Blue Blood

A Historical Everton Fanzine

Volume 9 issue 70



The Pantomime Season
Starts In Kirkby
(Oh No It Doesn't)
(Oh Yes It Does)
Page 4

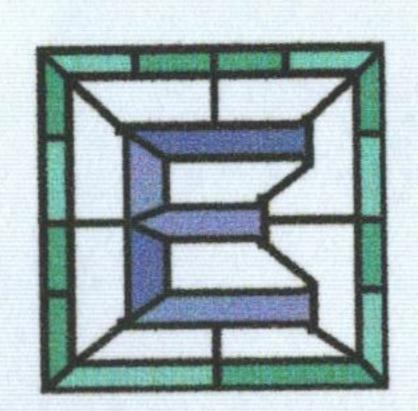
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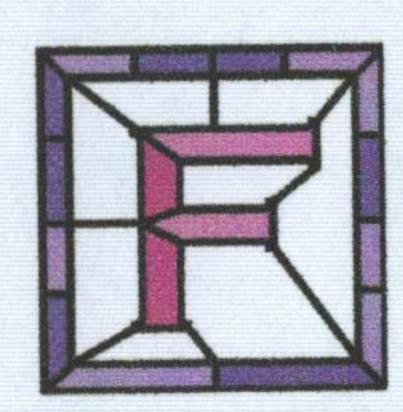
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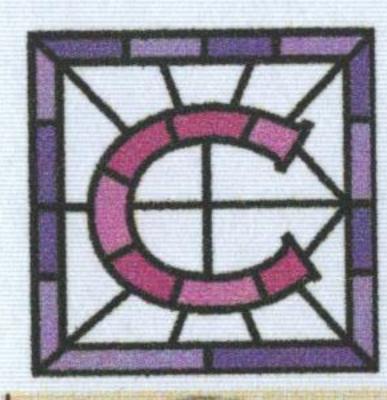


Thank you for all the articles and emails, keep up the good work. For those of you who are interested, on Friday nights between 8 & 8.30pm I do a small spot on Radio Merseyside 95.8fm, it's called Blue Watch and is all about E.F.C.



No Obstructed Views

As long as your item is not racist, violent or offensive it will be considered for publication. All the views expressed in this fanzine are those of the contributor and not the editor so please don't sue me.



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U.K.

£14.00

Walter Abbott An inside left signed from Small Heath / Birmingham in 1899.

For Europe and Overseas please email me first

He was a strong tenacious player who was from the Midlands he played for Efc for 9 years . Gaining a Cup Winners Medal in 1906 and a runners up medal 1907 . Played 291 games 37 goals

Please make all cheques payable to George Orr Back Issues available from me outside the Winslow (not many left)

Editors Page "Old Orr's Almanac"

The 'Derby' and we play better than them but they were rubbish so what have we got to shout about? We miss sitters and fans moan about disallowed goals but in the end we cant string a decent pass through the middle to give our forwards a chance. Then again, our forwards are always on the wing, Jo went straight to the left wing after kick off, someone told me we had one up front, and I said "yes until the game starts then he will be on the wing whoever he is." I cant be the only Evertonian that notices this but its true. We took Jo off and replaced him with Saha who for a while stayed in the middle but did little because of no support.

The Yak comes on with ten minutes to go, that's a shock isn't it I mean Moyes doesn't always wait until ten minutes to go to make a second sub does he? Where does the Yak go? Yes right again the left wing and he does hardly anything. We are 2-0 and the minutes are ticking away so what does the tactical genius do, Yobo is injured so instead of having a go, all hands to the pump and bring on Gosling for a chance of pace and creativity and maybe snatch a goal, he is after all the last Everton player to score against them, no he brings on Lucas Neill? Tell me he isn't negative and scared of losing? He didn't want it to go to 3-0 so he brought on a defender. He didn't take the plunge and try to attack and for me this is life and all the plunge and try to attack and for me this is life and all the plunge and try to attack and for me this is life and all the plunge and try to attack and for me this is life and all the plunge and try to attack and for me this is life and all the plunge and try to attack and for me this is life and all the plunge and try to attack and for me this is life and all the plunge and try to attack and for me this is life and all the plunge.

He didn't take the plunge and try to attack and for me this is Moyes all over.

Oh yes while I am on about our great Manager he has now got another all time worst Everton Record (his 8th) this has been the worst decade in our History for 'Derby' Results the 70s was the previous worst.

Tottenham Hotspur at home, where do you start? Playing an injured Yobo because he again did not trust the young Coleman or Duffy, Moyes was the only one that was surprised that

after ten minutes Yobo limps off, well he had limped on so it wasn't a shock.

The shock was that Coleman was brought on at right back, which at least is the lads rightful position, not left back where he was thrown to the dogs in Benfica. We as usual had one up front, the lacklustre Jo, they had three up front and they came at us. Everton gave as good as they got and the first half ended with all to play for in the second half. They come out and give us a two goal shock, stunned, Moyes goes into shock and plays two up front at home, the system according to Moyes and all his followers that Everton cant play but we do play it and we play it well, Spurs with no longer the run of the pitch have now to defend against two forwards and we get the upper hand. As you all know we are unlucky not to have won after a great save from the penalty spot by Howard. At the end of the game Coleman is given Man Of The Match Award and the phone lines are all raving about the lad. He is 21 not sixteen and he is according to Moyes like the others 'Not Ready Yet' for the first team. We have heard it for months or even years under Moyes, that the youngsters are not ready but when the likes of Rodwell and Coleman come in it doesn't look like that at all.

Once again you will say I am too critical of Moyes but I am not going to get excited about one up front at home and then when he rectifies his MISTAKE when we are 2-0 down we equalise. I am never going to celebrate home draws but under Moyes a draw at home is becoming a

bonus and something to celebrate.

Chelsea away and two up front, yes at last we are positive, but dropping Coleman isn't right, the lad was Man Of The Match, his reward dropped? But Saha via the bouncing Cech gives us the lead but bad defending gives Drogba the equaliser and then even more bad defending lets Anelka in and they are 2-1 up. Pienaar gives the ball away continually this doesn't help. Jo gets injured (our first bit of luck) and the Yak comes on with a proper two up front, the Yak scores its 2-2 and half time. After the break Chelsea have a go, they are at home you expect that but Efc have a go we are away you don't expect that, but at least we do keep the pressure on but they sneak a goal, our heads stay high we battle back King Louis scores and its 3-3 a shock to some Blues on the phone ins , they didn't expect anything, I never understand that I always think Everton will win or at least get a draw and if it doesn't happen then I think why not. Moyes supporters have told me you cant expect to attack every game and play two up front, I just say why not? Spurs in the second half and Chelsea for the full game show what can be done, The Derby and Man United away show what cant be done. We are Everton not Blackburn or Bolton don't let Moyes or anyone else tell you what we cant achieve, tell them what we can and what we want. There is nothing wrong with the Everton team only on occasions the tactics.

Its All Over Now Baby Blue

Just when you thought it was all done and dusted, like the original vote, then KEIOC popped up, its all back to square one according to some.

The Stadium at Kirkby is DEAD said Mr Kenwright, oh no it isn't said the

Prime Minister Mr. Brown.

So what is going on? The official inquiry was of the opinion that the plans that Tesco and Everton had for the development at Kirkby had breached planning permission and were too large in its concept and therefore it was turned down. End of story, no apparently not, according to some, the deal can go through without the shops, just a Superstore and a Stadium.

Others say it will go through but only with a redevelopment of Kirkby Town

Centre and no Stadium.

We are none the wiser, Evertonians and Kirkby inhabitants are as usual all at sea and clueless over what is going on.

Politicians play both sets of cards close to their chest, one says one thing the

next day another one says the opposite.

None of this helps Everton Football Club, will they stop their Kirkby Adventure as Bill Kenwright says they will? Or will they put everything on hold and hope that the Prime Minister can get them their long lost Deal Of The Century?

In the meantime Goodison Park Rots in front of them, paying customers are

put into a decrepit old stand that is the Bullens Road and ripped off.

Fans stay away rather than pay the full whack for an obstructed view and income is lost not just from the sale of a seat but food, drinks, programmes, Golden Goal Tickets etc.

Everton Football Club need to make a statement and soon and the statement should be Goodison Park will be redeveloped over the coming three seasons with the Bullens Road, Gwladys Street and Main Stand all being pulled down and replaced with modern Executive Boxes, Function Suites and No Obstructed Views.

The attendance will suffer slightly, but we only got 32,000 against Spurs and

most games are not sold out.

A ban on all away support will make sure every Evertonian will get a seat during the short term upheaval. We have wasted 10 years on Walter Mitty Schemes, its time to come back to reality and rebuild

If you go to the Echo Arena and try to park before a show, then try to get out after, then realise only 9,000 people are there and you were told Everton would have had 55,000, you realise you were being kidded.

The same with Kirkby, this Government, who scrapped the Tram Link

Send in The Clowns Don't Bother They're Here. Jake Lathom



N. F. Shaw (Magd.). F. E. Street (Ch. Ch.). R. C. N. Palairet (Oriel). G. R. Wood (Merton). E. Jackson (Oriel). J. B. Littledale (Ch. Ch.).
R. A. Rhodes (Ch. Ch.) G. L. R. Wilkinson (Ch. Ch.) G. L. Wilson (Hert.), Captain. H. H. Hansard (Oriel).
R. Montgomery (St. Cath's.).

[Elliot & Fry. 15. In

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY (ASSOCIATION) FOOTBALL TEAM.

ham, and the colours of the club are the past few years. A stranger entering one well-known claret and blue. This season of our big railway stations on a Saturday promises to be their best, and they pur- afternoon, might be pardoned for enquiring pose eclipsing all their previous records. as to the cause of the undue excitement Here, of course, Association is the game and bustle. Special trains are run from played, and professionalism or paid players all quarters to the field of battle. If the is the rule. The club this season boasts of thirty signed professionals, all good men, and capable of playing with any first class team. Indeed, the trouble seems to be to get matches good enough for their reserves to play. They belong to the Football League, and are confident of heading the individual player, is keenly watched and list at the end of the present season. Certainly up to the date of writing it seems occasion merits, and when some point is like it. They have met and defeated such scored the air is full of the wildest yells powerful clubs as "Blackburn Rovers," "West Bromwich Albion," "Preston North End," and "Sunderland."

The secretary, in sending me a list of the club's successes, modestly adds, "I think they will compare favourably with those of other clubs." I fancy my readers will agree with this modest assertion. Here is a list:-

Birmingham Cup—1879, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890. Magor's Charity Cup—1882, 1883, 1884, 1885.

Joint holders with the "Swifts." 1886, 1888, 1889, 1890.

English Cup-1886. Staffordshire Cup-1880, 1890. West Bromwich Charity Cup—Joint holders with "Albion"—1889.

In 1889, among the twelve clubs included in the League, I see that Aston Villa ran second to Preston North End. Aston spells 'instant dismissal.'" played 22 matches (all against crack clubs), record. As I hope to notice Preston North readers to judge. I have not yet touched End in a later article, I refrain from giving its record here.

Ground is at Perry Barr close to Birming- Football has made in the north during the match is an important one, such as Aston Villa v. Preston North End, or Everton v. Stoke, hundreds, aye thousands, of admirers will travel with the visiting team, and the greatest enthusiasm will prevail. Every feature and movement of the game, every criticised, encouraged, or condemned, as of delight. Truly, it is a sight to be seen to be appreciated. We in the south cannot work ourselves up to the pitch. Why it is, I cannot say; nevertheless, the fact remains that it is so.

Sometime ago I was talking to a wellknown sportsman in Lancashire about this very thing. He somewhat staggered me by saying, "You see, we employers up north encourage sport. If any of our lads want the half day off to play, they get it. If they come to work next day with a black eye or lame leg, we take no notice of it. You people down south try to sit on sport as much as ever you can. No, you may not mean to do so, but you do it all the same. You put obstacles in the way of your clerks or warehouse hands getting away, while a black eye or broken nose

There may be a lot in this, or there may won 12, drew 5, lost 5. This is no bad be nothing. I leave it to my numerous on the matter of professionalism. I purpose in a later article to have something to It is marvellous what strides Association say on that vexed and much debated subject.



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carly 1890s. As we have an early need, those word by such Argent 1 (verpool PC that would be created but of the colory of meaning is to have all by by find the following the colors of the colors of

Everton players take a dip in the bucket before extra time in the 1968 Cup Final against West Brom

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Everton A Thesis By David Kennedy

This Article is Taken from a Thesis by David Kennedy Originally done in 2003 at Leeds University more in forthcoming issues

- a symbol, and rallying point, of local identity - would have been courted, and a position of prominence within such an organisation, so popular with the recently enfranchised mass of skilled workers who predominated in the districts on which Everton FC relied for its support, would have been viewed as a prized asset. The most obvious example of this motive was the successful canvassing in 1884 by the committee and members of the club in the district of Everton on behalf of the club president, John Houlding, who was standing on a Conservative ticket for the Everton ward in the town council elections of that year.²⁸

The patronage of businessmen became increasingly important towards the mid-1880s as the club sought to commercialise its operation by deciding to enclose the grounds on which the team played in order to charge the public an admission fee.

This move by Everton FC towards charging the public an entry fee to watch their team was a well-trodden path in sports development in Liverpool by that date. As early as the 1840s cricket clubs in Liverpool had seized the initiative of charging their predominantly "respectable" middle-class audiences an admission fee to view their matches.29 In the last two decades of the nineteenth century Liverpool also experienced a boom in the number of athletics meetings held in the city. Two companies - the Stanley Athletic Grounds Company Limited, and the Liverpool Athletic Grounds Company Limited - were formed in order to tap into this growing public interest in athletics.30 The rise of the city's football clubs, though, eclipsed all other attempts at creating a financially viable sporting commodity. The 1880s and 1890s saw the proliferation of football clubs vying for local supremacy, a competitive environment that culminated in the creation of four private limited football club companies in the early 1890s. As we have already seen, these were Everton FC, the Liverpool FC that would be created out of the rump of members left behind at Anfield by Everton FC in 1892, Bootle AFC and Liverpool Caledonians FC. Association football, out of all the sporting spectacles in Liverpool (as was the case in other urban centres), was best able to draw the attention and support of the majority of that mass of workers who were enjoying for the first time increased opportunities for leisure brought about by the gaining of the Saturday half-day holiday and the reduction of hours in the working day.

In the case of Everton FC this impulse towards the commercialisation of its product was given added urgency by the taking on of professional players to boost the quality of the team's play,³¹ a strategy undertaken by many of the Lancashire clubs.³² Although the Football Association sanctioned professionalism in 1885, the employment of professionals by clubs was a common practice prior to that date. Prior to 1885 the Football Association formally insisted on strict adherence to an amateur code for players, with money only to change hands for purposes of expenses or lost earnings to players. However, in practice the clubs handed over "boot money", whereby certain team members would find cash payments stuffed into their boots post-match, thus effectively bypassing the Football Association's ban. This practice would appear to have been enthusiastically embraced by Everton FC.³³ The spiralling costs of employing professional footballers at Everton FC during the second half of the 1880s can be seen in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1 Income and Expenditure at Everton FC: Seasons 1885/86-1890/91

	Player's Wages (£)	Ground Improvements (£)	Gate Receipts (£)
1885/86	161	38	629
1886/87	216	285	1,456
1887/88	460	370	2,111
1888/89	1,146	920	4,328
1889/90	2,059	109	5,188
1890/91	2,848	311	6,268

Source: Liverpool Football Echo, 7th November, 1891.

By 1883 the club began to play its matches in an enclosed setting for the first time. The club was given the opportunity by a local landowner to play their football in his field off Priory Road, a stone's throw away from their first home, Stanley Park. The club's members erected a 'primitive stand and railings around the pitch' in order to make the project financially viable. However, this venture was both short-lived (the landowner refused to extend the club's tenure beyond one season) and financially

GENTLEMEN'S BLUE BEAVER OVERSIMES IREHOUSE, CARPENYERS COOPERS COACHMAKERS EVERTON. WHEELWHOUTS Referee -- Mr. Tomlinson. Colours -- Blue Shirts & White Knickers, CARRIAGE AND JARDINE. HABBON BUILDERS HOWARTH. BUNMAKE NS DEWAR. MERAL ENGINEERS KELSO. J. HOLT. BOYLE. STONEMASONS MAXWELL. BRICKLAYERS. CHADWICK. GEARY. MILWARD. CUTLERY for 147, Constitution Hill, Birmingham. Everybody VILLA. EDWARD L. CAMPBELL. FLEMING. C. ATHERSMITH. PRESTON, D HODGETTS. J. DEVEY. DOUDS. J. COWAN. (Capt.) J. BROWN. SNJW HILL. RAMSAY. STOKES. 翌 8 Established DUNNING. ONE PENNY. Colours-Sky Blue and Claret. Until you have had a List of all the Latest Designs at prices to suit all pockets, from H. KEYS, 4, Livery St., A Few Second Hand Machines at very Low Prices.

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unsuccessful³⁵ (the club taking just fourteen shillings for the gate from their first game of the 1883/84 season, and £50 for the season as a whole³⁶). At this stage the club became even more embroiled with the fortunes of their president, whose public house, the Sandon Hotel, provided the club with its matchday headquarters. Houlding was able to secure a field of play for the club in Anfield Road, approximately three hundred yards from his own Sandon Hotel. The circumstances surrounding the leasing of this patch of land by Houlding on behalf of the club had serious ramifications for the organisation in later years. This is a subject central to the dispute that brought about the split of the club in 1892, one we will return to and discuss in detail in the following chapter.

Once the club was ensconced at the Anfield Road site, Houlding provided it with funds to improve steadily the facilities of its ground in order to increase its attraction to the paying public. Houlding lent the club over £2,300 in the second half of the 1880s at a rate of five per cent interest.37 The amount of money lent is consistent with the amount of money spent on ground improvements to the Anfield Road ground during this period (see Table 4.1). Local builders were employed by the club to erect covered stands running the length of the pitch and enclosures behind each of the goals.38 When the club first moved to Anfield for the season 1884/85 the stadium could accommodate 10,000 people. This demonstrated the ambition of the club, whose games had previously attracted 1,500-2,000 non-paying supporters at Stanley Park. 39 By the season of 1888/89, and with the benefit of the ground improvements already mentioned, the capacity of the Anfield Road stadium had reached 20,000. The investment paid dividends as Everton FC increased its gate receipts spectacularly: rising from £629 in season 1885/86 to £6,268 in season 1890/91 (Table 4.1). During this period the club benefited greatly from its inclusion in the twelve-strong group of professional football clubs invited in 1888 to form the Football League. The importance of the League was that it brought about, for those clubs involved, regular matches against teams with roughly similar ability who were also known to be able to attract large interest from the paying public whenever, and wherever, they played. The creation of the Football League, therefore, cut out the playing of unattractive (that is, financially limited) fixtures and committed clubs to playing agreed fixtures - there had previously been a problem with clubs committing to arranged fixtures only to cancel their engagement in

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favour of another, more lucrative fixture at short, or no, notice. Everton FC were fortunate, it is argued, 40 to have been invited by the founders of the Football League to take their place amongst the elite of English football. In playing terms Everton FC were eclipsed by contemporaries such as Darwen FC, Nottingham Forest FC, Sheffield Wednesday FC, and even local rivals Bootle AFC - clubs that had canvassed for inclusion in the inaugural season of the Football League. However, clubs with a greater ability to attract large attendances, Everton FC being one, were able to secure their place in the Football League ahead of such apparently superior football rivals - a point conceded by the prime mover behind the League project, Aston Villa chairman, William McGregor. 41 The League was therefore formed in 1888 with the following clubs taking part: Accrington, Aston Villa, Blackburn Rovers, Bolton Wanderers, Burnley, Derby County, Everton, Notts. County, Preston North End, Stoke City, West Bromwich Albion and Wolverhampton Wanderers. A look at the rise in attendance levels at Anfield after the League format had come into operation demonstrates just how beneficial this connection was to Everton FC. In the last season prior to the club's entry into the Football League (that is, the season 1887/88) the average gate at Anfield was 5,800. Whilst local rivals Bootle AFC could attract to Anfield the very healthy gate of 12,000, and other, more illustrious opponents such as Bolton Wanderers could attract 9,000 supporters, the club's matches with less well known teams such as Haydock St James and Bootle St Johns attracted only 2,000 on each occasion. 42 After the formation of the Football League, Everton FC's average gate rose markedly. Thus in the season 1888/89 the club averaged 9,000; 11,000 average gate for the following season; and 12,000 for the 1890/91 season. 43 The club at first charged 3d for entry into the noncovered areas of the Anfield Road ground,44 though this entry fee was increased from 1888/89 to 6d for men (boys admitted for 3d). 45 At this later point, members of the club who paid 7s/6d for their annual subscription - the equivalent to a season ticket - were getting a much better deal from their one-off payment than were those supporters paying in for every home game. Perhaps this is why the club had such a large membership by the end of the 1880s - approximately five-hundred.

A combination, then, of the professionalisation of players, on the one hand, and the advent of a national football league, on the other hand, required the club to secure sizeable capital investment to upgrade ground facilities for the increased capacity that

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would financially sustain the club and allow it to attain a position in the vanguard of English football. Everton FC, in many respects, followed a classic pattern in this transitional phase of the English game away from its regionally tied amateurism towards the national and professional basis of the modern game. The role of John Houlding in providing financial stability for the Everton club in its move toward mass-spectatorship was crucial to the club's growth during the 1880s.

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Born locally in Everton in 1832, Houlding, a central figure in the foundation of professional football in the city of Liverpool, started out in life from relatively humble beginnings. He helped his father in his occupation as a cowkeeper (during Houlding's childhood the district of Everton was semi-rural) before finding employment in a nearby brewery when his father's stock was lost through cattle plague. Before long, Houlding had established himself as a licensed victualler and, eventually, was able to put enough capital together to set up his own brewery: Houlding's Sparkling Ales. By the end of the 1880s Houlding had added ownership of ten public houses to his business enterprise. His taking on a number of public roles - a civic-mindedness that earned him the soubriquet 'King John of Everton' - enhanced his profile within the district of Everton. By the time of Houlding's involvement with Everton FC as president of that club he was also overseer for the township of Everton, a Guardian with the West Derby Poor Law Union (WDPLU), a member of the Everton and Kirkdale Burial Board, a member of the Lancashire Asylums Board, and President of the Liverpool Carters' Union. In political life, Houlding had become Conservative councillor for the Everton and Kirkdale ward on Liverpool council, and was chairman of the Everton Conservative Association (in his later life Houlding would become an alderman and Lord Mayor of Liverpool). 46 The attraction for linking up with Everton FC in the early 1880s can be viewed as yet another means by which Houlding could gain public influence. It should be acknowledged, though, that Houlding was sports-minded, having played cricket in his younger days for the Stanley Cricket Club - a club with which he would continue a close association.

Never having been either a footballer or connected with any of the churches or chapels from which Everton FC drew its earliest players and support, it is plausible to suggest that Houlding's introduction to the Everton club may have been via his close friend and

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To be continued in next issue please note that when David did this Thesis there was a limited amount of information available to him. Only 10 years later have all the records been in the public domain

The Story Of Floodlights (continued from last issue)

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lighting warehouses and goods yards rather than to promote floodlit football. The clubs and associations who arranged matches did so undoubtedly because they were inspired by the prospects of boosting their funds. The gate receipts at that first game in Sheffield were said to be £300, although up to 30,000 may have been present, many without paying. It was the same story at almost every venue for the early games - 10,000 saw the first game in Scotland played at Cathkin Park, Glasgow, between Third Lanark and Valc of Leven while there were estimated to be 20,000 at Alexandra Mead-

ows to see Blackburn Rovers play Accrington. Several of the gates at Floodit games played under Rugby Rules were just as high: 20,000 at Broughton, Manchester and around 30,000 at Halifax to see their fixture with Birch the game had to be abandoned because the crowd spilled on to the pitch in the opening minutes. Soon it seemed that

almost every senior club playing association or rugby rules was arranging a floodlit game. In England the association games were almost exclusively held in the Midlands or north-east Lancashire, the sole exceptions being a game at Bournemouth, which appears to have been part of a southern tour by the proprietor, also including rugby fixtures at Southsea and Southampton (although the latter was cancelled due to had weather), and one at Kennington Oval in London. The rugby matches were more spread out geographically, although mostly in the heartlands of the game, Lancashire and Yorkshire. Other venues included London, the South Coast, Crewc, Gloucester, Nuncaton, Rugby and Sunderland. Taken together they offer an idea of the spread of gate money football in England - association dominating in parts of the Midlands and Lancashire, rugby in Yorkshire, the remainder of Lancashire and pockets elsewhere. The size of the crowds is important: the gate at Bramall Lane was the highest ever for an association match in England and although the game at Kennington Oval was considered a disappointment the attendance was equivalent to that at the previous season's FA Cup final. The situation in Scotland was slightly different in that all bar one of the games traced was under association rules - undoubtedly linked to the decision of the Scottish FA to arrange a series of matches in aid of Glasgow charities, there being a severe economic depression in the city at the time (some sources suggest these were preliminary ties in the Glasgow Charity Cup, but this has not been confirmed). The spectators who turned up in their thousands appear mostly to have been attracted by the prospect of witnessing the electric light rather than the football. Most paid 6d (double the usual entry fee) but on occasions the entry price was set as high as 1s. Those who couldn't afford it gathered on surrounding hills to watch, several reports indicate there were at least as many fans outside the ground as in it.

The problems associated with these early matches relate to three separate areas - the efficiency of the technology, the bad weather and the inadequacy of the facilities for spectators. The most common technology employed used either the Siemens or Grammes dynamo machine with a source of power, which might be a battery but could also be a steam engine or some form of agricultural machinery (a threshing machine was used on one occasion). The electricity was carried to the lights by wiring, the lights themselves being elevated, most commonly on a wooden platform, but occasionally supported on wooden poles. The nature of the light bulbs (mostly Serrin's, but occasionally Jablochkoff candles) also features in the descriptions as does the presence of a reflector behind the light. It was possible for a match to last the full 90 minutes uninterrupted if sufficient thought and preparation had been made, but these occasions were few and far between. The Jablochkoff candles (which were used at Aston Lower Grounds), for example, had an average life span of only 90 minutes and it was a complicated procedure to replace them, hence they were not really suitable. When it worked the system provided a

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"soft blue light" (The Guardian, 15 October 1878) but how effective this was depended on a number of factors.

Proprietors had little or no previous experience of lighting sports fields and the number of lights used was often dependent upon how many machines could be obtained. The height the lights could be raised to was obviously a factor, as was how the lights were employed. If four separate lamps could be found the field was generally lit satisfactory, but most games took place under two lamps and sometimes only one. On these occasions the system was found lacking and the comment of an observer at the rugby match between Preston North End and Preston Rovers that, "It was thought that one or two more apparatus would have been a decided improvement, and then both spectators and players would have enjoyed the game, which under the circumstances was nothing more nor less than a sort of 'blind man's buff,' in which the ball had the advantage," (Preston Herald, 2 November 1878) was echoed at many of the venues. The lights themselves were mostly erected at a height of between 30 and 50 feet (the higher ones were generally attached to the top of a grandstand), but this was still considerably less than that of the pylons that

graced many grounds in the 1960s and 1970s, which averaged about 100 feet in height. The lack of organisational experience was shown by the fact that on one or two occasions when two lighting systems were available one of these was employed as a roving lamp to follow the path of the ball. As the North British Daily Mail reported on Scotland's first floodlit game between 3rd LRV (Third Lanark) and Vale of Leven this was not successful, "The effect was occasionally amusing. At one time a scrimmage occurred in total darkness, and at another, a stalwart half-back, might have been observed shading his eyes to get a glimpse of the ball, but in vain. Legs and arms were seen pursuing an object, which was supposed to be the ball, with great earnestness of purpose." On this occasion a white ball was used, probably the first-ever use of the white ball in soccer. The main technological problems however related to the inability of the systems used to last the full length of a match. Some matches never actually started because the equipment wouldn't work, almost every game that was played was interrupted at some point because of a failure of the lights and favourable comments were few and far between. The Sheffield venture was a big success, although it seems to have been careful planned to coincide with a full moon, thus providing a degree of natural light, and the weather was favourable. Another success was at Blackburn for the visit of Accrington on 4 November, when the Blackburn Times noted, "The electric light was a brilliant success, and the proceedings passed off without a hitch of any kind." (9 November 1878)

Further problems were encountered with the weather, the systems often struggling with wet and windy conditions. To add to this there was a heavy and unseasonal fall of snow in the North and Midlands during the week commencing 11 November. This seems to have had little effect at Accrington, where the snow on the pitch served to act as a reflector of the light, but caused major problems at Stoke where Manchester Wanderers failed to appear as advertised and other arrangements had to be made at short notice (they eventually played the game later the same week). Many of the matches were played on cricket grounds or general pleasure grounds, presumably because there was more available space to set up the equipment, but as a result there were few facilities available for the comfort of spectators apart from the occasional grandstand. Standing for hours on cold, wet grass or ankle deep in snow was

unlikely to encourage fans to turn up for a second exhibition of floodlit football, while the absence of banking on grounds meant that many saw little of the game anyway, whether it was possible to see clearly in the light or not.

The accompanying table lists the 28 occasions in the 1878-79 season when soccer matches are known to have been arranged. Six of these were at Stoke-on-Trent where the organisers seem to have decided to drag out the proceedings with an attempt to make as much money as possible, although none of the matches was particularly successful. At least two of the fixtures, at Edinburgh and Rutherglen (Stonelaw), never took place, but the presence in the list of both the latter match and that at the Lincolnshire village of Epworth suggests there are more of these games to be traced.

FLOODLI	MATCHES 1	878-79	arthey (Le	wiinai:
Date	Home Team	Away Team	Score	With a state of
14.10.1878 Bramail Lane, Sheffield	Reds	Blues		Attendance
25.10.1878 Cathkin Park, Glasgow	3rd Lanark RV	Vale of Leven	0-2	14,000
26.10.1878 Bournbrook Grounds, Birmingham	Birmingham Royal	Elwell's (Wednesbury)	1-3	10,000
28.10.1878 Aston Lower Grounds, Birmingham	Birmingham FC	Nottingham Forest	0-7	
31.10.1878	Parkgrove	Shaftesbury	2-1	2,000
31.10.1878 Cricket Ground, Darwen	Darwen & District	Blackburn & District	4-0	
04.11.1878 Kennington Oval, London	Wanderers	Clapham Rovers	3-0	
04.11.1878 Alexandra Meadows, Blackburn	Blackburn Rovers	Accrington	3-1	4,000
04.11.1878 Hampden Park, Mount Florida, Glasgow	3rd Lanark RV	Rangers		20,000
06.11.1878 Hampden Park, Mount Florida, Glasgow	Queen's Park	Vale of Leven	3-2	10-12,000
07.11.1878 Springvale Park, Milton Road, Ayr	Ayr Academicals	Glasgow University	2-0	6,000
08.11.1878 Rugby Park, Kilmarnock	Kilmarnock	Portland	1-3	
08.11.1878 Cricket Field, Epworth	Epworth	Crowle	0-3	Abstraction advanced
9.11.1878 Powderhall Grounds, Edinburgh	Hibernian	An Association Team	00	
1.11.1878 Cauldon Palace Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent	Scratch match	74171030Clation [editi	PP	4-1-
2.11.1878 Cauldon Palace Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent	Scratch match	1.1	1-1	
3.11.1878 Whiteinch, Glasgow	Partick FC	Northern	- 0.1	
3.11.1878 Accrington Cricket Field	Accrington	Church	0-1	
3.11.1878 Cauldon Palace Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent	Stoke	Manchester Wanderers	3-3	3,000
4.11,1878 Cauldon Palace Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent	Stoke	Corbridge	3-3	
5.11.1878 Cauidon Palace Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent			-	Strongering and
6.11.1878 Cauldon Palace Gardens, Stoke-on-Trent	THE RESERVE OF THE			2022171
8.11.1878 Alexandra Grounds, Nantwich Road, Crewe	Crewe Alexandra	Nantwich		7 000 000
6.11.1878 Dean Park Cricket Ground, Bournemouth	Bournemouth	Christchurch	-	1,500-2,000
7.11.1878 Bromhead Grounds, Loughborough	Loughborough	Leicester Alert		
0.11.1878 Trent Bridge, Nottingham	Notts County	Derbyshire	5-0	3,000
5.12.1878 Burnside, Rutherglen	Stonelaw 2nds	Greenbank	1-0	4,000
4.03.1879 Burton-on-Trent	Burton (Robin Hood)	Rushall Rovers	2-3	2-3,000

It should be noted that not all the games on this list were played under electric light. The match between Birmingham Royal and Elwell's (a Wednesbury works team) took place under lime light at the Bournbrook Grounds in Birmingham. The occasion was not a success at all and the fixture seems to have been arranged principally in response to that planned for Aston Lower Grounds in the north of the city a couple of days later. Heckmondwike Old, a rugby team from Yorkshire, actually held two games under gas light. The events were a success on the field, it being noted that, "The light was simply excellent," (Bell's Life, 8 February 1879) but the games only attracted moderate attendances.

1879 was of course not the end of the phenomenon of football by electric light. Wrexham Olympic played Oswestry in September 1884, while in September 1888 Walsall Town Swifts played West Bromwich Albion. The latter occasion was part of the celebrations held to commemorate the opening of the Walsall Science and Art Institute and was preceded by a display of military sports that included events such as "cleaving the Turk's head!" The match ended in a 2-2 draw, but only 30 minutes each way was played due to the misty conditions. Halifax rugby club (now the Rugby League club) erected a permanent system of electric floodlighting at Thrum Hall in the late 1880s but this was not a success. Athletic News reported on 3 February 1890, "All that is left of the experiment are the gaunt lamp posts which have an inconvenient knack in getting in one's line of vision when he is watching a match in the day time."

However, by this time there was a new and more efficient form of artificial lighting available to clubs, the Wells' Light. This form of lighting had several advantages over its predecessors, not least that it was self-contained, portable and could operate for three or four hours uninterrupted. Briefly the system consisted of an enclosed oil cistern from which the oil was pumped up by air pressure to a heated burner, this converted the oil into vapour, which was then ignited. A powerful white flame was produced and although the overall effect was something akin to a rather large blow torch it was quite effective.

It seems the first games that took place under Wells' Lights were two fixtures which were held in Glasgow in November 1888. There had been a regular series of afternoon matches played under the auspices of the Glasgow International Exhibition at the recreation ground at Kelvingrove, and in the final days before it closed two football matches were played under Wells' Lights. The first took place on 6 November 1888 and had originally been due to feature Vale of Leven and Renton. Renton withdrew and were replaced by Rangers who received no thanks for turning up - they were thrashed 8-0. The other fixture on 10 November saw Abercorn defeat Battlesield 2-0. Although not a complete success, the events were a considerable improvement on the early games played under electric light. A series of lights was placed around the touchlines on platforms 14 feet off the ground and provided a steady, generally effective source of light. Reporting on the Abercorn game, the North British Daily Mail noted that the lights, "gave very great satisfaction to the football players, and burned steadily all through, not with standing the strong wind." (12 November 1888)

A fixture between Newton Heath and Ardwick & District in aid of the Hyde Colliery Disaster Fund attracted 10,000 to Manchester's Belle Vue Gardens the following February and around the same time there was a series of matches in Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, principally to raise money for club funds. Some observers were still unsure that floodlit football was a good thing, for instance, the *Manchester Evening News* noted in September 1889: "The idea of playing football by artificial light is a novelty, but when you have said that you have said everything in favour of it. The experience we have had of it so far is that the player is always competing against his own shadow and over-running the ball. This will happen with the best of artificial lights, and it is therefore hopeless to expect that evening matches will remain anything but a novelty." (21 September 1889) Nevertheless there were even more games held during the 1889-90 season, starting with a charity match between Blackburn Rovers

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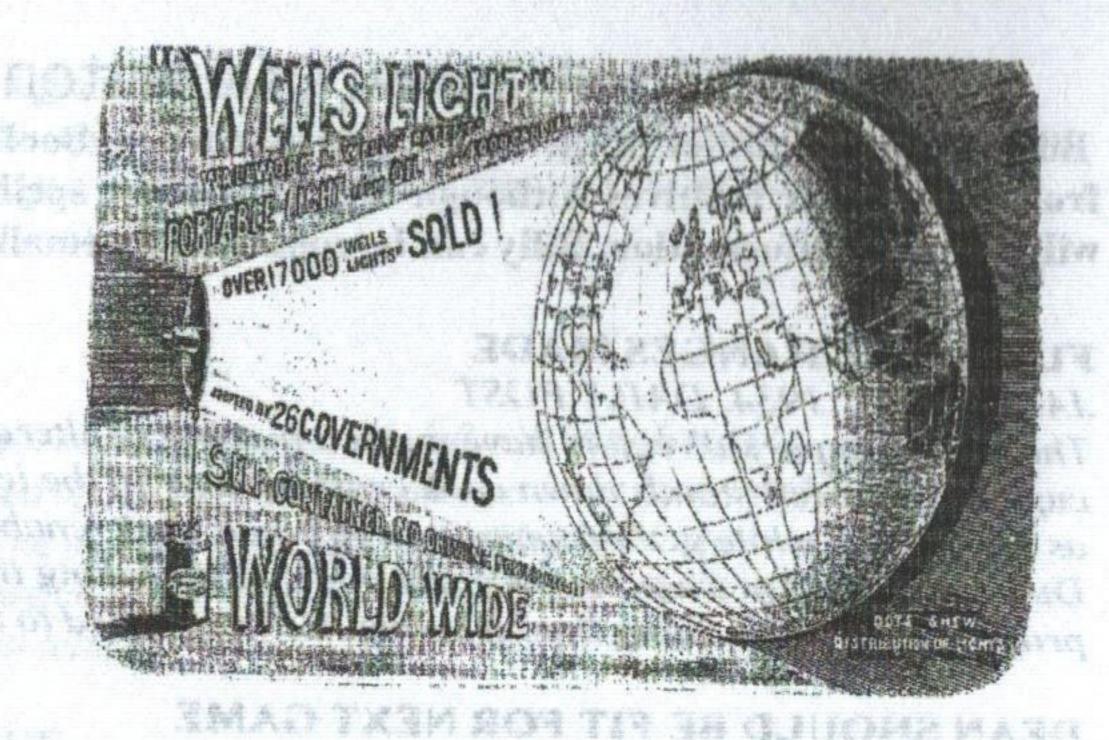
The Wells' Light resembled a giant blow torch in appearance, but was nevertheless a reliable and effective source of illumination.

and West Manchester at the Manchester Rugby Club ground, and continuing with fixtures at Bury,
Sheffield (Bramall Lane), Southport, Liverpool (Anfield), Manchester (Ardwick) and Lincoln. In general a
decent crowd would be attracted and the occasions were therefore useful fund-raising events.

Consequently floodlit games continued to be held for much of the 1890s, although as league football
became more important these fixtures became less common. However, there were occasional games held
after 1900 and it is possible that some clubs may have used Wells' Lights to enable them to train in the
winter evenings. This was the case at Swinton Northern Union (Rugby League) club, where they were the
cause of a fire that destroyed the main stand in 1901.

Wells' Lights were certainly a great improvement on the earlier electrical systems employed. Usually there were between a dozen and 20 lights employed around the pitch from a height of ten to 20 feet above the ground. The effect was to create a much better balance of light and eliminate some of the shadows and

dark areas of the pitch which had both previously been problems. Two brief descriptions will suffice to conclude this section on the Wells' Light. The first comes from a report on the game played between Everton and Sheffield United at Anfield in January 1890, "The ground was lighted by means of 15 Wells' Lights, equal to 50,000 candle power, five being placed at each side and two at each end, the remaining one being fixed outside the Oakfield-road entrance. In appearance they resembled



torches, the oil being forced up by compressed air through a small pipe which was attached to poles about 22 feet long, the torch thus being over 10 feet above the stands. Altogether the effect was good - the players being easily distinguished from each other." (*Liverpool Mercury*, 9 January 1890) The second account comes from the recollections of a former Lincoln City player, John Irving: "The 'Wells Lights' were huge flares, seven or eight being placed on either side of the ground and one behind each goal. The ball was painted white and you could see pretty well, but the night games soon died out of popularity." (*Lincolnshire Echo*, 16 November 1929)

The advent of modern electrical floodlight systems in the 1920s was mostly ignored by football in Britain, although games were played in South America and many European countries. Two occasions require comment. In February 1930 the North Notts Cup final between Ollerton Forest and Welbeck Athletic was held at Field Mill under a system provided by the Philips Electrical Company (who also installed lighting at London's White City Stadium). On this occasion the lamps were installed on 48 foot towers of which there were four, one in each corner of the ground (similar to the lay out of lights in the 1960s). The game was watched by a crowd of between 6 and 7,000 and was a complete success. A handful of similar games also took place before the FA banned floodlit games in August 1930. Permission was later granted to hold a trial game at White City (then home to Queen's Park Rangers) in January 1933. A crowd of 12,000 saw a match between two London representative sides, but it was not until December 1950 that the FA ban was lifted. Meanwhile Rugby League had moved ahead, London Highfield staging floodlit league games at White City from September 1933, while other sports such as speedway also took advantage of the new technology.

In conclusion the nineteenth century attempts at floodlit football can be seen as little more than novelty games. The fixtures from 1878-79 were more about demonstrating new technology to potential customers than football, which seems to have been a very side issue in the events. The Wells' Lights however were another matter, providing an effective source of illumination, although perhaps rather dangerous in view of the open flames. Unfortunately when technological advances meant that floodlit sport was a realistic proposition in the 1920s the entrenched conservative attitudes of the FA hierarchy ensured that English football remained well behind its European and South American counterparts and no advantage was taken of the new systems for a quarter of a century. Today, of course, floodlit football is part and parcel of the game, indeed the tradition of Saturday afternoon football seems to be disappearing for many top clubs in favour of evening games, principally as a result of the demands of television schedules.

If anyone out there has any ideas or articles for Blue Blood please email them to me

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The History Of Everton season 1933-34

Billy Smith the author of the Blue Correspondence Book has spent years researching Everton's History from Newspaper archives Although there are a few spelling mistakes due to limited time I am sure you will enjoy the information. Billy can be contacted by email bluecorrespondent@bluebottle.com

FURTHER CHANGES MADE

JANUARY 17 1934. DAILY POST

The goodison park directors have made a number of alterations, compared with the team beaten in the cup-tie, cresswell stands down cook crossing over to the left back, position, and he will have williams as his partner while gee resumes at centre-half back, enabling white once more to lead the attack. Dunn and johnson drop out, megorty and cunliffe taking the inside positions. Dean is making good progess and, is contining light training. He is expected to he fit to play in about a fortnight.

DEAN SHOULD BE FIT FOR NEXT GAME

JANUARY 24 1934. DAILY POST

It is expected that dean, the everton centre-forward will be fit in a few days, and it is hoped he will play against manchester city next Wednesday should the city win or lose the cup-tie on Saturday. Meanwhile, litherland is a young player from cockfield (durham). Who is attached to the royal engineers of catterick camp and is being given a trail for the reserves on Saturday against manchester city reserves.

HIGHAM TO MAKE DEBUT

JANUARY 31 1934, DAILY POST

Everton were not engaged last week, but they renew strenous operations on Saturday, when the team is due to face arsenal, in the return league match at highbury. Another intersting experiment is to be made, higham the young chorley centre-forward, who proved a prelited scorer in the lancashire combination and who has done well, in the centre-league side, since joining everton, has been chosen at inside-right to critchley in place of megorty, who play in the match against sheffield Wednesday. Higham is thus affordedf a fine opportuntidy of displaying his skill and shooting power, althrough it is a stiff task, for a young player to face arsenal defence, in hios first experience of the first league football.

STEVENSON SIGNED FROM GLASGOW RANGERS

FEBUARY 1 1934, DAILY POST

Everton secured the signature of stevenson, the glasgow rangers, irish interational inside wing forward, and he will play against arsenal at highbury on Saturday. Stevenson is a player, everton have tried to secure for some time, but when arrangements were almost completed recently the player decided that he wanted to stay in glasgow, however he changed his mind, and everton completed the deal yesterday. Stevenson is regard as a fine forward, even through he 5ft 5ins stevenson joined rangers from dublin dolphins in august 1932, and during the present season, played for ireland against england, scotland and wates. He made a rapid rise, when he joined rangers on the recommendation of dixon, their trainer, who had known stevenson when playing in dublin. Stevenson made his league debut before the end of the season, marshall the regular inside-right was excused in order to study for medical examinations, and stevenson played in the rangers early games, this season, he's a fine play in the international matches attracted much attention and with the return of marshall, stevenson went into the reserves and with venters also engaged the rangers had four international inside wing men on their books. Stevenson is expected to do well at everton, higham will play in the reserves side in place of johnson and king will keep goal.

CHANGES AGAINST MAN CITY

FEBUARY 7 1934, DAILY POST

Stevenson, the new player, and white were injured on Saturday, at highbury and they are unable to play, johnson has therefore, been called on to lead the attack while higham the former chorley player takes his inside left berth and will make his debut with the league team.

SAGAR SELECTED FOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

FEBUARY & 1934, DAILY POST

There is no finer goalkeepers in the county to-day than suger, of everton, and it is fitting that he should be called upon to keep goal for the football league against the scottish league, at glasgow on Saturday, suger takes the place of hibbs, who recently a thigh injury last Saturday, suger played for the football league against the irish league at preston earlier in the season.

AND THE REPORT OF THE PERSON O

CHANGES AGAINST LIVERPOOL

Owing to an injury sustained in the mid-week match higham the chorley youth, who did so well against manchester city is unable to appear and stevenson the irish internation froim glasgow rangers is to partner stein. Sager has been called on to help the league in place of the injury hibbs and coggins will keep goal.

COULTER SIGNS FROM BELFAST CELTIC

FEBUARY 12 1934, DAILY POST

John coulter the twenty-two year-old irish forward and belfast celtic outside left was transferred to everton on Saturday, shortly after he had been ordered off the field by the refereee, in an irish cup tie between belfast celtic and ballymena at ballymena. The transfer fee is said to be £3,000. Coulter played for ireland this season at inside left against england, and wales, and also for the irish league in their matches with the scottish league and the football league.

SAGAR PLAYED AGAINST SCOTTISH LEAGUE

FEBUARY 12 1934, DAILY POST

Suger played for the FA against the scottish in a 2-2 drew at ibox park, glasgow.

EVERTON SIGN T CAVANAGE AND S BENTHAM FROM WIGAN ATHLETIC

FEBUARY 13 1934, DAILY POST

Following the signing of coulter the irish international forward, everton secured, two young players from wigan athletic in T cavanage, a right-half, and S hentham an inside right. Both are well built, standing 5ft 9ins and weighting 11", in cheshire county league football they have shown excellent form. Cavanagh is twenty-years-old, and bentham eighteen.

CHANGES AGAINST MIDDLESBROUGH

FEBUARY 16 1934, DAILY POST

Everton are making some unexpected changes in the forward line for their match with middleshrough at goodison park to-morrow, and special interst will be centred in the work of the youthful line to operate against the strong middlesbrough defence, the pivot, of which is griffiths the former everton centre half-back, geldard returns to outside right in place of critchley and will have as partner stevenson the irish international, who played his second game for everton last Saturday, at inside left. Cunliffe will again lead the line in place of johnson while higham the young chorley palyer, partners stein. Who the only forward who has turned out in every match so far, sager of course returns to keep goul in place of coggins.

CHANGES AGAINST BLACKBURN ROVERS

FEBUARY 21 1934, DAILY POST

Everton go to ewood park on Saturday to oppose blackburn rovers, and it is pleasing to find that white has recovered sufficiently to take his place at centre-forward. Where he resumes in place of cunliffe, who goes to inside-right, as partner to geldard, in place of stevenson, higham is stein partner on the other wing.

DEAN TO RETUEN AGAINST BLACKBURN TO-DAY

FEBUARY 24 1934, DAILY POST

Dean returns to the everton first team to-day, after an absence from the league duty since november 4, when he received a knee injury. White was originally chosen to lead the attack to-day, but he had not completely recovered from the injury received three weeks ugo, and so dean returns to lead the attack with cunliffe at inside right and higham on the left.

CENTRAL LEAGUE NEWS

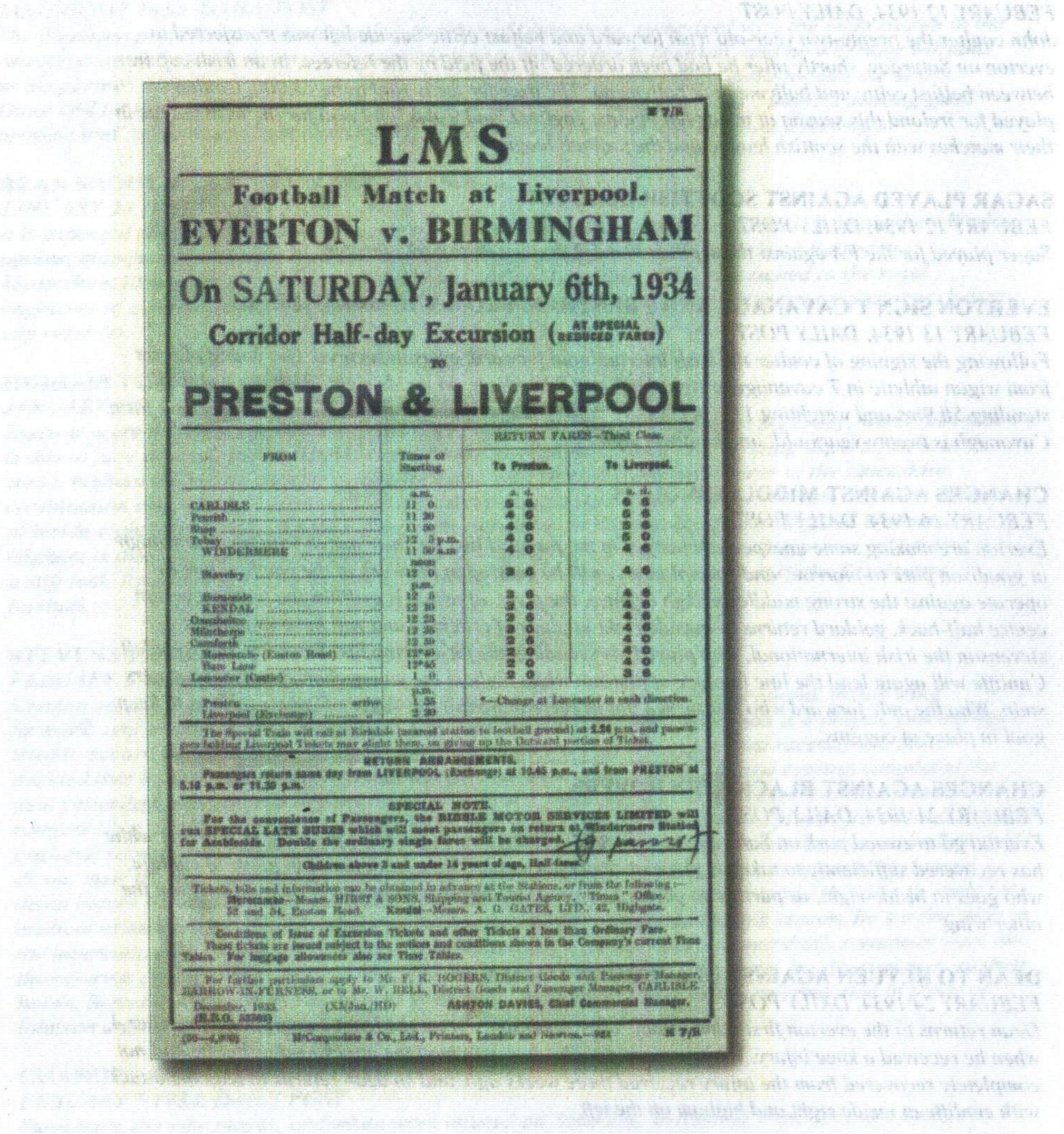
FEBUARY 28 1934. DAILY POST

W.I redfern the marine player, will lead the everton reserves attack on Saturday against oldhum athleticy reserves.

TOMMY JOHNSON TRANSFERRED TO LIVERPOOL

MARCH 3 1934, DAILY POST

The Liverpool football club, secure the signing of t johnson of everton, the international inside-left and he will make his debut appearance for his new club in the match against middlesbrough at anfield today, johnson one of the eight players who everton are reported to be prepared to receive offers., has



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been one of the best inside forwards in the league football. He was signed on by everton in march 5 1930, from manchester city, for which club he once scored five goals out of six in a match at goodison park. He was then at centre-forward. Everton were said to have paid the city club £6,000 for johnson, who had rendered the goodison club, splenddi service, both at centre-forward and inside-left. He played against Liverpool last month as leader of the attack, but his best position is at inside left, and here he should greatly strengthem the Liverpool attack. He stands 5ft 9 ans three-quarters inches, weights 10 stone. Johnson has played in nineteen league matches for everton this season.

DISTURTED OVER CONFIDENTIAL

MARCH 3 1934, DAILY POST

FEBULARY IN 1914 DAILI PLANT

CHILD TRAILISH MUDIT ENGINE RETURNS

TOUR THAT LAND ALVENT TRANSPORT

LOVEN THE LIBER

The everton club are disturted that information given by them in circular matters, regarded as private and confidential, between clubs, should have been made public property. Mr WC cuff, the chairman, in an interview said:- unless there is confidence in football, matters the sport cannot go on. The effects of any club divuling the names of players will eventually stop clubs sending out lists altogether. Everton have circulaised the clubs intimating that they were prepare to receive offers for the following players (in addition to johnson), dunn, critchley, bocking, clark, mcgorty, turner, coggins.

ONE CHANGE AGAINST LEICESTER CITY

MARCH 7 1934, DAILY POST

One change has been made in the everton team for the match against leicester, white having recovery from the injury received in the game at arsenal at highbury on february 3, returns to the team in place of dean, who has been chosen to play for the reserves.

GAME POSTONED

MARCH 14 1934, DAILY POST

Everton are not engaged on Saturday, owing to the cup semi-final tie at huddersfield between manchester city and the aston villa, everton were due to visit huddersfield town, and the game has had to be postponed.

CENTRAL LEAGUE NEWS

MARCH 28 1934, DAILY POST

The reserves side meet leeds united in the centre-league match at goodison park on Friday, will include F white in goal. White is a young amateur, who comes from wolverhampton amateurs, and who played for the 'A' team last week. At crosby. He is seventeen years-of-age.

ONE CHANGE AGAINST CHELSEA

APRIL 11 1934, DAILY POST

Everton are again indirectly concerned in the relegation struggle on Saturday, when they complete the merseyside duel, with the clubs, by visting stamford bridge. Cook is fit again, and returns to partner williams, in place of jones, while white resumes at centre-forward.

DEAN TO RETUEN AGAINST POSTMOUNTH

APRIL 18 1934, DAILY POST

Dean, the everton capt, who has been playing in the centre league side for some weeks is gradually regaining confidence and it is pleased to learn that he is to turn out for the senior side on Saturday. Coulter, the irish international, who has also been playing fine football with the reserves, is to make his debut in the first team. He is to play at inside left in place of stevenson. Williams returns to right back in place of cresswell, so that in all there are three changes in the side which lost chelsea. Cook has not quite recovered from his injury and jones retains the left back position. White stands down for dean.

CHANGES IN ALL FORWARD POSITION AGAINST HUDDERSFIELD

APRIL 25 1934. DAILY POST

For their meeting with huddersfield town at huddersfield this evening the everton team, shows changes in all the forward positions from the line which faced portsmouth at goodison park, on Saturday, only stein and coulter are retained in the line, and in their case stein movers over from outside left to outside right in place of geldard, while coulter takes over the left wing position instead at the outside one. Higham reappears at inside right in place of cunliffe, white leads the attack in place of dean (injured) and stevenson partners coulter.

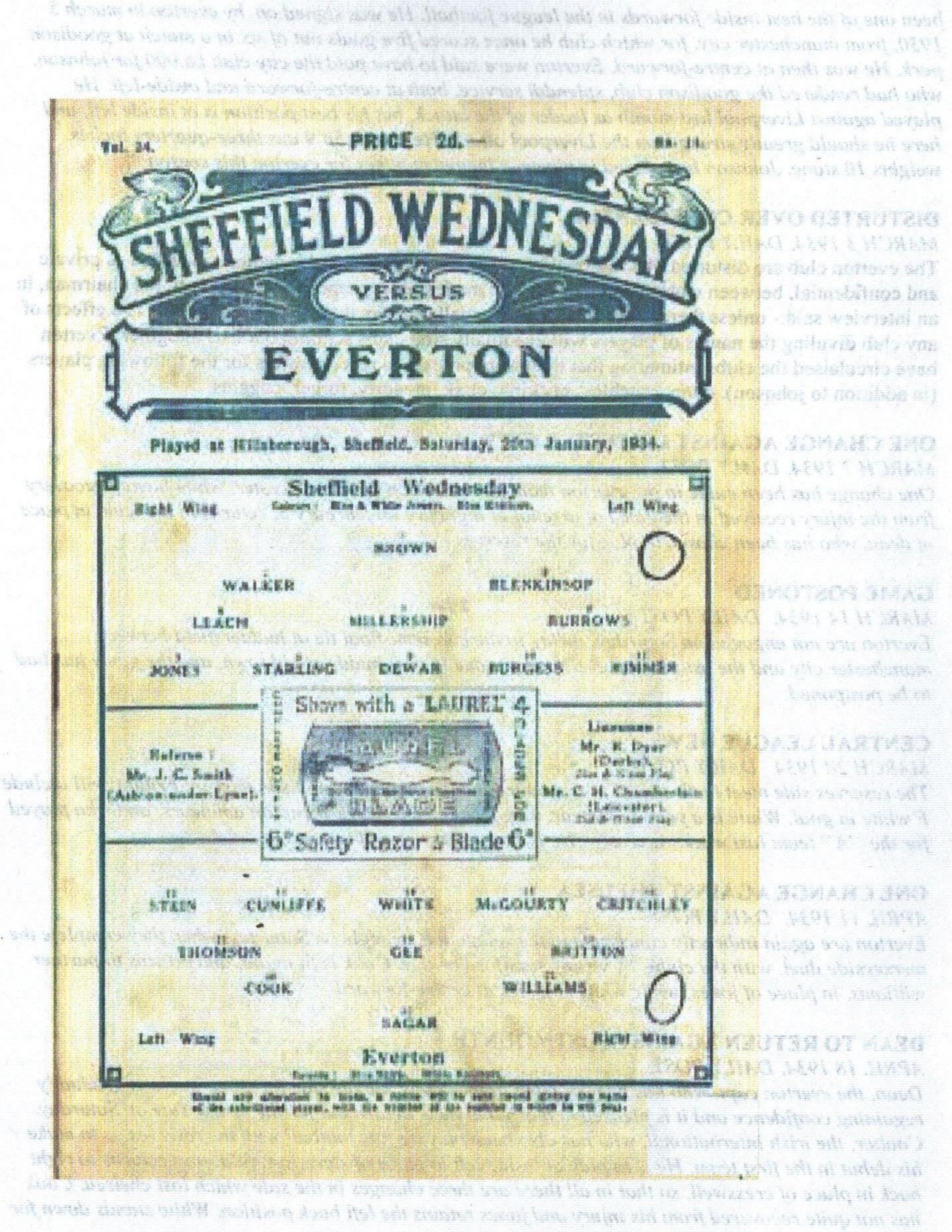
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CRITCHLEY TRANSFERRED TO PRESTON NORTH END

JUNE 8 1934, DAILY POST

Critchley, the everton outside right, was to-day transferred to preston north end. Critchley came to everton from stockport county, a matter of seven years ago, and has done yeoman service for the club. He kept his place in the side until ritchie, came down from scotland but after the scottish player has failed rto 'deliver' the goods, critchley was reinstated and he maintain his position until the advent of geldard. iT will be recalled that geldard was unable to play in the semi-final tie against west ham, at wolverhampton, so back came critchley, and it was he who scored the winning goal which enabled everton to go on to wembley and win the cup. Critchley was unfortunate in not gaininmg a cup medal for the year before he was to play in the penustimate round at old trafford, when everton were heaten by west brom. Critchley absence that day most probably prevented everton from winning, for his deputy missed the chance of the match and west brom went on to score a lucky goal.

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GENERAL MEETING

JUNE 16 1934. 1934.

Within the next day or two a first-class centre-forward is to be signed by everton football club, so that he will be available next season in case dean is not up to his usual standard. This announcement was made by mr. W.C. cuff, the chairman, at the annual meeting at the law association rooms, lasty evening. 'I had hoped that I should be in a position to-night to announce the name of our new firstclass centre-forward, 'but we are still on the lookout, and I think in the next day or two his name will he announced." There was not a dissentient voice throughout the meeting, which was completed in record time. Mr. cuff explained that the profit of £2172 of the previous year had become a loss of £2.401, chiefly because the club was defeated in the first round of the cup competition. The league recepts exceeded those of the previous season, and because of the loss reported the surplus profits were now £56,000 compared with nearly £60,000 the previuos year. It was not surprising that they had not had such a good season from the playing point of view as the previous three years. They could not hope to be at the top of the tree indefinitely. Several factorys contributed to the pooer season, and the chief was a number of injuries sustained by keu=v men, such as dean, white and cook. Dean had a very had season, as centre-forward he was in the unfortunate position of being the victim of many rebuffs and questionable play in the guol area which often went unnoticed by fereees. He had the misfortune to undergo two operations during the season, and, althrough the hoard were of the opionion that he had fully recovered physically, they were convinced the operations had a mental effect, so that dean was not quite sutisfied he was fully recovered. After the close season rest, however, he (the chairman) throught they could look forward to renewed efforts in first class football from the players. In the coming season they would have the assistance of a considerable number of young players whose undoubted quality had been noted at the back-end of last season, and after a little more experience they might expect good service and a splendid type of football from them. They were looking forward to the season with considerable optimism, and he thought that twelve months hence the shareholders would congratulate themselves upon another successful season added to the many they had enjoy in the past. The dividend of seven and half per cent, was passed unanimously, as was the re-election of the retiring directors, dr C.S. baxter, mr E. green, A. r. wade. The secretary, mr T meintosh, announce the following list of professionals who have been signed:-

goalkeepers, sager, king, deighton, full backs williams, cook, cresswell, jones, morris, jackson, half backs, britton, gee white, thomson, clark, archer, watson (tg), griffiths, kavanagh, forwards geldard, cunliffe dean, stevenson, stein, britley, dunn, higham, coulter, bentham, webster, watson (jg), leyfield. Mr cuff added that the total of 32 might not be the number they would start the season with if any good players were to be obtained they would make every effort to secure their services. In addition a large number of players had signed amateur forms.

BIRTLEY TRANSFERRED TO COVENTRY CITY

JUNE 26 1934, 1934

Everton have transferred R birtley of the reserves player to coventry city. Birtley who belongs to helton-le-hole was secured by everton in october 1931, when he was regarded ass one of the best right wingers in the north eastern league. He has played chiefly at outside right in the everton second team but last season appeared occasionally at half-back. He stands 5ft 7 and half ins and weights 10st 4lbs.

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Continued in next issue

				IUN KES	SERVES 1933-34
	AUG 26	A	WEST BROM	0-2	
	28	H	BLACKPOOL	1-1	McGOURLAY (TURNER MISS PEN)
	SEPT 2	H	BIRMINGHAM CITY	3-2	BALMER (J) (2)' TURNER
		1	BLACKPOOL	1-1	GEE
	9	1	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	0-3	
5	16	H	MANCHESTER CITY	0-1	
7	23	A	BURY	0-1	
8	30	H	LIVERPOOL .	1-1	LAPHAM
9	OCT7	H	NEWCASTLE UNITED	4-3	LAPHAM (2)' TURNER' CUNLIFFE
10	14	A	BLACKBURN ROVERS	3-3	CUNLIFFE (3)
11	21	A	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	2-2	LIGHTFOOT OG' LAPHAM
12	28	H	BURNLEY	2-2	TURNER' CUNLIFFE
13	101.1	A	PRESTON NORTH END	3-2	CUNLIFFE (2)' LEYFIELD
14		H	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	0-2	
15	18	1	STOKE CITY	2-3	LEYFIELD (2)
16	25	H	WOLVERHAMPTON W	1-2	WILDMAN OG .
17	DEC 2	1	ASTON VILLA	3-5	McGOURTY' LEYFIELD; WATSON
18	9	H	SHEFFIELD UNITED	4-2	LEYFIELD (2)' HIGHAM' WATSON
19	16	A	MANCHESTER UNITED	1-2	
20	The state of the s	H	BOLTON WANDERERS	3-4	
21	25	H	DERBY COUNTY	2-5	
22	26	A	DERBY COUNTY	3-0	McGOURTY LEYFIELD (2)
23	30	11	WEST BROM	2-1	HIGHAM (2)
24	JAN 6	1	BIRMINGHAM CITY	4-5	McGOURLAY (2) (1 PEN)' LEVFIELD' HIGHAM (CLARKE MISS PEN)
25	20	H	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	1-0	REDFERN
26	29	H	MANCHESTER CITY	1-4	WATSON
27	FEB 3	H	BURY	2-1	DEAN' DUNN
28	17	1	NEWCASTLE UNITED	1-2	DEAN 19,000
29	24	H	BLACKBURN ROVERS	2-2	LEYFIELD' LITHERLAND
30	MAR 3	H	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	4-3	COULTER (2)' STEVENSON (2)
31	10	A	BURNLEY	4-2	DEAN (3)' COULTER
32	19	H	PRESTON NORTH END	2-1	STEVENSON' COULTER (PEN)
33	22	A	LIVERPOOL	1-2	COULTER
34	24	1	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	1-6	DEAN
35	30	H	LEEDS UNITED	4-0	LEYFIELD' DEAN (2)' DUNN
36	31	H	STOKE CITY	4-1	DEAN (2)' McGOURTY' LEYFIELD
37	APR 2	A	LEEDS UNITED	2-1	DEAN' WATSON
38	7	A	WOLVERHAMPTON W	1-2	BENTHAM
39	14	H	ASTON VILLA	3-3	CRITCHLEY' DEAN' COULTER
40	21	A	SHEFFIELD UNITED	1-3	HIGHAM
41	28	11	MANCHESTER UNITED	2-1	McGOURTY' DUNN
42	MAY 5	A	BOLTON WANDERERS	2-1	DUNN
-	RPOOL SE	NIOR	The same of the sa		
R2	SEPT 27	H	LIVERPOOL	1-2	BIRTLEY ATT 6,000
BIRK	ENHEAD F	IOSP			
1	MAY 2	1.	TRANMERE ROVERS	1-3	CUNLIFFE (30) ATT 3,000
LATE	IGOE CUP	7			
SF	APR 18	Н	LIVERPOOL.	1-1	HIGHAM (2) (1 PEN), TURNER, STEVENSON
L'	MAYI	11	MARINE	3-1	HIGHAM (2) BENTHAM

