

THE present Paddock club had its origin in that formed by young men of Paddock Methodist Church in 1876, who at first played football and then turned their attention to the summer game.

Like most other clubs in this district Paddock have had their ups and downs, and have been concerned in many notable games.

The most famous of Paddock's former players is Percy Holmes, who joined the club after leaving school.

PADDOCK

Founded By Band Of Young Methodists

THE young men of the Methodist Church at Paddock were really responsible for the formation of the Paddock Cricket Club. They banded themselves together in 1876, and took a ground at the old delph, where Paddock Institute and Adelaide Terrace now stand. Only football was played at first by the members of the club, which was known as Paddock Rangers. Cricket was introduced later.

Their next ground was Mr. William Bigham Dyson's field, and then they transferred to Mr. G. H. Hanson's field. Both these fields are now occupied by Larch Road. Later, still another move was made, this time to what was known as the Old Scholes Field, and it was from there that they moved to their present ground in 1882. The conditioning of the ground was a tremendous task. There was one large field and three or four smaller ones when the land was taken. The members, all of whom spent their spare time on the job, took all the walls down right to the very foundations. Mr. Tom Barker, who has been associated with the club for many years and was the first life member, states: "We handled the rough stones until our fingers bled. The field was not so broad at first as it is now, and the wickets, in those days, had to be pitched the opposite way to that of to-day. A tipping was opened, however, and gradually the field came to bear its present aspect."

Before Paddock entered competitive cricket, such clubs as Cliffe End, Huddersfield United, Liversedge, Hopton, Hobden Bridge, Sowerby Bridge, Saddleworth, and Clackheaton figured on their fixture list.

Successes

Paddock played in the Combination in 1895-6, then had two seasons in the Alliance, and joined the Huddersfield and District League in 1897 with Linthwaite. They were winners of the Lamb Cup in 1897 and 1898, beating Thongbridge at Golcar in the former

year and Almondbury at Dalton in the latter. The District League Championship went to made 470, of which W. A. Oldfield scored 236 (a record for the district), and Paddock forfeited the match. In that year none of the regular bowlers took a wicket, and the stumper was one of the most successful attackers.

An incident of the early 'sixties is worth recalling. A Paddock cricketer, A. Chadwick, in a match against Dewby Dale, clean-bowled a batsman, knocked all three wickets out of the ground, and sent one of the balls sixty-six yards.

The taking of ten wickets in an innings has been accomplished only once for Paddock—on May 27, 1893, when J. T. Slater, of Hall Bower, who was professional at Paddock, bowled out Kirkheaton, who scored only 38.

In 1908, one of Paddock's championship years, they played in an exciting match at Primrose Hill which had an important bearing on the championship. John Morton scored 20 runs off the last over to win the match for Paddock.

The founders of the club were J. F. Crossland (the present licensee of the Griffin Inn, at Thornton Lodge), H. Whittaker, E. Thornton, F. Netherwood, W. Settle, and William Settle, and later prominent players were D. Robinson, F. White (a very fast bowler), A. Farrington, T. Elms, J. Schofield (later Alderman Schofield), B. Townend, F. Mitchell, A. Wigglesworth, J. Greenham, and Harry Edwards.

A Family Affair

Paddock had for long the reputation of being something of a "family" team, and there are numerous instances of members of a family playing together. There were the brothers Crossland (Sam, Ralph, and Fred), the Edwards (Harry, Tom, and Herbert), the Francos (Michael, Percy, and John), the Mitchells (Tom, Willie, and Fred), and the Chattertons (James, Percy, and Harold). In 1888 a match for the Paddock Church Clock Fund was played at Paddock between eleven Crosslands and a team in which Allen Hill appeared.

Fielding has been a matter of pride with the club, and they enjoyed a high reputation in the district in this respect some years ago. Six talented stumpers of the club were Fred Burley, Tom Edwards (regarded as one of the best ever in the district), Harry Bates, George Buckley, Dick Balmforth, and Harry Mallinson, while at one time they had three fine out-fielders in E. Nunn, G. A. Pearson,



MR. SAM LIVERSEGE, who has had a very long association with Paddock Cricket Club.

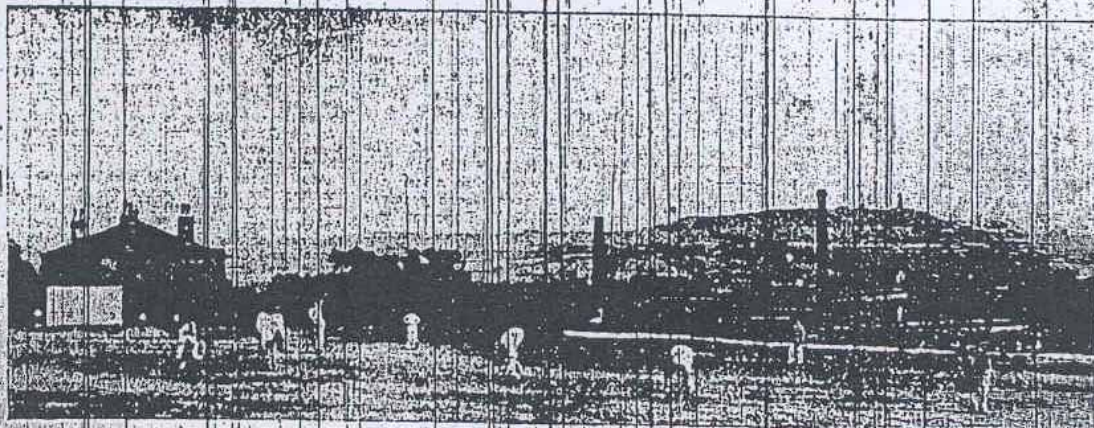
Percy Holmes

The best known and the most famous of all Paddock players is, of course, Percy Holmes, who after leaving school at Oakes joined the club—his first step on the road to county cricket and world fame. Subsequently he assisted Golcar, and then went into the Bradford League. Holmes is the only Paddock cricketer who has become a regular county player. In 1911 while with Paddock he won the Huddersfield and District batting medal.

Other medal winners have been L. Linaker 1908 (bowling), Wright Jessop 1910 (bowling), W. W. Lancaster 1911 (bowling), and A. Taylor 1923 (fielding).

Prominent post-war cricketers of the club have been Herbert Robinson (now captain of Brighouse), Andrew Taylor (now at Golcar), Edgar Varley (this season's professional at Armitage Bridge), A. Ricketts, and Ben Ripley.

Following is the list of professionals who have played with Paddock:—G. B. Swinnea (Paddock), Jack Schofield (Kirkheaton), W. Hodge (Kirkheaton), Tom Parfitt (Eggleston), J. T. Slater (Hall Bower), W. W. Lancaster (Holmforth), G. A. Fryer, W. Jessop (Kirk



Paddock in 1908 and 1924, and the Sykes Cup in 1923, while second team successes number two—the championship in 1911, and the Paddock Shield in 1929.

and John Morton. In later years a prominent player in the outfield was J. H. Birchcliffe.

In the nineties two Paddock cricketers,

heston), Fairfax Gill (Wakefield), George Buckley (Lindley), Tom Jones (Golcar), A. L. Richardson (Starborough), Albert Mort-