

## RON OXENHAM'S DEATH

# Queensland's Best All-Rounder

By "THE GABBER"

**RONALD KEVIN OXENHAM**, greatest all-round cricketer Queensland has produced, died last Wednesday morning at his home at Nundah, a Brisbane suburb. He had been seriously ill with internal trouble for several months, and fought hopefully and cheerfully against what his people and his friends knew was a fatal illness.

ON September 18, 1937, when on his way to play in the opening fixture of the season, he was badly hurt in a motor car accident, and spent five months in hospital, the first in an unconscious state. That had only an indirect, if any, influence on his death.

Among relatives who survive are his widow, a family of five, his parents, and his brother Lionel, who played cricket and tennis for Queensland. Oxenham, senr., was a prominent cricketer of his day, and one of the best workers Queensland cricket has had. He felled trees after work on the site of the new Ane Nundah Oval.

Among the hundreds who attended his funeral were Stan J. McCabe and W. A. Brown, two Test players, and Mr E. A. Dwyer, an Australian selector. P. M. Hornbrook, who played with Ron for Toombul, Queensland and Australia, and L. P. D. O'Connor, who captained Queensland for many years, and was associated with Oxenham in numerous opening partnerships.

Oxenham played for the same club, first as Nundah, and then as Toombul, for 37 years. In that time he dismissed 485 club batsmen and made 5501 runs, with a highest score of 181 not out. He shares four record wicket partnerships for Toombul, the highest being 325 for the second wicket with J. H. Holdsworth.

For his services to the game he was made a life member of the Queensland Cricket Association, as his father had been before him. This is one of the few instances on record of father and son being honored in this way by one organisation.

His development as a bowler was the result of his own keenness and zeal. He practised and experimented for hours of his leisure time on a backyard strip.

It was the strength that Mr. Leo O'Connor, Percy Hornbrook and P. C. Thompson gave to Queensland teams which gave that State promotion to the Shield competition.



The late Ron. Oxenham

