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Football League Division 2.

Kick-off 3.15 p.m.

Saturday, August 29th, 1953

Plymouth Argyle

versus

Luton Town

3054

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 3d.

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PLYMOUTH ARGYLE NOTES

Last Saturday at Nottingham Argyle went down to the tune of 3 goals to nil in a very interesting game. Although Plymouth didn't reach the heights of last season they were a much improved combine from that of the previous Wednesday. The game was played on very sporting lines and each side put everything into it up till the last 15 minutes. Argyle were as good as Forest but the pressure during the last quarter saw Leverton, the Forest leader spring into life and he alone ran our defence into the ground. Two goals came in the last few minutes.

Against Birmingham Wednesday last, Argyle with 3 changes in the front line, put up a very good show and were very unlucky to concede a point to the Midlands Club. E. Davis at centre-forward gave a very promising performance while Tadman at outside-left filled the bill. Willis coming in at inside-left was his usual bustling self. Eric Davis scored in 10 minutes and with a little luck might have increased his tally. Tadman too, in a sparkling first half was unfortunate when Merrick, in England mood, tipped a ball from the outside-left's head on to the bar.

Argyle again opened well in the 2nd half and held their own until the last 15 minutes when the defence began to wobble. Midfield slackness let Purdon away on the right, Chisholm was pulled out of the middle when a red ball from Purdon hit Kinsey on the side of the face to enter the net via the post. Tadman not many minutes later took advantage of a hesitancy in the Birmingham rear to force Merrick to bend for a second time. The crowd were now on their toes, many thinking the scoring finished but Brum came again to score. Purdon on the left-wing this time started the move but Warhurst's well directed shot did the damage. Major could only palm the ball out and Govan who had cut in from the left-wing cut the ball back to score from the outside right position with his right foot. I repeat with his right foot.

Our reserves had a convincing win against Bristol City in the opening Combination Cup game last Saturday when they hit the mark 5 times to Bristol's once.

Eric Davis had a day out, he opened with 3 goals while McCrory and Willis scored the others. Davis' bright show earned him a place in the 1st team against Birmingham City. Let's hope he carries on improving for there is nothing more that would please our supporters than to see a local boy lead the Argyle attack.

Our S.W. League side led by Billy Strauss had a convincing win over Newquay 7-2. Strauss and Adams helped themselves to a hat-trick. Five teenagers played their part in the victory namely, Folland, John Sargeant, Shorthouse and Tozer.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE — DIVISION II

(Table of results up to and including 26th August)

	P.	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nottingham Forest	3	2	1	0	7	3	5
Birmingham City	3	2	1	0	10	2	5
Doncaster Rovers	3	2	1	0	3	1	5
Leeds United	2	2	0	0	10	2	4
Derby County	3	1	2	0	8	5	4
West Ham United	3	2	0	1	9	6	4
Everton	3	1	2	0	7	5	4
Stoke City	3	1	2	0	4	3	4
Blackburn Rovers	2	1	1	0	5	2	3
Bury	3	0	3	0	4	4	3
Lincoln City	3	0	2	1	1	6	2
Luton Town	3	0	2	1	5	6	2
Oldham Athletic	2	0	2	0	4	4	2
Rotherham United	3	1	0	2	8	8	2
Fulham	3	0	2	1	6	7	2
Bristol Rovers	3	0	2	1	5	6	2
Leicester City	3	0	2	1	5	8	2
Plymouth Argyle	3	0	2	1	3	6	2
Brentford	2	0	1	1	2	5	1
Notts County	2	0	1	1	3	9	1
Hull City	3	0	1	2	1	5	1
Swansea Town	2	0	0	2	0	7	0

SPORTS QUIZ

Bill Carter Tests you:

1. Who scored the first goal of the season?
2. Which club has six players who cost £123,000?
3. Who hit the last run and who took the last wicket in the last Test?
4. Which opening match of the season had a famous cricket name (Tunnicliffe & May) on each side?
5. Why were five Scottish players each fined £20?
6. Which British boxer is to fight for the World bantam title?
7. Which was the only defence Arsenal did not pierce last season: Cardiff, Portsmouth or Stoke?
8. Which clubs have these outside-lefts: Cripsey, Crookes and Cunliffe?
9. Where did Hutton score his first Test century?
10. Who is the only half-back to score for England since 1919?
11. Who was the only full-back to gain 8 England caps last season?
12. What big race did The Pie King win?

"The Americans are taking up Soccer . . ."

(By Dennis M. Frances)

Matt Busby, Manager of Manchester United, went over to the U.S.A. during the close-season and gave a series of demonstrations, lectures and coaching sessions to American football (association) officials.

This is only part of a gigantic scheme organised by the U.S.S.F.A. to get the American public more interested in the Association game of football as we know it. They have been busy in other directions too; films of International matches have been sent over from England, English League Clubs, as well as Scottish, have been invited for summer tours and last summer both the English and Scottish F.A. sent Representative XI's to play the U.S.A.

Now plans are afoot to stage an England v. Scotland match at the Yankee Stadium, New York and the Americans have offered each Football Association 50,000 dollars (about £17,500) as a guarantee! They are convinced that such a match would give football in the States its biggest-ever boost.

If the U.S.S.F.A. Officials do succeed in putting soccer over in a big way in America then we can look to our laurels because that is one country in the World that could become chief challengers to our supremacy.

They certainly get down very quickly to making a business of sport and one has only to recall their deeds on the tennis courts, in athletics, golf and swimming to name but a few. Such are the vast material and human resources, coupled with their showmanship and successful combination of business methods to sport, that within a few years they might easily become "Champions of the World."

Already soccer is played in 25 States and there are about 50,000 players aided by 1,000 referees and of these players some 300 odd are professionals. These professionals compete in either one of the two recognised pro' leagues, the American Soccer League and the St. Louis Professional Soccer League.

There are three National Cup Competitions, The National Open Challenge Cup—open to teams both amateur and pro—the National Amateur Cup and the National Junior Cup confined to amateur boys of under 18.

The size of the country and distance between the large cities naturally makes it difficult for games to be played at present on a national basis but the fact that the Americans use air travel as extensively as we use our railways, makes this only a small obstacle.

Support for Association Football is rapidly growing in the States and sports promoters are convinced that one the game does really get a grip on the imagination of the public, tremendous possibilities will be opened up for the advancement of the game throughout their country.

The English F.A. has offered full support to the U.S.S.F.A. and will help in any way possible to make the game popular there and it should not be long before the Americans are entering for many more International football competitions in an effort to gain experience.

Yes, there is no doubt about it, if the U.S.A. really 'takes' to soccer then the rest of the World can look out!

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Right MAJOR Left

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JONES (3)

DOUGALL (4)

CHISHOLM (5) PORTEOUS (6)

DAVIES (7) ASTALL (8)

DAVIS (9)

WILLIS (10) TADMAN (11)

READ ALL ABOUT
THIS MATCH IN
**THE PEOPLE
TOMORROW**

TAYLOR (11) DOWNIE (10) MOORE (9) TURNER (8) CULLEN (7)
WATKINS SHANKS (6) MORTON (5) WATKINS (4) MORTON
JONES (3) OWENS (CART) DUNNE (2)

Left STRETN Right

LUTON TOWN 2

Colours: White Shirts, Black Knickers

Referee: Mr. L. R. H. BURFIELD (Ilminster, Somerset)

Linesmen: Mr. W. J. MARDON (Red Flag) Mr. G. W. STEVENSON (Yellow Flag)

Any Team changes will be announced by loudspeaker

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On the Inside of Football



JOHN GRAYDON says:—

Luton Town are always welcome visitors to Home Park. After all, like Plymouth Argyle they have had to fight very hard to secure their present prominent place in football, and as they showed last season, now have their eyes firmly fixed upon possible promotion to the First Division. Luton, by the way, long before they wore distinctive jerseys, used to take the field wearing blue and pink caps.

It is interesting to record that Luton Town's first three professionals received the princely sum of five shillings a match. In due course the whole team became "pros" receiving half a crown for a home game, and three shillings when they played away from Luton.

Since Mr. Arthur Duncan—better known in soccerdom as "Dally"—took over the management of Luton the club has made tremendous strides. Always a great footballer himself, the one-time Derby and Scotland left-winger took with him to Luton ideas which he introduced to his side. Now, Luton, everyone agrees, rank among the most pleasing teams in the country to watch. Sid Owen, at centre-half, is now tipped for the same job in the England side—he was a wing-half-back until Mr. Duncan decided to try him as pivot—while Bernard Stretton of course, has kept goal for England. Jesse Pye, ex-Wolves centre-forward, is another man who has played for England while full-back Bud Aherne has gained so many caps for Ireland he probably has had to have an extra room built on to his house to cope with them. All in all this Luton team is a most powerful one. Plymouth fans will like them.

Little Gerry Ward, the 16 year-old amateur who made his debut at outside-left for Arsenal last Saturday, still works on the ground-staff at Highbury. How his ambition is to become as good a soccerman as other former ground-staff lads such as Denis Compton, Len Shackleton (Sunderland), and Reg. Lewis, all of whom started their careers helping keep in trim Arsenal Stadium.

Many people are asking the question: "Can Leary, O'Linn and Firmani, Charlton's brilliant South African inside-forwards, play for England?" The answer is a simple one. If the fathers of these boys are of English descent they are qualified to play for England.

England centre-forward Nat Lofthouse this week-end has the plaster removed from his injured wrist. Tells me he will be playing again within a week or so. In the meantime Nat is going to spend a few days at Blackpool "tuning up."

Many folk have expressed surprise at seeing Jackie Milburn playing at outside-right for Newcastle. They should not. "The Ashington Hare," as he is known in "Georgeland," started his career as a touchline raider. Tells me he prefers this position to all others.

Have you noticed how Eric Day has moved from his long-standing position of Southampton's right-winger into the centre-forward berth? Many thought Eric would not shine in the middle, but the little fellow with the cracking shot has proved he can take the biggest knocks with a smile. This is not surprising. Eric, you see, started his sporting career as a rugby star and knows how to fall correctly.

FORTHCOMING MATCHES

Monday, August 31st, 1953

Plymouth Argyle Reserves v. Southampton
Football Combination Cup

* * *

Saturday, September 5th, 1953

Plymouth Argyle Reserves v. Swindon Town
Football Combination Cup

Admission Prices

STAND: 7/6 and 6/-

ENCLOSURE STANDING: 3/6 (Boys 1/9)

GROUND, (COVERED END): 2/9 (Boys 1/6)

GROUND: 1/9 and 2/- (Boys 1/-)

NOTICE

All enquiries for Match and Season Tickets should be made to the Ticket Office, Main Gate, Home Park...

PHONE 61177

SPORTS QUIZ

ANSWERS

1. Swinbourne (Wolves)
2. Sunderland
3. Compton, Laker
4. Bradford City v. Barnsley
5. For playing in unauthorized matches in summer
6. P. Keenan
7. Cardiff
8. Hull, Notts C., Manchester C.
9. Nottingham
10. Wright
11. Ramsey
12. Gimcrack Stakes

SUPPORTERS'



CLUB NOTES

TO HELP—NOT HINDER

MEMBERSHIP of the Plymouth Argyle Supporters Club is open to all loyal supporters of Plymouth Argyle. It is significant that at our last Annual Meeting two lady members were elected to the Committee. This is the first time that the fair sex has had representation in the direct management of our Club. Before the war the ladies formed an auxiliary to the Management Committee and helped in no small way to augment the finances of the Club. We hope that the new blood thus inculcated will be of immense advantage both to supporters and to Plymouth Argyle. Thus does the modern trend continue and we find a fair percentage of our members amongst the ladies—so we repeat: our membership is open to all and we hope to double our membership this season especially as it is Plymouth Argyle's Golden Jubilee Year and thus prove our loyalty as supporters. On the back of the **FIXTURE CARD** for this season you will find particulars as to how you can join the Supporters Club. These Fixture Cards are on sale at the Club Huts and by members of the Committee at all home matches. By becoming one of us you are enabled by means of our **THRIFT CLUB** to contribute subscriptions towards the cost of expenses when you wish to travel to support Plymouth Argyle when they are playing away. Already this season some of our members have been on one trip and many more are looking forward to the next, particulars of which will be readily given by the Club officials to any member.

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