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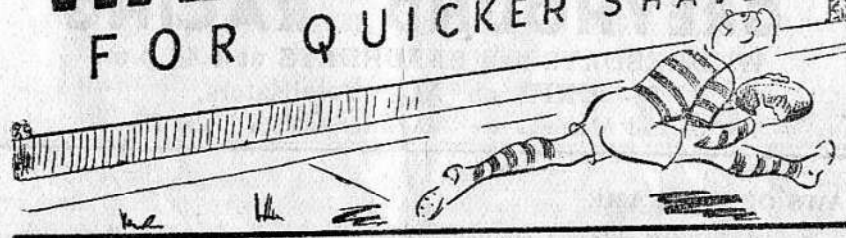
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SPOTLIGHT ON THE VISITORS

We revert to cup fare again to-day by entertaining Oldham in the semi-final of the Lancashire Cup.

Our Watersheddings friends have started in very fine style, although they did fall from grace before their own supporters against Widnes a week ago.

Still, they have been quietly team building, and have added quite a number of young players to their ranks recently, and as the season progresses they are bound to be a force to be reckoned with, even more than now, and let it not be forgotten that prior to last Saturday they stood 6th in the league, with 8 points gained from 7 matches played.

To assist them in their team building Oldham have shown a liking for Leeds players, for they took in part exchange for Les. Thomas, when he was transferred to Leeds, Tate, a fast and well-built wingman; and Bob Batten, brother of the more famous Eric, who has been operating at stand-off half.

More recently they came to terms with Leeds for the transfer of Jim Tynan—a native of Salford—who had tired of acting as deputy for international Dai Jenkins. Tynan should render great service to Oldham.

Others in the back division are Welsh internationals Harris and Mahoney, the latter receiving his first cap in the game at Wigan last week.

There is bound to be a rare struggle for scrummage supremacy between Edgar Brooks and our own Dave Cotton. Like the latter, Brooks has now seen considerable service in the game, and the battle of wits between these two veterans is usually an interesting one.

By the results of our league games in the past two seasons, honours have been easy between our two clubs, each having won its home engagements, but with more at stake than league points, to-night's game is bound to be exceptionally keen, but it is hoped that neither side will sacrifice their undoubted skill to achieve their purpose.



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LAWS OF THE GAME

3. Placed Off-side. A player is placed off-side if the ball has been kicked, touched or is being run with by one of his own side behind him. A player can be off-side in his opponents' in-goal, but not in his own, except where one of his own side takes a free kick behind his goal-line, in which case all his own side must be behind the ball when it is kicked.

In reply to "Fan" (Warrington) the Bradford spectators were, of course wrong. If a player while making his way back to his own side during a "play the ball" finds himself among his opponents when such "play the ball" is being taken, he must remain passive, and not interfere with play in any way. Otherwise he must be penalised, as the Bradford player quite rightly was penalised when he stole one of our passes.

No. 7. Ball in Touch.—The ball is in touch when it or a player carrying it touches or crosses the touch line, except that a ball crossing the touch line in the air and dropping in the field of play shall not be considered to have been in touch. When the ball drops directly into touch, it shall (except in the case of a penalty kick and when a player kicks the ball in touch in the direction of his own in-goal and thereby loses ground), be brought back and a scrum ordered at the spot from whence the ball was kicked; in all cases it shall be taken into play ten yards from, and at right angles to, the touch line, and there put down for a scrum.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Albert Pimblett and Gerry Helme on their selection for the First Test at Leeds on October 9th. And to Jim Featherstone on taking a step nearer to receiving the cap which must surely come his way before very long on current form.

We shall, of course, miss the services of these players when we entertain Whitehaven, at Wilderspool, on the day of the Test match, but none begrudge the honour that has been bestowed upon them.

MY BIGGEST THRILL IN FOOTBALL

It is rather a tall order to say just what is one's biggest thrill in football after a fairly lengthy career, for one gets so many thrills and disappointments in the course of a career. In fact many matches bring their own little thrills.

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One thrill of pride I felt was when playing for Lancashire for the first time, but on reflection I honestly think my **biggest** thrill has been to join such a grand club as Warrington after so long with lowly Liverpool Stanley, and to win in my first season with my new club something which I had given up hopes of ever having—a championship medal.

W. RILEY.

NEXT MATCH AT WILDERSPOOL STADIUM

Warrington "A" v. Oldham "A." Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

The progress of the first team game at Oldham will be relayed at intervals during this game.

TALKING THINGS OVER

Referee Thorpe disallowed Dave Cotton's try against Leeds because he had not, according to Mr. Thorpe, grounded the ball properly. Dave was very much surprised about this decision. Said he almost "staved" his ribs in falling on the ball. He continued, "The trouble with me is I'm getting too fast for these referees." Roy Francis remarked, "Well, you certainly surprised me, Dave, I never thought I was so slow."

As a result of the Wardon Cup game, a sum of approximately £600 is being handed over to the Warrington and District Amateur League, to be put to various uses by their executive committee.

After a number of donations have been made to charitable organisations, the balance of the receipts is being held in reserve for future approved calls from the Amateur and Schoolboy organisations.

The Lancashire Challenge Cup Final will be played on Saturday, October 23rd. The other semi-finalists are not yet known. Salford have to meet Wigan, and Belle Vue play Swinton in the other second round games.

Efforts are being made to play our home game with Halifax, postponed from September 16th, at Wilderspool during next week.

The Rugby Football League have produced an official souvenir brochure to commemorate the visit of the 1948-49 "Kangaroos."

The brochure contains among other features: Group and individual photographs, pen pictures, autographs of every member of the team, and records of all Test Matches.

The price is One Shilling per copy, plus postage, and orders with remittance can be sent to the Secretary, Rugby League, 180, Chapeltown Road, Leeds 7.

Sports Hints — Care of a Hockey Stick

Hockey is generally played on a wet surface, and damp is the enemy of a Hockey Stick. However, a stick should not be oiled; this only softens the wood and opens the grain. To ensure the best "life" for your stick, rub any type of wax, a wax candle will do, into the head of the stick. This will prevent water softening and opening the grain. Wipe off damp after use. This care should prevent fraying edges. If you find your edges fraying—consult us.

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	(13) Palin	
(8) Derbyshire	(11) Bath	(12) Featherstone
	(9) Cotton	(10) Riley

Referee:
F. SMITH
(Barrow)



Linesmen:
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(Widnes)
Blue Flag
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	(10) Taylor	(9) Brooks	(8) Ambler
	(12) Rostron	(11) Thompson	
	(13) Shearman		
	(7) Jones	(6) Chalmers	
(5) Batten	(4) Mahoney	(3) Spencer	(2) Tate
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WARRINGTON RUGBY NEWS

NOTES FROM MY SCRAP BOOK

By R. F. ANDERTON

Ancient History

In season 1882-3 the Warrington F.C. ground was situated in Sankey Street, the dressing-rooms were at the old White Hart, the team colour was Black, and matches were played against St. Helens Recs, Longsight, Latchford, Altrincham, Northwich, Bradford and Clayton, Moss Side, Runcorn, Crewe, Little Lever, Whalley Range and Newton-le-Willows. The hon. secretary and captain was J. E. Warren.

In season 1888-9 the total gate receipts were: 1st Team £669, and "A" Team £110.

In the same season the gate receipts for the New Zealand match were £42.

A resolution was passed at the Annual General Meeting on June 3rd, 1890, as follows: "That the committee shall have power to invest the funds of the club in 'first-class' safe securities."

Mr. Harry Ashton was hon. secretary in 1881-2 and from 1899-1900 to 1912-13.

An Annual Ball was held on December 26th, 1889, and following is a copy of the balance sheet for that notable event:

Payments.—By Band, £4 4s.; Printing, 15s.; Hire of Hall, £2 6s. 6d.; total, £7 5s. 6d. Receipts.—To Sale of Tickets, £3 18s. 3d.; Loss, £3 7s. 3d.; total, £7 5s. 6d.

In season 1888-9 there were 412 members.

On August 28th, 1895, the Warrington F.C. Committee decided, after very carefully considering the circumstances, to join with 21 other clubs in Lancashire and Yorkshire in forming a Union, which was afterwards called the Northern Rugby Football Union. This step, of course, necessitated the club's resignation from the Rugby Union.

ROAD SAFETY ★

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Jack Fish first played for Warrington against Barrow on October 15th, 1898, and his last game for us was at Coventry in March, 1913.

In 1911 Arthur Skelhorn received the sum of £5 to sign on, and £5 was also paid to the Stockton Heath R.L. Club; whilst in the same season Jim Tranter was signed for the sum of £4, and £5 was also paid to the Newton F.C.

At the Annual Sports of the Warrington F.C., held at Wilderspool on August Bank Holiday, 1910, a young local athlete won the 100 yards handicap off 10½ yards in 9 4/5th secs., and the 220 yards handicap off 18 yards in 22 2/5th secs. Can you guess who it was. The youth in question was R. F. Anderton.

The Warrington team which won the Rugby League Cup for the first time in season 1904-5, and which beat Hull K.R. 6-0 in the final, at Leeds, was: Hallam; Fish, Isherwood, Dickenson and Kenyon; Brooks and Davies; Thomas, Boardman, Naylor, Jolley, Shugars, Swift, Belton and Harner. Attendance, 19,468. £1,261.

In his annual report for season 1892-3 Mr. J. E. Warren, the hon. secretary, reported: "That some uneasiness was felt at the commencement of the season that we might lose our field at an early date in consequence of the passing of the Derbyshire and East Coast Railway Bill, but as yet we have had no notice to quit, and the probability seems to be that it will be some time before the field will be wanted. Still, if the Railway ever does reach Warrington our field will be wanted, and it will be well to keep this in mind, and provide as far as possible for such an eventuality."

The Period Between the Two World Wars

Here are a few crowd and gate receipts for some of the important games:—

Warrington v. Hull. Cup replay, 1921-22	...	23,206	£1,090
Rees. v. Swinton. N.R.L. Final, 1927	...	25,440	£1,802
Barrow v. Widnes. R.L. Cup Semi-Final, 1930	...	25,500	£1,630
Warrington v. Wigan. Cup Tie, 1931	...	27,100	£1,639
Lancashire v. Australia. 1929	...	22,739	£1,942
Wigan v. Salford. R.L. Final, 1934	...	31,565	£2,117
Wigan v. Barrow. R.L. Cup Semi-Final, 1930	...	25,500	£1,630

Tom Blinkhorn played wing threequarter for England v. Australia in the deciding test match at Rochdale in season 1928-29.

Our two scrum halves, Dia Davies and Billy Kirk, both played international for their respective countries during season 1929-30.

Tom Flynn, our present groundsman, first played for Warrington in season 1925-26.

On May 12th, 1934, Warrington played Wigan in a Charity Match, at Dublin.

Our present dressing-rooms were opened on January 13th, 1934.

Two extra bays to accommodate 600 people were erected on the Grand Stand during season 1925-26.

In 1921-22 the following Limerick won the first prize in our programme competition:—

When the pack heel the ball out to Mac (McNulty)
To Prescott it's passed in a crack.

He gives it to Tranter,
Who scores in a canter;

A goal follows by Fowles, the full back.

Jack Parker, who had been our groundsman for 25 years, died in 1924.

Tubby Thompson scored all 17 points when Warrington beat the Australians 17-8 on December 21st, 1929.

The concrete wall which surrounds the playing pitch was erected in 1934 and cost £544.

In 1930 it was possible to erect a 40 feet bay on our grand stand for £285 for the steel work, and £184 for the wood work; by 1937 the price had increased to £450 for steel work, and £280 for wood work.

The Supporters' Club shelter on the popular side cost £400, and was erected in 1925.

A watch competition on the occasion of the Leeds match in 1923 made a profit of £246; whilst during the season 1923-24 a sweep on the Cambridgeshire was organised, the total receipts being £2,202. Prizes and expenses, £525, the profit being £1,677.

The present Score Board was built in August, 1927, by the Supporters' Club, and the Clock on same was presented by Mrs. R. F. Anderton.

The following table shows the honours gained by Warrington players in season 1929-30:—

	Test Matches	Inter- national	County	L'gue v. Aus'lia
N. Bentham ...	4	1	4	2
D. M. Davies...	—	2	4	2
W. Dingsdale ...	2	1	3	—
T. Blinkhorn ...	1	—	—	2
T. Flynn ...	—	—	1	—
W. J. Holding ...	—	—	3	—
W. Kirk ...	—	1	2	—
J. O. Meredith ...	—	1	2	—
L. J. Perkins...	—	—	1	—

Mr. J. S. Tilling held the office of President from June, 1936, to October, 1941, when the Limited Company was formed, and R. F. Anderton was Hon. Secretary of the Warrington Club from 1919 to 1941.

Test match appearances against Australia:—

- J. Arkwright**—Brisbane, 1936; Sydney (2), 1936; Leeds, Swinton and Huddersfield, 1937.
N. Bentham—Hull, Leeds, 1929; Swinton, Rochdale, 1930.
W. Belshaw—Sydney (2), 1936; Brisbane, 1936; Leeds, Swinton and Huddersfield, 1937.
T. Blinkhorn—Rochdale, 1930.
E. Brooks—London, 1908; Newcastle and Birmingham, 1909.
W. Cunliffe—Sydney (2), 1920; Leeds, Hull and Salford, 1921; Sydney (2), 1924; Brisbane, 1924.
W. Dingsdale—Hull and Leeds, 1929; Leeds, 1933.
G. Dickenson—London, 1908.
A. E. Johnson—Sydney and Brisbane, 1946.
J. Miller—Manchester, Leeds and Swinton, 1933; Sydney, 1936.
G. A. Skelhorn—Sydney (2), 1920; Leeds, Hull and Salford, 1921.

Here are a few of the transfer fees Warrington paid to other clubs:—

- T. Blinkhorn, from Wigan Highfield, 1928—£400.
 N. Bentham, from Halifax, 1930—£400.
 W. Belshaw, from Liverpool Stanley, 1937—£1,500.
 D. M. Davies, from Broughton, 1927—£650.
 W. Dingsdale, from Broughton, 1928—£600.
 F. Gregory, from Wigan, 1938—£300.
 W. Lavin, from St. Helens, 1920—£85.
 J. Marsden, from Dewsbury, 1930—£350.
 J. Oster, from Oldham, 1932—£450.
 J. H. Prescott, from Hull, 1920—£75.
 C. Redmond and A. Johnson, from Widnes, 1923—£300.
 J. Woods, from Barrow, 1934—£600.
 T. Flynn, from St. Helens, 1926—£400.

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