

OPEN LETTER TO PARKSIDERS

Dear Sir or Madam,

Having by our efforts, which have been warmly supported by you, considerably eased the financial burden of OUR club, so much so that the large overdraft at the bank has been cleared, all debts paid and loans repaid, we must now think seriously about the future. One fact which we have to realise, if we do not already know, is that the cost of running a professional organisation is not met by revenue through the turnstiles, with the exception of a few well-supported clubs.

Whilst admission charges to-day are double what they were some twenty years ago, the costs have increased out of all proportion. Had it not been for our Association, we would not have had the team we have at present, for to continue to exist would have meant having to part with our best assets — players.

Further to that, we wish to look to the future with every confidence. It is our desire that the amenities for those who come so regularly to Parkside should be improved. It is a pleasure to know that our Directors are progressive in their outlook and that work has already commenced on the improvement at the northern end of the ground.

What more can you and we in co-operation do to bring to life the realities of a good ground? To-day we have just over 6,000 members in our Association, but the permitted number allowed by law is 15,000. This is where our efforts should be devoted. There must be many of you who could become Agents with connections in your factories and workshops. We on our part would assist you in your effort to commence, and would continue to assist you in the matter of collection and distribution of weekly leaflets.

Joy has been brought to many hearts which have participated in the prize lists, for we have distributed over £16,000 in such prizes since we inaugurated our Association.

Please ask for details at the Pavilion or from any of our Agents. We ask you most respectfully to consider joining our happy band of warriors and become an Agent.

Yours faithfully,

THE COMMITTEE.

The Parksider

Friday,

December 26th, 1958

Price 3d.



SECRETARY—Geo. C. Richardson

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CLUB CHAT

At the present time all clubs are passing through a testing period. The galaxy of matches, after a continuous fixture list of half the season, is bound to prove the stamina and fitness of the players and the reserve strength to meet contingencies. Particularly is this so, for after playing on dry grounds then changing to heavy grounds which are wet and in many cases muddy, it will call for additional will-power on the part of the players to meet these conditions. Christmas is no holiday for those members of the team called upon to play, as leg weariness after a hard game means much needed rest.

The masseur becomes a busy man, putting new life into tired limbs so that we who watch can enjoy a feast of football. We can have the pleasure of eating our Christmas dinner and play our part in the festivities: but not so the player, who must forego all this that he may be fit to play 80 hard minutes on the following day.

This question of physical fitness has been a leading feature for the past few years, amply demonstrated by what is commonly known as the Continental Method. An instructor who has passed through, for instance, Carnegie College is in a position to impart knowledge in the use of muscles, which is so far different from the P.T. we used to get during our Army service of old.

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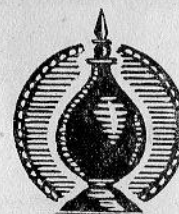
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CLUB CHAT—continued

of weights and bar lifting. In this respect, P.T. becomes enjoyable which in the past we abhorred.

You will have noticed the constructional work now in progress at the Dewsbury Road end, which will certainly be completed and in use well before the season ends. This venture has been made possible only because of our strong Auxiliary Association; and though strong, is only half way to the ultimate goal — the maximum figure prescribed by the Government in the Bill which made efforts like these legal. Had this Bill never been introduced to the House of Commons, we can only visualise the position of sporting activity, or should we say inactivity, in this country today. There can be no personal gain from such efforts; and if sport and the amenities are improved to give greater pleasure and comfort for those who attend, then the work involved justifies the labour and loyal support put into it. We do, though, ask for many more agents, who can receive all details from the Office.

A big welcome today for our visitors from Oldham, and if the game is as good as it was twelve months ago then everybody will be satisfied. What a thriller that game was! We were leading by 3 points minutes before the end when a sudden breakaway, covering nearly the length of the field, resulted in a try to Oldham at the corner flag, which made the score 20 each. Then a wonderful goal from the touch line and Oldham had won 22-20. Strange as it may seem, we have only won one game during the post-war period — and that was at Oldham three years ago. All that is required now for today is a jolly good attendance.



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