



THE NOTTS COUNTY

3^D

Directors:

Chairman: Mr. C. G. BARNES; Vice-Chairman & Hon. Treas.: Mr. H. J. D. L. WALMSLEY
Mr. L. LINNELL; Mr. B. D. EDWARDS; Mr. A. E. HUBBARD; Mr. H. A. MORLEY
Manager: W. ERIC HOUGHTON; Secretary: WILFRED FISHER; Hon. Medical Officer: Dr. H. VERNON TAYLOR
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NOTTS COUNTY

Vol. XXXI No. 14

versus

January 5th, 1952

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CLUB NOTES



SEASON 1951-52

FIRST OF ALL MAY WE FROM THE directorate wish the management, players and staff—as well as our supporters—a very happy and prosperous New Year.

We look forward to 1952 with greater confidence than we did a few weeks ago and the reason is that there has been a noticeable improvement in the play of the senior team. Unfortunately that was not maintained at Gigg Lane against Bury a week ago, where we had at least hoped to land a point. For the first half Notts. were definitely the better team and deserved their interval lead, but later on—especially after Bury had equalised—the balance of the team went awry.

Team Work Essential

We have never doubted the ability of our players. As individuals there are few better, but for some unknown reason they have not been combining to the same purpose as we saw them in the early part of the season. Combined effort is better than any one man's brilliance and we look forward to a blending of the forces in the future so as to ascend once again to a more respec-

table position in the league table. It was this lack of combined effort that lost us a point at Bury; in fact we all felt that the team ought to have won.

The Future

Our programme from now on is rather a heavy one. We have few matches which might be regarded as "certainties" and thus it will need a strong effort to gain points early to place the club in such position that there will be no need to worry about any possibility of relegation. It would be nice to think that before this month is out we have made our position reasonably safe. That means that two points must be gathered in today, and that we should account for both Forest and Queen's Park Rangers, the last two being away from home. Is it too much to expect? We know the Forest match will be a battle royal. They always are, but somehow in recent years the County have done well at the City Ground. Let us hope that it continues on January 19th.

In the meantime come Cup Ties, and next week we shall again be

—Continued overleaf

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CLUB NOTES—Continued

opposed at Meadow Lane by Stockton, a team who created a surprise by drawing 1-1 with us in a Cup Tie a few years ago. This year they have done extremely well and in the last round beat Mansfield Town at Mansfield in the replay. Stockton have some useful players, but we feel fairly confident that they will not take us to a replay on this occasion.

We shall welcome again this sporting club to Meadow Lane. They fully enjoyed their last visit and we made some very firm friends.

The Lying Jade

Rumour is a lying jade. According to a national newspaper, seven of Notts' professionals might ask for their transfer by the end of this week. It is true that the captain asked the Chairman of the club if he and the directors would meet several of the

players who would like to have one or two grievances ironed out. Mr. Barnes readily agreed and was amazed to see the national announcement that there was serious trouble in the camp. Therefore he, with his directors, arranged to meet the senior players on Thursday. So as to give every player a full opportunity to voice his views they met each one in private and then went into general conference.

The directors found that there were several players who had domestic grievances but there was nothing to confirm the national statement that wholesale requests for transfers were imminent. The reverse was the case.

How far can people believe rumours? Many are malicious, but the outcome is that there is complete harmony within the club.

MESSAGE FROM

Mr. E. HOUGHTON (Manager)

On behalf of the Notts. County Board, the playing, ground and office staffs, may I take this opportunity of extending seasonal greetings to all followers of the game—and to our own supporters and members.

The club appreciates the loyal work of the Supporters' Club, and it is a great incentive to us all to know that wherever the County play, they will never lack vocal encouragement.

Since their return to the Second Division, the team have suffered one or two disappointments, but they have also given ample proof that they are in their rightful sphere. We have, as we promised, strengthened certain positions and we shall continue our team-building policy when the opportunity arises. No effort will be spared in pursuit of this objective, and we are confident that in the years immediately ahead, County will maintain the proud traditions of their predecessors.

IVOR THIRST

IVOR THIRST, the football fan,
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No. 14—THE OFFSIDE LAW

Lovers of football still talk about "the offside goal" in some particular match, and without doubt F.A. Law 11 is one of the most important in the game.

The most salient point arising from the correct interpretation of Law 11 is that:

The deciding factor in whether or not a player is offside *is where he was at the moment the ball was played by a member of his own side* and NOT, as is sometimes thought, where he is when he himself plays the ball.

F.A. Law 11 says:

"A player is offside if he is nearer his opponent's goal-line than the ball at the moment the ball is played

UNLESS

- (a) He is in his own half of the field of play;
- (b) There are two of his opponents nearer to their own goal-line than he is;
- (c) The ball last touched an opponent or was last played by him;
- (d) He receives the ball direct from a goal-kick, corner-kick, throw-in, or when it is dropped by the referee".



FOOTBALL QUIZ

What do the following measurements convey to you?

- (a) 44 yards. (b) 10 yards. (c) 1 yard. (d) 12 yards.
- (e) 18 yards. (f) 20 yards. (g) 8 yards. (h) 6 yards.

Answers will be given in our next issue, which will also include further points about the offside law.

Save this page of your programme and give it to a member of a junior team

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LEFT

SMITH
1

DEANS
3

SOUTHWELL
2

RIGHT

ADAMSON
6

LEUTY
5

ROBINSON
4

CROOKES
11

BROOME
10

McCORMACK
9

LAWTON
8

McPHERSON, I.
7

TEAMS



STOBBART
7

TURNER
8

MOORE
9

TAYLOR
10

MITCHELL
11

Colours: Red Shirts; White Knickers

MORTON
4

OWEN
5

WATKINS
6

LUTON TOWN

RIGHT

DUNNE
2

AHERNE
3

STRETEN
1

LEFT

Referee: Mr. H. Ball Worcester

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F MANCHESTER CITY DERBY COUNTY	Q LEEDS UNITED SOUTHAMPTON
G MIDDLESBROUGH CHARLTON ATHLETIC	R LEICESTER CITY NOTTINGHAM FOREST
H NEWCASTLE UNITED PRESTON NORTH END	S QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS BURY
I PORTSMOUTH HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	T ROTHERHAM UNITED EVERTON
J STOKE CITY MANCHESTER UNITED	U SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY SHEFFIELD UNITED
K WEST BROMWICH ALBION BURNLEY	V MANSFIELD TOWN GRIMSBY

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FOOTBALL NEWS

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From far and near . . .

A WEEK AGO ONE SPORTS WRITER was endeavouring to show how he had worked out that Notts. would again be relegated this season. If he was calculating on results to date he must have known that they do not adequately reflect the merit of the team. Points on occasions have been dropped when they should have been won, but candidly who would read in the present position any such possibility? The fact is that the league is so open that anything might happen at either end.

Christmas Greetings

What a fine sight our Board room presented during the festive season

with Christmas and New Year greetings from every league club in the country. They made a wonderful show, and one of the most outstanding was that from Arsenal, who devoted the whole of the inside pages to a photograph of Highbury with a match being played under floodlights.

As you all know, the Notts. directors are considering this project in connection with Meadow Lane. We feel that there are distinct advantages in floodlighting for training as well as actual matches, and ere long we shall come to some decision on the matter.

SATURDAY NEXT · F.A. CUP—3rd ROUND

NOTTS COUNTY v. STOCKTON

Kick-off 2.15

Centre Stand & Vice-Presidents' Tickets	5/-	on sale Thursday, Jan. 3
Centre Stand A & B Tickets	4/-	on sale Friday, Jan. 4
Wing Stand A & B Tickets	4/-	on sale Monday, Jan. 7
Meadow Lane Stand Tickets	4/-	on sale Tuesday, Jan. 8

on sale at club offices 9.30 to 6 p.m.

Postal application may be made for all Stand tickets, to be accompanied by stamped addressed envelope and state Stand, Row and Seat Number, together with Coupon No. 24 from Season Ticket. All tickets not claimed by Wednesday midday will be sold.

Our Visitors Today

WE HAVE VIVID RECOLLECTIONS OF our visitors today—Luton Town—who earlier in the season inflicted a 6-0 defeat on us. We welcome them to our ground and doubtless our players will be thirsting to avenge such a heavy defeat. Luton have not been doing too well recently and we feel that it is possible for our side to turn the tables on them.

The "Hatters" have been friends of ours for many long years, and

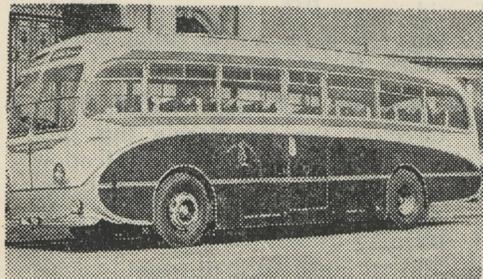
September 8th was not the only occasion that they had inflicted a 6-0 defeat on us. They performed similarly in a Cup Tie at Luton when our present manager (Mr. Eric Houghton) played his first match for Notts.

Whatever the result today our hope is for a good and interesting game, for after all football is the thing which attracts the crowd. Naturally there is partisanship, that is to be expected.

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Supporters' Corner

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL at Meadow Lane, members of the Supporters' Club, and all followers of Notts. County and may 1952 prove a great success to our favourites in black and white.

There is very little news for our members this week with the exception of branch notes, as follows:

Beeston Branch. Directly after today's match a New Year party will be held in the clubroom H.Q. at the "White Lion", Beeston, for the junior members, commencing at 4.30 p.m. Following the party will be a free Social Evening for the adult members and friends. An open invitation is given to all who care to come along.

Aspley Branch. A Social Evening will be held on Thursday, January 10th, at 8 p.m., in the "Beacon" hotel, Aspley Lane, when it is hoped that as many members as possible will attend. The result of the football match played on December 24th *versus* Forest Sportsmen's Club, Broxtowe branch, was 5-2 in our favour.

Eastwood Branch are holding a General Meeting at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday, January 6th, at the "Coach & Horses", Hill Top. The draw for the Forest match tickets will take place and members wishing to participate are requested to attend or send their membership card with another member.

Hyson Green Branch are holding a General Meeting at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 9th, at the British Legion Club H.Q., Forest Street, Hyson Green. The draw for the Forest tickets will take place and members who cannot attend should contact the branch secretary, Mr. W. Reynolds, 45 Bridlington Street, Hyson Green, before January 7th, which has been fixed as the closing date.

Hucknall Branch. The New Year Party will be held after today's match for the junior members. Following the party a Social Evening will be held for adult members and friends and any member of the Supporters' Club who cares to attend will be made welcome. The Forest tickets will be distributed on Thursday, January 10th, at 7.30 p.m. in the "Half Moon" H.Q. Members who cannot attend should send their membership card with another member if they wish to be included in the ballot.

Sherwood Branch. The draw for the Forest tickets will take place on Tuesday, January 8th, at 8 p.m. at the "Garden City" hotel, Sherwood. On Thursday, January 10th, at Haydn Road Schools, a Whist Drive will be held at 7.30 p.m., also on Thursday, January 10th, a Dance & Social Evening will be held in the Sherwood Social Club at 8 p.m.

★ Football at Meadow Lane

Saturday, January 19th
Notts. County Res.

v.

Nottm. Forest Res.

Saturday, January 12th
NOTTS. COUNTY

v.

STOCKTON

(F.A. CUP THIRD ROUND)

DIVISION II

Date	Opponents	Gr.	F.	A.
AUGUST 1951				
18 S	Coventry City	...h	2	1
25 S	Swansea Town	...a	1	1
30 Th	Barnsley	...h	4	0
SEPTEMBER				
1 S	Bury	...h	2	1
6 Th	Hull City	...h	4	0
8 S	Luton Town	...a	0	6
12 W	Barnsley	...a	1	2
15 S	Nottm. Forest	...h	2	2
20 Th	Hull City	...a	3	1
22 S	Queen's Park R.	...h	0	0
29 S	Blackburn Rovers	...a	0	2
OCTOBER				
6 S	Brentford	...a	0	1
13 S	Doncaster Rovers	...h	1	0
20 S	Everton	...a	5	1
27 S	Southampton	...h	3	4
NOVEMBER				
3 S	Sheffield Wed.	...a	0	6
10 S	Leeds United	...h	1	2
17 S	Rotherham United	...a	0	2
24 S	(1) Cardiff City	...h	1	1
DECEMBER				
1 S	Birmingham City	...a	0	2
8 S	Leicester City	...h	2	3
15 S	(2) Coventry City	...a	2	0
22 S	Swansea Town	...h	2	0
25 Tu	Sheffield United	...h	3	1
26 W	Sheffield United	...a	0	1
29 S	Bury	...a	0	2
JANUARY 1952				
5 S	Luton Town	...h		
12 S	(3) Stockton	...h		
19 S	Nottingham Forest	...a		
26 S	Queen's Park R.	...a		
FEBRUARY				
2 S	(4)	...		
9 S	Blackburn Rovers	...h		
16 S	Brentford	...h		
23 S	(5)	...		
MARCH				
1 S	Doncaster Rovers	...a		
8 S	(6) Everton	...h		
15 S	Southampton	...a		
22 S	Sheffield Wed.	...h		
29 S	(S.F.) Leeds Utd.	...a		
APRIL				
5 S	Rotherham Utd.	...h		
11 F	West Ham United	...a		
12 S	Cardiff City	...a		
14 M	West Ham Utd.	...h		
19 S	Birmingham City	...h		
26 S	Leicester City	...a		
MAY				
3 S	(F.)	...		

MIDLAND LEAGUE

Date	Opponents	Gr.	F.	A.
AUGUST 1951				
18 S	Peterborough	...a	4	2
23 Th	Bradford City	...h	0	1
25 S	Worksop Town	...h	5	1
29 W	Bradford City	...a	3	1
SEPTEMBER				
1 S	Frickley Colliery	...a	2	0
8 S	Grantham	...h	3	1
12 W	York City	...a	3	2
15 S	Nottingham Forest	...a	0	3
20 Th	Boston United	...h	1	0
22 S	Lincoln City	...a	4	1
27 Th	Scunthorpe	...h	2	0
29 S	Hull City	...h	3	1
OCTOBER				
6 S	Scarborough	...h	4	1
13 S	Mansfield Town	...a	1	2
20 S	Rotherham	...h	2	2
27 S	Denaby United	...a	2	1
NOVEMBER				
3 S	Halifax Town	...h	4	2
10 S	Bradford	...a	5	0
17 S	Denaby United	...h	1	2
DECEMBER				
1 S	Gainsborough	...h	2	1
8 S	Doncaster Rovers	...a	4	0
15 S	Peterborough	...h	6	0
22 S	Worksop Town	...a	2	0
26 W	Boston United	...a	1	3
29 S	Frickley Colliery	...h	8	2
JANUARY 1952				
5 S	Grantham	...a		
19 S	Nottm. Forest	...h		
26 S	Lincoln City	...h		
FEBRUARY				
9 S	Hull City	...a		
16 S	Scarborough	...a		
23 S	Scunthorpe	...a		
MARCH				
1 S	Mansfield Town	...h		
8 S	Rotherham	...a		
15 S	Goole Town	...h		
22 S	Halifax Town	...a		
29 S	Bradford	...h		
APRIL				
12 S	Grimsby Town	...h		
19 S	Gainsborough	...a		
26 S	Doncaster	...h		
MAY				
3 S	York City	...h		
	Goole Town	...a		
	Grimsby Town	...a		

MID-WEEK LEAGUE

Date	Opponents	Gr.	F.	A.
OCTOBER 1951				
4 Th	West Brom. A.	...h	2	0
11 Th	Stoke City	...a	1	2
18 Th	Derby County	...h	1	1
31 W	Leicester City	...a	1	5
NOVEMBER				
7 W	West Brom. A.	...a	4	2
15 Th	Leicester City	...h	0	5
21 W	Aston Villa	...a	2	1
DECEMBER				
5 W	Derby County	...a	4	2
JANUARY 1952				
17 Th	Port Vale	...h		
MARCH				
13 Th	Stoke City	...h		
19 W	Birmingham City	...a		
27 Th	Aston Villa	...h		
APRIL				
10 Th	Birmingham City	...h		
MAY				
1 Th	Port Vale	...a		

CHAMPIONSHIP TABLES

SECOND DIVISION							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Sheffield Wednesday	26	13	6	7	61	42	32
Birmingham City	26	12	8	6	37	30	32
Cardiff City	25	12	7	6	43	28	31
Rotherham United	25	13	4	8	55	44	30
Sheffield United	26	12	5	9	60	44	29
Brentford	25	11	7	7	31	24	29
Nottingham Forest	26	10	9	7	49	41	29
Luton Town	25	10	8	7	45	39	28
Leicester City	29	10	7	8	50	40	27
Leeds United	25	10	7	8	36	36	27
Barnsley	25	9	8	8	40	41	26
Doncaster Rovers	26	8	9	9	36	34	25
Everton	26	9	7	10	39	45	25
Bury	26	9	6	11	45	40	24
NOTTS COUNTY	26	10	4	12	40	42	24
West Ham United	26	9	6	11	39	54	24
Southampton	26	8	7	11	37	55	23
Swansea Town	26	6	9	11	43	50	21
Blackburn Rovers	26	9	3	14	32	43	21
Coventry City	25	8	4	13	37	50	20
Queen's Park Rangers	26	5	9	12	35	58	19
Hull City	26	6	6	14	34	44	18

MIDLAND LEAGUE							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Nottingham Forest	26	19	4	3	65	21	42
NOTTS COUNTY	25	19	1	5	72	29	39
Scarborough	25	15	7	3	66	36	37
Scunthorpe United	27	15	6	6	50	33	36
Hull City	27	15	4	8	49	27	34
Bradford City	26	15	3	8	53	46	33
Gainsborough Trinity	23	9	10	4	47	39	28
Peterborough United	23	10	6	7	51	41	26
Mansfield Town	25	8	7	10	40	41	23
Doncaster Rovers	25	8	7	10	42	47	23
Rotherham United	24	9	4	11	50	39	22
Boston United	23	9	3	11	37	36	21
Bradford Park Avenue	25	8	5	12	32	48	21
Worksop Town	22	9	3	10	47	50	20
Denaby United	23	7	6	10	30	45	20
Grimsby Town	27	7	5	15	39	52	19
Grantham	25	8	2	15	30	57	18
Goole Town	22	6	5	11	22	35	17
Halifax Town	22	6	4	12	35	50	16
Frickley Colliery	21	5	5	11	23	41	15
Lincoln City	23	3	4	16	37	72	10
York City	21	3	3	15	33	62	9

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