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## Fixtures for the Season

| Date                             | Opponents | Venue | Date                       | Opponents | Venue |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-------|----------------------------|-----------|-------|
| Aug. 10—Rochdale H. ....         | Away      |       | Dec. 7—                    |           |       |
| (Charity Match)                  |           |       | 14—Liverpool ....          | Away      |       |
| 17—Halifax ....                  | Home      | 3-0   | 21—Whitehaven ....         | Home      | 2-30  |
| 22—Barrow (Thurs.) ....          | Away      |       | 25—Swinton (Wed.) ....     | Home      | 2-30  |
| 24—Wakefield ....                | Away      |       | 26—Hull (Thurs.) ....      | Away      |       |
| 26—St. Helens (Mon.) ....        | Home      | 7-0   | 28—Warrington ....         | Away      |       |
| 31—Barrow (L.C.) ....            | Home      | 3-0   | Jan. 4—Leeds ....          | Home      | 2-30  |
| Sept. 2—Huddersfield (Mon.) .... | Away      |       | 11—Barrow ....             | Home      | 2-30  |
| 7—Halifax ....                   | Away      |       | 18—Widnes ....             | Away      |       |
| 14—Warrington ....               | Home      | 3-0   | 25—Workington ....         | Home      | 3-0   |
| 21—Leigh ....                    | Home      | 3-0   | Feb. 1—Wigan ....          | Away      |       |
| 28—Workington ....               | Away      |       | 8—R.L. Cup                 |           |       |
| Oct. 5—Hunslet ....              | Home      | 3-0   | 15—St. Helens ....         | Away      |       |
| 12—Rochdale ....                 | Away      |       | 22—R.L. Cup                |           |       |
| 19—Hull ....                     | Home      | 3-0   | Mar. 1—Blackpool ....      | Home      | 3-0   |
| 26—Blackpool ....                | Away      |       | 8—Widnes ....              | Home      | 3-0   |
| Nov. 2—Wakefield ....            | Home      | 3-0   | 15—Whitehaven ....         | Away      |       |
| 9—Salford ....                   | Away      |       | 22—Rochdale ....           | Home      | 3-0   |
| 16—Liverpool ....                | Home      | 2-30  | 29—R.L. Cup semi-final     |           |       |
| 23—Leigh ....                    | Away      |       | Apr. 4—Swinton (G.F.) .... | Away      |       |
| 30—Salford ....                  | Home      | 2-30  | 5—Wigan ....               | Home      | 3-0   |
|                                  |           |       | 7—Huddersfield (E.M.) .... | Home      | 7-0   |
|                                  |           |       | 12—Hunslet ....            | Away      |       |
|                                  |           |       | 19—Leeds ....              | Away      |       |

# OLDHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

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No. 16—Saturday, 8th February, 1958

Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

## OLDHAM v. HULL KINGSTON ROVERS

(First Round, N.R.F.L. Challenge Cup)

### WATERSHEDDINGS NEWS AND VIEWS

The long awaited day has arrived for the thirty-two clubs to start blazing their trail to Wembley—the Mecca of all clubs, players, and, of course, spectators. What is in store for all these aspirants is in the lap of the gods. Sixteen of these clubs will fall by the wayside early, but all are optimistic, and some strange results will be read tonight. This is a knock-out competition and it is not always the best of clubs who win the particular round, or finally reach Wembley.

Luck must play an important part in a competition of this nature. Some clubs get drawn at home each round, and others seem to keep well clear of injuries. Both these points have a tremendous effect on the team.

Today, we are at an advantage in playing at home in the first round against Hull Kingston Rovers. We and the Rovers have not met very often in this competition—the most famous occasion being in 1925 when we met at Headingley in the final and returned victorious (16-3).

We extend a special welcome to Hull Kingston Rovers today. Recently they appointed Colin Hutton—late full-back of the Hull club—as their coach and without doubt, he is making a great impression. Nine new players have been signed this season, and all that remains is for them to develop into a precision rugby machine—knowing each others play.

We hope that today's game will be entertaining and at the end we shall be victorious even though our team will have had to make that extra effort necessary in all cup ties which offer extra incentive for teams to pull that little extra out of themselves.

Again we returned victorious from the Wigan enclosure but only by a narrow margin after what turned out to be one of the hardest games of the season. This game, unlike many of its predecessors, could not be claimed a classic as far as Rugby League is concerned. There was far too much of the he-man stuff, too much playing the man instead of the ball. Nevertheless, we won, this made the fourteenth consecutive win over Wigan, and we can safely say it was the worst match of the whole series. We were, however, far and away the best team in the second half as we penned Wigan in their own half and yet we only managed to cross the line once. It was a great win and we must congratulate the boys for maintaining their record against such worthy opponents.

## TELEVISION—AN AID TO R.L. ?

by CYRIL BRIGGS

"The morning was wet and miserable. Now we have to pay for it, although the weather has now bucked up a little." So said a York Director to me last Saturday when it took a long time for the stands and terraces to fill up. When, just before the start, there were barely 5,000 people at the Clarence Street ground, the same Director then remarked that the uncertain conditions had kept lots of sportsfolk by the fireside and they would, no doubt, be delighted to see the international Rugby Union match on television.

Now these remarks may seem somewhat insignificant to the ordinary R.L. follower, but when we make a careful examination of the facts, we find that thousands of our supporters stayed away from their regular haunts last Saturday because they dared not run the risk of a cold. To staunch R.L. supporters, Rugby Union may be a poor second best, but several R.L. gates must have suffered to some extent because of the England v. Wales game.

### The threat will continue !

Is this television threat to our game going to continue? Of course it is, and because the Rugby Union can fill such places as Twickenham, Cardiff Arms Park, and Murrayfield, whether the game is televised or not, then even more XV-a-side games will be on millions of T.V. screens. There may be some protests from R.U. clubs who have important fixtures on that day, but we of the R.L. have got to protect our own interests.

R.U. is putting on its show pieces to the land. We of the R.L. consider the £ s. d. too much and therefore we don't try to make any converts through what is really the best publicity medium. An altogether different attitude is required by the R.L. Council, and the clubs, towards T.V., whether it is B.B.C. or Commercial.

Some while ago the R.L. Council at Leeds considered an application to televise four games. The application was turned down. The reason? Smallness of cash offer! The Commercial T.V. folk had offered £1,000 for the privilege of televising four games, but Councillors ridiculed the idea and said the offer was too paltry.

If I had been a member of the Council, I would have pointed out to the men who were in opposition and said, "If you are not in favour can you tell me how you would publicise the game?" I don't think that I would have had a straight answer.

### R.L. can "Blind" R.U.

It is all very well turning down projects, but if we cannot advance a better scheme to bring the game to the nation, then why vote against T.V.? The R.L. game can "blind" R.U. any time, any day. I realise that some bigoted folk would switch off their sets if they knew before-hand that a R.L. game was to be screened, but there are others not so conversant with the code as ourselves who would be delighted with such entertainment as Oldham v. St. Helens; Hull v. Halifax; or Workington v. Leeds.

Can I put another point to the men who oppose televising R.L.? Do they watch Soccer games on the "tele"? Of course they do, and many thousands of other R.L. people as well! It would be interesting to know how many folk who never go near a Soccer ground from one year end to another, but watched the Manchester United v. Red Star game.

It would also be interesting to know how many R.L. followers of past years have been won over to Soccer because of the many matches which have been shown on T.V., either in afternoon or evening sports programmes. However, there does seem to be a different outlook to T.V. by important R.L. officials. The screening of the R.L. Challenge Cup draw at Manchester was witnessed by many thousands, the propaganda value cannot be really measured. But the R.L. game certainly cashed in on that evening. I understand the other rounds are also to be televised.

### Greatness of T.V.

But there are still a lot of folk who don't realise the greatness of T.V. I think the reason is this: They are living in the past. It can be said that R.L. "gates" suffered when the World Cup series were put on our screens. But those people who saw our country win the first World Cup competition in France were delighted with the standard of play.

It was, indeed, one of the finest advertisements R.L. has ever had. But what is the use of having one game televised and then allowing a big gap of time before the next match is presented to the country?

Sooner or later, R.L. will have to go to the B.B.C. or the Commercial firms and ask for time on their programmes. It may not be this year, but it will come. R.L. is an entertainment, is as thrilling, if not more so, as Soccer or Rugby Union.

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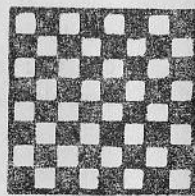
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### OLDHAM

Blue and White

- 1—GANLEY, W. B.
- 2—CRACKNELL, R.
- 3—AYRES, D.
- 4—DAVIES, A.
- 5—ETTY, J.
- 6—DALEY, F.
- 7—PITCHFORD, F.
- 8—JACKSON, K.
- 9—KEITH, J.
- 10—VINES, D.
- 11—WINSLADE, C.
- 12—LITTLE, S. D.
- 13—TURNER, D.

### HULL K.R.

White with Red Band

- 1—KELLETT
- 2—SCHOLES
- 3—MAGEEN
- 4—COULSON, B.
- 5—SHAW
- 6—KEY
- 7—EVANS
- 8—GRICE
- 9—BROOKFIELD
- 10—COVERDALE
- 11—HOLLAND
- 12—SIMS
- 13—GRIFFETT

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Referee: Mr. G. WILSON of Dewsbury

Touch Judges:

Mr. W. J. Walton, Barrow (Crimson) Mr. E. Cunningham, Widnes (Yellow)

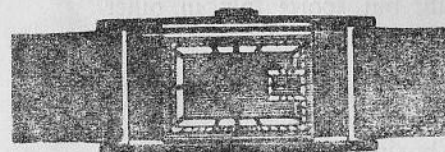
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### T.V.—Continued

At the moment, thousands are switching off their sets or tuning to alternative programmes because they are getting tired of stage shows and rock an' roll. Never has there been a better opportunity to put R.L. to the public.

### Don't Complain

Of course, there would have to be some explaining of rules, etc., and R.L. folk looking in would have to sit still and not complain. Most Lancashire, Yorkshire and Cumberland folk know the important points about scrummaging, off-side, and so forth, but sports folk in other counties do not.

The amateur boxing business has never been more popular than at present. Everyone has a ringside seat whether he or she lives in Durham or Blackpool. T.V. has put amateur boxing on the map.

Come on, R.L. Councillors, you can do the same for our code! There is no time to lose. We cannot pack Wembley at the moment. But why not televise one of the big cup-ties? It would also be a grand advertisement for the R.L. Challenge Cup final. Don't you think so?

### List of Appearances and Performances—First Team only

(Up to, and including, Saturday last)

| Player    | A. | G.  | T. | Player     | A. | G. | T. |
|-----------|----|-----|----|------------|----|----|----|
| Ganley    | 28 | 160 | 3  | Turner     | 26 |    | 7  |
| Cracknell | 27 |     | 19 | Stirrup    | 8  |    |    |
| Ayres     | 10 |     | 2  | Jarman     | 9  |    | 1  |
| Nestor    | 24 |     | 10 | Daley      | 17 |    | 1  |
| Etty      | 28 |     | 10 | Noon       | 16 | 10 | 10 |
| Moat      | 6  |     | 2  | Rowbottom  | 12 |    |    |
| Pitchford | 26 |     | 7  | Carruthers | 2  |    |    |
| Jackson   | 25 |     | 2  | Winslade   | 18 |    | 3  |
| Keith     | 28 |     | 9  | Davies     | 15 |    | 14 |
| Vines     | 19 |     |    | Kellett    | 4  |    | 1  |
| Little    | 26 |     | 8  | McKeown    | 1  |    |    |
| Dufty     | 7  |     |    | Laverty    | 1  |    |    |
|           |    |     |    | Lomas      | 1  |    |    |

### LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY LEAGUE RESULTS

(Up to, and including, Saturday last)

|            | Barrow | Blackpool | Leeds | Leigh | Liverpool | OLDHAM | Rochdale | Salford | St. Helens | Swinton | Warrington | Whitehaven | Widnes | Wigan | Workington |
|------------|--------|-----------|-------|-------|-----------|--------|----------|---------|------------|---------|------------|------------|--------|-------|------------|
| Barrow     | .....  | 19-16     | 14-18 | 14-4  |           | 10-27  | 29-10    | 22-12   | 12-18      | 9-7     | 25-15      |            | 24-10  |       | 5-12       |
| Blackpool  |        | .....     | 16-11 | 9-15  | 15-8      | 5-34   | 12-17    |         |            | 5-13    | 14-18      | 13-18      | 9-12   |       |            |
| Leeds      | 52-12  | 68-6      | ..... |       |           |        |          | 25-25   | 23-5       | 20-10   | 12-8       |            | 18-8   | 17-5  | 3-13       |
| Leigh      |        |           |       | ..... | 18-11     | 14-24  | 12-5     | 12-7    | 15-5       | 24-3    | 8-2        | 25-14      |        |       | 13-18      |
| Liverpool  | 18-3   | 33-8      | 9-30  |       | .....     | 11-15  |          | 19-24   | 4-28       | 8-4     | 9-18       |            |        | 11-39 | 4-19       |
| OLDHAM     |        |           |       | 17-10 | 23-5      | 28-12  | .....    | 34-12   | 7-21       | 9-17    | 17-15      | 28-12      |        |       |            |
| Rochdale   | 11-15  | 28-20     |       |       | 4-4       | 21-29  | .....    | 10-16   | 5-10       |         | 16-12      | 15-8       | 10-17  |       | 5-19       |
| Salford    |        | 10-9      |       |       | 16-3      | 5-14   | 15-4     | .....   | 12-7       |         | 10-8       | 18-3       | 5-16   | 7-14  |            |
| St. Helens | 35-7   |           | 36-7  | 11-9  | 27-8      |        | 51-0     |         | .....      | 43-11   | 14-2       | 26-9       |        |       | 29-6       |
| Swinton    |        | 16-5      |       | 27-16 | 16-9      |        | 7-11     | 6-7     | 14-16      | .....   |            |            |        | 5-28  | 13-20      |
| Warrington |        | 19-6      |       |       | 36-6      | 14-15  |          | 20-16   | 11-13      |         |            |            | 28-2   | 21-5  | 10-5       |
| Whitehaven | 14-4   | 38-17     | 14-5  | 4-2   |           |        | 40-8     | 16-13   | 7-15       | 26-10   | 28-12      | .....      | 29-19  | 6-16  |            |
| Widnes     |        | 30-3      | 21-3  |       | 21-7      | 2-12   | 4-13     | 12-3    | 13-22      | 15-12   |            | 11-2       | .....  | 11-28 |            |
| Wigan      | 48-5   | 30-13     | 20-17 | 7-9   | 44-5      | 6-9    |          |         | 9-12       |         | 22-13      |            | 18-5   | ..... | 35-11      |
| Workington | 15-0   |           | 36-0  |       | 22-11     | 13-24  | 33-6     |         |            |         | 10-10      | 17-11      |        | 8-3   | .....      |

Home Team on left. Away Team on top. Home Team's score given first.

## THE TRANSFER MARKET

There is no doubt that inflation has affected the transfer market. What is the cause of this inflation? Is it the removal of Entertainment Duty or the existence of Pools, which have made clubs richer to-day than ever before in their existence, and thus more able to pay enhanced prices? Is it the shortage of class players? Thousands of pounds are asked for players with no reputation whatsoever, no honours either, and a large proportion of them will never receive any honours.

All players in our game; internationals, County, and others that go to make up a team, have been juniors once. They all cannot make the grade, but in any case, some are better than others. What of the juniors to-day? Are they a neglected quantity? Some clubs appear not to have patience to await the development of juniors, hence they rush into the transfer market and the demand becomes greater than the supply which always results in soaring prices.

The development of juniors by the large majority of senior clubs is neglected, in fact, the junior movement is like the orphan of the storm and allowed to struggle along, often on its own resources. The juniors of the Rugby League are its life-blood, its supply line. They should be encouraged by the big clubs. We cannot afford to lose one single junior club. We realize that it is difficult getting men to run a junior club, just as it is difficult to get players to take up the junior game. Those who do, either player or administrator, are heroes, every one.

## SUPPORTERS' CLUB NEWS

We would like the co-operation of supporters' in the matter of cups at the Canteens. These cost over 8d. each and our losses recently have been rather staggering. We have decided to make a 6d. deposit charge on cups. This, of course, will be refunded when the cups are returned.

## CUP FINAL TICKETS

For several weeks now, the only seating tickets available for the Cup Final at Wembley have been those at 15s. and 7s. 6d. During the last two weeks there has been quite a rush on these and it is anticipated that all of them will be sold very soon.

We print this notice as a warning to supporters who, for some reason or another waiting until later to get their tickets. Please don't leave it too late. Standing Enclosure tickets at 3s. 0d. may also be obtained in advance.

All applications to be made to: The Rugby League, 180 Chapel-town Road, Leeds, 7. Please enclose stamped and addressed envelope with the necessary remittance to cover cost of tickets.

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