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*

Official Programme
Season - 1949-50

*

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Secretary: R. H. Taylor. **Manager:** J. G. Bestall.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1950.

ERNEST EDDS



With acknowledgements to the
Northern Daily Telegraph

Outside left, whom we secured from Plymouth Argyle midway
in the season.

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CLUB NOTES

Our boys succeeded in collecting a very useful point at Coventry last week. The value of that point is all the more worthy because it was gained from one of the clubs below us in the League table, and on their ground too.

It is remarkable how the fixtures have worked out in such a way that week after week, our opponents are either teams striving for promotion, or fighting against relegation. This means that every match is equal to a cup-tie, and it is a tremendous strain on our players, who are having to pull out 100 per cent every time they play. Their opponents are in the same position, fighting for every ball, and thus there is no margin for error allowed, either in defence, or in front of goal at the other end.

Our last home match was against Southampton who are in the running for promotion, we succeeded in obtaining a point, which was perhaps a little disappointing for our supporters, because on the run of play, it certainly seemed that we ought to have had both points. At Coventry last Saturday we met a team struggling to avoid relegation for their club, whose total points to-date are only equal to the club next to the bottom of the league, and only one more than the bottom club. You can imagine they fought hard for full points to ease their difficult position, now you can see how hard our boys had to fight with the crowd against them and with Eric Bell injured for part of the match incidentally it was during his absence that Coventry equalised, but we must concede to them the fact that they did not deserve to be beaten. On the other hand all honour to our team for their gallant efforts, and particularly to the Rovers grand defensive display. If only our forwards could find their shooting form, no kind of anxiety for the future would be necessary.

This week our opponents are Luton Town, another team in the danger zone, and with only two points more than Coventry and Plymouth and three more than Bradford, the bottom club. Consequently another dour struggle is assured, and another "scrap" for points, which will be followed next Saturday by a match against Sheffield United at Sheffield. The latter, one of the favourites for promotion are now holding the second position in the League and trying hard for every point.

On Good Friday we entertain our old and respected rivals Preston North End, and this match is likely to follow the pattern of so many of its predecessors and provide a keen encounter with the traditional 'derby' flavour. Then on the Saturday we meet Grimsby Town, this club have only one point more than the Rovers and like us, are straining to salvage whatever points they can to keep themselves clear of the danger zone. On Easter Monday we pay a visit to Preston, where we resume the same 'derby day' atmosphere, and if the famous Blackburn Rovers are not out of the "wood" by then, well they must start all over again with Barnsley away, West Ham at home, and finally Queen's Park Rangers away, yet another club in the danger zone.

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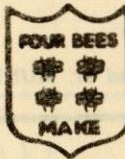
F. and H. MUNROE.

League Table

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Tottenham	33	24	5	4	70	26	53
Sheffield U.	35	14	14	7	50	44	42
Sheffield W.	32	14	11	7	52	42	39
Leeds U.	33	14	10	9	42	31	38
Hull C.	33	16	6	11	57	58	38
Southampton	33	13	11	9	50	41	37
Preston N.E.	34	13	9	12	43	39	35
Bury	33	14	6	13	54	45	34
West Ham	33	12	9	12	43	39	33
Leicester C.	35	10	13	12	48	55	33
Brentford	34	11	11	12	34	42	33
Barnsley	33	11	10	12	55	52	32
Swansea T.	33	13	6	14	46	44	32
Cardiff C.	32	13	6	13	30	36	32
Grimsby T.	32	12	7	13	61	58	31
Chesterfield	34	12	7	15	34	40	31
Rovers	33	11	8	14	42	45	30
Q.P.R.	34	9	10	15	35	47	28
Luton T.	33	7	13	13	32	46	27
Coventry	33	7	11	15	38	49	25
Plymouth	34	6	13	15	38	55	25
Bradford	33	8	8	17	45	65	24

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Easter Monday, 10th April

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Return from Preston at 5-46 p.m.
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Chorley	..	1/5	Hapton	1/2	Rose Grove	1/4
Church	Heapey	1/2	Spring Vale	-/10
Clitheroe	..	1/6	Hoghton	-/10	Whalley	1/1

Fares shown are third class; first class tickets will be issued at approx. 50% over third class fares *:—No Bookings on Sundays.
Full details from Stations, Offices and Agencies.

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	Grd.	Dec. 17—Cardiff City	Away—1-2
1949			.. 24—Tottenham H.	Home—1-2
Aug. 20—Cardiff City	Home—1-0		.. 26—Sheffield Wed.	Away—0-2
.. 23—Hull City	Home—4-2		.. 27—Sheffield Wed.	Home—0-0
.. 27—Tottenham H.	Away—3-2	1950	.. 31—Bury	Away—0-3
Sept. 1—Hull City	Away—1-3		Jan. 7—(3) Liverpool	Home—0-0
.. 3—Bury	Home—2-1		.. 14—Leicester City	Home—3-0
.. 10—Leicester City	Away—3-3		.. 21—Bradford	Away—2-2
.. 14—Brentford	Away—0-2		.. 28—(4)	
.. 17—Bradford	Home—0-1	Feb. 4—Chesterfield	..	Home—1-1
.. 19—Brentford, 3-0	Home—4-1		.. 11—(5)	
.. 24—Chesterfield	Away—1-2		.. 18—Plymouth A.	Away—0-0
Oct. 1—Plymouth A.	Home—1-0		.. 25—Swansea T.	Home—2-0
.. 8—Swansea T.	Away—0-2		.. 11—Southampton	Home—0-0
.. 15—Leeds United	Home—0-1		.. 18—Coventry C.	Away—1-1
.. 22—Southampton	Away—1-3		.. 25—(SF) Luton T.	Home—
.. 29—Coventry City	Home—0-1		.. 1—Sheffield U.	Away—
Nov. 5—Luton T.	Away—2-5		.. 7—Preston N.E.	Home—
.. 12—Barnsley	Home—4-0		.. 8—Grimsby T.	Home—
.. 19—West Ham U.	Away—2-0		.. 10—Preston N.E.	Away—
.. 26—(1) Sheffield U.	Home—0-2		.. 15—Barnsley	Away—
Dec. 3—Grimsby T.	Away—2-1		.. 22—West Ham U.	Home—
.. 10—(2) Queen's P.R.	Home—0-0		.. 29—(F) Q.P.R.	Away—

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Club Notes Continued

Well you see what we mean ! ! every game a tough one, no easing up by our opponents, therefore no relaxation for our team. We have the pleasure of introducing to our home supporters Norman Moore, our new centre-forward from Hull, who comes to us with a good reputation as a goal-scorer. We trust the spectators will give him plenty of encouragement, all the rest of the team as well, and believe me—it makes a tremendous difference.

In welcoming Luton to Ewood we would, in all modesty, remind them that we beat them by 4-1 last season—Luton by the way are interested in Straw hats and engineering, our lads will be interested in putting the "tin hat" on them, and engineering their defeat.

The St. John's Ambulance Brigade take their annual collection to-day, and we need not stress the importance of their work, this is well known to all who gather at sports meetings—all their work is voluntary and they are at your service at all times, and in all weathers. May we please appeal to you to help them liberally—they certainly deserve your thanks and appreciation.

For our match v Preston North End on Good Friday unreserved Stand seat tickets for all the Stands will be on sale to-day and may be obtained at the Club room opposite the main Stand. Prices: Stand "A" 5/-; Stands "B" 4/-; Riverside 3/-. SEASON TICKET HOLDERS WILL USE THEIR TICKETS IN THE USUAL WAY.

On Good Friday the Rovers Supporters' Club have secured the services of the Accrington St. John Ambulance Pipers' Band, who will play from 2 to 3 p.m. and during the interval.

A collection will be taken on behalf of the Accrington St. John Ambulance and the Rovers Supporters' Club.

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Right Back	GRAY	2	Left Back	ECKERSLEY	3
Eight Half	CAMPBELL	4	Centre Half	HOLT	5
Outside Right	WHARTON	7	Centre	MOORE	9
Inside Right	GRAHAM	8	Inside Left	HORTON	10
			Outside Left	EDDS	11

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11	10	9	8	7
WYLDEN	STOBART	JINKS	KEIRNAN	GLOVER
Outside Left	Inside Left	Centre	Inside Right	Outside Right
6	5	5	4	4
SHANKS	OWEN	OWEN	WATKINS	WATKINS
Left Half	Centre Half	Centre Half	Right Half	Right Half
3	3	AHERNE	COOKE	COOKE
AHERNE	Left Back	Left Back	Right Back	Right Back
			HUGHES	

LUTON TOWN.

Football Quiz

DO YOU KNOW?

1.—Which Football League club had in its service between the two wars professionals named Scott, Ireland, English, and Poland?

2.—Who is the only contemporary player who, before the war, averaged over a goal per match in the Football League in the season that marked his debut in the competition?

3.—Who is the only contemporary player who ever appeared in all three Football League divisions in three consecutive appearances?

4.—A player's complete Football League career was restricted to three matches, yet he appeared with two clubs in the same city and scored for both. Who was he?

5.—Who was the forward who figured in the maximum 42 Football League matches without scoring in a season in which his team won the First Division championship?

6.—Which was probably the only instance in history of a man having three separate spells as trainer of the same Football League club?

HERE'S THE ANSWER.

1.—Liverpool, with Elisha Scott (an Irishman), Robert Ireland (Scot.), Samuel English (Irish), and George Poland (Welsh).

2.—Hugh Billington (now with Chelsea), who, for Luton Town, scored 28 goals in 27 Second Division games in season 1938-39, which was his first in the Football League.

3.—Roy Clarke, the Welsh international outside left. He appeared with Cardiff City in the Southern Section before his transfer to Manchester City, with whom his only match of season 1946-47 was against Newport County in the Second Division on June 14. On his next appearance he played in the First Division on the first day of the following season.

4.—John Malcolm Padgett, who appeared with Bradford City in two Northern Section games in season 1937-38 and scored once. He spent the following season with Bradford, for whom he played in only one Second Division match, but scored.

5.—Fred Hopkin, who appeared at outside-left for Liverpool in all 42 in season 1921-22.

6.—That concerning Allan Ure, present Bradford trainer. He was trainer of Blackpool immediately after the 1914-18 war, later left for Leeds United, returned to Blackpool in June, 1928, left the club in June, 1932, and had spells with Gillingham and Millwall, and became Blackpool's trainer again in May, 1939.

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