering on Tuesday was unduly extended.

England v. Wales.

As the cup-ties are dealt with elsewhere, I will take the International match; the teams for which are as follows:—

England.—E. Clarkson (Hull); J. Miller (Wigan), J. Lomas (Oldham), H. Wagstaffe (Huddersfield), J. Leytham (Wigan); F. Smith (Hunslet), T. White (Oldham); W. Jukes (Hunslet), F. Webster (Leeds), H. Kershaw (Wakefield Trinity), B. Avery (Oldham), W. Winstanley (Leigh), and J. L. Clampitt (Broughton Rangers).

Reserves: W. Kitchen (Huddersfield), and A. Kennedy (Runcorn).

Wales.—F. Young (Leeds); L. Llewellyn (Ebbw Vale), T. Jenkins (Ebbw Vale), B. Jenkins (Wigan), A. Francis (Hull); T. H. Grey (Huddersfield), J. Thomas (Wigan); W. Blackmore (Hull Kingston Rovers), E. Jenkins (Rochdale Hornets), D. B. Davies (Swinton), J. Foley (Ebbw Vale), F. A. Shugars (Warrington), and E. J. Thomas (Salford).

Reserves: W. Davies (Halifax), and B. Gronow (Huddersfield).

Hunslet's Misfortune.

It is somewhat unfortunate that the match should clash with the League programme. Next Saturday there are several important games which have a distinct bearing on the fight for the first four, and I should think Hunslet will regret the circumstances which compel them to visit Craven Street, Hull, without Smith and Jukes. Of course other teams will need to make sacrifices, but the particular game between Hull Kingston Rovers and Hunslet is one upon the result of which everything depends for Hunslet. And I should think the Rovers

will also regret the absence of two such formidable players from the ranks of the visitors, even though they themselves will be without Blackmore.

Backs of Merit.

On the whole I think there will be little adverse criticism of the selected sides. I thought that possibly Willie Thomas of Salford, would have received his well-merited "cap"; but the game is at Ebbw Vale, and there Chick Jenkins is a power in the land with his colleague Llewellyn. Lomas has of late been playing so well that his selection was assured and I am pleased to see the officials persevering with Wagstaffe. The English back division is sound in every department, and should, I think, be capable of holding the spry Welshmen.

Powerful Scrummagers.

Two powerful packs will take the field. Five of the English side were members of the team which toured the Colonies, and the sixth—J. L. Clampitt, the Broughton captain is little inferior to his colleagues. The Welsh six are also particularly strong, for the men are noted for their brilliance, both in the loose and in the packs. If the weather conditions are favourable there should be another high scoring game, and I have sufficient confidence in the Englishmen to say that they will give a vastly different display to that of the corresponding game last year. All the same I am inclined to think Wales will win. There is a something about Ebbw Vale which works detrimentally for England.

The First Four.

It appears somewhat paradoxical to find only one team in the cup competition interested in the League championship. But it assures the League of a really hard finish, for apart from Wigan, the ambitious clubs are now able to devote their whole attention to qualifying for the supplementary tournament. The all important game between Wigan and Oldham, postponed last Saturday through the cup-ties, has been fixed up for next Wednesday, and the Rochdale Hornets' match with Wakefield, fixed for last Wednesday, will also be played on the 29th inst.

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THE NORTHERN UNION NEWS.

Notes and Notions.

(By A. S. M.)

THE meeting of the St. Helen's club to discuss the question of the conversion of the club into a limited liability company, which was dealt with by a colleague last week—raised a subject, which I have for some time had in my mind, and one which I purposed dealing with when opportunity arose.

An Important Question.

Now I do not think there is a club in the Northern League which has not been at some period of its history, confronted with this very question. Mr. Houghton, at a meeting of the St. Helen's club, raised very strong objection to the suggested course being taken. It was argued that it would provide the club with additional funds to secure first-class finished players. And it was on this point that Mr. Houghton based his objection. I am quite prepared to support his line of action, but from a different standpoint. Much has been said for and against imported players, and also local talent.

Limited Companies and their Effect.

There is however, another aspect of the case, which to my mind is very often lost sight of, and it is one which has as great, if not even greater bearing on the future of a club, than the question of "foreign" or local talent. And that is the financial side. Several clubs have in the past been converted into Companies, but I cannot recall a single instance in which a club has received any real lasting benefit from such conversion. I may be wrong in saying this, and am open to conviction, but it is my opinion. What then is the cause of the ineffectiveness of the conversion? It strikes at, and weakens the principle support of the club, the main prop as it were—the membership.

That the members are the backbone of a club, yea, even the very essence of the life of a club, will not I think be questioned. The greater the membership, the greater the success of a club. Such being the case, it only stands to reason that if a club is converted into a company, it is to be governed by a body of directors and shareholders. The members have not the same voice in the management. They may have a vote at the meetings of the club, but they cannot appoint its committee, or rather directors. They begin to feel they are in

the club, but not of the club. They begin to feel that instead of it being the club as it were, they have degenerated into mere ticket holders, and their enthusiasm for the club commences to wane. They may still be as keen for the game, but they feel they are outside the pack. Their members begin to diminish and with the diminishing membership comes the gradual falling away of the "gates."

An Instance.

I could give many instances in support of my contention. But I will confine myself to one, and that of a club not above 100 miles away from where the "News" is printed. The members of that club, at one time used to look forward to their annual meeting. It was the event of the year. Long before the time of opening they were waiting. Large numbers even used to come without tea. Hundreds were present at each meeting, and very often the number present used to exceed four figures. The club was then turned into a limited company. Do the members regard the meetings with the same interest now. No! Where there were hundreds prior to the conversion, now they can be counted in tens, and the membership roll has correspondingly decreased year by year. The club has had its ups and downs, but I question whether it ever was in as serious a strait, as it was at the commencement of the present season. The result of a conversion may show an immediate improvement, but it is not of a lasting nature.

County Qualification.

The Lancashire County committee, at their meeting held on Tuesday last, had the question of qualification of County players before them. Nothing definite was done in the matter and it was decided to defer further consideration to the next meeting.

A Claim for Cadishead.

The claim of the Cadishead club for the full amount of the guarantee in respect to their friendly match at Pemberton was dealt with at the same meeting. It will be remembered that the latter club protested against paying the full amount, as their opponents arrived with a depleted team, and they alleged their "gate" suffered in consequence. Their protest was upheld. Cadishead will therefore have to accept the terms offered by Pemberton club, which to my mind were fair and reasonable.

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 these clubs do not meet each other.



E. W. JONES (Rochdale Hornets).



C. H. MARSDEN (Bradford).

(Photo by the Bradford and District Newspaper Co., Ltd.).

OLDHAM F. C. Official Programme.

Oldham v. Leigh.

AT

WATERSHEDDINGS, OLDHAM.

Saturday, March 25th, 1911.

PAVILION GOSSIP.

Who said "Rochdale?"

Any member heard mentioning Rochdale Hornets on the Watersheddings ground, this day, is liable to be apprehended by the police, and expelled from membership.

Never mind, Hornets. "It's a long lane that never has a turn," and surely it was the Hornets turn. All Oldham sportsmen will heartily congratulate the Rochdale team on their victory.

What a wonderful goal that was which Jones kicked last Saturday! The ball scimmed over the cross-bar like a swallow.

So did that one which George Smith dropped on Tuesday at Rochdale, but the referee thought otherwise, and that decision gave the Oldham spectators something else to swallow.

The receipts of the two cup-tie games should give both clubs a splendid financial lift.

Oldham had another wet experience last Thursday, at Coventry. It rained in torrents the whole of the time the Oldham team were at Coventry.

Dai Beynon was an interested spectator at Thursday's game. Dai would very much have liked a game against his old club mates; but he got his ribs slightly damaged last Saturday, and that prevented him playing.

Mick Yewlett and Tommy Cash were both in the Coventry team, and fairly revelled in the encounter.

The Oldham Football club's Workshop's Competition has attracted 64 entries. The games commenced last evening, when a couple of fixtures were played off. Four more will be gone through to-day—two before the Leigh match and two afterwards.

For the match at Wigan, next Wednesday, the kick-off, for which is 5-15, a number of reserved and numbered seats are being arranged. The price for these, including admission to the ground, is 2/6. Tickets may be had from Mr. Geo. Kilner, Secretary, Pavilion, Watersheddings, Oldham.

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Oldham v. Leigh.

OLDHAM TEAM.

- 1—A. E. WOOD
- 2—W. DIXON, Senr.
- 3—J. LOMAS.
- 4—S. DEANE.
- 5—C. W. SMITH
- 6—J. LEWELLYN.
- 7—A. E. ANLEZARK
- 8—T. WHITE
- 9—FERGUSON (Capt.)
- 10—AVERY
- 11—A. SMITH.
- 12—McCABE.
- 13—W. B. JARDINE
- 14—F. W. WISE.
- 15—OWEN.
- 16—TYSON.
- 17—COOK.

LEIGH TEAM.

- M. BOLEWSKI, Full-back.
H. GANLEY, Right Wing.
T. H. JOHNSON, Right Centre.
R. ATKINSON, Left Centre.
D. DAVIES, Left Wing.
J. JOLLEY, Half-Backs.
T. McGEIVER, "
WINSTANLEY, Forward.
LOWE, "
MARSH, "
JONES, "
GALLOP, "
R. BARTON, "
Reserve: J. PORTER.

Referee—G. JACKINSON.

Touch-Judges—T. FOULKES, and W. T. CHAPMAN.

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Swinton		Wigan	
B Batley		G Rochdale Hornets	
Hull Kingston Rovers.....		Warrington	
C Bradford		H Runcorn	
Barrow		Bramley	
D Huddersfield		J Salford	
Dewsbury		Hallifax	
E Hull		K Manchester United.....	
Hunslet.....		Oldham Athletic	

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Play and Players.

No. 15—GEORGE MARSDEN (Bradford).

(By OBSERVER.)

THE revival in the fortunes of the Bradford Northern club is one of the features of the present season. And perhaps to one player more than any other in a persevering side, the fact gives pleasure to "Garge" Marsden, whose name has so long been associated with Bradford Rugby football.

He was, in his prime, a half-back, of more than ordinary ability. And to-day one detects flashes of the brilliance, which secured Marsden, at a very early age, his International cap for England.

He is yet a striking personality, even if his movements shew advancing age; and his attempts at opening out the play for his three-quarter backs reveal the genius. Marsden is by no means an orthodox half-back. His great reputation was not built up by movements which were easy of imitation, and he had no set rules to work by.

Always on the Alert.

Rather did he take the opportunities as they were presented. Always on the alert, his typical dash, his graceful breakaway, and his "drawing" of his opponents, enabled Marsden to rank as a player, both feared and respected by opponents.

He possesses a great reputation for defensive play. His native doggedness stood him in good stead, and I have recollections of a great match in which he was especially prominent, when fortune had apparently deserted his side.

He was here, there, and everywhere. He tackled in a style which made heavier men green with envy, an never once during an exciting and strenuous struggle, did an opponent shake off George Marsden.

On the home side, they had in this particular match, one of the most famous wing three-quarter backs who ever played for a Lancashire club. He was noted for his flying dashes, and he had seemingly evaded every Bradford defender. With only twenty yards to cover, before crossing the line, the try seemed inevitable, and the crowd were preparing to celebrate the event in the usual manner.

A Shock for Fish.

But suddenly a wearer of the Bradford jersey sprang up, apparently from the ground, and the flyer was captured. The sudden check caused something more than mere surprise, and when the tackler arose, it was seen that the Yorkshire player was Marsden.

"Ah," remarked a Warrington supporter, "only George Marsden could have done that!" Need I say more than the Warrington "flyer" was John Fish.

Marsden was a player of repute before he joined the Northern Union. He played thrice for England under Rugby Union rules, and has had every football honour possible to a player of either code of rules. His abilities were by no means confined to the half-back position, for he has played at centre three-quarter back for Yorkshire in County matches. He was born at Morley, near Leeds, in 1880.

The Challenge Cup.

Semi-Final Matches.

(By OBSERVER.)

ALTHOUGH the departure of Oldham from the cup competition has taken away one of the most attractive teams in the Union, the qualified four for the penultimate stage are sides capable of providing attractive football. Lancashire will have three, and Yorkshire one team, and again has the fortune of the draw, gone against the Tykes, for Batley will need to oppose Lancashire's strongest side.

The meeting of Wigan and Batley will be at Huddersfield, and is a contest which appeals to every Yorkshire enthusiast, who expects "Wattie" Davies and his colleagues, to amply avenge the disaster at Headingley. One cannot make comparisons from League games, for the semi-finalists have not met in this tournament. And the doings of the sides so far in the cup competition is not helpful for the critic. Both Batley and Wigan have accomplished much, and the form of the Yorkshiremen at Salford was a veritable eye-opener to the local crowd.

Batley's Brilliance.

Unquestionably are Batley a talented team. They do not possess perhaps the combination of Wigan, but as I have many times pointed out cup-tie football is vastly different from ordinary League displays.

The cup means, that every player in a contesting side, plays with a purpose. Individualism is predominant, and Batley's team contains many men with big reputations. "Wattie" Davies is yet a tactician to be respected. He has willing colleagues to follow his lead, and behind him is Lyons, one of the most promising full-backs in the Northern Union.

The powers of the forwards are well known, and at the present time Batley are playing well. But so are Wigan, and as I said of the match at Leeds, if the Wigan scrummagers hold their own, and give Gleave and Thomas their share of the ball, then I think Batley will find

in Wigan, a much more formidable opposition that was put up by Salford.

But the match will only be decided after a most strenuous struggle. There should be a record crowd this season for Huddersfield, for the meeting of two such sides promises a feast of football.

Hornets of Renown.

Rochdale Hornets have proved themselves well worthy of inclusion in the last four. To hold their own at Watersheddings, and then to triumph in the re-play is a performance which their most optimistic supporters never dreamt of. But they persevered, and are now to have their reward. In Broughton Rangers they will have worthy opponents. Like the Hornets, the Rangers possess a smart set of forwards, and there should be a great struggle for supremacy in this important feature of the game. Behind the scrummage, I regard the backs as most evenly matched.

In the League tournament, Rochdale have won both matches at home, by two points to nothing, and at Broughton by 21 points to 10. But since these disasters the Rangers have improved wonderfully, and I consider the result most open. But the Hornets, after Tuesday will be the popular favourites.

The draw with officials, is:—

BATLEY v. WIGAN.—At Huddersfield.

Referee: Mr. J. F. May (St. Helens); touch-judges, Messrs. J. A. Hall (Ulverston), and J. Priestley (Salford).

BROUGHTON RANGERS v. ROCHDALE HORNETS.—At Salford.

Referee, Mr. A. Smith (Halifax); touch-judges, Messrs. J. Dutton (Warrington), and J. Heyes (Leigh).

In the case of the ties being drawn, the Batley v. Wigan game is to be re-played at Rochdale, on Tuesday, April 11, and Rochdale Hornets v. Broughton Rangers, at Wigan, on April 12.

THE CUP.

PROGRESS OF THE CLUBS.

First Round. Second Round. Third Round. Semi-Finals

Runcorn 23	*Runcorn ... 3	Batley 18	Batley.....
*Broughton M 6			
*Batley 7	Batley 9	*Salford 3	Wigan.....
Ebbw Vale . 2			
Salford 5	Salford ... 6	*Leeds 4	Wigan 13
*Keighley 0			
*Barrow 7	*Barrow 5	*Leeds 4	Wigan 13
Hull 0			
*Leeds 8	Leeds 11	*Leeds 4	Wigan 13
Leigh 3			
*St. Helens 26	*St. Helens.. 6	*Leeds 4	Wigan 13
Bramley 7			
*Wigan 18	*Wigan 21	*Leeds 4	Wigan 13
Huddersf'd 13			
Warrington. 18	Warrington 2	*Leeds 4	Wigan 13
*Coventry 10			
Oldham 9	*Oldham 11	*Oldham ... 8	Rochdale..
*Hull K.R. .. 7			
*Wakefield ... 15	Wakefield . 3	*Oldham ... 8	Rochdale..
Swinton 0			
*Rochdale 11	*Rochdale .. 8	*Oldham ... 8	Rochdale..
Hunslet 5			
*Widnes 23	Widnes 0	*Oldham ... 8	Rochdale..
Lane End U. 0			
Bradford 12	Bradford .. 7	*Oldham ... 8	Rochdale..
*Pemberton . 4			
*Halifax 63	*Halifax ... 5	*Oldham ... 8	Rochdale..
York 0			
Br'ghton R 10	*Br'ghton R 9	*Oldham ... 8	Rochdale..
*Normanton 6			
*Dewsbury ... 47	Dewsbury. 0	*Oldham ... 8	Rochdale..
York G.U. ... 0			

*Home club.

†Re-play.

Junior Jottings.

Huddersfield and District Union.

The clubs are now getting to the end of their engagements.

Only two League matches were played last week.

At Fartown, Birchencliffe were easy victims for Huddersfield Res., while at Moldgreen the home Reserves were no match for Netherton Res. who made their position at the head of the Intermediate League still more secure.

To-day Netherton Res. entertain the leaders of the Dewsbury and Batley Intermediates in the second round of the County Intermediate cup. It is to be hoped that the Huddersfield representatives will qualify for the semi-final.

A fortnight ago three Huddersfield clubs met three Halifax teams in the Junior cup ties, and the verdict was with Halifax in each case. We expect to make a much better show in the Intermediate cup.

It would seem that Intermediate football is booming in the district, as in connection with a cup competition for teams under 20 years of age; organised by the H.C. & A.C. No fewer than 17 entries have been received. This seems to point to increased numbers in our Leagues, and perhaps an additional League for next season.

Answers to Correspondents.

A.B.C. (Bradford).—1897, Batley, 1 2—10 St. Helens, 0 1—3; 1898, Batley, 2 1—7, Bradford, 0 0—0; 1901, Batley, 0 2—6, Warrington, 0 0—0. As you say, Batley can defend in cup-ties.

CURIOUS. (Werneth).—Oldham appeared in the final tie against Warrington, in 1907. (2) They were beaten by 17 points to 3. (3) The match was played at Broughton.

F.W. (Wigan).—Lancashire had two clubs in the semi-finals of 1908 season Broughton Rangers and Leigh. They were defeated by Hunslet and Hull respectively.

A.S.T. (Warrington).—The line out was abolished by the Northern Union at the annual meeting in 1897.

RED (Weaste).—Semi-finals of 1903. Salford nothing, Oldham nothing. In the re-play, Salford won 8 points to nothing.

ROBIN No.1. (Hull).—In the season you mention, Hull Kingston Rovers won by 8 points to nothing at the Boulevard, but lost at Craven Street by 11 points to 6.

CURIOUS (Hunslet).—Andrew Hogg is now playing with Barrow.

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.

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M. A. P.

The Bramley football club were fined 10s. for late start in their League game at Halifax.

Up to date, this season, Carmichael, the Hull Kingston Rovers' captain, has kicked 98 goals, and scored 1 try.

W. Willis, the new forward at Park-side team, has already given great satisfaction to the Hunslet officials. Hailing from Ryton-on-Tyne, he is 18 years of age, and scales 13 stones, 3 lbs.

"Wattie" Davies, the Batley three-quarter back, and Gath, their veteran forward, took part in the semi-final, with Salford, at Watersheddings in 1898. Both played on Saturday last at Salford.

In the match Seedley Hornets v. Salford St. Bartholomew, E. Travis (Seedley) and J. Linney (St. Bartholomew) were reported for fighting. Travis was suspended for five matches and Linney for four matches.

The following matches have been rearranged:—Leeds v. Swinton from Mar. 4 to March 29; Wigan v. Oldham from March 18 to March 29; Wakefield Trinity v. Rochdale Hornets from March 22 to March 29; Batley v. Swinton from April 8 to March 28.

A meeting of the Lancashire County committee was held on Tuesday evening, Mr. J. Tonge (Swinton) presiding. The business was confined to reported players. Eddington (Heyside) was suspended for two matches for striking in match v. Seedley Hornets; J. Davies (Wardley) for striking in match v. Flixton was suspended for one week.

Should Batley qualify for the final tie in the cup competition, the deciding game on April 29th, will be played at Headingley. If the final be between Wigan and Rochdale Hornets, the match will be played at Broughton. If on the other hand, the Rangers qualify, then the final will be at Salford.

Hull Kingston Rovers have signed on a forward named W. Jacketts, a son of George Jacketts, the old Hull and Yorkshire Rugby Union forward. He is only 15 years of age, but is already 5-ft., 9 in. height, and weighs 11-stones, 9-lbs.

Prior to last Saturday's match at Headingley, the largest attendance for a Leeds match, since the formation of the Northern Union, was against Broughton Rangers in the second round for the cup, on March 17, 1906. 21,029 was the return, with receipts of £505. Last Saturday, the official figures were nearly 25,000, with takings of £660.

A Colliery football team began a home match with two men short. After a while one man turned up and took his place in the team, though he limped painfully, and his head had a much-battered appearance.

"What's up lad?" asked the referee.

"There's bin a fall o' coal in th' pit, and Ah've only jist got out," was the reply.

"Yes; but where's the other man?" continued the referee.

"Oh, he'll coom if he can; but Ah canna say for sartin wot time—it's him the coal fell on!"—"Tit-Bits."

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THE NORTHERN UNION NEWS.

Results and Scorers of Last Saturday's Matches.

*ST. HELENS, 2 2-10.
Tries: Greenwood, Warburton.
Goals: Turtill (2).
*KINGSTON ROVERS, 4 4-20.
Tries: Brain, Sandham, Blackmore (2).
Goals: Carmichael (4).
*BARROW, 2 3-13.
Tries: Gifford (2), Dobson.
Goals: Dobson, Hill.
*HUDDERSFIELD, 5 8-34.
Tries: Byrne (2), Kitchen (3), Rosenfeldt, Gronow, Wrigley.
Goals: Grey (5).
HULL, 2 2-10.
Tries: Wallace, Rogers.
Goals: Clarkson, Rogers.

Monday, March 20th.

HUNSLET, 2 5-19.
Tries: Smith, Batten (W), Jukes, Randall, Farrar.
Goals: Farrar (2).
BATLEY, 0 1-3.
Try: Ward.

SCORERS IN CUP TIES.

WIGAN, 2 3-13.
Tries: Thomas, Todd, Williams.
Goals: Leytham (3).
*OLDHAM, 1 2-8.
Tries: Anlezark, Lomas.
Goal: Wood.
*BROUGHTON RANGERS, 2 2-10.
Tries: Jones, Ruddick.
Goals: Davidson, Scott.
BATLEY, 3 4-18.
Tries: Gath, Anderson, Battersby.
Goals: Lyons (3).
*LEEDS, 2 0-4.
Goals: Young (2).
ROCHDALE HORNETS, 1 2-8.
Tries: Fitzsimmons, West.
Goal: Jones.
BRADFORD, 0 0-0.
*SALFORD, 0 1-3.
Try: Cook.

RE-PLAY.

ROCHDALE HORNETS, 2 0-4.
Goals: Jones (2).
OLDHAM, 0 1-3.
Try: Lomas.

Wednesday, March 22nd.

*SALFORD, 2 5-19.
Tries: Ritchie, Rees, Thomas (W.), Bevan, May. Goals: Bevan, Lambert.
ST. HELENS, 0 2-6.
Tries: Belshaw, Warburton.

Referee's List.

Saturday, April 1st.

Barrow v. Salford.—G. Moore; C. Abraham, and W. H. Hall.
Bramley v. Huddersfield.—A. Smith; F. W. Tattersall and F. J. Rowlands.
Dewsbury v. Hull.—W. W. Taylor; H. Schofield and C. Peel.
Halifax v. Ebbw Vale.—E. Tonge; W. O. Smart and F. Bennett.
Hull K.R. v. Hunslet.—G. Dickenson; F. W. Wilson and H. Whiteley.
Leeds v. Broughton Rangers.—E. H. Smirk; R. Robinson and D. Fitzgerald.
Leigh v. York.—F. Renton; T. Foulkes and F. Ratcliffe.
St. Helens v. Widnes.—J. C. Lumley; J. McGowan and H. Ball.
Swinton v. Oldham.—J. F. May; F. Turner and C. Gibson.
Wakefield T. v. Coventry.—C. Platt; J. W. Scholes and A. Loyne.
Wigan v. Rochdale Hornets.—W. H. Wood; H. Heath and W. O. Johnson.

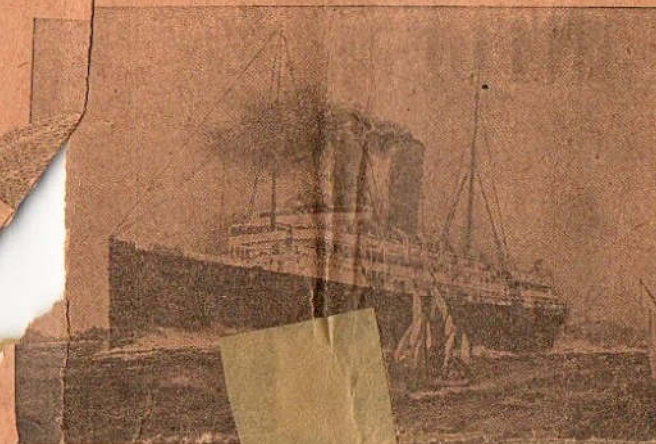
LANCASHIRE COMBINATION.

Millom v. Pemberton.—W. Cross.
Oldham v. Swinton.—R. H. Jackson.
Hochdale H. v. Wigan.—J. A. Blackburn.
Warrington v. Leigh Shamrocks.—W. Manwaring.
Widnes v. St. Helens.—T. Austin.

YORKSHIRE COMBINATION.

Featherstone Rovers v. Halifax.—J. A. Hall.

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