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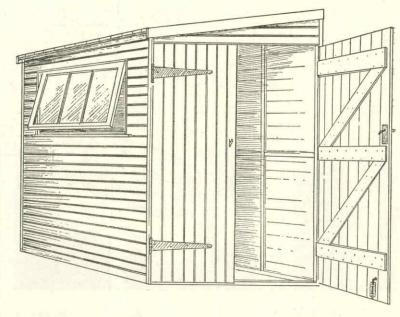
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CLUB NOTES

WHAT a grand performance! And what a bitter disappointment that a new Club record was not set up at the first attempt on Saturday!

We shall never really know why our opponents today are not Nottingham Forest the conquerors of Cup-Holders Bolton Wanderers last Saturday. If we had won at Blackpool what a match this would have been!—two semi-finalists in what could have been a dress rehearsal for the great day at Wembley!

Although this has not come to pass, the replay provides a most attractive fixture this afternoon and we welcome Blackpool to Kenilworth Road to continue our Cup struggle.

The 1-1 draw on Saturday brought back vivid memories of our last Cup clash with Blackpool way back in 1954. That meeting was in the 3rd Round and, played at Blackpool, there was a similar 1-1 result. In that match we took the lead through a great goal scored by George Cummins but Blackpool managed to equal our effort. It took four matches to decide who would go forward to the 4th Round and unfortunately we finished on the losing side. We went down 2-0 in the third replay after a 0-0 draw here at Luton and a 1-1 draw at Villa Park. But remember we were only in the Second Division at that time.

To finally only draw on Saturday was in the nature of a tragic ending to a fine performance by our lads, for Blackpool scored with what was actually the last kick of the match.

With all the Luton fans—and how well you voiced your support!—rising, ready to sing "Yes, we do like to be beside the seaside" all the way home, Charnley spotted an unexpected opportunity and fired the ball home. What a disappointment!

It was a great pity for we definitely had the edge on Blackpool in all departments. We had all read in the Press of the outstanding Blackpool defence and we all know the menace of that evergreen winger, Stanley Matthews. With Blackpool firm favourites for the Cup we were not given any chance at Bloomfield Road, a ground where not once have the visitors been victorious all this Season.

But how near we came to overcoming all the forecasters' predictions of having no chance of a place in the semi-finals!

place in the semi-finals!

For the many Luton fans who made the long journey by road, rail or air the seaside atmosphere provided a vital stimulant to their Cup fervour. Those who did not have a ticket but took their chance at the turnstiles found adequate space inside and the final gate was well below the ground record.

The thrills and excitement of the start was all that was expected. Crisp raids set up by both sides kept all the fans hot under the collar, but, as was to be expected, there were a host of early mistakes caused by over-eagerness. Even so, it appeared to take less time for the players to overcome their Cup nerves than it did the crowd!

Our forwards soon came up against the power of the Blackpool defence. They proved beyond all doubt that there is definitely more than one kind of Blackpool Rock!

Our half back line was outstanding while the full backs were not put off by the reputation of the two Blackpool wingmen. With two strong defences gaining the upperhand, the football was, inevitably, of a negative nature as far as goals were concerned. All the same the crowd were kept on tip-toe waiting for that one fatal mistake which could mean a goal and, in all probability, a place in the semi-final.

It was a long and anxious wait.

But when it did come, to the joy of the many Luton fans, it was one for us. We all cheered our hearts out when with only six minutes to go, Billy Bingham popped up in the middle to head home a short cross from Bob Morton. Naturally, coming so near the end, every Luton fan was discussing just how he would travel to the semi-final, and doing so with such an air of excitement that the famous Tower further along the Promenade must have rocked on its foundations!

That Blackpool home record was really in trouble. It took a desperate last minute effort to save the face of the Seasiders and give them a second chance — a chance our fans who saw the game would all dispute, for we never let Blackpool gain the upperhand.

Such a performance against the Cup favourites must give us a distinct advantage for success this afternoon. To lose would certainly be an injustice after our display at Bloomfield Road and our lads will be out to make new history for us and give 100 per cent of their best.

Our tails are up! The morale, the confidence and the determination to succeed, are qualities prominent in our team and all the lads will be hoping to see you at the semi-final a week on

Where that will be we do not yet know, venue depending of course on the outcome of the two replayed Ties, both being played today. The F.A. are hoping that the results of these two matches will enable them to decide on the venue when they meet tomorrow. With the semi-finals being played on Saturday week, March 14th there is not much time in which to make all the necessary arrangements, and this position would of course be aggravated if further replays are necessary. Tickets for semi-final ties are shared equally between the two competing teams and the Club on whose ground the match is being played. If we do get through this Round with Blackpool we anticipate being able to give each of our Season Ticket Holders one seat, application for which will have to be made at the Office. All Standing Tickets will be obtainable by personal application at the Luton Bobbers Club. We hope to give full details in next Saturdays "Telegraph" and "Green 'Un," also in our Programme at next Saturday's match with Charlton Reserves. Applications cannot be accented over the telephone

accepted over the telephone.

The keen interest in the Cup-Ties has had the effect of overshadowing the performances of the "Stiffs" these past few weeks. Last Saturday our Reserves were in conflict with Bristol City Reserves at Ashton Gate and had a new leader in the person of Gordon Turner. His place at inside right has been taken by a young and very promising player, Albert McCann. This youngster replaced the unfit Turner at Highbury against the Gunner's second string a week ago last Saturday and showed exceptional ability. Gordon Turner did not, however, have a chance to shine the way the sun did last Saturday, and Bristol City won 1-0.

Our League programme has taken something of a serious knock with our good Cup run. A look at the League chart will show you that at present we are five games behind the team immediately above us, Leeds United. To recapitulate, the fixtures that have had to be postponed through bad weather or Cup games are West Bromwich Albion, West Ham United and Preston North End, all away from home, and our home fixture with Nottingham Forest. It certainly looks as if a crowded end - of - the - Season fixture programme is in store! So far arrangements have been made to play Preston North End on Monday, April 6th and West Ham United the following Monday, April 13th, kick - off 7.30 p.m.

We wish all the lads luck this afternoon. Ahead there is the prospect of a most thrilling and exciting semi-final, and as the Wembley trail draws to an end, the F.A. Cup glints in the Spring sunshine. Let's hope we reach it first!

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Act. Kelly, H.

Garrett

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Spectators are asked NOT TO CROSS THE PLAYING FIELD after the match

Baynham F.A. Cup-6th Round Replay

Hawkes, K. Left Back

Owen C

Morton

Charnley

Centre

Gratrix

Farm

Cummins Inside Left

Linesmen:

Red Flag: Mr. C. B. Broome (London)

Pacey

Gregory

Orange Flag: Mr. C. H. Rogers (Greenford, Middlesex)

Hauser

Mudie Inside Right

Matthews

Armfield

Kick - off 3 p.m.

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Today's Half - Time Scores NOTE. The letter in the Programme corresponds with the letter on the Board—thus A 0-1 means that the first named club has scored 0 and their opponents 1.

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DIVISION I and FOOTBALL COMBINATION FIXTURES

1958 FIRST XI-Division 1 A			F	A		XI Fixtures	Attendance	= 15-		F	A
Aug. 23 Sat. West Brom 26 Tues. Leeds United	OF 1440		H 1 A 1	1		Bristol Rovers					4
,, 26 Tues. Leeds United , 30 Sat. Birmingham City			Ai	ō		Leyton Orient Birmingham C.	1295		A	1	5
Sept. 3 Wed. Leeds United	13497		H 1	1		and the same of	2270	***		•	-
" 6 Sat. West Ham Utd " 10 Wed. Manchester City	25715 30771		H 4 A 1	1 1	Sept. 6	West Ham United	2913	***	A	3	3
13 Sat. Bolton Wand			HO	δl	20	Leicester City	2070	***	H	0	2
17 Wed. Manchester City	18160	1 2	H 5	1	27	Fulham	7.700		A	ĭ	ĩ
20 Sat. Burnley Preston N. End			A 2 H 4	2 1		4	0.00000				
Oct. 4 ., Leicester City			A 1	3	Oct. 4 .,	Arsenal Cardiff City	1004	***	H	3	3
., 11 ., Nottingham Forest	30187	0 1	A 1	3	., 18	Portsmouth	0.170	***	A	ĩ	ò
18 Chelsea 25 Portsmouth	21001		H 2 A 2	1 2	., 25 ,,	Bristol City		***	H	1	3
Nov. 1 Aston Villa			H 2	1	Nov. 1	Charlton Athletic	1227				_
., 8 ., Newcastle United	53420	2 3	A O	1	" 8	Tottenham H.		***	A	2	3
15 Tottenham H. (1) 22 Manchester United			H 1	2	., 15 .,	Brighton & H. A	. 4421	***	A	1	1
, 22 , Manchester United , 29 , Wolves			A 1 H 0	1	22	Chelsea Notts. Forest	1500	***	HA	2	14
Dec. 6 ., Blackpool (2)			A 0	3	., 29 ,,	Notts, Porest	. 1339		A		48
13 Blackburn Rov.	13475		H 1	1	Dec. 6	Portsmouth	1399	***	H	4	1
26 Fri. Arsenal 27 Sat. Arsenal			H 6	3	., 13 .,	Cardiff City	. 413		A	0	1
1959	30301	0 2	11 0		20	Bristol Rovers	CO. PER PET CO.	***	H	5	5
Jan. 3 Sat. Birmingham C.			H O H 5	1	11 4/ 11	ipswich lown	. 3/32	***	n	+	9
., 10 Leeds U. —Cup—3 Leicester — Cup—4	18354 36984		A 1	1	1959						
., 28 Wed. Leicester (Replay)	27277		H 4	1	Jan. 3 Sat.	Birmingham City	2282		A	3	2
31 Sat. Bolton Wanderers			A 2	4	24				L'A		2
Feb. 7 Burnley Ipswich T.—Cup-5	15753 26700		H 6	2 2	., 31 .,	Leyton Orient	. 1920	***	H	3	1
21 Leicester City	15786	2 1	H 4	3	F-L 7	T	1600			-	100
" 28 " Blackpool Cup-6			A 1	1	Feb. 7 14	Leicester City	. 1639		A	3	0
March 4 Wed. Blackpool (Replay			H A	-	., 21	Arsenal	PR 4 4 4		A	ĭ	ĭ
" 14 " Portsm'uth (S.F.)		2 1	Ĥ		28	Bristol City		***	A	0	1
21 Aston Villa		0 2	A		36	Charles Au			-		
27 Fri. Everton 28 Sat. Newcastle U		0 1 0 3	H H		March 7	Charlton Ath Tottenham H		***	H		
30 Mon. Everton			A		., 21 .,	Brighton & H. A		***	Ĥ		
April 4 Sat. Tottenham H			A		28 30 Mon.	Chelsea		***	A		
" 6 Mon. Preston N. End " 11 Sat. Manchester Utd.		0 1 2 2	A H		30 Mon.	Swansea Town		****	H		
13 Mon. West Ham United			A	-	April 4 Sat.	Notts. Forest			H		
18 Sat. Wolves			A		18	Swansea Town			A		
" 20 Mon. Blackburn Rov " 25 Sat. Blackpool			A H		25						
To be arranged West Brom. Albion		2 4	A	- 10	To be arranged	Ipswich Town	1		H		
Notts. Forest		3 1	Ĥ			West Ham Utd			H		
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League Table 1958 - 59 DIVISION ONE

Up to and including Monday, 2nd March, 1959

		P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A. Pts.		
	Wolverhampton W.	31	19	3	9	76	39	41	
	Arsenal	32	18	5	9	73	48	41	
	Manchester United	32	17	6	9	78	56	40	
	Bolton Wand,	28	14	7	7	52	42	35	
	West Bromwich	28	12	10	6	65	44	34	
	BLACKPOOL	29	12	10	7	42	32	34	
	West Ham United	30	15	3	12	62	55	33	
	Birmingham C	29	14	4	11	53	49	32	
	Preston North End	31	14	4	13	54	55	32	
	Nottingham Forest	28	14	3	11	53	38	31	
	Blackburn Rov	31	12	7	12	58	56	31	
	Newcastle Utd	30	13	3	14	58	57	29	
	Burnley	28	11	6	11	52	51	28	
	Everton	31	12	4	15	53	68	28	
	Leeds United	32	10	8	14	40	58	28	
LUTON TOWN		27	9	8	10	49	43	26	
	Chelsea	29	12	2	15	55	69	26	
	Manchester City	30	8	7	15	48	70	23	
	Tottenham H	31	8	7	16	57	75	23	
	Leicester City	29	7	7	15	48	69	21	
	Portsmouth	30	6	8	16	49	74	20	
	Aston Villa	30	8	4	18	42	69	20	

NEXT MATCH

Saturday, 7th March, 1959

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

Luton Town Reserves

Charlton Ath.

RESERVES

Kick - off 3 p.m.

Prices of Admission:

Centre Stand 2/- Wing Stand 1/6 Enclosure 1/6, Boys 1/-Bobbers Stand 1/3, Boys 10d. Terraces 1/-, Boys 9d.

We wish the "Town" every success in this match and hope they go on to Wembley to bring the "Cup" back to Luton

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