

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th, 1947.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

THE "BLUES" NEWS

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF THE BIRMINGHAM CITY FOOTBALL CLUB

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Still without a home win this season, we have Luton Town as our opponents this afternoon, with former St. Andrew's favourites, Billy Hughes and Sid Owen. They are an attractive combination, and we shall have to fight hard if we are to collect both points.

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Wednesday evening's match with Coventry City was a little disappointing, for it seemed that we had the game well in hand at the half-way stage. The team are playing first-class football, and steadiness in front of goal would have enabled us to change over three or four up. It was not so though; Bodle's scoring effort was our only reward for forty-five minutes' hard work. Neil Dougall had come close on three occasions, when he took three free kicks from the edge of the penalty area, Edwards having been fouled. The second half was a much sterner affair, and consequently our football suffered, whilst the game was too often held up for free kicks. Nevertheless, our forwards still had the opportunities to put the issue out of doubt. Unfortunately, the final effort was just off the mark. Coventry's goal came ten minutes before the end, when Cyril Trigg was unlucky enough to deflect Roberts' header out of Gilbert Merrick's reach. Accurate shooting on our part should have made the game safe in the first thirty minutes.

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CYCLEALITIES

On Wednesday at St. Andrew's we have attractive visitors in Newcastle United, who, like ourselves, came very close to promotion last season. This our third home match in eight days, should attract a good gate. A week to-day the League side will be on duty at Brentford, where we hope to maintain our 100 per cent. away record. In the following week we play the return match with Newcastle. Next Saturday, the Football Combination side are at home to West Ham United, and on the following Wednesday they entertain Reading.

We still have a number of players on the injured list. Rothwell and Beresford, with knee trouble, are progressing well, as is Dennis Jennings who damaged a muscle in training. Ken Green, who bruised a foot in the public trial match, is now fit, while Freddie Hall, with a broken arm, is going as well as can be expected. Wilson Jones and Alex McIntosh will be resuming shortly.

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