

OFFICIAL JOURNAL

LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL
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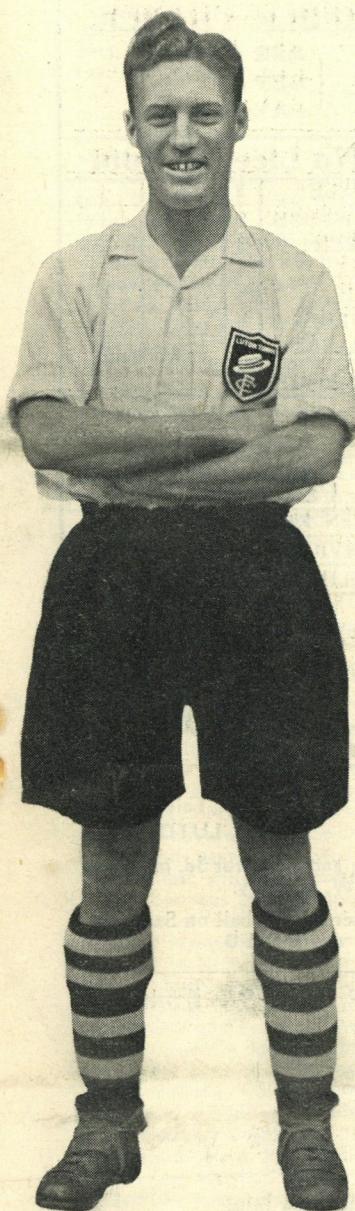


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SATURDAY, 21st FEBRUARY, 1953

Football League—Division II

Luton Town v. Southampton



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It's goodbye to the "CUP," but you can still get a CUP OF TEA from the BOBBERS' CUPS

Some games are too wild for fulfilment, some efforts too high to succeed
Some aims too extreme to accomplish, when the wish is too big for the deed

But nothing is lost in trying, no goal is got in vain

There's always a smaller fulfilment, if not the great hope or great gain

Every good try has its merits and every deed reaps some share

And no team has failed that started, although they arrive halfway there

It's no use sitting down beneath depression and letting all the miseries take hold
No use sinking in yourself and brooding, imagining catastrophes untold

We must rise up quickly and make plans for a win today

Just a little courage and use it to chase away the feelings of last Saturday

Some of us at times don't feel like laughing, well just dig a sense of humour out
Find the faith to trust the future and put away your glimmerings of doubt

The Boys on the field face many problems, but they take whatever comes with equal grace
They don't sit down beneath depression but have a go however badly placed

We all may set off in a venture with a very splendid start

But find a patch of difficulties in the middle part

Or else we meet obstacles soon after we begin

And progress moves so slowly that we feel we cannot win

And yet no job that is worth while is done without reverses

As time goes on each patch of inconvenience disperses

Though other snags may come along they will not be the same

So whether we are standing or sitting, watch with interest today's game J.C.

We are pleased to inform our Members and Supporters that our President and Director, Mr. Philip Wright, who has been ill is now on the road to recovery.

CLUB NOTES

OUR splendid win at Nottingham on Thursday last, has brought us well within striking distance of the two leading Clubs, and our chances for promotion to the First Division have never been brighter in the long history of the Club. It is a thrilling prospect, and now that we have no further Cup worries this season, can concentrate on this most glittering prize of bringing First Division football to Luton next season. And this is no mere wishful thinking, especially when we glance at the outstanding programmes of the three Clubs at the top, Sheffield United have played 16 matches at home, 14 away, therefore of their 12 remaining matches 7 of them are away, these being Blackburn (today), Leeds United, Birmingham, Southampton, Notts. Forest, Leicester and Fulham, their home matches being with Luton on March 7th, Bury, Notts. County, West Ham and Rotherham. Huddersfield Town have played 15 at home of the 29 played to date, their outstanding away fixtures being Notts. Forest (today), Luton, Bury, Notts. County, Everton, West Ham, and Rotherham, their home matches being with Birmingham, Southampton, Leicester, Everton, Fulham and Plymouth. A glance at the inside back cover of this programme will show you our outstanding matches, where it will be seen that we have 7 matches at home and 7 away. We are not forgetting of course that other Clubs have still promotion hopes, Birmingham and Leicester for instance very much yet to be reckoned with, but if the present top three keep up their consistently good form then it is doubtful if they can be overtaken. It is not a foregone conclusion however by any means, and is a position full of portent.

To come back to the game at Meadow Lane, last Thursday, we first of all had to hurriedly send for Seamus Dunne as Les Jones was not feeling at all well. Seamus did have to play as Les was not feeling any better when it was time to strip, but we need not have worried for Dunne played a very good game and very little was seen of Edwards, the County left winger, throughout the match. Hugh McJarrow was brought in at inside left to try and bring some more craft to the forward line, while Bernard Moore was preferred for the other inside forward position in view of the heavy going. Hugh played quite well—we will not say he was an outstanding success, but he contributed nicely to the success and is being given further opportunities to try and settle down in this, for him, new position as he has been playing regularly at centre forward practically the whole season. He had very hard luck with a brilliant header when the match had been in progress only about three minutes, only a marvellous save by Bradley, the County goalie, preventing the ball entering the net. We never looked like losing this match, having well over eighty per cent of the game, and if one or two chances had

been accepted in the first half the game would have been virtually over by half-time. The County showed a little more determination on the resumption but our magnificent defence never appeared to be in any real danger, and when, about half-way through, Jesse Pye beat Leuty near the centre circle and went on to dribble the ball past Bradley and calmly place it in the back of the net the final decision never seemed in any doubt, especially when two minutes later a nice pass from Bert Mitchell left Jesse with a fairly good chance of increasing his tally for the season to 26 (including 4 in the Cup Matches) and he promptly took full advantage of it. Again later we thought we were entitled to a penalty when Jesse was brought down when right through, for if this had not happened he would almost certainly have registered his third hat-trick of the season. However the Referee thought otherwise, and yet when only 6 minutes were left for play both Sid Owen and centre forward Ian McPherson went for the ball, Sid played it and actually got it away but McPherson fell over our player's outstretched leg and the decision was a penalty. It appeared a harsh decision, for Sid did play the ball, but there it is, the Referee no doubt thought otherwise. What is so galling to us is that as a result of that tackle on Jesse his appearance on the field today is very doubtful. It was however, a splendid performance to gain our sixth away win of the season, and leaves the position bristling with possibilities.

Our display against Bolton Wanderers last Saturday in the F.A. Cup was certainly below standard, and yet it required a brilliant goal by England's centre forward to put paid to our hopes of appearing at Wembley this year. Only two direct shots at goal during the whole match were made by Bolton, one of which was successful and the other by Langton when he gained possession when the ball struck him from a clearance. Ron Baynham bringing off a very good save. Our defence played their usual splendid game, the covering being superb, but our forwards just could not find the net, although they might easily have done so against a less capable goalkeeper than Hanson. Several times he came out fearlessly to collect the ball when it looked odds on that we would score. The Bolton strength however lay in their half-back line, their defending and use of the ball being excellent. Little was seen of their famous forward line, only Nat Lofthouse living up to his reputation, and probably only he himself would have scored from the chance he accepted. The defeat however, has the consolation in that we can now concentrate all on the other 'goal' we had in mind.

For our visit to Bramall Lane on March 7th next, the United have informed us that tickets for Reserved Seats can be obtained at 7/6 (Centre Stand) and 5/- (Wing Stand), by sending remittances, accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope, to The Secretary, Sheffield United, F.C., Bramall Lane, Sheffield 2.

THE COVERMAN

RONALD ALFRED DAVIES

Roy Davies was born in Port Elizabeth on 23rd August, 1924. Played only Rugger at school in Africa and did not play soccer until he left at 16. While playing for Germiston Callies (South Africa) won three League Championship Medals in 1943, 1946 and 1947. In February, 1947 came to England, having a trial with Manchester City, but after only three weeks with them decided to return home, again playing for Germiston Callies. In May, 1947, Clyde F.C. toured South Africa and Roy played against them five times, twice for South Africa and three times for Southern Transvaal, all at Outside Right. Clyde were so impressed by his displays that they offered him

terms, which were accepted, travelling to Scotland in January, 1948. Was with Clyde for 3½ seasons when we became interested in him, joining us on 2nd May, 1951. Made 25 appearances in the League last season, scoring 4 goals, and was doing very well until he broke a leg against the Arsenal in the 6th Round of the F.A. Cup, at Luton. Has made 23 appearances in the League so far this season, and was coming right back into form when a further slight operation to the leg which had been broken prevented him from appearing against Manchester City in the F.A. Cup. Is now fully recovered and is playing for the Reserves at Leicester today.

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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.

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D	CHELSEA	CHARLTON
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F	MANCH. UN.	WOLVES
G	NEWCASTLE	LIVERPOOL
H	PORTSMOUTH	SUNDERLAND
K	WEDNESDAY	STOKE CITY
L	TOTTENHAM	PRESTON
M	WEST BROM.	MIDDLESBRO'
N	BIRMINGHAM	BURY

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C	EVERTON	SWANSEA T.
D	HULL CITY	BARNESLEY
E	LEEDS UNITED	NOTTS. CO'TY
F	LINCOLN C.	FULHAM
G	NOTTS. FOR.	HUDDERSFIELD	.....
H	PLYMOUTH	LEICESTER C.	.....
K	ROTHERHAM	WEST HAM
L	BOURNEM'UTH	WATFORD
M	BRISTOL ROV.	COVENTRY
N	GILLINGHAM	COLCHESTER

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C	MILLWALL A.	NORWICH C.
D	NORTHANTS	BRISTOL CITY
E	READING	BRIGHTON
F	SHREWSBURY	SWINDON T.
G	SOUTHEND	QUEEN'S P. R.	.....
H	TORQUAY	EXETER CITY	.....
K	WALSALL	ALDERSHOT
L	CHESTERFIELD	YORK CITY
M	ROCHDALE	OLDHAM A.
N	WORKINGTON	GRIMSBY T.

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FIXTURES, 1952-53

FIRST XI Division II

F. A.

1951/52

Sat.	Aug. 23	Plymouth Argyle	...	A	1	2
Wed.	27	BIRMINGHAM CITY	2	H	0	1
Sat.	30	ROTHERHAM UNITED	1	H	2	1
Wed.	Sept. 3	BIRMINGHAM CITY	1	3	A	2
Sat.	6	FULHAM	...	A	0	2
Wed.	10	SWANSEA TOWN	2	H	3	1
Sat.	13	WEST HAM UNITED	6	1	H	0
Thurs.	18	SWANSEA TOWN	3	0	A	4
Sat.	20	LEICESTER CITY	3	3	A	1
Sat.	27	NOTTS COUNTY	6	0	H	1
Sat.	Oct. 4	SOUTHAMPTON	3	2	A	3
Sat.	11	HUDDERSFIELD	...	A	0	3
Sat.	18	SHEFFIELD UNITED	2	1	H	4
Sat.	25	BARNESLEY	2	1	A	3
Sat.	Nov. 1	LINCOLN CITY	...	H	4	0
Sat.	8	HULL CITY	2	1	A	2
Sat.	15	BLACKBURN ROVERS	1	1	H	6
Sat.	22	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	0	2	A	3
Sat.	29	EVERTON	1	1	H	4
Sat.	Dec. 13	DONCASTER ROVERS	1	4	H	1
Sat.	20	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	...	H	1	0
Fri.	26	LEEDS UNITED	2	1	H	2
Sat.	27	LEEDS UNITED	1	1	A	2
Sat.	Jan. 3	ROTHERHAM UNITED	1	0	A	3
Sat.	10	BLACKBURN (F.A. Cup-3)	...	H	6	1
Sat.	17	FULHAM	...	H	2	0
Sat.	24	WEST HAM UNITED	0	3	A	1
Sat.	31	MANCHESTER C. (F.A. Cup-4)	...	A	1	1
Wed.	Feb. 4	MAN. C. (F.A. Cup-4 Replay)	...	H	5	1
Sat.	7	LEICESTER CITY	1	2	H	2
Sat.	14	BOLTON W. (F.A. Cup-5)	...	H	0	1
Thurs.	19	NOTTS. COUNTY	4	5	A	2
Sat.	21	SOUTHAMPTON	2	1	H	0
Sat.	28	HUDDERSFIELD (6)	...	H	0	0
Sat.	Mar. 7	SHEFFIELD UNITED	0	3	A	1
Sat.	14	BARNESLEY	4	2	H	1
Sat.	21	LINCOLN CITY	...	A	0	0
Sat.	28	HULL CITY	1	1	H	0
Fri.	April 3	BURY	1	0	A	1
Sat.	4	BLACKBURN ROVERS	1	2	A	1
Mon.	6	BURY	2	1	H	0
Sat.	11	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	3	3	A	1
Sat.	18	EVERTON	3	1	A	1
Sat.	25	BRENTFORD	0	2	H	1
Sat.	May 2	DONCASTER ROVERS	1	1	A	1
To be arranged	BRENTFORD	...	3	3	A	1

RESERVE FIXTURES Football Combination

F. A. 1951/52

Sat.	Aug. 23	BRISTOL ROVERS	2	7	H	5	1
Thurs.	28	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	1	1	A	1	1
Sat.	30	WATFORD	...	...	H	1	1
Wed.	Sept. 3	BRIGHTON & HOVE A.	2	3	H	4	4
Sat.	6	SOUTHEND UNITED	...	...	H	2	0
Thurs.	11	LEYTON ORIENT	...	...	A	2	1
Sat.	13	BOURNEMOUTH & B.	0	4	A	3	3
Wed.	17	LEYTON ORIENT	...	...	H	7	2
Sat.	20	ALDERSHOT	...	...	H	2	0
Sat.	27	LEICESTER CITY	...	...	A	2	1
Wed.	Oct. 1	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	4	4	A	6	3
Sat.	4	BRISTOL CITY	5	2	A	2	2
Sat.	11	SWANSEA TOWN	1	1	A	1	1
Sat.	15	SWINDON TOWN	3	3	M	1	0
Sat.	18	IPSWICH TOWN	1	1	A	2	3
Sat.	25	CRYSTAL PALACE	...	...	A	1	0
Sat.	Nov. 1	BRENTFORD	...	...	A	7	1
Sat.	8	BRENTFORD	...	...	H	4	1
Sat.	22	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	0	1	A	3	0
Sat.	29	BRISTOL CITY	...	...	A	5	4
Sat.	13	CRYSTAL PALACE	...	...	A	2	3
Sat.	20	BRISTOL ROVERS	3	2	A	5	3
Thurs.	25	ALDERSHOT	...	...	A	4	0
Sat.	Jan. 3	WATFORD	2	1	H	3	0
Sat.	10	SWANSEA TOWN	...	...	A	1	1
Sat.	17	LEICESTER CITY	...	...	H	0	0
Sat.	24	WATFORD	...	...	A	5	4
Wed.	Feb. 11	SOUTHEND UNITED	...	...	A	5	4
To be arranged	BOURNEMOUTH & B.	2	1	H	1	2	H
IPSWICH TOWN	...	1	2	H	1	2	H

Combination Cup

Watford ...

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Sat., Feb. 7 COVENTRY CITY ... 1 1 A 1 1

Sat., Feb. 21 LEICESTER CITY ... 2 4 A

Sat., Mar. 7 NORTHAMPTON TOWN 5 3 H

Sat., Mar. 14 IPSWICH TOWN 1 3 A

Sat., Mar. 21 NORWICH CITY 1 1 A

Sat., Mar. 28 WATFORD 1 2 A

Fri., April 3 NORWICH CITY 6 2 H

Sat., April 4 IPSWICH TOWN 4 0 H

Sat., April 11 NORTHAMPTON TOWN 1 1 A

Sat., April 18 BIRMINGHAM CITY 3 3 H

Sat., April 25 To be arranged BIRMINGHAM CITY 3 3 A

Leicester City ... 1 1 H

Coventry City ... 2 2 H

Up to and including

Thurs., 19th February, 1953

LEAGUE TABLES, 1952-53

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