

FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION 1

LUTON TOWN

v

Tottenham Hotspur



Official Programme

Price 3d.

SATURDAY, 2nd FEBRUARY, 1957

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Home Ground:
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Colour: Lily - white

2
Right Back
PRICELOW4
Right Half
H. E. M. LOCK7
Outside Right
M. OLDINGS8
Inside Right
F. LORING5
Centre Half
D. ORES9
Centre Forward
S. ERVISS10
Inside Left
P. LYEWOOD6
Left Half
DOUGLAS FERR11
Outside Left
T. R. ELLIS

Referee: Tim Bertradeoftheunitedkingdom

Kick - off : 8 a.m.

3
Left Back
P. ROMPTERMSLinesmen: L. ORRIE
F. ETCHIT

Reserve: NAT. PROBAN

SPECTATORS ARE ASKED NOT TO LEAVE WITHOUT PAYING

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The winning number of the Penny-on-the-Ball Ticket will be announced over the loud speakers at the interval. The person holding the winning ticket can go to the rear of the Main Stand after the game and for 3d. purchase the ball from Mr. C. W. Gregory.

The ticket number for the ball on Saturday, 12th January, 1957, was 42812, and the supporter who had this number was:

Mr. G. W. SIMPKINS,
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CLUB NOTES

WE are delighted to receive as our guests at Kenilworth Road today the lads from White Hart Lane, second in the Table and still in t'Cup. Unbeaten at home this season, the only Club in the First Division this season with that distinction apart from Burnley, the Spurs lie very strongly in second place, not only having two games in hand on Arsenal, who lie third, but also enjoying three points lead on them. Although Chelsea last Saturday in the F.A. Cup match with Spurs had the misfortune to lose their left winger Blunstone mid-way through the first half, which undoubtedly affected their game, it was nevertheless felt that Spurs were the stronger all-round side and would have won this match in any case. Certainly four goals, even against a reduced side, is very good going and a clear-cut victory, and the Spurs must be looked upon as very strong favourites for Wembley this year. Not having won the Cup since 1920/21, when they beat the Wolves at Chelsea by the only goal scored, they must be feeling very happy at the prospect of winning it for the third time in their long history, which began in 1882, three years before ourselves. We wish them luck in their efforts, for victory at Wembley would be a very popular achievement in view of the very entertaining football the lads from North London are playing this season.

We are hoping both teams will be able to turn out this afternoon as shown on the centre page, but at the time these names went to Press, George Cummings was still doubtful due to a kick he received at Everton a fortnight ago which was only slowly responding to treatment, and the Spurs had Danny Blanchflower and Bobby Smith doubtful starters. It is surprising however the improvement an injury can show in twenty-four hours on receiving proper treatment and so we are hoping both sides will be able to turn out their strongest team as shown.

We continue to receive quite a few letters offering us advice, and otherwise, on how the Club should be run, but it is surprising how many show a real appreciation for our present position, stating that all Clubs at some time or another go through a bad patch and that the spending of money does not necessarily bring success. One man living in Longstanton in Cambridgeshire for instance, who is a regular supporter urges us not to go and spend money for he feels the present staff is quite adequate for seeing us through this bad spell. The main cry seems to be that we must have some new faces, but for how long is a face a new one? We have been looking round these last few weeks for players who we feel might fill the bill, but when they have been closely watched we have arrived at the conclusion that they are little better, if any, than the lads we already know, and merely to bring a new player for the sake of having a new player is not our idea of good business. Two of our Directors are missing this important match today however, in order to see a player in action whom we feel would be an asset to us if we can get him. But this is the first player who has come under our notice this season whom we feel could do us a lot of good and if he is willing to come to Kenilworth Road then a new face will be seen here in a fortnight's time. Another Director with "Dally" Duncan is watching yet another player in action this afternoon who could be useful to us if we can come to terms and providing he measures up to our standards. With money so scarce we must not make any mistakes. After all we are a limited liability company, subjected to all the various charges and assessments and what have you of any other limited company; we are given no

privileges whatsoever and so have to make sure as sure can be of paying our way, otherwise a more serious situation than the present one could so easily arise if money was spent which proved a dead loss. While on this subject of being treated as a normal trading company we have in addition to meet each year, whether a profit is made or not, crippling Entertainments Duty which eats away between a fifth and a quarter of our gross income. To put you in the picture on this one item, we paid Duty during season 1952/53 amounting to £12,461. 16. 3d., season 1953/54 it was £11,734. 2. 4d., season 1954/55 £11,348. 1. 11d., last season 1955/56 £15,414. 6. 11, and so far this season we have paid £10,788. 11. 10d., a total in just over four and a half years of £61,746. 19. 3d. Just think of it, £61,746. 19. 3d., in under five years, in addition to Schedule "A" Tax, Schedule "D" Tax, Profits Tax, Excess Profits Levy, and all the rest of it. To bring it home a bit further, on each 7/- ticket sold today 2/- of it goes to the Customs man, and on each 5/6 ticket there is 1/6 Duty. Can you wonder why all over the country places of entertainment are crying out against such harsh treatment? It is a crippling liability, particularly on top of all the other charges, and it is high time a more realistic attitude to the situation was adopted by the powers that be. We at Luton of course are fairly small fry compared with many of our more influential friends in the football world. We do not know how much Tottenham Hotspur Club pay in Entertainments' Duty each year as we do not possess one of their Balance Sheets, but Arsenal for instance, for the year ended 31st May, 1956, paid £36,750 Duty, £42,390 in the previous year, and £42,804 in the year before that. How much Duty is extracted from Football Clubs alone each year we do not know, but there is no gainsaying the fact that it must be an enormous sum of money. We hope there will be some alleviation soon.

Another item which annoys Club and player alike is having to deduct Income Tax from the Players' Benefits. We know the Government has to get in money somehow, and if it does not get it from one source then unless large economies are made it must obtain the money from another, but what riles professional players so much is the fact that cricketers are not subjected to any tax deductions from their Benefits and footballers ask—and they have our sympathy—why the difference? Bernard Streten for instance received a Full Benefit of £750 last month, the second we are very pleased to say since joining us in January 1947. From this sum of £750 we had to deduct tax amounting to £244. 3. 0, so that instead of receiving a cheque value £750 he received only £505. 17. 0d. Very nice most of you will probably say, I would be prepared to sacrifice the sum of £244 if I could receive £505, but that is not the point. Why should one section of sportsmen get away scot free while another is so hard hit? It all seems so wrong somehow.

The Club has been going through rather a trying time lately what with one thing or another, but the position will resolve itself and we shall be back on an even keel. We have faith in our lads that they will see us through this awkward period and soon the sun will be shining again. If we are to have a sticky patch, and it comes to all Clubs some time or another, then we feel this is the best time of the season to have it, for it gives us time in which to fight our way out before the damage is beyond repair. We shall not fail you.

British Railways are running an excursion to Leeds next Saturday, February 9th. Fare 25/- return. Leaving Luton at 9.41 a.m., arriving Leeds 1.41 p.m. Returning from Leeds at 5.20 p.m., changing at Derby and arriving Luton 10.17 p.m.

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2
Dunne
Right Back

4
Morton
Right Half

7
Pearce
Outside Right

8
Turner
Inside Right

Streten
Goal

5
Owen
Centre Half

9
McLeod
Centre

Football League — Div. 1

3
McNally
Left Back

6
Shanks
Left Half

10
Cummins
Inside Left

11
Davies
Outside Left

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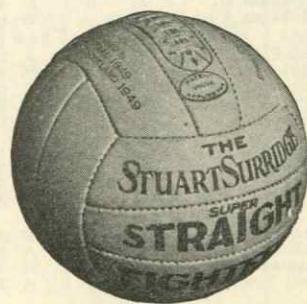
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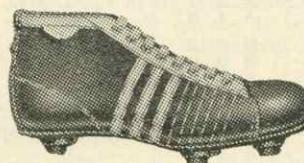
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