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Saturday, 11th November, 1950
Chesterfield versus Luton Town

Kick Off, 2-45 p.m.

CHESTERFIELD NOTES.

On the 11th September last, Chesterfield beat Preston North End on this ground by two clear goals. It was a memorable match in many respects, but chiefly, one may suggest, because it represented the last time we won a game. On that Monday of nearly nine weeks ago we tasted the sweets of success ; it is hardly to be wondered at that we look forward to today's encounter with Luton Town to restore the balance. Like ourselves, Luton have had a pretty depressing season so far and, though they are old friends of ours, our very sincere welcome to them, today, does not include anything in the nature of a hope that they may improve their points total. That might be the quintessence of courtesy, but it wouldn't be sense. This is a game which Chesterfield must win.

I believe it is true to say that there is nothing like panic in the manager's office or the Board Room—as yet. It would be difficult to imagine such a state of affairs in view of the even-

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CHESTERFIELD NOTES—continued.

tempered men who are in control, but this doesn't alter the fact that the situation is steadily becoming extremely difficult. The defeat at Bramall Lane came as a blow on a ground which has frequently seen us do well, and it left Chesterfield in the unhappy position of being three points richer than the bottom club—our today's opponents—but with a game more played. No matter how one looks at it, here is danger real and threatening. The ensuing programme of fixtures may be a little easier than we have already experienced this season, but the fact remains that points are always much harder to obtain when it is vital that they must be won.

Since that victory over Preston, Chesterfield have appeared four times on this ground, and three points out of eight have been secured. It makes shocking reading, and, in order to excoriate our feelings a little more, perhaps we might add that four miserable goals have come from the side in its last eight games! To attempt any sort of analysis would be like a surgeon operating without the use of anaesthetic—it would horrify the patient and do the surgeon no particular good, either. Put in its simplest

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form, we're giving away too many goals and scoring too few ourselves—and that, by any sort of computation, can lead to nothing but trouble. Can any sort of managerial legerdemain bring about a reversal of the process? Or is it a matter for the players to alter for themselves? It seems to be a question of combining the two, mixing in a little more patience and, in contemporary slang, "getting stuck in." It can be done; more, it must be done.

Today could see the turn of the tide, though what are the prospects of extracting points from our visit to Belle Vue next week? Doncaster Rovers are playing uncommonly well, and it seems to the writer that what will have to be watched more than anything else is the Doherty "switch" move. It's easy to shrug your shoulders and say that this is old stuff—it is, I agree, but Doncaster have developed it to a high degree of effectiveness. Grimsby Town may not be among the best of teams this season, but they will be the first to admit to the skill and cleverness with which the move is made. It's done smoothly, quickly and without advertising, and our defence will have to be extremely watchful, believe me!

Forgive me if I have sounded a little depressed in these notes. If I have, the reason is crystal clear. I have a deep and abiding regard for Chesterfield football, and its present condition induces melancholia and the "blues." I don't suppose the players care two hoots about my personal feelings, but they have it in their power to make me a thoroughly happy man again. To say nothing of the die-hard supporters who have to pay to see the games!

THINGS ONE NOTICES.

Football's "problem child," Neil Franklin, is not so old as is believed by those who recall that he was a League professional before the war. He will not be 29 until the 24th January—exactly one week before his suspension ends.

Players filling the same positions with the same clubs as their fathers before them, include Moss (Aston Villa), Sellars (Stoke), Hole (Swansea), Sillett (Southampton) and Matthews (Bradford).

The little Scottish inside-forward, Jimmy Logie, has never been regarded as a free scorer, but in having obtained as many First Division goals—seven—as in the whole of last season, he takes first place on Arsenal's list.

(Continued on page 8).

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LUTON TOWN

(These teams are subject to alteration)

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THINGS ONE NOTICES—continued.

Four times during this century both of the promoted Second Division clubs have come from Lancashire—Liverpool and Bolton, in 1905; Manchester City and Oldham, in 1910; Preston and Burnley, in 1913; and Manchester City and Burnley, in 1947. There could be another Lancashire “double” this season from Manchester City, Preston and Blackburn.

—::—
Football looks like striking rough weather this winter, considering that Blackburn Rovers have just signed Robert Hailstones from Scottish junior football; York City have Jack Frost in goal; and half-back Len. Blizzard is with Leyton Orient!

—::—
Football League clubs have 22 South Africans on their professional playing staffs. Charlton Athletic claim eight of them, and Blackpool, Birmingham, Hull City and Luton Town two each.

—::—
It is extremely rare—if not unparalleled—to find father and son as manager and trainer of the same League club at the same time. These roles are being filled by Fred and Ned Westgarth, with Hartlepools United.

—::—
George Henry was with Leeds United when they were relegated in 1947; with Sheffield Wednesday when they were promoted last May; and now may figure in another descent, at Hillsborough, judging by the way things are going at the moment.

—::—
Strange, isn’t it, that Trevor Ford and Len Shackleton, now side by side in the Sunderland team who paid £50,000 for the pair, should have been allowed to go by Arsenal who once had them both on their books, at Highbury.

—::—
It’s a near thing between Bradford’s two teams as to which has lost the more post-war home League games. City have been beaten 29 times at Valley Parade, and Bradford on 30 occasions at Park Avenue.

—::—
Coventry City have not conceded more than one goal in any match this season, yet against Huddersfield Town, Middlesbrough have scored eight, Arsenal and Newcastle United six each, and Bolton Wanderers and Sheffield Wednesday four each. Some defences are clearly not so solid as Coventry’s!

—::—
Yorkshire-born players who are the season’s chief scorers of clubs outside the county include Swinbourne (Wolves), Haddington (Oldham), Ardron (Nottm. Forest) and Wakefield (Southend United).

Bill Corkhill, whom Notts. County have recalled to their senior side at right-half, went to them from Liverpool Marine so long as 20 years ago next May.

F.S.

OUR VISITORS.

The Luton Town Football Club was formed in 1885 when two senior clubs in the district—Luton Wanderers, who had already made local history in the F. A. Cup, and Luton Excelsior—agreed to join forces, the ground of the latter club being used during the early years. Since those days, there have been frequent occasions when the existence of the club as a class organisation has been in grave doubt.

Actually Luton is the oldest professional club in the South of England, an offer of five shillings per week being made to three of the playing staff in 1890—one member accepting. At the end of the season it was agreed to pay the whole of the team.

In 1894, on the formation of the Southern League, Luton were one of the leading teams, finishing second to Millwall in the first two seasons. The following year application was made for membership of Division II, but they failed to secure election. The club joined the United League, which boasted a higher standard of play, but only a small number of teams operated in this competition, and the season resulted in a loss. Luton were elected to the Second Division in 1897, but in their third season finished last but one and did not seek re-election. They rejoined the Southern League, remaining in this competition until the fusion with the Football League in 1919.

On their last visit to Saltergate, Luton won by the only goal, and viewing the League positions of both teams this year gives added interest to today’s game.

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Ballad, “I travel the Road”	P. Thayer
Half Time.	
March, “Avonia”	R. Powell
Intermezzo, “Parade of the Sunbeams”	Q. Maclean

LEAGUE TABLES

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION II.

Compiled up to Saturday, 4th Nov.

	Goals						
	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts
M'chester C.	15	9	1	5	38	20	23
Coventry C.	16	10	4	2	31	12	22
Blackburn R.	16	10	4	2	27	22	22
Birmingham	16	8	4	4	24	19	20
Barnsley	16	8	6	2	40	23	18
Southampton	16	7	5	4	17	20	18
Hull City	15	6	4	5	28	25	17
West Ham	15	7	5	3	28	26	17
Sheffield U.	15	5	4	6	28	21	16
Preston N.E.	16	7	7	2	26	24	16
Doncaster R.	15	5	4	6	20	19	16
Leicester C.	15	5	6	4	25	22	14
Cardiff City	15	3	4	8	16	17	14
Leeds United	15	5	6	4	18	22	14
Queen's P.R.	15	5	6	4	25	33	14
Bury	15	5	7	3	22	23	13
Notts. C'nty	15	4	7	4	19	22	12
Swansea T.	15	5	8	2	22	27	12
Brentford	16	5	9	2	20	36	12
Chesterfield	16	3	8	5	15	28	11
Grimsby T.	15	2	8	5	21	37	9
Luton Town	15	2	9	4	14	26	8

THE CENTRAL LEAGUE.

Compiled up to Saturday, 4th Nov.

	Goals						
	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts
Wolves	...	16	12	4	0	32	9
Liverpool	...	16	9	3	4	22	15
Preston N.E.	15	8	2	5	29	15	21
Aston Villa	16	9	4	3	25	14	21
Blackpool	16	7	2	7	25	16	21
West Brom.	16	6	2	8	28	20	20
Newcastle U.	16	7	4	5	25	17	19
Huddersfield	16	6	3	7	23	17	19
M'chester C.	15	7	4	4	35	25	18
Burnley	...	16	6	5	4	20	16
Everton	...	14	6	4	4	31	32
Bolton W.	...	16	6	4	22	29	16
Sheffield W.	15	5	5	5	24	22	15
Sheffield U.	15	5	6	4	21	19	14
M'chester U.	16	5	7	4	23	23	14
Derby C'nty	15	5	8	2	27	25	12
Bury	...	15	5	8	2	19	30
Chesterfield	15	3	7	5	13	26	11
Blackburn R.	16	4	9	3	19	36	11
Leeds United	16	2	11	3	14	29	7
Stoke City	...	15	2	10	3	12	35
Barnsley	...	16	0	11	5	16	35

THE YORKSHIRE LEAGUE.

DIVISION II.

Compiled up to Saturday, 4th Nov.

	Goals						
	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts
Worksop T'n	8	8	0	0	36	17	16
Doncaster R.	9	5	1	3	18	7	13
Farsley Celtic	7	6	1	0	32	6	12
Bentley Col'y	7	6	1	0	31	12	12
Chesterfield	10	5	3	2	22	15	12
Bradford U.	9	5	3	1	22	17	11
Sheffield	...	7	5	2	0	23	16
Norton W. A.	7	5	2	0	14	10	10
Thorne Col'y	8	4	4	0	17	25	8
Hull City	...	9	3	4	2	18	24
Frickley Coll.	11	2	5	4	22	25	8
South Kirkby	9	2	4	3	15	18	7
York City	...	11	2	8	1	17	36
Stocksbridge	5	2	3	0	11	12	4
Maltby Main	6	2	4	0	11	21	4
Kiveton Park	9	0	8	1	15	39	1
Bradford PA	10	0	9	1	9	33	1

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21	GRIMSBY TOWN	h 2 2	
26	BARNSLEY	h 1 2	
30	Grimsby Town	a 2 1	
Sept.	2—LEICESTER CITY	h 1 0	
6	Preston North End	a 1 4	
9	Manchester City	a 1 5	
11	PRESTON N. E.	h 2 0	
16	COVENTRY CITY	h 1 1	
23	Cardiff City	a 0 1	
30	BIRMINGHAM CITY	h 1 1	
Oct.	7—Swansea Town	a 0 2	
14	HULL CITY	h 0 0	
21	Leeds United	a 0 2	
28	WEST HAM UNITED	h 1 2	
Nov.	4—Sheffield United	a 1 4	
11	LUTON TOWN	h.....	
18	Doncaster Rovers	a.....	
25	(1) BRENTFORD	h.....	
Dec.	2—Blackburn Rovers	a.....	
9	(2) SOUTHAMPTON	h.....	
16	QUEENS PARK R.	h.....	
23	Barnsley	a.....	
25	NOTTS. COUNTY	h.....	
26	Notts. County	a.....	
30	Leicester City	a.....	
1951			
Jan.	6—(3) F.A. CUP	
13	MANCHESTER CITY	h.....	
20	Coventry City	a.....	
27	(4) F.A. CUP	
Feb.	3—CARDIFF CITY	h.....	
10	(5) F.A. CUP	
17	Birmingham City	a.....	
24	(6) SWANSEA TOWN	h.....	
Mar.	3—Hull City	
10	LEEDS UNITED	h.....	
17	West Ham United	a.....	
23	Bury	a.....	
24	SHEFFIELD UNITED	h.....	
26	BURY	
31	Luton Town	a.....	
April	7—DONCASTER ROVS.	h.....	
14	Brentford	a.....	
21	BLACKBURN ROVS.	h.....	
28	Southampton	a.....	
May	5—	

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D	Everton	Tottenham H.	R	Grimsby T.	Brentford
E	Huddersfield	Liverpool	S	Leicester City	Leeds United
F	Middlesbro'	Derby County	T	Manchester C.	West Ham U.
G	Newcastle U.	Fulham	U	Notts. County	Blackburn R.
H	Portsmouth	Charlton A.	V	Preston N. E.	Southampton
J	Sheffield Wed.	Aston Villa	W	Queen's P. R.	Sheffield U.
K	Stoke City	Blackpool	X	Mansfield T.	Halifax Town
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