

Halting at the Cross-Roads

WITH this issue *PLAYFAIR ANNUAL* takes what might be described as its ninth kick from this corner, with kick as the operative word. Thinking over the immediate past, and looking forward to the future, there are many things to talk about connected with the course taken, and to be taken, in this finest of all games.

Seldom, on the long road which the game has travelled, have the travellers encountered, in one year, so many possible turnings. And at the cross-roads ahead are sign-posts pointing in many directions. Which way should the game go? The quick summary is that the drivers, maybe wisely and correctly, have halted at the cross-roads.

Take pointers providing direction problems. Questions concerning the pay of the players were raised: even a strike order, not cancelled speedily enough to prevent the abandonment of one arranged game. There was also discussion, at a high level, about deleting the maximum wage regulations. One of these days we shall do that—but not yet. Games by floodlight—just how many or how few—with the question of whether television can be helpful to the clubs in general—or the reverse—were also among the topical subjects calling for consideration.

More than merely mixed with these cross-road signs, over-riding them, in fact, is the continued falling off in attendances: an aggregate drop again around the million mark in Football League games. This latest attendance fall could not be attributed, in the main, to bad weather conditions. Nor could it be said to be due, so far as the League struggles were concerned, to lack of sustained interest.

In a retrospect of the season, I realise the necessity of being on guard lest this issue of the *Annual* should earn the subsidiary title "Manchester Edition." Such a line could be justified because two major honours of our home season were won by Manchester clubs. Arising out of the triumphs of Manchester United and Manchester City—the manner of them especially—we may, without misgivings, recall an old slogan, and, with slight revision, apply it to football: "What Manchester thinks to-day, the rest of the clubs of the country thinks to-morrow." We had Manchester United winning the League with effective football played mostly by coming men, and Manchester City scheming their Cup triumph in a refreshingly different way.

Debating over the future, and halting at the cross-roads, as I have said, those in charge showed neither willingness nor decision to drive boldly along the roads indicated by the signs of the times. True, the clubs have been given permission to make more extensive use of artificial light should they feel so disposed. That means not so early starts.

Also a favourable response has been made to the combined appeal of the players for increased fees from matches additional to the ordinary League and Cup routine. The clubs may now pay three pounds per man for appearances in such games. But there is no increase in the pay-packet bonus for wins and draws.

A big majority of the Third Division clubs were ready to try their fortunes on a reconstructed road. By their votes, or the method of deciding same, they were stopped dead. Progressing, without lengthy comment, over the retention of a regulation which insists on a three-fourths majority to make a change, it may be suggested that the Third

Division clubs, presumably knowing what they want, should have been given a little of what they fancy.

As a general conclusion, it is here and now suggested that other proposed changes which have received attention, are mere side-tracks without any apparent serious attempt at a solution of the over-all problem: how to bring the stay-aways back to the matches. So far as can be gathered, there was no get-together of clubs officials or players—equally concerned—to discuss the persistently vital matter of the entertainment standard.

There isn't a great deal wrong with the quality of the play: we still have masters experienced in the skills of the game, and evidence from International affairs that there are as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it. But merely to sit back contented with that thought won't suffice. Shouldn't we step out towards more pleasure and profit by introducing novelties in our football: things to talk about and stimulate the appetite.

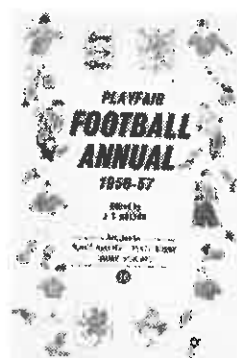
Thirty years have passed since any major change was made in the laws of the game. That was the alteration of the offside regulations, brought about because the people, who matter in part, practically insisted on it. Why not have a go without any offside law at all?

Again—as a comparatively modern development—we have to watch goalkeepers in general, and to an increasing extent, prancing about the penalty area, with the ball. They are encouraged to do this, more and more, by team pals who pass the ball backwards to them on the slightest excuse—or without any reasons which appeal to the watchers. Confine the handling to the goal area—saving time and irritation.

Some people are still bothered about the part goal-average plays in the table placings. A Bristol Rovers proposal that Test matches should be played if League honours, plus promotion and relegation issues, turn on goal-average, received no support. There is a much easier way deciding the placings when clubs finish level on points. Give the prize to the club which has scored the greater number of goals, ignoring those against, and thus dodging the arithmetic.

We are not calling for football revolution. The necessity for the stop light: for the caution light, is not overlooked, but at some of the crossings there is need also for the other light—the one which signals go.

THE EDITOR



THE FRONT COVER

Players shown on the front cover represent the clubs who won Cup and League honours in England and Scotland last season.

On the left-hand side, reading from top to bottom: Manchester City, Sheffield Wednesday, Leyton Orient, Rangers. Right: Manchester United, Leeds United, Grimsby Town, Hearts.

The badges are those of the four home countries.

DIVISION I		DIVISION II		DIVISION III	
Home	Away	Home	Away	Home	Away
Manchester Utd.	1-0	Sheffield Utd.	1-0	Sheffield Utd.	1-0
Wolverhampton	1-0	Leeds United	1-0	Leeds United	1-0
Manchester City	1-0	Liverpool	1-0	Liverpool	1-0
Arsenal	1-0	Blackburn Rovers	1-0	Blackburn Rovers	1-0
Birmingham City	1-0	Bristol City	1-0	Bristol City	1-0
Bolton Wanderers	1-0	Bristol Rovers	1-0	Bristol Rovers	1-0
Sunderland	1-0	Nottingham Forest	1-0	Nottingham Forest	1-0
Luton Town	1-0	Lincoln City	1-0	Lincoln City	1-0
Portsmouth United	1-0	Salford City	1-0	Salford City	1-0
West Brom.	1-0	Swansea City	1-0	Swansea City	1-0
Charlton Athletic	1-0	Port Vale	1-0	Port Vale	1-0
Gillingham	1-0	Stoke City	1-0	Stoke City	1-0
Cardiff City	1-0	Bury	1-0	Bury	1-0
Nottingham Hotspar	1-0	West Ham United	1-0	West Ham United	1-0
Creighton North End	1-0	Doncaster Rovers	1-0	Doncaster Rovers	1-0
Huddersfield Town	1-0	Retford United	1-0	Retford United	1-0
Sheffield United	1-0	Nottingham City	1-0	Nottingham City	1-0
		Plymouth Argyle	1-0	Plymouth Argyle	1-0
		Fulham City	1-0	Fulham City	1-0

DIVISION III (South)			DIVISION III (North)			DIVISION III		
Home	Goals	Away	Home	Goals	Away	Home	Goals	Away
1. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	1. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	1. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
2. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	2. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	2. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
3. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	3. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	3. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
4. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	4. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	4. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
5. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	5. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	5. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
6. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	6. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	6. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
7. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	7. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	7. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
8. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	8. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	8. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
9. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	9. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	9. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
10. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	10. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	10. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
11. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	11. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	11. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
12. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	12. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	12. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
13. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	13. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	13. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
14. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	14. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	14. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
15. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	15. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	15. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
16. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	16. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	16. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
17. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	17. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	17. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
18. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	18. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	18. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
19. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	19. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	19. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
20. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	20. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	20. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
21. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	21. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	21. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
22. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	22. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	22. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
23. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	23. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	23. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
24. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	24. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	24. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
25. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	25. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	25. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
26. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	26. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	26. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
27. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	27. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	27. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
28. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	28. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	28. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
29. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	29. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	29. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
30. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	30. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	30. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
31. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	31. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	31. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
32. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	32. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	32. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
33. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	33. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	33. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
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108. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	108. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	108. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
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114. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	114. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	114. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
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116. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	116. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	116. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
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122. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	122. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	122. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
123. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	123. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	123. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
124. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	124. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	124. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
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126. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	126. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	126. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
127. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	127. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	127. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
128. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	128. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	128. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
129. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	129. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	129. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0
130. L. 1-0	1-0	1-0	130. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0	130. D. 1-0	1-0	1-0

Close Season Talking Points



Listening attentively to the maestro are these African footballers in Nairobi who play without boots. Stanley Matthews was on an exhibition tour in Africa in the summer.

A proposition put forward by Middlesbrough that no player be transferred—either bought or sold—after the sixteenth of March in each season received little support.

In the coming season the club in the two sections of the Scottish League will operate under different titles. Instead of A and B Divisions they will be called First and Second Divisions.

Everton, without a manager as such, have set a new fashion. Mr. Harold Pickering has been appointed Administrative Officer (Playing Staff).

These incidents were recalled to support the case for substitutes for injured goalkeepers. On October 22nd, Portsmouth 'keeper Uprichard was hurt — and Charlton Athletic scored six. A week later Blackpool 'keeper Farm had

to hand over his goalkeeper shirt—and Preston North End scored six. A mere fortnight afterwards Leyton Orient ran to eight—with the Crystal Palace 'keeper Bailey hurt.

In League games last season, the home attendance figures of Everton—42,767—were higher, on average, than any other club. The attendances at Everton's away games, however, were lower than those of any other First Division side. Blackpool attracted more people to away matches than any other club. Stanley Matthews must surely be associated with that record.

Drawn to play Middlesbrough in the third round of the Cup, Bradford permitted their opponents to play in their usual colours, which clashed, and themselves changed to white shirts. Bradford lost by four goals.



Can the Young Men of Manchester create a Monopoly?

By MATT BUSBY

PERHAPS the most important thing to be said about the latest Manchester United championship is that, in the main, it was a triumph of youth. The point is repeated because therein are the foundations on which, surely, we can build castles in the air which may well become realities in football generally in the future. The second point made by the well-earned honour is that it was the fruits of a plan, in relation to the build-up of the team, which worked.

Before and after I became manager of the club, the Manchester United team was a good one, as proved by play and figures. Following the normal course of all good teams, several loyal players aged somewhat in the service of the club. That state of affairs called for rebuilding—all too often a time of trial and tribulation. Here the plan took shape.

In and around Manchester — as around every big centre — were hundreds of lads whose feet were itching to climb the ladder of football fame. The promise of these

lads compelled me, if that word isn't too strong, to make up my mind to give the coming men their chance to go to the top. The best of them—we hoped—were picked out, coached, trained, and framed, physically and mentally.

The first fruits of that plan have been duly harvested. You know, without necessity for stress, that the club "walked" the championship with the youngest collection of players, in age average, ever to take that first prize.

Connecting questions naturally arise. For instance, can other clubs copy the plan? Doubtless they will try. It is natural to copy success. If the answer to the question of whether other clubs can make the plan work to the same satisfactory extent is in the affirmative, what football looms up! Good hunting to those who try to do what Manchester United have done.

If others have the good fortune to succeed to the same extent in the standard of play direction, the answer to another natural question is in the negative. That question, often put to me in recent months, is whether Manchester United,

with its present maturing team and the young players of promise on the fringe of it, can turn the annual struggle into a monopoly? What a dreadful thought! A monopoly would certainly not be good for the game — or even for the club which set it up. In the very creation of a monopoly would be the making of a break.

By straining a little I can attach that thought to the championship winning season. In the very first round of the Cup our side was overplayed, and properly whacked by a Second Division side. That four-nought defeat—a blessing in disguise if you like — did more than knock us out of the Cup. It did us good because it brought all of us—officials as well as players—down to earth, compelled us to think again, instead of taking success for granted.

You won't be puzzled to get my meaning. The way to better and better football is for the best team to have many challengers for that title. If a championship monopoly doesn't get a place in my wildest dreams (it doesn't), I can at least hope that my club will continue to set the pace — in quality of play and quantity of success.

I am told, and I accept this without check, that we used more players in the first team than any club which has won the championship has ever done. Good. This means that, in the background, are more players who have had, at least, some experience of what is wanted. Briefly, I see no reason why other clubs should not raise teams of equal merit, or of even greater merit. That's more than an obvious truth: it's a hope.

The builders on our lines need, particularly, some good luck. The world's best pickers of the promising lads will inevitably make mistakes in their estimate of how far even the most promising will

travel. There has been much talk about the success which has attended the Old Trafford plans. Little has been said, because we don't shout about this from the house-tops, of the failures. Take it from me we have had our big disappointments. Nobody can forecast, with certainty, whether any developing lad has it in him to go the last yard, as we put it: or the temperament, the will-power, or half a dozen other necessary assets.

With it all, and however good the young players may be, the fact will stand out, at this or that stage in the building, that a prop or two are needed to complete the building: props you can't wait for as you go through the match programme. Hence the payment by the club for players who have shown that they already "had it"—such as Tommy Taylor and Johnny Berry.

That brings me to the team. I am now more nearly cocksure than I was at the beginning, that the all-important team-spirit is more likely to become a reality among young players who have grown up—in the footballing sense—with the club whose colours they wear.

Don't let anybody run away with the idea that this method of team-building is cheap, or easy. Figures make that point. In one season our scouts and talent searchers watched well over five thousand youngsters. Of these only about three hundred were eventually thought to be promising enough to be invited for trials. And of those hundreds less than a dozen were considered good enough to justify the grooming.

Ours is a hard way, but if I may make bold to say so, a way which can lead to an end giving the maximum amount of satisfaction, and good for the future of the game, I trust.



Our Footballer of To-day and To-morrow

BY JOHN ARLOTT

JOHN HAYNES, the Fulham inside-left, now holds such a position in our football that any appreciation of him must also be comment upon the contemporary game; indeed, the recording of football history in the making. He has already made an appreciable mark upon play in England: he may yet have profound effect on its pattern — as distinct from, and beyond, strict match-results — throughout the world.

His career, measured in years, has been brief, for he is still only twenty-one. In 1949, he won his first Schoolboy International cap: he played for the English Youth team in 1952—the year in which he became a professional — and came into the England "B", Football League, and the full England elevens in 1954.

International footballers may be divided into three categories: the first is of good players, men who pull their weight in a representative match, but are not big enough to change its shape by their own efforts, otherwise they would fall into the second class—that of the great. Finally, come those who,

while great *players*, are also important for the effect they have, beyond the games in which they take part, upon the football of their day. John Haynes falls into the third category.

Among his contemporaries such players as John Charles, or Bernhard Trautmann are equally — or more — gifted in terms of strict playing powers, but have had no comparable effect upon the shape of football.

An inventory of Haynes' technical accomplishments shows that he is master of the basic skills of trapping, heading, shooting — as most of the leading continental players are, though not, alas, all British international players. He has, too, a fair turn of speed, and he keeps himself fit. His remarkable gift is his passing, a blend of four ingredients — the ability to find open spaces in which to work; a footballing intelligence; a remarkable ability to synchronise the movement of players with the ball and, finally, the physical ability to direct a football accurately through the air or along the ground to any chosen point from five to fifty yards away. Such

players as Peter Doherty, Raich Carter, Jack Smith, Andy Wilson, Alex James—in their senior days—had comparable power in passing: but none of them was his superior; and certainly none was so mature of method while still so young.

Haynes' constructive gift is heightened by its setting. He can score goals: indeed, last April, he came upfield to score the crucial last-minute goal which enabled England to draw with Scotland and finish equally top—instead of bottom—of the Home Countries Championship. He is, too, more capable than most contemporary inside forwards of beating his man in a dribble. Yet he rarely is seen to make individual goal-scoring attempts, or to indulge solo dribbles. These two facts are important: they indicate that Haynes lacks the essential goal-hunger of the opportunist, and that he regards dribbling as unnecessarily hazarding the use of the ball. That is to say, his approach to passing is as nearly single-minded as may be. He sees football in strategic terms, as a series of variable positions, challenging him to exploit them.

He has said that, ever since he first began to kick a football, when he was only seven years old, he has wanted to play in midfield, to collect the ball and redirect it. That first urge has remained unchanged. In his own words—"I still play the same game now as I did then, but I have added experience to it."

John Haynes was recognisable as an outstanding creator of attacking moves when he first came into the Fulham team, three years ago. For some time it was possible to see him growing in stature almost match by match, as his mind met and overcame new problems, and as he developed greater physical power.

Yet the character of his play was so pronounced and so inher-

ently influential that the question of his being capped was not merely one of whether or not he was good enough to play for England. His progress to International level may seem rapid, but there was a period during which his form demanded a place in the English team which he was not given. We may assume that this reflected the F.A. Selection Committee's hesitation about a choice involving such implications. They recognised that, once committed to Haynes, they became, to some extent, committed in terms of the strategy and the types of players to be employed around him.

Those implications were great: yet not quite so great as has occasionally been suggested. For instance, it has been said that Stanley Matthews was dropped from the English team because he could not play with John Haynes. In fact, Stanley Matthews lost his place as a result of a bad game against Wales. Matthews and Haynes are both easy to play with: Matthews because he makes it easy to pass to him; Haynes because he passes well even to men who do not make it easy.

They demonstrated this fact in the England v. Brazil match at Wembley when their inter-passing laid the foundation of victory.

It is true, however, to say that players of certain types derive more benefit than others from playing with Haynes and, also—a very real distinction—that some men do not make the most of playing with him. Anyone who has seen him, with a single, perfect, forty-yard ball from the fringe of defence, send Perry instantly in on goal, will realise what such passing can do for a goal-conscious wingman with an eye for position. On the other hand, when in the England-Scotland match, Tom Finney held back, waiting for square passes, he denied himself the value of Haynes.

It is important to notice that the three players who have profited most from Haynes' passes have been Trevor Chamberlain, Bedford Jezzard and Bobby Robson. Chamberlain has been playing with him ever since the two were schoolboys, and Robson and Jezzard are the opportunists for whom he created so many goals in his League career at Fulham. None of them has looked quite such a good player away from Haynes as with him.

It is not necessary for a forward to have played much with Haynes to take advantage of his football, but, failing that experience, the other player *must* think football strategically. Certainly such attacking forwards as Alex Jackson, Billy Liddell, Cliff Bastin, or Tommy Lawton would have dropped into a Haynes movement as by second nature.

Haynes himself says that he sees a football pitch in terms of the positions of the opposing defence. In general, if the backs are playing wide, he will seek an opening down the middle: if the defence is covering closely, he will try to exploit the space on the wings. Such football brains, backed by such accuracy, have never been common: currently they are extremely rare.

It is not easy for a forward to believe that, if he detects an opening when Haynes has possession of the ball, and moves to take advantage of that opening, the ball will be delivered precisely into his run. Yet, more often than any other player we can remember—except, perhaps, Alec James at his peak—Haynes will make that perfect and goal-creating pass.

This means that any player with first-class positional sense can play with John Haynes: conversely, any player without it, however remarkable his other gifts, will gain little from him. The choice of Haynes in any eleven means, too, that the de-

mand for attacking play by the wing halves is reduced. So long as they can chip or push the ball out of defence to him in a clear midfield position, it will be switched into attack more rapidly—and probably more accurately—than they could achieve by carrying it forward.

So, Haynes, in following out his own football destiny, probably has shaped the strategy of England teams for the dozen or more years for which he seems likely to hold his place. The dangers of such a player are those always implicit in a "key man." If he can be so closely marked that he has no space in which to work, or if he is forced to drop out of an English team, there is no one fully equipped to take his place. On the other hand, his success may, like most successful moves in football, breed imitators.

Tactically and strategically, John Haynes is the most important footballer—Alf Ramsey and Stanley Matthews included—to play for England in the past twenty years. In character he is also an asset.

He is a natural games player; he says—"I prefer football in the football season, cricket in the cricket season." As a wicket-keeper and hard-hitting batsman, he had sufficient success with Winchmore Hill in club cricket for Middlesex to ask him to join the county staff in 1955, but he had to refuse the offer to nurse a damaged ankle back to full fitness. The 1956 northern international tour tied him until early June, and Fulham remustered for training in mid-July. Such is the cleft stick in which the successful footballer-cricketer of today finds himself, and John Haynes resolved his problem by making a brief club cricket tour in Devon last summer. Deciding to play cricket for fun, he has recognised his football as a career. Therein he is already successful—and is likely to prove historic.

A CUP FULL OF QUERIES

Manchester City 3, Birmingham City 1

(Final tie at Wembley, May 5, 1956)

IN the final stage the F.A. Cup was won by the side which played the better football. Of that, no shadow of doubt whatever. The victory of Manchester City was as clear-cut: as devoid of if and buts, as any final tie of our time. Not even the Birmingham players, sadly reviewing what had been for them a sadly out of touch and disappointing day, suggested that in everything which mattered in the play they were other than second best.

Amid such unusual unanimity, the queries which arise are as important as the details of the story. How did the downfall of the favourites come about? Did the match come as near to being won before the ball was kicked as on the field?

The Manchester City forward make-up was not public knowledge until practically no time remained for their opponents to debate calmly—much less practise—counter-moves. In the sequel the roamings of Revie, with Johnstone doing much the same sort of thing, had the Birmingham defenders on the wrong foot for the greater part of the game. Was this hiding of a team's identity calculated strategy or compelled by force of circumstances?

Again, did the pre-match idle chatter about Birmingham City being a rough team lead them to

be ultra-careful to avoid a blot of suspicion on the copy-book? As big a surprise as the actual proceedings and result was the absence of "fight" by a team known for its fighting spirit. Instead of possible worries, one-armed Referee Bond and his linesmen had a far easier time than most of their Cup Final predecessors.

Not a semblance of fluke or doubt concerning any of the four goals. They came almost inevitably as the harvest of clever movements. HAYES simply had to shoot past the helpless Merrick inside three minutes: what could be described as a peach of a goal. KINSEY equalised in fifteen minutes, and for a little while after that the pace and energy of Birmingham levelled the skill of their opponents. The second half was Manchester's, with the Birmingham defenders—and especially that fine centre-half Smith—wandering around the stretch of dream turf as if they were lost.

After sixty-four minutes DYSON scored, and five minutes later the now seemingly very fit JOHNSTONE put on the third. Nearly over, but just sufficient spirit left in the losers to compel goalkeeper Trautmann to heroics—and a broken neck.

A big, if not new point, and a lesson for us all stands out. As we discuss Cup Final prospects next May—and in subsequent years—we must not drag into the talk reminders of what the clubs which have got there have done, or what they can do. It's the football played on the day of days which matters.

BIRMINGHAM CITY: Merrick; Hall, Green; Newman, Smith, Boyd; Astall, Kinsey, Brown, Murphy, Govan.

MANCHESTER CITY: Trautmann; Leivers, Little; Barnes, Ewing, Paul; Johnstone, Hayes, Revie, Dyson, Clarke.

Referee: Mr. A. Bond (London).

Attendance: 100,000. Receipts: £49,858.



These ups and downs of Sheffield Football

By JIMMY HAGAN
*International Forward and
Sheffield United*

ACCORDING to the history books, the game of football really came to life in Sheffield nearly one hundred years ago. A group of enthusiasts formed a Sheffield club, and thus laid the corner-stones of organised football.

They could scarcely have imagined, in their wildest dreams, how the game would "mushroom", not only in this country but the world over. It certainly could not have occurred to them that in 1956 the ups and downs of the two big Sheffield clubs would be a hot topic. That is how things have turned out.

Sheffield, where organised football was born, is a town with two Football League clubs—Wednesday and United—both steeped in the highest traditions of the game. With all this background: these possibilities, and no obvious handicap, these famous clubs should be feared by all their competitors. Yet over the last two decades, meetings with the "Owls" and the "Blades", have all too often meant easy points for them. Why? Why?

In the very last season, as you know, the two clubs played the one up and one down game. The

game for Sheffield followers should be, of course, two up—and near or at the top. For a player of a club now due for its third spell of Second Division football in his time, the line most easily taken is that—thank goodness—football is an uncertain affair. Ifs and buts abound. There's luck in the run of the ball: the weather, the odd shots. In turn these, and others on similar lines, are blamed for games lost. Excuses don't butter parsnips. Teams have their good spells, when everything goes right for them. They also strike lean times, when everything goes wrong. In Sheffield the hope is that we have left the lean spell far behind, and that we can now recapture some of the glory which was once ours.

Sheffield Wednesday carried all before them in the Second Division League competition last season, and now have a well-balanced team. They have again tasted success, and are keen and eager for more success. Alas, simultaneously, United had a mixed season, and after looking safe for another term in the First Division struck one of those lean

terms, with some bad luck attached.

The United are now faced with the task of emulating Wednesday; of finding a winning combination to take them back to the First Division, and then making a strong challenge for the championship honours the following season. It's a hard job, but it can be done.

There is no doubt that Sheffield football fans are absolutely fed up with all this up and down business: promotion struggles and then relegation once more. Consolidation after promotion seems to be missing. The town and district has the population: it has the best supporters in the country. They turn up when the weather is bad: when the football is bad. They are ready to shout their heads off, and to grumble when they don't get what they want—good and successful sides. I don't blame them for that. It is their inheritance.

They have memories which inspire criticism. Whenever I meet a Wednesdayite, and discuss with him the "good old days" of their soccer, he is sure to dwell on Wednesday's glory period—1929 to 1935. The club's finishing positions in the top class in that glamorous period were two firsts, four thirds, and one eleventh: a model of consistency. Famous names slip off his tongue—Strange, Leach, Marsden, Seed, and so on.

This success story of Wednesday came to what is called the inevitable end. In 1936 they occupied the twentieth place at the finish, and the following season were in the last place. Why the decline? Was it just bad luck, or was it lack of capable replacements for this match-winning combination?

My "Unitedite" friends take me back quite a way to recall the golden era. They talk of those mighty men Foulkes, Thickett and Boyle: of the club's feats in the early part of the century, and coming nearer our time may be forgiven if they sigh for a Billy Gillespie. Cup successes apart,

surely it is time the wheel of fortune turned in the United's favour.

Both the Sheffield clubs received severe blows in the last twenty years, some of which could not have been foreseen. They lost some of their best players, and then had the unenviable task of replacing them at a time when good players were scarce, and transfer fees sky-high.

I need not set them out in detail here: they are remembered by football followers in general and by the people of Sheffield particularly. Topmost, in recent times from the Wednesday angle was the shattering blow at Preston, when the almost incomparable Derek Dooley was injured and later had to have his leg amputated. Will they find another Dooley? They might, but many years may pass before they do so. Such gems are rare.

United's troubles started when the war broke out in 1939, and they have continued in the years between, up to the sad news of the death of their manager, Mr. Reg. Freeman. He had already put Rotherham United on the soccer map. He carried on the good work at Bramall Lane, seeing the club into the First Division, but he was not given the time to complete his plans. Believe me, the players were hit by his death.

What does the future hold for Sheffield football? It's the town's turn for a good spell. So here's hoping, even if merely hoping is far from enough. One point must not be overlooked. In a League system there must be clubs in the running for the championship and others in the running for the drop. The position of this or that club depends, to some extent, on what the others do. Didn't somebody decide that it is not in mortals to command success. Knowing the people at the head of the two Sheffield clubs, as I do, I believe they will do everything possible to deserve it.

DEADLOCK ON SOCCER LAWS

Problems of Substitution and Obstruction

By HARRY GEE

THERE are no changes in the Laws of Football for season 1956/7.

Behind this bald statement is the story of a deadlock which has arisen in the councils of the International Board — the law-making body of soccer which consists of representatives of the Football Association (of England), the Scottish F.A., the F.A. of Wales, the Irish (Northern Ireland) F.A., and F.I.F.A.

I write deadlock, but it would be more correct to use the word disagreement. And disagreement it really is, for the Football Association cannot see eye to eye with F.I.F.A.—the world organisation—and the Scottish F.A. on the subject of substitutes, or with the Scots on the vexed matter of obstruction.

What is the pother about? A wise man, with the judgment of Solomon, the legal knowledge of a lawyer, and the vocabulary of a dictionary compiler, might fully interpret what the authorities concerned are aiming at, but as I am none of these I can only try to sum up the controversy in simple language.

In the first place, the opposition expressed by the Football Association at the annual meeting of the International Board at Llandudno in mid-June turned the scales in the voting. Alterations in the Laws can only be made if at least four-fifths of the representatives at the meeting agree to the changes, and with the English F.A. saying "No!" it needed only one other negative vote to see the proposals thrown

out. The Football Association announced the attitude they intended to take when they held their own annual meeting, but the way the individual delegates voted at the International Board gathering was not made public.

The Football Association, whose legislators have done much over the passage of years to formulate the Laws, see no reason for altering that dealing with substitutes. This, in its material part, says: "Except in a match played under the rules of a competition, substitutes may be allowed to replace players receiving injuries during a game, subject to this arrangement being agreed upon by both teams before the start."

Note this well. The F.A. do not oppose the general idea of substitutes for injured players, but, in accordance with the Law, they will not have them in a match played under the rules of a competition.

What do the Scots want? Again, note carefully that their defeated proposal stated: "Substitutes shall not be permitted in any match played under the rules of a competition."

Where then is the bone of contention between England and Scotland? It is the attempt by the Scots to re-word the Law to include specific mention of the number of players to be allowed as substitutes and to define a competition match. The Football Association, as I see it, think the Law is self-sufficient as it stands for observance by all grades of teams from schoolboy sides upwards.

The Scots put forward an ample description of a competitive match in these terms: "A competition match is one where the result counts for points towards a championship or one where the losing team is eliminated from the competition. All other matches are termed non-competitive matches."

I cannot see anything wrong with that, as far as it goes, but perhaps the Football Association feel that the description, for the purpose of improving the appropriate law, is not comprehensive enough. A game could be a competition match without points or the knock-out element involved.

F.I.F.A.—to whom clubs from all over the world are affiliated—are broadly speaking at one with the Scots in desiring definite mention of substitutes for the goalkeeper at any time through injury and one other player up to half-time.

Nevertheless, there is one fine difference between the F.I.F.A. and Scottish points of view. The Scots will not have substitutes at any price in matches under the rules of a competition — for instance our own home International Tournament. F.I.F.A., on the other hand, plump for the replacement of a goalkeeper through injury in any type of game.

With these two bodies at variance the Football Association probably took the wisest course in opposing any change at all. Curiously enough, the majority of foreign countries, for all their insistence on substitutes in the so-called friendly international matches, do not permit substitutes in their national League and Cup competitions.

So until common ground for alteration of a ticklish law is found, the cry of "Up the ten men" in dozens of different tongues, will go on echoing round the world.

The argument over obstruction is, in comparison, straightforward. The Scottish F.A. want the offence removed from the list punishable by an indirect free-kick (from which a goal cannot be scored unless a player other than the kicker touches the ball) and included in those for which the punishment is a direct free-kick and, within the penalty area, a penalty.

The Scots have suffered considerably at the hands of Continental sides from obstruction, and I applaud their action in seeking firmer measures to check it . . . but look at the implications of their proposal.

I'll just mention one happening which takes place regularly in British football games—junior as well as senior—the blocking by a full-back of his opponent when the latter is trying to get to the ball running wide of the posts over the goal-line.

I've called it blocking, but the intention to obstruct by the defender, without any thought of playing the ball himself, is plain, yet what ructions there would be if this practice demanded a penalty. If referees observed the letter—yes, and the spirit—of a Law amended as the Scots would like it we would have penalties as frequently as corner-kicks: unless the defenders mended their ways, as they could be persuaded to do.

I suggest a counter-proposal for my Scottish friends which has the merit of being within the present Law and which, with fearless refereeing, would stop obstruction in a season.

Caution the offending player for ungentlemanly conduct (a wide field of interpretation here), then, if he persists in his ways, send him off.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1955-56

Apart from two by opponents, the whole of the Leyton Orient 106 goals, plus 12 in the Cup, were scored by the forwards.

On the 24th of September, Tom King, the Watford goalkeeper, made a neat pass to Heckman, the Leyton Orient forward, who promptly put the ball into the net. Watford were playing in different colours, and King thought he was passing the ball to a team-mate.

On the same seventh of April day, Derby County and Brighton and Hove Albion reached the hundred mark in League goals for the season. On the same day another century total was reached—in the Bradford against column.

After nine matches had been played, the last three places in the First Division League table were occupied by London clubs—Tottenham Hotspur, Chelsea and Arsenal, with five points each.

If, playing at Bramall Lane against Sheffield United in the last match of the season, Wolverhampton Wanderers had drawn in a no-score match they would have finished level with Blackpool, in every respect, including goals for and against. The match was drawn at 3-3, and Wolverhampton finished third.

During the whole season only two players scored five in a League game—Bedford Jezzard for Fulham against Hull City, and Jack Connor for Stockport County against Carlisle.

Centre-half Don McEvoy earned a place all to himself in Soccer history: the only player who has been with two clubs relegated to the Second Division, and promoted the next. He had that experience with Huddersfield Town in 1952 and 1953, and with Sheffield Wednesday in the last two seasons.

Having previously been associated with clubs which won the National Cup Final of three different countries, Jimmy Delaney just failed to make it a fourth. He was with Celtic when they won the Scottish Cup Final; with Manchester United when they won the "English" Cup, and with Derry City in the Northern Ireland side which triumphed. In the Eire Cup Final, Delaney's club lost to Shamrock Rovers in last season's final tie.

For the first time for fifty years, the two major honours of the English season were won by clubs in the same centre—Manchester—United winning the championship of the First Division and the City the Cup. In 1906 Liverpool won the First Division championship and Everton the Cup.

On the 22nd of February, 1956, the first Football League game by floodlight was played—at Portsmouth. To Bob Curry, of Newcastle United, goes the credit of scoring the first-ever lit-up League goal. Incidentally, it was so cold that both goalkeepers were long trousers.

Making his initial appearance in a first-team match, Neil O'Halloran scored all the goals—three—for Cardiff City against Charlton Athletic on the 10th of December.

The craziest goal of the season was scored in the Arsenal-Blackpool game at Highbury on the 17th of December. When time was almost up a whistle sounded. As the players were making towards the dressing-rooms, Dennis Evans playfully sent the ball towards his goalkeeper, who was picking up his cap. It went into the net. The game wasn't over: the goal counted, and at the final reckoning that freak goal secured second position in the table for Blackpool.

THE INTERNATIONAL SEASON 1955-56

HOME TOURNAMENT—FINAL TABLE

		P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals		
						F.	A.	Pts.
ENGLAND	...	3	1	1	1	5	3	3
SCOTLAND	...	3	1	1	1	4	3	3
WALES	...	3	1	1	1	3	4	3
IRELAND	...	3	1	1	1	3	5	3

Since the home countries first entered the International Tournament in the 1883-4 season, there has been no parallel to the above final table. The four countries had identical records, in the results sense, and as goal-average does not apply, the championship was shared by all four.

IRELAND 2, SCOTLAND 1

(Saturday, 8th October, 1955, at Windsor Park, Belfast.)

THE first of the home International series was primarily notable for an unusual result—victory for Ireland after an eight years interval. It was a well-deserved win, too, although the Scots were of the opinion that they were more than a trifle unfortunate. Some pre-match criticism of the make-up of the Scottish attack was more or less justified by events. Liddell was again in the outside left position, with Reilly at centre-forward. Both have given better displays for their country.

Directly opposed to each other were two Sunderland players, and evidence was quickly forthcoming that Bingham had pace and tricks to which McDonald had no effective counter. Bingham, the outstanding forward, was the main-spring of a lot of trouble for the Scottish defenders.

So much superior were the Irishmen in the first half that a two goal lead was merely fitting. JACKIE BLANCHFLOWER was not such a prominent inside man as McIlroy, but after seven minutes he scored the first goal. This was followed, seven minutes later, by a BINGHAM scoring effort. In the second half Scotland improved, with Gordon Smith as the inspiration of several attacks which had the traditional Scottish stamp.

Shots from him worthy of goals were stopped by the width of first the bar and then the post. Uprichard was helpless on those occasions, but there were many others, during the period of Scottish supremacy, when the Ireland goalkeeper was loudly cheered for fine saves.

JOHNSTONE put his side back into the game with a goal, scrambled with the assistance of Reilly, after sixty-two minutes. Danny Blanchflower, who had earlier been masterly in helping the attack, generalised the Ireland defence in his inimitable way. Most noteworthy helper in stopping the Scottish forwards was Cunningham, coming into the side because McMichael was unfit.

IRELAND: Uprichard (Portsmouth); Graham (Doncaster Rovers), Cunningham (Leicester City); Blanchflower (D.) (Tottenham Hotspur) (Captain), McCavana (Coleraine), Peacock (Celtic); Bingham (Sunderland), Blanchflower (J.) (Manchester United), *Coyle (Coleraine), McIlroy (Burnley), McParland (Aston Villa).

SCOTLAND: Younger (Hibernian); Parker (Falkirk), *McDonald (Sunderland); Evans (Celtic), Young (Rangers), *Glen (Aberdeen); Smith (Hibernian), Collins (Celtic), Reilly (Hibernian), Johnstone (Manchester City), Liddell (Liverpool).

Attendance: 50,000.

*New Cap.

WALES 2, ENGLAND 1

(Saturday, 22nd October, 1955, at Ninian Park, Cardiff.)



Jack Kelsey leaps to save from Stanley Matthews. The man with the outstretched arms is John Charles.

OUR home International season having started with a surprise Ireland win over Scotland, Wales carried on by ending a seventeen year period of unrealised hopes of victory over England. A brief summary of the game must stress that scarcely at any time did the play reach the classic heights, and that—especially in the later stages—there were personal clashes which should have no part in the game at any level.

The whole affair, however, again made the point that on these occasions Welshmen can pull out a bit extra—even play above club form. That remark applies to very few of England's chosen. The early promise of a treat for the spectators being supplied by the England wingers, Matthew and Finney, were not wholly fulfilled.

All Wales rejoiced, after thirty-eight minutes, as TAPSCOTT raced through, unchallenged, to take a pass from Kinsey and open the score. The applause which greeted this goal was little more than a whisper in comparison to that which greeted a JONES header past Williams, from a cross by Paul, within a minute of the first goal.

Six minutes after the interval part tragedy hit Wales. Byrne lobbed the ball into the Wales goal-area—a harmless looking effort. There, however, JOHN CHARLES went up to head past his own goalkeeper as if that had been his intent.

An injury to Paul, who had shown that he knew all about the Revie plan—and how to upset it—affected Wales somewhat. The younger Charles was as prominent as any of the stalwart Welsh defenders during the side's time of trial. A memorable result for Wales.

WALES: Kelsey (Arsenal); Williams (West Bromwich Albion), Sherwood (Cardiff City) (Captain); Charles (M.) (Swansea Town), Charles (J.) (Leeds United), Paul (Manchester City); Tapscott (Arsenal), Kinsey (Birmingham City), Ford (Cardiff City), Allchurch (I.) (Swansea Town), Jones (Swansea Town).

ENGLAND: Williams (Wolverhampton Wanderers); Hall (Birmingham City), Byrne (Manchester United); McGarry (Huddersfield Town), Wright (Wolverhampton Wanderers) (Captain), Dickinson (Portsmouth); Matthews (Blackpool), Revie (Manchester City), Lofthouse (Bolton Wanderers), Wilshaw (Wolverhampton Wanderers), Finney (Preston North End).

Referee: T. J. Mitchell (Ireland).

Attendance: 55,000.

ENGLAND 3, IRELAND 0

(Wednesday, 2nd November, 1955, at Wembley)



A desperate attempt by Len Graham fails. Denis Wilshaw has scored the second goal for England.

CLEAR-CUT as was the England victory eventually, it seemed possible, during the first half of this game, that Ireland would celebrate elevation to Wembley status with victory—something they hadn't managed against England for over twenty years.

Two quick blows in the early part of the second half, however, turned the tables against the Irishmen too far over to be righted. Some pleasing features were attached, and some not so bright from the England point of view.

Disappointed in the result, the Irishmen had reason for considerable self-satisfaction—put into words by manager Peter Doherty: "I'm glad we played good football, but sorry our forwards didn't show more thrust and power in finishing."

Billy Wright, wearing an England shirt for the seventy-first time, did everything possible to hold together a generally hesitant defence when the Irishmen were giving their opponents hints on how it should be done. The clever scheming of Charlie Tully was an outstanding feature, and more than one scoring chance was missed.

In due course it was Johnny Haynes, in his second International game, who did most to put England in the anticipated place—on top. Six minutes after the interval one of his many pin-pointed passes sent WILSHAW through to score. Four minutes later the Wolverhampton player jumped high enough to beat Uprichard for the ball, which seemed to go into the net off the back of the attacker's head. For Wilshaw this was his sixth goal in two appearances at Wembley. FINNEY wound up a rather subdued game—for him—by scoring England's third goal.

Taking a disturbing length of time to settle down as a team, England reached a satisfactory level, with the pace of new winger Perry, unlucky not to score, a telling factor, and Jezzard shooting strongly and accurately enough to deserve a goal or two.

ENGLAND: Baynham (Luton Town); Hall (Birmingham City), Byrne (Manchester United); *Clayton (R.) (Blackburn Rovers), Wright (Wolverhampton Wanderers) (Captain), Dickinson (Portsmouth); Finney (Preston North End), Haynes (Fulham), Jezzard (Fulham), Wilshaw (Wolverhampton Wanderers), *Perry (Blackpool).

IRELAND: Uprichard (Portsmouth); Cunningham (Leicester City), Graham (Doncaster Rovers); Blanchflower (Tottenham Hotspur) (Captain), Cavana (Coleraine), Peacock (Celtic); Bingham (Sunderland), McIlroy (Burnley), Goyle (Coleraine), Tully (Celtic), McParland (Aston Villa).

Referee: B. M. Griffiths (Wales).

Attendance: 60,000.

* New Cap.

SCOTLAND 2, WALES 0

(Wednesday, 9th November, 1955, at Hampden Park, Glasgow)

THE result, and the play, in this game, sent anticipations aft agley, reminding the watchers, anew, how contrary is human nature, particularly when twenty-two humans, attired in football kit, are concerned. On the one side were the eleven Welshmen who had triumphed over England: supposed to be dreaming of winning our home International tournament outright.

For some mysterious reason, however, the energy, the enthusiasm, not to say fight, bred in Welsh bones, were qualities only notable for their absence. On the other side we had a suspect, criticised Scottish eleven, considered more likely than not to drive home the point that as football experts Scotland's best had gone back. Yet these Scots were in as close touch with the copy-book as any in recent times.

From the start the ball was cunningly caressed, and accurately transferred along the ground from man to man, with Johnstone and Reilly making such a great footballer as John Charles wonder into what sort of game he had been grafted.

With only a slightly less capable goalkeeper than Kelsey there might have been half a dozen goals to Scotland in the first half. He it was who kept the score down to two. **JOHNSTONE** got both—in the fourteenth and twenty-first minutes. Between these fine goals Reilly also had the ball in the net. The referee's whistle for offside only slightly damped the almost forgotten Hampden roar.

Obviously having their glamour day, the Scots were mostly delightful-to-watch exhibitionists during the second half. Sympathy for the defenders of Wales is due. An almost non-existent forward line gave the rearguard little respite. The reputations of several Welshmen suffered grievously, including that of Ivor Allchurch, who was at the mercy of the wee tiger Bobby Evans.

It is a little short of the literal truth to say that the Welsh played as well as the Scots allowed them to do.

SCOTLAND: Younger (Hibernian); Parker (Falkirk), McDonald (Sunderland); Evans (Celtic), Young (Rangers) (Captain), Cowie (Dundee); Smith (Hibernian), Johnstone (Manchester City), Reilly (Hibernian), Collins (Celtic), Henderson (Portsmouth).

WALES: Kelsey (Arsenal); Williams (West Bromwich Albion), Sherwood (Cardiff City) (Captain); Charles (M.) (Swansea Town), Charles (J.) (Leeds United), Paul (Manchester City); Tapscott (Arsenal), Kinsey (Birmingham City), Ford (Cardiff City), Allchurch (I.), (Swansea Town), Jones (Swansea Town).

Referee: R. J. Leafe (England).

Attendance: 53,887.

WALES 1, IRELAND 1

(Wednesday, 11th April, 1956, at Ninian Park, Cardiff)



Norman Uprichard foils a Welsh scoring chance with Tapscott and Ford near at hand.

IF, exercising patience which would have enabled them to take in this game, the writers about it would surely have been willed to cast their votes differently regarding the footballer of the season. John Charles stood out, as the master player, capable of doing much more than his allotted task.

Ten minutes after the start, in a truly memorable fashion, he set Wales on the path to what should have been a victory which, whatever else happened, would have meant sharing the championship. From his own penalty area the mighty Charles started on a run which, despite considerable opposition, took him to the other penalty area. From there, with most of the defenders out of position, he put the ball across. Ford discreetly allowed it to pass on, and **CLARKE** scored at will.

Wales should have had that championship prize secure by half-time. Apart from an arguable offside decision which denied Ford a goal, Paul's side-footed penalty kick was brilliantly saved.

Surprisingly, the second half went, in the main, to Ireland, with Danny Blanchflower rising near to the heights of Charles, as footballer and as tactician. Knowing more about new cap and club-mate Hopkins than any other player, the Ireland captain exploited this knowledge. He gave Bingham the exact passes to produce the maximum effect.

Inside two minutes from the re-start the Sunderland man made the running, with the sequel that **JIMMY JONES** was able to put his side level. Seldom has a player who looked such a distant cousin of a centre-forward: over-weight, almost bald, and wearing shorts too small, done so much to prove that neither tape measure nor scales provide on oath evidence. He deserved to win the game with a wonder volley.

Although others played parts in this exciting contest to earn honourable mention—including Harrington, playing instead of Mel Charles—there

were men on both sides who did not come up to expectations. But when we review the game now, and in the future, this summary is inevitable—the John Charles match.

WALES: Kelsey (Arsenal); Sherwood (Cardiff City) (Captain); *Hopkins (Tottenham Hotspur); *Harrington (Cardiff City); Charles (J.) (Leeds United); Paul (Manchester City); Jones (Swansea Town); Tapscott (Arsenal); Ford (Cardiff City); Allchurch (I.) (Swansea Town); Clarke (Manchester City).
IRELAND: Uprichard (Portsmouth); Cunningham (Leicester City); McMichael (Newcastle United); Blanchflower (D.) (Tottenham Hotspur) (Captain); Blanchflower (J.) (Manchester United); Casey (Newcastle United); Bingham (Sunderland); Mollroy (Burnley); Jones (Glenavon); McMorran (Doncaster Rovers); Lockhart (Aston Villa).

Referee: R. H. Davidson (Scotland).

Attendance: 45,000.

* New Cap.

SCOTLAND 1, ENGLAND 1

(Saturday, 14th April, 1956, at Hampden Park, Glasgow)

ALMOST everything which had gone before in this game—and that means a lot—was reduced to second place by the dramatic finish. Scotland went within half a minute of beating England at Hampden Park for the first time in 19 years, and also, of course, were only those seconds short of winning the Internship.

When a majority of the wildly jubilant watchers had taken in an extra supply of air, to be released as the final whistle sounded to proclaim a Scottish victory, England left back Byrne advanced along the wing. From there he put the ball high into the centre. Taylor headed it on towards HAYNES, who breasted it down, and coolly placed it past the Scottish goalkeeper into the net. The ready roars were choked back: replaced by staggered silence. Even at that, a draw caused most of the forecasters to bow their heads. How wrong they were to conclude that this England side would give the Scots the run-about.

If Scotland had to undergo the experience of having the cup of triumph snatched from them, after the taste they had deserved on general playing merit, it was fitting that Haynes should be the man to administer the blow. He was the one England forward to touch his best.

Through the game there was no combined England forward line, as such: the two centre-forwards plans failed. The whole of the England defenders were up to standard in a match not really distinguished.

Among the successes of the game were the three men appearing in such a match for the first time: Reg Matthews for England; John Hewie, South African born, and Graham Leggat for Scotland. Those two Scots were responsible for Scotland's goal fifteen minutes before half-time.

Full-back Hewie, as tall and as masterful as George Young, "broke the rules" by taking the ball into the England penalty area, from there to make the pass from which LEGGAT, somehow, lobbed the ball over the head of Matthews.

The Scottish come-back to rather more than equality, if not to their own top standard, was as surprising as the failure of the English forwards.

SCOTLAND: Younger (Hibernian); Parker (Falkirk); *Hewie (Charlton Athletic); Evans (Celtic); Young (Rangers) (Captain); Glen (Aberdeen); *Leggat (Aberdeen); Johnstone (Manchester City); Reilly (Hibernian); McMillan (Airdrie); Smith (Hibernian).

ENGLAND: *Matthews (Coventry City); Hall (Birmingham City); Byrne (Manchester United); Dickinson (Portsmouth); Wright (Wolverhampton Wanderers) (Captain); Edwards (Manchester United); Finney (Preston North End); Taylor (Manchester United); Lofthouse (Bolton Wanderers); Haynes (Fulham); Perry (Blackpool).

Referee: L. Callaghan (Newport).

Attendance: 132,817.

* New Cap.

UNITED KINGDOM 1, REST OF EUROPE 4

(Saturday, 13th August, 1955, at Windsor Park, Belfast)

WHAT a football season of delight we should have had if the basic principles taught by the Continentals in this pipe opener had been taken to heart, by players of Great Britain in general, possessing the skill to copy.

The mid-August game was arranged to celebrate the 75th birthday of the Irish F.A. Alas, part of the celebration consisted of a slow hand-clap from a portion of the spectators, as criticism of the efforts of the British players. A comparison of the play of the two teams justified this form of comment—if it is ever justified.

Goals apart, the United Kingdom players were out-played and out-generalled to such an extent as to give the impression that they were the pupils. The excuse that the "home" players were a mixed collection carries little conviction. In the Europe eleven were men from seven different countries, speaking many different languages.

A weighty difference stood out. Whereas our men were often seen—racing into the open spaces. In short, they not only played well-nigh perfect football with the ball, but also without it.

Not more than four Great Britain players can be mentioned as coming near to the Continental standard. Matthews and Charles are coupled at the top, with Blanchflower and Johnstone adding genius in flashes. In the twenty-fifth minute, Matthews did find JOHNSTONE in an open space, and England were ahead. Almost immediately VINCENT replied after a part save by Kelsey.

The score remained even, with some close shaves for England thrown in, until fifteen minutes from the end. In that period, however, VUKAS scored three times, including a last man penalty—the most concentrated hat-trick in matches under this heading.

UNITED KINGDOM: Kelsey (Arsenal); Sillett (Chelsea); McDonald (Sunderland); Blanchflower (D.) (Tottenham Hotspur) (Captain); Charles (Leeds United); Peacock (Celtic); Matthews (Blackpool); Johnstone (Manchester City); Bentley (Chelsea); Mollroy (Burnley); Liddell (Liverpool).

REST OF EUROPE: Buffon (Italy); Gustafsson (Sweden); Brandt (Belgium); Oowirk (Austria) (Captain); Jonquet (France); Boskov (Yugoslavia); Soerensen (Italy); Vukas (Yugoslavia); Kopa (France); Travassos (Portugal); Vincent (France).

Referee: Just Bronkhorst (Holland).

DENMARK 1, ENGLAND 5

(Sunday, 2nd October, 1955, at Idraets Park, Copenhagen)

IMMEDIATELY preceding final preparations, the Denmark men practised for an hour or so on a spare pitch adjoining the stadium. This certainly had the effect of warming them up, and in the opening stages of the game they made things pretty hot for the England defenders, with even Wright obviously worried at times.

Goalkeeper Baynham held the fort splendidly, however, and for the greater part of the remainder of the game the King and Queen of Denmark saw their countrymen outplayed. Such a turn was not surprising, of course, for the Danes who opposed England's full strength were all

amateurs. It wasn't necessary for England to put in everything, and as a team they did not.

The attack, with three club centre-forwards in the inside positions, disappointed with some indifferent passing, and Milburn played too far back for his pace to have the full effect. With a penalty goal after twenty-six minutes—just before Jorgensen was substituted at centre-half for injured Broegger—REVIE set England on the way to an easy win. Before half-time LOFTHOUSE scored twice.

Early in the second half REVIE made proper use of a Milburn pass. Then LUNDBERG had his glamour moment, heading past Baynham. To such an extent had the Danes deserved this bit of consolation that no undue fuss was made over the fact that an offside decision would not have surprised.

GEOFF. BRADFORD wound up the scoring to end for him a first International game in which he had done reasonably well. Revie, however, was the architect.

DENMARK: P. Henriksen, P. Andersen, V. Nielson, E. Jensen, O. Broegger, J. Olesen, J. Hansen, J. Jacobsen, O. Andersen, K. Lundberg, P. Petersen.

ENGLAND: *Baynham (Luton Town); *Hall (Birmingham City), Byrne (Manchester United); McGarry (Huddersfield Town), Wright (Wolverhampton Wanderers), Dickson (Portsmouth); Milburn (Newcastle United), Revie (Manchester City), Lofthouse (Bolton Wanderers), *Bradford (Bristol Rovers), Finney (Preston North End).

Referee: Signor Giorgi Barnardè (Italy).

Attendance: 53,000.

* New Cap.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND 1, YUGOSLAVIA 4

(Wednesday, 19th October, 1955, at Dalymount Park, Dublin)

THE Yugoslav team did not play quite such impressive football as in some of their successful International games. Making the most of their chances, however, and profiting by the mistakes of opposing defenders, they were good winners. The Ireland team, containing eight players associated with League clubs in England, had an equal share of the game, Fitzsimons and Cummins contributing much that was artistic.

Perhaps the Irish defenders were over-concerned with watching Vukas. The Slav centre-forward, consequently, did not get the shooting chances. He did make openings, however, and in the first fifteen minutes MILUTINOVIC scored twice. Later he added another. FITZSIMONS scored for the Republic before the interval, and during the second half, when Yugoslavia were mainly defending, better finishing would have enabled the Irishmen to return a closer result. VESELINOVIC scored the fourth goal.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: O'Neill (Everton); Murphy (Clyde), Lawler (Fulham); Farrell (Everton), Martin (Aston Villa), O'Farrell (West Ham United); Ringstead (Sheffield United), Fitzsimons (Middlesbrough), Gibbons (St. Patrick's Athletic), Cummins (Luton Town), Tuehy (Shamrock Rovers).

YUGOSLAVIA: Boara; Belin, Zekovic; Boskov, Crnkovic, Krstic; Rajkov, Milutinovic, Vukas, Veselinovic, Zebec.

Referee: A. Murdoch (Sheffield).

Attendance: 22,000.



Spreadeagled on the Turf with some Spanish Players is Tom Finney. But the ball is entering the net for a goal by the Preston winger

ENGLAND 4, SPAIN 1

(Wednesday, 30th November, 1955, at Wembley)

"MATCH abandoned owing to fog!" Those could have been the words called for in reviewing this game. They weren't used. In their stead is a story of historic import, prompting precision.

At twenty minutes past three, on a drab November day, a referee from France raised his hands above his head—a pre-arranged signal. Over the fog-shrouded area, floodlights which had cost £23,000 to install, pierced the gloom—the first occasion on which artificial light had been brought into play in a real International match in England. The lights were greeted with a greater volume of applause than that given to any of the preceding play, and the cheering continued during the last seventeen minutes. The people could see the play. We had caught up with the times.

An England victory by four goals to one suggests something in the nature of a walk-over. It was not so. Goals alone count, in the results sense, and the superiority of England's finishing was the sole deciding factor.

They had not many more than the four scoring chances which were duly used, but should have taken the lead after five minutes. Finney, the man who had been brought down, shot weakly into the hands of the Spanish goalkeeper from the penalty spot.

In the eleventh minute, ATYEO scored with what was, almost literally, his first kick in an International match. In the next minute PERRY raced through to score the second. We then remembered the seven scored by England on the previous visit of a Spain side nearly a quarter of a century previously.

Such visions faded as from then to the interval the Spaniards did practically all the danger work. The pretty to watch passing was so overdone, however, that the England penalty area was packed too tightly for free shots at goal. Defence in retreat set the visitors a new problem.

England had more of the play in the second half. FINNEY was his topmost self as he wove his way past three opponents to score in the

forty-ninth minute, and PERRY headed through fourteen minutes later. Eventually ARIETA did get one ball past Baynham—with his head. Spain unlucky? Yes, not to be nearer in goals count after playing such a lot of fine football.

ENGLAND: Baynham (Luton Town); Hall (Birmingham City), Byrne (Manchester United); Clayton (R.) (Blackburn Rovers), Wright (Wolverhampton Wanderers), Dickinson (Portsmouth); Finney (Preston North End), *Atyeo (Bristol City), Lofthouse (Bolton Wanderers), Haynes (Fulham), Perry (Blackpool).

SPAIN: Carmelo; Segarra, Campanel; Mauri, Garay, Maguregui; Gonzalez, Paya, Arieta, Domenech, Collar.

Referee: M. Guigue (France).

Attendance: 95,000.

* New Cap.

WALES 1, AUSTRIA 2

(Wednesday, 23 November, 1955, at Wrexham)

WERE it not that, in the sequel, major and minor issues screamed for attention and consideration, this game could be passed over: certainly better forgotten. No sportsman could reasonably anticipate its duplicate.

During the first twenty minutes, or thereabouts, the Austrians played football which was worth while, from the spectator angle. Well nigh flawless combination was made to appear easy by intelligent positional play. Ocwirk was the inspiration of chances taken in the grand manner by WAGNER (five minutes), and HANAPPI (nineteen minutes).

From that time the game took the wrong turning—along a road which led to the inevitable, unanimous and undoubtedly just verdict that it had been the roughest, even dirtiest, International match ever played on British soil. The dictionary of hard words was almost exhausted in the descriptions of this savage struggle.

If the spark which set alight to what proved to be a blaze has to be picked out, charity says that the blame rests on the differing ideas between Continentals and British players in the matter of charging the goalkeeper. Ford and Tapscott rushed towards amazed Engelmeier with full-blooded shoulder charges not even dreamt of in the nightmares of Austrian footballers.

Real football was forgotten, and subsequently several men of both teams did everything except play the game as it should be played. Before TAPSCOTT jumped high to head the Wales goal from a Len Allchurch cross, Wagner was carried off—and to hospital. Koslcek raced to his position to carry on.

The elder Allchurch continued to shine, as a footballer, for Wales. Fourteen minutes from the end Melvyn Charles was another stretcher case, and even his phlegmatic brother John, himself injured, lost his normal poise.

A French referee, to whom English is an unknown language, had no real control over the contestants. Should the referee shoulder all—or any—of the blame? When it was all over, the dressing rooms of both teams resembled casualty wards. Inquests were held in more than one language. "It is time something was done about this sort of thing," declared the chairman of the Welsh F.A. Agreed. But what?

WALES: Kelsey (Arsenal); Williams (S.) (West Bromwich Albion), Sherwood (Cardiff City) (Captain); Charles (M.) (Swansea Town), Charles (J.) (Leeds United), Paul (Manchester City); Allchurch (L.) (Swansea Town), Tapscott (Arsenal), Ford (Cardiff City), Allchurch (I.) (Swansea Town), Jones (Swansea Town).

AUSTRIA: Engelmeier; Halla, Swoboda; Ocwirk (Captain), Stotz, Koller; Grohs, Wagner, Hanappi, Koerner (A.), Schlegel.

Referee: M. L. Faquemberghs (France).

Attendance: 33,000.

SCOTLAND 1, AUSTRIA 1

(Wednesday, 2nd May, 1956, at Hampden Park, Glasgow.)

AFTER having surprisingly done so well against England not many days earlier, Scotland had reasonable hopes of beating Austria, said not to be so good as formerly. True, unavoidable changes had to be made in the home side, but the substitutes—McKenzie and Cullen—were accepted as fit for the job. But the truth is that from a Scottish point of view the game was a flop, and a great disappointment for those who saw it, as well as the thousands who did not.

The first 15 minutes did not suggest that the Scots would finish on such a ragged note. Indeed, when CONN scored brilliantly in ten minutes they were on top. The promise was short-lived. Two minutes later there was an equally brilliant WAGNER equaliser and from that point the Scots, the forwards particularly, faded to be completely out of the game.

Led in masterly fashion by Hanappi, the visiting forwards served up the intricate and accurate football they have cultivated so richly, and great credit was earned by the home defenders—with Hewie again outstanding—for giving so little away. However, had it not been for the excellence of Tommy Younger and to a great extent their typically inaccurate finishing, the Austrians' score would have made it a more humiliating experience for Scotland.

SCOTLAND: Younger (Hibernian); Parker (Falkirk), Hewie (Charlton Athletic); Evans (Celtic), Young (Rangers), Gowie (Dundee); McKenzie (Partick Thistle), Conn (Hearts), Reilly (Hibernian), *Balrd (Airdrieonians), *Cullen (Luton Town).

AUSTRIA: Engelmaier (Vienna); Halla (Wacker), Barschandt (Weiner); Ocwirk (Austria), Kollman (Wacker), Koller (Vienna); Grohs (Vienna), Wagner (Wacker), Hanappi (Rapid), Koerner (Rapid), Hammer (Wacker).

Referee: J. Bronkhorst (Holland).

Attendance: 80,509.

* New Cap.

ENGLAND 4, BRAZIL 2

(Wednesday, 9th May, 1956, at Wembley.)

ASSAILED with outside right doubts — not for the first time — our International selectors recalled — not for the first time — Stanley Matthews. England scored four goals, and the feet of the idol, never far from his footballing head, were concerned in each of them.

So, although Matthews forthwith dashed off to show the people of Kenya some of the things he can still do, we wondered, not for the first time, whether we were bidding farewell, in the International sense, to our young forty-one-year-old. We hoped not, as we had seen a different, on Stanley on, Matthews, often putting the ball across without his usual do-do. Parting is such sweet sorrow.

But Matthews is just an important part of an exciting story. The match had everything in it which suggested dreams coming true, and hen some more. There was an England team with scarcely a flaw, laying telling football, roughly compelled to do so with a half-back almost willing the others to do their stuff, while taking our minds back to such as Willis Edwards, Stanley Cullis, and Wilf Copping.

TAYLOR had a change to shoot into the net nine seconds after the kick-off. He made amends less than three minutes later, and GRAINGER scored second goal in the first quarter of an hour of his first International. England were on the way to a wide-margin win, which would have

materialised if Atyeo, particularly, had been in the form to use chance to the full.

The big twist was provided in a three-minute spell during the early part of the second half, with not so good goals by PAULINHO and D. England had to fight again. They did. Atyeo failed to score from the twelve yards spot following a scene packed with tension, and which had the makings of a major sensation. It included a Brazilian player hugging the ball, and making as if to take it off the field in protest, and the whole team brought back to sanity by a Brazilian official.

Their goalkeeper saved a second penalty kick—Byrne the taker of the one—but TAYLOR and GRAINGER scored again, and all was well save the size of the victory.

The men from Brazil played some entertaining football, with the theoretical centre-half wearing a number 2 shirt. Each man had two sides to each boot, with which to make flicks to the right, or to the left, but little evidence of an instep.

To the question "what's wrong with English football?" this match chorused the answer—very little.

ENGLAND: Matthews (R.) (Coventry City); Hall (Birmingham City), Byrne (Manchester United); Clayton (R.) (Blackburn Rovers), Wright (Wolverhampton Wanderers), Edwards (Manchester United); Matthews (S.) (Blackpool), Atyeo (Bristol City), Taylor (Manchester United), Haynes (Fulham), Grainger (Sheffield United).

BRAZIL: Gylmar; D. Santos, N. Santos; Zozimo, Pavao, Dequinha; Paulinho, Alvaro, Gino, Didi, Canhoteiro.

Referee: M. Guigue (France). Attendance: 97,000. Receipts: £47,000. * New Cap.

SUMMER TOUR

ENGLAND 0, SWEDEN 0

(Wednesday, 16th May, 1956, at Stockholm.)

TRIPS to the Continent for Internationals after the end of the home season are usually accompanied by doubts. Such were renewed the first of the three games in the May series ran its course, but the chosen of England wound up the tour in a blaze.

In the first match, some of the England players conveyed the impression that they had already had enough football, and for the first time in seven meetings the amateurs of Sweden escaped defeat. A glaring sun, high wind, and uneven surface were reasonable, but not wholly convincing, excuses. The defence was good. Many scoring chances were missed by forwards not really together.

SWEDEN: K. Svensson; A. Johansson, S. Axbohm; S. Svensson, B. Gustafsson, S. Parling; B. Berndtsson, G. Lofgren, J. Ekstroem, B. Lindskog, G. Sandberg.

ENGLAND: Matthews (Coventry City); Hall (Birmingham City), Byrne (Manchester United); Clayton, R. (Blackburn Rovers), Wright (Wolverhampton Wanderers), Edwards (Manchester United); Berry (Manchester United), Atyeo (Bristol City), Taylor (Manchester United), Haynes (Fulham), Grainger (Sheffield United). Referee: L. Horn (Holland).

FINLAND 1, ENGLAND 5

(Sunday, 20th May, 1956, at Helsinki.)

MAKING three changes from the side which played Sweden, England gave a much fresher display, winning almost as they liked. Wilshaw (20 minutes), Haynes (22 minutes) and Astall (35 minutes) put England safe. Just before the interval Lofthouse was substituted for injury

Taylor, and in the last quarter of an hour scored twice to pass, by one, the Steve Bloomer record of 28 goals for England. Meantime, Forsgren had scored for the home side.

FINLAND: K. Hurri; (subs. A. Klinga); V. Pajunen, A. Sommarberg; A. Lehtinen, L. Lehtinen, R. Jalava; J. Peltonen, M. Hiltunen, K. Pahlman, O. Forsgren.

ENGLAND: Wood (Manchester United); Hall, Byrne; Clayton, R., Wright, Edwards; *Astall (Birmingham City), Haynes, Taylor, (subs. Lofthouse, Bolton Wanderers), Wilshaw (Wolverhampton Wanderers), Grainger.

* New Cap.

GERMANY 1, ENGLAND 3

(Saturday, 26th May, 1956, at Olympic Stadium, Berlin.)

THE tour abroad was wound up by the England team with a fine win over Germany. In beating the World Cup-holders, whose team contained a one-armed player at right-half, the England side as a whole gave a display of class football, supported by the fighting spirit. The result certainly tickled the palate of the thousands of British Servicemen present.

Our men had to fight, but being saved from reverses early in the game by goalkeeper Matthews, were set on the way to victory by a great Edwards goal after 27 minutes. Near the interval Morlock failed with good chance, and Plaff took his place.

Grainger put England further ahead after 63 minutes, and six minutes later Haynes scored. Fritz Walter managed one for Germany four minutes from the end.

In unusual blood-red shirts, England men, one and all, proved amazingly fit. Even at that, Edwards stood out, and Clayton little behind. The exhibition as a whole was most encouraging, telling the world that our players of the present—and the future—can respond to all demands when the big occasion calls.

GERMANY: F. Herkenrath; E. Retter, E. Juskowiak; R. Schlienz, H. Weyers, Mal; E. Waldner, M. Morlock, (subs. A. Plaff), O. Walter, F. Walter, F. Schaeffer.

ENGLAND: Matthews; Hall, Byrne; Clayton R., Wright, Edwards; Astall, Haynes, Taylor, Wilshaw, Grainger. Referee: Stefan Zeolt (Hungary). Attendance 109,000.

Note: In addition to the men who played, Cummings (Burnley), and Wheeler (Bolton Wanderers), were in the party.

INTERMEDIATE INTERNATIONALS

England Under 23's 3, Scotland Under 23's 1

(At Hillsborough, Sheffield, Wednesday, 8th February, 1956)

ENGLAND: Matthews (Coventry City); Howe (West Bromwich Albion), Norman (Tottenham Hotspur); Clayton (R.) (Blackburn Rovers), Smith (Birmingham City), Edwards (Manchester United); Finney (Sheffield Wednesday), Quixall (Sheffield Wednesday), Harris (Everton), Haynes (Fulham), Pegg (Manchester United).

SCOTLAND: Morrison (Aberdeen); Parker (Falkirk), Rae (Falkirk); Price (Aberdeen), Nicol (Hibernian), McIntosh (Falkirk); Hamilton (Heart of Midlothian), Young (Heart of Midlothian), Murray (Rangers), Wishart (Aberdeen), Baxter (Queen of South).

Scorers: Haynes (2), Harris for England; Hamilton for Scotland.

Gunner Howe, change for Armfield, was driven one hundred miles, arriving just before the start, but played fine constructive football. Groves was original England centre-forward choice. Attendance: 39,736.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE 4, SCOTTISH LEAGUE 2 (At Hillsborough, Sheffield, October 26th, 1955)

(First Floodlit Inter-League game)

Football League: Williams (Wolverhampton Wanderers); Hall (Birmingham City); Byrne (Manchester United); McGarry (Huddersfield Town); Wright (Wolverhampton Wanderers); Dickinson (Portsmouth); Finney (Preston North End); Turner (Luton Town); Lofthouse (Bolton Wanderers); Haynes (Fulham); Hogg (Leicester City).

Scottish League: Younger (Hibernian); Parker (Falkirk); Kerr (Partick); Evans (Celtic); Telfer (St. Mirren); Glen (Aberdeen); Smith (Hibernian); Collins (Celtic); Reilly (Hibernian); Wardhaugh (Heart of Midlothian); Hubbard (Rangers).

Scorers: Football League—Turner, Lofthouse (2), Finney.

Scottish League—Smith, Collins.

Referee: Mr. T. Seymour (Wakefield). Attendance: 37,788.

IRISH LEAGUE 5, FOOTBALL LEAGUE 2

(At Windsor Park, Belfast, Wednesday, April 4th, 1956)

Irish League: Russell (Linfield); Keith (Linfield); Davis (Crusaders); Corr (Glenavon); Hamill (Linfield); Cush (Glenavon); Hill (Linfield); Eastham (Ards); Jones (Glenavon); Dickson (Linfield); Weatherup (Linfield).

Football League: Baynham (Luton Town); Armfield (Blackpool); Byrne (Manchester United); Clayton (R.) (Blackburn Rovers); Wicks (Chelsea); Iley (Sheffield United); Harris (Portsmouth); Quixall (Sheffield Wednesday); Taylor (Manchester United); Haynes (Fulham); Grainger (Sheffield United).

Scorers: Irish League—Dickson (2), Hill, Weatherup, Eastham.

Football League—Davis own goal, Taylor. Attendance: 20,000.

IRISH LEAGUE 6, LEAGUE OF IRELAND 0

(At Windsor Park, Belfast, Monday, April 22nd, 1956)

Irish League: Russell (Linfield); Keith (Linfield); Davis (Crusaders); Neill (Glenavon); Hamill (Linfield); Cush (Glenavon); Lowry (Glenavon); Eastham (Ards); Jones (Glenavon); Dickson (Linfield) (Captain); Weatherup (Linfield).

League of Ireland: Lowry (St. Patrick's); Burke (Shamrock Rovers); Crawford (St. Patrick's); Gannon (Shelbourne) (Captain); Mackey (Shamrock Rovers); Nolan (Shamrock Rovers); D. Fitzgerald (Waterford); J. Fitzgerald (Waterford); Gibbons (St. Patrick's); Hamilton (Shamrock Rovers); Wallace (Cork).

Scorers: Irish League—Cush, Weatherup, Dickson, Jones (3).

This was the largest margin victory to either side since series started in 1925-6.

LEAGUE OF IRELAND 2, SCOTTISH LEAGUE 4

(At Dalymount Park, Dublin, September 21st, 1955.)

League of Ireland: Lowrie (St. Patrick's Athletic); Noonan (Drumcondra); Crawford (St. Patrick's Athletic); Hale (Waterford); Keogh (Shamrock Rovers); Nolan (Shamrock Rovers); D. Fitzgerald (Waterford); J. Fitzgerald (Waterford); Gibbons (St. Patrick's Athletic); Coad (Shamrock Rovers); Tuohy (Shamrock Rovers).

Scottish League: Younger (Hibernian); Parker (Falkirk); Haddock (Clyde); Evans (Celtic); Young (Rangers); Glen (Aberdeen); Smith (Hibernian); Collins (Celtic); Reilly (Hibernian); Wishart (Aberdeen); Hubbard (Rangers).

Scorers: League of Ireland: Gibbons, J. Fitzgerald.

Scottish League: Wishart, Reilly, Collins (2).

Referee: W. Waldron (Waterford). Attendance: 18,000. Receipts £2,300.

F.A. CHARITY SHIELD **CHELSEA 3, NEWCASTLE UNITED 0**

(Wednesday, September 14th, at Stamford Bridge)

Chelsea: Robertson; Sillett; Willemse; Armstrong; Wicks; Saunders; Parsons; Brook; Bentley; Stubbs; Blunstone.

Newcastle United: Thompson; Lackenby; McMichael; Scouler; Brennan; Casey; White; Davies; Milburn; Hannah; Puntton.

Scorers: McMichael own goal, Bentley, Blunstone. Attendance: 12,802.

THE LEAGUE CLUBS— *Performances and Prospects by THE EDITOR*

In the case of **ARSENAL**, the most used slogan was "all change": inside and outside, leading even to a change of methods on the field, and—most important—a dramatic change in the results. Barnes, Lawton, Lishman were among the older players who departed, plus Leslie Compton from the coaching staff. For some time the results were disappointing. Wingers Nutt and Tiddy from Cardiff City did not bring about the desired change, but an impression that the club would be content with rather less than be best was largely dispelled when well-nigh £30,000 was paid to Leyton Orient for Iroves and Charlton. Alec Stock followed, to take over team-management—a surprise appraised by his departure after fifty-three days in that capacity. Even then the results were below expectations, so that with the coming of spring-time the possibility of relegation hovered around. Six successive League victories without a goal conceded quickly followed a sixth-round Cup knock delivered by Birmingham City, and Arsenal hot up the table, eventually missing talent money by goal-average only. Groves, who had put new life into the side, became a casualty, but Holton returned to centre-forward position successfully with young wingers Clapton and Haverly playing their parts. The new youth Arsenal pulled through mainly by energy and enthusiasm—fired by Tapscott. More of this can be expected in the new season on a newly-turfed playing surface, and over for the watchers at the North End. **Goalscorers**—League: Tapscott 17, Groves 8, Holton 8, Lawton 6, Lishman 5, Roper 4, Bloomfield 3, Clapton 2, Haverly 2, Nutt 1, Swallow 1, Opponents 1. Total 60. Cup: Groves 4, Tapscott 4, Charlton 2, Bloomfield 1. Total 11.

Despite a belated spurt, in which they played football more nearly in accord with club tradition, **ASTON VILLA** only escaped the second drop to a lower class because of goal-average superior to that of Huddersfield Town. Frankly, the play of the Villa side in the early part of the season was of the poorest quality I had seen from wearers of the Claret and Blue for many years. Contrary to the experience of twenty years earlier, money spent on new players returned a dividend. In all, over £50,000 was spent. Newell from Sheffield Wednesday improved the attack, but injury compelled him to fall out for a time. Jimmy Dugdale from West Bromwich, Nigel Sims and Leslie Smith from Wolverhampton Wanderers, in their different departments, brought the team up to necessary standard. The last-named scored twice in the status-saving final match.



Birmingham City: Standing: Astall, Murphy, Merrick, Smith, Warhurst, Green. Kneeling: Kinsey, Brown, Boyd, Hall, Govan. Inset: Newman.

From the concluding eleven games, fifteen points were obtained. The future depends only on the three points behind the leaders in November—BOLTON WANDERERS became the reliance which can be placed on the summary of experienced club chairman Mr. C. Buckle, who said: "There is much to be done at Villa Park, and it is going to be done. Villa will be in the headlines again: not from the relegation angle." Goalscorers: League: Dixon 16, Pace 9, McParland 4, Lockhart 4, Smith 4, Baxter 2, Lynn 2, Sewell 2, Hickson 1, Seward 1, Crowe 1, Moss 1, Southern 1, Dugdale 1, Opponents 1. Total 52. Cup: Dixon 2, McParland 1, Sewell 1. Total 4.

If only the expected words—they won the Cup—had appeared at the end, the story of BIRMINGHAM CITY would indeed have been a wonderful one—and unique. Under competitive conditions, no other club has reached the final tie without kicking a match ball on their own ground. At the last hurdle, however, the side played with the manager described as their worst game, and the players agreed. In the course of the record run away from the home to the final, Birmingham scored eighteen goals, with two against. They were sometimes referred to as a team without stars. A accurate description, surely, would be that they were a team with no player below rank of stardom, carrying out their ideas in an old-fashioned style. And when the back line consisted of Boyd, Smith and Warhurst, these formed the most effective first part of the season they were in the lower half of the table. The New Year better. They went through nine successive games without defeat, and by early April were third in the table. Champions of the Second Division and Cup finalists in successive seasons, Birmingham have a hat-trick of sorts at which to aim, and maintain the high standard of fitness they can hit that target. Goalscorers—League: Brown 2, Kinsey 14, Astall 12, Murphy 12, Govan 4, Boyd 3, Warrington 2, Warhurst 2, Lane 2, Opponents 4. Total 75. Cup: Brown 7, Murphy 5, Astall 3, Kinsey 3, Finney 1. Total 26.

Although the second place talent money only became available to the BLACKPOOL staff by a tiny goal-average margin, the final position of runners-up was notable. It was one higher than ever previously in a First Division season. At times, however, the prospects of first prize were bright. Playing class football, the cheapest Blackpool team since the war went into the lead in September, and were still there when December dawned. Not until the ninth game did they suffer their first defeat—by Manchester City, the club which, in due time, ended their Cup run. Indeed, the word Manchester should be ringed in black on the Blackpool record. The club could not approximate the pace set by the United. Many of the old faces were missing, but the fact that their successors—Armfield, Gratrix, the two Kellys, plus Perry especially—were recognised by people far from the seaside strikes a significant note as we move forward. And there Matthews remains—still incomparable. Goalscorers—League: Muddle 22, Perry 20, Durie 14, Taylor 8, Brown 6, Mortensen 5, Fenton 4, Matthews 4, Farm 1, Lythgoe 1, Kelly (J.) 1, Opponents 1. Total 86. Cup: Perry 1.



Standing: Armfield, Fenton, Farm, Gratrix, Wright, Kelly. Seated: Matthews, Taylor, Muddle, Brown, Perry. Inset: Durie.

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A month before the start of the season CHARLTON ATHLETIC had a windfall which meant that they need not worry unduly even if attendances continued below those of their London competitors. They sold Eddie Firmani to the Genoa club, Sampdoria, for the equivalent of £35,000. The loss of this inside forward did not affect, adversely, the early results. A new Scot—Jimmy Gauld, was there to keep them in the forefront, and up to half-time Charlton were near enough to the leaders to suggest they would catch up. Subsequently, with injuries to key men, the side faded to the extent of a drop to the lower half of the table. Defeat at home by Arsenal in the fifth round of the Cup was a blow. Switched to full-back, South African-born Hewie played for Scotland, and later another Firmani—Peter—became a first team defender. Charlton, ever ready to experiment, can make a more sustained show, especially if they find a worthy successor to Sam Bartram, who concluded his twenty-two years service with the club after appearing in 582 League and Cup games. Goalscorers—League: Leary 21, Gauld 17, Ryan 12, Ayre 7, Hurst 7, Kiernan 5, White 2, Hewie 1, Opponents 3. Total 75. Cup: Leary 3, Kiernan 2, Gauld 1, Hurst 1, Hewie 1, Ayre 1. Total 9.

There was no obvious or out of the ordinary reason for CHELSEA, champions of the previous season, having such a moderate term. There were failures right from the start, however, leading up to a day in October when they were in the last place but one, and had the distinction of being the last of the clubs in their section to win a home game. Until near the end there was a possibility of relegation. The serial story fourth round Cup-ties with Burnley didn't help. Chelsea eventually won through, to be knocked out by Everton, the club which, in due course, they beat by six goals to one, equal their biggest top class win. So it could be said, while Chelsea fell from grace, they finished like champions. In their last home game they beat Blackpool. That

victory may give a clue to the future of Chelsea. In the side were three young players—Dick Whittaker, John Mortimore and John Compton. Ken Armstrong was man Chelsea missed most. They can no longer call on long-service John Harris, and a decision to consider offers for several experienced players—including Roy Bentley—an official hint that some re-building is on the agenda. **Goalscorers**—League: Bentley 10, Parsons 7, Tindall 7, Blunstone 6, S. O'Connell 4, Smith 4, Bradbrook 2, McNichol 2, J. Lewis 2, Sillett 2, Dicks 1, Opponents 2. Total 64. Cup: Blunstone 1, Parsons 1, Tindall 1, Sillett 1, J. Lewis 1, Opponents 1. Total 7.

For the very simple reason that at times they played football of quality equal that of the best, **EVERTON** were highly placed among the sides which disappointed the beginning of November their points total was only two fewer than the then leaders. They also journeyed to the sixth round of the Cup competition before being unkindly beaten on the Manchester City ground. A development which had no direct connection with the field of play shook Goodison Park and the football world outside late in month of February. Cliff Britton walked out from his managerial position—an event which was kept alive as a nine-day wonder by the differing stories of the why and wherefore of this development. The chairman of the club also resigned. Without a manager as such, the club signed nineteen-year-old Graham Williams from Bradford City paying a substantial transfer fee for the first time in five years. There followed an announcement that eleven Everton players were on offer, including several who helped to make the side good. Rely on youth is the Goodison slogan. **Goalscorers**—League: Harris (J.) 19, Wainwright 8, Eglington 8, Parker 4, Fielding 3, Jones 2, Lello 2, Mayers 2, McNamara 2, Harris (B.) 2, Woods 1, Farrell 1, Donovan 1. Total 61. Cup: Harris (J.) 2, Wainwright 2, Eglington 2, Harris (B.) 1, Farrell 1. Total 8.



Standing: Lello, Wainwright, O'Neill, Tansey, Jones, Moore. Seated: Harris (B.), Harris (J.), Farrell, Eglington, Fielding.

Down to the Second Division go **HUDDERSFIELD TOWN**, for the second time in five years. On the previous occasion they returned to the higher class at the end of the first season there. They could repeat that feat by playing as well as they did during the second half of the season, during which twenty-three points were gained from fewer games. Unfortunately to be relegated because of goal-average inferior to that of Aston Villa—who alone scored fewer goals—the side really left themselves too much to do in the later stages. The most disastrous Easter in the history of the club was a telling blow, and four successive wins later could not save them from being counted out. By that time centre-forward Dave Hickson was justifying the big fee paid to Aston Villa, following a disappointing start with his new club. Captain Quesada was the man to play in every match, but there are enough of the finishing spurt players left to bring manager Beattie to the conclusion that he didn't make a mistake in taking over again after he had resigned. **Goalscorers**—League: Glazard 11, Metcalfe 11, Hickson 5, Watson 5, Cavanagh 4, McGarry 4, Davie 2, Quesada 2, Connor 1, Marriott 1, Sims 1, Opponents 3. Total 54.

A middle place was all **LUTON TOWN** could manage in their first season in the highest section. Taken as a whole, however, they did not let themselves or top class football down. Rather, at times did they add lustre to it, being referred to, on these occasions, as the soccer purists. At the end of December they were third in the League table, having just conceded their third point in home games. The New Year, however, brought weeks of nightmare during which everything went wrong. Six successive League matches were lost, in addition to a four-nil Cup defeat on their own ground by a Second Division club. The cause of the change? Refusal to sacrifice methods which had paid on good grounds in favour of the hard-booting play which the wet and the clinging mud called for. Even during the trouble time, with the team never so impressive when Gordon Turner was absent, there was proof of ability among the young reserve players. The hope for the coming season is that it will keep fine for them—or that they will discover the knack of adapting themselves to changing pitch conditions. **Goalscorers**—League: Turner 19, Morton 10, MacSwan 8, Cullen 6, Adam 5, Davies 5, Pearce 3, Cummins 2, Gregory 2, Groves 1, Opponents 5. Total 66.

For the second time, **MANCHESTER CITY** went to the Cup Final in successive seasons, and for the second time triumph followed in the footsteps of defeat. There were other unusual seasonal events. Roy Paul brought the number of Welsh-born players to whom the Cup has been headed up to three. Included in the triumphant side were successive Footballers of the Year—Bert Trautmann and Don Revie. Most surprising, in the light of events, was the presence of the latter in the final tie team. Revie had been out of the side for a spell, following much discussion concerning his future, and the fact that even in the month of December a transfer request was granted. Bobby Johnstone took over to carry on the tactical plan. In contrast with that of Birmingham City, the progress of the Maine Road men to the final was anything but clear-cut, with breath-taking incidentals. Blackpool narrowly beaten; the goalkeeper saving them in the Southend mud; a replay with Liverpool saved by the referee's final whistle, and a semi-final scramble home with subsequent pictures suggesting that a penalty kick should have been given against Trautmann, late in the game with Tottenham Hotspur. Not until the New Year did their League performances suggest other than mediocrity. They reached their tenth away game without having won one. But eventually, fourth place talent money was well earned. So, shall we say that all's well that ends well, and add to that, confidently, the statement that if Manchester City can play as well right through the coming season as they did in the Cup Final, they can win, with a side of mainly experienced men, everything for which they enter. **Goalscorers**—League: Hayes 24, Dyson 13, Johnstone 11, Spurdle 9, Clarke 6, Revie 4, Faulkner 4, Cunliffe 3, Fagan 1, Marsden 1, Paul 1, Barnes 1, Hart 1, Opponents 3. Total 82. Cup: Hayes 4, Johnstone 4, Dyson 3. Total 11.

By-passing, in this particular connection, the general standard of the competitors, the manner in which **MANCHESTER UNITED** carried off the championship of the First Division, for the fourth time, was notable. The eleven points margin over the next best was the biggest of all time. It was also gained by the youngest ever set of players. A championship winning eleven, much more changed than usual, scarcely ever averaged more than twenty-two years. In another place in this publication, the manager of the club, who gets a special bouquet, tells how it was done. Stray facts are interesting—and important. They were the only Football League club to go through the season undefeated at home—dropping only three points. From an ordinary early half of the season, they worked up into a really class side, setting a pattern. Just before Christmas, the United established a lead, and from that time to the end it was a one-horse race. How and why they fell at the first Cup hurdle with four goals against on the ground of Bristol Rovers is among the unsolved mysteries of the season. The answer to the question of whether Manchester United can start again where they left off is supplied by reference to the season's records of their even younger teams—the reserves and the youth eleven. **Goalscorers**—League: Taylor 24, Viollet 20, Pegg 9, Webster 4, Berry 4, Doherty 4, Whelan 4, Edwards 3, Blanchflower 3, Byrne 3, Jones 2, Lewis 1, Scollan 1, McGuinness 1. Total 85.

Many people far from the Tyne paid **NEWCASTLE UNITED** the compliment of believing that the players had it in them to win the Cup yet again. In the sixth round, however, they went out, at St. James's Park, to Sunderland, the club they are always most anxious to beat, and whom they had beaten in League games. Maybe there was something in the suggestion that gambles were taken here and there with team selection, but the idea that the players were over-confident seems to be nearer the truth. At Fulham in a nine goals game concerning which only time will induce forgetfulness, they came near to losing after appearing as non-stop winners. It was to Fulham, about then, that Dugald Livingstone transferred his managerial abilities. Scoular was absent for a period, but the half-back line did not suffer a lot, as in the centre of it Bill Paterson found the form which he seemed to have left at Doncaster. Frank Brennan has gone, but the good news is that Milburn will continue. **Goalscorers**—League: Keeble 26, Milburn 19, Davies 9, White 7, Curry 7, Mitchell 5, Hannah 3, Crowe 2, Scoular 1, Tait 1, Monkhouse 1, Casey 1, Stokoe 1, Paterson 1, Opponents 1. Total 85. Cup: Keeble 3, Milburn 2, Curry 2, Casey 1, Mitchell 1, Stokoe 1. Total 10.

Reviewing my watching experiences of last season, I pay to **PORTSMOUTH** the compliment of giving me my finest football treat. Playing against Arsenal at Highbury in the middle of September, the Portsmouth players looked no more than an ordinary side. The first half, casual, not very quick in thought or action. In the second half they played better football. In the middle of the attack was Henderson, giving the complete line-leader exhibition I had seen for a long time. There was Peter Harris at his best, taking a couple of goals, and a young inside forward Rees adding more than his best, taking an impressive picture. I said most emphatically I had seen the side which would win the championship and every other competition for which they were entered. A month later Portsmouth lost to Birmingham City—at Fratton—by five goals to two. Those two games tell the story of the Portsmouth season without the necessity of elaboration: now touching the heights and anon near the depths. We may not see Reids in the same colours again, but we remember what the experienced, and the young players do, and look hopefully for them to do it in the coming season consistently, rather than spasmodically. **Goalscorers**—League: Harris 23, Henderson 16, Rees 9, Barnard 5, P. Neil 3, Mansell 3, Robertson 3, Raftery 3, Robertson 2, Robinson 2, Dickinson 1, Dale 1, Opponents 2. Total 78. Cup: Harris 1, Mansell 1, Dickinson 1.

The notion that a good start is half the battle gets little backing from the supporters of **PRESTON NORTH END**. Without the flying start, however—they were at it after five games—and very good Easter eggs, there would now have been a depression over Deepdale. Between those periods the side had rather a saddening time. Nine more goals were scored in the role of visitors than in home games, leading to away victories than any of their competitors. The effort to find a combination which would cure the prime fault was in the direction of shuffling. No fewer than nine players appeared in more than one position. When the situation became ominous the manager, longer at Deepdale, reversed a decision to stand by an unchanged side, bringing in a goalkeeper—Fred Elise—who will make the grade. Finney, in and out of the side to injury, did not contribute his usual fifty per cent. to the attack. With the right fit again after his close season operation—and a more settled side—North End should do better. Defensive weaknesses were revealed on occasions—as at West Ham in the first Cup hurdle. **Goalscorers**—League: Thompson (T.) 21, Finney 17, Baxter 17, Hattell 9, Foster 5, Morrison 4, Lewis 3, Taylor 1, Docherty 1, Waterhouse 1, Forbes 1, Opponents 1. Total 73. Cup: Thompson (T.) 1, Finney 1.

Last in the list when the First Division League table was first published. **SHEFFIELD UNITED** were among the anxious strugglers right through the season. They finished in lowest place—despite some improvement—mainly because lowly competitors finished strongly. Yet they had two players attracting the attention of representative teams for the first time—outside-left Grainger and wing-half Iley. The preparation for the season were made under a cloud, Manager Freeman passing away. He succeeded by Joe Mercer, who went back to Arsenal for Jack Wilkinson, a centre-forward who scored twice in his first game for the United, and did a hat-trick later. Mention of the fact that the Bramall Lane team scored more goals than high-up Arsenal points to the department in need of strength—defence. Among encouraging performances was a fourth-round Cup win at Bolton. **Goalscorers**—League: Howitt 14, Wragg 9, Grainger 8, Ringstead 8, Hagan 6, Wilkinson 6, Hoyland 3, Waddock 3, Hawksworth 2, Cross 1, Spencer 1, Opponents 2. Total 65. Cup: Wragg 3, Hoyland 2, Grainger 1, Hawksworth 1. Total 7.

As contrary performers responsible for topsy-turvy results, **SUNDERLAND** occupied high place right through the season. They could be just as good, and even more entertaining at times, than they were annoying on other occasions. At Luton—in November—they suffered their worst defeat for forty years. On their own ground—to Newcastle United—they lost by six as a part of a far from happy Christmas. This led to the arrival at Roker Park of centre-forward Bill Holden. If not an outstanding success, it produced two goals—against Newcastle—which took the side into the semi-final. A that important stage, however, they had one of the many indifferent display days. Shackleton, wearing the number eleven shirt, entertained at outside-left, and elsewhere with another former Burnley player, Elliott, converted to an inside position. Fleming played his part, but ninety-five goals against—highest in the First Division—suggests that the defence was not up to the general forward standard. With that department improving, Sunderland could take a higher place, even without expensive forward Chisholm and Purdon. **Goalscorers**—League: Fleming 29, Purdon 10, Chisholm 9, Elliott 8, Shackleton 7, Bingham 5, Holden 5, Anderson 2, Hannigan 2, Daniel 1, Kemp 1, Opponents 1. Total 80. Cup: Fleming 4, Holden 2, Anderson 1, Daniel 1, Elliott 1. Total 9.

Should the captain of a side manage, on the field, the players the manager has selected? That, tersely put, is the question to which Danny Blanchflower of **TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR** and manager Jim Anderson had different replies. So, in the heat of a desperate struggle to avoid relegation, the skipper of Ireland was deposed. The argument reached its climax by reason of position switches during the sixth round Cup-tie against

Manchester City. Whether, on this issue, the new manager was right or wrong, he brought much-needed imagination to his task. Eddie Bailly having gone, much money was spent on new players—Maurice Norman, a Ramsey in the making, and hard-shooter Bobby Smith. The club which had spent weeks in the last position, recovered in mid-season, playing really well on occasion. Fading a bit again, they came back in the last stages, with Smith (captain for the day) scoring all the goals against Sheffield United which sealed the fate of the Yorkshire club. Seven different outside-rights point to the solution, the Spurs should leave a better season. They can be really good. **Goalscorers**—League: Brooks 11, Robb 10, Robb 7, McClellan 7, Duquemin 5, Stokes 5, Farmer 5, Clarke 4, Gavin 2, Marchi 1, Walters 1, Opponents 1. Total 61. Cup: Duquemin 3, Robb 3, Smith 3, Harmer 2, Brooks 1, Dunmore 1, Norman 1. Total 14.

Force of circumstances—in part—caused **WEST BROMWICH ALBION** to call on a greater number of players than in any previous season since the club returned to the First Division. The attempt to shape a forward blend was another reason. With such switches as that of putting Barlow into the middle—Peter being robbed to pay Paul. A much better run was expected when Albion, with the best defensive record, were second in the table in October. Subsequently, they slumped a bit, but came back to a talent money position in February. A cash payment of £25,000 to Fulham for Bobby Robson was the big effort in the inside-forward direction. He was signed just before "closing time"—too late to save them from defeat in the fifth round of the Cup. But he is good enough to make more goals for Allen and company—and capable of scoring some himself. **Goalscorers**—League: Allen 17, Lee 9, Nicholls 8, Griffin 6, Kevan 4, Crowshaw 2, Setters 2, Jackson 1, Kennedy 1, Carter 1, Williams 1, Barlow 1, Opponents 3. Total 58. Cup: Lee 2, Allen 1, Griffin 1. Total 4.

One more goal to **WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS** in the last thrilling match against the club runners-up position for the second season in succession. Apart from the honour, there would have been extra talent money equal to ten pounds each for a whole team. Nevertheless, there were compensations, and hope for the future, in the three goals against Sheffield United were scored by almost new players. Much of the season was spent, from the managerial angle, in the signing of Harry Hooper from West Ham, entailing the biggest fee ever for an extreme winger. He couldn't be tested in the first team. In detail, this was the most extraordinary season the club has had.

On the first Saturday in September they equalled the biggest First Division away victory figures, beating Cardiff City by nine goals to one. Yet at the half-way house this was their only away victory. Meantime, they alone had gained the maximum points from home games. Then the tables were turned. They lost their first home point to Arsenal, in the eleventh match. Cardiff City—of all clubs—won at Molyneux, and on the same home ground West Bromwich Albion applied the Cup blow. From that time the returns of the Wolves became normal. **Goalscorers**—League: Hancock 18, Swinbourne 17, Murray 12, Broadbent 9, Slater 7, Booth 6, Mullen 6, Wilshaw 6, Clamp 2, Deeley 1, Flowers 1, McDonald 1, Shorthouse 1, Opponents 2. Total 89. Cup: Slater 1.



Sunderland: Standing: Daniel, Purdon, Anderson, Fraser, Hedley, McDonald. Seated: Bingham, Fleming, Aitken, Chisholm, Shackleton.