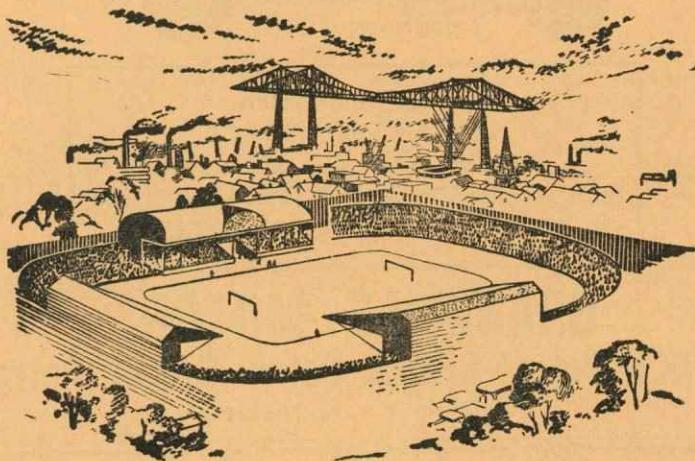


SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1961.

LUTON TOWN



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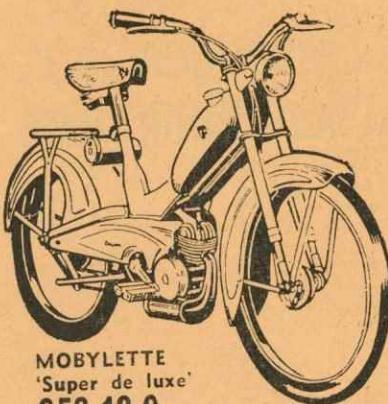
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That 6-1 win was a tonic for Luton!

By CLIFF MITCHELL

RECENT Cup Finalists; still more recently a First Division club, Luton Town, who provide the opposition at Ayresome Park this afternoon, have hit a bad spell and are finding just how more difficult it is to climb out of the Second Division than to drop into it.

Indeed, Luton were in rather parlous straits earlier in the season, and it looked as though a straight drop through from the First to the Third was a distinct possibility. A tonic, 6-1 victory over Middlesbrough at Kenilworth-road in November did them the world of good, and since then the "Hatters" have collected sufficient points to move up the table to safety.

They boast some very good footballers on their books, and their supporters are confident that within a year or so, Luton Town will once again be a Soccer power in the land.

* * *

CERTAINLY they showed impressive form when they entertained Middlesbrough. Their attack was always too fast and incisive for a faltering Borough rearguard and the fact that the game was played on a mud-heap could not wholly excuse the Tees-siders. It was the same for both sides.

Last Monday, Luton went down 3-1 to Swansea Town at the Vetch Field. That was not a poor performance. Swansea have hit the best spell in the history of the club and no Second Division team has escaped defeat there for months.

Last Saturday, Luton shared the points with Leeds United in a lively 1-1 draw at Kenilworth-road. Bremner put Leeds ahead early in the game, but Town fought back effectively and thoroughly deserved the equaliser, which Turner scored from the penalty spot.

MIDDLESBROUGH, meanwhile, were losing 5-2 to Lincoln City at Sincil Bank—a shock defeat that had swift and drastic consequences as far as team selection was concerned for Monday's fixture with Ipswich Town at Ayresome Park.

No fewer than seven changes were made, and the Second Division leaders were beaten 3-1. Their manager, Mr. Alf Ramsey, paid high tribute to Borough after the game, saying it was a long time since he had seen a team play so well.

Middlesbrough certainly bore not the slightest resemblance to the fumbling, lack-lustre team that crashed to a club firmly ensconced at the foot of the division, and virtually assured of relegation. For they tore into their task against the leaders with skill, assurance and determination and emerged most impressive winners.

* * *

I HOPE that they retain that resolute mood this afternoon. A spot of revenge for their six-goal trouncing by Luton Town would not come amiss, and if promotion looks to be a hopeless task now, at least talent money is by no means out of the question.

Luton's record this season (despite their display in that earlier meeting with Borough!) suggests that they will not provide opposition anything like as formidable as did Ipswich Town.

We know Middlesbrough usually reserve their best performances for their clashes with the top clubs; today, they owe it to their supporters to carry on where they left off against the Suffolk men and come through with another sprightly display.

And another convincing victory!

Fixtures for the present season

League Team

1960		
Aug. 20	Bristol Rovers	3-2 A
24	Derby County	1-2 H
27	Liverpool	1-1 H
31	Derby County	0-1 A
Sept. 3	Rotherham	2-1 A
10	Southampton	5-0 H
15	Scunthorpe	1-1 A
17	Leeds United	4-4 A
21	Scunthorpe	1-3 H
24	Sunderland	1-0 H
Oct. 1	Brighton	2-2 H
3	League Cup — Cardiff	3-4 H
8	Plymouth Argyle	3-3 A
12	Lille (Friendly Cup)	4-1 H
15	Norwich City	2-0 H
22	Charlton Athletic	6-6 A
29	Sheffield United	3-1 H
Nov. 5	Stoke City	1-1 A
12	Swansea Town	3-1 H
19	Luton Town	1-6 A
26	Lincoln City	1-1 H
Dec. 3	Portsmouth	Postponed A
10	Huddersfield Town	2-1 H
17	Bristol Rovers	1-1 H
24	Leyton Orient	Postponed A

Reserve

1960		
Aug. 20	Crewe Alexandra	5-1 H
22	Port Vale	2-1 A
27	Workington	5-1 A
31	Port Vale	4-1 H
Sept. 3	Rotherham	1-3 H
10	Halifax Town	3-1 H
17	Scunthorpe United	2-2 A
24	Sunderland	3-2 A
Oct. 1	Accrington Stanley	5-1 A
8	Bradford City	3-0 H
15	Stockport County	7-0 A
22	Lincoln City	4-1 H
29	Carlisle United	1-1 A
Nov. 5	Hartpools United	2-1 H
12	Hull City	2-0 A
19	Doncaster Rovers	0-0 H
26	Grimsby Town	4-0 A
Dec. 3	Darlington	Postponed A
10	Crewe Alexandra	1-2 A
17	Barrow	4-2 H
24	Barrow	5-3 A
31	Workington	5-1 H

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Leg injury ends career of Leyton full-back

BERNARD STRETON, the former England and Luton Town goalkeeper, who has made a return to football with Cambridge City, now runs a small hotel at Bacton, near Mundesley-on-Sea in Norfolk. He is playing for the Cambridge club purely on a match basis, but is more concerned with enjoying a game of football than the money it produces. After leaving League football, Streton enjoyed a successful spell with King's Lynn.

* * *

INJURY has ended the career of John Nicholls, the 22-year-old Leyton Orient full-back. A fractured leg, sustained against Chelsea Reserves last season, has finished John's Soccer days in spite of a gallant attempt by the player to regain the standard of fitness necessary for big football. As Orient are cutting down their playing staff, they will not be seeking a reserve back to replace Nicholls.

* * *

HUGH KELLY, the Blackpool left-half, who is among the players due to leave Bloomfield-road, should have little difficulty in finding another club. Although Kelly has not been a first-teamer with Blackpool this season, manager Ronnie Stuart admits that he would have no hesitation in selecting the Scot if necessity arose. Hugh does not want to leave the Blackpool area, but there are clubs in the North-west like Southport and Barrow who could make good use of his services.

* * *

CLIFF JONES has done a grand job at outside-right for Spurs this season. Many players in the class of the Welsh international would have been reluctant to switch from the position in which they had achieved distinction in order to solve a club

problem. Jones readily agreed to move from outside-left to what was Spurs' problem spot on the right, and he has played his part in the London club's tremendous successes this season. The fact remains, however, that Cliff is at his best on the left flank.

* * *

BILL RIDING, Bolton Wanderers' manager, is grappling with a centre-half problem. Over the years Bolton have had top-class players in the pivotal position. Before the war Jimmy Seddon and Jack Atkinson were among the best in the land. And more recently Bolton were well served by Malcolm Barrass. Now Bolton have no centre-half to match up to any of these names, and insufficient money to enter the market for Leicester City's Tony Knapp.

* * *

ALTHOUGH Everton have plunged heavily into the transfer market this season, plenty of attention has also been given to the development of the younger element at Goodison Park. Half-a-dozen members of Everton's youth team have been given their chance in the first eleven this season, and there are others who can expect a run before this season closes. Everton have paid out big money for ready-made players, but, like most clubs, they have a preference for home-made talent.

NEXT MATCH AT AYRESOME PARK—WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 1961
NORTH REGIONAL LEAGUE

MIDDLESBROUGH RES. v BRADFORD PA RES.

(Kick-off 7 p.m.)

FOOTBALL LEAGUE TABLES

League positions up to and including games played on Monday, April 3.

LEAGUE—DIVISION I

	P	W	D	L	F	A Pts
Spurs	37	28	4	5	106	46 60
Sheff. W.	37	22	11	4	71	37 55
Wolves	38	22	7	9	92	68 51
Burnley	35	18	6	11	90	64 42
Everton	38	18	6	14	71	65 42
Blackburn	38	14	11	13	70	68 39
Arsenal	38	14	11	13	73	73 39
L'c'ster	35	15	7	13	72	59 37
Man. U.	37	15	7	15	70	69 37
Aston V.	36	14	8	14	66	68 36
W. Brom	38	16	4	18	60	67 36
Notts F.	37	14	7	16	55	67 35
B'ham	37	14	6	17	57	71 34
Cardiff	37	13	8	16	54	72 34
Chelsea	37	13	7	17	90	89 33
W. Ham	37	13	6	18	71	81 32
Bolton	36	11	9	16	53	61 31
Fulham	38	12	6	20	64	88 30
Man. C.	36	10	8	18	66	82 28
N'castle	38	9	10	19	77	98 28
Preston	37	10	8	19	39	63 28
Blackp'l	37	10	7	20	60	67 27

LEAGUE—DIVISION III

	P	W	D	L	F	A Pts
Bury	40	26	6	8	99	44 58
Walsall	41	24	5	12	87	55 53
Q.P.R.	40	22	9	9	77	47 53
Grimsby	39	18	10	11	60	56 46
Torquay	40	14	16	10	69	63 44
Notts C.	40	18	8	14	73	71 44
P. Vale	40	16	11	13	89	72 43
Watford	40	16	11	13	69	66 43
Barnsley	37	18	6	13	71	66 42
Newp't	40	16	10	14	75	77 42
Hull C.	39	16	8	15	66	63 40
Halifax	39	12	16	11	62	67 40
Cov'try	38	14	10	14	70	64 38
Sh'bury	38	12	14	12	65	63 38
Bris. C.	40	15	8	17	62	63 38
Brentf'd	39	12	13	14	50	58 37
B'mouth	41	14	8	19	53	68 36
S'thend	40	11	11	18	52	69 33
Tr'mere	41	13	7	21	73	107 33
Swindn	39	10	12	17	52	52 32
Brad. C.	40	10	12	18	57	75 32
Reading	38	10	11	17	56	74 31
Ch'fied	41	9	10	22	56	74 28
C'c'ster	41	9	9	23	57	91 27

The Cargo Fleet Steelworks Band will play before the start and at half-time.

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LEAGUE—DIVISION II

	P	W	D	L	F	A Pts
Ipswich	37	23	6	8	85	49 52
Sheff. U.	37	22	6	9	69	44 50
Liverp'l	36	19	9	8	76	47 47
Norwich	38	18	9	11	53	48 45
M'bro	33	16	12	10	75	66 44
S'land	37	15	12	10	69	52 42
S'thptn	37	17	8	12	79	68 42
Sw'sea	38	16	9	13	67	65 41
Plym'th	38	16	7	15	72	73 39
S'cthpe	36	13	11	12	63	59 37
Charltn	36	13	10	13	86	80 36
Derby	35	13	9	13	67	64 35
Luton	37	13	8	16	61	72 34
Leeds	37	13	7	17	64	77 33
R'ham	36	11	10	15	49	49 32
Leyton	37	12	8	17	51	73 32
Stoke	36	10	11	15	46	50 31
Bris. R.	36	12	7	17	63	75 31
Brightn	37	11	9	17	53	66 31
H'field	38	10	9	19	55	69 29
Ptsmith	37	9	9	19	54	82 27
Lincoln	38	7	8	23	45	83 22

LEAGUE—DIVISION IV

	P	W	D	L	F	A Pts
Peterbro'	38	25	8	5	114	50 58
Crys. P.	41	25	6	10	103	65 56
N'thptn	38	20	9	9	72	52 49
York C.	40	20	8	12	73	47 48
Bradf'd	38	20	6	12	69	65 46
Crewe	40	19	8	13	58	56 46
Millwall	41	18	8	15	85	75 44
Work'tn	42	18	7	17	66	71 43
D'ton	40	15	12	13	67	62 42
Oldham	41	18	6	17	76	77 42
Stckprt	38	17	6	15	49	52 40
Ald'shot	40	15	8	17	64	61 38
S'thprt	41	17	4	20	58	59 38
Rochdle	39	17	4	18	53	52 38
D'caster	39	16	6	18	60	68 38
Gil'hams	38	14	9	15	60	59 37
Wrexhm	41	14	8	19	55	50 36
Acc'ton	37	13	7	18	62	74 33
Barrow	40	12	9	19	44	67 33
Exeter	40	12	9	19	59	84 33
Carlisle	41	10	12	19	54	81 32
Mansf'd	39	13	5	21	60	68 31
Chester	43	11	8	24	56	95 30
H'pools	41	10	7	24	60	92 27

TODAY'S TEAMS

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1961.

KICK-OFF 3.0 p.m.

LEAGUE—DIVISION II

MIDDLESBROUGH v LUTON TOWN

MIDDLESBROUGH		LUTON TOWN	
RIGHT]	(1) MILLION	[LEFT]	(11) NOAKE
(2) STONEHOUSE	(5) MCNEIL	(9) TURNER	(8) McGUFFIE
(7) DAY	(8) MCLEAN	(10) CLOUGH	(10) PEACOCK
(6) GROVES	(4) KELLY	(5) MORTON	(2) McNALLY
(3) BRAMWELL	(1) BAYNHAM	(1) BAYNHAM	(RIGHT)

Referee: MR. J. POWELL (Rotherham)
Linesmen:
MR. T. PALLISTER (Peterlee); MR. E. HIGO (Hull)
(Red flag)

(11) FLEMING	(10) CUMMINGS	(9) TURNER	(8) McGUFFIE
(6) GROVES	(5) KELLY	(4) MORTON	(2) McNALLY

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DISAPPOINTING SEASON FOR LEN DUQUEMIN

THIS has been a disappointing season for Len Duquemin, former Spurs centre-forward, who received a trophy as Southern League Player of the Year at the end of last season. Duquemin was then with Bedford Town, but a few weeks after the season ended he was transferred to Hastings. Little has gone right for the Sussex club this season, and

* * *

DON ROBY, the Notts County outside-right who has asked for a transfer, has been with the Meadow Lane club all his career. Don, who comes from the Wigan area, was a groundstaff boy until he reached professional age. At the time County persuaded Roby to come to Nottingham, he was also fancied by Bolton Wanderers, Everton and Manchester United.

* * *

It's a fact

Answers: a, Soccer (World Cup); b, Rugby Union; c, Lacrosse; d, Table Tennis; e, Golf.

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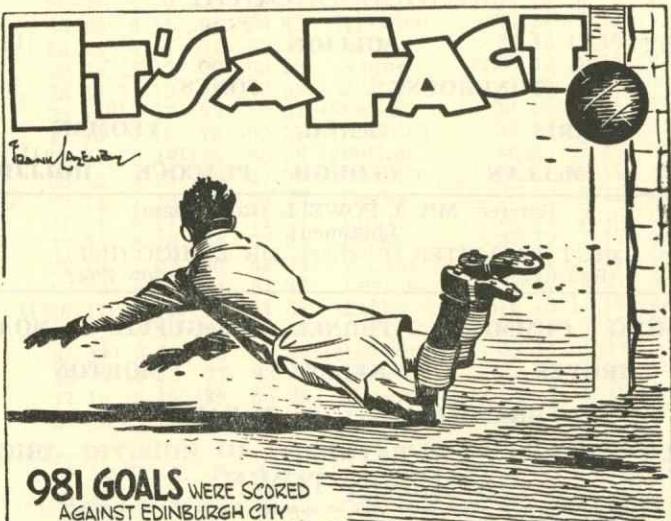
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1933-4 .. 111	1934-5 .. 134
1935-6 .. 83	1936-7 .. 120
1937-8 .. 135	1938-9 .. 119

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3. CALCUTTA CUP
4. IROQUOIS CUP
5. SWAYTHLING CUP
6. WALKER CUP

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