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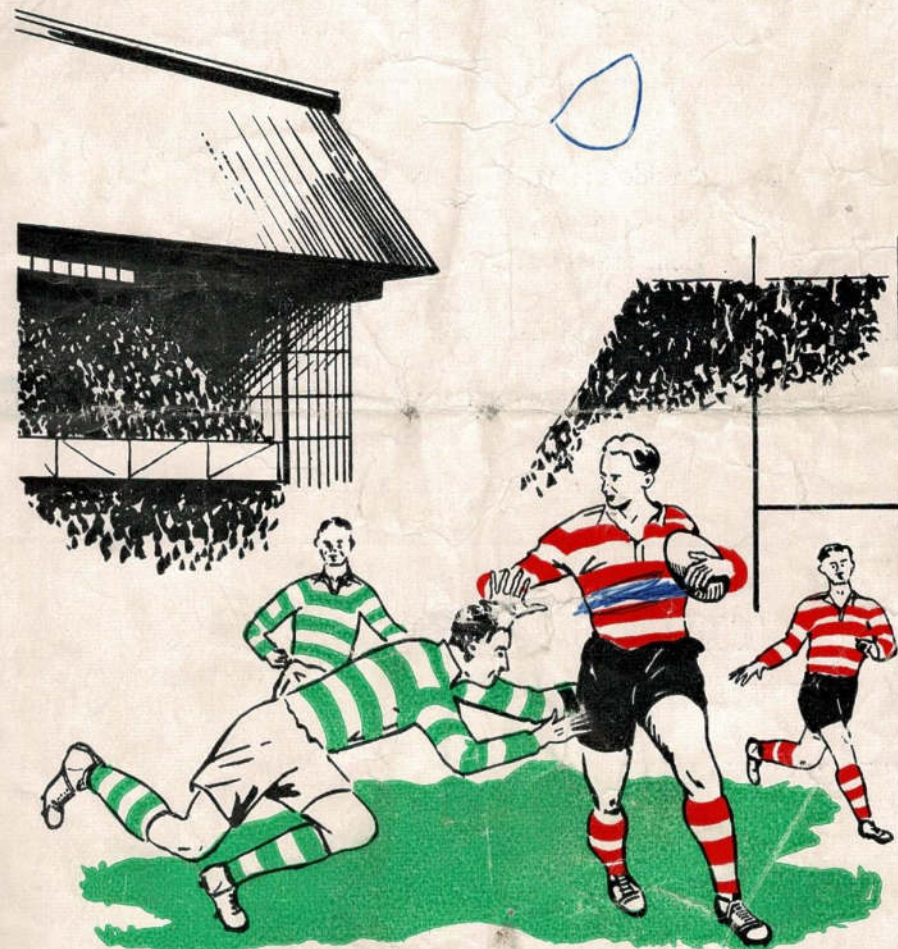
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Fixtures for the Season

1954-55	Opponents	Venue	K.O.	1954-55	Opponents	Venue	K.O.
Aug. 7—Rochdale (Charity)	Home	3-0	Dec. 18—Keighley	Away			
14—Wakefield T.	Away		25—Swinton	Home	2-30		
21—Batley	Home	3-0	27—				
25—Salford (Wed.)	Away	7-0	Jan. 1—Belle Vue R.	Home	2-30		
28—St. Helens	Away		8—Leigh	Away			
Sept. 4—Barrow	Away		15—Warrington	Home	2-30		
11—1st Round Lanes. Cup			22—Workington	Away			
14—Liverpool (Tues.)	Home	7-0	29—Rochdale Hornets	Home	3-0		
18—Batley	Away		Feb. 5—Barrow	Home	3-0		
25—Wakefield T.	Home	3-0	12—First Round R.L. Cup				
Oct. 2—Blackpool	Away		19—St. Helens	Home	3-0		
9—Workington	Home	3-0	26—				
16—Rochdale Hornets	Away		Mar. 5—Second Round R.L. Cup				
23—Hull	Home	3-0	12—Belle Vue Rangers	Away			
30—Liverpool S.	Away		19—Widnes	Home	3-0		
Nov. 6—Blackpool	Home	3-0	26—Warrington	Away			
13—Widnes	Away		Apl. 2—Wigan	Home	3-0		
20—Whitehaven	Home	2-30	8—Swinton (Friday)	Away			
27—Wigan	Away		9—Hull	Away			
Dec. 4—Salford	Home	2-30	11—Keighley (Mon.)	Home	3-0		
11—Whitehaven	Away		16—Leigh	Home	3-0		

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Club Doctor : Dr. JOHN OLIVER

Secretary : Mr. H. SUMMERSCALES

Pavilion Telephone No. : MAIn 4865

THIS SPACE TO LET

apply to

THE SECRETARY,

OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB,

PAVILION,

WATERSHEDDINGS,

OLDHAM, Lancs.

No. 12—Christmas Day, 1954

Kick-off 2-30 p.m.

OLDHAM v. SWINTON

To all our readers, supporters, players, and friends beyond the
seas, we extend the old wish—

"THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON"

WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

Marching along to victory appears to be our motto, and our latest away victory against Keighley was well and truly earned. As in the previous match at Whitehaven, when we shared the points in making a draw of two points each, the match was played on a ground that was ankle deep in mud between the two twenty-five lines, and which appeared to bog both teams down. Although the Keighley team gave us a shock by leading by nine points to three points at half-time, our players were confident at this period of the game that they could win, but we had to fight all the way for victory against a team that did play good open football. We were up against a team of a different calibre to the one we opposed in our last visit to Keighley three years ago, and much credit must be given to the coaching of the team for their present method of playing the game as it should be played. There is no doubt about it, they are on the right lines for attracting the public to watch them play.

Although we have lost the leadership of the League, only temporary, we hope, we consider that we have an excellent chance of making a show of it this season, and with a little luck, finish up as Champions of the League. Commencing from to-day we have twelve league matches at Watersheddings and six league matches away, but the road we have to travel is a hard one, and although we may be playing at home, especially against some of the top teams, we must not take everything for granted. The luck in the game, and freedom from injuries must come into the reckoning. We face the future with confidence, knowing that our players possess that excellent team spirit, and the will to win, which no doubt will probably bring some reward at the end of the season.

OUR VISITORS

As the Festive Season comes along each year, so do our old friends and foes from Swinton appear, and we extend our Season's Greetings and welcome them to Watersheddings.

Many great games have been played between the two clubs, and record crowds have been at Watersheddings at Christmas, and at Swinton on Good Friday. Let us hope that to-days match will prove no exception, and that after the match we can all say that we have had a good match, also, that our boys will give us that sparkling victory which we await, but no doubt our Swinton visitors will have something to say about that.

A point of interest in the Swinton visit is that they had the honour of being the official openers of our ground on September 28th, 1889, before 7,000 spectators, and won the game by 2 goals, 1 try, and 2 minor points to Oldham's 1 minor point.

The coming proposal for the alteration of the constitution of the Rugby League by two divisions may be the end to this time honoured match at Watersheddings on Christmas Day. The voting of Clubs for this proposal will probably decide the destiny of our fixtures.

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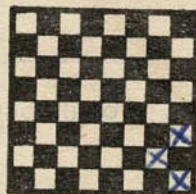
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OLDHAM

Red and White

1. Ganley, W. B./Stirrup, F.
2. Cracknell, R.
3. Feather, J. A./Mitchell, W. S.
4. Davies, A. (Captain)
5. O'Grady, T.
6. Daley, F.
7. Pitchford, F.
8. Ogden, H.
9. Keith, J.
10. Jackson, K.
11. Winslade, C.
12. Little, S./Tomlinson, A.
13. Goldswain, B. V.

SWINTON

Blue

1. Gowers
2. Norburn
3. Critchley
4. Blam
5. Hulme
6. Parkinson
7. Thomas
8. Phillips
9. Hunt
10. Woods
11. Holder
12. Easterbrook
13. Haynes

Referee: Mr. R. GELDER of Wakefield

Touch Judges:

Mr. H. Holland, St. Helens (Red)

Mr. F. J. Noon, Widnes (Blue)

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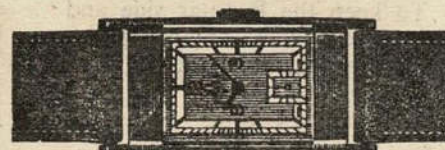
OLDHAM'S OWN SPORTS PAPER

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PEN PICTURE—FRANK STIRRUP

This will-o'-the-wisp and grand utility player was born at Leigh, and as a schoolboy played for St. Joseph's, a school that must have turned out some grand players—many are now playing first-class football. His position at school was out-half.

Leaving school in the early war period he was lost to junior football, but in 1944 he teamed up with Culcheth Juniors and played out-half to Jerry Helme of Warrington fame. In 1945 he was signed by the Leigh club, and in 1948 was transferred to Salford. With Salford, he became a general utility player; scrum-half, out-half, and full-back positions he met with great ability.

On November 21st, 1950, he was transferred from Salford to our club, and although not on the transfer list, persuasive powers with the Salford club prevailed.

Without doubt, this player is one of the best investments we have made, and at the age of 27 years, we hope to have the continued and splendid services from this grand little player.

Height, 5ft 7ins. and weight 10st. 10lbs. He has played for Lancashire County, having made four appearances. A lorry driver in private life, he still resides at Leigh. Married and a family man, and, in the Latin phrase, "Multum in Parvo,"—much in little.

"A" TEAM HOME MATCHES

We would like to comment on the meagre attendances at our "A" team home matches. At the commencement of the season our receipts were in the region of £50 for a match or so, but have now dwindled down to £15 against Wigan "A" on November 27th. The general attendances this season have been well down on previous seasons. We consider the main reason for this is that a large number of our supporters are going to more away matches to watch our first team—thus reducing the "A" team gates. The expenditure of running an "A" team is always a losing proposition, but we cannot afford to be without one, it is our service line of potential first team players.

To minimise the expenditure at our "A" team matches we have decided to reduce the number of entrances—using only the Pavilion side entrances, No. 5 turnstile at the Park entrance, and the No. 25 entrance behind the Pavilion. Boys and Old Age Pensioners will pay at the open entrances near the above turnstiles by purchasing tickets. To keep the Popular side and "E" stand closed, we offer "E" stand members the privilege of occupying Enclosure seats on the Pavilion side for "A" team matches, and we trust the "E" stand members will help us and agree on this matter.

TUESDAY NEXT AT WATERSHEDDINGS KICK-OFF 2-30

Oldham v. Salford

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