

SWINDON TOWN



FOOTBALL CLUB

2213

SATURDAY, APRIL 20th

Division III (South)

SWINDON TOWN

v.

SOUTHAMPTON

Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

Official Programme 3^D

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NEXT MATCH . . .

DIVISION III (South)

SWINDON T. v. NORTHAMPTON T.

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J. DAVIES, R. FRICKER, F. PLYER, H. WILLIAMS and K. H. WILMER.

Manager : BERT HEAD

Secretary : R. A. MORSE

Vol. 7.

April 20th 1957

No. 22

Club Notes

In view of the way in which we outplayed Reading last Saturday it was a keen disappointment that we came away without a point. Reading scored a most fortunate goal in the first minute or so of the game but in the second half they were rarely in the picture and it seemed inevitable that we should get at least one point. As Exeter also lost at home a point would have been invaluable in our renewed struggle to get out of the re-election zone.

To-day we meet Southampton, who are amongst the leaders, and as Exeter played a game yesterday, this afternoon's result will be of more than ordinary interest.

The injuries to Maurice Owen and Jimmy Cross at a time when the team were beginning to show signs of a spirited revival were most unfortunate and are reminiscent of the injuries we suffered at Christmas time.

The news that at long last professional football clubs are to be relieved of the crippling burden of Entertainment Tax gives great hope for the future. The extra income that will result, together with the help we are receiving from the Supporters' Club will enable us to look forward without the constant worry of financial problems, and it is with confidence that we face the task of building for next season.

We have another first team fixture at the County Ground on Monday next and we trust by then we shall also confidently expect to finish this season in a higher position than at one time seemed likely. Help the lads all you can by your encouragement.

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Southampton F.C. is one of the oldest clubs in the country. The club was originally formed under the auspices of the St. Mary's Young Men's Association in 1885. Its early associations were with the Mother Church of the town, St. Mary's; hence the name of "The Saints", which is now one of the best known in the country. A big step forward in the history of the club was taken in 1894, when the Southern League was formed.

In 1896-97 the Saints won the Southern League for the first time, going through their league programme of 20 matches without defeat. In all they won that championship six times; three times successively from that first success until 1898-99, and later in 1900-1, 1902-3 and 1903-4.

In 1899-1900 the Saints won their way to the Final of the F.A. Cup for the first time, only to be beaten by Bury by four to nil at the Crystal Palace. They got to the final again in 1901-2, and lost to Sheffield United by two to one, after a one-all draw.

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OUR VISITORS (continued)

In 1907-8 they got to the semi-finals again, when they were beaten by Wolverhampton Wanderers by two to nil at Chelsea. They got to the semi-finals twice more, between the two world wars, without landing the trophy. In 1924-25 they were beaten in the semi-final at Stamford Bridge by Sheffield United by two to nil, and in 1926-27 they made their last appearance—so far—in the semi-final, meeting the Arsenal at Stamford Bridge and going down by two to one. So Southampton have had two Cup Final appearances and six semi-finals.

Progress to the Second Division of the Football League came in the season 1921-22. The "old" Southern League clubs became the Third Division (South) in 1920-21, when the Saints finished second to Crystal Palace. They won the championship, and promotion, in the second season of the new competition, and they remained in the Second Division until the end of Season 1952-53.

One of the pioneers of Association Football in the South, they have carried the banner proudly throughout the years, and make no secret of the fact that they are out to regain their former status as quickly as possible.

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Supporters' Club Notes

Today, the proceeds of the collection will be devoted to S. Burton's second Benefit Fund. We trust that all Supporters will do their best to make it a "bumper" collection.

To most of us, "Sam" Burton, at times, has been somewhat of an enigma, but there is no doubt that he is one of the most popular players to have represented the Town, and is one of the leading personalities of the Third Division.

He signed for Swindon in the summer of 1945, when football was resumed on a regional basis after the war. His first match was against Exeter City at the County Ground. Guest players were permitted, and, if memory serves aright, the Town's team was Burton; Parkhouse, Woodman; Cousins, Tovey (Ipswich), Ryan; McGibbon, (Southampton), Francis, Morton, Williams, Hedley. Result: Exeter 4, Swindon 1.

Apart from a few matches when the pre-war goalkeeper, Frank Wildman, was able to play, Sam Burton played in most of the matches in 1945/6, but, when season 1946/7 came, with the Leagues functioning normally, Frank Boulton became the first team goalkeeper.

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Supporters' Club Notes—cont.

Sam came again, however, and, apart from the time when Norman Uprichard gained his place, Sam has been first choice, generally speaking, over a long period.

There is no doubt that a goal or two in the first half always improves the collection, so that we trust the forwards will do their bit to assist Sam today.

With 5 matches still to be played, last season's total of points has already been passed; unfortunately, however, other teams have also participated in the general levelling up, but there is still time for the team to draw away from the danger spot.

We trust Supporters will encourage the team to the best of their ability, not only by their attendance but also with vocal encouragement.

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A — Arsenal	v.	Charlton
B — Cardiff	v.	Tottenham H.
C — Chelsea	v.	Everton
D — Portsmouth	v.	Wolverhampton
E — Bristol Rovers	v.	Blackburn
F — Leicester	v.	Bristol City
G — Leyton Orient	v.	Fulham
H — Aldershot	v.	Crystal Palace
I — Bournemouth	v.	Reading
J — Brentford	v.	Exeter
K — Brighton	v.	Norwich
L — Gillingham	v.	Coventry
M — Ipswich	v.	Plymouth
N — Millwall	v.	Colchester
O — Shrewsbury	v.	Northampton
P — Torquay	v.	Newport
Q — Walsall	v.	Q.P.R.
R — Watford	v.	Southend

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