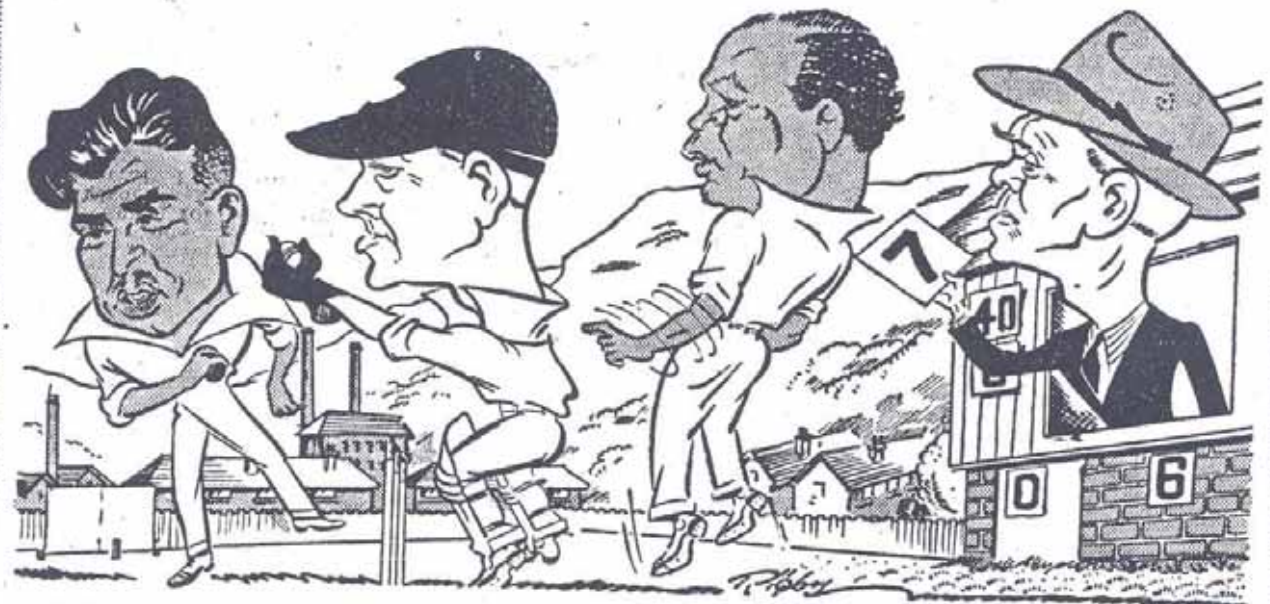


June 16/36 League cricket spotlight

ACHONG AND 'KEEPER IN WICKETS ORGY



In Rigby's parade of personalities from the Radcliffe and Walsden Central Lancashire League teams are: Amarnath (Radcliffe) and Davies. Ellis Achong and scorer Mr. Craven (Walsden).

ELLIS ACHONG, whom Walsden secretary, Mr. S. Shann, described to me on Saturday as "the whitest man in cricket," is a dusky-skinned West Indian who bowls slow left-arm spinners. And on that beautiful little Walsden ground tucked amongst the towering hills, Ellis took seven Radcliffe wickets for 42 runs in Walsden's four wickets Central Lancashire League victory.

He found a grand companion for his "orgy" in wicket-keeper Davies. From Achong's bowling he claimed five victims (three stumped; two caught) and then took one from Alex Smith's bowling to make it a round half dozen. Burly Davenport, Radcliffe's

By PETER THOMAS

batting star (not so much for his brilliance but for his reliability), tried hard to inspire his colleagues to conquer Achong. It was a great deal to ask.

In all, six boundaries came in Radcliffe's 78. Most of the runs came from Achong's 19 overs. Most of them came when Achong set his "A little shorter next time" trap. Runs meant wickets. Walsden's batsmen batted like the weather, fierce and bright and strong. Will Barker sent a six over the wail and Davies hit a four that prompted a hurdle jump from fielder Ron Jenkins over the seats. Paceman Olive showed the

best bowling figures for Radcliffe with 5-23, but Amarnath, the Indian pro., gave a lesson in how to make a ball kick from a good length.

If ever Walsden should miraculously come into a fortune, what a magnificent ground they could build with the aid of Nature's grandstands about two sides of the field. Those hills were rather politely vacant of people who might have shirked their shilling at the gate for a free view from the hillside. Reason, maybe, is that this Cinderella of the Central Lancashire League is loved by them all, like a good Cinderella should be loved. Finally, a tip of the hat to Walter Craven, who has had 41 years with the Walsden club as scorer.