Rugby League Cup Final

1st May 1956

"Up for the Cup" Northern fans watched a dour, even struggle at Wembley, between St. Helen's and Helifax (in the hoops) for the Rugby League Cup.

Then, with fifteen minutes to go, the Lancashire side ran riots - Carlton deshor over for their first try.

And ace goalkicker, Rhodes added the extra points. Three minutes later, St Helen's went further shead, and, finally, the man who inspired their first cup victory, Skipper Alan Prescott scored a third try.

But this time, Rhodes hit a post. So St. Helen's won by thirteen points to two - and shared a long-awaited victory-moment with the guest of honour, Earl Alexander.

As the winter games reach final maturity, the rural setting of Arundel Castle launches a <u>new season</u> - giving promise of red-hot summer rivalry. But right now, the Australians were wearing three sweaters and meeting a strong Duke of Norfolk's Eleven of former test players, in a one-day match for charity.

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Then when Ray Lindwall opened to Len Hutton - and bowled him fifth ball - you could almost imagine the new cable and wireless van despatching the news to eager fans "Down Under."

But happily, this was carefree cricket: though Colin Cowdrey had to concentrate on those leg-breaks of Richie Benaud.

Len Hutton, Shepherd and Denis Compton. The subject "How's that knees?

Facing a total of 188, and Alex Bedser, the Aussies collapsed...?

But reporters Lindsey Hassett and Arthur Morris got some good copy as the Tourists hit out - for a thrilling three-wicket victory.