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No. 13.

OCTOBER 28th, 1933.

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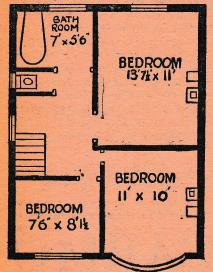
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FOOTBALL LEAGUE.		DIVISION III.				(South).	
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Q.P. Rangers	11	7	1	3	22	13	15
Norwich	11	6	2	3	28	17	14
Charlton	11	6	2	3	27	19	14
Exeter City	12	6	2	4	20	13	14
Crystal Palace	12	5	4	3	22	19	14
Aldershot	11	4	5	2	12	7	13
LUTON T.	12	5	3	4	27	21	13
READING	11	5	2	4	20	14	12
Bristol R	11	5	2	4	17	16	12
Swindon	11	5	2	4	16	19	12
Torquay	11	5	2	4	16	21	12
Coventry C	11	4	3	4	27	19	11
Gillingham	11	4	3	4	19	21	11
Bournemouth	11	5	1	5	19	21	11
Cardiff C	11	5	1	5	18	21	11
Clapton O	11	3	4	4	12	14	10
Southend	11	4	2	5	15	21	10
Brighton	12	4	2	6	18	20	10
Newport C	11	3	3	5	11	14	9
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Watford	11	1	3	7	16	27	5
Bristol C	11	0	4	7	12	33	4

How They Stand

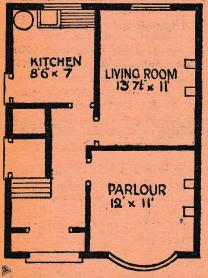
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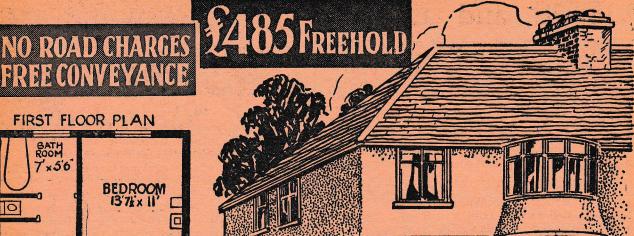
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Arsenal	13	7	1	5	34	20	15
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Aldershot	14	3	1	10	19	35	7

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ODDS and ENDS.

There was a record crowd of over 10,000 at Aldershot last Saturday, and I venture to assert not one of them had any doubt Jack Oxberry's goal was a good one—and to these I will add the twenty-two players, who were dumbfounded at the referee's decision to disallow it. The incident occurred when Reading were definitely on top, and a goal at this stage would probably have settled the issue. Apart from this, we had numerous chances to pile up a winning score, but the shooting was wild in the extreme.

We had a taste of Mr. White quite early when he penalised Mellors for handling well inside his goal area; and gave a childish exhibition of finger wagging in Johnson's face for some imaginary offence. He ignored two palpable penalties for handling by the Aldershot defence in the first half, and, generally, his conduct of the game took all the heart out of the Reading team long before the end.

In a needle match such as this one was bound to be, one would expect the League to appoint an experienced official to take charge, and as it is customary for the same man to take the return game, I am not at all happy at the prospect when the teams meet again at Elm Park.

We are not alone in being penalised by the vagaries of some referees, and ugly scenes have taken place at several grounds recently, due to mistakes by the official in charge. The Villa at Portsmouth and the Spurs at Everton are typical instances, and we want to be spared these unedifying spectacles at Elm Park. I hope, therefore, our protest to the League on the Aldershot match will have the desired effect.

The behaviour of both teams under most exasperating circumstances was splendid, as they played clean, sporting football throughout; in fact, I have seldom seen a game so free from deliberate fouls. The sides played fast open football in the best possible spirit, with Reading on top practically the whole of the first half, and Aldershot superior in the second period. Two of the goals were scored within a few seconds of the interval and the finish, after allowances for lost time.

Robb was a great goalkeeper, and made many wonderful saves when all seemed lost; one from Fielding and another from Newton bordered on the miraculous. If there is a better goalie in Scotland than Willie Robb I should like to see him play, but I very much doubt it. He is a real sportsman too, for he had no doubt as to the legality of Oxberry's goal, and said so plainly. Aldershot are a good side, very difficult to overcome on their own pitch, and I congratulate their Directors and officials on the victory, and wish them continued success—they deserve it.

Our defeat is a bit of a blow to the Club's aspirations, but there is really nothing to despair of at this early stage in the tournament. A glance at the League table will show that the leaders are only three points ahead, and a win to-day should put us bang up with the top notchers. I feel certain we shall make a bold bid for promotion, and no effort will be spared in this endeavour by the Board and Manager.

The Reserves continue their winning ways by defeating Bournemouth Reserves last Saturday by 4—0. At this rate they will have a big say in the championship of the Combination, and I hope that circumstances will enable them to be kept together for a long spell. The younger element is improving in every match, and is being carefully coached by Darnell and Barley, whose experience is invaluable to the lads. The latest gate was again very small, but there is an explanation for this owing to many regular spectators journeying to Aldershot.

If you have a couple of hours to spare to-night, go and listen to the Band Competition at the Town Hall. You will see Frank Newton performing on the big trombone, and if he is as efficient 'on the slide' with his instrument as he shows when diving at goal then he is a winner all the way. But don't sit in the front row sucking a lemon, as I heard one of his pals thought of doing.

The Strawhatters are with us to-day in search of league points, and will give us a good run for our money—in fact they are quite capable of springing a surprise if their forward line gets going early on. The best known of our visitors are Mackey, full back secured from Sheffield Wednesday, Kean, right half from Bolton, and Fraser, left half (a bonny player this one), Pease and Martin, a right wing pair secured from Middlesboro' and Everton respectively, and Rennie, inside left, a deadly shot when in form. Incidentally Hayhurst will renew old acquaintances to-day, as he was with Luton last season, and I fancy he will not have many idle moments in this game.

In last week's notes it was stated that Allan had been given a free transfer. This was incorrect, as a substantial fee was paid for his services by Queen of the South.

I may add that transfer fees were received for Eaton, Ritchie and McPherson from Queen's Park Rangers and Watford.

Glad to learn that Eaton has recovered from his injury and is again in full training.

NEXT MATCH—Saturday, November 4th

Southampton

London Combination.

Kick-off 3-0

4

THE BEST FOR ALL OCCASIONS.

"M.V.S."

The Perfect EMPIRE

BUTTER.

Club Gossip. By Wanderer.

We visited Aldershot last Saturday with high hopes of recording our first 'away' victory of the season, but were doomed to disappointment. For the first half hour we were decidedly superior to the home side, and only very smart work by Robb and his full backs kept us from scoring more than once. After 35 minutes' play Oxberry opened our account with a splendid shot from about 25 yards range, but to the consternation of almost everybody present, the referee disallowed the goal for an alleged infringement by Newton. This decision was a staggerer to the players, and proved to be the turning point in the game. After being overplayed for four-fifths of the first half, Aldershot broke away right on half time, and scored an easy goal. During the interval the disallowed goal was the sole topic among the spectators, and the general opinion was that the referee had blundered badly. Encouraged by their unexpected good fortune in the first half, Aldershot played much better when the game restarted, and scored again after about ten minutes' play. This goal was not a clean cut affair, and was due to faulty play by our defence. All through this period our football was a long way below that of the first half hour, and with the home team continuing to improve our hopes of securing one of the points dwindled away. Shortly before the finish Aldershot scored another scratchy sort of goal to complete our dis-

ENGLISH SPORTSMEN

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comforture. After the bright opening the falling away of our team in the second half was a big disappointment to the large body of supporters who travelled to Aldershot.

There is no doubt that the referee's decision in striking off what appeared to everybody else (including the Aldershot players, who made no attempt to protest against the point) a perfectly good goal, had a big bearing on the subsequent play. At the same time, if we are to pick up points away from home, we must do better than our second half display last week.

This afternoon we receive a visit from Luton, one of our oldest opponents. The Hatters are doing fairly well this season, and hold a point lead of us on the league table, but we have a match in hand. Our home record is the better, but the visitors have the advantage over us away from home. Luton generally field an eleven of seasoned players, and notable additions to this year's eleven are Pease, late of Middlesboro' and Martin, Middlesboro' and Everton. Matches between the clubs are usually pretty keen affairs, and although we expect to secure full honours this afternoon, our Bedfordshire friends can be relied upon to put up a hard fight.

Bournemouth Reserves fielded a weak side in the Combination game at Elm Park last week, and we had no difficulty in winning by four goals to nil. In spite of the substantial victory our team was not at its best. Barley was easily the outstanding player, and both Whittaker and Morris did well.

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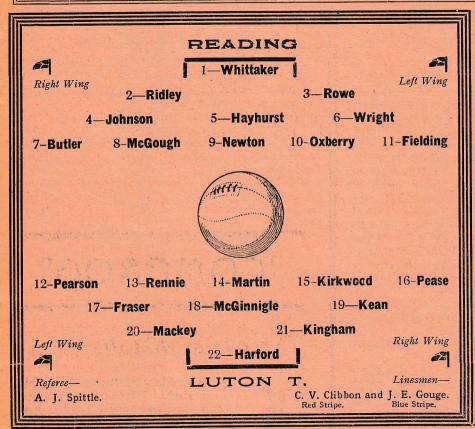
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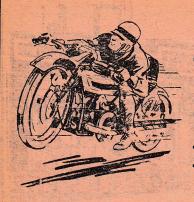
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Supporters' Club Notes.

(By RAJAH).

Future events mentioned at our Monthly Meeting on Tuesday last included a Whist Drive at Olympia, under the direction of Mr. Hortop, provided a date can be arranged. The visit of the Roosters Concert Party to the Large Town Hall also depends upon suitable arrangements being completed. The Ladies' Section will hold two Christmas Whist Drives and a Rummage Sale. Ladies and Gentlemen having suitable material for the latter event, would be helping if they would send a postcard to 135 Belmont

The National Federation of Supporters Clubs has elected the Rev. W. F. Wood, Rector of Caversham, one of our Vice-Presidents, as Padre. Mr. Wood has on several occasions signified his willingness to further our cause in every way within his power.

Our Membership is in a favourable state compared with last season, but there is still room for a vast increase.

The Funds are O.K. and show a useful balance

The Officers and Committee have in mind a scheme for the covering of the town end of Elm Park, and our President, Councillor F. G. Sainsbury, has offered us material assistance for this purpose but it remains with the individual supporter to determine whether this can be accomplished. As was stated in the local press this week, it is not sufficient to leave it to another person: the concerted efforts of all who profess to be sportsmen, and claim to have the interests of the R.F.C. at heart, will alone make it possible.

It has been suggested that the General Meetings might be made more entertaining. The Committee will seriously consider this and probably try out a social evening, combining business with pleasure.

In the near future figures and facts will be given to show the activities of this Club in its efforts to help the R.F.C. and the "Bob Supporter."

To-day's Music.

is only one of the

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1 March—" Preciosa" ... 2 March—" Rifle Brigade" ... M. Devery

2 March—"Rifle Brigade" ... R. B. Hall
3 March—"Quarter Column" ... J. Ord Hume
4 March—"Queen's Review" ... J. Ord Hume
5 Waltz—"My Wishing Song" Kahal and Burke
6 Entr'acte—"Lazy Bones" Mercer & Carmichael
7 Fox Trot—"I lost my heart in Heidelberg"

F. Raymond.

T. B. WICKS, Conductor.

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in two of the advertisements in this programme. ¶ See if you can find them !!! Send your corrected programme with your name and address to R.F.C. Office, Arcade Chambers, Reading, and mark your envelopes "Comprog."

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Read through the advertisements and enter this

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CROSS STREET, READING.



FIXTURES AND RESULTS.

- HOME MATCHES ARE PRINTED IN HEAVY TYPE. ---

	A COMPANY OF A STATE OF THE STA	
Football League III (S).	Date. Opponents. F.A.	Date. Opponents. F.A.
Date. Opponents. F.A.	S., Feb. 24—Watford	S., Nov. 11—Fulham
C Ave OC Eveter City (9) 1	S., Mar. 10—Luton Town	W., Nov. 22—Bournemouth
S., Aug. 26—Exeter City 3 1	S., Mar. 17—Northampton T	0 77 07
M., Aug. 28—Cardiff City 0 2	S., Mar. 24—Torquay U	
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W., Sept. 6—Cardiff City 3 1		S., Dec. 9—Millwall A
S., Sept. 9—Grystal Palace 0 0		S., Dec. 16—Luton Town
S., Sept. 16—Bristol Rovers 0 1	M., Apr. 2—Charlton A	S., Dec. 23—Swansea Town
8., Sept. 23—Southend U 5 0		M., Dec. 25—Tottenham H
S., Sept. 30—Coventry City 0 0	S., Apr. 14—Norwich City	T., Dec. 26—Tottenham H
S., Oct. 7—Brighton 2 0	S., Apr. 21—Bristol City	S., Dec. 30—Brentford
S., Oct. 14—Watford 6 1	S., Apr. 28—Clapton O	S., Jan. 6—Chelsea
S., Oct. 21—Aldershot 0 3	S., May 5—Swindon Town	S., Jan. 13—West Ham U
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S., Nov. 4—Northampton T		S., Jan. 27—Portsmouth
S., Nov. 11—Torquay U	London Combination.	S., Feb. 3—Southend U
S., Nov. 18-Queen's Park R		S., Feb. 10—Coventry City
S., Nov. 25—F.A. Cup	Date. Opponents. F.A.	S., Feb. 17—Brighton
S., Dec. 2—Norwich City	S., Aug. 26—Brentford 0 2	W., Feb. 21-West Ham U
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S., Feb. 10—Coventry City	S., Oct. 28—Bristol City	S., Apr. 28—Luton Town
S., Feb. 17—Brighton	S., Nov. 4—Southampton	S., May 5—Swansea Town
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KEY OF THE BOARD. TO-DAY'S MATCHES

1	Tottenham Middlesbro'	G	Coventry C. Aldershot	
3	Brentford So'thampton	H	Crystal Pal. Clapton O.	. 7
7	Bournem'th Q'een's P.R.	J	Exeter City Norwich C.	
)	Bristol Rov's Swindon T.	K	Gillingham Bristol City	
19	Cardiff City Newport C.	L	Southend U. Brighton H.	
	Charlton A Torquay Un.	M	Watford N'rthampton	

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Fuller details in next week's programme.

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