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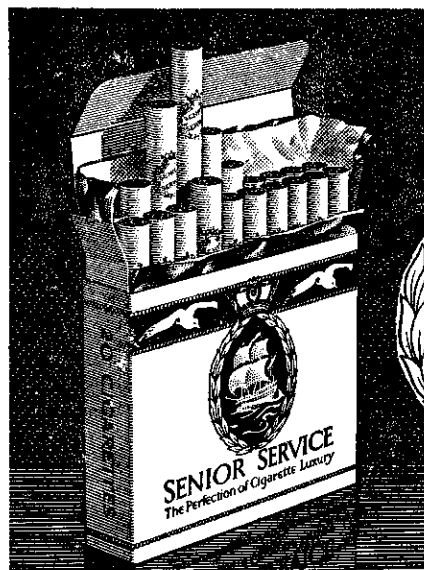
FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION 1

Saturday, 15th December

Sunderland
v.
Luton Town

Kick off 3.0 p.m.

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W. S. Martin; J. Parker.
Manager: W. Murray Secretary: G. Crow



Bill Murray Says . .

Is it playing the game to be human? I have noticed in quite a few matches recently, including International games, delaying and time-wasting tactics by players. Quite frankly, in League matches it can be expected and looked for, but in International matches one does not like to see it, at least, not from English players. Who would expect a team having a slender lead of one goal, dash after a ball to retrieve it and thereby aid their opponents to equalize, if not win. No, it is not done, no more is it expected even by one's opponents.

No one can blame a team for taking advantage of a ball being out of play, provided of course, that it is not overdone. There is nothing more irritating to spectators than to see a player stroll for a ball and return at the same pace to place the ball on the spot where the infringement took place; more so, when it is a visiting player who does it. The referee of course has it within his power to put an end to it by warning the player for ungentlemanly conduct and on the next occasion it happens, he can be ordered off the field. I don't think, however, that that rule has been enforced.

Two of the most irritating time-wasting tricks is the deliberate stealing of a few yards for a throw-in, and the standing within the 10 yards of the ball for a free kick. It may be natural to do this spontaneously and players deserve a little sympathy in doing so, but there are certain types who indulge in these tactics in such a cold-blooded deliberate way, that even their own supporters condemn them.

There are times when referees look at an incident through a player's eyes, and naturally lean a little in sympathy towards him—a little dangerous for the referee, one might say; nevertheless, I don't think any referee has lost any prestige or efficiency through being human occasionally, in fact, I should say he earns a player's respect.

Lost time is one of the hazards of the game, but deliberate time-wasting is breaking the law and can be stopped by enforcing it. Personally, I was brought up in a school where we were taught that the best way to waste time is to go for more goals.

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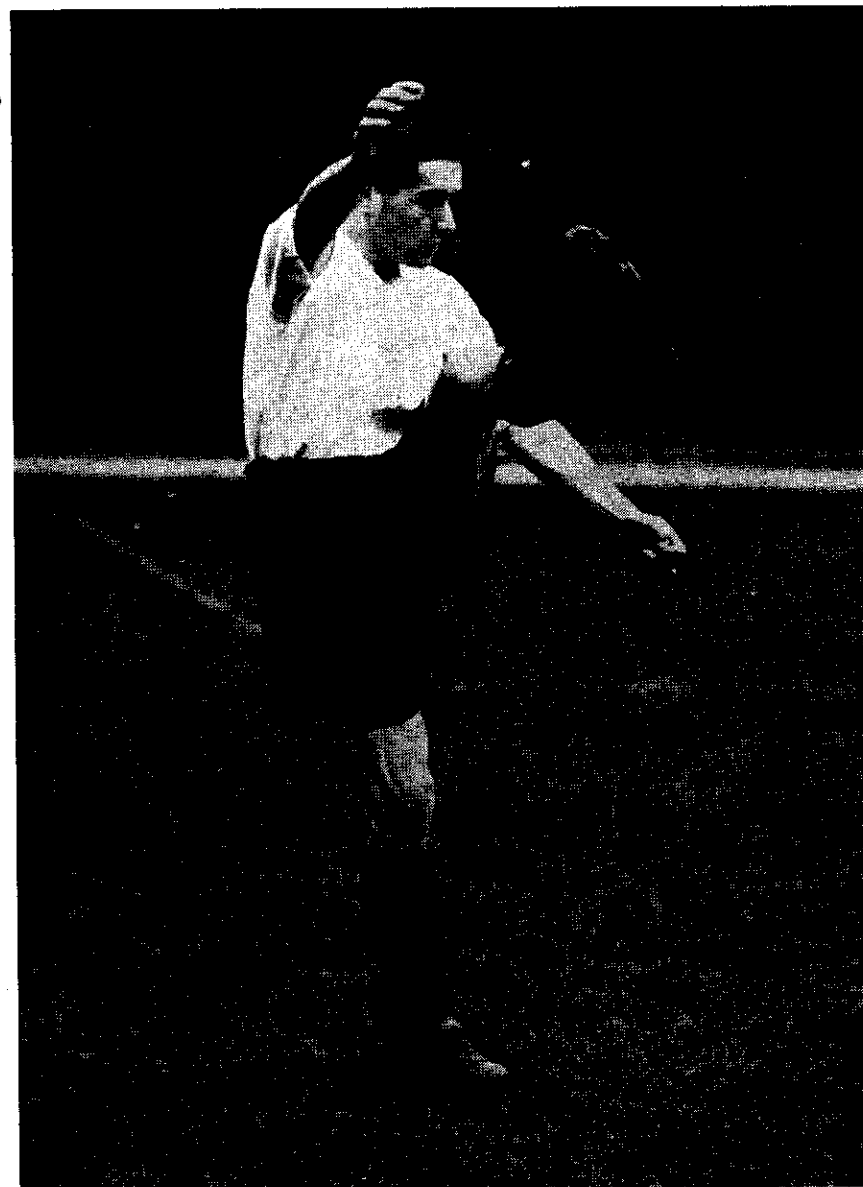
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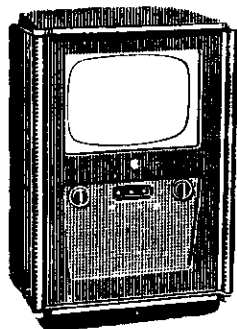
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Our Opponents Today . . .

LUTON TOWN PEN PORTRAITS

R. Baynam (Goalkeeper). In his sixth season with the club. Secured from Worcester City. Has represented England on several occasions, including their matches v. Denmark in Copenhagen, Ireland and Spain. Played for the Football League v. League of Ireland on two occasions and also for the England 'B' v. the Yugoslavia 'B'.

S. Dunn (Right-back). Born Limerick, Eire. Came to Luton from Shelbourne F.C. in May, 1950. Has played for his country several times and was recently chosen to captain the Eire team v. Denmark.

L. Jones (Left-back). Welsh-born, although he has spent most of his life in Luton. Has been watched by the Welsh F.A. Selectors on several occasions.

J. Pemberton (Right-half). One of the longest serving players on the books. Joined Luton as an inside forward from Stourbridge in 1949, but has played as a back, inside forward and winger.

S. Owen (Centre-half). Captain of the side. Previously with Birmingham City. Toured Australia with the F.A. in 1952, 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 in 1954. He was a member of the F.A. touring team in the West Indies in 1955 and also toured with them in South Africa last summer.

W. Shanks (Left-half). Born in Malta of Scottish parents. Came to Luton on a month's trial and is now in his tenth season with the club. Was signed as an outside-right, but was successfully converted to a wing-half.

M. Cullen (Outside-right). A Scot recommended to Luton when only 18 and was signed as a professional. Plays typical close Scottish football. Chosen for the Scottish 'B' team v. the England 'B' team in Dundee in March of this year. Also selected to play for Scotland versus Austria in May.

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.

G. Turner (Inside-right). A Doncaster boy recommended to Luton while playing in Navy football. Signed upon demob. in March, 1950. Scored 37 goals in season 1954/55, thus breaking the club's individual scoring record. Gained his first big honour by being chosen to play for the Football League XI v. the Scottish League XI in Sheffield in October, 1955.

R. Morton (Centre-forward). Local boy who signed professional forms in February 1946. Usually a brilliant wing-half. Was selected last season as reserve for England versus Ireland at Wembley. Also played for the Football Association versus the Army in Newcastle. Has taken over the centre-forward position with outstanding success. Was a member of the F.A. touring team in South Africa last summer.

G. Cummins (Inside-left). An Irishman secured by Luton from Everton in August, 1953. A brilliant ball player. Has already played for Eire on several occasions, including matches with Luxembourg, Norway, Yugoslavia, and Spain.

J. Groves (Inside-forward). Son of Arthur Groves, the old Derby County inside-right. Won Derbyshire schoolboy honours and signed by Luton when only 15. Plays either inside or wing forward.

A. Gregory (Outside-left). A local boy previously with Vauxhall Motors. Signed professional forms for Luton in May 1955. Has made several appearances in the first team at Centre-forward. Is at present completing his apprenticeship with local engineering firm.

*

Club Honours

League: Luton Town won the Third Division (South) championship and promotion to the Second Division in the 1936-37 season and, as runners-up to Birmingham City, were promoted to the First Division at the end of the 1954-55 season.

F.A. Cup: Luton have never progressed as far as the Semi-Final. They have twice reached the Sixth Round stage, losing 6-0 to Everton in 1932-33 and 3-2 to Arsenal in 1951-52.

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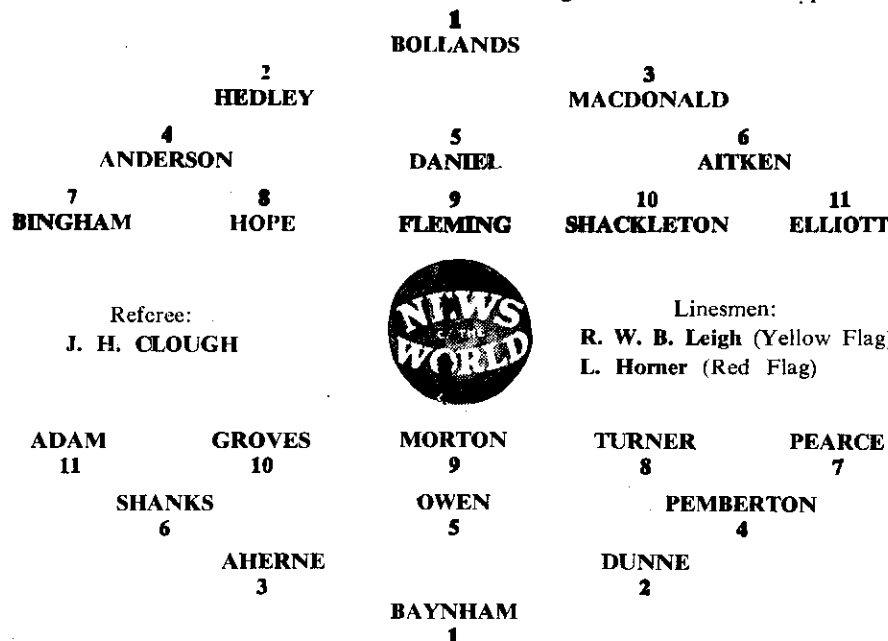
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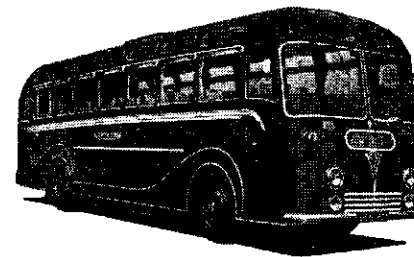
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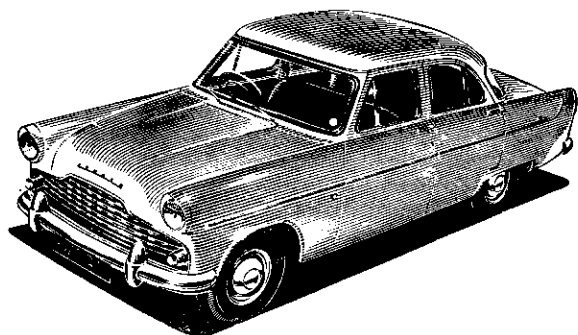
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SOCCER GOSSIP

One of the most controversial issues prior to the annual meeting of the Football League in June was whether it was desirable to change the outline of the competition by putting the Third Division clubs on a different footing. The League Management Committee was in favour of the creation of a new section—Division Three (Midland)—but the Third Division clubs themselves were all for the addition of a Fourth Division, with its membership drawn from the less successful clubs in the two higher sections.

And though at an annual meeting the Third Division clubs mustered only four votes, the extent to which their views were shared by the full members was indicated by the fact that when their scheme was put to the vote there was a 33—16 poll in favour of it. Because a two-thirds majority was required to see it through, however, the motion fell. But there is confidence, particularly among the progressive Southern Section clubs, that when they renew their drive at the next annual meeting they will catch the three or four extra votes needed to bring about this first major change in the formation of the Football League for 35 years.

The enthusiasm with which Third Division clubs press for this change is not easily understood. The first and biggest issue on which they might be expected to have second thoughts is the big strain upon finances which the additional travelling would cause. The more successful clubs would not feel the pinch, but others, not so lucky, would find that struggling near the bottom of the Fourth Division would be infinitely less profitable than the struggle for existence in the higher sphere.

On the face of it, the Third Division clubs are pressing for a system which may have the overall effect of driving many less prosperous members out of existence. There is a waiting list for membership of the Football League, of course, so this would cause no immediate embarrassment. But it is difficult to believe that the Fourth Division

minnows would, over a period of years, be able to accept the same travelling liabilities as First and Second Division clubs and still make ends meet.

Even on the present geographical basis, several clubs are struggling desperately indeed to make ends meet. The additional cost could prove to be the last straw.

*

Appearances

Aitken	20	Purdon	12
Hedley	20	Bingham	9
Bollands	19	Hope	4
Fleming	18	Bone	2
Anderson	17	Chilton	2
Daniel	17	Revie	2
McDonald	17	Bolton	1
Hannigan	16	Fraser	1
Elliott	15	Maltby	1
Shackleton	13	Weddle	1
Morrison	13		

Goal-Scorers

Fleming	12	Anderson	2
Shackleton	5	Bingham	2
Purdon	4	Daniel	2
Elliott	3	McDonald	1
Hannigan	3		

*

The Record

There have been only three previous League meetings between Sunderland and Luton Town. Last season they won their home game 8-2 and were 2-1 winners in the return game at Roker Park. At Kenilworth Road in the opening game of the current season, Luton won 6-2.

*

League Division 1

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Manchester U.	20	14	4	2	50	29	32
Tottenham	20	12	4	4	53	30	28
Leeds United	21	10	6	5	40	30	26
Bolton Wand.	21	9	7	5	32	26	25
Blackpool	20	10	5	5	49	35	25
Burnley	21	8	7	6	30	25	23
Preston N. E.	21	9	5	7	45	38	23
Birmingham	20	9	5	6	37	29	23
Wolverhampton	20	10	3	7	49	37	23
Arsenal	21	10	3	8	44	40	23
West Brom. A.	20	7	8	5	29	26	22
Luton Town	20	7	5	8	32	38	19
Chelsea	20	5	8	7	35	36	18
Aston Villa	19	6	6	7	28	29	18
Everton	21	7	4	10	28	38	18
Manchester C.	21	7	4	10	38	44	18
Newcastle U.	20	6	5	9	24	41	17
Cardiff City	20	6	5	9	26	39	17
Sheffield Wed.	21	7	2	12	42	46	16
Portsmouth	20	5	7	10	35	49	13
Sunderland	20	4	3	13	34	46	11
Charlton Ath.	21	4	2	15	30	55	10

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FIXTURE LIST, SEASON 1956-57

FIRST TEAM

RESERVES

1956	Opponents	F	A	1956	Opponents	F	A
Aug. 18	Luton Town a	2	6	Aug. 18	Blyth Spartans ... h	4	4
" 22	Bolton Wand. h	3	0	" 20	"		
" 25	Newcastle Utd. ... h	1	2	" 22	"		
Sept. 1	Charlton Ath. h	8	1	" 25	Whitley Bay Ath. a	1	1
" 5	Bolton Wand. a	1	2	Sept. 1	West Stanley a	1	2
" 8	Manchester C. a	1	3	" 3	"		
" 12	Wolverhampton W. a	2	2	" 5	"		
" 15	Blackpool h	5	2	" 8	Stockton h	4	2
" 22	Everton a	1	2	" 12	"		
" 29	Tottenham h	0	2	" 15	Horden a	3	1
Oct. 6	Sheffield W. a	2	3	" 22	Darlington Res. ... h	0	0
" 13	Manchester Utd. ... h	1	3	" 29	Hartlepoons Res. a	4	1
" 20	West Brom. A. a	0	2	Oct. 6	"		
" 27	Portsmouth h	3	3	" 13	Middlesbrough Res. a	4	2
Nov. 3	Preston N.E. a	0	6	" 20	West Stanley h	3	1
" 10	Chelsea h	1	3	" 27	Carlisle Res. a	4	0
" 17	(1) Cardiff City ... a	0	1	Nov. 3	North Shields ... h	3	1
" 24	Birmingham C. ... h	0	1	" 10	Spennymoor Un. a	3	1
Dec. 1	Arsenal a	1	1	" 17	Whitley Bay Ath. h	8	0
" 8	(2) Burnley h	2	1	" 24	Consett a	5	0
" 15	Luton Town h			Dec. 1	Carlisle Res. h	6	0
" 22	Newcastle Utd. ... a			" 8	Blyth Spartans ... a		
" 25	Aston Villa h			" 15	Stockton a	7	1
" 26	Aston Villa a			" 22	Middlesbrough Res. h		
" 29	Charlton Ath. a			" 25	Annfield Plain ... a		
				" 26	"		
				" 29	Consett h		
1957							
Jan. 1	Wolverhampton W. h			1957			
" 5	(3)			Jan. 1	Gateshead Res. ... a		
" 12	Manchester C. h			" 5	"		
" 19	Blackpool a			" 12	Workington a		
" 26	(4)			" 19	Workington h		
Feb. 2	Everton h			" 26	Gateshead Res. ... h		
" 9	Tottenham a			Feb. 2	Darlington Res. ... a		
" 16	(5) Sheffield W. ... h			" 9	Ashington h		
" 23	Portsmouth a			" 16	"		
Mar. 2	(6) West Brom. A. h			" 23	"		
" 9	Burnley a			Mar. 2	"		
" 16	Preston N.E. h			" 9	"		
" 23	(S.F.) Chelsea a			" 16	South Shields ... a		
" 30	Cardiff City h			" 23	South Shields ... h		
Apr. 6	Birmingham C. a			" 30	Ashington a		
" 13	Arsenal h			Apr. 6	Hartlepoons Res. h		
" 19	Leeds United h			" 13	"		
" 20	Manchester Utd. ... a			" 19	North Shields ... a		
" 22	Leeds United a			" 20	"		
" 27	"			" 22	Annfield Plain ... h		
May 4	(Final)			" 27	"		

FOLLOWING MATCHES:

North Eastern League

Saturday, December 22nd—Res. v. Middlesbrough Res. K.O. 2 p.m.

League, Division 1

Tuesday, December 25th—v. ASTON VILLA K.O. 2 p.m.

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