

OFFICIAL JOURNAL

LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL
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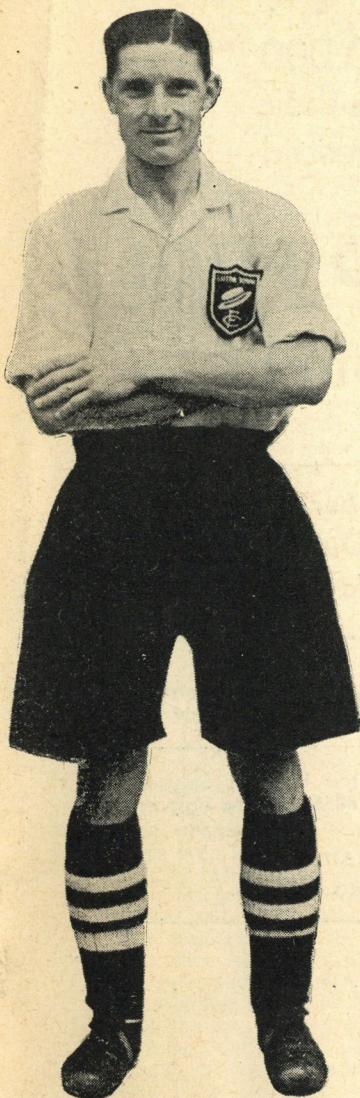


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SATURDAY, 5th DECEMBER, 1953

Football League—Division II

Luton Town v. Bury



Bert Mitchell

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Some make much of little pleasures, little comforts, little aims
And who could help it after seeing last Saturday's Boys' game

It was interesting and mindful to all our hearts

The way they looked around and positioned to the best parts

There was no lack of interest anywhere around the ground

And after the game the voices of the boys were truly found

Teaching and showing is sometimes hard, but its rewards are very clear

It gives one peace of mind and purpose above fear

This duty is sometimes strict, but its calls are sharp and often strange

And in the end you make a team determined to win the game

Why does he do this or play like that? we sometimes say

Some cannot understand why others pass or act in such a way

But don't most of us have a silly or stupid burst?

We acted for the best when it turned out for the worst

But all seems more foolish in someone else's case

As it's not our problem and the snags aren't ours to face

If you must criticise a mistake made by any of the team

Do so in a pleasant manner and with a will to please

Look around you will see someone that you can praise

Remembering that those who make mistakes must also have some better ways

You notice those that put a foot wrong, but take the same delight

To cheer and shout the things you may see the boys do right

Just think 14 from 16 points is worthy of a cheer, even a pat on the back

Don't give your usual kick in the pants if for a moment they should slack

Our visitors today from Gigg Lane, well known as the "Shakers"

And so far have not yet been one of the away win makers.

J.C.

Luton Town Football and Athletic Co., Ltd.

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CLUB NOTES

PRAISE indeed to our lads for their magnificent performance last week at Doncaster. The praise is not so much for winning, important and most satisfactory though that was, as the way in which every one of our lads set about their task and the very fine exhibition of football they gave. Doncaster certainly had their moments and only some first class goalkeeping on the part of Bernard Stretton kept the eager Rover forwards from registering the all-important first goal, but whereas they were relying more on speed and thrust to get within striking distance, our lads played the more methodical and studied football which was a treat to watch. Certainly we have seen nothing like it at Kenilworth Road this season so far. It made one proud to be a Lutonian last Saturday at the Belle Vue Ground. Keep it up lads, for there is no gainsaying what heights we shall reach before next May if you do.

Our Reserves playing here against Chelsea Reserves last Saturday should most certainly have obtained the two points at stake. It was a very good match, played before our best crowd so far this season at a Combination match, which kept everyone interested until the final whistle. Indeed very few people left the ground before the end, a fact which speaks for itself especially when the final score at Doncaster was already known. These young lads play some attractive football and certainly deserve better support than their present average of about 2,500. They are holding their own very nicely in the higher sphere of the Combination League as can be seen from a glance at the Table on another page of this Programme.

The "Shakers" are our opponents this afternoon and we welcome them once again to Kenilworth Road. They have found the going very hard until recently when they have picked up four points in the last three matches, including their very fine win over Notts. Forest last Saturday by two goals to one. They have yet to gain their first away win this season however, and have scored only three goals on opponents' grounds. But despite all this these last three matches show that they have by no means yet given up the struggle, and a struggle we expect this afternoon. In addition they put up a very fine performance last Monday evening when they beat our Austrian friends, Admira F.C. of Vienna in a Floodlight Match by three goals to one, and anyone who can beat these Austrians, as we saw for ourselves, has to play very well indeed. Bury recently obtained Peter Tilley from Arsenal, and their improvement has coincided with this capture. It often happens that the introduction of a new member in the

team just seems to fit in nicely and this appears to be the result in this case. His game here this afternoon will certainly be watched with interest.

The First Team has now scored 35 goals so far this season, 19 of them at home. This is how they are made up:—

Mitchell 9, Downie 7, Turner 4, Pye 3, Cummins 3, Watkins 2, Davies, McJarrow, Moore and Scott 1 each. Pemberton 1 (penalty). Own Goals (Leicester and Doncaster) 2. Total 35.

The Reserves so far have found the net 45 times, 26 in the Combination Cup and 19 in the Combination League. These are made up as follows:—

Moore 8, Turner 8, McJarrow 7, Scott 6, Allen 4, Adam 2, Cummins 2, and one each by Adamson, Bennett, Downie, Davies, Hall, Jones, Pemberton and Taylor. Total 45.

Taking figures a step further we show the position last year compared with the position as it stands before today's match.

	P	W	L	D	F	A	P
1952/53	20	10	7	3	46	30	23
1953/54	20	8	5	7	35	31	23

which is quite an interesting comparison. The big difference this time last year apart from the fact that we had scored 11 more goals is that we had played 10 of those 20 matches away, whereas we have played away 9 times so far this season. As the lads are playing at the moment however this fact does not seem to make very much difference.

Last Saturday was another quite successful day for our various teams. The "A" team did well to draw with West Ham "A" three goals each, especially after being two goals down at one time. Our Youth XI won their match with Vauxhall Motors Colts by two goals to one in the F.A. Youth Challenge Cup, and then to finish it all off nicely the Luton Schoolboys won their Third Round of the English Schools' Shield Competition match with Watford Boys by five clear goals. The Luton Boys now meet Leicester Boys in the Divisional Final, and the way they have played to get to their present position deserves great credit. The Watford Boys were a tough nut at first, but two great goals by Whitby gave Luton a big advantage which their opponents were never able to wrest from them. They tried very hard and are to be congratulated on putting up such a fine show, although so heavily defeated. Some very nice football from both sides was seen.

THE COVERMAN

Albert James Mitchell

BERT MITCHELL came to us from Northampton Town in July, 1951, having previously had experience with Stoke City and Blackburn Rovers. Not since the days of George Stephenson have we had a winger who has scored so consistently. In his first season with us Bert scored 16 as well as one in the

F.A. Cup, last season he found the net on 12 occasions and one again in the F.A. Cup, and this season so far has netted 9 times, six of them in the last five League matches. Has a terrific shot, and has been successful from the "spot" every time since he joined us. Had the honour of taking the penalty kick for England "B" team when chosen to play for them against Holland at Amsterdam, season 1951/52, and thus scored the deciding goal.

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Left Half3 Griffiths
Left BackBURY
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Knickers Blue
Stockings BlueStreten
Goal5 Owen
Centre Half9 Pye
Centre10 Cummins
Inside Left11 Mitchell
Outside LeftLinesmen—
Red Flag: Mr. C. H. GAYLER
(Harrow)Orange Flag: Mr. A. J. HAMMOND
(Romford)8 Tilley
Inside Right5 Hart
Centre Half2 Fairclough
Right BackGordon
Goal**Football League—Division II**3 Aherne
Left Back6 Watkins
Left Half10 Cummins
Inside Left11 Mitchell
Outside LeftLinesmen—
Red Flag: Mr. C. H. GAYLER
(Harrow)Orange Flag: Mr. A. J. HAMMOND
(Romford)8 Tilley
Inside Right7 Gleeadill
Outside Right4 Daniel
Right HalfGordon
Goal

Kick-Off 2.15 p.m.

SPECTATORS ARE ASKED NOT TO CROSS THE PLAYING FIELD AFTER THE MATCH

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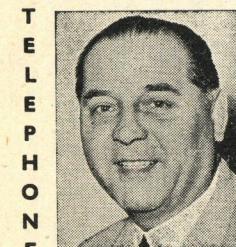
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TODAY'S HALF-TIME SCORES

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.

FIRST LIST

A	TOTTENHAM	WOLVES	.....
B	WEST BROM.	PORTSMOUTH	.....
C	NEWCASTLE	CHELSEA	.....
D	PRESTON	ASTON VILLA	.....
E	WEDNESDAY	CARDIFF C.	.....
F	BOLTON W	HUDDERSFIELD	.....
G	BURNLEY	SUNDERLAND	.....
H	CHARLTON	MANCH. CITY	.....
K	LIVERPOOL	BLACKPOOL
L	MANCH. UN.	SHEFFIELD UN.
M	MIDDLESBRO'	ARSENAL
N	NOTTS. FOR.	OLDHAM A.

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THIRD LIST

A	ALDERSHOT	BRIGHTON
B	BRISTOL CITY	SOUTHEND
C	COLCHESTER	LEYTON O.
D	SOUTHAMPTON	MILLWALL A.	.....
E	SWINDON T.	WATFORD	.....
F	WALSALL	TORQUAY	.....
G	CRYSTAL PAL.	READING	.....
H	EXETER CITY	GILLINGHAM	.....
K	NEWPORT	COVENTRY	.....
L	MANSFIELD	BRADFORD	.....
M	WREXHAM	PORT VALE	.....
N	Reading Res.	Luton T. Res.	.....

FIXTURES, 1953-54

FIRST XI		Division II	Attendance	1952/53	F. A.	RESERVE FIXTURES		Combination Cup	Attendance	1952/53	F. A.	
Wed., Aug.	19	Oldham Athletic	22,822	...	H 4 4	Tues., Aug.	25	Watford	1,972	0 3	A 1 2	
Sat.,	22	Everton	20,247	4 2	H 1 1	Sat.,	29	Northampton Town	2,630	1 1	A 3 1	
Wed.,	26	Notts. Forest	17,522	3 0	H 0 1	Wed., Sept.	2	Birmingham City	2,444	3 0	H 4 0	
Sat.,	29	Plymouth Argyle	22,574	1 2	A 2 2	Sat.,	5	Norwich City	4,765	1 4	H 0 0	
Wed., Sept.	2	Nottingham Forest	17,172	3 4	A 1 2	Sat.,	9	Ipswich Town	2,590	5 1	H 1 2	
Sat.,	5	Swansea Town	17,479	3 1	H 2 0	Sat.,	12	Watford	2,840	1 2	H 2 1	
Wed.,	9	Birmingham City	18,881	1 2	A 1 5	Sat.,	16	Ipswich Town	1,779	1 4	A 4 1	
Sat.,	12	Rotherham United	15,726	3 1	A 1 2	Sat.,	19	Watford	2,840	1 2	H 2 1	
Wed.,	16	Birmingham City	12,231	0 1	H 2 0	Sat.,	23	Northampton T.	1,318	3 3	H 1 2	
Sat.,	19	Leicester City	19,138	2 0	H 2 2	Sat.,	26	Leicester City	3,192	4 1	H 3 4	
Wed.,	26	Sheffield City	24,083	...	A 1 1	Sat.,	30	Coventry City	808	3 3	H 2 0	
Sat.,	Oct.	Fulham	18,619	2 0	H 1 2	Sat.,	Oct.	3	Leicester City	2,822	3 2	A 1 2
Wed.,	10	Hull City	14,754	3 2	H 3 1	Sat.,	5	Coventry City	628	1 1	A 1 4	
Sat.,	17	Notts. County	12,208	2 1	A 2 1	Sat.,	10	Leicester City	2,661	3 1	H 2 0	
Wed.,	24	Lincoln City	15,578	4 0	H 1 0	Sat.,	14	Norwich City	138	2 3	A 1 1	
Sat.,	31	Bristol Rovers	20,021	...	A 3 3	Sat.,	21	Birmingham City	...	...	...
Sat.,	Nov.	Brentford	15,167	0 1	H 1 1	Football Combination						
Sat.,	14	Derby County	15,934	...	A 2 1	Sat.,	Oct.	17	Ipswich Town	2,489	3 2	H 2 1
Sat.,	21	Blackburn Rovers	16,269	6 0	H 2 1	Sat.,	24	Bournemouth	2,991	3 3	A 2 2	
Sat.,	28	Doncaster Rovers	18,273	0 1	A 3 1	Sat.,	31	Portsmouth	2,774	...	H 4 2	
Sat.,	Dec.	Bury	A 1 1	Sat.,	Nov.	7	Cardiff City	992	...	A 1 2
Sat.,	12	Oldham Athletic	...	...	A 2 1	Sat.,	11	Millwall Athletic	2,369	...	H 5 1
Sat.,	19	Everton	...	...	A 1 0	Sat.,	21	Arsenal	5,393	...	A 3 2
Fr.,	25	West Ham United	...	...	A 0 0	Sat.,	28	Chelsea	4,270	...	H 2 2
Sat.,	26	West Ham United	H	Sat.,	Dec.	5	Reading	A
Sat.,	Jan.	Plymouth Argyle	...	...	H	Sat.,	12	West Ham United	...	...	A
Sat.,	9	F.A. Cup—Round 3	...	...	H	Sat.,	19	Leicester City	...	0 0	H
Sat.,	16	Swansea Town	...	2 4	A	Sat.,	25	Plymouth Argyle	...	...	A
Sat.,	23	Rotherham United	...	2 1	H	Sat.,	26	Fulham	...	...	H
Sat.,	30	F.A. Cup—Round 4	H	Sat.,	Jan.	2	Leicester City	...	2 1	A
Sat.,	Feb.	Leicester City	...	...	A	Sat.,	9	Norwich City	...	...	H
Sat.,	13	Stoke City	...	...	H	Sat.,	16	Plymouth Argyle	...	...	H
Sat.,	20	Fulham (5)	...	0 2	A	Sat.,	23	Fulham	...	...	H
Sat.,	27	Hull City	...	2 0	A	Sat.,	30	Fulham	...	...	H
Sat.,	March	Notts. County	...	5 1	H	Sat.,	Feb.	6	Charlton Athletic	H
Sat.,	13	Lincoln City (6)	...	2 1	A	Sat.,	13	Charlton Athletic	...	...	H
Sat.,	20	Bristol Rovers	...	1 1	A	Sat.,	20	Tottenham H.	...	...	H
Sat.,	27	Blackburn Rovers	...	1 1	A	Sat.,	27	Norwich City	...	...	H
Sat.,	April	Doncaster Rovers	...	1 2	H	Sat.,	6	Ipswich Town	...	2 0	A	
Sat.,	10	Brentford	...	1 1	A	Sat.,	13	Bournemouth	...	1 2	H	
Sat.,	16	Leeds United	...	2 0	H	Sat.,	20	Portsmouth	...	...	H
Sat.,	17	Derby County	...	...	H	Sat.,	27	Cardiff City	...	...	H
Sat.,	19	Leeds United	...	2 2	A	Sat.,	April	3	Millwall Athletic	A
Sat.,	24	Bury	...	0 1	A	Sat.,	10	Arsenal	...	...	H
Sat.,	28	West Ham United	...	...	H	Sat.,	16	Tottenham Hotspur	...	...	A
Sat.,	29	Reading	...	...	H	Sat.,	17	Chelsea	...	...	A
Sat.,	24	West Ham United	...	...	H	Sat.,	24	Reading	...	...	H
Sat.,	28	West Ham United	...	...	H	Sat.,	28	West Ham United	...	...	H

LEAGUE TABLES, 1953-54

Up to and including
28th November, 1953

FOOTBALL COMBINATION—Division I										
Pld.	Won	Drn.	Lost	For	Agst.	P.	Pld.	Won	Drn.	Lost
Norwich City	7	5	2	0	20	8	12			
West Ham Utd.	7	6	0	1	12	6	12			
Tottenham H.	6	5	1	0	18	8	11			
LUTON TOWN	7	4	2	1	19	12	10			
Arsenal	...	7	4	0	3	14	9	8		
Portsmouth	7	3	1	3	11	13	7			
Bournemouth	6	2	2	2	8	6	6			
Plymouth A.	6	2	2	2	11	10	6			
Charlton Ath.	7	2	2	3	10	10	6			
Chelsea	7	2	2	3	15	16	6			
Reading	7	2	2	3	12	13	6			
Leicester City	6	2	1	3	8	12	5			
Cardiff City	7	2	1	4	9	14	5			
Millwall	7	1	2	4	9	15	4			
Fulham	7	1	0	6	9	19	2			
Ipswich Town	7	1	0	6	8	22	2			

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