

"C. D." WILLIAMS DOUBLE OXFORD BLUE

OLYMPIC TORCH BEARER IS CAPTAIN

1958-59. P44, W22, L15, D7. Points 382—319.

C. Derek Williams was an old Cantonian, the fourth old boy of the school to be captain of our club, following the footsteps of R. A. Cornish, L. M. Spence and Peter Goodfellow. "C. D." not "Seedy" as Stan Bowes might pronounce, was an all-round athlete and double Oxford Blue for Rugby football and cricket. When playing Rugby for Berkshire in 1948 he was the county's half mile champion and was the torch bearer from Berkshire to the White City, London, for the Olympic Games.

Business took him away from Cardiff from time to time, and during his career he assisted the London Welsh and Neath clubs, but in all he played no fewer than 248 games for Cardiff and won two Welsh caps—both against France. Always fit, he was a splendid open side wing forward, a real worrier of outside half-backs, and Roy Burnett the very tricky running half-back of Newport was amongst other stars who "C.D." shadowed well.

Four of our great players had retired—Cliff Morgan and Rex Willis, world class half-backs, Geoff Beckingham our hooker, and Eddie Thomas another forward and last season's captain. Our younger players lacked direct attacking flair, and Lloyd Williams our scrum-half was the only player honoured by Wales. He was "C.D.'s" vice-captain. It was not surprising that we suffered our worst post-war season, the low number of points scored emphasised our lack of scoring power, and 319 points scored against us was high indicating some defensive weaknesses. But there were some good players in the pipeline,

