

WINCHMORE HILL FOOTBALL CHAT

MARCH 34



with Compliments

WINCHMORE HILL FOOTBALL CLUB

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Editorial.

DURING the past month of unparalleled fine March weather football has been played under perfect conditions. The home pitches are now a pleasure to play upon and the whole field has never looked better so early in Spring. The performance of the 1st and 2nd elevens has produced a considerable improvement in their League position and this is gratifying to a Selection Committee with many worries in the first half of the season. The play of the 3rd and 4th elevens is still disappointing, and a glance at their playing records on cover will confirm our impression that the junior sides must be the Club's first consideration next season. By arranging a lecture by George Knight on March 24th, and the 3rd v 4th eleven game on March 26th, the Committee has already made a start on their admittedly difficult task.

We commend to our readers the articles by three new contributors whom we thank most warmly. Mr. Robin Bailes describes the

Nemean League, of which he is the enthusiastic and hard-working Secretary, and we believe that his article will be of great interest to the members of the junior elevens who compete in the Nemean League, one of the most efficiently-run football organisations. Mr. McFarlane, himself a keen Norseman player and Hon. Sec., tells the history of his Club, for whom we have great admiration. Finally, "The Old Gentleman," who is much younger in spirit than his pseudonym suggests, describes three cup-finals in which the Club took part some years ago. He rightly suggests that his object is not to make "odious comparisons with the present day," yet his article will probably arouse regret at the recent competitive failure of the Club.

We had hoped to publish an account of Bournemouth F.C. (Amateur), whom we play on our forthcoming Easter Tour, but their contribution has not yet arrived.



TEAM REPORTS.

THE 1st XI.

This last month has been easily the most cheering for the 1st XI, who have continued their upward movement in the league table and are now fourth ; heights we hardly dared dream of earlier in the season.

As welcome as the points, was the very considerable improvement shown, there being much more "devil" in the team's play in the first three games.

Against the Old Grocers our forwards opened brilliantly and soon established a lead, although it must be confessed that, after scoring 48 penalties in 50 shots at practice on Tuesday evening, our skipper managed to hit the post with his sole effort in this game. The Grocers girded up their aprons and fought back, but although they scored twice, we ran out good winners by 5—2. Bain proved an efficient substitute for Wheatley.

The next match was played in the stormy conditions we generally seem to encounter at National Provincial Bank's ground. Good football was difficult, the wind being so powerful at times that one Hill player, not always complimented upon his long kicking, hit the opponents' crossbar from his own penalty area. However, some sturdy defence against the wind, combined with some neat inside forward play enabled us to win by three clear goals.

Following this we had a really rousing game with Crouch End Vampires at Folly Farm, again winning 3—0. In fact it seemed to be a little too rousing for the official in charge, although neither team seemed to have any regrets afterwards. We held our own in the first half mainly owing to some brilliant work

by Wheatley, who seems to have an answer to the housewives' problem, how to be in half a dozen places at once. After a shaky ten minutes in the second half, the Hill took control and some of our best forward play for many a long day earned us a victory. We must acknowledge some very able work by our "Glamour Boy" deputising for Kenyon.

By this time most of us were feeling quite sorry for the teams still above us in the table, but on this occasion the pill came after the sugar, the pill being provided by National Provincial Bank, who beat us 5—2 at home. The visitors were a vastly improved side, but even so our form was a terrible disappointment. It has been suggested that some of it may be explained by a good spot of staff work by the Bank the previous Wednesday. Be that as it may, I hear Attwood is recommending their young centre-forward for a branch managership in Halifax before next season opens.

Next came a very friendly game with P.L.A., who defeated us 4—3. While the 1st XI has always tried to maintain the club's name for hospitality, it is not really necessary to carry it on to the field. A little more honest enmity to the man with the ball would hurt nobody, and if the team as a whole would remember this, and also that it is essential, where possible, to get the ball first, we would surely soon be back to the form that brought such good results earlier in the month.

A. G. C.



THE 2nd XI.

During the weeks that have elapsed since the last publication of "Football Chat," the Reserve side have shown a distinct improvement, both in form and in results, the last five matches played having resulted in three wins, one draw and only one loss.

The solitary defeat was suffered at the hands of Old Grocers, who scored the only goal of a rather scrappy match. It is difficult to say exactly why we lost, but it is just possible that the Old Grocers were the better team ! At any rate they had a strong defence, who completely bottled up our forwards.

On February 12th we entertained Alexandra Park and beat them 5—3, Woollends scoring a hat-trick. This was a splendid performance, particularly as we were without our skipper, Dudley ("Two-foot") Wright. He has been a tower of strength at back all this season, and the older he gets the better he seems to play ! His place was taken by Blake, who did very well. He is fast and tackles well and with a little more experience should develop into a first rate back.

The following Saturday we were visited by Highgate and achieved a highly creditable victory by 2 goals to 1. Highgate have had a successful season and are well in the running for the Championship of our division of the S.A.L. They were rather surprised at being sent home without a point, particularly as our inside right, Wilfred Bacon, was afflicted with lumbago soon after the kick off. Although hardly able to run, he refused to go off and was rewarded by scoring the winning goal.

On February 26th the Reserves were without a league fixture but our hard-working Secretary, with possibly misdirected enthusiasm, arranged a "friendly" against Old Elysians. They are not, as a classical scholar might think, "fallen angels," but old boys of William Ellis School. The first half was played in that desultory and lethargic manner peculiar to friendlies and the Hill found themselves 4—1 down at half time. Everybody then decided that they must not "let the side down, chaps" and we proceeded to win 5—4. Woollends

had a field day and scored all five. Possibly the Old Boys would not have scored so many if our brilliant goal-keeper, Ken Bain, had not had the misfortune to dislocate a finger before the game started.

Last Saturday we visited Highgate and did well to draw 3—3. The hard ground did not suit the Hill, who are definitely a "muddier the better" team, but the forward line played well. Banks signalled his first appearance for the Reserves by scoring a good goal. He obviously has the makings of a very useful footballer and has the rare faculty of being able to use his head for purposes other than making contact with the ball. The other two goals were scored by the inevitable Woollends, to whom a special tribute is due this month. Of the 15 goals scored during the last five weeks he has scored 11, which is an impressive performance. He has well deserved all of them, having a quick eye for an opportunity and the requisite amount of dash and "guts" to ram his chances home.

J. W.



THE 3rd XI.

The results during the period under review are not such as to produce the elusive glow of triumph which the Selection Committee doubtless considers they deserve for all their hard thinking and serious cogitation, but the standard of football in the 3rd XI has much improved and the team can reasonably claim that for the past month or two it has played as well as, and often better than its opponents.

On the 5th February, the 3rds followed up their away win against the Old Grocers by soundly beating them in the return fixture at home. Jack Hurst scored all three goals

and used his weight to excellent effect—if he were not so heavy, he would probably need to be more skilful. However, he shows great promise. The Grocers obtained a consolation goal which, of course, softened the blow and induced a generous spirit which manifested itself in unstinted praise for the play of their conquerors.

The next match, against Merton, was lost 3—1. The conditions were difficult and the side was badly handicapped by an early injury to Pyle, who, most unfortunately, will be unable to play again this season. Dudley Wright played a magnificent game in defence but was not quite able to stem the tide and, undoubtedly, Merton won on their merits. It is worth recording that, after the match, Dudley displayed a guilty skill on the pin-table at the "Leather Bottle" and his companions subscribed handsomely, if unwillingly, to the evening's sport.

The Old Lyonians have scored few successes at the expense of the Hill during past years and it came as rather a surprise when they took two points by winning 3—1 on the 19th February. The game was quite interesting and, territorially, there was little advantage to either side, but the Hill's forward line was rather unbalanced and lacked penetration. The Lyonians 1st XI was without a match and, at the last moment, Freddy Dawson, their 1st XI skipper, was called upon to complete their side; a very good reason for the soundness of their defence. Buck played an excellent game and was the outstanding Winchmore Hill player.

The following week the 3rds were beaten at home by Carshalton. It was a spirited game and one of the most enjoyable played this season and although the Hill had much the better of the play, they could only score once

against the visitors' two goals; Jacques was the scorer from Wintrup's long swinging pass. Jack Hurst was once again an outstanding figure, not so much for the football he displayed but rather for his nomadic attacks on all and sundry of the Carshalton players. Lack of penetration was again apparent.

The game against Alexandra Park was lost by six clear goals. The skipper was in his most generous mood and gave two goals to the Park without consulting his side: he was adjudged to have made an unfair tackle in the penalty area and from the resultant kick the first goal was registered, whilst later he placed a perfect header past his own goalkeeper to mark up number two. No wonder the side gave an indifferent display for they were never quite certain which goal they were supposed to be attacking.

H. H.



• THE 4th XI.

Since January we have been sadly handicapped by lack of weight in the forward line. On 5th February, at Lloyds Bank, the difference in the score was approximately equal to the difference in weight. Our opponents were much too heavy for us and we lost a good game 2—6.

On the 12th we met Merton at home and were fortunate in having the services of Watson. We had our best game this year, and were very unlucky to lose 0—2, the whole side playing well together.

On the 19th we visited Old Lyonians at Harrow and actually won a league game. The opposition was only mediocre and after presenting our opponents with the first goal and missing some dozen or so ourselves, we managed to scramble home 4—2.

The 26th is a long and sad story. Some difficulty was experienced in wresting one member from the "Cock Tavern" to make a start, then some of the party, scared by the pessimistic posters on the Southend Road wanted to turn back. The leading car appeared to have a predisposition to continue to Southend but eventually we reached the "White Hart" somewhere in Essex. Although our ultimate destination was still a dark secret, we changed (in spite of each other) in an even darker closet, thence to the cars again and further into Essex. One of the postcards apparently tried to follow the directions for itself as it failed to arrive and we were only ten men. Towards nightfall, the game started but even so we were back to the "White Hart" too soon for the bath. Incidentally, we lost 0—7 and it poured all the way home.

On the 3rd March we mustered nine men—(eight defence and one forward) and our thanks are due to Bob Haycraft, who turned out at a moment's notice to make the tenth. Highgate were much too good for us and scored five to our one—a really good solo effort by Brewer.

Excluding the first half of the Brentwood match, when the whole side played badly, Hobbs continues to show good form in goal, and Brewer plays well in a fresh position each match. Pickard is seen to much better advantage at half and Gant and Huntly and sturdy defenders. Hockley and Lawrence were getting across plenty of centres when last seen at Harrow, and when allowed to remain on his feet, Vantighem has an excellent shot. If any one else has played two consecutive games for the side without mention we crave their indulgence. So many stars have twinkled, their light has intermingled.

L. B.

NEMEAN AMATEUR FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

The foundation of the Nemean League was due in the first instance to a difference of opinion between the F.A. clubs and A.F.A. clubs comprising the Middlesex County Amateur League. As to the reason for the difference in opinion, that, as Kipling says, "Is another story." Anyhow, the A.F.A. clubs seceded, and approached the A.F.A. for advice. That body had been feeling the need for yet another league for its clubs, and called a meeting of interested parties. The meeting took place in June, 1926, with Mr. W. H. Sydney Smith in the Chair, and Mr. W. E. Greenland, Hon. Secretary, *pro tem*. Amongst the twenty odd clubs represented were Maybrook, Crouch End Vampires, St. Saviours, U.S.A.C., Alexandra Park, Port of London Authority, Broomfield, O. Actonians, O. Hamptonians, O. Elysians, and O. Parmiterians.

The following resolution proposed by Mr. J. D. Bruce (the present Vice-Chairman of the League, and Hon. Secretary of Crouch End Vampires) was carried unanimously. "That in the opinion of the clubs represented, a new League should be formed."

Accordingly, the following September, the new League kicked off, starting with a Senior Division and two Reserve Divisions, and prospered exceedingly well. To begin with, the officials were all men who knew the game inside out. Mr. W. H. Sydney Smith, the Chairman, had been connected with amateur football for forty years, and at various times had been Hon. Secretary of Wingfield House, Nunhead, Alexandra Park, and the Southern Suburban League. What he did not know of football control was not worth knowing. W. Stanley Bourne, the Hon. Secretary, was peculiarly suited to his post. A Class I referee, he combined the jobs of solicitor to a Govern-

ment Department by day, and choirmaster to a West End church by night. Believe me, a man who has a trained legal mind and can also keep choir boys in order, is definitely qualified to be a football league secretary. The referees were under the control of "Sid" Heaven, who retired from that post only last season.

The name "Nemean" was due to the opportunist mind of Sydney Smith, who happened to overhear Nemea mentioned as being one of the ancient Greek republics, and promptly grabbed the name as being similar to Corinthian, Spartan, Olympian, Isthmian, and Athenian, classical names all well known in football circles. The badge was designed for the League by the art master of William Ellis School, and has been much admired.

Broomfield won the Championship the first season, with Crouch End Vampires the runners-up. Next season the positions were reversed. In 1928 another division became imperative, Division I being split into two. In 1929, two more divisions were added, the senior clubs being formed into Premier and Senior Divisions, and a division formed for third elevens.

Southern Amateur League clubs joined the Nemean League merely because the constitution of the older League would not permit of any expansion. Some of its clubs, however, felt that their third and fourth elevens would attain a higher level if they played in a league with its competitive spirit. Also, some of the secretaries were tired of the endless trouble of arranging "friendlies," which were always liable to cancellation. The Nemean League was approached and asked if it could help. It could and it would! A division for third elevens of S.A.L. clubs was started in 1930, and another division for fourth elevens in 1935. From all accounts, they are appreciated.

The League now comprises 38 clubs, turning out 81 teams, playing in 7 divisions, and, undoubtedly, is playing a very useful and important part in A.F.A. football.

R. B.



NORSEMAN F.C.

The Norsemen F.C. was founded in 1895 by members mainly drawn from the old Orion Gymnasium. The membership in the early days was not a large one, about 18, and was by Club rule limited to 25!

The first season was spent on a pitch close to Lower Edmonton Station, dressing accommodation being at "The Cross Keys," but in 1896 a move was made to the Edmonton Cricket Club ground where they remain to the present day. In the pavilion there, with the kind permission of the Edmonton Cricket Club, hang photographs of the teams from the Club's inception together with the original fixture card for the first season which belonged to their first Captain, Vic Homer, now a Vice-President, with full results, goal scorers and remarks. In the light of the present day fixture lists it is of interest to give the details of that season: 27 Games. Won 13, Drew 8, Lost 6. Goals for 76, against 42.

Shortly after the formation of the Southern Amateur League the Club became members but in recent times the only Cup Competition entered has been the A.F.A. Senior Cup. In 1905 the Middlesex Cup was won by beating their old friends Ealing in the final, and the semi-final of the London Charity Cup reached when the Old Carthusians defeated them 3-1 at Queens Club. At one time many members were provided for the Middlesex County sides and on occasion the entire half back line were members of the side.

When War broke out the Club, of course, closed down, but in 1919, largely owing to the untiring efforts of W.S. (Bill) Scarlett, also of Upper Clapton Cricket fame, a revival was successful and to-day the Club runs six teams every Saturday and competes in the Southern Amateur League, two elevens, Nemean League, two elevens, the A.F.A. Senior, Junior and Minor Cups, and the Wood Green Hospital Cup.

In their President, Mr. W. E. Jack, they have not only one of the earliest members but also an international who was capped in the first A.F.A. XI sent abroad in 1908 against Bohemia, and one who follows in a worthy line of presidents, as the first of all was D. Burnett Esq., afterwards Sir David Burnett, Bart., Lord Mayor of London.

The members selected for representative League and A.F.A. games at home and abroad are too numerous to mention, but it is their very good fortune to have as their Treasurer, J. M. W. Jennings, Esq., that very successful secretary of the A.F.A., himself a very worthy upholder of the Norsemen tradition on the field of play during the post war period.

The Club is a truly private one, having no connection with any other association or body, membership being obtained by introduction, and in connection with the name of the Club some illusions may be shattered when it is known that the original members decided that as they were going to play in the North, what could be better than Norsemen! The name has attracted several Scandinavians to them and at the moment they have a Norwegian international in their side.

It may be that by some of their opponents and spectators the Norsemen are considered to play in a robust manner but charges are given and taken in the best of spirit and after all 44 years under the Norsemen motto of "RET

FREM" needs a lot of living up to as the literal translation may be taken to be "Straight Forward" or "Aggression."

LOOKING BACKWARD.

One of the greatest disadvantages of middle age is the knowledge that one must give up active participation in the more robust forms of Outdoor Sports. When one has handled one's bat for the last innings, or taken the last kick at either the circular or the oval football, one feels that a delightful period of life has come to an end, and nothing appears to be left but reminiscences of exciting games in which one played, sometimes a major, but perhaps more often a minor port. Your Author, who has been intimately connected with the Club to which we are all so proud to belong, although in only a Committee Sphere, looks back at several of the red letter days of the Club, and feels that the present generation may be interested in hearing about such days. Lest it be thought that this backward look is intended to make odious comparisons with the present day, the Writer hastens to state that such intention is very far from his mind.

At this point one hears the readers saying "Cut out the cackle, and come to the 'osses" and the Writer hastens to obey.

Visualize then a blustery Saturday in April, 1922, the scene the Broadway, Winchmore Hill, and drawn up alongside the pavement, three Motor Coaches, filled with the team and admiring fans of both sexes, about to set out for the ground of the Exiles Football Club, Twickenham, the team to do battle with the Coldfall Football Club, for the honour of holding for one year the Middlesex County Amateur Charity Cup. The journey to Twickenham was far from quiet, a certain and normally very staid resident of our then delectable suburb, making himself very pro-

minent and exceedingly audible by his persistent ringing of a large handbell. Arriving at our destination, the final started, and despite the very high wind produced an excellent game of Football, with an ending completely satisfactory from a Winchmore Hill point of view, who triumphed by 3 goals to 1.

Prominent among the Victors were Lindsay Brown, Heald, Lavers, Gower, Chinn and the brothers Follett, mere names to the present Membership, but still remembered with affection by the fans of those seemingly so far off days.

Red Letter Day No. 2, is concerned with yet another Final, on this occasion that of the Middlesex Senior A.F.A. Cup, and the date in question is April 1927. Our opponents were the Old Hamptonians and the venue, the ground of the Liverpool Victoria Football Club at Acton. The personnel of our team was largely the same as in the previous match, with the notable additions of Frank Smith, George Deacock and Dick Platt. The outcome of the game was again satisfactory, the final score on this occasion being 4 goals to 1.

Unlike the previous final the Cup was presented to our Captain after the game by one of the high officials of the Amateur Football Association, who commented on the very sporting display given by both teams.

Over the closing stages of that evening it is perhaps kinder to throw a veil, but the Writer has pleasant memories of a sumptuous tea, copious libations from the Cup, and the first acquaintance with one of the then novel fruit machines, which however had the better of all who tried a fall with it, who left the ground very happy but with somewhat depleted pockets.

The third and final scene takes place one year later, to be precise, April, 1928. Winchmore Hill, by consistent good play, once more

had reached the final of the same Middlesex Senior A.F.A. Cup and to give matters a keen local interest, were called upon to play the Broomfield Football Club. The Match was scheduled to be played on the Henry Barrass Ground at Edmonton, and feeling between the rival bodies of spectators naturally ran high.

Playing beautifully together, the Hill were 2 goals up in the first quarter of an hour, and were awarded a penalty, from which, however, they failed to score. Scarcely had they recovered from this set back than Dame Fortune, rubbing it in, as it seemed, saw fit to present Broomfield with a goal through a bad mistake by the Hill defence. This rebuff by the little imp who sits above proved too much for our boys, who it must be admitted, simply faded out of the picture, leaving Broomfield worthy winners in the end by 4 goals to 2, a staggering blow for the fans, who had looked forward with a good deal of confidence, to the Cup remaining with the Club for yet another year.

Thus ends this retrospect of what may, I think, be called high lights in the history of the Club, and the Writer forsakes for a moment his backward glance, to look forward and wish the Old Club which has provided players and fans alike with so many happy days, successes in the future greater than those of the past, some of which it has given the Writer so much pleasure to recall.

THE OLD GENTLEMAN.



LAW REPORT.

The Off-side Rule.

Linkseye v. Hardboot.

Before Mr. Justice Clodd, sitting without a Jury.

Judgment was given for the plaintiff in this case in which Mr. Wilfred Linkseye, a glass-blower, of 36, Broadway, Little Heaven, claiming damages for assault, sued Mr. Anthony

Philip Hardboot, a grocer's assistant, of Ivy Cottage, Much Bunkum. The case turned on the correct interpretation of what is known as the Offside Rule in Association Football, a competitive team game much played among the common people. Each party conducted his own case. The relevant facts are stated in the judgment which follows.

By Law 6 of the Laws of Association Football, "when a player plays the ball any player of the same side who at such moment of playing is nearer to his opponents' goal-line is out of play, and may not touch the ball himself . . . until the ball has been again played, unless there are at such moment of playing at least two of his opponents nearer their own goal-line. A player is not out of play when . . . the ball has been last played by an opponent . . ."

Judgment.

His Lordship, in the course of his judgment stated that this case had caused him very serious thought. It was a very good example of a layman endeavouring to interpret a legal document drawn, as to its obscurity of meaning, in what purported to be legal form; the curious point struck him that such persons as glass-blowers, presumably with no legal training, were permitted to interpret such laws without reference to legal authority. It was, further, very curious that thousands of such people as grocers' assistants were quite willing to accept such interpretation without question, though occasionally, as in this case, an individual disputed it. Had the matter gone no further than that the parties would probably not have appeared before him, but as a result of this unsatisfactory state of affairs a case of common assault arose, and he wished to make it quite clear that in such an event the injured party would have all the protection the law could give him, be he lawyer or layman.

On January 8th last what was known as a Cup-tie took place between a team of eleven players of the Much Bunkum Football Club and a team of the same number of players of the Ruffneck Hornets Football Club, on the ground of the first-named. "I understand from a witness for the prosecution," said his Lordship, "that these matches having a cup as a prize are commonly liable to give rise to reckless disregard of the Laws of Association Football, and this certainly appears to have happened in this case," and continued.

After this so-called "game" had been in progress for some $2\frac{1}{2}$ minutes the plaintiff, who had been appointed by a ruling authority to see that its Laws were observed, and who is known as a referee, found it necessary to warn the defendant, the centre-forward ("Goodness knows what that is," interposed his Lordship) of the home team, that he was breaking these Laws and must cease from doing so. The plaintiff called witnesses, some of whom were obviously biassed and did not convince his Lordship, to show that these warnings were being given continuously throughout the match to all 22 players, so that by the time the 74th minute had arrived (the game is of 90 minutes' duration) things had come to a pretty pass. This pretty pass was the direct cause of this action.

A member of the Much Bunkum side gave a pass, that is kicked the ball, to the defendant, who, as a result, was enabled to place the ball into what is called the goal, an enclosure of which there is one at each end of the playing-field. The object of the game is to score as many goals as possible. In the opinion of the plaintiff, however, the defendant, when the ball reached him from his colleague, was in an "off-side" position, and the plaintiff said so and refused to allow the goal to count. Whereupon the defendant, in the words of the plaintiff, "fetched him (the plaintiff) a clip on

the jaw," by which it is understood he struck him, and the plaintiff at once informed the defendant that he (the defendant) could take no further part in the game. The defendant was, in colloquial terms, "Ordered off." "I should like to see," said his Lordship, "anyone in this Court, while I am administering the law, fetch me a clip on the jaw!" at which there was loud laughter, instantly suppressed. The defendant had stated that he was not "off-side" but "on-side," because the ball, during its passage to him from his colleague, was touched by a player of the Ruffneck Hornets, and that therefore he acted under strong provocation brought about by a sense of the plaintiff's having "done him wrong," as he put it.

A reference to Law 6 (quoted above) showed that its correct interpretation was obvious. It had transpired in evidence that arguments were taking place up and down the country on this point of interpretation, and he (his Lordship) proposed to settle them for good and all. If the Ruffneck did touch the ball during its progress then the defendant was "on-side"; if the ball touched nobody in its flight then he was "off-side." The trouble appeared to have been caused by the plaintiff blowing his whistle, with which he is provided to halt the game while it is in progress, as soon as he observed the ball to be kicked by the defendant's colleague, instead of waiting to see if a Ruffneck touched it during its progress and before it reached the defendant. The plaintiff admitted that the ball was so touched, but that having made his decision his prestige would have been adversely affected had he altered it. "We are all human," said his Lordship, "and I sympathise with him there."

The resulting assault was, however, not called for, nor could it be overlooked. A law was a measure of coercion sanctioned by a majority, and even if the defendant was one of

a minority, the Court must not allow such blackguards to take the law into their own hands. His Lordship had no hesitation in finding for the plaintiff, with costs, assessing the damages at £2 4s. 8d., as to 17s. 6d., the cost of replacing a broken false tooth, 4d. for a new whistle, the "clip" having caused the plaintiff to swallow the one in use at the time, and £1 6s. 10d. special damages to compensate him for the insult to his feelings. But his Lordship hoped that he would not again be pestered with such people seeking interpretations of so-called laws which were, in fact, ultra vires the statutes he was placed there to deal with. He added that he considered a referee's job worse than his own; he (his Lordship) at least had time to consult works of reference before arriving at his decisions.



C. M. CARR.

Claude originally played in the 1st XI as long ago as 1930, soon after leaving school where he had established a high reputation as an all-round athlete and in particular had become Secondary Schools Quarter-Mile champion. Since then Claude has not only played football brilliantly but has batted with care and elegance for the 1st XI of Winchmore Hill Cricket Club and has become a starlet in the spheres of tennis and squash.

After joining the Hill Claude played for three seasons—mainly at centre-forward. He was particularly frail and was often fouled but he exploited his great pace to score many spectacular goals. He left for Tufnell Park in 1933 and returned in 1936.

Last season Claude played with equal success at inside or outside right. He began this year at centre-forward, but after an unhappy period he was restored to inside-right and has established a goal-scoring understanding with Gowers that has given punch to the forward line.

He still has very great pace, dribbles cleverly and has a fine shot with either foot. This season his headwork, foraging and tackling have been much improved. If he has a serious fault it is his habit of dribbling across-field to make an obvious pass to a left wing already covered, when a first-time right foot long pass would have accomplished the purpose earlier and therefore better.

Nature and private banking (pleasant City backwater) have nurtured a quiet urbanity and genteel sophistication, and polished game performance is but one outward and visible sign of the innermost spirit.



L. BROWN.

Unlike dandelions which if left alone come up annually, Leslie Elliott Brown has never been left alone but continues to come up each year just as regularly.

Joining the Club in the year 1922 he is still the complete optimist, and we fear in view of his generous spirit has for several seasons now been very much imposed upon.

At one time in the distant past Les was a very useful forward, quite capable of holding his own in any company. Nowadays, due to inherent weakness of the flesh of which he carries far too much, he is not quite so dashing, but nevertheless still plays all of 90 minutes and with an enthusiasm that often staggers those of his colleagues, some of whom are young enough to call him "Father".

He has captained the 4th XI for several seasons which explains our reference to optimism and imposition, for in spite of the sometime difficulties of fielding a full side and yet again with sides composed of a goal-keeper and ten full-backs, he has

undertaken his weekly task with utter cheerfulness and a glorious display of Club spirit often overlooked by many.

A busy man holding a responsible position in his father's business makes it all the more wonderful that he continues to retain his keenness for the game he has been playing for so many years and which we boldly suggest he will enjoy for quite a few more yet

Here's raising a belated hat to you, Les, for all you've done and will continue to do.



EASTER TOUR.

Some 28 players of 1st or 2nd XI standard were approached concerning the Easter Tour and the organisers are pleased to announce 14 acceptances, including 9 members of the present 1st XI. Wheatley, Bain (goalkeepers); Varley, Brook, Wright (backs); Carter, Attwood, Diggins (halves); Jacques, Howson, Carr, Gowers (R.), Welsford, Guettier (forwards). Another two senior players would have strengthened the party but at the moment it looks as though five players will have to take part in all three games. However, the playing ability of the tourists is such that barring injuries or unwise celebration they should render a good account of themselves. This is particularly desirable on our first football tour.

Messrs. Baker and L. Smith, of the Selection Committee, are going to Christchurch and other supporters are likely to be staying with the team at the "King's Arms" or in the Bournemouth vicinity. The most accessible fans have already been invited but if there is anyone who reads this and would care to join the party we can assure him of a warm welcome and a rattling good holiday.

CLUB JOTTINGS.

Several members have taken "umbrage" about our medical comment in the last issue. We regret that the gentle ministrations of Sergeant Ambridge should have occasioned some small pain. We remind sufferers that his motto is "Bring 'Em Back Alive."

We are pleased to record the continued success of sausage-and-mash. Mrs. (Beaton) Carter has been working under difficulties with the present antiquated equipment and the Committee is still uncertain of the best hour for sale. Nevertheless in 8 weeks 96 portions have been cooked and 90 have been sold. The experiment will be continued until the end of the season when the Committee hopes to convince the Parent Club that there exists a demand for sausage-and-mash which can best be met by the installation of a gas cooker.

214 dancers attended the Football Club Dance at Royalty Hall on February 23rd. The Band played with pep and rhythm and Frank Smith acted as M.C. with dignity and enthusiasm. The extension from 12—1 a.m. was much appreciated and during the last hour there was hardly anyone sitting out. We have to thank Watson for organising so pleasant and evening.

On March 23rd, at 7.30, George Knight is to give a football lecture at the Club Pavilion. Members of the 3rd and 4th are especially invited and we hope that they benefit as much as did the 1st XI from George's advice given last December when the team was gloomy with repeated failure.

Since the 3rd and 4th XI's will have finished their League programmes by March 26th, the Tiger has arranged a 3rd XI v. 4th XI match on the home ground. We hope this fixture will be appreciated.

Pyle and Bacon are still injured and are unlikely to play again this season. Varley has been laid up with German measles (an unhappy

putsch). Guettier was also forced to rest one week. He had pains in the left ankle but much to his own surprise was ordered by the doctor to use his left foot more! We recommend the physician to attend Ford's Grove one sunny afternoon when he will observe what a splendid patient Guet is.

As each season draws to a close we hear the usual rumours of resignation from the veterans and the prospectively blissful. Would such members please notify the Team Sec. if they are certain of their unhappy intention?

If any member is aware of a promising youngster or an experienced player likely to join the Club would he forward the name and address to the Team Sec.?

Tiger makes this appeal now because he will be in personal contact with all members for only another fortnight, whereas from April to September such contact is very difficult.

We congratulate Norseman on winning Division II, Southern Amateur League. Their team spirit, club organisation and style of play should make them worthy members of Division I. No small part of the side's success has been due to the coaching of George Male, Arsenal's international right back. He had good material to work upon but those who have pitted their wits against the Norseman defence this season know how well the Master's instruction has been absorbed.

No Football Club photographs have been taken for nine years. This has been a loss to the Club and to the individual. Our walls are unadorned by the Past Great Ones to inspire us. To remedy this defect the Committee has arranged for Club and Team photographs to be taken at mid-day on Sunday, March 27th, at the Pavilion.

It would be a great thing if the Annual Football Supper were also revived.

TEAM RECORDS (up to and including March 5th).

			Goals.					
			Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.	For.	Against. Points
1st XI.	League	...	14	5	3	6	36	34 13
	Cupties	...	3	1	—	2	6	11 —
	Friendlies	...	4	2	—	2	13	13 —
			21	8	3	10	55	58 —
2nd XI.	League	...	13	5	3	5	22	33 13
	Cup-ties	...	6	3	1	2	22	15 —
	Friendlies	...	3	1	1	1	7	7 —
			22	9	5	8	51	55 —
3rd XI.	League	...	19	4	1	14	22	83 9
	Cup-tie	...	1	—	—	1	2	3 —
			20	4	1	15	24	86 —
4th XI.	League	...	18	5	1	12	29	83 11
	Friendlies	...	4	1	—	3	7	22 —
			22	6	1	15	36	105 —
TOTAL			85	27	10	48	166	304 —