

PI
Saturday, 4th September, 1948

AT WATERSHEDDINGS.

Lancashire County Challenge Cup
1st Round (1st Match)

OLDHAM

v.

WIDNES

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

OLDHAM
FOOTBALL CLUB

19

OLDHAM

v.

LIVERPOOL STANLEY

Tuesday, August 31st, 1948

Kick-off 6-30 p.m.

Official Programme - 2d.

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS & VIEWS.

We suddenly and unexpectedly came into the news of the transfer market very late on Friday night last, when we transferred our second row international forward Les Thomas to Leeds and received in return two players as a transfer fee.

Our new players are Robert Batten, a general utility man in the backs, with a preference for wing and Leslie Marsh Tate, centre or wing and we trust our latest recruits will spend a happy time with us.

There is optimism round our Committee and I can assure members and patrons that your elected officials mean business to secure a team worthy of Oldham. This will take time and if one could divulge the players whose services we required it would be good digest, but success did not come our way as the clubs in question were reluctant to part with their star players, and the prices offered did not enter into the bargain.

There is also one important addition to our staff in a Trainer-Coach, and the Committee are to be complimented upon engaging Stanley Smith, ex-Wakefield, Leeds, International winger to this important position.

Mr. Smith has the entire backing of the Committee in his efforts to secure first-class fitness of the players; and whilst at present it may not be possible to bring all our players to live in the town, it is only a question of time before this will be accomplished, when we hope Mr. Smith's efforts will bear fruit.

The "A" team boys will, as last year, be coached by Alex Givvons, and this is one of the most essential posts on our establishment.

Physical training only applies to the fitness of the body, and this is an important point, which leaves out the training of the senses, and Rugby League players have to use their brains probably more than players in other games, therefore intensive coaching must be resorted to, to bring out the best of a player's ability. Except in a few isolated cases very little of anything happens, hence many players never overcome their initial weakness. If a man cannot give or take a pass with accuracy during the commencement of his playing career, he generally ends up in the same unsatisfactory manner. If a player is a straight runner at the commencement of his career he remains one. One can only put this down to the fact that his coaching, or lack of coaching, has been neglected. All these difficulties can be overcome by coaching, coupled with the player's use of his own brains.



TO-DAY'S TEAMS

OLDHAM

(BLUE & WHITE)

19. **GRANVILLE**
 1. SPENCER, W.
 1 TRY 2. TATE, J. M.
 2 4 3 } ~~MITCHELL, W.~~
 HARRIS, N.
 4. MAHONEY, J. B.
 5. BATTEN, R.
 6. ~~CHALMERS, J. D.~~
 1 TRY 7. ~~SPENCER~~
 JONES, W. G.
 8. OGDEN, H.
 9. BROOKS, E.
 10. ANTHONY L.
 11. ROSTRON, T.
 12. TOMLINSON, A.
 13. SHEARMAN, J. W.

Reserve:

WELSBY, G.

LIVERPOOL STANLEY

(RED JERSEYS)

1. HILL, E.
 2. JACKSON, J.
 3. ROBINSON, J.
 4. CLARE
 5. FORSYTH, P.
 6. LEE, E.
 7. PRESCOTT, R. J.
 8. RANKIN
 9. WILSON, J. R.
 10. DERBYSHIRE
 11. HILL, J. F.
 12. MORAN, J.
 13. PRESTON, R. E.

Referee: Mr. W. STOCKLEY, Leigh.

Touch Judges: Mr. H. HOLLAND, St. Helens.

Mr. N. WINSTANLEY, Wigan.