

FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION 1

LUTON TOWN

v.

MANCHESTER UNITED



Official Programme

Price 3d.

SATURDAY, 11th FEBRUARY, 1956

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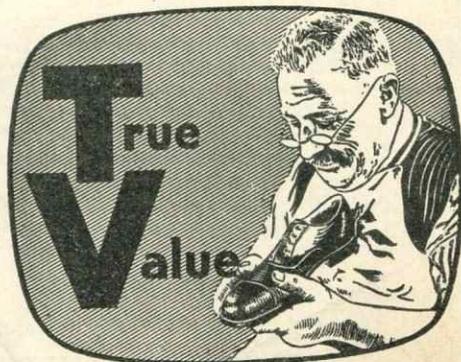


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Colour: Lily-white		1 Goal <b>R. EDDYCASH</b>	Kick-off: 8 a.m.	
2 Right Back <b>PRICELOW</b>		3 Left Back <b>P. ROMPTERMS</b>		
4 Right Half <b>H. E. M. LOCK</b>	5 Centre Half <b>D. ORES</b>	6 Left Half <b>DOUGLAS FERR</b>		
7 Outside Right <b>M. OLDINGS</b>	8 Inside Right <b>F. LORING</b>	9 Centre Forward <b>S. ERVISS</b>	10 Inside Left <b>P. LYEWOOD</b>	11 Outside Left <b>T. R. ELLIS</b>
Referee: Tim Bertradedoftheunitedkingdom		Linesmen: L. ORRIE F. ETCHIT		
○○○ Reserve: <b>NAT. PROBAN</b>				

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No. 12431

## CLUB NOTES

AFTER such a glorious start in our very first season in the First Division the turn of the year has brought us nothing but disappointment and set-backs. At the beginning of the year with the season more than half way through we were lying third in the Table with a very useful goal average to give us the edge on other Clubs having the same number of points as ourselves. Then came the mud, and the snow, and all that a winter in England can devise, preventing our lads from playing their on-the-carpet football which had not only brought the success but football which was a delight to watch and which was giving us a name second to none in the land for entertainment. We had to meet Leicester City in the F.A. Cup under conditions which were deplorable, a day when football as such was an impossibility for the only means of progress was to lift the ball and hope for the best or to bludgeon one's way through the sticky mud. We lost to a much stronger team physically, and in addition lost the services of Syd Owen through a torn muscle entirely due to the terrible condition of the ground, and it will be still a few weeks before we see Syd on the field again. To lose one's Captain and the centre-pin of the side has indeed been a grievous blow to us for Terry Kelly, well though he has played, has not the experience nor the mastery which Syd possesses and this has thrown an extra burden onto the rest of the defence. We then had to play at Newcastle under conditions which if anything were worse than here for the Leicester Cup Tie. There were chunks of ice lying all over the ground, the ground was frost-bound for the most part, thick mud in other parts, with a snow-blizzard which came on during half-time and blew in our lads' faces. The players did not want this match to be played under such conditions, the Officials of both Clubs were definitely against it, but the Referee said it had to be played and so there it was. Instead of a sixty-thousand attendance which would have been the case had conditions been normal only 21,464 brave souls faced the elements, and apart from the satisfaction of seeing their team score four times, three of them in the last ten minutes, could not have been entertained as far as the football itself was concerned for as such it was an impossibility. The following week here against Birmingham conditions were not quite so bad as for the Leicester match but were still bad enough and again it was not possible for our lads to play their normal football. Only a fine individual effort by centre forward Brown whose shot at goal just found the inside of the far post to end up in the net brought the visitors their usual victory at Kenilworth Road—a hoo-doo team if ever there was one. It seems incredible that that one goal should have brought the "Blues" three points from our two meetings this season but such is the case. Then last Saturday, at the Hawthorns, our run of bad luck still dogged us for two of the goals at least scored against us would never have been achieved under normal conditions. On each occasion the ball hit a solid lump of earth to be diverted at the last second, and no goalkeeper on earth can be expected to anticipate which way the ball is going to break under such circumstances. We are most certainly not blaming Ron Baynham for allowing these shots to beat him, despite adverse reports in some papers about it. The ball just has not been running kindly for us this year, but it will change.

We welcome the present leaders to Kenilworth Road this afternoon, knowing a very hard struggle faces our lads against this team which is certainly setting a very hard pace for other Championship aspirants. This Manchester side containing a nice blend of youth and experience already has established a four points lead over their nearest rivals,

a fact which is bound to give them all the confidence in the world, a very fine asset. Due to Army requirements the United will be short of the services of three of their recognised First team players today, England Internationals Bill Foulkes (right back) and Duncan Edwards (left half) as well as right half Eddie Coleman, but such is the talent of the "Busby Babes" that it is quite likely that even players of such experience as these three will not be missed today.

We remember when the United Youth side played on this ground, last November, against the Bedfordshire Youth XI how well their youngsters played, and obviously there was talent that was going to be very useful not only to the United Reserves but the First team in the very near future. Mat. Busby seems to have the knack not only of getting these young players but of keeping them happy while waiting their chance of first team duty.

Although our first match on Spanish soil did not result in a victory we felt the trip was well worth-while and will certainly go again if the opportunity arises. We found the Spanish people charming and hospitable, and we were made to feel most welcome—nothing was too much trouble in trying to make our all too short stay an enjoyable one. Unfortunately our football was not as good as we had hoped, but we were playing a Selected XI from Barcelona, a city of two million inhabitants, and a very good selection it was, containing seven Internationals. The great Kubala was playing centre forward for them, and although Bob Morton played him extremely well this player is clever enough to have a great advantage over his opponent when in possession. His second goal, direct from a free kick a yard outside our penalty box had to be seen to be believed. He somehow screwed the ball round a line of defenders to enter our net just inside the near post—a marvellous goal. Certainly we have no one playing football like him here in England. This second goal coming immediately on top of their first after only eleven minutes seemed to take a lot of confidence out of our lads, but they kept trying to play their football under almost ideal conditions, and George Cummins reduced the lead after a delightful movement all along the line. There were reports in several English papers about the booing of the crowd but this was quite a wrong impression. Desmond Hackett of the "Daily Express" was the only sports writer present from England, and he gave quite a fair report of the match. There was only one instance of booing which was quite understandable under the circumstances. John Groves, who had an excellent game, was in possession of the ball in the left corner of the Spaniards' penalty box. He was just going to be tackled by two opponents when by a brilliant body swerve he completely deceived the two Spaniards who charged into each other, knocking each other out. The spectators saw these two players lying on the ground, and consequently they booed, but it was not of long duration, and the game proceeded fairly evenly without an untoward incident. The Spanish Referee handled the game very well throughout. It was a very enjoyable match, and a most pleasant and interesting trip.

Frank Swift, whom most of you remember when he played in goal for Manchester City, is attending this match today and will be reporting it in tomorrow's "News of the World." His comments will be well worth reading.

The kick-off with Huddersfield Town here in two weeks time has been arranged for 2.50 to enable the Town to catch an early train home. We have arranged to play Bedford Town for the Bedfordshire Professional Cup on Wednesday, 21st March, by Floodlight, kick-off 7.30 p.m., here at Kenilworth Road. Further details will be given in our next programme.

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2  
**Dunne**  
Right Back

4  
**Pemberton**  
Right Half

7  
**Pearce**  
Outside Right

8  
**Turner**  
Inside Right

Referee :  
**Mr. C. G. PORTER**  
(Taunton, Somerset)

11  
**Pegg**  
Outside Left

10  
**Viollet**  
Inside Left

6  
**Blanchflower**  
Left Half

3  
**Byrne**  
Left Back

MANCHESTER U.

Shirts Red  
Knickers White  
Stockings Black

Baynham  
Goal

5  
**Kelly**  
Centre Half

9  
**Morton**  
Centre



9  
**Taylor**  
Centre

**Jones**  
Centre Half

**Wood**  
Goal

Football League—Div. 1

**JONES**  
**Aherne**  
Left Back

6  
**Shanks**  
Left Half

10  
**Groves**  
Inside Left

11  
**Cullen**  
Outside Left

Linesmen :  
Red Flag :  
**Mr. A. J. HAMMOND** (Upminster)

Orange Flag :  
**Mr. H. E. STOKES** (London)

8  
**Whelan**  
Inside Right

7  
**Berry**  
Outside Right

4  
**Goodwin**  
Right Half

2  
**Greaves**  
Right Back

Kick-Off 3 p.m.

Spectators are asked NOT TO CROSS THE PLAYING FIELD after the match

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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	Aston Villa	.....	Arsenal	.....
B	Burnley	.....	Sheffield Utd.	.....
C	Cardiff City	.....	Blackpool	.....
D	Charlton Ath.	.....	West Brom.	.....
E	Everton	.....	Newcastle U.	.....
F	Manchester C.	.....	Chelsea	.....
G	Preston N. E.	.....	Huddersfield	.....
H	Sunderland	.....	Portsmouth	.....
K	Tottenham H.	.....	Birmingham	.....
L	Wolverh'pton	.....	Bolton W.	.....
M	Barnsley	.....	West Ham U.	.....
N	Bristol Rovers	.....	Lincoln City	.....

**SECOND LIST**

A	Bury	.....	Port Vale	.....
C	Doncaster R.	.....	Blackburn R.	.....
B	Fulham	.....	Rotherham U.	.....
D	Leeds United	.....	Swansea T.	.....
E	Middlesbro'	.....	Bristol City	.....
F	Notts. County	.....	Notts. Forest	.....
G	Plymouth A.	.....	Liverpool	.....
H	Sheffield Wed.	.....	Hull City	.....
K	Stoke City	.....	Leicester City	.....
L	Aldershot	.....	Walsall	.....
M	Brighton & H.	.....	Shrewsbury T.	.....
N	Colchester	.....	Millwall Ath.	.....

**THIRD LIST**

A	Crystal Palace	.....	Ipswich Town	.....
B	Exeter City	.....	Watford	.....
C	Leyton O.	.....	Reading	.....
D	Northampton	.....	Torquay Utd.	.....
E	Norwich City	.....	Gillingham	.....
F	Q.P.R.	.....	Newport Co.	.....
G	Southampton	.....	Bournemouth	.....
H	Southend Utd.	.....	Brentford	.....
K	Swindon T.	.....	Coventry City	.....
L	Accrington	.....	Grimsby T.	.....
M	Southport	.....	Chesterfield	.....
N	B'nem'th Res.	.....	Luton T. Res.	.....

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**FIXTURES**

1955-1956

1955	FIRST XI—Division 1	Attendance	F. A.
Aug. 20 Sat.	Charlton Athletic	28,800	A 2 2
" 24 Wed.	Preston N. E.	30,738	A 1 2
" 27 Sat.	Tottenham H.	21,143	H 2 1
" 31 Wed.	Preston N. E.	24,174	H 2 1
Sept. 3 Sat.	Everton	44,237	A 1 0
" 5 Mon.	Burnley	19,350	A 1 3
" 10 Sat.	Newcastle Utd.	25,814	H 4 2
" 17 "	Birmingham C.	31,000	A 0 0
" 24 "	West Brom.	24,440	H 0 2
Oct. 1 "	Manchester Utd.	34,661	A 1 3
" 8 "	Blackpool	24,493	H 3 1
" 15 "	Huddersfield T.	19,621	A 2 0
" 22 "	Arsenal	24,009	H 0 0
" 29 "	Bolton W.	28,104	A 0 4
Nov. 5 "	Wolves	27,911	H 5 1
" 12 "	Aston Villa	29,761	A 0 1
" 19 "	Sunderland (1)	25,802	H 8 2
" 26 "	Portsmouth	27,758	A 0 0
Dec. 3 "	Cardiff City	21,827	H 3 0
" 10 "	Manchester C. (2)	14,449	A 2 3
" 17 "	Charlton Ath.	19,686	H 2 1
" 24 "	Tottenham H.	41,168	A 1 2
" 26 Mon.	Sheffield United	29,772	A 4 0
" 27 Tues.	Sheffield United	23,504	H 2 1
" 31 Sat.	Everton	23,226	H 2 2
1956			
Jan. 11 Wed.	Leicester C. F.A. Cup—3	23,221	H 0 4
" 14 Sat.	Newcastle United	21,412	A 0 4
" 21 "	Birmingham C.	18,970	H 0 1
" 28 "	F.A. Cup 4		
Feb. 4 "	West Brom.	25,220	A 1 3
" 11 "	Manchester Utd.		H A
" 18 "	Blackpool (5)		H A
" 25 "	Huddersfield T.		H A
Mar. 3 "	Sunderland (6)		A H
" 10 "	Bolton W.		A H
" 17 "	Wolves		A H
" 24 "	Aston Villa		H H
" 30 Fri.	Chelsea		H A
" 31 Sat.	Arsenal		A H
April 2 Mon.	Chelsea		A H
" 7 Sat.	Portsmouth		H A
" 14 "	Cardiff City		A H
" 21 "	Manchester C.		H H
" 28 "	Burnley		H H

1955	Reserve XI Fixtures	Attendance	1954/55	F. A.
Aug. 20 Sat.	Birmingham C.	1,920	2 2	H 2 8
" 24 Wed.	Cardiff City	694		A 1 4
" 27 Sat.	Brighton	2,539	3 1	A 2 2
Sept. 3 "	Ipswich Town	2,042		H 2 1
" 7 Wed.	Cardiff City	1,023	3 1	H 5 2
" 10 Sat.				
" 15 Thurs.	Northampton T.	539		A 4 0
" 17 Sat.	Southend Utd.	2,041		H 1 5
" 24 "	Swansea Town	2,787		A 0 1
Oct. 1 "	Bournemouth	1,633	2 3	H 3 3
" 8 "	Bristol Rovers	4,554		A 1 3
" 15 "	Leyton Orient	1,498		H 3 4
" 22 "	Brentford	1,091		A 3 7
" 29 "	Chelsea	1,742	2 2	H 3 0
Nov. 12 "	Leicester City	1,537	1 3	H 2 2
" 19 "	Millwall Athletic	1,096		A 4 3
" 26 "	Coventry City	1,176	7 0	H 7 0
Dec. 3 "	Plymouth Argyle	2,568		A 2 1
" 10 "	Portsmouth	1,279	4 1	H 2 3
" 17 "	Birmingham C.	1,874	1 1	A 1 3
" 24 "	Brighton	561	1 1	H 1 2
" 27 Tues.	Aldershot	618		A 2 1
" 31 Sat.	Ipswich Town	3,396		A 2 2
1956				
Jan. 28 "	Crystal Palace	1,544		A 1 3
Feb. 11 "	Bournemouth		4 0	A
" 18 "	Bristol Rovers			H
" 25 "	Leyton Orient			A
Mar. 3 "	Brentford			H
" 10 "	Chelsea		2 1	A
" 17 "	Norwich City		6 1	H
" 24 "	Leicester City			A
" 30 Fri.	Arsenal		1 1	A
" 31 Sat.	Millwall Athletic			H
April 2 Mon.	Arsenal		1 6	H
" 7 Sat.	Coventry City		3 1	A
" 14 "	Plymouth A.			H
" 21 "	Portsmouth		5 2	A
" 28 "				A
May 5 "				
To be arranged	Norwich City		2 3	A
"	Aldershot			H
"	Queens Park R.			H
"	Tottenham H.		2 2	H
"	Southend United			H
"	Swansea Town			A

**NEXT MATCHES**

Saturday, 18th February, 1956

**FOOTBALL COMBINATION**

**LUTON TOWN**  
RESERVES  
v.  
**Bristol Rovers**  
RESERVES

Kick-Off 3 p.m.

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**League Table : 1955-56**

Up to and including Saturday, 4th February, 1956

	Pld.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
MANCHESTER U.	29	16	6	7	59	42	38
Blackpool	28	14	6	8	60	43	34
West Bromwich A.	29	14	4	11	43	40	32
Wolverhampton W.	28	13	5	10	64	49	31
Burnley	28	12	7	9	42	36	31
Portsmouth	28	13	5	10	57	61	31
Sunderland	28	12	7	9	58	63	31
Newcastle Utd.	29	14	2	13	67	48	30
Manchester City	28	11	8	9	50	48	30
Everton	29	11	8	10	43	46	30
Bolton W.	27	12	5	10	51	35	29
LUTON TOWN	28	12	5	11	49	42	29
Chelsea	28	11	7	10	44	48	29
Birmingham C.	29	11	6	12	55	45	28
Charlton Ath.	29	12	4	13	58	60	28
Preston N.E.	29	11	5	13	53	48	27
Arsenal	28	9	8	11	39	48	26
Cardiff City	28	11	4	13	39	53	26
Tottenham H.	28	10	4	14	36	44	24
Sheffield Utd.	28	9	4	15	40	51	22
Aston Villa	28	5	9	14	32	55	19
Huddersfield T.	28	6	5	17	34	68	17

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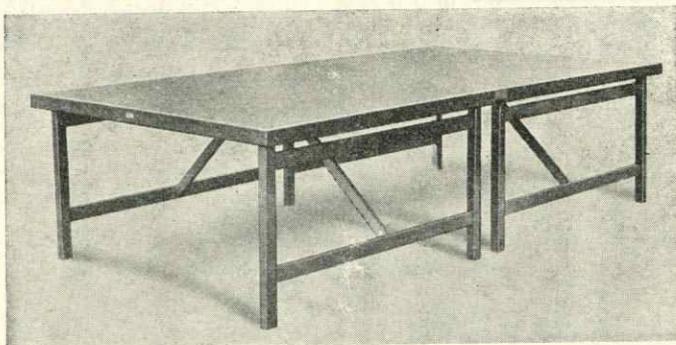
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