

CRICKET

SLAITHWAITE v RASTRICK

PRESENTATION OF BYROM SHIELD.

The last home match and incidentally, the final game of the season for the Slaithwaite club was when Rastrick appeared at Hill Top on Saturday. The utility of such an arrangement was early apparent, for spectators were practically absent altogether, and five of the Slaithwaite team were away on holiday, these including the professional. Of course the championship had been won, and there was nothing to fear, but events might not turn out so luckily every time.

The drizzling rain of the morning had the effect of delaying the start until 4-25, when Rastrick, having won the toss, decided to bat. Their start was not at all convincing, Dodson cleverly caught Gill off his own bowling in the first over, and quickly followed this up by bowling Shaw. A. Carter, however, batted finely, and despite frequent bowling changes, scored 55 by sound cricket until beaten by Wilkinson. The seventh and eighth wickets offered some opposition, but on Helm being stumped by Shaw off Sykes, the innings were declared closed. Slaithwaite made a very sorry show with the bat, Jebson 19 (missed second ball), N. Sugden 16, and L. S. Dyson 12 being the only double figure contributors to a total of 74. Scores:

Rastrick.

L. Gill, c and b Dodson	2
W. Shaw, b Dodson	7
A. Carter, b Wilkinson	55
T. Smith, c Sugden b Dodson	11
A. Whiteley, c and b Dyson	6
E. Berry, b Jebson	8
H. Buckley, c and b Jebson	10
R. Helm, st Shaw b H. Sykes	16
H. L. Thompson, not out	9
Extras	11

Total for 8 wickets (dec.) 129

Slaithwaite.

A. Shaw, c Whiteley b Wadsworth ...	1
H. Bamforth, c Berry b Wadsworth ...	0
A. Jebson, c and b Wadsworth	19
F. Walker, b Thompson	5
N. Sugden, b Wadsworth	10
P. Sykes, c Buckley b Thompson	8
L. S. Dyson, b Buckley	12
W. Wilkinson, b Buckley	0
J. Dodson, c Shaw b Smith	6
E. Webster, b Wadsworth	1
H. Sykes, not out	0
Extras	12

Total 74

PRESENTATION OF THE SHIELD.

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Between the innings occasion was made to present the Byrom Shield to the Slaithwaite club for winning the championship in 1925. Mr. Micklethwaite, of Rastrick, occupied the chair, and after apologising for the absence of the Slaithwaite president (Mr. James Gartside), who was away on holiday, said that he was pleased that Slaithwaite had won the championship for they were admittedly the best team of the season. He then called on Mr. H. B. Atha, of Lockwood, to make the presentation.

Mr. Atha also had apologies to make for the League president, who was also on holiday, but he said it was a pleasure to him to come to Slaithwaite to present the Shield to them to keep for twelve months. He regarded the Slaithwaite team as one of the best of the season in their district, and they had one of the best professionals. No matter what others said he considered when a professional took over a hundred wickets in a season in league cricket he had been doing exceptionally well. He had a great regard for their captain, who up at headquarters was a hard worker in trying to bring cricket in the district up to a higher level. This was the fourth time that the championship had been won by Slaithwaite, and on behalf of the League he asked Mr. Herbert Sykes, as captain, to accept the same.

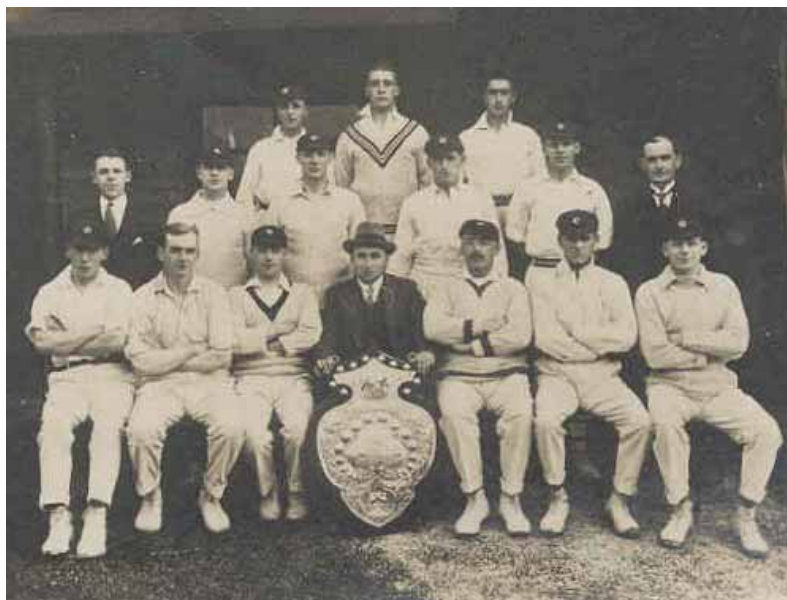
Mr. Sykes, in accepting for the Slaithwaite club, said that all would agree that they had earned the honour, and that they owed a great deal to their professional. They also owed a great deal to the weather, the past season being one of the best for many years. A good professional was a great asset to any club, and clubs in the district were beginning to find out that a good professional paid. He thanked the public for their support during the season—it had been splendid throughout, and they had very many supporters who were not members of the club. Personally he would like the honour of winning the Shield to go round, not to Huddersfield or Friarmere, but he would like to see such clubs as Rastrick, Lockwood or Holmfirth have a look in. (A voice: What about Linthwaite?) To such clubs the success would do some good, and he thought that neither Huddersfield, Friarmere or Slaithwaite would suffer (applause).

Votes of thanks to the chairman and Mr. Atha closed the proceedings.

Dyson 1
J. Dodson 3
A. Jebson 2
W. Wilkinson 1
N. Sugden 6
H. Buckley 1

Wadsworth
Thompson
Bamforth
Smith

Only one match not started through rain Slaithwaite v Lockwood being



PRESENTATION OF MEDALS

To SLAITHWAITE CRICKETERS.

There was a very large attendance at the Slaithwaite Liberal Hall on Saturday evening, when at a dance arranged by Slaithwaite Cricket and Bowling Club, opportunity was taken to present the gold medals won by the first eleven as champions of the Huddersfield and District Cricket League. The handsome shield, which was presented at a cricket match last month, was also in evidence on the platform. Mr. Herbert Denton, a former president of the club, presided, and was supported by Mr. James Gartside, president, and Mr. J. W. Senior, secretary of the League.

Mr. Denton said that when he joined the Slaithwaite Cricket Club 30 years ago it was not in the prosperous position it was to-day. They were there to celebrate the success of the club winning the shield again and they all rejoiced with them in their success. He did not say that this year's team was the best they had ever had, but it was certainly a first class team. Since the year 1910 Slaithwaite had been very prominent in winning both shield and cup, and he considered they had the finest team between 1911 and 1916. He remembered that in 1910 they appointed Wallace as professional and the following year they won the shield. In 1912 both first and second elevens finished the season at the top of their respective leagues. In 1913 they played off in the final, but Huddersfield beat them; they again won in 1914; and in 1915 and 1916 they played off in the final, but were not successful. He hoped the club would go on doing well and playing cricket from the true cricket point of view. The team had played well together, and in the right spirit throughout, and so had half won the battle before they commenced. He had been reminded that there were not many players left who played with the team in 1912-13—there were only Norman Sugden, Percy Sykes and Herbert Sykes, and they hoped they would go on playing for Slaithwaite for many years yet. Mr. Denton concluded by expressing the hope that the club would continue to give every help and encouragement to young players in their own district, rather than bring into the team players from other districts.

The president, Mr. Gartside, read a telegram from Mr. Cotton, who expressed his regret that he could not be with them, and congratulating them on their success. Mr. Gartside also said how pleased he was to see an old friend present in Mr. Arthur Blackburn (applause), a former very valuable slip man and first wicket batsman. He was very pleased that they had had such a successful season; if they had had a little bit of good fortune in the Cup semi-final he thought they would have beaten Huddersfield, and so won the final and another set of medals. But the double event of winning cup and shield was left for the future. With Slaithwaite's record in the past, and with such a team, he thought they could look forward to the day when they could win both in one year.

Mr. Gartside then presented medals to the following—

Herbert Sykes, (captain), Norman Sugden, Percy Sykes, F. E. Greenwood, A. W. Shaw, A. Johnson, L. S. Dyson, Jack Dawson, J. W. Earnshaw, J. Brown, B. Middleton, T. Bamforth, W. Wilkinson, F. Webster (pro.), Sam Hirst (scorer), G. Aspinall (bag-man).

Herbert Sykes, the captain, in responding, said he had made many mistakes, but no one knew about them better than himself. He would like to thank the players for the splendid support they had given him during the season. They had made the job a pleasure.

Mr. J. W. Senior, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Denton and Mr. Gartside, congratulated the Slaithwaite club on having a captain who could also be a secretary. They were lucky in being able to keep their local lads who were fit to go away as professionals. It was in the interests of the league that these honours should go round, and the other clubs would have to try all the harder to beat those who always seemed to be in at the honours. He was glad that the deciding games had been done away with, as he had never agreed that a club which was at the head of the table should have to play off at the finish, when wickets were uncertain, and the luck of the toss often decided the result. He would like to see two divisions in the league, with promotion by merit, so that there would be something for the bottom clubs to play for as well as for those at the top. It could be easily arranged by bringing in two more clubs and having twelve clubs in each division.

Mr. Herbert Sykes seconded the vote of thanks.

CRICKET CHAMPIONS.

Presentation of Medals to Slaithwaite Players.

Gold medals won by the Slaithwaite Cricket Club, as champions of the Huddersfield and District League, were presented to the players during an interval in a dance at the Liberal Hall on Saturday. Mr. H. Denton presided over a large attendance, and was supported by Councillor J. Gartside (president of the club), Mr. J. W. Senior (secretary of the league), and others.

The Chairman said they all rejoiced in the success of the team in winning the "Byrom" Shield. Since 1910 the club had been prominent in winning both the shield and the cup, and he hoped they would go on playing the game in the right spirit. He always urged that Slaithwaite had only one man whom they paid to play cricket, and that was the recognised professional. It would be a great mistake to have more than one. The team had played together in a true spirit, and that was half the battle. Of the old players only Norman Sugden, Percy Sykes, and Herbert Sykes were now left, and he hoped they would continue to play for some time. He was a strong believer in sport, and had always supported it.

Councillor Gartside, who handed the medals to the players, with an appropriate reference to each recipient, acknowledged the great services rendered to the club by Mr. Denton, and referred to the progress made when Mr. Denton was president. He congratulated the players on their success and said that if they had had a little bit of fortune they would have beaten Huddersfield in the "Sykes" Cup match and then won the cup and another set of medals. The "double event" in one season was left to the future, but he hoped it would not be long delayed. He presented medals to the following players:—Herbert Sykes (captain)—who said he was proud to occupy that position in his first year as captain—Norman Sugden, Percy Sykes, F. E. Greenwood, A. W. Shaw, A. Johnson, L. S. Dyson, J. Dawson, J. W. Earnshaw, J. Brown, T. Bamforth, W. Wilkinson, F. Webster (professional), S. Hirst (scorer), and G. Aspinall (baggage man). B. Middleton, one of the players, was unable to be present.

Mr. J. W. Senior, in moving a vote of thanks to the chairman and president, congratulated Slaithwaite on their success, and also on having a secretary who was also capable of being the captain. They were also fortunate in being able to keep local lads like Percy Sykes and Lawrence Dyson, who were good enough to go out as professionals. He was glad the League deciding games had been done away with, as he never agreed that a club which was at the head of the table should have to play off at the finish, when wickets were uncertain and the luck or toss often decided the result. He would like to see two divisions in the League, with promotion by merit, so that there would be something for the lower clubs to play for as well as the top clubs. They could easily arrange it by taking in two more clubs to make the number twenty-four.

Mr. Herbert Sykes seconded the resolution, which was carried.