

Saturday,
20th January, 1951.



Official Programme
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EDITORIAL

THE way things are shaping, the Second Division promotion contest may well be the closest for years. So level in quality are the clubs in the top half of the table that it would not be surprising to find on the last day of the season goal-average calculations having to decide not only the second promotion place, but also the first and the destination of the Second Division championship trophy.

A year ago, Tottenham Hotspur were leading with 42 points as against Preston's 34, this year from the same number of matches, namely 27. Today, 13 clubs are spanned by only seven points and half-a-dozen clubs each have 27 points including United.

LOW WATER MARK—53.

It is highly improbable that there will be a margin of seven points between the second and third teams this year. In fact, we may find the Divisional Championship being won with the lowest number of points since it was extended to 22 clubs after World War I.

Low water mark stands at 53 points, the total of Notts County when they headed the Division in 1922-23 season.

In order to reach 50 points we have to win another 23 from 17 remaining League matches. We have eight home matches (including today's) and nine away. If we could win the home matches we should have to get another seven points away.

You'll agree that's a pretty tall order. But not impossible of fulfilment if everybody becomes imbued with enthusiasm. The really tough matches at the Lane—on paper—are those with Preston North End, now on the wave of success, Cardiff and Manchester City, though West Ham can be a serious obstacle.

And Luton today, fighting for safety, will not surrender without a fight. However, time will tell.

CUP AHEAD.

Next week we shall be all full of the fourth round F.A. Cup-tie with Mansfield Town. We are hopeful of success, but not at all over-optimistic. The Third Division clubs are making special efforts in the Cup this season and Mansfield, under the guidance of player-manager Freddie Steele, are creditably situated in the Northern Section.

Our Reserves drew the Central League "Derby" with Wednesday Reserves at Hillsborough last week and are situated near the middle of the League table.

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SUPPORTERS CLUB NOTES

Well Supporters today we entertain Luton, the team that dismissed Portsmouth out of the Cup for this season by defeating them 2—0. This team, although only third from the bottom of the League, Division II, are showing signs of improvement, so our lads will have to do what they did in the last 10 minutes of last Saturday's game, when, after Leicester had scored, our lads certainly showed us what they can do when the occasion arises. So let us hope they put on a goal or two much earlier in this match. Now Supporters, if you have no-where to go next Friday evening, 26th January, the Supporters' Club can offer you a grand evening's entertainment, as they are holding a Grand Whist Drive on this date, at the Co-op. Hall, Wolseley Road, Heeley, starting at 7.30 p.m. prompt. Admission 1/6d. Refreshments. Grand Prizes to be won. Just a reminder to all Supporters of the Club that our meeting nights are every Thursday evening, at 8 p.m., at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Division Street. As it is your club you all should come along to see how your business is done and what we do for you on your behalf. A warm welcome will be extended to everyone who will just come along to these meetings.

Best Wishes to you all, J. S. ASHBORN, Gen. Secretary.

SCOREBOARD

RED INDICATOR CLUBS		Half Time Final	WHITE INDICATOR CLUBS		Half Time Final
A	Blackpool		A	Brentford	
	Sunderland			Hull City	
B	Bolton Wanderers		B	Cardiff City	
	Aston Villa			Queen's Park Rangers	
C	Charlton Athletic		C	Coventry City	
	Manchester United			Chesterfield	
D	Fulham		D	Doncaster Rovers	
	Derby County			Notts. County	
E	Huddersfield Town		E	Grimsby Town	
	Arsenal			Preston North End	
F	Liverpool		F	Manchester City	
	Everton			Leicester City	
G	Newcastle United		G	Southampton	
	Burnley			West Ham United	
H	Stoke City		H	Nottingham Forest	
	Portsmouth			Reading	
I	Tottenham Hotspur		I	Barrow	
	Wolverhampton W.			Mansfield Town	
J	West Brom. Albion		J	Bradford City	
	Chelsea			Crewe Alexandra	
K	Barnsley		K	Darlington	
	Leeds United			Rotherham United	
L	Birmingham City		L	Lincoln City	
	Bury			Stockport County	
M	Blackburn Rovers		M	York City	
	Swansea Town			Scunthorpe United	
N	Middlesbrough		N	Manchester United Res.	
	WEDNESDAY			UNITED RESERVES	

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NEXT HOME MATCHES :

Sat., 27th Jan.—F.A. Cup 4th Rd. United v. Mansfield Town. Kick-off 2.45 p.m.
Sat., 3rd Feb.—United Reserves v. Leeds United Reserves... Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

Musical Selections by the SHEFFIELD RECREATION PRIZE BAND

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6 Watkins

5 Owen

4 Morton

3 Aherne

2 Wilson

Streten

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OUR VISITORS

NOT so very long ago, Luton Town were having a worrying time. They are still a bit anxious, for they are only third from the bottom of the Second Division, one point better off than Bury and two better than Grimsby Town. But in recent weeks the team have been playing better and achieving an encouraging measure of success.

A fortnight ago, they knocked out Portsmouth, last season's League Champions, in the third round of the Cup and last Saturday drew with Barnsley. Those two performances alone suggest that the "Hatters" will rise in the table and steer clear of relegation.

They will not spare themselves against United today, for while they may have next week's Cup-tie on their minds, they cannot relax in the League.

INTERNATIONALS

Manager Dally Duncan, who was so delightful an outside left in his playing days with Derby, will be relieved when dangers are behind him. He has, however, players who should save the situation. For instance, Luton have two fine goalkeepers in Hughes, Welsh international, and Streten, an England international.

Streten lost his place to Hughes but has regained it and is on his toes to stick there. A colourful goalkeeper Streten is always good to see in action. He has a couple of capable backs in front of him in Wilson and Irishman Aherne, though the man who seldom fails to command attention is centre-half-back Syd. Owen, who stepped into the shoes of Gager so well that Gager's transfer caused no weakness.

Owen is one of the best centre half-backs in the Second Division.

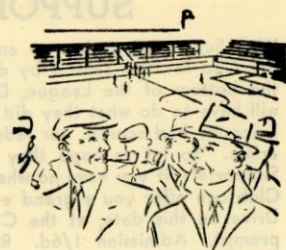
Forward results have improved since the arrival of the young Scottish inside-left, Davie, from St. Mirren. He's clever and thrustful and makes a first-rate partner to the South African winger, Havenga, who knows his way to goal.

STILL PACKS A SHOT.

Well-known forward is George Stobbart, the former Middlesbrough centre-forward, who has an old head on his shoulders and packs a good shot. The Glover-Shanks wing is industrious. And, incidentally, wing half-back Watkins is particularly effective with his tackling and gives the Davis-Havenga wing pretty consistent support.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION II.		Goals	
P.	W. L. D.	F.	A. Pts.
Preston North End.	27 15 8	4 52	32 34
Coventry City	27 14 9	4 56	35 32
Manchester City	24 13 5	6 54	37 32
Blackburn Rovers	26 13 8	5 43	40 31
Cardiff City	26 10 6	10 34	28 30
Southampton	26 12 8	6 39	44 30
Birmingham City	27 12 10	5 41	37 29
Barnsley	26 10 9	7 52	34 27
Sheffield United	25 10 8	7 46	37 27
Hull City	26 9 8	9 46	40 27
Notts County	26 10 9	7 39	34 27
Doncaster Rovers	25 9 7	9 37	39 27
West Ham United	26 11 10	5 42	44 27
Leeds United	25 10 9	6 41	37 26
Leicester City	26 9 10	7 39	36 25
Queen's Park Ra.	25 9 12	4 41	53 22
Brentford	26 8 13	5 34	52 21
Swansea Town	25 9 14	2 34	51 20
Chesterfield	27 5 12	10 27	41 20
Luton Town	26 5 12	9 29	40 19
Bury	25 7 14	4 33	48 18
Grimsby Town	26 4 13	9 41	61 17

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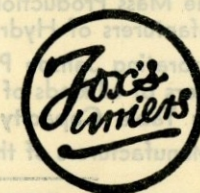
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FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION II

CENTRAL LEAGUE

FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION II				CENTRAL LEAGUE			
DATE 1950		OPPONENTS	G'D F A	DATE 1950		OPPONENTS	G'D F A
Aug. 19	S	BLACKBURN ROVERS.	h 0 3	Aug. 19	S	Blackpool	a 1 1
24	Th	Swansea Town	a 2 1	21	M	BOLTON WAND.	h 5 0
26	S	Southampton	a 0 1	26	S	BLACKBURN ROVERS.	h 2 2
28	M	SWANSEA TOWN	h 6 1	30	W	Bolton Wanderers	a 0 1
Sept. 2	S	BARNSELY	h 0 2	Sept. 2	S	Barnsley	a 3 2
9	S	Leicester City	a 2 2	4	M	DERBY COUNTY	h 2 1
11	M	DONCASTER ROV.	h 0 0	9	S	SHEFFIELD WED.	h 2 2
16	S	Luton Town	a 0 0	16	S	MANCHESTER UTD.	h 0 1
23	S	LEEDS UNITED	h 2 2	23	S	Leeds United	a 2 1
30	S	West Ham United	a 5 3	30	S	ASTON VILLA	h 2 0
Oct. 7	S	NOTTS COUNTY	h 1 2	Oct. 7	S	Manchester City	a 0 1
14	S	Grimsby Town	a 2 2	14	S	NEWCASTLE UTD.	h 0 1
21	S	BURY	h 3 0	21	S	West Bromwich Albion ...	a 0 3
28	S	Preston North End	a 1 1	28	S	HUDDERSFIELD T.	h 2 2
Nov. 4	S	CHESTERFIELD	h 4 1	Nov. 4	S	Stoke City	a 0 1
11	S	Queen's Park Rangers ..	a 1 2	11	S	EVERTON	h 0 1
18	S	BIRMINGHAM CITY	h 3 2	18	S	Bury	a 1 2
25	S	Cardiff City	a 0 2	25	S	BURNLEY	h 2 2
Dec. 2	S	COVENTRY CITY	h 2 0	Dec. 2	S	Preston North End	a 5 2
9	S	Manchester City	a 3 5	9	S	CHESTERFIELD	h 1 1
16	S	Blackburn Rovers	a 2 0	16	S	BLACKPOOL (postponed)	h
23	S	SOUTHAMPTON	h 1 2	23	S	Blackburn Rovers	a 1 2
25	M	HULL CITY (11 a.m.)	h 3 1	25	M	Wolverhampton W.	a 3 1
26	Tu	Hull City	a 1 1	26	Tu	WOLVERHAMPTON	h 4 1
30	S	Barnsley ... (postponed)	a	30	S	BARNSELY	h 2 4
1951				1951			
Jan. 1	M	F.A. Cup (3rd Round) .....	.....	Jan. 1	M	LIVERPOOL (postponed)	h
4	S	GATESHEAD	h 1 0	6	S	Chesterfield	a 2 1
13	S	LEICESTER CITY	h 2 1	13	S	Sheffield Wednesday	a 0 0
20	S	LUTON TOWN	h	20	S	Manchester United	a
27	S	F.A. Cup (4th Round) .....	.....	27	S	.....	.....
Feb. 3	S	LEEDS UNITED	h	Feb. 3	S	LEEDS UNITED	h
10	S	F.A. Cup (5th Round) .....	.....	10	S	Aston Villa	a
17	S	WEST HAM UNITED	h	17	S	MANCHESTER CITY	h
24	S	Notts County	a	24	S	.....	.....
Mar. 3	S	GRIMSBY TOWN	h	Mar. 3	S	Newcastle United	a
10	S	Bury	a	10	S	WEST BROM ALB.	a
17	S	PRESTON N.E.	h	17	S	Huddersfield Town	h
23	Fr	Brentford	a	24	S	STOKE CITY	h
24	S	Chesterfield	a	26	M	Liverpool	a
26	M	BKENTFORD	h	31	S	Everton	a
31	S	QUEEN'S PK. RGS.	h	April 7	S	BURY	h
April 7	S	Birmingham City	a	14	S	Burnley	a
14	S	CARDIFF CITY	h	21	S	PRESTON N.E.	h
21	S	Coventry City	a	28	S
28	S	MANCHESTER CITY	h	May 5	S	Derby County	a
May 5	S	Doncaster Rovers	a				

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