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SATURDAY, APRIL 16th, 1955

### NOTES

Having devoured your Easter eggs and what have you, no doubt a bit of time will have been spared during the break from the usual hum-drum of work, business, or whatever your better relatives call it, to digest the League position in the Second Division.

As the magicians aptly put it, “the more you look the less you see”; that is if you have been looking for a solution to the problem of promotion and working out the points and probable winners of matches still to be played. It has been said that figures can prove anything, but that does not, of course, apply to human figures, and that is the kind more concerned in football because it is goals that count wins and wins count points. That is where the human element comes in and all the juggling of figures possible does not put points in the appropriate column of the League table—the players are the only people who can do that.

The Rovers' Easter egg contained two points on Good Friday, although there was only one goal, but on Saturday two more points came in from Hull with four goals. Unfortunately, Monday's match at Lincoln went the way of many stayers and thoroughbreds labelled as favourites on another field of sport in the same city; the Rovers were placed second and only being two runners they got no prize.

Whilst the Rovers have secured four out of six points, which includes two away matches and no little travelling, they can be congratulated on doing so, but the loss of the other two points assists to complicate the position in the promotion struggle. The two points which Lincoln City won from us would have made the position at the top of the League a very strong one indeed. It is, however, no use lamenting about spilled points, such events happen to all clubs fighting for promotion or relegation and the former is easily the best end at which to be struggling.

To-day's match could not have been placed in a more appropriate position in the fixture list, even if “Old Moore” (of almanac fame) had compiled them, for this is the plum of the afternoon, just as was Chelsea and Wolverhampton Wanderers last week. Such a match is equal to a four-point effort, because two points won by one club deprives their victims of two points they needed equally as much, and their loss pegs them back severely.

Luton here to do battle to-day have already experienced three such matches over Easter, for on Good Friday and Easter Monday they met Leeds United home and away. Both are struggling, intent on going up, and it was Leeds United who came out of these

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encounters with flying colours. On Easter Saturday Luton Town had another hard match with promotion-seekers West Ham United, but the Town, after drawing none each with Leeds United on their own ground on Good Friday, did not fail their supporters a second time, they beat West Ham by two clear goals.

Having referred to the Chelsea v. Wolverhampton match and making a sort of comparison about this fixture being to-day's plum match, we will carry the point a stage further, for Rovers are at the top and their next immediate danger-opponents are no doubt Luton Town. They, of course, have matches in hand, but a Rovers win to-day will do a great deal towards levelling this matter out and leaving Luton with a lot of points to make up in a little time.

We can remember that Chelsea beat Wolverhampton Wanderers in this match, which we are comparing with to-day's clash of giants, and such a result would be a very happy one for us. Our lads realise the importance of this result and no doubt will once again pull out their very best, not only to win but to help our cause towards Division One; also to wipe out the stigma of a defeat on November 27th, 1954. Yes, not very long ago, is it? But the memory lingers on and seems to say, "Repay! Repay!" One each for the forwards and two for good measure!

Luton Town, by the way, gained promotion to the Second Division in season 1936-37 after narrowly failing the previous season and have kept their "hats" above water during this time. They have produced a number of good players and despite being on the transferring end of several players in recent years, they still maintain a strong and sound team as the present eleven have proved by their excellent record this season.

They appear in the "Honours List" only by having gained promotion from the Third Division (South), but are striving to add another figure to that one and no doubt are making every other Second Division club sit up and take notice. Known as "The Hatters" because one of the main industries in Luton is the making of hats, there is also a very famous girls' choir at Luton, but they still stick to the tag "The Hatters." We welcome them in the knowledge that we shall all see a football match worthy of the name.

May the better team win and all the luck be even for both sides. We cannot wish better than that except that "may the Rovers be the better team!"

We commend our supporters and those you bring with you to patronise our Reserve match on Monday evening at Ewood Park, kick-off 6-30 p.m. Their opponents are the "old enemy," Preston North End, and you will see at first hand our excellent Reserve team. They have a 100 per cent. record over Easter matches.

#### Next Home Matches

CENTRAL LEAGUE

MONDAY NEXT, APRIL 18th

**ROVERS RESERVES v. PRESTON N.E. RESERVES**

Kick-off 6-30 p.m.

SATURDAY NEXT, APRIL 23rd

**ROVERS RESERVES v. BARNSELY RESERVES**

Kick-off 3 p.m.

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**F**



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### SCORE BOARD

<b>A</b> ASTON VILLA v. SHEFFIELD U.	<b>A</b> BRISTOL R. v. NOTTINGHAM F.
<b>B</b> BLACKPOOL v. CARDIFF C.	<b>B</b> DERBY C. v. STOKE C.
<b>C</b> BOLTON W. v. EVERTON	<b>C</b> DONCASTER R. v. MIDDLESBROUGH
<b>D</b> CHARLTON A. v. MANCHESTER C.	<b>D</b> FULHAM v. HULL C.
<b>E</b> HUDDERSFIELD T. v. NEWCASTLE U.	<b>E</b> LIVERPOOL v. LEEDS U.
<b>F</b> MANCHESTER U. v. WEST BROM. A.	<b>F</b> NOTTS C. v. BURY
<b>G</b> PORTSMOUTH v. CHELSEA	<b>G</b> PLYMOUTH A. v. IPSWICH T.
<b>H</b> SHEFFIELD W. v. LEICESTER C.	<b>H</b> PORT VALE v. BIRMINGHAM C.
<b>J</b> SUNDERLAND v. PRESTON N.E.	<b>J</b> SWANSEA T. v. LINCOLN C.
<b>K</b> TOTTENHAM H. v. BURNLEY	<b>K</b> WEST HAM U. v. ROTHERHAM U.
<b>L</b> WOLVERHAMPTON W. v. ARSENAL	<b>L</b> SHEFFIELD U. RES. v. BLACKBURN R. RES.

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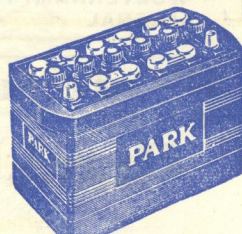
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### LEAGUE TABLES

LEAGUE—DIVISION II							CENTRAL LEAGUE						
						Goals							Goals
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A. Pts		P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A. Pts
Blackburn R.	39	22	4	13	113	76 48	Bolton W.	37	22	7	8	64	25 51
Leeds United	39	21	6	12	63	50 48	Preston N.E.	37	23	3	11	81	45 49
Luton Town	37	20	7	10	78	49 47	Man. Utd.	36	21	5	10	82	45 47
Birmingham	36	19	8	9	79	40 46	Burnley	38	20	7	11	87	54 47
West Ham U.	37	18	9	10	71	59 45	Everton	36	18	7	11	64	41 43
Stoke City	36	18	9	9	62	40 45	Wolves	34	19	5	10	65	42 43
Rotherham	36	20	4	12	80	60 44	Blackpool	38	18	7	13	76	59 43
Bristol Rov.	38	18	6	14	71	63 42	Hudd'rsfield	35	18	5	12	71	69 41
Notts County	38	19	4	15	71	66 42	Newcastle U.	37	17	6	14	61	55 40
Middlesbro'	38	18	4	16	68	74 40	Liverpool	37	16	9	12	70	67 41
Swansea T.	37	15	8	14	78	72 38	Stoke City	37	17	4	16	64	64 38
Bury	37	14	8	15	69	66 36	Man. City	35	14	7	14	65	70 35
Fulham	37	13	10	14	70	72 36	West Brom.	34	15	5	14	68	64 35
Liverpool	37	14	8	15	82	85 36	Aston Villa	36	14	6	16	58	67 34
Notts Forest	37	15	5	17	51	55 35	Blackburn R.	38	13	8	17	74	75 34
Lincoln City	37	11	9	17	62	74 31	Bury	38	12	7	19	63	74 31
Hull City	37	11	9	17	42	60 31	Sheff. Utd.	36	13	4	19	55	62 30
Doncaster R.	37	9	11	17	52	84 31	Barnsley	35	10	9	16	42	56 29
Port Vale	37	9	11	17	42	66 29	Sheff. Wed.	34	11	6	17	56	73 28
Plymouth A.	39	10	7	22	53	80 27	Leeds United	35	8	7	20	52	92 23
Ipswich T.	37	10	4	23	52	86 24	Derby C.	38	7	8	23	45	90 22
Derby C.	39	6	9	24	49	77 21	Chesterfield	36	3	5	28	38	106 11

(Up to 9th April)

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Watch the Local Press for all information regarding social Events. For information regarding away trips contact the Secretary or any member of the Committee.

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SATURDAY, 23rd APRIL, 1955

## LEEDS

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## BRITISH RAILWAYS

## First Team Fixtures

Date	Opponents	F.A.	1954	Opponents	F.A.
Aug. 21—Fulham	Away—1—5		" 18—Fulham	Home—3—1	
" 23—West Ham U.	Home—5—2		" 25—Doncaster R.	Away—3—1	
" 28—Swansea T.	Home—4—1		" 27—Doncaster R.	Home—7—2	
" 30—West Ham U.	Away—5—2		1955—		
Sep. 4—Notts C.	Away—1—3		Jan. 1—Swansea T.	Away—3—2	
" 8—Derby C.	Away—3—0		" 8—(3) Swansea	Home—0—2	
" 11—Liverpool.	Home—4—3		" 15—Notts C.	Home—4—5	
" 13—Derby C.	Home—5—2		" 22—Liverpool	Away—1—4	
" 18—Bristol R.	Away—1—2		" 29—Linz A.S.K.	Home—6—2	
" 25—Plymouth	Home—2—2		Feb. 5—Bristol R.	Home—8—3	
Oct. 2—Port Vale	Away—3—0		" 12—Plymouth	Away—2—0	
" 9—Ipswich T.	Home—4—1		" 19—(5) Port V.	Home—2—1	
" 16—Notts F.	Away—2—1		" 26—Ipswich T.	Away—1—1	
" 23—Rotherham	Home—4—1		Mar. 5—Notts F.	Home—0—1	
" 30—Stoke City	Away—1—1		" 12—(6) R'therh'm	Away—1—5	
Nov. 6—Middlesb'gh	Home—9—0		" 19—Stoke City	Home—2—1	
" 13—Birmingham	Away—1—3		" 26—Middlesb'gh	Away—3—4	
" 20—(1) Hull C.	Home—4—0		Apl. 2—Birmingham	Home—3—3	
" 27—Luton T.	Away—3—7		" 8—Lincoln City	Home—1—0	
Dec. 4—Leeds U.	Home—1—2		" 9—Hull City	Away—4—1	
" 11—(2) Bury	Away—1—2		" 11—Lincoln City	Away—1—2	
			" 16—Luton T.	Home—	
			" 23—Leeds U.	Away—	
			" 30—Bury	Home—	
			May 7—		

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## PEN PORTRAITS OF THE LUTON TOWN TEAM

- R. BAYNHAM** (Goalkeeper).—In his fourth season with the club. Secured from Southern League Club Worcester City. After a series of brilliant displays in the Reserves this season was promoted to the League side on November 13th and is keeping out of the first team Bernard Streten, our England International goalkeeper.
- S. DUNNE** (Right Back).—Hails from County Wicklow, Eire. Joined Luton from Shelbourne in May, 1950. Has played for his country on several occasions and forms an all-Eire full-back partnership with Bud Aherne.
- T. AHERNE** (Left Back).—Born in Limerick, Eire. Came to Luton from Belfast Celtic in March, 1949, and has already played in 22 International matches for his country.
- J. PEMBERTON** (Right Half).—Was chosen for the right-half berth vacated by Morton, and is filling the bill admirably. Is a most useful utility player and since he joined Luton in 1947 has played in every position, except goal and outside right.
- S. OWEN** (Centre Half).—Captain of the side. Previously with Birmingham City. Toured Australia with the F.A. three years ago, was a member of the Football League team which played in Copenhagen in May, 1953, and was in the England party in Switzerland for the World Cup games last summer. Has also been selected on several occasions for the English F.A. XI. v. the Army, Oxford University, etc.
- W. SHANKS** (Left Half).—Born in Malta of Scottish parents. In his eighth season with the club. Was signed as an outside right but was successfully converted to a wing half. Tireless worker.
- R. DAVIES** (Outside Right).—A South African signed by Clyde during their tour of South Africa in 1948, and later transferred to Luton in May, 1951. Scored eight goals to January 8th.
- G. TURNER** (Inside Right).—A Doncaster boy recommended to Luton whilst playing in Navy football and signed forms upon demob. in March, 1950. Scored 16 goals last season and his total to date for this season is 35 (up to April 11th), including a hat-trick again Blackburn on November 27th when we won by seven goals to three.
- R. MORTON** (Centre-forward).—Local boy who signed professional forms in February, 1946. Usually a brilliant wing half and frequently tipped for honours in this position, but since transfer of Jesse Pye to Derby County has taken over the centre-forward role with outstanding success.
- G. CUMMINS** (Inside Left).—Another outstanding Irishman secured by Luton for a five-figure fee from Everton in August, 1953. A brilliant ball player and has already played for Eire v. Norway this season.
- J. ADAM** (Outside Left).—Recommended to Luton by their North-Eastern scout and signed from the Northern club, Spennymoor United in June, 1953. Very quick and can beat a man with consummate ease.

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