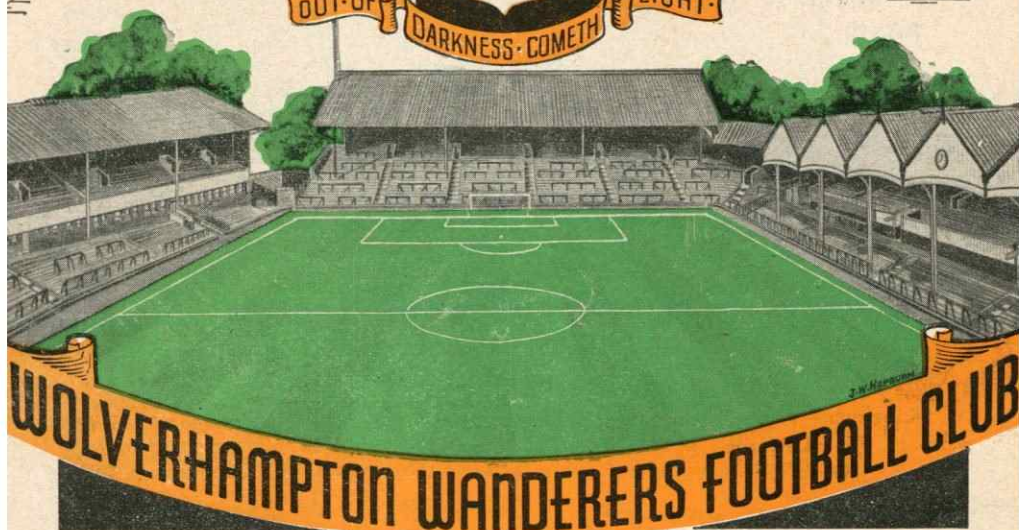


SEASON

1955-56



# Official Programme

3<sup>D</sup>

3<sup>D</sup>

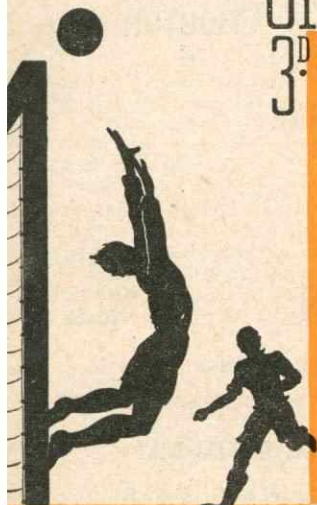
WINNERS F.A. CUP  
1892-3 1907-8 1948-9

FINALISTS  
1888-9 1895-6 1920-1 1938-9

WINNERS FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
(WAR) CUP 1941-2

CHAMPIONS  
Div. I - - - 1953-4  
Div. II - - - 1931-2  
Div. III (North) - 1923-4  
Central League 1931-2, 1950-1-2-3

Runners-up Div. I  
1937-8-9 1949-50 1954-5



FOOTBALL LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION





# FOOTBALL LEAGUE — FIRST DIVISION

MOLINEUX GROUNDS, WOLVERHAMPTON  
(Covered Accommodation for 30,000)

SATURDAY, MARCH 17th, 1956

Match No. 33. Kick-off 3 p.m.

Shirts: Gold	<b>WOLVES</b>					Knickers: Black
RIGHT						LEFT
	<b>WILLIAMS</b>					
	<b>STUART</b> 2			<b>SHORTHOUSE</b> 3		
	<b>SLATER</b> 4		<b>WRIGHT</b> 5		<b>FLOWERS</b> 6	
	<b>HANCOCKS</b> 7	<b>BROADBENT</b> 8	<b>WILSHAW</b> 9	<b>BOOTH</b> 10	<b>MULLEN</b> 11	
Linesman—Yellow Flag H. HORNER (Kenilworth)	Referee— A. E. MOORE (Lowestoft)					Linesman—Red Flag J. C. NICHOLAS (Chippenhams, Wilts.)
	<b>ADAM</b> 11	<b>PEARCE</b> 10	<b>GREGORY</b> 9	<b>TURNER</b> 8	<b>DAVIES</b> 7	
	<b>SHANKS</b> 6		<b>KELLY</b> 5		<b>MORTON</b> 4	
	<b>JONES</b> 3		<b>DUNNE</b> 2			
	<b>BAYNHAM</b>					
LEFT						RIGHT
Shirts: White	<b>LUTON TOWN</b>					Knickers: Black

THE TEAMS ARE SUBJECT TO ALTERATION



To COMPLETE enjoyment  
ALL WOLVES FANS ASK FOR  
**BUTLER'S BOTTLED BITTER**

## Wolverhampton Wanderers Football Club (1923) Limited

Wolves 1, Luton 2 PS, WOLVERHAMPTON

**G**ALLANT Luton. Reduced to nine fit men at times, they outplayed these insipid Wolves and romped to their double of the season. And there was never any question about the result, with Wolves, once the fastest team in English football, slow, apathetic and purposeless.

Two players alone made any pretence of displaying their usual form in this Wolves side—Broadbent and Slater.

Eighteen-year-old Tony Gregory outwitted Billy Wright more than once and scored his first League goal four minutes before the interval. It also proved to be the match winner.

Wolves' only chance to dominate the game came early on, when Broadbent switched a beautiful pass to Wilshaw. The centre forward shot and, as the ball rebounded from the upright, so Wolves' chance of taking a quick lead disappeared.

Luton's goal was a brilliant one. United, Adam took a corner from the left and his wing colleague Davies, running into the middle, left Williams gasping with a flick of the head.

Tottenham Hotspur could not be played because Spurs were cup-tied; and even the floodlit game with Bilbao had to be called off.

From this moment Wolves were in a tangle, although a move between Mullen, Wilshaw, and Hancocks gave Hancocks the chance to equalise after 35 minutes.

But Luton refused to be overawed on this first League visit to the Wolves and four minutes from the interval Gregory ran on to a Shanks' pass and scored with the ball glancing in off a post.

The second half, despite injuries to Turner and Jones, saw Luton dominate the play. Turner drove the ball against a post with Williams beaten.

Wilshaw was a disappointmentster at centre forward for Wolves, but; in all the Luton players showed enthusiasm and fighting quality which Wolves never matched.

### NEWCOMERS TO THE TOP FLIGHT

**A**ND now for the welcome to Luton Town who, in their first season in the First Division have met with truly mixed fortunes. Some of their earlier results, including their 5-1 defeat of our own team at Kenilworth Road, and the subsequent thrashing of Sunderland on the same ground were distinctly heartening to them.

Since then however, they have had a series of misfortunes and like ourselves have been plagued by a succession of injuries. These had much to do with a run of reverse results but they came into their own again with a surprise victory at Roker Park to give them the undoubted distinction of a double over one of the outstanding clubs in the land.

They are welcome to Molineux where, it may be recalled, we last saw them in a cup replay with Blackpool a few years ago. And if they play as well as they did in the earlier fixture we are in for some thrills.

### AMONG PROFESSIONAL PIONEERS

**A**LTHOUGH they have taken such a long time to reach the First Division, Luton Town are one of the older clubs in the country, having been in existence since 1885. It is interesting in view of their subsequent rise to fame to note that they were among the first of the southern clubs to take professional players into their ranks. That was as long ago as 1891.

For many years they were stalwarts of the old Southern League, after a short spell in the Second Division. They also commanded respect during their Third Division days and when they eventually went into the Second Division again they proved worthy opponents for all and sundry.

We have a recent link with the Town inasmuch as it was to them that Jesse Pye went a few seasons ago to become a most popular forward with the Hatters and to play no small part in their rise to the upper crust of the Second Division.

### BACK TO THE FRAY

**I**T was on the Birmingham City ground that our first eleven came back to the fray on Saturday after their enforced three weeks rest. After the fighting show put up by the Blues towards the end of the game there will be a lot of people interested today in the progress of their semi-final tie against Sunderland.

The Blues are to be complimented on something else too—the improvements they have made to their ground as part of the rebuilding scheme after the wartime damage.

### THERE'S A BUSY TIME AHEAD

**W**E shall soon be entering on the busy Easter period, with three matches in four days but that is not all. There are the re-arranged matches with Tottenham Hotspur (at home) and Sheffield United (away).

There is a possibility too, depending on what happens between Spurs and Manchester City at Villa Park today, of a semi-final replay here next Wednesday.

A week later we are staging the annual Inter-Services match the opponents on this occasion being the Army and the R.A.F.



# Today's Topical Talk

**L**ET'S get away from all the politics and into the fresh air of the field of play. It's The Cup semi-finals today and while Birmingham City are battling at Sheffield for the Midlands, Manchester City are seeking, over the way at Villa Park, to bring about an important Double Event.

Manchester believes it can scoop the pool — by taking the League Championship to Old Trafford through the impressive United and the Cup to Maine Road.

Has one place ever bagged both honours? Yes. Preston North End (1889) and Aston Villa (1897) both won League and Cup. That's old news. Otherwise, only one city has celebrated both honours simultaneously — Liverpool won the League and Everton the Cup in 1906. It's this record which Cottonopolis is now challenging.

## PRIZE COLLECTIONS

**T**HERE have been other notable celebrations. Thus Lancashire in 1928 performed the hat-trick by winning the Cup (Blackburn Rovers), Division One (Everton) and Division Two (Manchester City).

In 1950 the South had its shout, with Arsenal (Cup), Portsmouth (First Division) and Spurs (Second Division) all triumphant, but London has never cornered both the leading crowns.

In 1954 the Wolves (League Champions) and Albion (Cup winners) brought the game's principal honours to this corner of the world, and these have been the principal localised prize-collections.

## THE SHADOW

**C**AN Manchester do the double? The League title seems to be going to the United, on merit, and the City's 4-0 win at the Hawthorns was a "Who's-going-to-stop-us!" sort of threat to the Spurs in the Aston semi-final today.

They say, too, that coming events cast a shadow. Well, a year ago the City were beaten in the Final-tie by Newcastle, and it has several times happened at Wembley that the losers of one season reappear as winners the season after.

It was so in 1934-35 when the same Manchester City club were beaten by Everton and twelve months later won the Cup by beating Portsmouth. It was so in 1937-38 when Preston lost to Sunderland and reappeared to beat Huddersfield Town. It was so in 1945-46 when Charlton fell to Derby and returned to reclaim the Cup by beating Burnley.

Is this a strange series of happenings to be continued? Will losers become winners at Wembley for the fourth time in only 18 seasons?

Incidentally, Villa Park has one poignant memory for the Spurs. When they were dominating the semi-final there in 1953 Alf Ramsey, International full-back now manager at Ipswich, turned to tap the ball to his goalkeeper in the closing stages of the game, failed to send it far enough, and up came a Blackpool man to score the winning goal. By the little things are great events decided . . . Blackpool won the Cup.

by Ivan Sharpe

## "THE CLOWN PRINCE"

**B**IRMINGHAM'S chances in the other semi-final may turn largely on what they are able to do about the unpredictable Leonard Shackleton, who doesn't seem to mind the title of "Clown Prince of Soccer." I've just seen him again — at Everton.

Once he tap, tap, tapped the ball three times on his instep, and still beat his man. Nine times in ten his trickeries came off, and it was Shackleton's embroidery — unguessability — that turned an ordinary-looking Sunderland attack into a goal-snatching, victorious combination.

As Manager Arthur Turner was watching, Birmingham may be well-prepared for that sort of thing this afternoon. Can anyone tell what Shackleton will do next? Does he know himself?



## LUTON TOWN

**A**ND talking of unguessability, is there anything quite so uncertain as football form? Take today's Molineux guests from Luton, once the home of the well-dressed young man's straw hat.

On the season's opening day came surprise Number One — I saw Preston play like League Champions and beat Everton by four goals at Goodison Park. So I went to see them again, playing Luton at Preston, four days later. Surprise Number Two: Luton were the stars, and MacEwan from South Africa at centre-forward played with all the zeal and zip of Nat Lofthouse.

Now Preston are worried about relegation, and Luton have only just won their first home point of 1956. Vagaries of form may be the spice of football but that isn't how club managers describe them.

## NEW BOY

**A**ROUND November, Luton had a boom and in that time the Wolves (15) weren't the only team to take a tumble. Now they are in the second half of the League table, and well pleased, I guess, to be no nearer the relegation zone.

Their appearance at Molineux introduces Ron Baynham, England goalkeeper — the young man from Birmingham who was found by the Bedfordshire club in the ranks of Worcester City and who played well enough to replace an International goalkeeper in Bernard Streten. Another son of Birmingham, Syd Owen, has rendered sterling service at centre-half.

There's a noticeable Irish accent in this camp as Seamus Dunn, Tom Aherne and George Cummins are all from those parts, while a new youngster of 18, Tony Gregory, has just made his debut in the League team at centre-forward. He received good reports for ball-control. Now on with the game.

1st with the latest - SPORTING STAR



1955

## FIXTURES

1956

## FIRST DIVISION

1955					
Aug. 20	West Bromwich A.	...	(0-1)	a	1-1
" 24	Portsmouth	...	(0-0)	a	1-2
" 27	Manchester City	...	(2-2)	h	7-2
" 31	Portsmouth	...	(2-2)	h	3-1
Sept. 3	Cardiff City	...	(2-3)	a	9-1
" 10	Huddersfield Town	...	(6-4)	h	4-0
" 17	Blackpool	...	(2-0)	a	1-2
" 24	Chelsea	...	(3-4)	h	2-1
Oct. 1	Bolton Wanderers	...	(1-6)	a	1-2
" 8	Manchester United	...	(4-2)	a	3-4
" 15	Sheffield United	...	(4-1)	h	3-2
" 22	Newcastle United	...	(3-2)	a	1-3
" 29	Birmingham City	...	(—)	h	1-0
Nov. 5	Luton Town	...	(—)	a	1-5
" 12	Charlton Athletic	...	(2-1)	h	2-0
" 19	Tottenham Hotspur	...	(2-3)	a	1-2
" 26	Everton	...	(1-3)	h	1-0
Dec. 3	Preston North End	...	(3-3)	a	0-2
" 10	Burnley	...	(5-0)	h	3-1
" 17	West Bromwich A.	...	(4-0)	h	3-2
" 24	Manchester City	...	(0-3)	a	2-2
" 26	Arsenal	...	(3-1)	h	3-3
" 27	Arsenal	...	(1-1)	a	2-2
" 31	Cardiff City	...	(1-1)	h	0-2
1956					
Jan. 2	Sunderland	...	(0-0)	a	1-1
" 7	West Bromwich A. (F.A.C.3)	...	(0-2)	a	1-2
" 14	Huddersfield Town	...	(0-2)	a	3-1
" 21	Blackpool	...	(1-0)	h	2-3
" 28	(4)	...			
Feb. 4	Chelsea	...	(0-1)	a	3-2
" 11	Bolton Wanderers	...	(1-2)	h	4-2
" 18	(5) Manchester United	...	(4-2)	h	0-2
Mar. 10	Birmingham City	...	(—)	a	0-0
" 17	Luton Town	...	(—)	h	
" 24	Charlton Athletic	...	(3-1)	a	
" 31	Newcastle United	...	(2-2)	h	
April 2	Aston Villa	...	(1-0)	h	
" 3	Aston Villa	...	(2-4)	a	
" 9	Sheffield United	...	(2-1)	a	
" 7	Everton	...	(2-3)	a	
" 14	Preston North End	...	(1-1)	h	
" 18	Tottenham Hotspur	...	(4-2)	h	
" 21	Burnley	...	(0-1)	a	
" 28	Sunderland	...	(2-0)	h	

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## CENTRAL LEAGUE

1955					
Aug. 20	Newcastle United	...	(2-0)	h	6-2
" 22	Liverpool	...	(1-1)	h	1-2
" 27	Manchester City	...	(3-1)	a	0-1
" 29	Liverpool	...	(2-1)	a	2-3
Sept. 3	Sheffield Wednesday	...	(2-3)	h	3-1
" 10	Huddersfield Town	...	(1-2)	a	1-3
" 14	Stoke City	...	(8-0)	h	5-0
" 17	Blackburn Rovers	...	(3-1)	h	4-0
" 21	Chesterfield	...	(3-1)	h	6-1
" 24	Blackpool	...	(3-2)	a	0-1
Oct. 1	Bolton Wanderers	...	(0-1)	h	1-0
" 8	Derby County	...	(5-0)	h	5-0
" 15	West Bromwich A.	...	(3-3)	a	1-3
" 22	Everton	...	(1-0)	h	3-1
" 29	Barnsley	...	(2-0)	a	2-1
Nov. 5	Bury	...	(4-1)	h	4-2
" 12	Leeds United	...	(3-1)	a	1-3
" 19	Burnley	...	(1-1)	h	6-2
" 26	Preston North End	...	(1-4)	a	0-4
Dec. 3	Sheffield United	...	(3-1)	h	2-0
" 10	Manchester United	...	(2-3)	a	0-4
" 17	Newcastle United	...	(3-2)	a	2-4
" 24	Manchester City	...	(2-2)	h	4-4
" 27	Chesterfield	...	(2-0)	a	0-4
" 31	Sheffield Wednesday	...	(0-0)	a	2-0
1956					
Jan. 7		...			
" 14	Huddersfield Town	...	(0-1)	h	5-1
" 21	Blackburn Rovers	...	(0-3)	a	1-2
" 28		...			
Feb. 4	Blackpool	...	(3-1)	h	0-1
" 11	Bolton Wanderers	...	(2-1)	a	1-0
" 18	Derby County	...	(3-1)	a	2-5
" 25	West Bromwich A.	...	(4-2)	h	4-3
Mar. 3	Everton	...	(1-2)	a	0-1
" 10	Barnsley	...	(1-1)	h	0-1
" 17	Bury	...	(1-0)	a	
" 24	Leeds United	...	(5-0)	h	
" 31	Burnley	...	(1-2)	a	
April 2	Aston Villa	...	(1-2)	a	
" 3	Aston Villa	...	(5-0)	h	
" 7	Preston North End	...	(1-0)	h	
" 14	Sheffield United	...	(1-1)	a	
" 21	Manchester United	...	(0-1)	h	
" 28	Stoke City	...	(1-0)	a	

## OTHER MATCHES

Aug. 7	Spartak 3, Wolves 0, in Moscow.
Aug. 12	Dynamo 3, Wolves 2, in Moscow.
Nov. 9	Wolves 2, Dynamo 1 (Floodlight), at Molineux.
Jan. 28	Wolves 5, San Lorenzo 1, at Molineux.
Mar. 14	Wolves v. Bilbao (Floodlight) at Molineux.
Rd. 1	W.B.A. 0, Wolves 6. Rd. 2—Stoke City 2, Wolves 3. Rd. 3—Wolves 3, Coventry City 1
Rd. 4	Wolves 9, Peterborough United 0. Rd. 5—Bolton Wanderers 2, Wolves 0.
Mar. 28	Army v. R.A.F., at Molineux.

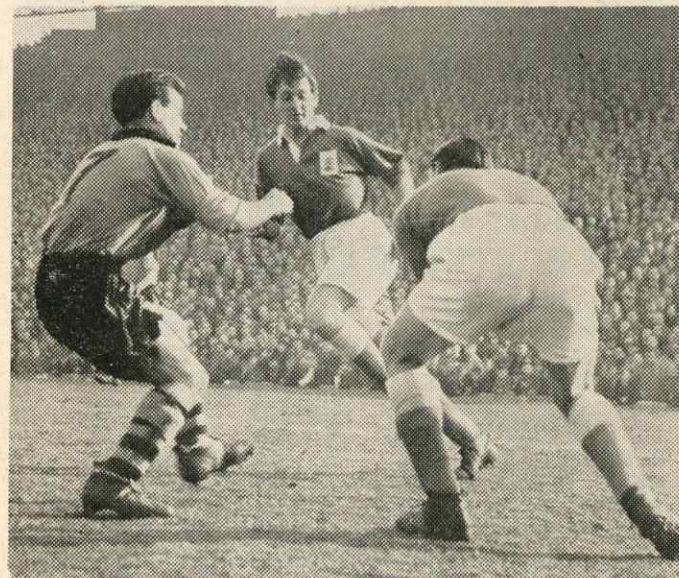
## FIRST DIVISION

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
MAN. UTD.	34	20	7	7	69	45	47
BLACKPOOL	33	17	7	9	73	51	41
MAN. CITY	32	14	9	9	62	50	37
NEWCASTLE	34	16	4	14	74	53	36
SUNDERLAND	32	14	7	11	65	71	35
WOLVES	31	14	6	11	68	53	34
BIRMINGHAM	33	13	8	12	60	48	34
BOLTON	32	14	6	12	56	41	34
CARDIFF C.	33	14	6	13	47	56	34
BURNLEY	33	13	8	12	49	43	34
PORTSMOUTH	33	14	6	13	65	72	34
ALBION	33	15	4	14	48	54	34
CHARLTON	34	14	5	15	68	67	33
EVERTON	34	12	9	13	47	54	33
LUTON T.	33	13	6	14	54	50	32
CHELSEA	33	12	8	13	51	64	32
ARSENAL	33	11	9	13	46	57	31
PRESTON	34	11	6	17	60	62	28
TOTTENHAM	31	11	5	15	41	46	27
SHEFF. UTD.	31	10	5	16	45	55	25
HUDDERSFIELD	33	9	6	18	41	74	24
ASTON VILLA	33	6	11	16	37	61	23

## CENTRAL LEAGUE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
MAN. UTD.	33	24	6	3	96	28	54
LIVERPOOL	33	20	10	3	79	43	50
EVERTON	34	20	8	6	69	40	48
BLACKPOOL	32	15	7	11	65	50	37
SHEFF. WED.	31	14	8	9	59	45	36
BURNLEY	33	14	8	11	63	60	36
ALBION	32	15	6	11	72	57	36
PRESTON	33	12	10	12	38	42	34
WOLVES	33	16	1	16	74	60	33
ASTON VILLA	31	11	10	10	56	50	32
BURY	32	14	4	14	57	71	32
SHEFF. T.D.	33	12	8	13	38	40	32
BLACKBURN	34	12	7	15	50	62	31
MAN. CITY	32	12	4	16	63	68	28
DERBY CO.	33	9	8	16	38	41	26
BOLTON	31	9	7	15	28	39	25
NEWCASTLE	30	9	7	14	50	59	25
STOKE	32	7	11	4	34	62	25
HUDDERSFIELD	30	8	8	14	50	65	24
LEEDS	31	9	5	17	50	61	23
BARNLEY	33	8	5	20	37	82	21
CHESTERFIELD	31	7	6	18	40	63	20

LAST SATURDAY — BIRMINGHAM CITY v. WOLVES



One of the many thrilling incidents during the game at St. Andrews last Saturday. Blues goalkeeper gathers the ball safely as Deeley challenges from the wing.

## WOLVES MATCHES AND TEAMS

MARCH 10th, 1956

Worcestershire Combination

v. Quarry Bank (h) 5-1.

First Division v. Birmingham City (a) 0-0.  
Williams, Stuart, Shorthouse, Slater, Wright,  
Flowers, Deeley, Broadbent, Murray,  
Booth, Wilshaw.

Sidebottom, Wickers, Deakin, Ogden, Hall,  
Slater, Instone, Hickman, Parsonage,  
Pillinger, Bagnall.

Scorer: Bagnall 3, Instone, Parsonage.

Central League v. Barnsley (h) 0-1.  
Sims, Beavon, Clamp, Howells, Showell,  
Thomson, Hancock, Middleton, Stobart,  
Jackson, Mullen.

## RESULTS

Walsall Minor League

F. H. Lloyd's 0, Wolves 8.

Birmingham League v. Hinkley (a) 3-0.  
Dwyer, Harris, Baillie, Timmins, Kyle,  
Russell, Round, Walmsley, Clark P.,  
McDonald, Lill.  
Scorers: Clark, Lill (2).

## NEXT MATCHES AT MOLINEUX

Central League  
Match No. 34

Leeds United Reserves

Kick-off  
**3 p.m.**

SATURDAY NEXT, MARCH 24th, 1956

First Division  
Match No. 35

NEWCASTLE UNITED

**3 p.m.**

SATURDAY, MARCH 31st, 1956

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## TO-DAY'S SCOREBOARD

A	MANCHESTER CITY
B	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR
C	SUNDERLAND
D	BIRMINGHAM CITY
E	ARSENAL
F	MANCHESTER UNITED
G	BLACKPOOL
H	NEWCASTLE UNITED
I	BOLTON WANDERERS
J	WEST BROM. ALBION
K	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN
L	EVERTON
M	PORTSMOUTH
N	SHEFFIELD UNITED
O	BLACKBURN ROVERS
P	WEST HAM UNITED
Q	BRISTOL ROVERS
R	FULHAM
S	DONCASTER ROVERS
T	BURY
U	HULL CITY
V	BRISTOL CITY

M	LEICESTER CITY
N	ROTHERHAM UNITED
O	LINCOLN CITY
P	PORT VALE
Q	LIVERPOOL
R	SWANSEA TOWN
S	NOTTINGHAM FOREST
T	MIDDLESBROUGH
U	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE
V	NOTTS COUNTY
W	STOKE CITY
X	LEEDS UNITED
Y	BRENTFORD
Z	SHREWSBURY TOWN
	READING
	WALSALL
	BURY RESERVES
	WOLVES RESERVES

FIRST DIVISION					CENTRAL LEAGUE							
APPEARANCES		GOALSCORERS			APPEARANCES		GOALSCORERS					
League	Cup	League	League	League	Cup	Howells	25	Booth	8	Smith	11	
Broadbent	29	1	Smith	2	Swinbourne	17	Deeley	24	Bonson	8	McDonald	11
Shorthouse	27	1	Russell	1	Hancocks	17	Thomson	22	Clamp	6	Murray	10
Wright	27	1	McDonald	1	Broadbent	9	Showell	22	Mullen	6	Middleton	9
Hancocks	26	1	Mason	1	Murray	8	Russell	22	Jackson	6	Deeley	7
Clamp	26	1	Jones	1	Mullen	4	Sims	22	Wilshaw	5	Mason	3
Williams	26	1			Slater	3	McDonald	21	Taylor	4	Flowers	3
Stuart	26	1			Booth	3	Baillie	19	Lill	4	Bonson	3
Mullen	25	1			Wilshaw	2	Middleton	19	Stuart	3	Wilshaw	3
Slater	24	1			McDonald	1	Jones	18	Broadbent	2	Taylor	2
Booth	20	1			Shorthouse	1	Smith	16	Harris	2	Howells	2
Flowers	15	1			Clamp	1	Murray	13	Clark	2	Walmsley	2
Wilshaw	15				Flowers	1	Walmsley	13	Slater	2	Mullen	2
Murray	15				Own Goal	1	Dwyer	10	Hancocks	2	Showell	2
Swinbourne	14						Flowers	9	Burden	1	Thomson	2
Showell	8						Beavon	9	Kyle	1	Clamp	1
Deeley	7						Mason	8	Stobart	1	Jackson	1
Sims	5						Timmins	8				

(Up to and including March 10th, 1956)



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