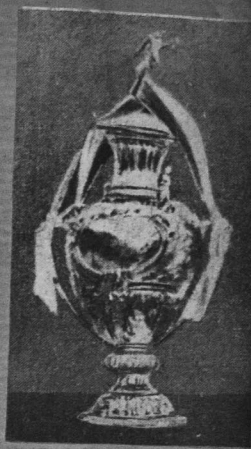




A general view of the big R.L. final between Leeds and Hunslet on United's Soccer ground at Elland-road this afternoon.



RECORD CROWD—54,112—for any Rugby League match in this country watched the Rugby League Championship final between Hunslet and Leeds at Elland Road. This incident in the match shows Batten and Morrell making sure of stopping a run by Smith, the Leeds left-winger. Hunslet won 8-2.



O'SULLIVAN (Hunslet) looks towards Plenderleith for support when tackled by Harris (Leeds) at Elland Road. RIGHT: Eaton, the Leeds full back, swerves desperately to elude O'Sullivan. (By a "Mercury" photographer.)



THE LORD MAYOR meets the Hunslet players before the match. The players are Stansfield, Bennett and White. Mr. Edgar Meeks (left), the Hunslet vice-chairman, introduced them. (By a "Mercury" photographer.)

JIM BROUGH RETIRES FROM FOOTBALL

BUSINESS MUST NOW COME FIRST

FAMOUS BACK WRITES FROM S. AFRICA

End of Great Career in Rugby Game

Jim Brough, the famous international full-back of the Leeds Rugby League Football Club, has decided to retire from the game.

Brough, who is now in Johannesburg, South Africa, in charge of a branch milk carton factory of John Waddington, Ltd., the Leeds and London printing firm, has written to the Leeds Club chairman, Mr. Edgar Alcock, acquainting him with his decision, which is made because of the calls of his business career.

Brough, has also written to "The Yorkshire Evening Post," for whom he has acted as "special correspondent" on several occasions, notably the Australian tour of 1936, when he captained the British side. He comments that he feels he has had a sufficiently long and honourable career now, and that he is glad to pass out of the game he loved, fit and well.

Brough, who was born at Silloth, a small seaport in Cumberland, will be 35 years of age in November next. That is the veteran age for footballers; but he was so remarkably well preserved that his play as recently as last spring suggested him to be 10 years younger.

He is teetotal and a non-smoker, and has always taken great care of his physical condition, of course.

He married a Silloth girl, and they have two young children, a boy and a girl.

All the Honours—Nearly

Brough's collection of the honours of Rugby League football, since he "turned" from Rugby Union in June, 1925, is practically complete—save for the League Championship medals which elude his club.

He has captained his club—Leeds has been his sole club during his 13 years of Rugby League—his county and his country in Test matches.

As tenaciously patriotic a Cumbrian as ever the county produced, he played nearly 50 times for it in the county championship, and captained the Cumberland team in its championship "hat-trick" years 1932-1935.

He generally played centre for Cumberland. To him the most memorable victory the county gained was when Cumberland beat the Australians of 1933—through a last second dropped goal by Brough from the half-way line.

It was also a memorable day for him when he captained the Leeds side which won the R.L. Challenge Cup by beating Warrington at Wembley in 1936.

He has a number of Yorkshire League, Yorkshire Cup and Northern Rugby League Championship runners-up medals.

Because he was contemporary with Sullivan, of Wigan, Brough only played in three Test matches against Australia, Sullivan gaining the selectors' preference. Brough's "who of appearances were all in Australia—two in 1928 and one in 1936 as captain.

The duels between Sullivan and Brough in club and international football are among the classics of post-war Rugby League, and although Sullivan retained the Test place year after year just so did Brough invariably out-play him in lesser football. But Brough could never equal Sullivan as a goal-kicker, good goal kick though he was.

Deadly Attack

Brough's catching—it is said that he once went through 15 games without knocking on once—and left foot kicking alone would have marked him out as one of the great players of all time. He was a strong tackler and acute positioner, too. But on top of all these attributes he was a deadly attacking man.

He has turned a game or won it scores of times for Leeds with his slashing runs up the middle or sides and very few three-quarters or halves could run through a waiting defence like he could from full-back.

A raking side-step, and a wonderful eye for the gap, combined with his marked speed, made him a most menacing player.

Brough was well built for his role, too, being 5ft. 10in. in height, and 13st. 10lb. in weight.

He has been an idol of the Headingley crowd for years, and he was popular on every ground in the game.

His rise in Rugby football was very fast. While a part-time fisherman at Silloth, he played Rugby Union for his County in 1923-4, and that season Cumberland won the County Championship.

It was against Leicestershire in the semi-final that Brough first really "hit the headlines." Cumberland were losing at three-quarter time, when Brough—carrying out a manoeuvre he had practised for weeks before—suddenly dropped a brilliant goal from the half-way line.

Cumberland rallied and won, and Brough played faultlessly in the final against defeated Kent.

"The Fisherboy Full-Back"

Next season, 1924-25, the redoubtable "All Blacks" were here, and Brough's mastery showing in a handicapped and routed Cumberland side against the tourists made him almost certain of his "cap." He played for England against the unbeaten "All Blacks" at Twickenham in January, 1925, with the national Press describing him as "the fisherboy full-back," but after also playing against Wales he was passed over.

The following summer, after having many offers to turn, he signed for Leeds, and he cost them only about £250. He was then 24 years of age.

Just before that, however, he had been approached by the Liverpool Association football Club, and he signed an amateur form for them. One of the Liverpool Club's players, seeing Brough catching and kicking faultlessly in an England R.U. Trial, conceived the idea of Brough being a goal-



Jim Brough

keeper. Nothing came of this move, however.

On arriving at Leeds, Brough trained for and studied the Rugby League game with almost too much enthusiasm. There are stories of how he had to be almost forcibly stopped from over-training.

Besides being a successful professional sprinter in his earlier years, Brough was also a first-class golfer.

Brought up within a stone's throw of the famous Silloth golf course, he was an artisan member of the club as a youth. He joined the Horsforth club when he came to Leeds, and has won many prizes in Yorkshire golf.

He is a former champion of Cumberland and Westmorland, and had played on a number of occasions for the county side with distinction.

He is also something of an all-round amateur musician, being able to "knock a tune out" (as he says) on the mandolin, the accordion, the violin, and the mouth organ.

During recent years he has developed a pleasing style of public speaking, and made a great impression thus in Australia. He has given a cine-lecture on many occasions on the 1936 tour, and once addressed the Leeds Y.M.C.A. Luncheon Club on "Rugby League," speaking for half an hour with scarcely a note.

On that occasion he deplored the social distinctions between the Rugby Union and the Rugby League codes, and suggested that the democratic principles of amateur and professional cricket and golf, if applied to the Rugby Union would benefit that game. His idea was that Rugby League players should be allowed, if they desired, to go into Rugby Union football (not representative games) and give it the benefit of their experience.

LOSS TO THE GAME

Broughs Not Born Every Day

Commenting on Brough's retirement, "Fennell" writes:

There has been only one Jim Brough in the Rugby League game, just as there has been only one Harold Wagstaff, or Billy Batten, or Eric Harris. And I am afraid it will be a long, long time before there is another Jim Brough. They don't "make 'em" like him often.

He was a great full-back in an age of great full-backs. Had not Sullivan been contemporary with him Brough would have been England's R.L. full-back all the last decade.

There were attacking moves by full-backs before what one might call the Brough era; but Brough will go into football history as "The Attacking Full-Back." He showed what a well-equipped and fearless player could do in attack from full-back, and it is safe to say that he has left a permanent impression on full-back tactics.

It was beyond Brough's spirit to "play safe." He had an attacking instinct, and he was a very useful centre, you know, although full-back was his best position.

I have heard it said that you had to play AGAINST Brough to realise how great a player he was.

"When he's moving, you're worrying," a distinguished Lancashire three-quarter once told me about Brough. "And when he's quiet you're still worrying when he's going to strike—and where. And that kicking of his—you should hear our forwards groaning when he's driving them back 60 hard-won yards."

Brough was proud of his length of kick, and rightly so. I have pitted many a young full-back who fancied his own punting against Brough's, and who has bravely opened a kicking duel with him.

Into the Wind

But the feature of Brough's kicking, to me, was his power into the wind. He comes from a windy town, and learned his first football on a wind-swept ground, and that may explain his rarely being mastered by wind.

Let me give another opinion on his kicking. He was never so purely left-footed as many people thought. His left foot was his natural kicking foot, so he used it, and contrived his game to use it. But he could use his right foot quite well—practice ensured that—as many a side who tried to "peg" him on to his right foot in the hope that he would hash his kick, discovered.

All round the Rugby League grounds, his smiling face will be missed. Brough had "colour," he was a crowd-drawer—even his mistakes were spectacular—and there will be positive walling in his native and worshipping Cumberland.

We all have our own memories of Brough—he was a player who constantly made memories of play. The one that is in my own mind to-day before all others is of the goal he dropped against Leicestershire, playing Rugby Union for Cumberland in the semi-final of the county championship.

Cumberland behind and labouring at 11-3 points, and three-quarter time, A despondent Carlisle crowd.

Suddenly a long punt up the middle by the Leicester full-back, Brough's safe "bucket catch" on the half-way line's centre, his quick sighting of the Leicester posts, his studied drop kick, and the long curved soar of the ball—the cheering put 10 yards on the carry, I swear.

Cumberland went on to win like men inspired. And Jim Brough had put his first foot on a stair of football fame which he climbed to the very top, climbing cleanly and soberly.

And no man will be looking more regretfully down the stair to-day than Jim Brough. He loved his football with a high passion, and he gave the game high service and ornament.

FOUR PREVIOUS FINALS BUT CHAMPIONSHIP NEVER WON

PARTICIPATION of Leeds in to-day's Championship final brings back memories of their previous appearances in the final in 1915, 1929, 1930 and 1931.



Here is Wheatley, new Leeds forward favourite, taking stock of his surroundings at Headingley, where he's already made his mark.

On the first occasion, at Wakefield, Huddersfield beat Leeds by 35pts. to nil, and they again proved the "bogey" on the second occasion, winning at Halifax by 2pts. to nil.

Again it was Huddersfield who shattered the Leeds hopes in 1930 when, following a 2-2 draw at Wakefield, they won by 16pts. to nil at Halifax, and in 1931 Swinton beat the Headingley men, at Wigan, by 14pts. to seven.

Although it is only seven years since Leeds made their last appearance in the final, Brough, Williams and S. Smith alone of the men who played on that occasion are still on the books at Headingley.

Here are the teams which represented Leeds in the four finals:

1931.—Brough; Grainger, Moores, O'Rourke and S. Smith; Williams and Fawcett; Demaine, Thompson, Thomas, R. Smith, Douglas and Gill.

1930.—Rouser; Jones, Askin, Moores and S. Smith; Williams and Adams; Davis, Demaine, Pascoe, Thompson, Douglas and Gill.

Replay.—Goldie; Smith, Askin, Rouser and O'Rourke; Williams and Adams; Demaine, Pascoe, Thompson, Thomas, Jenkins and Evans.

1929.—Brough; Andrews, Rouser, O'Rourke and Lloyd; Moores, Moore, Swift; Thompson, Demaine, Pascoe, Davis, Thomas and Gallagher.

1915.—Lewis; W. H. Davies, W. A. Davies, Campbell and Jenkins; Sanders and Jones; Webster, Godward, Rees, Carter, Chilcott and Ward.

Whatever may have happened at Elland-road this afternoon, it has been a season the Leeds fans will remember, and one can be excused for asking if there has ever been a more thrilling try scored than that by Eric Harris on Monday evening.

Until Harris went away on that 70 yards run, Leeds had been fighting a losing battle against Swinton. Weakened in the forwards and at half back, the side had been up against it. Harris's try was the turning point, but the Australian will be the first to admit that the real hero of the game was little Jenkins, who literally played himself to a standstill.

The attendance was close on 30,000, and taking them all round one doubts if the "gates" at Headingley have ever been as big as this season.

It is a point worth noting that, under the formula which regulates the inter-county matches, next season Leeds should meet Swinton, Barrow, Warrington, Salford and Wigan.

There may, however, have to be one alteration if Halifax, who play in the Lancashire League, again take Leeds as one of the two Yorkshire choices to which they are entitled.



Watson (Leeds) and Bowen (Wigan) in a tussle at Headingley this afternoon.



VIC HEY

AUSTRALIA'S CAPTAIN



COLIN M. MAXWELL



THE TOURISTS, 1938

Back row (left to right): W. H. Jeanes (Manager), S. G. Barnes (N.S.W.), E. L. McCormick (Victoria), W. J. O'Reilly (N.S.W.), E. C. S. White (N.S.W.), L. O. B. Fleetwood-Smith (Victoria), J. H. Fingleton (N.S.W.), and W. Ferguson (Official Scorer). Second row (left to right): W. A. Brown (Captain of Queensland), A. G. Chipperfield (N.S.W.), S. J. McCabe (N.S.W.), D. G. Bradman (Captain, South Australia), B. A. Barnett (Victoria), M. G. Waite (South Australia), and F. A. Ward (South Australia). Sitting on ground (left to right): C. W. Walker (South Australia), C. L. Badcock (South Australia) and A. L. Hassett (Victoria).



Rosenfeld

the popular Huddersfield threequarter in his playing days. He is referred to in Dinny Campbell's article.

Horder and Ellaby.

"I consider it would be unfair to place one in front of the other," says Campbell.



VEYSEY, a try-scorer for Dewsbury this afternoon.



A typical action snap of "Billy" Thornton (Hunslet).



CLIFF WHITEHEAD signalled his return to Hunslet from Leeds with a grand goal this afternoon.



Morrell (Hunslet) gets away with the ball during some exciting exchanges in the match with Barrow at Parkside this afternoon.



T. Gorman.

"He was to Queensland and Australia what Wagstaff was to Huddersfield and England."



DON BRADMAN presenting the Rugby League Cup to Risman, the Salford captain, after the final at Wembley. Salford defeated Barrow 7-4.



THE VANQUISHED.—right: Winnard, Smith.

THE RUGBY LEAGUE CUP (top, centre), for which Salford and Barrow will battle at Wembley to-morrow; Risman (Salford), left, and Troup (Barrow), right, the rival captains; and Mr. F. Peel (Bradford), the referee



GIVVONS, of Oldham, will be Wales' loose-forward against France.



LLOYD.



FRENCH.



BRINDLE, the former Halifax R.L. loose forward, who is doing well at Castleford.



FIELD (Halifax) passed to Baynham when c Orford (Bradford) the replayed Cup-Stadium yesterday. by 10 points to "Mercury" phot



Risman, the Salford captain, with the Rugby League Cup which his side won on Saturday.



ALL-IMPORTANT TRY.—Gear, the Salford three-quarter, himself over the Barrow line to score the only try of the Rugby League Cup final at Wembley on Saturday.



BANKS



LIONEL COOPER (above) and BRIAN BEVAN (below) leading wingmen and prolific try scorers who have thrilled with their clashes in Huddersfield-Warrington games



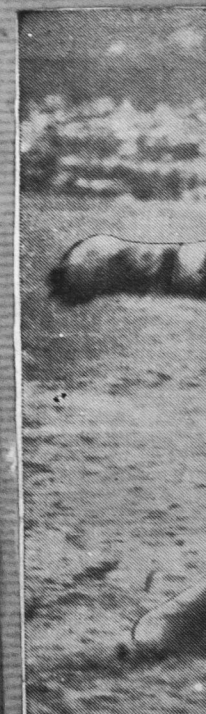
HUNTER



DALY



ENS



HEADLONG F (Leeds) puts a s run by A. Davis (the match at Wig team won by 16



THE VANQUISHED.—The Bradford Northern team in Wednesday's Cup-tie replay. Standing (left to right) **Winnard, Smith, Di Lorenzo, Pollard, Case, Moore, Orford, Higson.** In front, **Bennett, Carmichael, Hayes, Grimes, and Harrison.**



A TRY! Bailey, the Huddersfield half-back, was too slick for Brough, the Leeds full-back. This came shortly before half-time in the Rugby League Cup-tie at Headingley to make the score 3-3.



FIELD (Halifax) passing the ball to Baynham when challenged by Orford (Bradford Northern) in the replayed Cup-tie at Odsal Stadium yesterday. Halifax won by 10 points to 2. (By a "Mercury" photographer.)



WELL COLLARED!—Bennett, the Hunslet forward, finds it hard work to get through the Barrow defence. A semi-final "shot" at Parkside this afternoon.



JIM SULLIVAN,



HEADLONG FLIGHT.—Jubb (Leeds) puts a stop to a flying run by A. Davis (Wigan) during the match at Wigan. The home team won by 16 points to 13.



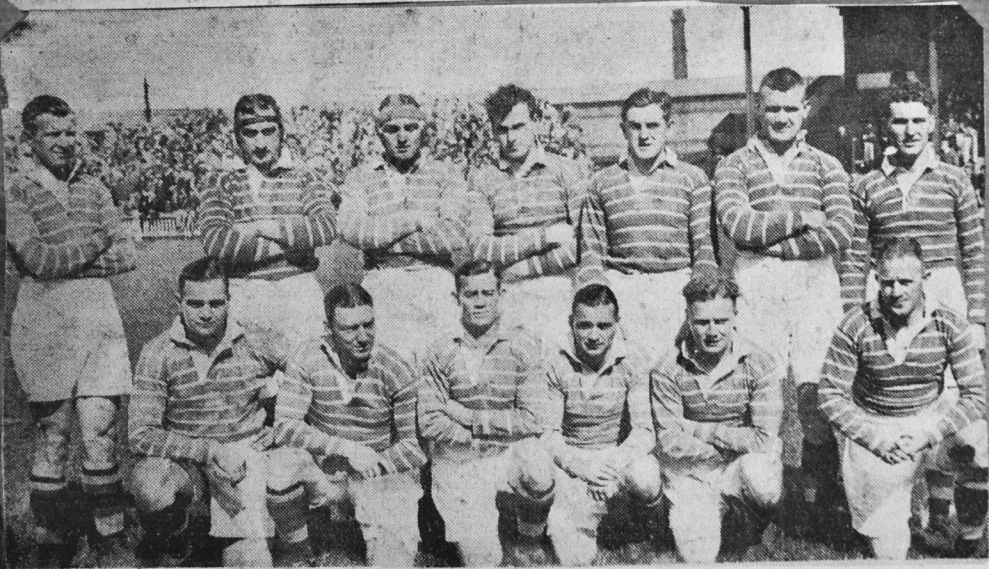
ATKINSON, Castleford's captain, opened the season's scoring for his side with a try this afternoon.



Here is a new photograph of Huddersfield players from whom the team for the Wembley Cup Final will be selected.
Back row: Brindle, Talbot, Banks, Halliday, Sherwood, Norcliffe, Young, and C. Brockbank.
Middle row: Tiffany, Markham, Mills, Bowkett, Scourfield, Brogden, and Park.
Front row: Spencer, Richardson, and Adams.



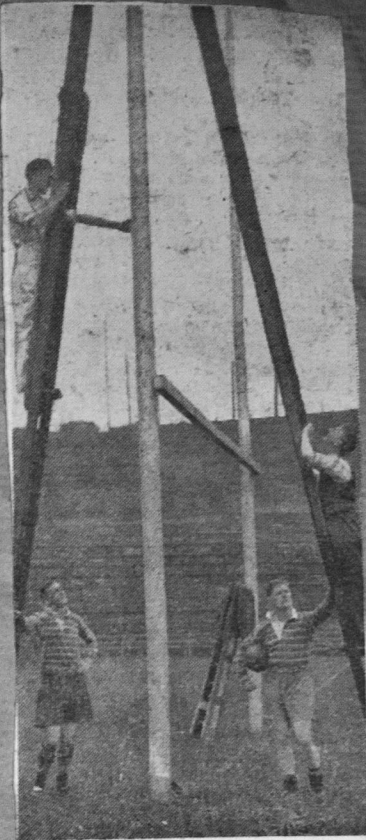
Harris (Leeds) tries to stop a run by Holder (Wigan) at Headingley this afternoon. Also in the picture are Jubb and Evans (Leeds).



LAST SATURDAY'S VISITORS.—The Huddersfield R.L. team, who played Halifax in the Infirmary Cup.
Top row (left to right): Catlin, Whitehead, Shaw, Mallinson, Fiddes, Sherwood, Johnson.
Bottom row: Gronow (G.), Bailey, Grahame, Taylor (W. J.), Madden, Markham.



Having a chat with the new trainer. Left to right: Catlin, Taylor (W. J.), J. T. Withers, Madden, Bailey, and Grahame.



There is work to be done in the close season. Painting the posts in readiness for the new season. Taylor (W. J.) and Madden are interested on-lookers. It was while engaged in a similar occupation during the week that Pollard, the Batley centre, broke his leg.



SPENCER VIBART, Salford Rugby League Club's new front-row forward from Camborne Rugby Union Club.



MADDEN, one of the best men on the field in the Batley-Huddersfield game this afternoon.



CROSTON, a stout defender for Castleford this afternoon.

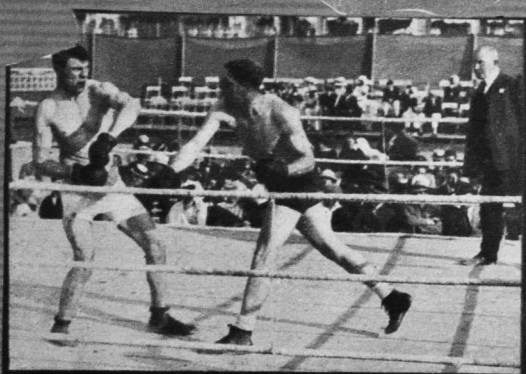
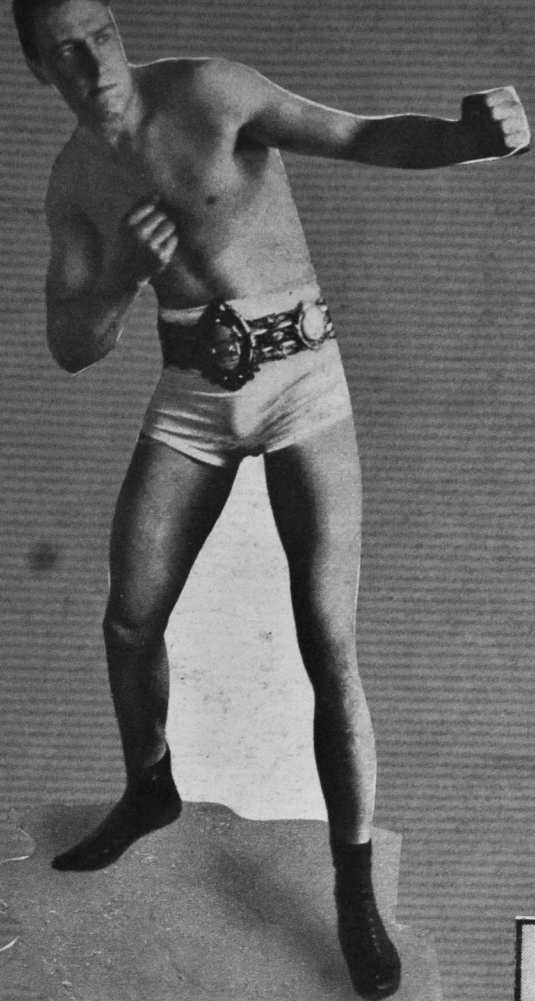


EX-CHAMPION Billy Williams, idol of the Boxers.

WHEN Billy Williams made his London boxing debut, he came as Army champion of India—he became a popular figure. 6 ft. 3 in. of a hood, his powerful physique captured the imagination. For many years he was the heavyweight champion of Great Britain when he had the title.



SMITH (Broughton), but a...



EX-CHAMPION Bombardier Billy Wells, once the idol of the Boxing Ring, now a film actor. Above, during his fight with Journee.

WHEN Bombardier Billy Wells, in 1911, made his debut in a London boxing ring—he came as Army Champion of India—he immediately became a popular idol. His 6 ft. 3 in. of athletic manhood, his pleasant smile, captured the boxing fans. For many years he was heavyweight champion of Great Britain, and even when he had lost his title he was still the attraction

at boxing meetings. When he quit the ring, he took to refereeing, managed a gymnasium, became mine host of a tavern, and then decided to have a cut at films. He became an extra. Then he was cast for small parts of military character. Now he is Lord Chancellor in the new Herbert Wilcox film *Sixty Glorious Years*. He has nothing to do but look solemn and stately, and he does that as though he were born to the Woolsack.



THE HON. PETER BEATTY, proud owner of Bois Roussel, leading in the horse after Derby win. Is brother and heir of present Earl Beatty. Bought horse from French theatrical producer Leon Volterra about 4 months ago for £8,000. Was its first race in England. Mr. Beatty is a Director of Personal Air Services. Inherited £200,000 under will of his mother, Countess Beatty, who was Miss Marshall Field. Owns Reigate Priory where there is small thoroughbred stud farm. Is 27; has attractive personality.



HE GOT HIS MAN.—Lingard (Leeds) brings down his Wigan opponent in fine style at Headingley to-day. Dyer and Eric Harris are the other Leeds men in the picture.



DOUBLE tackle by Barlow and Ellerington (Hull) stopped Hughes's dash for the line in the match at Swinton last night.



Hurley (Hull)



THOMPSON, Broughton Rangers' halfback, has had a long service in the game.



HUGHES, whose acquisition has strengthened the Fartown pack.



SMITH (Broughton Rangers) made a dash for the Salford line, but a flying tackle by Dai Davies saved his side.



Feetham (Salford) dodges Tiffany but has to face Yates. An incident in the match at Parkside this afternoon.



NOT THIS TIME!—Tiffany (Hunslet) fails to collar his man in a flying tackle in the match with Salford at Parkside this afternoon.

WORTH WATCHING

GLYN MORGAN, Huddersfield

Huddersfield folk are well satisfied with the way in which the man from South Wales has settled in their scrum-half position—a position filled with great distinction for them by more than one man from the Principality. Morgan signed for Huddersfield in the war years, and two or three seasons went by before he was able to step as effectively as he did last season into Northern Rugby League football.



But he has made himself at home at Fartown, where he is quick enough to use the ball when he gets it, and clever enough, too, to get about the field as a scrum-half should. He can make an opening and he can get to the right spot to keep a movement going or have a hand in its completion. He gives little away when there is tackling to be done.

WILL THE "FLYERS" GET THEIR CHANCE?

WHO is the fastest man in Rugby League football? That is a question which the game's followers keep on asking and in most of the camps the fans are prepared to back their own local speed merchants.



ERIC HARRIS

Stan Brogden, Eric Harris, Ray Markham, Castleford's Lloyd, Wigan's Morley, and the names of other players spring to mind, but would it be in the interests of the game if these men were to get together in a scratch event?

At least one well-known Rugby League official who is prepared to say that it wouldn't be Mr. Harry Hornby, of Bradford Northern. He believes that a cut-and-dried decision as to who happened to be the game's fastest man and who the runner-up would only serve to knock some of the glamour out of it for the clubs whose entrants weren't in the running.

If the home supporters want to say that their particular favourite is faster than Brogden, Harris, or somebody of the sort, let them go on thinking so. Although Odsal will include one of the biggest sports meetings ever for a scratch event for the "flyers."

who was rolled in the mud, had the audience picked it out of their eyes and ears and laughed contentedly.



Todd, the Halifax off-half, who will be in opposition to Goodfellow (ins Wakefield scrum-half, in the cup-tie. "Forward" suggests these two should be Yorkshire's half-back pair for the Cumberland match.



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J. Wood Beever, F. Wright, W. Cunningham, H. V. Wood, Esq., F.C.A., J.P. R. Lockwood, Committee. Chairman. President.
F. B. Hoyle, Committee. H. Holt, Asst. Trainer.
C. L. Reynard, J. Aspinall, L. Baxter, K. Mallinson, W. Leake, G. Brook, A. Givvons, S. Spencer, Secretary. J. Burrow, J. McGurk, J. Bawden, A. E. Fiddes, T. L. Grahame, A. J. Pepperell, J. Miller, Swinton. Captain. Warrington.
INSETS: O. Peake, D. R. Lewis, J. Bradbury, H. Whitehead, Warrington. Swinton. Salford.



HALF SEAS OVER: Above, Jules the "natural swamp-wallower" takes a dive into his favourite element. Below, the referee wipes his eye and feels glad he wore his second-best trousers.



HAROLD WAGSTAFF AND BEN GRONOW
Scorers in the early Christmas meetings

GOOD MUD AND TRUE: Ten happy workmen bale out mud from Norwood cemetery and stamp in good thick motor-oil to prepare a happy wrestling-ground. Below, a spectator who had studied A.R.P.



LLOYD
(Keighley)
and
MILLER
(Hull)



AWAY GO NORTHERN!—Case, the Bradford winger, gathers the ball and makes ready for a spurt. An incident in the match with Hunslet at Odsal this afternoon.



BROGDEN SIGNS FOR HULL

£1,200 Fee Makes R.L. Transfer History

Stanley Brogden, the international threequarter of the Leeds Rugby League Football Club, was signed on by Hull early this morning at his home in Bradford. He had a long interview there with Mr. E. T. Jackson, the Hull secretary, and eventually his playing terms were settled and he signed.

His transfer fee is £1,200, which is the amount that Leeds were understood to have paid for him when they secured him from Huddersfield at Easter, 1934.

Brogden's transfer to Hull can be described as a private one, for he was not on the transfer list. Leeds, however, had intimated to Hull, when the latter inquired, that if they were prepared to pay the £1,200 fee for Brogden they could have formal permission to approach the player, who had not re-signed for Leeds following a difference on playing terms, Brogden desiring an increase.

After a short delay Hull approached him, with eventual success.

He is 5ft 7in. in height, 10st. 10lb. in weight, and just past his middle 20's. Hull can accordingly expect several years of first-class service from him.



Stanley Brogden.

His expensive signing by Hull is the "transfer sensation" of this season to date, and of the past close season. It is, in fact, the biggest transfer since Belshaw, the England full-back, went from Liverpool Stanley to Warrington last season at the record fee of £1,400.

This is the third time, and it makes a Rugby League record, that he has been transferred for four figures or over. He began his senior football career with Bradford Northern in their Birch Lane days, and was transferred to Huddersfield when only a youth, for a reported fee of £1,600. After over five years with Huddersfield he was transferred to Leeds for £1,200 and now Hull have paid the same amount for him.

When he came to Leeds his fee was the then record for the Rugby League game, and it is the highest sum that Leeds have ever received for a player, and, of course, the highest that Hull has ever paid for one. The question will now arise in many minds—what will Leeds do with the £1,200 received for Brogden?



A struggle for possession in Bradford Northern's match with Hunslet in the first round of the Yorkshire Cup this afternoon.



Johnson.



Almost a score by Bradford Northern in the Yorkshire Cup match with Hunslet at Odsal

A Fartown Winger



PEPPERELL.



Wagstaff and Batten in their playing days.

"England never had a better pair of centres. . . Wagstaff, the outstanding tactician. . . Batten, the man who must have been the the strongest centre the game has known."



★ PEAKE, the 19-year-old Warrington winger, for whom "Forward" predicts a bright future. Here he is seen tackling Fred Harris in the match with Leeds at Headingley last season. ★



Half Back Genius in R.L. Game

Outstanding Pair at Huddersfield

"Dinny" Campbell Classifies The Best Ever

"Dinny" Campbell, the old Leeds centre threequarter, has been back in his home in Australia for many years now, but he has never forgotten the brilliance of some of the half-backs he met when he was in English football.

In this article—the fourth in a series written by him for "The Sports Post"—he pays full tribute to the greatness of Johnny Rogers, the old Huddersfield scrum-half, and he says that on the one occasion on which he played behind Rogers he felt that he had played the best game of his life. There is a compliment, if you like!

By "DINNY" CAMPBELL



Vic Hey, of Leeds.

Another remarkable Australian stand-off half.

Rogers on only one occasion, and I have an idea that I never played a better game. It was in Steve Darmody's benefit match at Hull.

Genius of Rogers

In the opposition were Wagstaff, Batten, Parkin and Rosenfeld. Rogers and Devereux were with me in the Hull side. To the surprise of everyone we gained a great victory, thanks to the genius of Rogers at the base of the scrum. No ordinary half-back could handle like this player. He was lightning away from the scrum, and it was not often that he was caught from behind. He made more openings from the scrum than any other player, and he was as quick in defence as he was in attack in which he could change the point with a speed that was amazing.

When Rogers was past his best, Parkin, who first came to the front as a stand-off half, became England's premier scrum-half. And what a great player he proved to be in that position. He was of the crafty type, a strategist to the finger-tips, and as cunning as a fox.

He had those magnetic hands that allowed him to handle the ball with great dexterity. He varied his play more than any other scrum-half, and when he turned to the blind side his work was perfect, for he had a grubber kick through that has never been equalled.

A Parkin try we shan't forget

Many of us will never forget his great try in a Test at Sydney. He kicked through and Horder, coming across, was beaten by an eccentric bounce of the ball. Parkin got his boot to the ball to kick it past Fraunfelder, and then he regained possession to score between the posts. Duncan Thompson, who was in England with the first team after the war, was similar to Rogers, in that he was ever breaking through the opposition. He was amazingly clever, and was always working out schemes to spring on his opponents. It has been said that his defence was weak. That is a libel on a great player, for he could change defence into attack in a fashion that was as beautiful as it was bewildering.

Since then in Australia we have seen "Chimpy" Busch—I had much to do with his introduction to first-class football—Viv Thicknesse, Les Mead and Hector Gee, players who touch the highest standard. And in recent years England has sent out to us Leslie Adams, Bryn Evans and Watkins, all great little players, though hardly in the same class as the men whose names are at the head of this article.

Campbell's next article takes him round the loose forwards he has known—Seelings, Burge, Gallagher and the rest.



Eric Weissel.

An outstanding Australian stand-off half.

Dinny Campbell

STAND-OFF HALF-BACK

- Eric Weissel (Australia) 1
- Vic Hey (Australia) 2
- W. Farnsworth (Australia) 3
- J. Thomas (England) 4

SCRUMMAGE HALF-BACKS

- Johnny Rogers (England) 1
- Duncan Thompson (Australia) ... 2
- Jonty Parkin (England) 3
- Chris McKivatt (Australia) 4

LET ME DEAL WITH THE STAND-OFF HALF position first, for it is, I believe, the hardest on a Rugby field. It calls for extraordinarily quick thinking, lightning speed off the mark, and a perfect knowledge of every phase of the game. Variety and unorthodox play are essential to lift a stand-off half to the highest class. The position demands such exactness in execution that, when we look back over 30 years of Rugby League football, it is surprising how few really classy stand-off half-backs there have been, either in England or Australia.



Johnny Rogers, of Huddersfield. Rugby League No. 1 scrum-half. "The greatest artist of all time," says Campbell.

In pre-war days, when the standard was particularly high, Lomas had those grand players, Johnny Thomas and Jim Davies, with him. These two Welshmen were brilliant in every department.

Thomas was stockily built, with plenty of "nip" off the mark. He flashed through the opposition in a way that told of his remarkably quick football brain. His perfect positional play, and the command he always had over every situation, stamped him as a footballer of outstanding ability. He was a team man, he got his backs going with such smoothness and precision that football looked easy, his defence was just as sound as his attack, and his kicking was a delight.

Great Huddersfield Pair

Jim Davies was a crafty exponent of stand-off half play. His cunning always had his opponents guessing. He and Johnny Rogers paired as half-backs for Huddersfield for many years. I have not seen a better pair.

Contemporary with Davies and Thomas was Billy Farnsworth, who did wonderful things for Australia. He was a player who wanted the ball at every opportunity, a player who made use of it when he had it. He was a delight for centres who played behind him, as he would never give the ball unless the centre was in a better position than he was.

If a fault could be found in the make-up of this great footballer, it was that he was prone to take too much on his shoulders. This often gave the impression that he was an individualist rather than a team man; BUT WE DO KNOW THAT FARNSWORTH OUTPLAYED BOTH THOSE BRILLIANT WELSHMEN, THOMAS AND DAVIES WHEN THEY WERE OPPONENTS.

Harry Caples was a fine Australian stand-off half in the early days after the war. In 1920 England had Ernie Jones, of Rochdale, and Jonty Parkin of Wakefield, as their fly-halves; and in later years we saw Danny Hurcombe and Leslie Fairclough, brilliant men on their days, playing there for England.

Jeff Moores

I can see now the opening Fairclough made in a Test on the Sydney Cricket Ground. It was brilliant in conception—the work of an artist. But, in my opinion, these men, in defence, were not



Freddy Smith, of Hunslet.

"One of the strong bulldog type . . . performing amazing acts of daring under the very feet of towering forwards."

quite in the same category as some I shall mention.

For instance, there was Jeff Moores. In 1927 I had a cable from England asking me to send to Leeds the best available centre and stand-off half. Frank O'Rourke was the best centre at the time, but no stand-off half in New South Wales measured up to the required standard.

So I travelled to Lismore to see Queensland play, and I was very much impressed with a fair-haired youngster who was carving holes in the opposition with the sang-froid of an old timer. I secured the signature of Moores who made a great name for himself in England. He was a glutton for work, and his all-round ability brings him very much to the fore-front in this discussion.

And so I come to Eric Weissel.

I shall never forget Jonty Parkin telling me after a game at Cootamundra in 1924 that Weissel was the greatest footballer he had seen. He had perfect physique, clever hands and a knowledge positional play that

has rarely been equalled. He was the inspiration of his team, a great captain, and a player whose work gave me more pleasure than any since Messenger and Wagstaff.

Now for present-day players. Let me say at once that Ernie Norman, Vic Hey and Emlyn Jenkins, the three outstanding exponents to-day, are right in the top flight. Of the last two, Jenkins gave an exhibition of really brilliant football in Australia. His variations and accurate cross-kicking paved the way for England's success.

Vic Hey's Style

Vic Hey, I am told, is the sensation of Leeds. We saw Hey in Australia when he played for New South Wales, Queensland and Australia. He has a perfect physique, over 13st. of bone and muscle, and he is exceedingly fast off the mark, with a beautiful sidestep that leaves the opposition bewildered.

His defence is, if possible, stronger than his attack. His tackling is the best for sureness that I have seen for many years. Hey realises that an opponent cannot run without legs and prefers to dive at the ankle rather than the collar-stud.

The only reason I prefer Weissel to this great player is that he was more of a team man. Hey, in my view, is inclined to have a go on his own a little too often.

When I look at the scrum-half-players I have known, I am struck at once by the number of really great men there have been in this position. There are three types to consider.

There is a strong bulldog type, revelling in heavy going and performing amazing acts of daring under the very feet of towering forwards, and then darting into the open and swinging the backs into motion. This class is best typified by that wonderful half-back, Freddy Smith, of Hunslet.

Then there is the type of player who is crafty in all his actions, one, who in the absence of lightning speed, relies on guile. McKivatt is the best example of that class.

The other type is the player who flashes from the scrum base like a meteor. Duncan Thompson was that very type.

Each class has a large following, but I confess I lean to the Thompson type. Anlezark, who went from Australia to Oldham 30 years ago, was one of the first type; so was "Pony" Halloway, another bulldog. When within a few yards of the goal-line, no half-back was more dangerous than this little Hercules.

Greatness of McKivatt

But Halloway was unlucky that the great McKivatt played at the same time. McKivatt knew every trick in Rugby. He did not startle with dazzling dashes from the base of the scrum but he engineered openings with an ease that told of his genius.

McKivatt was one of Australia's greatest players and possibly Australia's greatest captain.

Lomas, in 1910, had a wonderful little scrum-half in Freddy Smith. This powerful little man toured with Wagstaff in 1914, and few who saw him will forget how he weaved his way through a host of opponents, hand-ing-off giants with a strength that was unbelievable, and then gliding and sidestepping with surprising speed.

With Smith in 1914 was the greatest artist of the type which, as I have already said, appeals most to me.

I think Johnny Rogers was the greatest artist of all time. I played against this Welsh wizard on many occasions, and I have chased him so often that even now I seem to become exhausted at the very thought.

I had the pleasure of playing behind

MARKHAM (Huddersfield) and JUBB (Leeds)

MORSIS (Hunslet) and OLIVER (Hull K.R.)

Brilliant

HUDDERSFIELD

NORTHERN RUGBY LEAGUE AT CRAV

The Rovers were fortunate to field an unchanged team of 13 that ended the Castleford in the Yorkshire also gained a point at duty.

Huddersfield included Australian centre, at 1 and the brothers Gronow. There were 4,000 people at the start.

Teams:—

HULL K. R.—White; Oliver, McWatt, Hutchings, Naylor; Maskill, Ramsdell, Blanchard, Clarke, Gayer. HUDDERSFIELD—W. Johnson, Madden, Fiddes, Grahame, Pepperell, Sher- Evans, Hughes, Shaw, B. Referee.—Mr. E. Devine.

The Rovers won the first. Naylor was well held in his through. Huddersfield, in about relief, were penalised minute of the start OLIVER goal. It was from a position inside the visitors' half.

Soon afterwards a penalty Rovers for offside was the levelling the scores. Grand passing by the Huddersfield Rovers back, and the head of a further raid.

Weak defensive play enabled the Rovers to get in distance of the line. Fiddes were prominent with grand the home forwards playing the visitors were hard pressed.

Fiddes, to avert the danger. Taylor, who lost the ball, made a vain attempt to score but BLANCHARD kicked followed up to score the day. From a position OLIVER easily converted. Huddersfield forced a pass line, but despite a weak kick visitors lost their chance tactics. A scrumage FIDDES his second goal.



AT PARKSIDE.—To (right) Yates waits for

