PLAYERS, GAMES and MEMORIES

Recalled by HARRY LODGE

NOW in his eightieth year, Harry Lodge can look back upon a crowded life of football. Both as a player and committee-man he has almost a lifelong association with the Huddersfield Club. You are sure to enjoy these personal recollections of his contemporaries, and the early struggles of the "Northern Union."

IN my eightieth year I can look back to recall the most interesting Rugby and Rugby League events I have known. I started, a youth of fifteen years, in the Kirkburton "Black Watch" successful Rugby Union Club. I became its captain. In a determination to go higher I accepted a call to Huddersfield, and was captain of the team in season 1895-96.

Jim Davies Signing.

FROM season 1908-09 I served many years on the Huddersfield Football Committee. We had several years of steady building up. I think my most important capture in those busy seasons was the signature of the famous half-back, Jim Davies, whom I got in the end at Swansea. For the Club I paid £140 in sovereigns for Jim's signature. Three generous friends of "Fartown" provided this sum.

My friend and player colleague, Mr. Milford Sutcliffe, captained Huddersfield for a period, and later he was chairman of the Football Committee in Fartown's "Four Cup" season 1914-15. In season 1919-20, when I was chairman, Huddersfield went very near to capturing "all four" for a second time. The absence of five stars on the Australian Tour, and the brilliance of "Billy" Batten in making the deciding try gave Hull a narrow victory.

Famous Local Players.

IN my earliest days Rugby Football was supreme as a winter game. Rugby flourished in the villages. The absence of present-day quick and comfortable road travel kept the villagers at home. In the peak period there were over a score of good Junior Clubs in the Huddersfield district.

Gates of 5,000 were attracted to the important Cup Finals. Competition between near neighbours was very keen, and players needed to be very fit to stand up to the opposition. Fartown benefited in getting many of the best local men. For example, Jack Dyson from Skelmanthorpe, Will Eagland from Slaithwaite and the rest of us from the various Clubs.

A. A. ROSENFELD

"One of the greatest wingers"

A Loss.

THE old Rugby game has been splendidly kept going by the Huddersfield Old Boys Club, with Mr. Walter Scott and his other Rugby friends doing grand work in the running of the Club. Apart from the H.O.B. the Rugby of the old days has lapsed seriously.

The old village spirit has largely gone and senior football—all codes—and other speed attractions now draw the support of the successors of former players. So many factors in combination have made the one time player now an onlooker. The keenness and strict concentration upon Rugby as we knew it in the "eighties" is now spread over a list of many attractions.

My First Fartown Appearance.

A QUESTION put to me on several occasions has been: "When did you play your first game with Huddersfield?" It was against Halifax at Fartown on November 27th, 1886, nearly sixty years ago. In those days scores were more moderate than in these days of thirteen-a-side football. Halifax won by 1 try, 7 minor points to 1 minor point.

The late Mr. John Clifford was the captain of our team, a man who did grand work for his Club in Rugby Union and Northern Union higher control duties. Old-timers will readily recall the fame of Louis Hall, of Batley, as a Yorkshire County Cricket player. He happened to be the referee in this Huddersfield—Halifax match.

In this, my first appearance in a Huddersfield Jersey, a critic wrote: "Lodge was ever conspicuous. He appeared for the first time in the ranks of the premier Club, fully sustaining the reputation he has gained with Kirkburton." I remember Harry Archer gave an excellent show at half-back as he did in many other Fartown games. I sometimes wonder how many of the thirty players of that game are, like myself, still living.

A Disappointment.

THE four three-quarters were not introduced into the Rugby game until the Middlesex—Yorkshire match on January 30th, 1893. Yorkshire won this game in fine style by 2 goals 3 tries to 1 goal. This was one of the greatest Rugby games I have in memory.

In 1891 the Yorkshire County team had a fruitless journey to London, to my great disappointment as a member of the team. A dense fog prevented our game with Middlesex and, strangely enough, Kent were said to be "unable to raise a team." Three of us from Huddersfield were in the Yorkshire team. At full back, W. H. Eagland; Jack Dyson, wing three-quarter; and myself in the forwards.

Rosenfeld's Greatness.

FARTOWN followers and many other adherents who have Northern Union and Rugby League games in present memory in the period from 1900 to 1919-20, will know the high standard of the Fartown teams of those years. It was on September 11th, 1909, that Albert Rosenfeld, from Australia, played his first game with Huddersfield, and scored a couple of tries.

Rosenfeld has in later years **deservedly** been declared to be **"one of the greatest wingers who ever played Northern Union Football."** I found, like other people, his play a sustained delight; keen, clean and fast moving not only in his record season of eighty tries but in all other games.

Continued overleaf

"MORE ATTRACTIVE FOOTBALL"

writes J. E. TAYLOR

THE well known Wakefield Referee thinks that the Amendments to the Laws of the Game adopted by the Rugby League during the close season will make the game still more open and attractive to watch. For the guidance of readers the respective Laws, with the Amendments in heavy type, are printed below.

THE Amendments to the Laws of the Game which were passed by the Rugby League Council at the Annual Meeting last June, show that the Clubs mean, if at all possible, to make our game more open and attractive to watch.

Take the first amendment where the temporary half-back, in a "play the ball," has now to stand two yards behind the players playing the ball instead of one yard. This, I am sure, will cut the half-back out from rushing forward and dropping on the ball immediately it has been played by the foot of either the tackled player or the tackler.

We have seen this happen often in the past, and to my mind it not only slows up the game but prevents the open play, which was the intention when the original Law was made. I am definitely of the opinion that the new arrangement will be beneficial for more open play.

A Fairer Law.

The second Amendment rules that all players must make every effort to stand at least three yards behind the temporary half back.

My own personal opinion on the old law—ten yards radius—was that it was a bad law, and gave players an advantage who were standing outside the ten yards radius of mingling amongst their opponents and tackling a player immediately he received the ball.

With regard to the Scrum and only eight players on one side to act as backs until the ball has been put into the pack, this again should cut out the stopping game.

Better Football.

Too many teams in the past, who have been unable to gain possession from the Scrums, have withdrawn one, two, and sometimes three players from the pack with a view to closing up the game. This should not only keep the packs more balanced but reduce the number of scrums from collapsing.

My considered opinion is that the amendments to the Laws of the Game will be for the betterment of open football. After all, is not the object of our game to score tries and kick goals?

HERE ARE THE AMENDMENTS

LAW 30. A TACKLE is when the holder of the ball is held by one or more players of the opposite side, or when the holder and the ball come into contact with the ground whilst being held.

Note To Law 30. When a player is tackled, the ball can only be brought into play with the foot, the player dropping it on the ground directly in front of him for that purpose, when it can be kicked by either side in any direction. Neither player playing the ball is allowed to stand with one foot lifted awaiting the dropping of the ball on the ground. Both players must face the respective goal-lines. If the player is on the ground he should be allowed to regain his feet, without delay, with the ball in his possession. Only one player from each side will be permitted to play the ball, and one player from each side (to act as half-back) be allowed to stand not less than **2 yards** behind the players playing the ball. All other players **must make every effort** to stand at least 3 yards behind the player acting as half-back. On any breach of this law the non-offending side shall be awarded a penalty-kick.

LAW 31. A SCRUM is formed by players of each side binding together and closing up in readiness to allow the ball to be put on the ground between them.

New subsection added to Law:—

(i) When a scrum is formed, not more than eight players on one side can act as backs until the ball has been put in the tunnel.

LAW 6. PENALTIES.—Penalty-kicks shall be awarded if any player:

Subsection (m) new wording:

(m) Does not make every effort to stand at least 3 yards behind the player acting as half-back in a "play the ball" movement.

SPOTLIGHT ON WORKINGTON T.

Continued from page 7

Supporters' Club's Practical Help.

Evidence of the popular support accorded the new club is furnished by the 4,500 membership of the Supporters' Club, which has the progressive Mr. J. Carswell as secretary. At present the Supporters' Club is feeling its way, but its power for good is enormous. For instance, there will be structures on the new ground to be built, and probably a canteen to erect and staff, for many Cumbrians travel long distances to attend matches.

In the meantime the supporters are taking a lively interest in schoolboy and junior football, for they realise if the juniors are not nurtured and encouraged the nursery for the big club will become depopulated. At all costs that nursery must be kept going.

Next Month: LEIGH

PLAYERS, GAMES and MEMORIES

Continued from page 9

Other Fartown "Stars."

"ROZZY" was, and deserved to be, one of the chief Fartown idols. We can remember so clearly how speedily he was served by his successive centres, Edgar Wrigley and poor Tommy Gleeson—both masterly tacticians. I question if in three-quarter play one can ever hope to see such superb working up for a pass for a certain try by the winger as Edgar Wrigley so successfully demonstrated. Centre and wing play in my time have never had finer expositions.

And thinking of that great exponent of football craft, Harold Wagstaff, I should name Jim Davies and Edgar Wrigley as the two experts who fully developed the football genius of Underbank's star product. Harold could not have been in the "heads" and "hands" of two more able tutors. He had several ill-fated experiences. In Jim and Edgar he had the good fortune to be in the best of football "colleges."

Up With the "Claret and Gold."

"FARTOWN" in the over sixty years I have known the Club has had its trials and tribulations—as in the years of the last war. But always "Fartown" has stood staunch to all its troubles—and overcome them! **Today it is just as staunch and unbeaten as ever.** It makes one old-timer and many others proud to read in the last Annual Report this grand thrilling pronouncement: **"The prominent position which this Club has for so long enjoyed must be maintained and strengthened."** This surely is a clarion call by the Club's great President, Mr. H. V. Wood, for all its friends to see this object is attained.

Tonic News from Cumberland

600 AMATEURS ARE NOW PLAYING RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL

By G. G. CARTER, Editor, "The Whitehaven News"

LAST season's success of the Workington Town Club gave a great impetus to Rugby League Football in Cumberland, and our readers will be interested in this account of the further progress now being made in the county.

WHENEVER mention is made of the Rugby League code it is invariable associated with professionalism. Therefore it will come as a surprise to many to learn that this season in Cumberland no fewer than 600 amateur players have been signed by junior clubs. These amateurs range from mere striplings in their early teens to veterans of forty with thickening waistbands and thinning or greying hair. The only professionals in Cumberland are the thirty to forty on the Workington Town books.

The code in Cumberland is on the crest of a wave of popularity comparable with the record-breaking season of 1933. There were the Job's comforters who prophesied last season, on the formation of the Workington Town Club, that it would sound the death-knell of junior football in the county. Vehemently they argued that if the Workington team had a run of success the spectators would flock to its home matches, leaving the junior clubs high and dry, bereft of all support.

Those fears have proved to be groundless. It is true the Workington Club had a run of success and its home games attracted astonishing attendances, but where the pessimists went wrong was in underestimating the general enthusiasm for the game engendered by Workington's good displays. This enthusiasm was so widespread that when Workington were away from home gate receipts at junior matches were often treble the amounts taken at like games in 1939. Thus, there are a number of junior clubs in Cumberland to-day with credit balances of well over £100, whereas in 1939 they were virtually living from hand to mouth.

Dark Days

This year the Cumberland Rugby League has as its secretary Mr. George Plummer, who has held that post, with the solitary exception of last season, ever since 1920. Mr. Plummer's association with the code goes right back to the dim and distant 1898, and he vividly recalls the blackest year, 1909, when the number of junior clubs in this remote outpost was reduced to two, Brookland Rovers and Millom. How the game survived was 'n the nature of a miracle. But the barometer gradually swung upwards until, in 1933, there were fourteen senior amateur clubs in the county and eight junior clubs. This year there are thirteen senior and eight junior clubs. Among the new or revived clubs are High Duty Alloys (Distington), Solway Colliery (Workington), Clifton, and Seaton. Furthermore, there are fourteen entries for the Cumberland Shield, a record since before the 1914-18 war.

Important New Competitions

In the past Mr. Plummer and others linked with the code in Cumberland have often proclaimed the cardinal weakness to be the big gap between schoolboy football and the time when a youth had developed sufficiently physically to take part in the Shield and other junior competitions. A determined effort to bridge that gap has now been made by launching a new competition for youths under eighteen, for which Mr. T. Lindsay, of Workington, has given a trophy.

Another new competition is being run for amateurs by the Workington Town Supporters' Club. Teams taking part in this are restricted to three registered Cumberland League players. Sixteen teams have entered. A feature of this competition which particularly appeals to the Cumberland R.L. Commissioners is that most of the players are from Workington, a town which in the past has been more of a Soccer than a Rugby stronghold—the real hot-beds of Rugby in the county have been the Maryport and Whitehaven districts.

To the under-21 League the Commissioners have allocated the old Junior League trophy. Mr. N. Whitwam, of Seaton, is the secretary of this competition.

At one period of last season, Cumberland was in a desperate plight for referees: there were not enough to go round. An appeal during the close season has met with a satisfactory response and the ten referees of last year have increased to twenty-two.

DOUGLAS CLARK

A product of Brookland Rovers. Sixteen seasons at Huddersfield. Visited Australia with 1914 and 1920 touring teams. Played in eleven Test Matches between England and Australia. Achieved world-wide fame as a wrestler

The Great Kick-Off

Continued from page 5

Yorkshire Cup, First Round (second leg)

York	4	7	29	Yorks. A.	3	2	12

York won on aggregate 57-19

Saturday, September 21st

Yorkshire Cup, First Round (second leg)

Bradford N.	-	1	3	Hudd'sfield	4	4	20

Huddersfield won on aggregate 40-8

Dewsbury	3	1	9	Bramley	1	2	8

Dewsbury won on aggregate 18-12

Halifax	2	1	7	Hull K. R.	1	3	11

Hull K.R. won on aggregate 21-16

Hull	3	6	24	Feath'stn R.	-	1	3

Hull won on aggregate 40-13

Hunslet	5	-	10	Batley	2	-	4

Hunslet won on aggregate 19-12

Wakefield T	1	2	8	Keighley	1	-	2

Wakefield T. won on aggregate 19-16

League Games

Oldham	2	4	16	Warrington	1	-	2
Salford	4	5	23	Barrow	1	1	5
Widnes	4	3	17	St. Helens	2	2	10
Wigan	5	4	22	Swinton	1	-	2
Work'ton T	2	4	16	Belle V. R.	4	2	14

Monday, September 23rd

Yorkshire Cup, First Round (second leg)

Castleford	2	4	16	Leeds	2	1	7

Castleford won on aggregate 27-15

By the author of "CLARET AND GOLD"

SALUTE TO ALEC. FIDDES

WHEN Alexander Erskine Fiddes left Hawick at the age of nineteen years to play with the Huddersfield Club, a local scribe commenting on his loss to the Scottish Rugby Union said: "The best is yet to be." The intervening years have certainly proved the truth of this observation.

Now, after thirteen seasons' sterling service with the Fartowners, the Club's home match with Salford on Saturday, October 12th, has been set aside as his "testimonial." The player is to be given a guaranteed sum of £500 from the match in addition to any subscriptions or donations that may be received.

The difficulty in assessing the services of a Huddersfield player is that comparison with the Club's great players of former decades is unavoidable. While readers are free to indulge in this pastime, there will be no disputing the right of Fiddes to a place alongside such Fartown giants as Wagstaff, Rosenfeld, Clark, Gronow, Rogers and Bowkett.

Before signing for Huddersfield Alec. played with the Hawick Club for three seasons, and also took part in two Scottish Rugby Union International trials. His early reputation was made as a stand-off half, and this was the position he first filled at Fartown. Later he settled down at centre and has been the pivot round which successive teams have been evolved.

Debut Before Australians

Alec. signed for Huddersfield on October 13th, 1933, and made his initial appearance in the "A" team against Hull "A" at Fartown on October 28th. It was not a good match, and he had little chance to shine. At Warrington a week later the new player scored a try in the second half, which was described as the best of the game.

When the Australians visited Fartown on November 18th, 1933,

Fiddes was given his chance with the first team, and although the Fartowners suffered defeat he made a favourable impression, and retained his place in the side in subsequent matches. In his first season at Fartown Fiddes scored only twelve points (4 tries), but during his thirteen seasons he has reached a total of 1,032 points (180 goals and 224 tries), and now stands third in the list of aggregate Huddersfield point scorers, Gronow (1,701) and Rosenfeld (1,168) being first and second respectively.

Cup Honours

During Fiddes' second season at Fartown and his first as captain, Huddersfield reached the final of the R.L. Challenge Cup, and although he himself scored a try in the closing stages of the game, it was not sufficient to stop the Cup going to Castleford. However, in season 1944-45 Fiddes had the honour of leading his side to victory in the two Cup Final games played against Bradford Northern. Fiddes was also a member of the Huddersfield team which won the Yorkshire Cup for the ninth time on October 22nd, 1938.

Fiddes has been in excellent form during the war years, and would have had strong claims to a place in the R.L. team which would have toured Australia in 1940 had not the war intervened. In the second Tour Trial at Leeds on February 20th 1946, Fiddes captained the Colours, but no new reputations were made in this game.

During May, 1945, Fiddes was offered the post of player-coach to the newly-formed Workington Town Club, but he elected to finish his career with Huddersfield. No account of Fiddes would be complete without reference to his mastery of the art of seven-a-side football. In this abbreviated Rugby game he is probably at his best.

The Huddersfield captain is a popular figure at Fartown, and he will certainly receive a big welcome when he leads his men on to the field on October 12th. He has always played a clean game, and when he finally lays aside his jersey the game will lose a fine sportsman, and Huddersfield a leader who has worthily upheld the high traditions of the Club.

TOTAL SCORES FOR HUDDERSFIELD

Season	Goals	Tries	Points
1933-34	—	4	12
1934-35	—	24	72
1935-36	—	20	60
1936-37	20	22	106
1937-38	50	12	136
1938-39	30	9	87
1939-40	28	33	155
1940-41	9	18	72
1941-42	2	12	40
1942-43	2	9	31
1943-44	8	14	58
1944-45	16	17	83
1945-46	15	30	120
	180	224	1,032

RUGBY LEAGUE REVIEW

No. 3 Vol. 1 NOVEMBER 1946 SIXPENCE

HARRY LODGE *pays tribute to mighty goal-kicking by*

The Men Of Wigan And Huddersfield

I HAVE been asked to recall some of the most successful of the many great goal-kickers I have known in our code. Jim Sullivan at once comes to mind. Sullivan has been described as the greatest full-back and goal-kicker the Rugby League has produced. From its inception the Rugby League game has owed much of its prestige to recruits from South Wales, from Scotland and from overseas. Welsh R.U. men have been a predominant factor, and I consider that perhaps at half-back Wales has found our clubs the most valuable additions. First-class full-backs, three-quarters—centre and wing—and many fine forwards have, season after season, strengthened the personnel of R.L. teams

Greatest Of All

If South Wales had embraced professional Rugby the Rugby League game in Lancashire and Yorkshire would have missed many of the "stars" who have materially assisted its standing. It is because South Wales has continued to adhere to amateur Rugby that a wide door has been left open to Lancashire and Yorkshire R.L. clubs poaching in South Wales.

Jim Sullivan has for so many seasons been an outstanding player in R.L. football that his distinguished career almost cuts out comparisons. The story and the figures of his mammoth kicking feats have been well told in Mr. Chadwick's "Jubilee Souvenir." His grand total of 2,955 goals proves his wonderful marksmanship. Jim has indeed been a superman in the Rugby League. I remember his prowess in the first R.L. Cup Final at Wembley in 1929, when Wigan beat Dewsbury by 13 points to 2.

* * *

BEN GRONOW also became famous for his great accuracy as a goal shot. He, like Sullivan, came north from South Wales. He had the same cool concentrated mind and skill that is the ground work of the star goal-kicker. I have seen Ben kick so many amazing goals that to recall the "specials" is not easy. His grand kicking over many seasons was one of the soundest foundations of many Fartown scores and victories.

Gronow And Wrigley

Another top-liner was the great centre three-quarter, Edgar Wrigley, whose goal-kicking, allied to his unbeatable skill at centre three-quarter, will always live in memory. Those of us who can recall, for example, that thrilling goal at Headingley, kicked from near the middle of the field, and well over the bar, will, in that dazzling feat alone, have one of our most pleasing football recollections. I shall always contend that in his latter days Wrigley could have taken up the full-back position with distinction. With his build and strength, which he never misused, Wrigley was as clean as the best of the players of his time.

* * *

THE enthusiasts of our code can never forget the gallant, skilful service rendered to the Huddersfield club by Leonard Bowkett. He was a great goal-kicker as well as an accomplished exponent of Rugby League football. I, and thousands of followers at the Wembley Final in 1933 will never

Wembley Feat

Continued overleaf

Jim Sullivan

moment Dai bobbed the ball in my arms. I was through, with only Osbaldestin in front. I straightway run him to where I wanted him, side-stepped, and that was it — another try from the old back pass! I was jubilant to think that I had popped over for a try where the famous Don Bradman, a fellow countryman, had made his record Test Match score, and where so many other great cricket personalities had trodden.

We won the match 5-0, Jack Kelly kicking a penalty goal. To me this was not only my most exciting Christmas football experience, but one of my happiest football memories for, who knows, there may never be another game of Rugby League football played on the famous Headingley turf.

R. RAWLINSON, the well-known Referee.

CHRISTMAS Day, 1927, at Lawkholme Lane. Half-time score: Bradford Northern 3 pts., Keighley 2 pts. Ding-dong play in the second half, with the players bruised and battered because of the hard game and the harder ground. A roar: "Run!" A Keighley player has found an opening. "He's through! Go on lad!" Will he do it? A sigh, almost a groan, comes from the crowd as he appears to stumble and move towards Gledhill, who, at full-back for Northern is moving into a deadly all-embracing tackle. A slight change of direction sends the player apparently chasing for the corner flag with Gledhill charging for him at increased speed: but what's this? he's passed to the hitherto unnoticed McGoun, who shoots straight forward with the ball, to ground under the posts for that grand forward Thompson to goal with ease and make sure of winning the game.

That was my most exciting Christmas football experience or, as it was more prosaically put by the "Observer" reporter next day: "A new centre named Rawlinson had the satisfaction of being largely responsible for one of the home side's tries."

A. E. FIDDES, Huddersfield's popular captain.

ONE Christmas Day during the last war, having mother down from Scotland where, by the way, they don't celebrate Christmas, my wife and I decided to show her a real English Christmas.

On Christmas Eve we had a grand little family party, retiring to bed about one o'clock. This wouldn't have mattered if one of my youngsters hadn't awakened at 3-30 a.m. to ask if Father Christmas had come! To family people the rest is a foregone conclusion. Our house was in an uproar in half an hour. To be winding clockwork trains at 4-30 o'clock on Christmas morning is not exactly my idea of preparing for the biggest game of the year. Eventually I managed to creep upstairs to bed and to snatch a few hours laboured sleep before presiding over the grand Christmas dinner which had been prepared during the morning.

It was now too late to say no, so I waded in and did justice to the sumptuous repast.

Walking up to Fartown—and I could only just do it—my greatest wish was that it would be a grand forward game.

The game started just as nearly all the Christmas games with Halifax start—a real forward tussle. I offered up my prayers and hoped it would remain so.

Alas! about ten minutes before half-time a loose ball came to me on the touch-line in our own "25," and I set off. Shades of Christmas pudding and turkey! I was in the clear and had no option but to put on full sail and dash for the line.

They told me later that after I had gone twenty yards the opposition gave up all hope of catching me, and that I carried on like the wind and gave a magnificent dive over the line.

Believe me, I didn't dive over that line—I collapsed!

HARRY LODGE, former Huddersfield captain and committee-man.

WHEN I try to recall the best Christmas Day R.L. games I have seen, I cannot remember a more interesting encounter than in 1914, when the game against Hull had to be played on the Fartown cricket ground. Frost had made our football field too hard, and the cricket turf was much more playable.

There was an amusing episode prior to the game when Mr. Alfred Charlesworth, the Hull secretary, came to me and quite seriously said Hull would object to the match taking place as **one of the posts was some two feet shorter than its opposite number!** I scented a joke and genially remarked: "Well, the match cannot be played." Mr. Charlesworth's quick smile soon showed he had failed to upset me, and we had a good laugh.

Before this Christmas Day match our team had beaten Wigan, at Central Park by 3 goals 4 tries (18 points) to nil. Huddersfield beat Hull by 4 goals 4 tries (20 points) to 2 goals 2 tries (10 points).

On the following Boxing Day, at Belle Vue, they also outplayed Wakefield—with Parkin—by 44 points to 4 points. This was football at its best.

YAH TEEAM

(Famous in his day as a player, the writer of these lines has lost none of his enthusiasm for the game with the passing of the years).

Nah then, yo lads. Hark what Ah say,
Yo like ta see sum real good play;
Two Rugby teeams, chocfull of zest,
Ivvry man aat, doing his best.

Watch them forrads, ha well they laik!
Each one of six, can give or take.
Summat gets dun, when they get busy—
Oft Ah've seen one knocked aat dizzy,

An' t'hawf backs are nooan sa dozy;
See 'em sprint, ta mak things rosy,
Quickly dodgin', givin' t'dummy,
Then back handing, pass to chummy.

Three-quarter backs can shew ther speed,
An' do ther bit in times of need;
Two on t'wings, an' two in t'centre,
What a cheer when t'field they enter!

Yah full-back has got a job—
Ah shan't swop him, s'help mi bob.
Kickin', tacklin', stoppin' rushes,
Saves his side in lots of crushes.

ADSUM.

Drawn by J. Forster

"Tut, tut, surely that isn't the Referee's real name!"

The Match Of The Month

By "THOR"

WHEN one leaves a ground at the end of a well-fought game, and hears on all sides spontaneous tributes to the sterling quality of the style and play of the visitors (who have just won), then indeed has one seen a good game. That was my experience at Fartown when Hull K. R. were the visitors in the Yorkshire Cup Second Round.

The game provided rousing and inspiring football. Intense backing-up was the key-note of the Rovers. They set out to show that team-work would always beat individual brilliance.

A Brave Start

Huddersfield opened in fine style; nice crisp first-time passing taking out the ball to the wings. Then the orthodox dash for the line. Good covering and tackling kept the Hull line intact for ten minutes, but a lovely combined movement took Fartown over for the first try. More, apparently, were to follow, but the Rovers' defence got tighter and tighter. Fartown began to struggle just a little against deadly spotting, and beautiful backing-up led to a try by Megson. McWatt converted to put Hull in front.

Huddersfield came again and another concerted movement saw them with three men over and Mallinson scoring after all the team had handled. Richards next got over for Hull Kingston from a Fartown lapse. McWatt obliged. Dockar later got a copy-book try, McWatt again goaling. Mallinson's try having been converted and a penalty goal kicked for Fartown, the stage was set for a great finish. It came when perhaps the best move of the match took Bawden over after a great dash. However, he was so intent on making the kick easier he went over the dead-ball line, and the game was lost, the final score being Huddersfield 10 points, Hull K. R. 15 points.

Styles of Play

Now for an analysis of game and players. Fartown were a polished team, playing to a plan, but with nothing to counter with when the plan went wrong. The close-up spotting of the Rovers beat Fartown, who have no means of combating this type of game played by speedy opponents. The half-backs were good to a point, but so easily brushed on one side by sheer weight when the Rovers attacked. Hull soon found the wide open run straight down the middle—where the Fartown tackling was woeful. Baxter and Givvons were the best of the forwards, but until they play together as a pack Fartown will lose matches needlessly.

In sharp contrast to Huddersfield, the Rovers played as a team, the out-

DID THE HUDDERSFIELD PLAYERS READ THIS?

"It is thirteen years since the Rovers sprung an unpleasant surprise on us in a Yorkshire Cup semi-final—they won by 20 points to 3 at Fartown—and we must see to it that they don't repeat the feat this time."

—Official Notes, Hudd. Prog.

WE cannot guarantee that "Thor" will always be as fortunate in his choice of matches for this new feature as on the occasion of his visit to Huddersfield. He will, however, each month write with the same impartiality that characterises his first contribution. "Thor" has a wide knowledge of the game, and enjoys the confidence of both "stand" and "popular side."

Yorkshire Challenge Cup.—Second Round.

At Huddersfield, September 30th, 1946.

	G.	T.	P.		G.	T.	P.
Huddersfield	2	2	10	**Hull Kingston Rovers**	3	3	15

Attendance, 9,625. Receipts, £733 13s. 6d.

Teams:

Huddersfield.—Leake; Madden, Fiddes (Capt.), Davies and Bawden; Howard and Morgan; Mallinson, Moran, Taylor, Baxter, Nicholson and Givvons.

Hull Kingston Rovers.—McWatt; Gee, Goldswain, Megson and Beaumont; Richards and Mills; Hill, Ramsden, Hartley, Atkinson, Wilmott and Dockar.

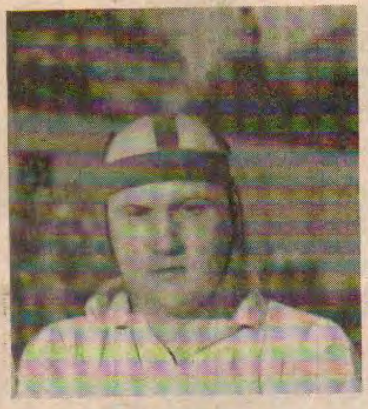
Referee: R. Kendal (Keighley).

Scorers:

Huddersfield.—Goals: Bawden, Davies. Tries: Madden, Mallinson.

Hull Kingston Rovers.—Goals: McWatt (3). Tries: Megson, Richards, Dockar.

Bawden, Huddersfield winger, in action



Alec Dockar

standing player being Dockar (who really is a loose forward) both in attack and defence. Mills at scrum-half used height and weight to run through the Fartown half-backs, who received no adequate cover from Givvons such as Dockar gave his men. But, Rovers, when will you realise that matches can be lost if you give away the free-kicks you did when playing the ball? You gave away seven in the first twelve minutes, and Fartown could not find a goal-kicker.

Hint to Referee

Referee Kendal handled the game well—really well—with one exception. Our referees should realise that the game would benefit from drastic punishment meted out to persistent offenders. The "Play the Ball" and off-side rules were broken time and again by the Rovers. **Mr. Kendal, after a time a free-kick becomes a relief, not a punishment.** Repeated offences could be dealt with as ungentlemanly conduct, after fair warning. This toleration of evasion of the rules is a blot on our game, and I am sure the remedy is in your hands, referees. Notwithstanding, the game and the refereeing was well above ordinary standards.

The new method of entry at Fartown is not without its drawbacks. I wish to thank the Fartown Committee for leaving the "popular side" at 1s. 3d. The extra charge for the small stand is only pre-war practice, but entry is slow, and not without incident, as was shown by the opening of the gates by the crowd.

One serious complaint is the lack of programmes. As on previous visits to Huddersfield, I observed that many others, like myself, were concerned at not being able to find any on sale.

"THOR'S" VERDICT

Standard of Play.—
Huddersfield: Very good.
Hull K. R.: Outstanding.

Man of the Match.—A. Dockar (Hull K. R.).

Refereeing.—Well above average.

Goal-kicking.—
Huddersfield: Terrible.
Hull K. R.: Good.

Behaviour of Spectators.—Some booing of referee following disallowed try by Bawden (Huddersfield).

Ground Arrangements.—Could be greatly improved. More turnstiles required at all entrances to the ground.

Opinion on the match.—Rugby League Football at its best.

RECORD of the MONTH

Continued from page 5

Tuesday, October 15th.

Lancashire Cup. Semi-final

	G	T	Pts		G	T	Pts
Oldham	2	1	7	Wigan	3	5	21

Wednesday, October 16th.

Lancashire Cup. Semi-final

	G	T	Pts		G	T	Pts
Belle Vue R	1	1	5	Widnes	-	-	0

Yorkshire Cup. Semi-final

Wakefield T	2	1	7	Hunslet	2	-	4

Saturday, October 19th.

League Games

	G	T	Pts		G	T	Pts
Barrow	3	5	21	Liverpool S	1	1	5
Batley	5	6	28	Bramley	2	3	13
Bradf'd N.	2	7	25	Leeds	1	1	5
Castleford	4	2	14	Hull KR	1	1	5
Halifax	3	5	21	York	1	3	11
Hull	5	5	25	Keighley	1	1	5
Hunslet	4	5	23	Hudders'f'ld	2	1	7
Leigh	5	4	22	Swinton	1	1	5
Oldham	-	1	3	Dewsbury	1	2	8
Rochdale H	-	1	3	Widnes	1	1	5
Salford	1	-	2	St. Helens	1	3	11
Wakefield T	4	5	23	Feath'stn R	1	-	5
Wigan	10	16	68	Belle Vue R	-	-	0
Work'ton T	1	1	5	Warrington	2	1	7

LEADING SCORERS

All Matches up to and including Oct. 19th

GOALS		TRIES	
Lawrenson (Wigan)	44	Ashcroft (Wigan)	17
Miller (Hull)	43	Radcliffe (Wigan)	15
Clarkson (Hunslet)	28	Lawrence (Hull)	11
Rhodes (Batley)	27	Nordgren (Wigan)	11
Bawden (Hudds.)	25	Davies, L. (York)	8
Knowles (York)	24	Francis (Barrow)	8
Ledgard (Dewsbury)	24	Jolley (Wigan)	8
Griffiths (Oldham)	22	Large (Oldham)	8
Briggs (Castleford)	21	Lawrenson (Wigan)	8
McWatt (Hull K.R.)	20	Perry (Wakefi'ld T.)	8
Perry (Wakefi'ld T.)	20	Gabriel (Batley)	7
Pendlebury (Leigh)	18	Mountford (Wigan)	7
Davies (Hudds.)	17	Rookes (Hunslet)	7
Powell (Belle Vue R.)	16	Bevan (Warrington)	6
Reynolds (Widnes)	14	Dockar, A. (Hull K R)	6
Mountford (Wigan)	13	Guest (Castleford)	6
Chalkley (Halifax)	12	Madden (Hudds.)	6
Gibson (Bramley)	12	Malone (Widnes)	6
Longman (Barrow)	11	Naylor (Leigh)	6
Mills (Keighley)	11	Pimblett (Hudds.)	6
Jenkins (Salford)	9	Watts (Hull)	6

POINTS	G.	T.	Pts.
Lawrenson (Wigan)	44	8	112
Miller (Hull)	43	—	86
Perry (Wakefield T.)	20	8	64
Bawden (Huddersfield)	25	4	62
Clarkson (Hunslet)	28	—	56
Rhodes (Batley)	27	—	54
Ashcroft (Wigan)	—	17	51

LEAGUE TABLE

(up to and including October 19th)

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Points For	Agst.	Pts.
Hull	7	7	0	0	108	47	14
Wigan	7	6	0	1	189	35	13
Widnes	6	5	0	1	66	20	11
Leigh	5	5	0	0	63	27	10
Warrington	6	5	1	0	83	47	10
Dewsbury	7	5	2	0	59	39	10
Bradford N.	6	4	1	1	77	40	9
Wakefield T.	6	4	2	0	86	48	8
Batley	7	4	3	0	104	75	8
Huddersfield	7	4	3	0	127	103	8
Castleford	7	4	3	0	90	79	8
Halifax	5	3	1	1	76	36	7
Barrow	6	3	2	1	86	75	7
Hull K. R.	6	3	2	1	62	90	7
Hunslet	6	3	3	0	95	87	6
Workington T.	7	2	4	1	62	73	5
Rochdale H.	5	2	3	0	49	46	4
Oldham	6	2	4	0	46	54	4
St. Helens	6	2	4	0	52	66	4
York	6	2	4	0	63	87	4
Leeds	6	2	4	0	53	102	4
Liverpool S.	5	1	4	0	42	67	2
Salford	6	1	5	0	56	101	2
Belle Vue R.	6	1	5	0	46	121	2
Swinton	5	1	4	0	42	116	2
Featherstone R.	6	0	5	1	42	101	1
Bramley	6	0	6	0	39	99	0
Keighley	6	0	6	0	52	139	0

SECOND EDITION (with additional chapter and revised records)

"CLARET and GOLD"

The Jubilee History of the Huddersfield Rugby Football League Club

By STANLEY CHADWICK

Price 2s. 6d. (2s. 9d. post free)

READY NOVEMBER 25th

THE MATCH OF THE MONTH — By "THOR"

The Match That Might Have Been!

The Northern Rugby Football League.

At Fartown, Huddersfield, December 7th, 1946.

	G.	T.	P.		G.	T.	P.
Huddersfield	1	0	2	**Leeds**	1	0	2

Attendance, 7,550. Receipts, £314.

Teams :

Huddersfield.—Leake; Pepperell (G. R.), Madden, Davies and Bawden; Pepperell (S. V.) (Capt.) and Morgan; Taylor (T. L.), Whitehead, Aspinall (J.), Thomas, Givvons and Robson.

Leeds.—Kelly; Caldwell, Price, Cornelius and Whitehead; Williams (R.) and Jenkins; Prosser, Murphy, Brereton, Watson, Wheatley and Owens.

Referee: F. Cottam (Wakefield). [Supplementary List].

Scorers :

Huddersfield.—Goal: Bawden. Leeds.—Goal: Kelly.

I HAD intended watching a Lancashire club in action this month, but feel compelled to give a report on the Huddersfield—Leeds clash at Fartown.

Although conditions were bad both teams started as though they were going to give us a feast of football. However, this was not to be. Instead, we saw a dour struggle full of effort, but without effect, and almost completely devoid of the precision one has come to expect from these encounters. In this instance the reason was not far to seek. A well-worn phrase in connection with football is: "The defence of both sides blotted out the attack," but on this particular afternoon **the referee blotted out both sets of players !**

Lost Control.

A promising opening was soon ruined by a whistling solo, which set the scene for **a most inept display of refereeing.** At the very first scrum the Leeds forwards wheeled before the ball was put in, and every subsequent scrum saw the same procedure, allied to a good hefty shove. If this had been stopped at its inception I am convinced there would have been a far different game. From this time onward the play resolved itself into a struggle between the halves and the forwards on each side as to who could take most advantage of the referee. Leeds won this phase.

I have no need to repeat the methods employed. We have all seen them, and in this match they were given full reign.

Good Second Half.

The first half was very moderate, with Huddersfield just about holding their (undistinguished) own. After the interval Leeds transformed the game, and set up an almost continuous attack. The harder Leeds played the better the Huddersfield defence became, although it was desperation and luck on occasion that kept Leeds out. Stanley Pepperell's defence in the second half, following a very poor display up to half-time, contributed largely to this result. Russell Pepperell was the pick of a moderate three-quarter line. The forwards were second best to the Leeds pack, with now and again a flash from Robson and Givvons.

The two half-backs, Morgan and Jenkins, had a pleasant afternoon appealing to the referee or wondering when they would be allowed to get on with the game! "Dicky" Williams looked the only dangerous back on view. Leake (Huddersfield) and Kelly (Leeds) were two good full-backs, with Leake having far more to do, and doing it well. What a fine back Leake would be if he would only keep on his feet.

Of the Leeds forwards Prosser and Ike Owens stood out of a good, but not brilliant, pack, while Owens was the man of the match. He combined defence with attack and had a fine understanding with his halves.

At one period in the second half the obstructions allowed to pass were more frequent than anything else in the game. For example, Leeds were attacking and Jenkins gave the ball to Williams, then ran two yards in front of "Dicky" and was given the ball in a return pass. Referee Cottam gave a scrum for a forward pass. This is typical of R.L. refereeing. The only possible decision in a case like this is a free-kick for deliberate off-side.

Another very clever move which the referee missed almost won the game for Leeds. With the scrum down, Jenkins has the ball but hangs back. Fifteen yards out "Dicky" Williams runs past hard for the line. When Jenkins sees him in front a short kick over the line and "Dicky" is only just frustrated by Leake who had seen the trick coming off.

Give Them a Chance !

Now, Mr. Cottam, at times I got the impression that you could have refereed well, but you were overburdened with the Laws. Please forget them ! A little latitude and imagination will convert a dull game into what everyone, referee, players, officials and spectators alike want—the finest sporting spectacle in the world. No doubt your very conscientiousness made you careful. Care carried to extremes and purely literal and academic interpretation of the Laws leads nowhere. One final point. Why should you, in common with most other referees, have to allow players a second attempt to play the ball? If they cannot play it properly at this stage of the season, then there is only one way to make them do it.

Programmes at this match were plentiful. The crowd was dealt with expeditiously, but I should like to ask why should a member who wishes to accompany a friend to the terrace side have to undertake a walk which takes him completely out of the ground, or involves jumping a turnstile?

FOUR MINUTES SHORT.

The light was so bad in the closing stages of the game that the Referee blew for time four minutes from the end. Under Law 43 he was required to report his action to the Rugby League Management Committee, who decided at their meeting on December 18th, 1946, that the result of the game shall stand.

" THOR'S " VERDICT

Standard of Play.—
Huddersfield : Dour, but lucky.
Leeds : Sheer inability to finish good approach work.

Man of the Match.—
Ike A. Owens (Leeds).

Refereeing.—Completely ruined a very hard game.

Goal-kicking.—Constituted the whole of the scoring.

Behaviour of Spectators.—
Very vocal and not too appreciative of the Referee's decisions.

Ground Arrangements.—
Improvement since last visit (Sept. 30th), but not enough access for members to terrace side.

Opinion on the Match.—
A well-fought second half packed with suspense.

Thrill to the Deeds of Fartown

AMAZING STORY OF RISE TO FAME

THE second edition of *" Claret and Gold " makes a very welcome appearance, and will delight the many Rugby League adherents who failed to obtain a copy of the first impression. Even those who did will be pleased to see this issue, which has a new chapter covering the eventful 1945-46 season, new photographs, and the club and individual players' records brought up-to-date.

Although primarily written for the followers of the Huddersfield club, " Claret and Gold " has an appeal for every supporter of the thirteen-a-side code, for the names " Huddersfield " and " Claret and Gold " have always stood for all that is best in Rugby League football.

Here, in close on a hundred pages of solid, compact reading matter, is the history of the club whose fame has spread across the world and whose deeds are recounted wherever Rugby League football is played. From the humble beginning of the " Huddersfield Athletic Club " in 1864, we are taken through the years which saw many ups and downs, the formation of the Northern Union and two major wars.

Stars of the Game.

For the first time we are given the complete story of those truly great years before the war of 1914-18, when Huddersfield were on the crest of the wave and carried everything before them. The lean years before the club reached the pinnacle of fame, and when its whole future was in the balance, is also faithfully told, and the reader introduced to many of the men who lifted the " Claret and Gold " from obscurity to undreamed of heights.

Great players of the past are featured among the photographs, which include a full-page picture of the centre three-quarter who is considered by Huddersfield enthusiasts — and many others besides — to be the greatest of them all, Harold Wagstaff. His name will live so long as Rugby League football does. The story of his career and that of the club whose colours he so proudly wore, will be in great demand throughout the Rugby League areas and beyond.

The author of " Claret and Gold " requires no introduction to readers of this paper. Mr. Chadwick has established for himself a unique position among writers on the R.L. Code, and one hopes that he will find time to give us many more works of the standard reached by his Huddersfield book.

A.N.G.

* " Claret and Gold." The Jubilee History of the Huddersfield Rugby Football League Club.—By Stanley Chadwick.
(The Venturers Press, 2s. 6d.)

RUGBY LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP FINAL, MAY 6th, 1933 *Photograph by permission of " The Yorkshire Post "*

PLAY THE BALL

Continued from page 12

off-side in his own in-goal." Therefore, if the ball is being played two yards from the try-line, we have the player playing the ball, and all the other players may line up just inside the in-goal area. Similarly, if the ball is being played some three or four yards from the try-line the players may stand in-goal, which may be only one or two yards behind the player acting as half-back. These are the only occasions when the three yards' distance is unnecessary, but it is imperative that players stand in-goal.

PLAYERS, GAMES AND MEMORIES

A TOUR TO BARROW. By Harry Lodge.

RECALLING the pleasure a player can get out of his skill at football, I have a feeling that the majority look upon tours as the most enjoyable of all their experiences. In my own case tours and visits to South Wales and North - East and North - West England occupy top of the list.

The best of these tours was in the Nineties to the Lake District to meet Barrow. The late Mr. Fred Leonard was then the Huddersfield Secretary, and I remember him as an affable and very efficient official. Our headquarters were at a delightfully situated hotel close to the lake. The weather was just about as charming as Lake Windermere. Our team included the late Will Eagland at full-back, with Fred Richmond, the big centre three-quarter, and Jack Dyson on the wing.

Readers may recall a farce some years back entitled "High Jinks," and its numerous escapades. Some of our very lively players had "High Jinks" during this tour, and the hotel bill at the close included compensation for damages. I had always thought this sort of conduct was found only in Oxford and Cambridge students' life, yet in those amateur days of the Eighties and Nineties members of the Huddersfield team were not the only Rugby players who acted foolishly.

It was not surprising that all our players were not up to their usual form for the game with Barrow, and that we lost the match. We were in much happier mood for our horse coach journeys to Ullswater Lake and to lovely Grasmere. The big dip down Red Bank to Grasmere would, if I could, have found me walking instead of riding down, but we arrived safely.

HAPPY DAYS

I HAVE also vividly in memory the coach ride via Kirkstone Pass to Ullswater Lake, but this outing was more sombre than the one to Grasmere. We had coupons or rather "checks" value threepence each, in those days of much lower prices, for use to buy drinks or cigars at the hotel. I remember that my liking for neither, beyond an occasional lemonade, enabled me to buy a number of cigars for my smoker friends at home. Those who liked drinks and cigars soon found supplies of "checks" not up to their needs.

It has to be remembered these were amateur days when the one incentive for ambitious players was to get as near the top as possible. For many of us they were really more enjoyable carefree days than the period when the game became a business proposition.

I am quite as convinced as Mr. John Wilson that "the two codes will always remain separate entities." I go further and express my strict belief that any merging of the two would be to the lasting detriment of both codes. We each have our job to do, and it is good to find that the men at the head intend to tackle it now.

Returning to football tours, I shall always consider that a journey by a large motor-boat from Lake Side at the end of Lake Windermere up to and past Bowness to alight at Ambleside, is one of the most delightful journeys this or any other country can offer.

BARROW'S GRIT

ALL Rugby League enthusiasts are aware of the splendid part the Barrow Club has played in our code. We old-timers in addition can look back over fifty years to the good work done by the Barrow Rugby Union in those earlier years. I recall the fine games Huddersfield had with Barrow. Barrow always were a good side to play against and for spectators to enjoy.

In more recent times it will be recalled how the Barrow team in 1938 put up a most gallant display in the R.L. Challenge Cup Final of that year. They lost to Salford by the narrow margin of three points (7—4). In that season Salford were a vastly more powerful side than the Salford of 1946-47.

A GREAT FUTURE

THE most encouraging feature for a long period in Rugby League history has been the new club of Workington Town. I consider this new addition has brighter prospects than any other newcomer to our code.

The splendid article on Workington Town's prospects in the first number of the "Rugby League Review" by the Editor of "The Whitehaven News" was just the propaganda our code requires. I know the Editor of "Rugby League Review" is tremendously keen on Rugby League progress, and in securing this I am confident "Rugby League Review" is destined to play a star part.

The support for Workington Town finds practical expression in the "gates" averaging 8,000 per match. Its enthusiastic Supporters Club can boast a membership of 4,500. Consequently, Workington Town's followers now run into thousands when many other clubs have only hundreds. The man on the bridge, "Gus" Risman, is the right man for this important voyage to a high position in the Rugby League table.

IN THEIR BLOOD !

YORKSHIRE and Lancashire clubs have greatly benefited by Cumbrian men of the highest ability—Jimmy Lomas, Jim Brough, Douglas Clark and many others. Where can one find three finer exponents of Rugby football than these three stalwarts? It is the same in present-day R.L. football. Where are the equals in sheer football craft and grit of the three famed Pepperell brothers?

I know that the good influence exerted by Douglas Clark has done much to develop the football of Stanley Pepperell. In common with the great Fartown footballers of his time Douglas knows all that goes best in the fit-up of the high-class R.L. player. He and the other Cumberland stars I have mentioned, like the great Wagstaff, were in the category of being *born* Rugby footballers. I believe the same applies to the three talented members of the Pepperell family.

I consider the Workington Town Rugby League Club is destined to be in the front rank of our clubs in the future. This Cumberland club has splendid prospects.

Random Recollections

Continued from Page Seven.

A SULLIVAN STORY

I have no hesitation in declaring Jim Sullivan to be the best full-back I have ever seen. What a great goal-kicker he was.

On the 1932 Australian tour he was playing in a Test Match on the Sydney Cricket Ground. The ground was packed, and a little chap who was standing among the crowd on the famous hill could not see what was taking place. Suddenly there was a big cheer, and the little chap asked what had happened. "Jim Sullivan has kicked a goal," was the answer. "Crikey, I thought he'd missed one," the little chap replied.

The Monthly Journal of Rugby League Football

Editor: Stanley Chadwick

Vol. I No. 7. Sevenpence

MARCH - - 1947

RUGBY LEAGUE REVIEW

E. G. BLACKWELL ("Observer") Page Three

★

ALFRED DREWRY ("The Yorkshire Post") Page Five

THE GREAT HOLD-UP

BUSY WEEKS AHEAD

By A. N. Gaulton

THE month of February, 1947, will long be remembered by adherents of the Rugby League code for its wholesale cancellation of matches and the postponement of the first round Challenge Cup-ties, the first "legs" of which were due to be played on February 8th. Of the sixteen Cup games down for decision seven had not even been started on the last Saturday of the month. The weather has thus drawn a parallel with the events of the winter of 1940, when the War-time Emergency Rugby League suffered severely, few games being possible in the early weeks of that year.

SAND FOOTBALL

That the 1947 blizzard affected Yorkshire grounds to a much greater extent than those in the neighbouring county was shown by the fact that out of seventeen matches which it was found possible to play on the four Saturdays in February, only three took place in Yorkshire. Over in Lancashire Warrington set an example, later followed by Leigh and Salford, in spreading tons of sand on their field. This enterprise was well rewarded at Wilderspool, where the three games played drew receipts which aggregated close on £2,558. Whether sand is the ideal substitute for the springy turf which is the true medium for Rugby League football, is a matter for the future, but it has certainly proved its effectiveness on the foremen-tioned Lancashire grounds.

Even though the season has been extended until the end of May there are many busy weeks ahead before the programme is completed. March will be, in the main, a Cup-tie month, for now that the international match has been postponed Cup-ties will be possible on March 8th.

AUSTRALIAN "POACHING" PROTESTS

Since the "dead-line" date for R.L. Cup registrations there have been few transfer moves. Barrow, however, have obtained the signature of A. E. Toohey, the Wigan stand-off. There have been persistent reports that a Yorkshire club may persuade yet another Australian to come to England, and something more definite may be known by the time these notes are in print. The player concerned is a well-known three-quarter back "down

Continued on Page Eleven.

LIONEL WILLIAM COOPER

Huddersfield's New Australian International Winger.

APOLOGY and THANKS

WE wish to apologise to both readers and newsagents for the late delivery of last month's "Rugby League Review." Huddersfield and the Colne Valley received the full force of the blizzard which swept the country, and roads were impassable and transport brought to a standstill. To add to these difficulties a serious fire occurred at the power station from which the printers receive electric current, and further delayed production of the paper.

We desire to express appreciation of the splendid efforts made by our printers to overcome these difficulties, and to thank our newsagent friends who also expressed their sympathy.

Because of the restriction on the printing of periodicals this number will be received by readers later than usual. The great "switch-off" is also responsible for the reduction in the number of pages to twelve, and the increase in price to sevenpence. Following the recent increase in printing costs, a substantial rise has now taken place in the price of paper. We shall return to a sixteen page issue when more paper is available, and we hope readers will not mind paying the extra penny which we hope will help us to meet our production costs until more copies of the paper can be printed.

International Match

THE game between England and Wales arranged to be played at Headingley, Leeds, on March 8th, 1947, has been postponed on account of the ground being unfit. Tom Longworth, of the "News Chronicle," had written for us an article entitled "England's Chance At Leeds," which we shall now include in our next issue. France meet Wales at Swansea on Saturday, April 12th, and England at Leeds on the following Wednesday (April 16th), probably in the evening.

FOOTBALL IS IN THEIR BLOOD!

Brothers Pepperell, Fearon and Buchanan

By G. G. CARTER

Editor of "The Whitehaven News."

MOST R.L. followers have heard of the three Pepperell brothers, and in this article our contributor not only reveals some interesting facts about their careers but also introduces us to two other Cumberland families of three footballer brothers. Next season the Huddersfield Club is to give Stanley Pepperell a "testimonial" match.

CUMBERLAND has been hitting the headlines these last two seasons with new Rugby League records in which trios of brothers have figured prominently.

Last season, for the first time in the history of the code, three brothers, the Buchanans, of Kells, were chosen for the Cumberland county amateur side. This season the three Pepperells, of Seaton, were selected, likewise for the first time in history, for the county professional side against Yorkshire at Workington. But their luck was out: because of injuries before that game only one Pepperell played. But for the second match, against Lancashire at Barrow, the brothers were all fit and played a notable part in compelling a strong Red Rose team to consider themselves somewhat fortunate to escape with a pointless draw.

At the same time the three Fearons, of Brookland Rovers, were breaking amateur records, for after assisting Cumberland to win the county amateur championship, they played for England against France.

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON.

Football blood courses strongly in the veins of all three families. Take the Pepperells. For years their father was one of the brightest stars in Cumberland football circles and played for Cumberland against Lancashire soon after the 1914-18 war. In addition to their father's influence the three boys had the benefit of coaching in the village school team by the then head, Mr. E. T. Sharp, an old centre for Brookland Rovers who knew every move in the game. Is it little wonder, then, that Rugby football has become the family religion?

Like his father, the eldest of the three Pepperells, Stanley, played both Rugby and Soccer with equal facility when in his teens. But he was definitely weaned from the Soccer bottle in 1934 when he found himself a member of the Cumberland team which won the county amateur championship. His displays in those games caused Huddersfield hurriedly to seek his signature and two days before his 20th birthday he signed as a professional. Two years later he played for England. Quick promotion!

Stanley's second appearance as an international was made in 1944 and was made memorable for the Cumbrian because his two drop goals turned the game in favour of England against Wales at Wigan. Probably the hardest blow sustained by Stanley was the outbreak of Hitler's war in 1939, for then the Cumbrian was at the height of his form and he seemed to be an automatic choice for the British side which should have toured Australia in 1940.

Russell Pepperell graduated from the village school to the local club, and in 1938 played for Cumberland county amateurs before being chosen as captain of the English amateur team to meet France at Bordeaux. Shortly after his 21st birthday Huddersfield signed their second Pepperell, but Russell played only two games for the famous Yorkshire club before he was called upon to play on sterner fields, those created by war. Russell found Dunkirk one of the roughest of those fields. During the war period the two brothers played for the Fartown club whenever on leave, and, singularly enough, when Stanley played for England at Wigan in 1944 Russell travelled with the team as first reserve.

On returning from the Forces with broader shoulders and a stockier frame, Russell found the Huddersfield management in the throes of stock-taking and rebuilding. Russell is one of those happy-go-lucky footballers who will try anything once, and in the 1945 season he filled gaps in many positions,

STANLEY V. PEPPERELL.

G. RUSSELL PEPPERELL.

ALBERT JAMES PEPPERELL.

JOSEPH FEARON. JOHN FEARON.
SANDERSON FEARON.

including that of loose forward, and did badly in none. Recently he achieved one of his ambitions by his selection to play for England against France. Another ambition has yet to be fulfilled—an Australian tour.

Albert, the youngest of the three brothers, had his football career cut to ribbons by the war. Still, Huddersfield kept a weather eye cocked in his direction, and on his 21st birthday signed him on the dotted line. Previously he had travelled long distances during the war to don the claret and gold jersey and had helped Huddersfield to win at least one trophy.

But Albert did not have the same good fortune at Huddersfield as his elder brothers. In his first match in 1945 he broke a finger, which mended slowly. In the meantime Huddersfield found another player, and when Albert was pronounced fit there was no room for him. Accordingly he was loaned to Workington Town, then struggling to build a team, and there wrought such a vast improvement that it created no surprise when he was transferred. Tom Fletcher, the old Oldham, Cumberland, and England centre, a shrewd judge of a player, has a very high opinion of the abilities of Albert as a footballer.

THIRD GENERATION.

For three generations the Fearons have been linked with Cumberland R.L. football, both in play and in administration. Indeed, several branches of the family swear that they had football for breakfast, dinner, tea, and supper!

Joseph, who was prominent as a boy track runner, played a trial for Huddersfield at centre just before the war. Then, in the R.A.F., he played both Soccer and Rugby and declares that for hard knocks and wear and tear on the legs Soccer is a more dangerous game than Rugby, because the Rugby man's hands save him.

John is a fast and constructive loose forward, and Sanderson, the youngest of the trio (he is not yet 21) is equally at home at either scrum-half or full-back. Sanderson played one game for Workington Town last season, against Warrington, and he and Joseph played a trial for Oldham this season, but no Fearon has yet turned professional.

The Fearons have every reason to be proud of their achievement against Yorkshire this season when they scored among them 16 of the 18 points recorded by Cumberland.

COUNTY AMATEUR HONOURS.

The Buchanans, of Kells, were the first to set this "in triplicate" ball rolling, for Joseph, Arthur and Leslie wore the Cumberland County Amateur jersey last season, when Joseph captained the side.

Joseph, the eldest, is now nearing the veteran stage. He was first chosen for the County 11 years ago and has played six times in all. His quickness off the mark is his biggest asset as a centre, and he played trials for Leeds and Barrow without, however, coming to terms.

Arthur has made four appearances for Cumberland amateurs, including two this season, following which he was chosen for England against France. He is a wing man of the dashing type. Leslie, who has played a trial for Barrow, is a loose forward with a long, raking stride and is absolutely tireless.

The trio were members of the Kells side which put up such a magnificent fight against Warrington at

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JOSEPH BUCHANAN. LESLIE BUCHANAN.
ARTHUR BUCHANAN.

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forget the treat we had that afternoon. The high spot in this memorable final was Bowkett's amazing goal-kicking success: six remarkable goals, surely the most distinguished goal-kicking yet seen in a Wembley Final. The shots were not at all easy, but every one cleared the bar with yards to spare. The final score was: Huddersfield, 6 goals 3 tries (21 points); Warrington, 4 goals 3 tries (17 points).

Edgar Wrigley

Bowkett's marvellous kicking brought Huddersfield victory after a very even struggle. I remember critics declaring that Bowkett had some luck in kicking his goals. Others said he was lucky to run up six goals at Wembley, where accurate goal-kicking was impossible because of so-called wind currents found on no other ground. At the time and also later I asked the kicker if he had felt any such handicap at Wembley. Bowkett's reply was that the assumed wind currents had not in any way affected his goal-kicking. Those who know Len Bowkett as well as I do, will at once accept his disclaimer as we should accept his views without reservation on any football topic.

The Huddersfield club in my time has not had a player who has rendered more consistent whole-hearted service than Leonard Bowkett. The Club owes a good deal to players of his type as it does to other valiant workers in its official and unofficial life. We should always remember, with gratitude, the lasting value of this joint service in difficult, as well as in good times.

Ben Gronow

Pomp And Ceremony On The Football Field

A tribute to a born organiser

ONE of the greatest organisers in the history of the Rugby League code has just retired after a banking career extending over forty-six years, and has left Whitehaven to spend the evening of life in his native Carnforth.

He is Mr. R. L. Unsworth, who, along with Mr. Tom Banks, a Cumberland R.L. Commissioner, conceived the idea some years before the last war of holding an annual end-of-the-season match at Whitehaven between first-class clubs in aid of Whitehaven Hospital.

There were many "Doubting Thomases" who predicted catastrophic failure with heavy financial loss. But they reckoned without two born organisers, men who knew the art of dressing their Rugby League shop window.

Perfect Organisation

No detail escaped Mr. Unsworth. Everything was timed to a split second. Nothing shoddy was permitted. The teams turned out like fashion parades; they were led on to the field by a brilliantly uniformed band; and lined up in front of the stand to be introduced to some distinguished person.

It was the same off the field. Nothing was too good for the players. The town's modern public baths were reserved for their exclusive use, the food had to be the best procurable, and they were royally entertained. During his two days' stay no player was left to kick his heels in idleness, and a Lakeland tour was always thrown in.

Soon the news was bruited abroad and the big clubs were literally tumbling over themselves to be invited to Whitehaven. Those taking part in these games included Barrow, Halifax, Warrington, Hunslet, Wigan, Swinton, Bradford Northern, and Huddersfield.

Many players who had appeared at Wembley told me that the Whitehaven event was better organised—and infinitely more enjoyable.

A Great Occasion

Soon, too, the Whitehaven fixture came to be recognised as one of the features of the year on the North-West coast, and special trains had to be run from places as far distant as Barrow and Carlisle. The women, too, loved this display of colour and touch of pageantry. In fact it was often humorously remarked that there were almost as many expensive fur coats on the Whitehaven stand that day as there were at a Rugby Union international match at Twickenham.

Altogether, before the exigencies of war made things too difficult and the competition was abandoned, the substantial sum of over £2,000 was raised for the hospital, and in recognition of their services Messrs. Unsworth and Banks were made life governors.

There is not the least doubt but that the success attending these games inspired those who ultimately launched the new Workington Town club, but Messrs. Unsworth and Banks were the pioneers.

In our code we could do with more showmen like Mr. Unsworth. Perhaps there is no room in an ordinary League match for all the ceremonial which distinguished the Whitehaven games, but by and large our football crowds appreciate spilt second timing, a smartly turned out band, and equally smartly turned out and mettlesome players—too many of our teams shamble on to the field like loafers, in frowsy jerseys and stockings of varied hues.

If our Rugby League Council are ever stuck for an organiser for their Wembley final they could turn to Mr. Unsworth. No man would do it better.

G. G. C.