

SLAITHWAITE  
JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup> 1933

# L. N. CONSTANTINE'S VISIT TO SLAITHWAITE.

## THE TEAMS CHOSEN.

Great interest is being taken in the visit to Slaithwaite next Tuesday of L. N. Constantine, the brilliant all-round cricketer who hails from West Indies, and who is professional for the Nelson club in the Lancashire League, and all that is required to make the event a huge success is favourable weather.

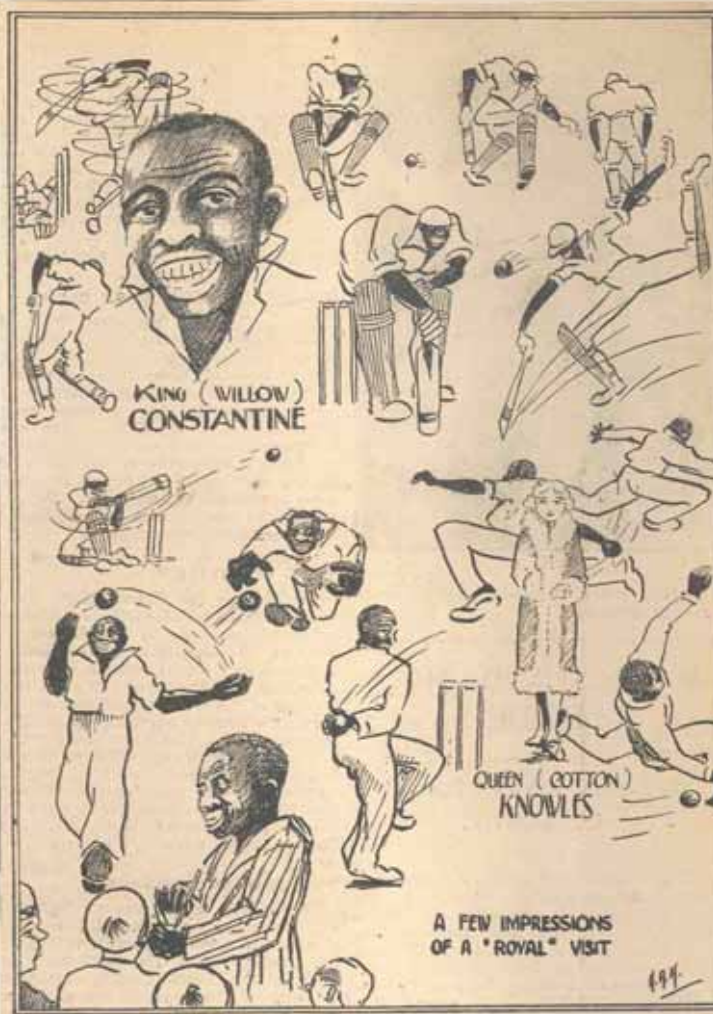
The party will consist of Constantine, his wife and little daughter, Miss Marjorie Knowles, the Cotton Queen of Great Britain, and Mr. J. Sharples, of Nelson, a representative of the firm employing Miss Knowles, and by whose permission she is appearing in her official capacity.

They will be met about noon by Mr. James Gartside, president of the Slaithwaite Cricket and Bowling Club, and during the early afternoon will be conducted round the Transmitting Station at Moor-side Edge, by permission of this B.B.C.

Wickets will be pitched at 4 o'clock, and the tea interval will be taken from 5 to 5.45. In order that intending spectators who will not be leaving work until five o'clock will have the opportunity of seeing Constantine in action, it has been arranged that he will neither bat nor bowl until after the tea interval.

The two teams will be as follows:—  
Mr. H. Robinson's XI: H. Robinson (Paddock), E. Sharpe (Bradley Mills)—who is taking the place of F. Smartles, Yorks, and Briarhouse, who is suffering from an injured back, F. Luckhurst (Bradford), E. R. Beecroft (King Cross), W. Hirst (Brighouse), W. A. Hutton (Bradford), D. E. Jowett (Halifax), J. Hill (Brighouse), J. Smith (Brighouse), H. D. Somers (Lightcliffe), F. Berry (Windhill), and J. R. S. Raper (Bradford).

Slaithwaite XI: A. Jelson, W. Rendow, N. Walker, A. Saxelby, G. A. Dawson, J. Dawson, J. Habbergham, J. Thornton, J. Beaumont (Thongbridge), F. E. Greenwood (Huddersfield), L. N. Constantine and another.



*A H Booth took the place of Hutton  
G. Briggs/King Cross - - Raper  
M. Wade (Brighouse) - - Luckhurst  
and she filled the vacant place for Slackwater*

# FEAST FOR CRICKET-LOVERS.

## VISIT OF FAMOUS WEST-INDIAN CRICKETER.

### ACCOMPANIED BY COTTON QUEEN.

Cricket enthusiasm in Slaithwaite and district ran to fever-pitch on Tuesday when L. N. Constantine, the famous West Indian all-rounder visited the district to meet Slaithwaite against a side captained by Mr. Herbert Robinson, of Paddock. Early here Odeon Valley folk had the privilege of witnessing such a talented player as the present Nelson professional, who must be one of the greatest cricketers of the day, and it was not surprising that the event should have drawn one of the largest crowds which have ever watched a cricket match in the Odeon Valley. Between 4,000 and 4,500 persons witnessed the game.

In addition to Constantine several other prominent cricketers, who took part in the game. There were F. E. Greenwood, the former Yorkshire captain, who loaned his cricket up at Hill Top, "Jimmy" Beaumont, the brilliant Thongbridge batsman, who has probably scored more runs than any other player in the Lancashire League during the past ten years, and J. Dawson, who last season was professional for the Brechin club in Scotland and now assists Slaithwaite. Mr. Robinson's XI contained some of the best players in the Bradford League in which Robinson formerly played, and to open all the coronation was graced with the presence of Miss Marjorie Knowles, the Cotton Queen.

### VISIT TO B.B.C.

Before the match Constantine together with the Cotton Queen, who were a charming group of four when teamed with Miss Cr. J. Gardie, president of the Slaithwaite club, Cr. Sidney Abley, Mr. John Sharples (of Nelson), the Cotton Queen's employer, Mr. Sharples and Mr. T. Sharples were conducted round the North Regional Broadcasting station at

Moor-side Edge. Constantine was obviously impressed with his tour and expressed admiration for the mechanical precision of everything he had seen. The Cotton Queen was also delighted at her visit.

It was easy to see in what Constantine's success on the cricket field is due. Though not unusually tall he impresses one at first sight as being supple and wiry, but it is his extraordinary vitality which impresses one most. Every muscle seems to be alert and his keen anticipation when batting enables him to decide upon his stroke almost before the ball has been delivered. As one writer recently stated Constantine is perhaps the most vital player in cricket to-day. He makes most of his shots late—his exceptional footwork, consistency in his play with perfect safety, and like most coloured players Constantine produces many of his best wickets by clever wrist-work.

People commenced to file into the field soon after three o'clock, an hour before the match was advertised to commence, and it was soon evident that Constantine's phenomenal drawing-power was going to attract a large crowd. Constantine arrived on the scene shortly before four o'clock and he was immediately besieged by a crowd of autograph hunters many of whom he obliged. His chocolate skin, soft nose and easy accent made him an object of fascinating interest and when he came to sit outside the pavilion scores of school-children gathered in front of him obviously attracted by his appearance. The Cotton Queen with her companions arrived at the ground just before the start and took their places on the top side of the ground opposite the wicket.

### AN EARLY START.

F. E. Greenwood, of Huddersfield, and J. Beaumont, of Thongbridge, opened the home team's innings to the bowling of W. Hirst (Brighouse) and D. Jowett (Halifax). Greenwood was soon out, having scored 4 and played Hirst through the slips for 4 in the first over, while 4 runs were scored off the same over. With Beaumont in squally aggressive mood the crowd was treated to some delightful cricket and 17 runs had been scored in less than quarter of an hour, when Greenwood pulled a ball from Jowett on his wicket, having scored 2. Now it was Walker, the new batsman, opened steadily, though like Beaumont he treated the loose balls with scant respect, and though numerous changes were effected the batsmen appeared to be little troubled and remained together until the tea

interval, which was taken when 36 runs had been scored in fifty minutes for the loss of one wicket. The pair had then added 41.

Beaumont and Walker were again together when play was resumed at a quarter to six and with both batsmen attacking the bowling with set the score mounted quickly. At this stage the crowd, which had augmented greatly during the tea interval, would number well over 4,000, and there was hardly a seat obtainable anywhere. Though the cricket was very attractive the crowd were obviously impatient to get a glimpse of Constantine, but with the batsmen well set it seemed that they would have some time to wait. At 40, however, F. Berry (Windhill), who kept a very good length, beat Walker with his pace and bowled him. The stand had reached 69 in just over an hour.

### CONSTANTINE BATS.

A round of cheering greeted Constantine when he came out to bat. He took a wicket over from Hirst, although he looked out at the fifth ball in a manner that left no doubt about his intention—to send the ball over "brick row" into Lloyd Street. He jumped out to Hirst and sent a sweet drive all along the carpet for a single, while another big lunge of Jowett shied the ball nearly to the boundary—when there was no holder, and three were run. A crack which sped the ball to the boundary at express speed, between two fielders at square leg, and a lovely late cut which again flashed the ball to the boundary, were in the West Indian's best style, and spoke volumes for his supple wrists, quick footwork and nimble brain. But a few shots were Bakesy affairs, and suggested he was either not sighting the ball too well or that his timing was at fault. After making 17 in 25 minutes he

left one straight into the hands of Hill at mid-off. Meanwhile J. Beaumont is going for the drive which would have given him his 50 and a handsome collection had been looted at 105. Constantine left at 120; Saxelby played the right game by hitting up 17 quickly and getting out at 134. Jelson had the distinction of playing the brightest innings of the day. He jumped out and sent a slow ball right out of the field, followed with two straight drives to the boundary, and altogether had 4 fours in his 22 not out. Slaithwaite declared at 6.42 with their

score at 167 for 5.

### THE REPLY.

Constantine took the first over, which was a maiden. He takes a run of about 100 paces, and sends in a ball which comes quickly off the pitch. Habbergham loomed at the other end, and with his first ball had Hill bow. In Constantine's third over Somers was out to a ball which came off his body and broke the wicket, at 28 Hirst was run out in attempting an impossible single, and at 23 Smith was almost bowled by Habbergham—four wickets down for 23. It was a decidedly good start for Slaithwaite. Then Berry was joined by Booth, and the cricket became dull, for neither batsman took the slightest risk. Constantine was bowling well, and sending down remarkably few loose balls, while he occasionally beat the bats completely without hitting the wicket. After sending down 9 overs only 13 runs had been scored off him. When Thornton relieved Habbergham and A. W. Shaw went on for Constantine, the scoring pace improved, and after proceeding at a leisurely rate a minute the 100 went up in 35 minutes. J. Dawson relieved Shaw and Constantine went on at the bowling green end and started bowling slow spinners. He quickly had a victim, slow bowling Booth, while at 106 he bowled Berry to have a go at a slow break ball which he missed, and stumper Dawson did the necessary very smartly. Berry played very correct cricket for nearly an hour and a half, and his 44 included 4 fours. His stand with Booth reached 90. At 112 Jowett was out and b to J. Dawson, and at 115 Constantine made a confident appeal for help against Robinson. As the players immediately began to leave the field it was thought that the appeal had been successful, and that Constantine had secured his fourth wicket, but it afterwards transpired that this was not the case, and that the final score was 115 for 7. Constantine's fielding was brilliant; he met the ball half-way, picked it up and had it back almost with the same action and sometimes before the stumper could position himself to receive it.

### Slaithwaite.

F. E. Greenwood (Huddersfield), b Jowett	2
J. Beaumont (Thongbridge), b Berry	40
N. Walker, b Berry	17
L. N. Constantine, c Hill b Jowett	20
A. Saxelby, c and b Jowett	17
A. Jelson, not out	22
W. Rendow, not out	17
Extras	4
<b>Total for five wickets</b>	<b>127</b>

### Robinson's Team.

J. Hill (Brighouse), bow b Habbergham	2
E. R. Beecroft (Lightcliffe), b Constantine	4
F. Sharpe (Bradley Mills), run out	23
F. Berry (Windhill), c G. A. Dawson b Constantine	61
J. Smith (Bradford), b Habbergham	2
A. H. Booth (Windhill), b Constantine	27
J. Thornton (Bradford), c and b Dawson	17
M. T. Wade (Brighouse), not out	17
H. Robinson (Paddock), not out	11
Extras	4
<b>Total for seven wickets</b>	<b>115</b>

### BOWLING AVERAGES.

Robinson's Eleven.				
Jowett 2 for 41	Berry 2 for 23	Hirst 2 for 23	Slaithwaite.	
L. N. Constantine	0	M. T. Wade	1	1
J. Habbergham	17	G. A. Dawson	1	1
J. Thornton	7	F. E. Greenwood	1	1
A. W. Shaw	4	J. Beaumont	1	1
J. Dawson	4	F. Berry	1	1

## SLAITHWAITE'S NEW PROFESSIONAL.

EDWIN ST. HILL, OF LOWERHOUSE.

The big step in the local cricket world has been taken. Runners have been chosen of late that some local clubs were to engage players of outstanding repute as their next professionals and it is fitting that the Slaitwaite club, who have been widely mentioned in this connection should take the first step. They have engaged as their professional for next season Edwin St. Hill, the West Indian, who for the past three seasons has played with the Lowerhouse club in the Lancashire League. He will be the first coloured player to be introduced into the Trudersfield League.

St. Hill, who was introduced to the Lowerhouse club by Constantine, visited Slaitwaite with his more famous countryman in a friendly match this season, and attracted the interest of the Slaitwaite officials on that occasion. 28 years of age, he has played for the West Indies in America and Australia. Last season he scored 477 runs with an average of 26.72, and took 77 wickets at an average of 12.87. We understand that Slaitwaite have offered him £240 together with a benefit match for full weekly services for the season. That means he will be available for mid-week games.

### PLAYED IN THE COLONIES.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Herbert Selous, secretary of the Slaitwaite club, we are able to publish the following details concerning St. Hill from a writer who signs himself "Lowerhousian." The writer states: "This native of Port of Spain, Trinidad, is a well-educated man. He was signed by Lowerhouse on the recommendation of Constantine and in his first season the club received over £200 in "gate" money for its enterprise.



E. ST. HILL.

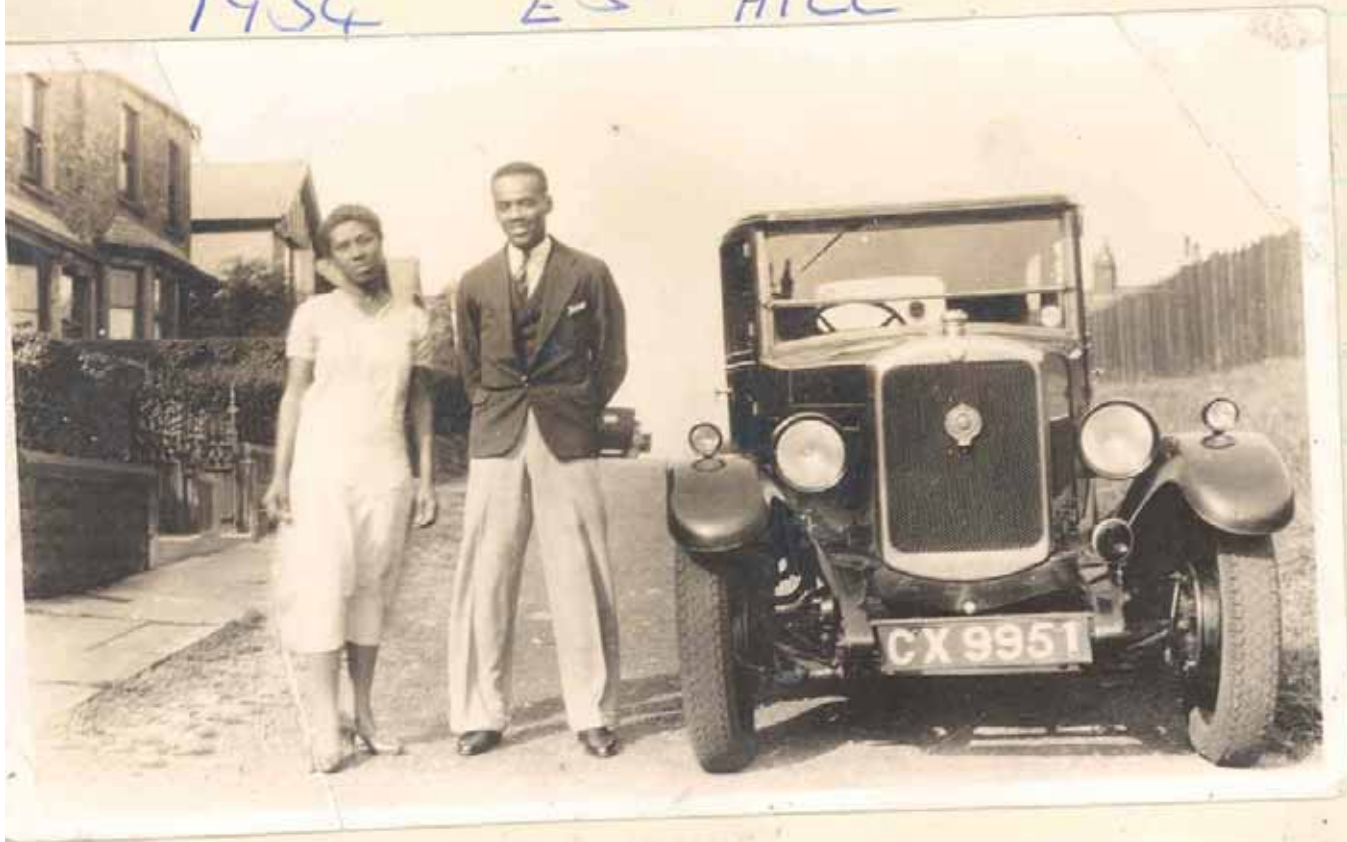
St. Hill has played cricket in Australia and New Zealand. One of his brothers came over to this country with a previous team from the colony, but this player was a batsman only. Slaitwaite's new professional is a good all-round cricketer, and the opinion is often expressed that the best has not been seen of this player yet.

St. Hill is essentially a player who plays for his club, otherwise his averages with both bat and ball would have been better than they are. On countless occasions he would easily have carried out his bat but the West Indians delight to get action into their play and the additional risk thereby entailed is joyfully accepted by them.



Slaithwaite  
Cricket Club  
1933.

1934 EST HILL



EDWIN ST HILL SIGNED FOR THE 1934  
SEASON AT A FEE OF £240 FOR BENEFIT  
ST HILL A FIRM ADJIAN IS THE 15. (COLOUR)  
PLAYER TO PLAY IN THE HUNTERSFIELD LEAGUE  
FOR THE LAST 3 SEASONS ST HILL AS PLAYED FOR  
LOWER HOUSES IN THE HUNTERSFIELD LEAGUE