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FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION III

## PLYMOUTH ARGYLE

versus

## LUTON TOWN

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## FROM THE BOARDROOM . . .

What sort of things are dealt with at Board Meetings? How often do you meet? These are just two of the questions that Directors are frequently asked.

In the early part of the season there is a great deal of work to be done in organising for the season ahead and for the past few months the Board have met each week. Things have, of course, been particularly difficult this season because of Graham Little's accident, with the consequence that the Board have had to attend to many matters which normally would have been dealt with by the Secretary.

Much time has been taken up with organising the hotel and travelling arrangements for away matches. We have not visited many of the opposing teams for years and consequently new and untried itineraries have had to be worked out; because of our financial position, most of the away matches this season are being undertaken by coach and not by train.

Another item which takes up a great deal of the Board's time is the constant review of the ground amenities and facilities and the upkeep of the Club's property. This includes players' houses and there is always maintenance work to be programmed and carried out on the ground and the houses. If one walks around Home Park, there is no limit to the required repairs and improvements which one can see and it is the Board's duty to sort out all that requires to be done and to prepare a priority list.

Football matters form only a part of the Board Meeting and the greater part of the Directors' duties are dull, routine administration matters like one finds in any business of the size of our Company. The football side of the meeting usually consists of a report by the Manager on his activities since the last meeting, a report on the various teams performances, reports on players watched by the Club's scouts, any problems of the playing or training staff and other similar matters which the Manager refers to the board. Please note that team selection does not appear on the Agenda and does **not** form part of the Directors' duties—like supporters, most of the Directors first know of the team when it appears in the paper!

The most important of the Directors' Meetings is the monthly financial meeting, when the Club's financial situation is reviewed. The meeting deals with the payment of the previous month's accounts, comparison of the month's trading with our budget, review of the income received from gates and programme sales and so on. The financial administration of the Club is, of course, the major responsibility of the Board of Directors

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and is, not surprisingly, the biggest headache. The problem facing the Directors is how to reconcile the paramount need to improve the Club's financial position with the obvious need to provide the Manager with more money for team strengthening. Anyone who can provide an easy answer to that problem would have the freedom of football board-rooms up and down the country!

## WHAT THE MANAGER SAYS . . .

We travelled approximately 1000 miles by bus to Southport and Hartlepool and came back to Plymouth with one point. Our first game was at Southport, where the home club had its biggest gate of the month. The game was more like a cup-tie than a league encounter—and I had the impression that the home club were determined to beat me rather than Plymouth Argyle. Our performance in the second half was very poor—the Plymouth players allowing Southport to hustle them out of their stride.

The match at Hartlepool was a different game altogether. The referee and linesmen spoilt our game more than the opposing side. Refereeing is a difficult job at the best of times and no one sympathises more than myself with the many problems that modern soccer poses for the officials. The referee at Hartlepool never controlled the game: he allowed the linesmen to make most of the decisions. He booked two Plymouth players and completely ignored incidents in which the home team players were involved. He disallowed three Plymouth goals and if you think I am biased in my view of the match all the Northern sports writers, who are generally anti-southern in their outlook, reported the same view as myself.

Whilst I was in the North I negotiated the transfer of Aiden Maher from Everton to Plymouth. Aiden was a 15-year old ground staff boy when I was the senior pro at Everton and I have followed his career with interest ever since.

Aiden Maher is making his debut against Luton Town to-day—one of my old teams. Of course times and fortunes change. When I was at Luton they were in the First Division and also reached the Cup Final. They really hit rock bottom when they plunged to the Fourth Division, but now under the astute management of my old inside partner, Allan Brown, they are now undergoing a revival. Nevertheless we hope to take two points from them to-day.

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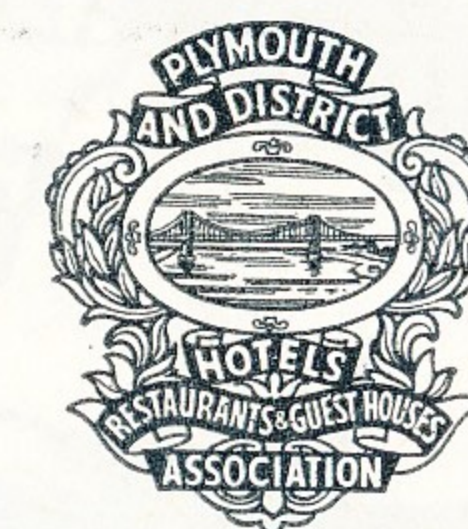
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## Our Visitors Today . . .

By TONY PULLEIN

The graph is swinging upwards again for Luton Town, the club which holds the record for the most sensational collapse in English soccer history. In the five years between 1960 and 1965 they plummeted from the First Division way down into the Fourth.

As champions of Division IV last season, Luton are now riding high in this section and relishing the possibility of making as remarkable a return to the top of the tree. But there's a long way to go and, as they've lost their last three away matches, Luton know they have a tough fight ahead of them.

Their record at Home Park is not particularly good, having suffered several three and four goal defeats: worst of all was their 6-1 failure in 1929/30. Our full League record against them is:

|            | P. | W. | D. | L. | For | Agst | Pts. |
|------------|----|----|----|----|-----|------|------|
| Home ..... | 22 | 14 | 5  | 3  | 48  | 23   | 33   |
| Away ..... | 22 | 4  | 9  | 9  | 31  | 40   | 17   |
|            | 44 | 18 | 14 | 12 | 79  | 63   | 50   |

The club was formed at a meeting in the council chamber of Luton Town Hall in April 1885 when it was decided to wear navy blue and pink halved shirts and that each player should wear a cap! For nine years, until becoming a founder member of the Southern League, they played only friendly matches.

Luton were runners-up in each of their first two seasons and they kept up a respectable position to earn them sufficient support to gain election to the Second Division of the Football League in 1897, a year after their initial application had been turned down.

The club was reformed as a public company and it seemed they would receive ample support in their new sphere. But results were not encouraging, attendances were low and the club soon found itself facing serious financial difficulties; when they finished second from bottom of Division II in 1900 they didn't bother to apply for re-election, considering a return to the Southern League would be in their best interests.

Luton took over their present ground at Kenilworth Road in 1905 and the visitors for their first home game on September 4 were . . . Argyle. The game ended in a goalless draw.

They were quite happy to drift along in the Southern League until the first division of that competition became the new Third Division (South) in 1920. For years they generally kept in the top half of the table without making a serious bid for promotion until 1935/36 when they were pushed into runners-up position by one point by Coventry City. Quite a disappointment after that fabulous Easter Monday 12-0 thrashing of Bristol Rovers in which Joe Payne scored ten goals.

The next season they went even better, winning the Southern Section championship and promotion to Division II. They established themselves as a good Second Division outfit until they entered their finest era in the 'fifties. Season 1954/55 saw them participate in a fantastic finish which had them level on points with Birmingham City and Rotherham United and only one ahead of Leeds. Luton and Birmingham enjoyed the best goal-averages and they were the two to rise into the First Division by such a narrow margin.

The Hatters surprised most people by acquitting themselves particularly well in the First Division, shook the world by reaching the F.A. Cup final in 1959 after defeating Leeds (5-1), Leicester (4-1 after a 1-1 draw), Ipswich (5-2), Blackpool (1-0 after a 1-1 draw) and the giant-killing Norwich City 1-0 in a semi-final replay. Perhaps they were over-awed at Wembley but against a Nottingham Forest side reduced to ten by an early Roy Dwight injury, they were never in control of the situation and went down 2-1.

In a sense it was a Wembley that day that Luton went out on a blaze of glory. Things were never the same afterwards. Twelve months later they were relegated from the First Division to begin their unprecedented fall from grace.

Luton's complete Football League record, inclusive of 12 games this season, read:

| P.   | W.  | D.  | L.  | For  | Agst. | Pts. |
|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|------|
| 1852 | 730 | 429 | 693 | 3105 | 2912  | 1889 |



Not surprisingly, Luton's revival has seen a heartening return of the fans to Kenilworth Road. Last season their average League crowd almost doubled to 12,400 and this term they are easily the best supported Third Division side, averaging 15,334 for each of their first six home games.

Much of the credit for Luton's change of fortune is due to manager Allan Brown, a former Luton player. A Scottish international inside-forward, Mr. Brown entered English football when Blackpool paid East Fife £28,000 for him in 1950. He had the tragic misfortune to miss two F.A. Cup finals because of injury but partially atoned for that after his transfer to Luton in 1957 by appearing in their final eleven two years later.

Mr. Brown got in some managerial experience with Wigan Athletic in the Cheshire League and, when Luton's decline had reached its lowest ebb—they stood third from bottom in Division IV in 1966/67—he returned to his old club to commence his salvage operation.

Well, he's done a pretty good job so far. People no longer feel sorry for Luton: their pity has turned to envy of their new-found success. When that happens, a manager knows in his heart he can look back on a job well done.

### FORTHCOMING MATCHES

|                                                 |                             |                      |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Monday, 21st October</b>                     |                             | <b>Kick-off 7.30</b> |
| <b>PLYMOUTH ARGYLE XI v. CORNWALL COUNTY XI</b> |                             |                      |
| <b>Saturday, 26th October</b>                   | <b>Football Combination</b> | <b>Kick-off 3.15</b> |
| <b>PLYMOUTH ARGYLE v. QUEENS PARK RANGERS</b>   |                             |                      |
| <b>Saturday, 2nd November</b>                   | <b>Football League</b>      | <b>Kick-off 3.15</b> |
| <b>PLYMOUTH ARGYLE v. OLDHAM ATHLETIC</b>       |                             |                      |

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| NORTHAMPTON TOWN ..... | <b>D</b> | TRANMERE ROVERS .....  |
| SHREWSBURY TOWN .....  | <b>E</b> | ROTHERHAM UNITED ..... |
| SWINDON TOWN .....     | <b>F</b> | TORQUAY UNITED .....   |
| WALSALL .....          | <b>G</b> | OLDHAM ATHLETIC .....  |
| WATFORD .....          | <b>H</b> | BARROW .....           |
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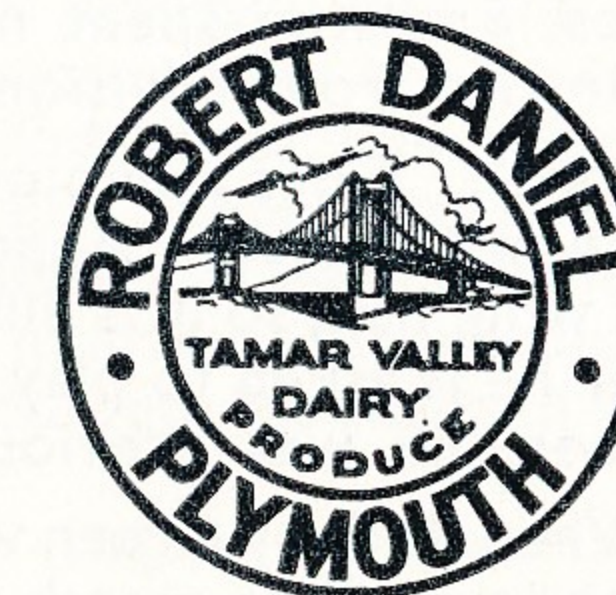
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### PLYMOUTH ARGYLE

- 1 Pat Dunne
- 2 Mike Reeves
- 3 Duncan Neale
- 4 Bobby Saxton
- 5 Fred Molyneux
- 6 Norman Piper
- 7 Stephen Davey
- 8 Mike Bickle
- 9 Frank Lord
- 10 David Burnside
- 11 Aiden Maher
- 12 Danny Trainor

Referee:  
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### TEAMS



### LUTON TOWN

- 1 Read
- 2 McDerment
- 3 Jardine
- 4 Allen
- 5 Branston
- 6 Slough
- 7 French
- 8 Lewis
- 9 Sheffield
- 10 Rioch
- 11 Whittaker
- 12 Buxton

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Circlet

Shorts: White

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Mr. E. A. Read (Amber flag)

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## Pen Pictures

**KEITH ALLEN** (Centre Forward). At the moment it is difficult to forecast exactly where Allen will settle down this season. Originally he began at inside right, but spent the bulk of last season in the middle; in the pre-season practice matches, he has been playing at right-half, where he turned in some superlative performances in emergency during last season. This is a position for which competition is likely to be particularly brisk. Was signed from Stockport County in exchange for Derek Keaven and has previous spells with Portsmouth and Grimsby Town.

**TERRY BRANSTON** (Centre Half). For him last season was a personal triumph because, not only was he a member of a promotion team for the fourth time during his career, but he fulfilled his ambition of making the full quota of League appearances. Born at Rugby, where he still lives, Branston spent nine seasons with Northampton Town, accompanying them in their rise from Division IV to Division I.

**MICKEY BROWN** (Centre Forward). Goes down officially as a leader but, in point of fact, was seldom in that position last season. Appeared in the First Team on the wings, at inside forward and also at wing half, so it is difficult to see what is destined for him this time. However, wherever he is asked to play he puts up a whole-hearted 100 per cent performance. A Londoner, he was previously with Fulham and Millwall.

**IAN BUXTON** (Inside Right). When Rodney Green went down with cartilage trouble early last season, there had to be an immediate search for another striker, and Buxton was signed from Derby County for about £11,000. Has missed the beginning of the season because of his commitments with Derbyshire for whom he is a very useful all-rounder.

**PETER DENTON** (Outside Right). Cost quite a substantial fee from Coventry City shortly before the deadline date for transfers when the Town were looking for extra cover on the wing. Apart from the Town, Workington and Brentford were in the negotiations. In the event, he did not receive many chances in the First Team, mostly because French recovered his best form.

**MAX DOUGAN** (Right Back). First signing made by Allan Brown shortly after he rejoined the Club. A fee of about £7,000 changed hands when this ex-Scottish amateur

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International left Leicester City, his caps having been earned with Queen's Park. With the arrival of Terry Branston, the idea was to convert Dougan into a right-half, but he finally settled in at right-back where he was a regular for the greater part of last season.

**GRAHAM FRENCH** (Outside Right). Born at Wolverhampton. Has previously played for Shrewsbury, Swindon, Watford and Wellington before joining Luton in October 1965. Has several Youth International Caps for England.

**MIKE HARRISON** (Outside Left). During the latter part of last season, several favourable reports were submitted on this player, who was then with Plymouth Argyle. These induced the Town Manager to make a £7,000 offer to his former Luton right-wing partner, Billy Bingham, who is now in charge at Home Park. Born at Ilford, Harrison began his first-class career with Chelsea, from which club he moved on to Blackburn Rovers where he established a first-team place.

**FREDDIE JARDINE** (Left Back). The promotion success must have held particular satisfaction for this player because he, more than any other on the books, experienced things when the Town were at their lowest ebb. He is now beginning his eighth season, having come to Kenilworth Road as an outside-left when Sam Bartram was in charge. He was given a free transfer by Dundee and it was after showing his paces in practice matches that he was finally converted into a highly useful defender.

**BRIAN LEWIS** (Right Half). At the moment, it is by no means clear where the Town's most expensive signing for years—from Coventry City—will finally play. In the temporary absence of Ian Buxton, Lewis is destined to start at inside-right where he had considerable experience at Portsmouth and Coventry. However, most of his 20 First Division games last season were in the half-back line.

**BILLY McDERMENT** (Left Back). Was signed from Leicester City as a right-back but most of his team appearances were at left-back. At one time last season he was almost the permanent substitute and in all, managed 20 first team appearances which qualified him for a championship medal.

**JOHN MOORE** (Left Half). In the opinion of many people was the most improved player on the books and he fell naturally into the task of being a member of the back four. Is beginning his fourth season with the Town who stepped in immediately when they heard that Motherwell had given him a free transfer.

**GEORGE POTTER** (Wing Half). Spent three months here on trial during the latter part of last season and did so well that he was called upon for the First Team during a particularly trying period for injuries. Negotiations with Forfar Athletic during the summer proved successful, a moderate fee changed hands and Potter was given a contract for the whole season.

**TONY READ** (Goalkeeper). Begins the season, as he did last time, when he missed only three matches, as the first choice goalkeeper. Yet there was a time when it looked possible as if he would make a name for himself in the forward line. Probably holds the distinction of being the only goalkeeper to have scored a hat-trick in League football. Was born at Haydock and began his career with Sheffield Wednesday before moving to Peterborough United. Joined Luton 3½ years ago.

**BRUCE RIOCH** (Inside Left). Without doubt the Town's biggest asset as a player. Is a natural footballer whose skill developed quickly last season, when he was easily the Club's leading scorer even though he was used as the midfield link. Was born in Aldershot, but spent most of his schooldays in Luton and has been with the Town since he was 15.

**NEIL RIOCH** (Centre Half). Although he is only 17, and his apprenticeship was not over, he was given terms as a full-time professional during the summer. Has already sampled first team football, but not in a League match.

**JOHN RYAN** (Outside Right). Allan Brown went back to his former club, Wigan Athletic, where he was player-manager and signed the player who was his right-wing partner. Also appeared at inside-forward with success.

**ALAN SLOUGH** (Right Half). Is a true local product because he was amateur and apprentice with the Town before signing as a full-time player. In his early days he was a full-back and could conceivably still be required for this position, but plays extremely well in either wing-half berth.

**LAURIE SHEFFIELD** (Centre Forward). One of the Town's big close season signings from Oldham Athletic. Born in Swansea, has previously been with five League clubs.

**BILL TAYLOR** (Goalkeeper). Came here on trial from Partick Thistle and was signed last Christmas for the remainder of the season. The Town are fortunate to have such an experienced player in reserve.

**RAY WHITTAKER** (Outside Left). A Londoner from Eow, he played for the Arsenal with whom he gained England Youth International Caps before coming to Luton in March 1964.



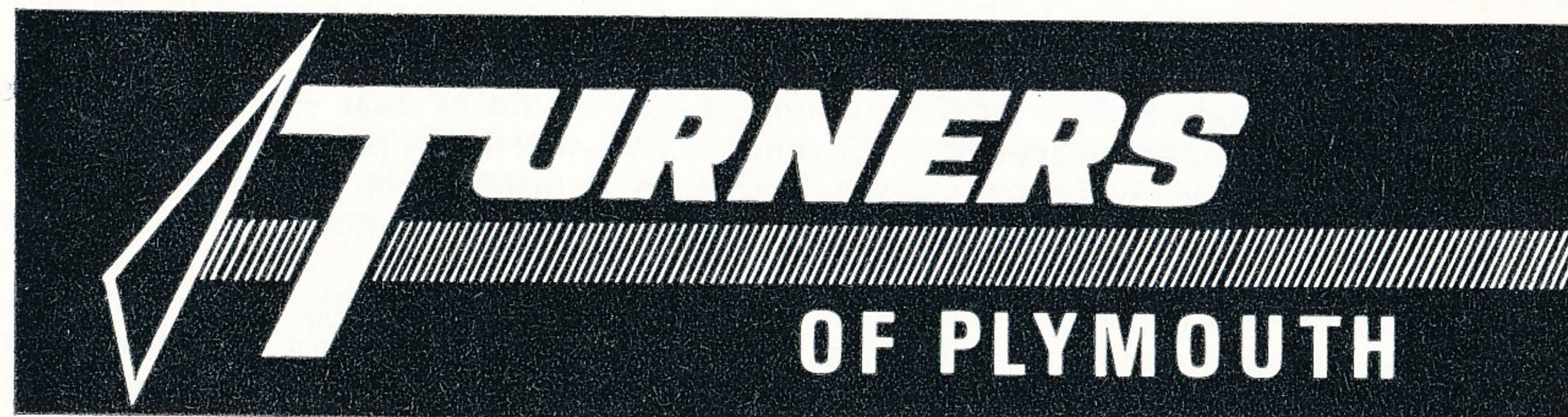
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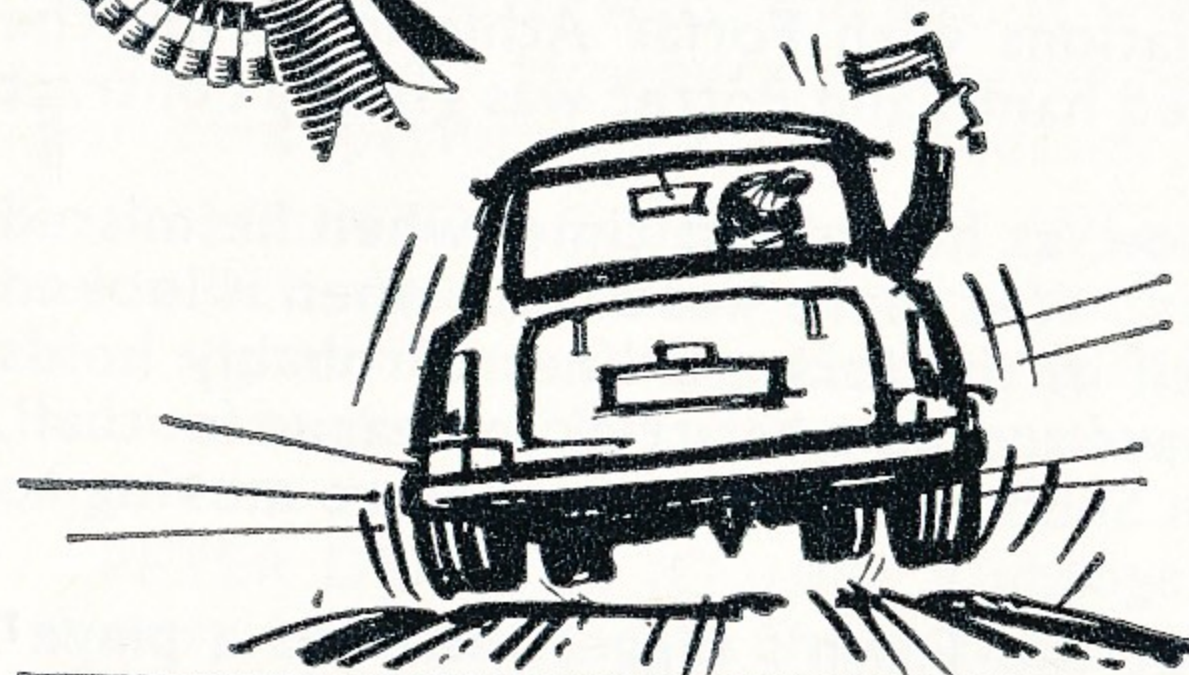
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## FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION III FIXTURES

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1968-69

| 1968             |                          | Result | Attend. |                                                                |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
|                  |                          | F. A.  |         |                                                                |
| <b>August</b>    |                          |        |         |                                                                |
| 10               | Crewe A. ... (H)         | 2 2    | 9,946   | E. Dingle & Co. Limited, Royal Parade, Plymouth.               |
| 14               | Exeter City ... (H)      | 0 0    | 8,746   |                                                                |
|                  | F.L. Cup 1st Round       |        |         |                                                                |
| 17               | Bournemouth ... (A)      | 1 0    |         |                                                                |
| 21               | Exeter City Replay (A)   | 0 0    |         |                                                                |
| 24               | Reading ... (H)          | 3 1    | 6,795   | E. Dingle & Co. Limited, Royal Parade, Plymouth.               |
| 31               | Swindon Town ... (A)     | 0 3    |         |                                                                |
| <b>September</b> |                          |        |         |                                                                |
| 4                | F.L. Cup 2nd Round       |        |         |                                                                |
| 7                | Shrewsbury Town (A)      | 0 1    |         |                                                                |
| 14               | Bristol Rovers ... (H)   | 3 1    | 9,333   | Rev. J. Ashplant, Plymouth.                                    |
| 18               | Walsall ... (H)          | 1 0    | 11,118  | Plymouth Breweries Ltd., Stonehouse, Plymouth.                 |
| 20               | Stockport County ... (A) | 3 2    |         |                                                                |
| 23               | Barnsley ... (H)         | 0 0    | 12,996  | Hitchings & Mason, Printers, West Hoe Road, Plymouth.          |
| 25               | F.L. Cup 3rd Round       |        |         |                                                                |
| 28               | Northampton T. (H)       | 0 1    | 10,505  | Clarke Doble & Brendon, Printers, Cattedown, Plymouth.         |
| <b>October</b>   |                          |        |         |                                                                |
| 5                | Torquay United (H)       | 1 2    | 20,810  | Bakers, Removers, St. Andrew's Cross, Plymouth.                |
| 9                | Hartlepoons U. ... (H)   | 3 0    | 7,565   | Messrs. Ford & Lock, Mayflower Street, Plymouth.               |
| 11               | Southport ... (A)        | 0 2    |         |                                                                |
| 14               | Hartlepoons U. ... (A)   | 1 1    |         |                                                                |
| 16               | F.L. Cup 4th Round       |        |         |                                                                |
| 19               | Luton Town ... (H)       |        |         | Mr. F. S. Ray, Willowbank, 6 Torridge Close, Plympton          |
| 26               | Gillingham ... (A)       |        |         |                                                                |
| 30               | F.L. Cup 5th Round       |        |         |                                                                |
| <b>November</b>  |                          |        |         |                                                                |
| 2                | Oldham Athletic (H)      |        |         | E. J. Rickard Ltd., Printers, Holborn St., St. Judes, Plymouth |
| 6                | Mansfield Town (H)       |        |         | The Independent, 55 Exeter Street, Plymouth.                   |
| 9                | Barrow ... (A)           |        |         |                                                                |
| 16               | F.A. Cup 1st Round       |        |         |                                                                |
| 20               | F.L. Cup Semi-Final      |        |         |                                                                |
| 23               | Barnsley ... (A)         |        |         | G. T. Crouch Ltd., Builders, Southway, Plymouth.               |
| 30               | Orient ... (H)           |        |         |                                                                |
| <b>December</b>  |                          |        |         |                                                                |
| 4                | F.L. Cup Semi-Final      |        |         |                                                                |
| 7                | F.A. Cup 2nd Round       |        |         |                                                                |
| 14               | Southport ... (H)        |        |         | Whitbread & Co. Ltd., Brewers, Millbay Road, Plymouth.         |
| 21               | Luton Town ... (A)       |        |         |                                                                |
| 26               | Torquay United ... (A)   |        |         | Geo. Smale & Son Ltd., Fruit, Potato Merchants, Plymouth.      |
| 28               | Gillingham ... (H)       |        |         |                                                                |
| <b>1969</b>      |                          |        |         |                                                                |
| <b>January</b>   |                          |        |         |                                                                |
| 4                | Brighton ... (H)         |        |         | S. Stout Ltd., Hairdressers, Sundriesmen, Plymouth.            |
| 11               | Oldham Athletic ... (A)  |        |         |                                                                |
| 18               | Barrow ... (H)           |        |         | T. H. Voisin & Son, Butchers, 151 Union Street, Plymouth.      |
| 25               | Mansfield Town ... (A)   |        |         |                                                                |
| <b>February</b>  |                          |        |         |                                                                |
| 1                | Rotherham United (A)     |        |         |                                                                |
| 8                |                          |        |         |                                                                |
| 15               | Orient ... (A)           |        |         | J. Thomas Spink, 5 Headland Park, Plymouth.                    |
| 22               | Tranmere Rovers (H)      |        |         |                                                                |
| <b>March</b>     |                          |        |         |                                                                |
| 1                | Crewe Alexandra ... (A)  |        |         | G. H. Gillin, Belgrave Hotel, Torquay.                         |
| 5                | Brighton ... (A)         |        |         | Mr. S. E. Williams, The Bungalow, Wembury Rd., Plymouth        |
| 8                | Bournemouth ... (H)      |        |         |                                                                |
| 12               | Rotherham U. ... (H)     |        |         |                                                                |
| 14               | Reading ... (A)          |        |         |                                                                |
| 17               | Tranmere Rovers ... (A)  |        |         |                                                                |
| 22               | Swindon Town ... (H)     |        |         |                                                                |
| 29               | Shrewsbury T. ... (H)    |        |         |                                                                |
| <b>April</b>     |                          |        |         |                                                                |
| 5                | Northampton T. ... (A)   |        |         |                                                                |
| 7                | Walsall ... (A)          |        |         |                                                                |
| 8                | Watford ... (H)          |        |         |                                                                |
| 12               | Stockport C. ... (H)     |        |         |                                                                |
| 15               | Watford ... (A)          |        |         |                                                                |
| 19               | Bristol Rovers ... (A)   |        |         |                                                                |

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F. M. EASTON, Public Relations Officer



### FOOTBALL COMBINATION CUP FIXTURES

| 1968          |                        | Result<br>F. A. | Attend. |                  | Result<br>F. A.          | Attend. |
|---------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------|------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| <b>August</b> |                        |                 |         |                  |                          |         |
| 10            | Swansea Town ... (A)   | 1 2             |         | <b>September</b> | 7 Bristol Rovers ... (H) | 1 6 908 |
| 17            | Bristol City ... (H)   | 1 1             | 975     |                  | 11 Cardiff ... (A)       | 1 2     |
| 20            | Bristol Rovers ... (A) | 1 1             |         |                  | 14 Chelsea ... (A)       | 0 2     |
| 24            | Bristol City ... (A)   | 0 0             |         |                  | 21 Cardiff ... (H)       | 2 5     |
| 28            | Chelsea ... (H)        | 0 1             | 1,155   | <b>October</b>   |                          |         |
| 31            | Swansea Town ... (H)   | 1 1             | 814     | 10               |                          |         |
|               |                        |                 |         | 17               |                          |         |
|               |                        |                 |         | 21               |                          |         |

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### FOOTBALL COMBINATION LEAGUE FIXTURES

| 1968            |                        | Result<br>F. A. | Attend. | 1969            |                           | Result<br>F. A. | Attend. |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|---------|
| <b>October</b>  |                        |                 |         |                 |                           |                 |         |
| 5               | Oxford ... (A)         | 1 3             |         | <b>January</b>  | 4 Tottenham Hotspur (A)   |                 |         |
| 16              | Fulham ... (H)         |                 |         |                 | 11 Walsall ... (H)        |                 |         |
| 19              | Swansea ... (A)        |                 |         |                 | 18                        |                 |         |
| 26              | Queens Park R. ... (H) |                 |         |                 | 25 Birmingham C. ... (H)  |                 |         |
| <b>November</b> |                        |                 |         |                 |                           |                 |         |
| 2               | Reading ... (A)        |                 |         | <b>February</b> | 1 Cardiff City ... (H)    |                 |         |
| 9               | Ipswich Town ... (H)   |                 |         |                 | 8                         |                 |         |
| 16              | Crystal Palace ... (H) |                 |         |                 | 15 Bristol Rovers ... (A) |                 |         |
| 23              | Southampton ... (H)    |                 |         | <b>March</b>    | 1 Northampton T. ... (A)  |                 |         |
| 30              | Arsenal ... (A)        |                 |         |                 | 8 Luton Town ... (A)      |                 |         |
| <b>December</b> |                        |                 |         |                 |                           |                 |         |
| 7               | Chelsea ... (A)        |                 |         |                 | 15 Peterborough U. (H)    |                 |         |
| 14              | Bristol City ... (A)   |                 |         |                 | 22 Norwich ... (A)        |                 |         |
| 21              | Gillingham ... (H)     |                 |         |                 | 29 Swindon Town ... (H)   |                 |         |
| 28              | Leicester ... (A)      |                 |         | <b>April</b>    | 5                         |                 |         |
|                 |                        |                 |         |                 | 12 Bournemouth ... (H)    |                 |         |
|                 |                        |                 |         |                 | 19 West Ham United (A)    |                 |         |

| DIVISION III           | P.        | W.       | D.       | L.       | F.        | A.       | W.       | D.       | L.       | F.       | A.       | Pts.      |
|------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Luton Town             | 13        | 7        | 0        | 0        | 23        | 5        | 1        | 2        | 3        | 4        | 6        | 18        |
| Torquay United         | 14        | 6        | 1        | 0        | 18        | 5        | 2        | 1        | 4        | 6        | 9        | 18        |
| Barrow                 | 13        | 5        | 2        | 0        | 13        | 5        | 3        | 0        | 3        | 9        | 10       | 18        |
| Swindon Town           | 12        | 5        | 1        | 0        | 9         | 0        | 2        | 2        | 2        | 5        | 5        | 17        |
| Bournemouth            | 13        | 6        | 0        | 1        | 12        | 1        | 2        | 1        | 3        | 9        | 9        | 17        |
| Watford                | 13        | 3        | 2        | 1        | 4         | 1        | 3        | 2        | 2        | 9        | 7        | 16        |
| Rotherham United       | 13        | 5        | 1        | 0        | 12        | 4        | 1        | 3        | 3        | 7        | 11       | 16        |
| Tranmere Rovers        | 14        | 5        | 0        | 3        | 11        | 8        | 2        | 2        | 2        | 8        | 11       | 16        |
| Stockport County       | 13        | 4        | 2        | 1        | 17        | 12       | 1        | 3        | 2        | 2        | 3        | 15        |
| <b>Plymouth Argyle</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>15</b> |
| Reading                | 13        | 4        | 0        | 2        | 13        | 5        | 1        | 4        | 2        | 11       | 13       | 14        |
| Mansfield Town         | 13        | 4        | 1        | 1        | 13        | 5        | 1        | 2        | 4        | 8        | 14       | 13        |
| Northampton Town       | 11        | 2        | 3        | 1        | 7         | 6        | 2        | 1        | 2        | 4        | 4        | 12        |
| Barnsley               | 14        | 3        | 2        | 2        | 13        | 8        | 0        | 4        | 3        | 4        | 12       | 12        |
| Brighton               | 13        | 2        | 2        | 2        | 12        | 8        | 2        | 2        | 3        | 7        | 15       | 12        |
| Walsall                | 14        | 1        | 4        | 1        | 8         | 6        | 1        | 3        | 4        | 5        | 9        | 11        |
| Southport              | 13        | 4        | 1        | 1        | 14        | 9        | 1        | 0        | 6        | 4        | 15       | 11        |
| Bristol Rovers         | 13        | 4        | 1        | 1        | 10        | 7        | 0        | 2        | 5        | 9        | 19       | 11        |
| Orient                 | 11        | 2        | 3        | 0        | 7         | 3        | 0        | 3        | 3        | 7        | 13       | 10        |
| Shrewsbury Town        | 13        | 2        | 3        | 1        | 6         | 5        | 1        | 1        | 5        | 6        | 14       | 10        |
| Gillingham             | 13        | 2        | 3        | 1        | 11        | 6        | 1        | 0        | 6        | 6        | 14       | 9         |
| Hartlepool             | 13        | 1        | 6        | 0        | 5         | 4        | 0        | 1        | 5        | 1        | 16       | 9         |
| Crewe Alexandra        | 13        | 2        | 1        | 4        | 14        | 13       | 0        | 3        | 3        | 5        | 12       | 8         |
| Oldham Athletic        | 13        | 1        | 2        | 4        | 5         | 9        | 0        | 0        | 6        | 1        | 20       | 4         |

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