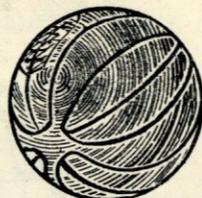




THE
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FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION II

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24th, 1949

LUTON TOWN v. SHEFFIELD UNITED

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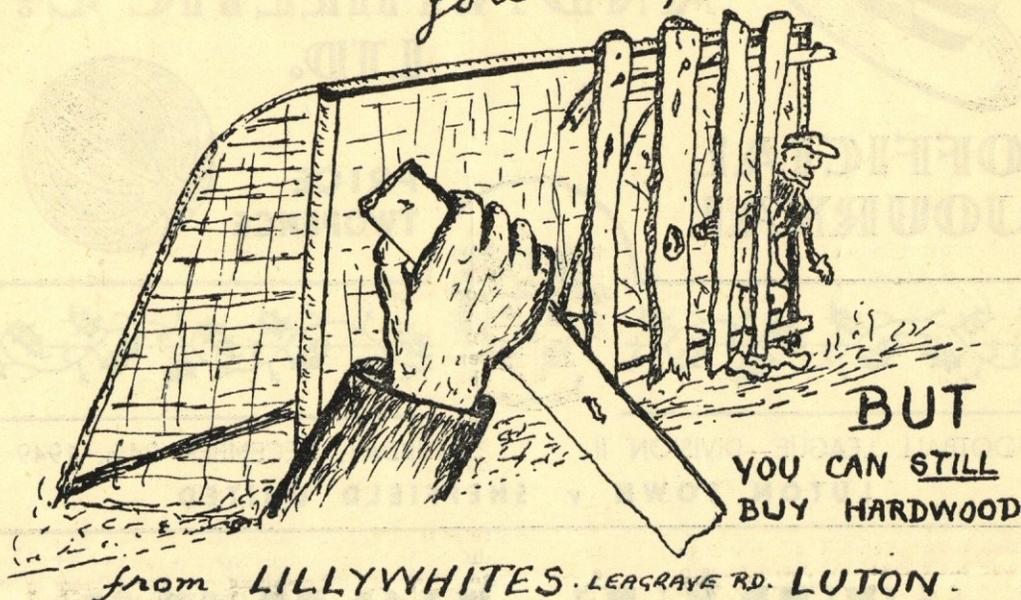
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the winning ticket can go to the rear of the Main Stand after the game and for 3d. purchase the ball from Mr. J. Collier.

Now to the supporters of Luton Town

You can at last put away that frown

And replace it by a cheerful smile

And may it last for quite a while

The last two results make it perfectly clear

That the Boys are worthy of a big cheer

Not only for the season's greetings

But for their last two away meetings

To get three from four points away from home

Should put an end to all our moans

And so today we wish the Board and Players,

in fact everyone

A Merry Christmas, A Happy New Year, and lots of fun

So far this season we have not had the best of luck

But at home and away we know the Boys have pluck

So now we say: all the best "Lilywhites"

And today go all out full of fight

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CLUB NOTES

All supporters will by now have had time to reflect upon the luck of the draw so far as Luton is concerned. Strangely enough we visit Grimsby Town next Saturday to play our return league match with them, and this game will no doubt be looked upon as a precursor for the cup battle the following week, the difference being that we shall have advantage of ground for the Cup Tie; a big asset on such occasions.

Our opponents and visitors today, Sheffield United, come to Luton this afternoon for the first time since season 1938/39, when we beat them here by 2 goals to nil. The United were promoted from Division II at the end of that season but because of the war their first full playing season in the 1st Division on their return was in 1946/47. After only 3 years of football in Division I they are back again in the Second Division, which is most unusual for the "Blades," as we see from the records that they spent a period of 59 years in the 1st Division without a break, during which time they won the F.A. Cup four times, were losing Finalists twice, won the 1st Division Championship twice and were League I runners-up on two occasions, a truly great record.

The last game we played against Sheffield United before the war was also played on the 24th of the month and the teams that day were as follows:—

LUTON TOWN:—Dolman, Smith, Dunsmore, Finlayson, Nelson, Loughran, Ferguson, Connelly, Vinall, Roberts, Stephenson.

SHEFFIELD UNITED:—Smith, Hooper, Cox, Jackson, Tootill, Settle, Barton Hampson, Dodds, Pickering, Jones.

It is interesting to note that Sheffield United fielded an all English XI on that occasion, and also that their manager then, Mr. J. Davison, is still in command of the team today, which is quite a good record considering the rapidity with which some managerial changes are made nowadays. Of the Luton team only Eddie Connelly for Brighton and Joe Loughran for Southend are still playing in League Football.

Since the last edition of the programme, our first team have gained 3 points out of a possible 4 and in doing this have shown a marked improvement in form. The 1-0 win at Chesterfield was a very good effort on the part of our lads as also was the point they picked up at West Ham last Saturday. It is interesting to note that the 4 points which separate us from Southampton, who are fourth in the League Table, represent a margin of 10 places, a position which could quite easily be changes by a successful showing of our lads over this busy holiday period when three matches will be played in four days.

Jimmy Hagan, star inside forward of the visitors team is 32 years old and after some of the brilliant displays he has given of late gives some justification to the cry for the recalling of older players in the national side. Hagan is studying to become a draughtsman when his playing days are over.

What a pity there were only two thousand spectators here last Saturday to see the Stiffs entertain Reading Reserves. Five very good goals were scored but the one which "brought down the house" was the last one scored by Billy Arnison. It was a gem of a goal and if we see a better one scored this season then we are indeed in for a treat. Billy Gripton broke up an attack in his own half of the field, brought the ball through, beat three men and then passed the ball to Bill Arnison, who had taken up an open space, he got the ball under control quickly and flashed in a shot from outside the penalty box which left the Reading goalkeeper helpless, so helpless in fact that he did not move an inch. It was a goal worth going a long way to see and as we have already said the pity of it was that only two thousand people saw it. If the present progress is maintained we will see Billy in the senior side very soon.

In conclusion may we extend our best wishes for a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to all our supporters and hope that the fare served up by the "Hatters" over the week-end will provide you with some good sporting entertainment.

Next Match, Monday 26th December, 1949

KICK - OFF 2.30 p.m.

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LUTON TOWN

Shirts White
Knickers Black
Stockings Black with White Tops

2 Cooke Right Back
4 Watkins Right Half
7 Glover Outside Right
8 Kiernan Inside Right

Referee—MR. S. E. LAW (West Bromwich)

11 Collindridge Outside Left
10 Hagan Inside Left
6 Shaw Left Half

3 Parkin Left Back
SHEFFIELD UNITED
Shirts Red and White Stripes
Knickers Black
Stockings Black, Red and White

Streten Goal

5 Owen Centre Half
9 Stobbart Centre



9 Smith Centre
5 Latham Centre Half

Burgin Goal

Football League—Division II

3 Aherne, T. Left Back

6 Gardiner Left Half

10 Shanks Inside Left

11 Waugh Outside Left

Linesmen—Blue Flag: Mr. H. MARTIN (Hounslow, Middlesex)
Red Flag: Mr. S. K. PROWSE (London)

8 Brook Inside Right

7 Thompson Outside Right

2 Furniss Right Back

4 Hitchin Right Half

Kick-Off 2.30 p.m.

SPECTATORS ARE ASKED NOT TO CROSS THE PLAYING FIELD AFTER THE MATCH

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TODAY'S HALF-TIME SCORES

NOTE. The letter in the Programme corresponds with the letter on the Board—thus A 0-1 means that the first-named club has scored 0 and their opponents 1.

FIRST LIST

A ARSENAL	.....	SUNDERLAND	.....
B BIRMINGHAM	.....	STOKE CITY	.....
C BLACKPOOL	.....	PORTSMOUTH	.....
D NEWCASTLE U.	.....	WOLVES	.....
E WEST BROM.	.....	MANCH. UN.	.....
F LIVERPOOL	.....	EVERTON	.....
G MANCH. CITY	.....	CHARLTON A.	.....
H MIDDLESBRO'	.....	HUDDERSFIELD	.....
K BOLTON WAN	BURNLEY
L DERBY CO'NTY	CHELSEA
M FULHAM	ASTON VILLA
N SWANSEA T.	CARDIFF C.

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SECOND LIST

A BARNESLEY	WEST HAM U.
B BLACKBURN R.	TOTTENHAM
C BRENTFORD	BURY
D PLYMOUTH AR.	.....	CHESTERFIELD	.....
E WEDNESDAY	.....	BRADFORD	.....
F SOUTHAMPTON	.....	QUEEN'S P. R.	.....
G COVENTRY C.	.....	GRIMSBY T.	.....
H HULL CITY	.....	LEICESTER C.	.....
K LEEDS UNITED	.....	PRESTON N. E.	.....
L BRISTOL CITY	.....	NORWICH C.	.....
M EXETER CITY	.....	WATFORD	.....
N IPSWICH T.	.....	CRYSTAL PAL.	.....

THIRD LIST

A SWINDON T.	.....	TORQUAY U.	.....
B WALSALL	.....	NOTTS. FOR.	.....
C NORTHANTS	.....	BRIGHTON & H.	.....
D NOTTS. CO'TY	.....	BRISTOL ROV.	.....
E PORT VALE	.....	BOURNEM'UTH	.....
F LEYTON O.	.....	READING	.....
G MILLWALL A.	.....	ALDERSHOT T.	.....
H NEWPORT CO'	.....	SOUTHEND U.	.....
K BARROW	OLDHAM A.
L CREWE ALEX.	YORK CITY
M LINCOLN C.	WREXHAM
N ROTHERHAM	ACCRINGTON

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FIXTURES, 1949-50

FIRST XI Division II

		1948/49		F. A.	
Sat., Aug. 20	West Ham United	0 1	H 2 2		
Wed., " 24	Coventry City	2 0	H 2 0		
Sat., " 27	Sheffield United	...	A 2 2		
Mon., " 29	Coventry City	0 2	A 0 1		
Sat., Sept. 3	Grimsby Town	1 1	H 0 0		
Wed., " 7	Bradford	1 4	A 0 1		
Sat., " 10	Queens Park Rangers	3 0	A 0 3		
" " 17	Preston North End	...	H 1 1		
" " 24	Swansea Town	...	A 0 0		
Sat., Oct. 1	Leeds United	0 0	H 1 0		
" " 8	Leicester City	1 1	H 1 0		
" " 15	Bury	1 3	A 2 5		
" " 22	Tottenham Hotspur	1 1	H 1 1		
" " 29	Cardiff City	3 3	A 0 0		
Sat., Nov. 5	Blackburn Rovers	2 0	H 5 2		
" " 12	Brentford	0 2	A 0 1		
" " 19	Hull City	...	H 0 3		
" " 26	Sheffield Wednesday	0 0	A 1 1		
Sat., Dec. 3	Plymouth Argyle	3 1	H 1 1		
" " 10	Chesterfield	0 1	A 1 0		
" " 17	West Ham United	1 0	A 0 0		
" " 24	Sheffield United	...	H		
Mon., " 26	Southampton	1 1	H		
Tues., " 27	Southampton	1 1	A		
Sat., " 31	Grimsby Town	1 2	A		
Sat., Jan. 7	Grimsby T. (F.A. Cup-3)	...	H		
" " 14	Queens Park Rangers	0 0	H		
" " 21	Preston North End	...	A		
" " 28	F.A. Cup—Round 4	...	H		
Sat., Feb. 4	Swansea Town	...	H		
" " 11	F.A. Cup—Round 5	...	H		
" " 18	Leeds United	0 2	A		
" " 25	Leicester City	1 1	A		
Sat., Mar. 4	Bury	1 0	H		
" " 11	Tottenham Hotspur	1 2	A		
" " 18	Cardiff City	3 0	H		
" " 25	Blackburn Rovers	1 4	A		
Sat., Apr. 1	Sheffield Wednesday	2 1	H		
Fri., " 7	Barnsley	1 0	H		
Sat., " 8	Plymouth Argyle	1 1	A		
Mon., " 10	Barnsley	2 1	A		
Sat., " 15	Brentford	2 1	H		
" " 22	Hull City	...	A		
" " 29	Chesterfield	1 0	H		
Tues., May 6	Bradford	0 1	H		

RESERVE FIXTURES Football Combination F. A.

		1948/49		F. A.	
Sat., Aug. 20	Reading	3 0	A 0 0		
Mon., " 22	Millwall	...	A 1 3		
Sat., " 27	Southend United	...	H 0 0		
Wed., " 31	Coventry City	...	H 4 1		
Sat., Sept. 3	Northampton Town	3 2	A 3 3		
Wed., " 7	Queens Park Rangers	5 2	H 1 0		
Sat., " 10	Northampton Town	5 2	H 0 2		
Wed., " 14	Birmingham City	2 0	H 0 2		
Sat., " 17	Swansea Town	0 3	A 1 1		
Wed., " 21	Birmingham City	3 1	A 2 4		
Sat., " 24	Arsenal	...	H 2 0		
Mon., " 26	Coventry City	...	A 1 1		
Sat., Oct. 1	Queens Park Rangers	2 1	A 3 2		
" " 8	Southend United	...	A 1 0		
" " 15	Fulham	...	H 3 1		
" " 22	Crystal Palace	...	A 0 1		
" " 29	Cardiff City	...	H 0 0		
Sat., Nov. 5	Bristol Rovers	...	A 0 0		
" " 12	Leyton Orient	5 0	A 2 1		
" " 19	Leicester City	...	H 0 3		
" " 26	Bristol Rovers	9 0	H 4 5		
Sat., Dec. 3	Leyton Orient	3 2	A 2 3		
" " 10	Leicester City	...	H 0 3		
" " 17	Reading	3 2	H 4 1		
" " 24	Arsenal	...	A		
Mon., " 26	Swansea Town	1 1	H		
Tues., " 27	Swansea Town	...	H		
Mon., Apr. 10	Millwall	...	H		
Sat., " 15	Fulham	...	A		
" " 22	Crystal Palace	...	H		
" " 29	Cardiff City	...	A		
Combination Cup					
Sat., Dec. 31	Northampton Town	2 1	H		
Sat., Jan. 7	Birmingham City	3 2	A		
" " 14	Norwich City	2 3	A		
" " 21	Watford	2 0	H		
" " 28	...	...	...
Sat., Feb. 4	Leicester City	0 0	A		
" " 11	Birmingham City	3 0	H		
" " 18	Norwich City	3 1	H		
" " 25	Ipswich Town	2 2	H		
Sat., Mar. 4	Leicester City	1 1	H		
" " 11	Northampton Town	2 1	A		
" " 18	Watford	1 0	A		
Sat., Apr. 1	Watford	...	0 0	A	
Fri., " 7	Ipswich Town	...	0 0	A	
Sat., " 8	Coventry City	...	1 0	H	
" " 15	Coventry City	...	2 2	A	
To be arranged					

LEAGUE TABLES, 1949-50

LEAGUE DIVISION II

	Pld.	Won	Drn.	Lost	For	Agst.	P.
Tottenham Hotspur	21	17	3	1	54	15	37
Sheffield Wednesday	20	11	6	3	39	25	28
Hull City	21	12	3	6	41	39	27
Southampton	20	8	8	4	31	24	24
SHEFFIELD U.	22	7	10	5	31	32	24
Bury	21	9	5	7	41	29	23
Chesterfield	22	9	5	8	22	25	23
Preston North End	22	8	7	7	30	26	23
West Ham United	21	8	6	7	29	28	22
Cardiff City	20	8	4	8	22	23	20
Blackburn Rovers	22	9	2	11	32	34	20
Barnsley	21	7	6	8	33	36	20
Leeds United	22	6	8	8	22	26	20
LUTON TOWN	21	5	10	6	20	24	20
Swansea Town	21	7	5	9	26	30	19
Brentford	22	6	7	9	18	27	19
Grimsby Town	21	7	4	10	38	40	18
Leicester City	22	4	9	9	32	37	17
Bradford	21	6	5	10	31	43	17
Coventry City	20	5	6	9	29	34	16
Queens Park Rangers	22	4	7	11	20	30	15
Plymouth Argyle	21	4	6	11	27	41	14

FOOTBALL COMBINATION—Section "A"

	Pld.	Won	Drn.	Lost	For	Agst.	P.
Fulham	22	13	4	5	36	26	30
Millwall Athletic	23	10	6	7	39	27	26
Swansea Town	23	10	6	7	44	41	26
Arsenal	23	11	3	9	47	26	25
Birmingham City	22	10	5	7	45	32	25
LUTON TOWN	24	9	7	8	35	35	25
Crystal Palace	23	10	5	8	31	32	25
Reading	23	9	5	9	40	42	23
Southend United	22	10	3	9	28	30	23
Coventry City	23	7	7	9	34	42	21
Bristol Rovers	22	8	5	9	38	50	21
Cardiff City	22	7	6	9	34	34	20
Queens Park Rangers	23	8	4	11	38	40	20
Leicester City	23	6	8	9	25	30	20
Northampton Town	21	6	4	11	36	45	16
Leyton Orient	23	5	6	12	32	50	16

Tuesday, December 27th, 1949

KICK-OFF 2.30 p.m.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

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