

## Spen Clubs In Bradford League

# HARTSHEAD MOOR'S CONFIDENCE

Big question that overlies all local interest in the Bradford League is how will Hartshead Moor fare in their first season in their new sphere.

The Moor have made some signings but not perhaps of the calibre that their supporters would have hoped in order to really well and truly smash the ice in the Bradford League.

Some of their critics who think in a pessimistic mood are apt to say that as the Moor did not break any pots in the Yorkshire Council during the past two or three years they cannot expect to even crack any in the Bradford League on their present strength.

### CHAIRMAN CONFIDENT

But club chairman Arthur Brocklehurst and his committee are confident that the side will do well in the second division of their new league.

Back to the Moor this year has come Raymond Hirst, the all-rounder who left for Chickenley last year. His brother, Donald will lead the side again.

My forecast is that the Moor will do reasonably well, for the Bradford League cricket should suit Hirst's tactics and his swashbuckling cricket.

Hirst, of course, has had previous experience in the Bradford League and in fact so have one or two more. That experience may be limited but nevertheless it will be of some use.

Moor have the reputation of turning out good wicketkeepers, and this year they have three to choose from. In addition to John Archer, who the club hope will be fit again, will be Tony Wilson who ably did the job last season, and new man J. Greenough, who kept wicket with the B.B.A. works side last year in the Spen Valley Workshops League.

### BOWLING STRENGTHENED

Hartshead Moor have also strengthened their bowling department by the acquisition of D. Soothill from the Muff Field club in the Bradford Sunday School League. Soothill has had impressive returns in that league for the past few seasons with an average haul in the sixties. Soothill, who is over six feet tall, is fast and should make the grade.

## SPEN VICTORIA

Hopes at Spen have never been higher for seasons. The return of Arnold Hamer, who told me this week he is looking forward to a come-back at Spen,



A. HAMER



J. A. CARTER

and the signing of former Colt Brian Bainbridge, should give Spen batting potential. Spen will be led again by Alan Carter and of course there will be "old faithful" Percy Watson to lead the bowling attack. Sights are well and truly set on promotion and a return to Division 1.

## SIX-FOOTER

Big news of a big man coming to EAST BIERLEY. His name? Peter Stringer, from Colton in the Leeds League. He stands 6ft. 5ins. and is a fast bowler. His haul last season was 65, which included all ten wickets in one game.

East Bierley have also got a new opening batsman, Peter Ashton, from Wakefield, who had over 700 runs in Sunday games last year, but Lewis Pickles and Eddie Shingsby who both had over 700 last year with East Bierley, will still open the batting. Norman Kitson will lead the side in place of David Field who has left for Pudsey St. Lawrence.