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29th Season

No. 15

Saturday, 20th Feb. 1960

Northern Rugby



Football League

TRINITY v. OLDHAM



REFLECTIONS

Our last home game, three weeks ago, was unfortunately postponed through the severe weather conditions and the Programme Committee, therefore, suffered one of those infrequent set-backs in which a complete loss was registered with regard to programmes.

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Although the issue was never published, as usual copies were sent to the Press. In the programme for the Swinton match we made reference to our Cup clash at St. Helens and said:

"Whilst Trinity would have wished to meet St. Helens at Wembley rather than in a previous round, the fact that they have been called upon to meet them at the first stage offers them earlier opportunity of gaining revenge for the two league defeats suffered at the hands of the reigning Champions.

"For the outstanding game of round one, Trinity's task is perhaps the most difficult. The visit to Knowsley Road, however, does offer the great opportunity of strengthening the claims of Wakefield's present power in Lancashire — and of consolidating such work which was done in League football at the homes of Wigan and Oldham.

"There is the knowledge too that if our present side is to emulate Stott's 1946 combination, the meeting of St. Helens in the first round eases their task in London on May 14th."

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THE RESULT

The result of this third meeting with the "Saints" is now well known. The performance given by our side against the reigning Champions and Cup favourites on their own ground was such that it must rank as our most outstanding display of the post-war era.

To defeat a side which has not only proved itself the outstanding combination of recent seasons but which was also at the height of its fame was a wonderful achievement. To sweep to victory so emphatically and by such football skill as Trinity displayed on Saturday stamped this as a game of Rugby League at its best and one which will long be remembered.

ENCOURAGEMENT

Knowsley Road attracted the day's largest attendance (30,000 paying £4,113) of which in the region of 10,000 were Trinity fans. The strength of such support, and the vocal work of it throughout the match, gave tremendous encouragement to our players.

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Although the likelihood of a rail strike caused a slight hitch in the plans of some of our followers, alternative travel arrangements were quickly made. Supporters were determined to see their side in action—and, because of the rail disruptions, more than ever before made the Pennine journey by coach and car.

ROUND TWO

To be called upon to make a journey of similar distance in the next round is perhaps a touch of bad luck—but much better to have the wheel of fortune turned against us in the draw than in the matches themselves!

The road to Wembley, for Trinity at any rate, appears to travel straight through Lancashire. Yorkshiremen have found that the most difficult route to the Stadium for many seasons but Trinity have confidence that it can be navigated.

Though Widnes have been defeated fifteen times in league football this term (five occasions at home), their 14-nil knock-

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out blow to Lancashire Cup winners Warrington is proof enough of their challenge in this Cup competition. Our task at Naughton Park, though not on form as arduous as the one last Saturday, is nevertheless one that will call for a top-class display.

We have lost three of our four post-war clashes at Widnes since the war—all in league football—and one has to look back into the records to the second round clash of 1901-2 season for our last encounter there in R.L. Cup football. On that occasion the "Chemicals" were successful by 16 points to 7.

Past form is interesting but very often it has little bearing on present work. We still remember those two defeats (7-40 and 2-16) inflicted upon us this season by St. Helens and acknowledge that when we went to Knowsley Road last week our post-war record on that ground stood at P.8 W.0 D.1 L.7. For 64. Agst. 257.

The rest of the draw is: Halifax v. Featherstone; Keighley v. Hull; Leigh v. Whitehaven; Rochdale v. Bramley/Liverpool; Swinton v. Bradford N.; Walney Central v. Oldham; Wigan v. Leeds.

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PLAYERS' RECORDS (FIRST TEAM)

1959-60 Season

Full Totals

Full-backs:	App.	G.	T.	Pts.	App.	G.	T.	Pts.
G. Round	22	14	9	55	36	28	17	107
D. Metcalfe	8	0	0	0	76	0	23	69
E. Lockwood	3	0	0	0	121	0	22	66
E. Wilkins	1	0	0	0	5	1	0	2
Three-quarters:								
F. Smith	29	0	29	87	133	0	119	357
A. Skene	25	0	22	66	45	0	28	84
N. Fox	24	97	21	257	126	427	89	1121
D. Mortimer	2	0	0	0	13	2	2	10
J. Etty	9	0	6	18	13	0	9	27
S. Smith	10	0	11	33	57	0	37	111
K. Hirst	9	0	3	9	35	0	29	87
D. Smart	1	0	1	3	1	0	1	3
Half-backs:								
T. Thomas	3	0	3	9	3	0	3	9
K. Rollin	20	0	13	39	142	0	63	189
H. Poynton	9	0	2	6	45	0	12	36
K. Holliday	27	0	4	12	233	0	52	156
M. Sudell	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Forwards:								
J. Wilkinson	22	0	1	3	22	0	1	3
W. Adams	6	0	0	0	66	0	6	18
J. Smith	5	6	0	12	5	6	0	12
T. Sampson	9	0	0	0	9	0	0	0
G. Oakes	27	0	1	3	68	0	1	3
R. Steele	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
D. Vines	26	0	2	6	55	0	4	12
D. Lamming	13	0	4	12	80	0	17	51
I. Dorrington	2	0	1	3	12	0	1	3
M. Sampson	13	0	2	6	13	0	2	6
A. Firth	22	0	10	30	120	0	44	132
D. Turner	19	0	7	21	31	0	10	30
L. Chamberlain	1	0	0	0	74	0	10	30
Transferred:								
J. Lindley	3	0	0	0	87	0	5	15
D. Harrison	1	0	0	0	154	0	20	60
S. Evans	1	0	0	0	28	0	1	3
F. Haigh	2	0	0	0	84	0	11	33

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TO-DAY'S GAME

Cup thoughts, however, are put aside this afternoon when we return to our important league programme. Our opposition is stern for our today's visitors are presently berthed in third league position immediately below ourselves.

Oldham will not only be keen to revenge the 14-8 verdict at Watersheddings last month but they will also look to this afternoon's game for consolidation of their "Top Four" hopes. They have not been successful here completely since their narrow 20-18 victory of 1956/7 (12-12 was the verdict in August, '57 and we won by 23 points to 7 last season) and they will look for a change in fortune now.

Trinity's eyes, however, will be on their first "double" over Oldham since '47/8 and on maintaining—and perhaps improving upon—their second league position. Everything points to a grand game in true tradition of past Oldham-Trinity clashes.

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Ivor Dorrington

Ivor recently returned home to South Africa. We gladly convey the message he sent on his departure.

"As I leave for South Africa this week I am very glad to have this opportunity to say good-bye to Wakefield Trinity and its supporters.

"During my fifteen months here I have made a large number of friends and am sorry in leaving them. The players are a very happy lot. I've never heard a wrong word pass between any of them. A good spirit will always make a good side.

"The committee, too, come into this, for as I have seen it, they have always been fair in their dealings with the players.

"I wish Trinity the best of luck for the League Championship, and a good run in the Cup, perhaps even reaching Wembley. I feel sure they can.

"Good-bye, and thank you. I can assure you that should any Wakefield Trinity associates ever pass through Cape Town I should be very pleased to see them. I should be glad of the opportunity to return some of the hospitality shown to me."



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Full back

1 Metcalfe

Three-quarter backs

2 Smith F.

3 Skene

4 Fox

5 Etty

Half backs

6 Poynton

7 Holliday

Front row forwards

8 Wilkinson

9 Oakes

10 Sampson M.

Second row forwards

11 Vines

12 Firth

Loose forward

14 Turner

Referee : T. W. Watkinson (Manchester)



KICK-OFF
3-00 p.m.

OLDHAM

(Red & White jerseys White shorts)

Full back

1 Ganley

Three-quarter backs

2 Lord

3 Davies

4 Noon

5 Nestor

Half backs

6 Kellett

7 Pitchford

Front row forwards

8 Jackson

9 McIntyre

10 Duff

Second row forwards

11 Winslade

12 Robinson

Loose forward

13 Haynes

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THE LEAGUE POSITION

Prior to this afternoon's games, the N.R.L. leading positions are as follows:

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts.
1. St. Helens	28	25	1	2	736	255	51
2. TRINITY	26	23	0	3	645	271	46
3. OLDHAM	27	19	1	7	619	326	39
4. Featherstone R.	25	19	0	6	544	306	38
5. Whitehaven	28	18	2	8	440	342	38
6. Hunslet	28	17	3	8	499	377	37
7. Hull	26	18	0	8	531	360	36
8. Huddersfield	27	18	0	9	413	366	36
9. Warrington	25	17	1	7	466	322	35
10. Wigan	26	16	2	8	545	287	34

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YORKSHIRE LEAGUE

Trinity maintain their leadership with 19 successive victories, 38 points, followed by Featherstone (30 points from 19 games), Hunslet (28 from 19), Hull (28 from 17) and Huddersfield (26 from 18).

SCORING

Jack Wilkinson's try at St. Helens last week was his first-ever for Trinity. He could not have chosen a better occasion on which to open his scoring account!

Neil Fox requires three goals to complete his century for the club this season. Including his representative matches, Fox has so far kicked 121 goals. These and his 25 tries place him at the head of the R.L. points-scoring list at present with 317 points—closely followed by Rhodes (St. Helens) with 309. Ganley, our visitors' full-back this afternoon, presently leads the goal-kickers with 149 successes, and is third highest points-scorer with 298.

Fred Smith (29) maintains his second position to Van Vollenhoven (St. Helens-40) in the try-scoring list, and appears well set to extend his own Club record of 37 crossings in one season.

Congratulations to **JOHN ETTY**. His first try last Saturday was the 200th of his first-class career.

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INJURED

The unfortunate collision during the St. Helens game between Gerald Round and Harold Poynton brought injuries to both players

Round suffered a fractured jaw which will keep him out of action for six or seven weeks. Poynton's injuries, however, were not as serious and it is expected that he will be fit for this afternoon's game.

RESULTS IN DETAIL

Saturday, 23rd January
TRINITY 4-11-41

At Belle Vue
DONCASTER 0-0-0

Goals: Fox (2), Smith, J. (2).

Tries: Smith, F. (4), Fox (4), Sampson, M., Rollin, Smart.

Trinity team—Round; Smith, F., Skene, Fox, Smart; Rollin, Sudell, Wilkinson, Oakes, Smith, J., Sampson, M., Firth, Turner.

Referee: J. Senior (Bradford).

Attendance: 5,487 (£494).

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Saturday, 6th February.

At Craven Park.

HULL K.R. 0-0-0.

TRINITY 3-2-12

Goals: Fox (3)

Tries: Turner, Hirst

Trinity team: Metcalfe; Smith (F.), Skene, Fox, Hirst; Poynton, Holliday; Wilkinson, Oakes, Sampson (M.), Vines, Firth, Turner.

Referee: G. Philpott (Leeds)

Attendance: 8,050.

Saturday, 13th February.

At Knowsley Road.

R.L. CHALLENGE CUP. 1st Round

ST. HELENS 2-2-10.

TRINITY 3-3-15

Goals: Fox (3)

Tries: Etty (2), Wilkinson.

Teams:

St. Helens: Rhodes; Van Vollenhoven, Large, McGinn, Prinsloo; Smith (W.), Briers; Terry (A.), Bowden, Prescott, Briggs, Huddart, Karalius.

Trinity: Round; Smith (F.), Skene, Fox, Etty; Poynton, Holliday; Wilkinson, Oakes, Sampson (M.), Vines, Firth, Turner.

Referee: E. Clay (Rothwell). Attendance: 30,000 (£4,113).

RE-ARRANGEMENT

The probable date for the return league meeting with Swinton (postponed on January 30) is Wednesday, 6th April, with an evening kick-off. Confirmation of this will be given later.

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JOSEPH JONES

The death of Mr. Joe Jones three weeks ago came upon us suddenly, although it had been apparent to those in closest touch with him that his health was failing. We had hoped that he might make a complete recovery and be able to resume his place in the club's councils which he so much valued.

His early football in his native Wales had brought him international honours when he decided to change his code and join Leeds R.L.F.C. Soon he was at Belle Vue where, for over thirty years he has rendered most useful and untiring service as player, then on the Staff, and for the last 13½ years on the Committee. He has also been Vice-Chairman of the Club and a member of the Rugby League Council.

Thus, to our great regret, another good club man has been removed from our midst. Our sympathy goes to his family in their bereavement, the more so since Mrs. Jones has been for some time suffering from serious illness, a combination of extremely sad circumstances.

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CUP FINAL TICKETS

Supporters of the club should bear in mind that tickets for the Cup Final, to be played at Wembley on May 14th, have been on sale for several months at Rugby League Headquarters, 180, Chapeltown Road, Leeds, 7. Some tickets at all prices, 25s., 15s., 12s. 6d., 7s. 6d., and Ground 3s., are still available, but in a few weeks' time will be in very short supply.

If you care to send your order to the R.L. now, enclose a stamped addressed envelope with your remittance. And may your team reward you by being one of the contestants.



OUTLINES

Don Vines

Playing as off-half for the Welsh Association of Boys' Clubs, then at centre for Welsh Youth against Welsh Secondary Schools, Don started his football career with two caps. That was in 1950.

There followed three years in the Army and after that a period with the Newbridge R.U. Club, still at centre threequarter.

A brief break and then resumption with Newbridge, this time as a forward, but after three more months Don decided to change his code, and signed for Oldham Rugby League Club in 1956.

Two years later came another move, this time, we are glad to say, to Trinity. Whilst with us he has gained International honours for Wales v. France, twice for Great Britain v. France, and again, during the recent tour of the Australians, for Great Britain v. Australia.

Trinity followers are glad to know that Don is happily settled in Wakefield. We shall look forward to many more grand displays such as he has given since coming to Belle Vue.



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TWO DIVISIONS

The recent meeting of clubs to discuss the Wigan plan for two divisions of the league seemed to show that the necessary two-thirds majority for a scheme on those lines may eventually be attained.

Account has to be taken of the probability that some of the details of the scheme may not be so fully acceptable and that some amendment may have to be made. The Wakefield Trinity representatives, for instance, made it clear that, though in favour of two divisions, they had reservations on some points. Some other speeches seemed to indicate similar tendencies, but the vote of 19 in favour with only 8 against was taken as a mandate for the R.L. Management Committee to make another effort in the near future.

The need to strengthen the competitive element in the league seems to be so pressing that we hope that an acceptable

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solution of the problem may be found. The main consideration may prove to be that of the safety of ALL clubs, so that stipulations as to a trial period may be part of any eventual plan.

CONGRATULATIONS

—to **Jack Wilkinson** and **Neil Fox** on retaining their positions in Great Britain's team to meet France at Toulouse on Sunday, 6th March. Also to **Derek Turner** who has been named as reserve forward to travel.

There is much satisfaction too in the naming of **Geoff. Oakes** as reserve hooker — the first recognition for him in representative football and one which should give him much encouragement.

Trinity are scheduled to visit Hull in a league fixture on the day when Britain's team travels to France and our side will, therefore, lack the services of Wilkinson, Fox and captain Turner. However, we hope that those players who are selected to deputise for them will rise to the occasion and enable Trinity to maintain their undefeated County League record against a side challenging strongly for "Top Four" honours.

ON SALE

For the convenience of our supporters, the Widnes club has sent us a bulk quantity of Ground tickets for next week's cup-tie.

These tickets are on sale from 1-30 this afternoon at the Programme Kiosk (under scoreboard) at 2/6d.

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