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**List of the Club's successes in League and Cup Competitions.**

**WINNERS OF**

**F.A. AMATEUR CHALLENGE CUP, 1922-23.**

**ISTHMIAN LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP,**

1905-6, 1907-8, 1911-12, 1912-13, 1913-14. Runners-up, 1906-7, 1920-21.

**LONDON CHARITY CUP, 1894-5, 1905-6, 1908-9, 1912-13.**

Joint Holders, 1906-7. Finalists, 1914-15, 1922-23.

**LONDON AMATEUR SENIOR CUP,**

1899-1900, 1907-8, 1914-15. Finalists, 1898-9, 1911-12.

**MIDDLESEX SENIOR CUP,**

1889-90, 1890-1, 1898-9, 1899-1900. Finalists, 1900-1, 1904-5.

**WEST NORFOLK AND LYNN HOSPITAL CUP, 1920-1, 1921-2, 1922-23.**

# The Story of the London Caledonians Football Club



BY  
AN OLD MEMBER





Back Row—Dr. Wills J. T. Pitcairn W. A. Brown R. Neilans J. Morris H. Scott Macpherson W. Oliphant A. Stranger J. D. Cunlison  
(Hon. Treas.) (Hon. Pres.)  
Seated—J. Moody C. H. Brown W. Stirling Haldane Stewart J. M. Barclay J. Barbour J. Dickie J. A. Lambie  
On the Ground—G. M. Key J. Burns

## The Story of the London Caledonians Football Club

*"All future members of the Club must be Scotsmen either by birth or parentage."*

*Birth—Born in Scotland.*

*Parentage—Father or Mother.*

THIRTY-EIGHT years ago there came into being one of the most famous of amateur "soccer" clubs and here is an attempt to record—the greater part from memory—the most noteworthy and interesting of its achievements, together with some reference to players and officials who have rendered it service during this period either on or off the field—or both.

Pride of place must naturally and deservedly be given to the founder and first honorary secretary, Mr. Hugh Scott Macpherson, to whose initiative, early energy and subsequent interest in its affairs, the club is largely indebted for its present position among the foremost of amateur clubs. In the year 1885 Mr. Macpherson was to be found with a few fellow-countrymen in the ranks of Champion Hill F.C., at which time there was already playing a team known as The United London Scottish F.C. which, however, was meeting with but scant success. There



H. SCOTT MACPHERSON.



were also other Scots scattered among various clubs in the Metropolis, and Mr. Macpherson conceived the idea of calling the whole together with the object of forming a really sound Scottish combination. His invitation met with satisfactory response, and from a meeting held at "Anderton's" in Fleet Street in 1886, the London Caledonians Football Club was launched on its long and successful career. Mr. Macpherson who from its inception had undertaken the honorary secretaryship "carried on" with unvarying success until the season 1895-6 when he was unanimously elected president. It is gratifying to know that as Honorary President he is still an active official of the club and a most regular attender at its committee meetings where the benefit of his long experience is ever welcome.

For a year or two the club was content to find a home on some playing fields attached to Elm Farm, Walthamstow, and it cannot be recalled that it achieved any particular success at this time, but so consistently well did the players perform the executive were able to come to terms with the Essex County Cricket Club for the use of the County Ground at Leyton, where home matches were played during the season 1889-90.

It was here that the Caley's may be said to have first performed before a regular gate; but, although a most attractive fixture list had been arranged, including games with such well known sides as Old Westminsters, Old Carthusians, Crusaders Casuals, Clapton and Ilford, so poor was the support, a move to South London was soon decided upon. The ground at Leyton was, however, the scene of some of the club's early successes, amongst which may be mentioned a rather substantial and somewhat unexpected victory over Blackburn Olympic, who some few years previously had annexed the English Cup. On the same ground a decisive win in the final round of the Middlesex Senior Cup at the expense of the now defunct Crouch End, secured for the club its first trophy. This same cup was again captured in the following season, Uxbridge, if I remember rightly, being the defeated finalists, after which the club retired from the competition for a number of years.

Mention may here be made of some of the players who up to this period had regularly assisted the club. In the very early days at centre half and occasionally at full back was Jack Barbour, a keen and fearless tackler with wonderful ball control. His great speed often enabled him to recover from his own as well as from the mistakes of his fellow defenders. Jack had a remarkably clear tenor voice and was always in great demand at the club's "smokers." He was as well known at athletic meetings as on the football field and was a popular and frequently successful competitor at the Annual Scottish Gatherings then held at the old Stamford Bridge Grounds. His favourite events were the sprint and long jump.

E. S. Graham, the first captain, figured at outside right and much of the club's early success on the field was due to this dashing forward's lightning runs and clever centres, many of which were turned to account by the strong and accurate shooting of David Brown (an older brother of Willie and Charlie of whom, more anon.)

Contemporaries worthy of mention were W. E. Fry, R. H. Clark, J. G. Scott, Dunlop Foster, J. Gray, A. Laing, M. M'Fie, J. Burns, J. C. Rea and R. J. Turner. The first named was a clever forward, with a style almost entirely his own—a great favourite with the spectators. R. Haldane Stewart, a full back, one of the early captains, will be remembered by older followers of the game as one of the most stylish and finished players of his day. Another useful member of the side was Dr. R. G. Hogarth, a speedy winger easily distinguished by a short straw which never seemed to leave his mouth during the progress of the game. In goal was Wm. Stirling, an old Rugby stalwart, renowned for a defiant attitude and lion-like stride, as he paced between the posts. "Bill" was a host in himself, ever ready to run any kind of risk in defence of his charge. Later came Peter Hunter. Though on the small side he was a very nimble centre who, when in form, invariably led the opposition a pretty dance. Wm. Hay who captained the team for some years was a veritable giant with a pair of extraordinarily powerful



legs and feet. He had a tremendous stride and was a good deal faster than his huge size suggested. There was terrific power behind his kicks and when particularly hard pressed a well meant but misdirected effort would occasionally land the ball out of the ground altogether. This feat never failed to produce from a certain irate cockney element the loudly shrieked gibe—"Kick it aht, 'Ay." It is almost unnecessary to remark that subsequent players in similar circumstances have suffered and will continue to suffer very much in the same way. In Jack Barclay—who later became one of the club's most popular presidents—the Caley's had a centre-half of the robust type. Strictly fair in all his tackles he was a complete master of that gentle art, the well-timed shoulder charge. Clever with his head, a very useful player was Jack, especially with the defence in anything like a tight corner. Charlie Brown at first figured at outside left to gain greater distinction later as a centre-half. Charlie was a sprinter and like Jack Barbour won many events on the running track. R. H. (Bob) Howie, now famous as an amateur golfer, has always had an inventive turn of mind and in those days never hesitated to exploit some new idea at outside right. It was a real joy to watch him fool the opposition—run on—then with deadly precision place the ball in front of goal. With Arthur Whitehead, a small but bustling inside, this was a great wing. J. A. Lambie, the young Scottish International from the famous Queen's Park, who was "capped" when only 17 years of age, came south with a wonderful reputation which he consistently continued to more than justify whether playing for the Caley's or for the Corinthians, and it is very doubtful indeed if either side has ever been able to boast of a stronger, cleverer or more graceful inside left. A famous winger—also a member of Corinth and an English International—has declared that with Lambie as a partner one could not help but play the best of good football—a tribute as true as it certainly was deserved. In his day Johnnie delighted practically the whole of the London football-loving public, and it may be remembered that a celebrated writer on sport went so far as to describe his dribbling

as "the poetry of motion." In later years Johnnie himself proved a capable and interesting writer on the game and was a regular contributor to *The Sunday Times*. Andrew Laing too must not be forgotten, for after he had ceased to play regularly he always kept himself fit and proved a most loyal and reliable reserve. Ever ready to fill a vacancy even at the last moment—either in the forward or half-back line—he was a thorough sportsman and a true Caledonian.

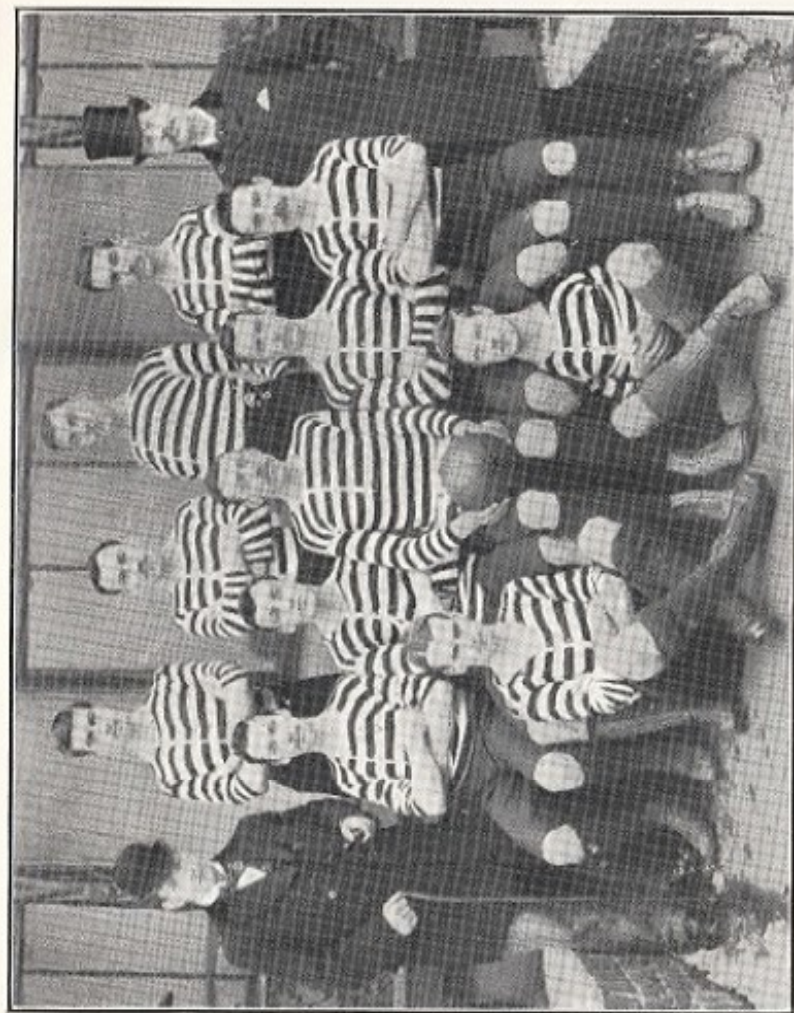
In the year 1891 the club made a determined but not too successful effort to establish itself in South London, and an excellent ground was secured in Dulwich Village attached to the picturesque old inn "The Greyhound," long since demolished. First class fare was provided regularly, but the results financially were disappointing. The best teams in London, including the whole of the Old Boy sides, failed to attract to anything like the anticipated extent, and this in spite of the fact that the Caley's continued to win most of their games. The club might have fallen on evil days indeed, but for the loyalty of a certain band of enthusiastic supporters who would have followed the team almost anywhere. Even in those days a very competent executive showed great enterprise in a laudable endeavour to popularise the game in the South, and as a "super attraction" the all-conquering Aston Villa were enticed to Dulwich by means of what was then considered to be a substantial guarantee to show London how the game really should be played. The Caley's put up a very game fight, and succeeded in playing the famous Birmingham eleven to a goal. Financially the experiment was not exactly a success, for the sum taken at the gate amounted to £14 19s. 6d. There was a guarantee of £15, so, alas, "bang went saxpence!" That same year the Caley's were successful for the first time in their career in fighting their way into the Semi-final of the London Senior Cup. Drawn against the Old Westminsters the tie was strenuously fought out at the Oval—one of the last games of football permitted on that historic enclosure. Up to half-time there was one side in it—certainly not the Old Boys, who at that period were two goals down. Both points had



been scored by "Billy" Williamson who was thus "celebrating" a first appearance *vice* J. A. Lambie returned to Glasgow for a time. So far this was distinctly a very fine performance, for the opposition included no less than four current English Internationals in W. R. Moon, W. N. Winckworth, J. G. Veitch and R. R. Sandilands. The Caleys were represented by the following:—Stirling, Hay, Barbour, Key, Barclay, Menzies, Howie, Whitehead, Hunter, Williamson and C. H. Brown. The second half was a disastrous affair for our side. Veitch and Sandilands discovered certain weaknesses in our defence of which they were by no means slow to take full advantage. Four rather lucky but nevertheless delightful goals came from this pair and we were soundly beaten 4—2. On another occasion the teams were drawn together in the final qualifying round of the English Cup to decide which should meet West Bromwich Albion in the Competition Proper. It is sad to have to relate that after two drawn games Westminster was again successful—this time at Leyton—by the odd goal.

Having failed to attract the necessary following in the South, the Caleys, acting under constantly repeated advice, decided to exploit the possibilities of the North. Tufnell Park, the present ground, was happily available and arrangements were soon completed with the late Mr. Courtney Clark for a tenancy. From the first the results were extremely gratifying. As had been previously pointed out there was quite a colony of Scots in the neighbourhood, from which the much-desired support was immediately forthcoming. Always playing good football, the team began to attract other than the purely Scottish element, and it was firmly believed that, at last, the club had found a real home. In addition to the regular annual fixtures already mentioned matches were also played with Royal Arsenal and Millwall Athletic, both in the meantime having developed into first-class amateur sides. New blood too was introduced into the team about this time. There were "Jimmie" Murison, now Sir William—knighted for his services as one of His Majesty's Judges in the East—a fast and powerful forward who on not a few occasions has been practically

v. Old Westminsters—Semi-Final London Cup at Kennington Oval 1891.



Back Row, Standing—A. Laidlaw, R. H. Howie, W. Williamson, W. Stirling, Peter Hunter, H. Scott Macpherson (Hon. Sec.)  
Seated—J. D. Menzies, A. Whitehead, W. Hay, J. Barbour, J. M. Barclay  
On Ground—G. M. Key, C. H. Brown



unstoppable; his doctor brother Alec, and the great and versatile Tom Harvey, probably the finest centre-half who ever donned a Caley jersey. Gilbert Cunningham, who for some seasons previously had been performing wonders for his house team (Olympic) decided about this time to throw in his lot with the Caleys and, such was his prowess as a centre and goal getter, he was approached by prominent professional clubs with many tempting offers. Gilbert however was never to be persuaded and it was due to his rapid advancement in business that the Caleys eventually lost his services while still in his prime. Another house team man, a half back, who did sound work was Lewis McKenzie from the Minerva.

The turf at Tufnell Park in those days was by no means so beautifully drained as we know it to be now. The "going" was certainly on the soft side and it is related that a well-known referee preferred on one particularly wet occasion to conduct the game from the top of the stand. I am not absolutely certain, but I believe the visitors in that game left the field in disgust at half time; but whether it was on account of the state of the pitch (the right word to use here) or due to the fact that they were already nine goals to the bad, I will leave the reader to decide. For a season or two the affairs of the club continued to run smoothly and apparently all was well. The untimely death of Mr. Courtney Clark, however, led to a regrettable misunderstanding with his successor in the control of the ground. This was followed by a lawsuit, decided in favour of the club, but which necessitated efforts being made to find another home. A suitable piece of waste land was found close at hand, situated in fact immediately on the other side of the railway. It was rather in the nature of a wilderness, but a long lease was arranged and the task of transforming it into a properly equipped enclosure was quickly put in hand and carried out so expeditiously that the first Saturday in the following season saw the club safely housed at Caledonian Park.

Among the gentlemen responsible for the affairs of the club up to this time may be mentioned Messrs. Wm. Barbour (brother to John) A. J. Macmaster, A. F.

Murison, J. D. Cunnison, T. Ruddiman Johnstone, Tom McIsaac, J. P. Black, A. McNeish, J. T. Pitcairn, T. T. Drummond and J. Neilans. These all rendered valuable services on Committee and at some time or other have filled the offices of President or Vice-President. There were others of course, including those already mentioned for service on the field, and Mr. James Wann, always a wise counsellor ready with valuable assistance in a variety of ways. W. A. Brown (Willie) who was the first Hon. Treasurer continued to act in that capacity until he succeeded H. Scott Macpherson as Hon. Secretary. His work on behalf of the club and in the interests of football generally is too well known to need any very lengthy mention here.

Some time during the early days at Caledonian Park it was decided to withdraw from all cup ties. An exception was made for obvious reasons in the case of the London Charity Cup. The main idea, I believe, was to avoid a certain unpleasant sort of high tension, that was thought to be engendered in cup tie games (and it must be remembered that cup ties *were* cup ties in those days) and to play purely for the sake of the game. It was a highly commendable idea and no doubt conceived in the proper spirit; and, moreover, a hope was entertained that it would be adopted by other leading clubs—a hope that was never realised. For quite a long time however it proved very successful and there was little or no interference with the fixture list—an advantage that perhaps only the poor over-worked secretary can properly appreciate. So that the programme might lose nothing in attractiveness friendly matches were played with some of the minor professional teams such as Luton and Kettering and with Royal



W. A. BROWN.



Arsenal and Millwall Athletic, the two last-named having just previously joined the ranks of the paid. Besides entertaining Wolverhampton Wanderers it was decided to repeat the experiment of bringing Aston Villa to town, a venture which at one time promised to prove no more successful than the first. A few days before the match snow fell heavily followed by a keen frost, but rather than abandon the fixture the club went to the expense of clearing away the snow and protecting the ground with straw. To add to the trouble, about half an hour before the game was timed to start a thick yellow local fog enveloped the ground and showed no signs of shifting. The players of both teams were in the dressing rooms but making no attempt to change. The gates had not been opened, although there was a fair crowd outside clamouring for admittance. Among those present who is ever likely to forget the look of intense anguish that settled on the normally benign countenance of "H. Scott Mac" or the fierce hawk-like expression assumed by Willie Brown when tactfully approached by the visitors' secretary with a delicate hint *re* the guarantee. Fortunately for all concerned the fog lifted completely in time to permit of the game being played and spectators flocked in until the ground was packed to witness a magnificent exhibition of skilful, spectacular football such as has rarely been seen. The visitors were successful by five clear goals but the game was not really so very one-sided. Dennis Hodgetts and Steve Smith, his partner at outside left, were altogether too much for the unhappy Caley's pitted immediately against them and were responsible for the score—otherwise the teams were fairly well matched. The ever brilliant W. H. Russell joined the club in this year to partner Bill Hay at back. He was a great acquisition to the team although it was not until very much later his worth was recognised by the Scottish Association who included him amongst the Anglo-Scots picked to meet the Home Scots in the International Trial Match in Glasgow. Willie played the game of his life so we were told, and it was rather unfortunate, but no reflection on his ability, that the wonderful Dunlop of Liverpool was preferred for the greater event.

Circumstances will not permit of it now but in those days the executive, with praiseworthy gallantry, extended a general invitation to the fair sex who were granted admission to the ground, with a seat in the stand, free of charge and (that they might not miss their customary afternoon beverage) a cup of excellent tea was regularly provided at half-time. This recalls the story of a certain player, whose parents, particularly the mother, were very much averse to his playing football on the grounds that the game was far too rough. It was difficult to convince her but eventually Mother was persuaded "to come and see for herself" and was accommodated with a seat in the front row of the stand. The game had barely commenced when her "only joy" was rather heavily "grassed" almost at her feet. The dear old soul arose in her wrath and frantically waving her umbrella shrieked at the pitch of her voice—"Kill him, Jock! Kill him!" It is strange, but nevertheless true, both "Pa" and "Ma" afterwards became regular patrons of the game.



W. H. RUSSELL.

It was in 1896 (still the Caledonian Park period) that a great ambition was first realized—the winning of the London Charity Cup. Disposing of their ancient rivals the Old Westminsters in an earlier round—a game which by the way secured for the youthful Harry Moffat a regular place in the first team—the Old Carthusians were met and defeated in the final at Leyton. To appreciate the merit of this particular achievement it is necessary to recall some of the giants of the game who that day turned out for Charterhouse. P. M. and A. M. Walters were at back and although not then exactly in their prime were nevertheless to be seriously reckoned with. At centre-half was C. Wreford Brown, one of the most tenacious players who ever represented



England, and in the forward line were the one and only G. O. Smith and the fair-haired young Ryder. For the Caley's Frank Burton in goal, Tom Harvey and Willie Russell at back were at their absolute best, while Charlie Brown at centre-half stuck like glue to the redoubtable "G. O." and "never gave him an inch." The two Murisons and Fred Whitehead were the most prominent in a determined forward line that played well to a man.

One of the most exciting games played at Caledonian Park was a friendly encounter with Millwall Athletic, who had shortly before turned professional. Millwall were always a strong attraction in North London, and on this occasion so keen was the interest, hundreds were unable to gain admission to the ground. Well over a hundred pounds was taken at the gate, a sum which up to that time easily constituted a record. The match in which both sides were "all out" ended in a draw, one goal each. Tottenham Hotspur also paid one or two visits. As an amateur side they had "come on" very quickly, and as they also had a large following there was, for a time, great local rivalry between the sides. One of the first matches played by the Spurs as a professional side was against the Caley's at Caledonian Park. The home team was slightly "stiffened" for the occasion and won by a substantial margin.

While at Caledonian Park the Caley's were fortunate in being able to recruit several players of talent including three clever forwards—A. Hendry, Bob Kidd and Jack Russell, all three fresh from Scotland. Gerald Ritchie, a speedy half, who afterwards held high office with the club, D. Goodall and Walter Thompson, both thrustful forwards, came directly from the City Ramblers, just previously disbanded while Alec. Gollan was for a time the regular outside right. Percy J. Hunter was another very effective half-back who, I daresay, will forgive me if I refer to him as a sort of bouncing contortionist affectionately known amongst the crowd as "Good old India Rubber." "Big Bob" Simpson of the reserves ("Yin o' Jock Tamson's bairns a' the wye frae Edinburgh Toon") was occasionally pressed into

service—a good back but a greater wit. A series of successful seasons followed, but as there were constant rumours to the effect that the ground would be required for building purposes, and possibly at very short notice, arrangements were made for the return to Tufnell Park, which had in the meantime been successfully drained and otherwise improved.

Re-entering the Middlesex Senior Competition in 1898-9 the Caley's once again secured the Cup and, for the first time, managed to reach the final of the London Amateur Senior Cup. The year following saw even greater success attend the team's efforts when both the Middlesex and London Cups were won. This year produced Andrew Ralston, the present Hon. Sec., at the time a tall, spare, big boned youth with a power of kick quite equal to that of the renowned Bill Hay. A game or two with the reserves earned Andy a trial at right-half against Marlow and so convincing was his display his place in the senior eleven was never after in doubt. Andy appeared regularly at full back during a period of twenty-five years and his record for long and faithful service to the club is hardly ever likely to be equalled. Space, unfortunately, will not permit doing him anything like full justice. Elected Vice-Capt. in 1902-3, he subsequently "skipped" the side for six years in succession, after which he filled the office of Vice-President for three years, since when he has officiated as Hon. Sec. He has frequently represented the London and Middlesex Associations and probably holds as many medals, caps and badges as any amateur in the Kingdom, and the fact that he was born on the other side of the Tweed is the only reason why he has been denied Amateur International honours.





In spite of his forty odd years, his secretarial and numerous other duties, he keeps himself in the best of condition, is as keen as ever on the game, and never hesitates to turn out in a case of emergency.

Other players, not previously mentioned, who helped in the first winning of the London Cup were Crosbie, Jimmie Douglas, Johnnie Neil, Bob Moir, Alex. Kinghorn and W. A. Robertson.

Leaving Tufnell Park in the season 1900-1 the Caleys found a temporary home at Vicarage Ground, Barking, where the results financially were disappointing, probably due to the fact that in nearly all their cup-ties they were drawn away from home. The greatest achievement of the season was to reach the final of the Middlesex Senior Cup (the third year in succession) which West Hampstead won, after a drawn game, by three goals to two. Returning to North London in 1901-2 the Caleys shared the Tufnell Park Ground with the Casuals and for a few seasons experienced comparatively a very lean time. Willie Brown resigned the office of Hon. Sec. about this time, having served in that capacity for six years following a term of nine years as Hon. Treas., and in recognition of his untiring and successful services he was elected the first Hon. Life Member of the club. He was succeeded by the hardworking and thoroughly efficient Andrew Pringle who had been playing for a reserve eleven ever since 1893 and who was now appearing more or less regularly at centre-half for the first. Andy, probably, will also be remembered for his unique feat of endurance in connection with the first Stock Exchange walk to Brighton, when, without any preparation whatever, and to settle a wager, he participated in that event as an unofficial competitor who preferred, may be in compliance with the conditions of the bet, to make the journey arrayed in a top hat, frock coat, cashmere "bags" and ordinary City walking shoes. In spite of his absurd handicap he finished somewhere in the first dozen, an hour or so behind the winner, and at the Brighton Aquarium received what was probably the greatest ovation of all. As a footballer, Andy (like Charlie Tennant) absolutely revelled in a "sloshy" ground and I can picture him now, be-

spattered from head to foot—hot and *steaming*—dashing here, there and everywhere—getting the ball most of the time and enjoying life as only a few know how.

T. G. Gibbons played his first game for the Caleys against Richmond Association, on October 10th, 1903, and the following Saturday in a London Charity Tie v. Dulwich Hamlet at Dulwich he appeared as inside left to

"Billy" Porter in a game of real thrills. Playing against nine men during the first few minutes the Caleys lost a couple of goals and it looked an "odds on" chance for a Hamlet victory. The combination between Gibbons and Porter later became absolutely bewildering and although by this time the home team were at full strength, do what they would, they could not hold this wonderful pair, who in the end were chiefly instrumental in gaining a



T. GIBBONS.

3-2 victory. It may have been simply a fortunate chance that gave Tommy Gibbons to the Caledonians as a player, but it was an absolute inspiration on the part of the executive when they invited him to take part in the management of the club. In 1905 he was elected in the dual capacity of Vice-Captain and Hon. Sec. and held the latter office until his untimely death in 1915. The period in which he officiated was one of the most successful experienced by the club and there can be no doubt that this was due entirely to his organizing ability, his tact and his almost uncanny judgment in the spotting of talent. Jimmie Laidlaw, who later became Vice-President, also put in a lot of useful work for the club, both as a player and committee man and as Hon. Match Secretary he was of the greatest possible assistance to Tommy Gibbons.

The London Charity Cup was won for the second time in 1905-6, a powerful team of Casuals being van-



quished in the final at Tufnell Park and this match produced an incident which may be unique in the history of the game. At the time the Caleys had secured a goal and R. G. Brebner between the sticks, "Baby" Robertson and Ralston at back were hard put to it to retain the lead. At last the Caleys broke away but put behind. L. T. Driffield, the Casuals goalkeeper, with a mighty place kick sent the ball sailing over the half-way line where Andy Ralston met and returned it with a terrific volley. To the consternation of the Casuals and the huge delight of the Caleys the ball passed under the bar before the astonished and discomfited Driffield could regain his charge. From the time it left Driffield's foot the ball never touched the ground until it was safely in the net. When asked if he really meant it Andy's reply is usually the blindest of smiles.

The Isthmian League, the premier amateur combination of the South, was formed in 1905-6 and originally consisted of the following six clubs, given here in the order in which they finished the season—London Caledonians, Clapton, Casuals, Civil Service, Ealing and Ilford. The Caleys were therefore the first champions of the League, a title they have earned on four subsequent occasions, viz:—1907-8, 1911-12, 1912-13 and 1913-14. It will be observed that they won the championship three years in succession—a record in the history of the League. In the season 1907-8, during Jack Carswell's Presidency, besides winning the League Championship, they secured possession of the London Amateur Senior Cup for the second time, defeating Dulwich Hamlet in the final by a goal (scored by G. A. Sutherland) to nothing. It was in this match that N. J. Chisholm gave one of his best performances at full back for the winners. In 1908-9 the London Charity Cup was won for the third time. The Semi-Final of the London Amateur Senior Cup *v.* Bromley, at Bromley in 1911-12, is regarded by many as one of the most creditable performances of the Caleys, who won a close game by a goal to nil. Charlie Fairweather, Tommy Burn and Harry Melhuish were the players to distinguish themselves on that occasion. In the Final, played at Clapton, Barking won a gruelling game, 3-0.

Among the players who assisted the club in the fruitful years referred to above the more readily remembered are J. A. Laidlaw, Bob Macfarlane, R. G. Brebner, Tommy Mason, T. Robertson, N. Gray, (goal), T. C. Burn, Archie Strang, Jimmy Hyslop, R. D. Robertson and A. T. Ralston (backs), J. Macfarlane, Charles Tennant, J. C. Reid, W. J. Reid, C. A. Rutherford, J. M. Mitchell, J. Laughland, G. H. How, Charles Fairweather, A. Ewing and F. Sim (half-backs), T. G. Gibbons, H. W. Melhuish, J. S. McEachran, J. Dale Wilson, W. Porter, J. Walton, G. A. Sutherland ("Brora"), A. Grant, Johnnie Clunas, J. Sim and D. Nisbet (forwards). Of these R. G. Brebner and Tommy Burn represented England in numerous Amateur Internationals both being eligible by birth qualification while the others, almost without exception, have played for the London F.A. in representative matches.

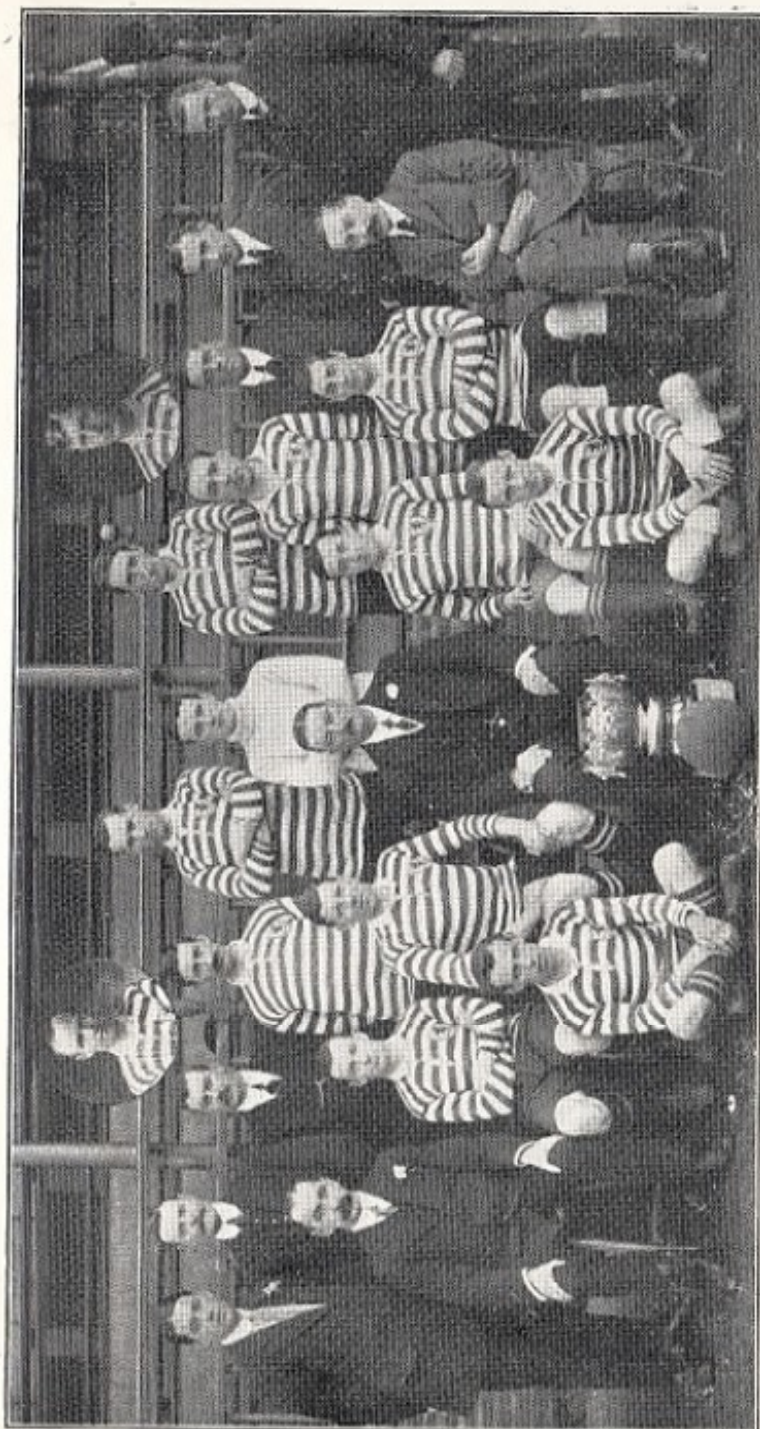
The season 1912-13 was in every way the most remarkable in the club's history prior to the War. An exceptionally clever and well balanced team got well together early in the season and by Christmas had fought its way through the qualifying rounds of the English Cup into the competition proper, defeating in the process two professional teams, Chatham and Shrewsbury Town. The side to accomplish this almost record performance was composed of the following:—*Goal*, T. Mason; *Backs*, T. C. Burn, A. T. Ralston; *Half-Backs*, G. H. How, C. Fairweather, J. Laughland; *Forwards*, H. W. Melhuish, D. Nisbet, G. Mackay, J. Walton, A. Grant. C. Fairweather had the bad luck to get crocked in one of the games, I forget which, and J. M. Mitchell came into the team in his stead. Drawn against Chatham at Chatham the chances of success against the professional side appeared to be very remote indeed. A characteristic dash by Harry Melhuish gave a kind of half chance to Jock Walton, who, almost before one could realise it, hustled the ball into the net, and by this solitary point were the visitors successful. The forwards never gave up trying for the rest of the game, but so well were they held they never seemed likely to score again. The "pros." on the other hand always looked dangerous, and only superb work by the Caleys defence, in which halves, backs and goal-keeper



all excelled, kept them out. The next round entailed a visit to Shrewsbury which resulted in a draw of two goals each. The Caleys gained the lead twice, and it was an extremely doubtful point scored just before the close that enabled Shrewsbury to get on terms. The tie was replayed at Tufnell Park on the following Thursday before an enormous crowd and although they just managed to win by the only goal scored the Caleys throughout were easily the better side.

The fact that an amateur side had successfully fought its way into the Competition Proper created a good deal of excitement, especially in the South, and during the few weeks that intervened the papers contained many kindly references to their performances and prospects. It was fondly hoped that the Caleys might experience a little bit of luck, and in the next draw be favoured with a game at home. Alas! they followed Wolverhampton Wanderers out of the hat and had to make the journey to Wolverhampton. It was found impossible to travel on the Friday night, as several players were unable to get away, so it was decided that the whole party should catch the first train possible on the Saturday morning. This necessitated dressing on board the train. To give an idea of the interest that was being taken in this tie it may be mentioned that one paper—*The Daily Mirror*—sent special representatives including a staff photographer, who travelled with the party and took "snaps" *en route*. On the following Monday this enterprising journal devoted practically a whole page to a "story" with illustrations of the Caleys' endeavour to be on the ground in time for a game that did not take place. A heavy snow storm had swept over Wolverhampton about noon rendering the ground quite unplayable and the whole party returned to London the same evening with an impromptu snowball fight, the most vivid memory of an otherwise unexciting day. The following Saturday morning saw the party again assemble at Paddington with enthusiasm undiminished. In spite of having to turn out immediately following a long railway journey the Caleys put up a great performance and appreciably added to their reputation as the most skilful

Winners London Charity Cup and Isthmian League Championship—Season 1912-13.



Ian Barclay    W. Barbour    J. P. Black    H. W. Melhuish (Captain) (inset)    T. A. Mason    A. T. Strang    J. M. Mitchell    G. H. How (inset)    W. Giddings  
 (Hon. Vice-Presidents)    C. Fairweather    T. C. Barn    (Vice-Captain)    J. M. Barclay    J. Walton    A. Grant    J. A. Laidlaw    T. Ogle    A. J. Macmaster  
 T. G. Gibbons    G. E. Mackay    A. T. Raiston    D. B. Nisbet    (Hon. Vice-Pres.)    J. Laughland    (Hon. Vice-Pres.)



amateur combination of the year. Though defeated by three goals to one they were in no way outclassed and in the opinion of many unbiassed experts were considered decidedly unfortunate in not securing a draw. A well-known football scribe of the Midlands—also famous as a football legislator—devoted the whole of his weekly article, over two columns in length, to an enthusiastic eulogy of the Caley's performance.

It says something for the physical condition of the team that in addition to their strenuous work in the F. A. Cup they were able, in the same season, to carry off the London Charity Cup and, as already mentioned, the Championship of the Isthmian League.

As a result of their reaching the Competition Proper the Caley's in the following season were excused the Qualifying Rounds and in the First Round were drawn against Huddersfield, at Huddersfield, and so well were they playing at this time, it was hoped they would justify the unique compliment paid to them by either winning or effecting a draw. It happened however that they never got a chance of displaying their true form for it rained heavily the night before and throughout the day of the match and the ground—at its best never a good one—became a veritable quagmire and quite unsuited to the fast and nippy movements of the Caley's. Considering the adverse conditions the team gave a very creditable performance and were distinctly unlucky in meeting with a 3-0 defeat.

It may not be amiss to say something here of the players who brought such renown to the club during those two wonderful years. In goal Tommy Mason was regarded as "safe as a house" and the whole country might have been searched in vain for a more reliable pair of backs than Tommy Burn and Andrew Ralston. At right half Jock Mitchell, dour and determined, was possessed of wonderful stamina and on the rare occasions when he was bested he never seemed to be aware of it by which we mean of course he never gave up trying. The apparently nonchalant George How at centre half was a player of the brainy type whose clever anticipation saved him a lot of needless running about. He never appeared to distress himself yet was always to be found

in precisely the proper place at precisely the right moment. Like the great Tom Harvey, George was an artist at opening up the game. A naturally clever player Jimmy Laughland had graduated in what is perhaps the greatest school of all—that of the famous Queen's Park. Quite capable of attending to the wing opposed to him he generally had something to spare and showed excellent judgment when he ventured, as occasionally he did, to go through on his own. Whatever Harry Melhuish ("Little Tich") lacked in inches was more than made good by his skill, elusiveness and an ability to shoot hard and straight whenever he saw a chance, while his partner, Davie



J. A. LAUGHLAND.

Nisbet—not a great deal bigger than himself—was a quiet unobtrusive sort of forward who was nevertheless brimful of guile. Gilbert Mackay, as all good centres should, had learned very thoroughly how to shoot well and truly with either foot and he scored many a pretty and badly needed goal by risking a "bang" when the slightest hesitation would have lost him the chance. Jock Walton required very careful watching especially anywhere near goal and with Jimmy Laughland, knew exactly how to make the right kind of opening for Alec Grant at outside left. This "flier" usually required plenty of room to make a start but, once he got going, was most difficult to stop. Charles Fairweather, who had previously "won his spurs" as centre-half for Leytonstone, was a player able to adapt himself to any place in the half-back line though, naturally, he always showed to greater advantage in his proper position. It was a misfortune both for himself and the club that he received an injury during 1912-13 that ultimately led to his retirement from the game. In the game v. Huddersfield young "Jock" Campbell, who had shown



consistently good form during the season, came in at outside left and was partnered by a very promising reserve in Willie Gray.

Jack Barclay, President of the club from 1910 to 1921, and always very keenly interested in the team, did wonders in the way of encouraging the players at this particular period and, as the hero of many a hard fought battle, his advice was of great value. Years afterwards when Jack retired from the office he was elected the second Hon. Life Member of the club.

That same year the outbreak of War saw many of the Caley's join the Colours. The London Scottish alone gained something like thirty stalwart recruits in the first few weeks, while there was hardly a Highland Regiment that did not claim at least one member of the club.

Resuming serious football in 1919-1920 the only pre-war players available were Ralston, Mitchell, Laughland and Willie Gaul and practically a new team had to be got together. By the following season the club had, in a measure, re-established itself and managed to finish "runners up" of the Isthmian League while a year later another long cherished ambition was realised in the winning of the "blue riband" of Amateur Football, viz:- the Football Association Amateur Cup. This feat accomplished the Caley's were at last able to claim that at some time or other they had won every amateur competition for which they had entered. One of the stiffest "hurdles" the Caley's had to negotiate was in the 4th Round against their old friends Ilford at Ilford. Early in the first half a corner kick, taken by Jack McCubbin, failed to rise, but travelling at tremendous pace, a foot or so from the ground, the ball passed through a crowd of players when "Duggie" May, always an opportunist, saw a chance and cleverly turned it into the net and by this solitary point the Caley's earned the right to contest the semi-final. It has been maintained that the Caley's were exceedingly fortunate on this occasion but, I think, taking the game throughout and comparing the chances of either side they were full value for their win. In the Semi-final v. St. Albans City, played at Luton, before what I believe was a record attendance for the ground, the Caley's had an easier



## Roll of Honour

1914-1918.

BALFOUR, J. A.

ELDER, R.

HYSLOP, J.

KERR, J.

LAKEMAN, H. L.

SUTHERLAND, G. A.

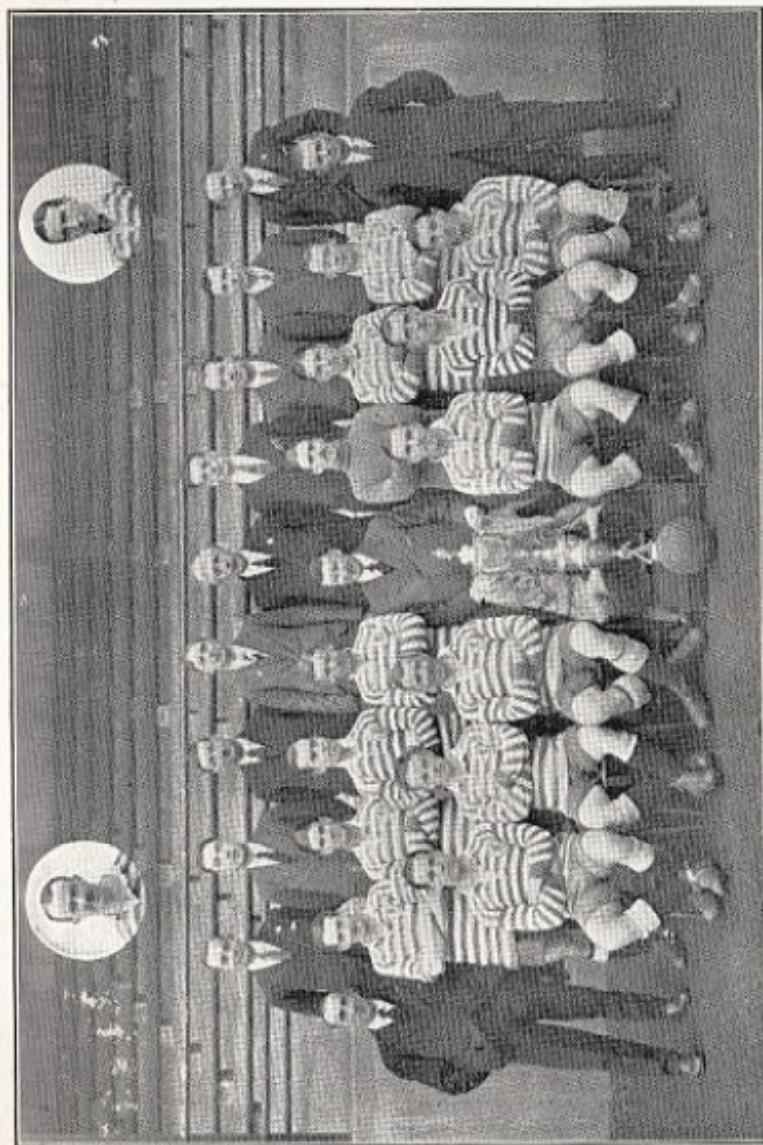
YOUNG, R.



thing and after a blank first half, in which they more than held their own, they obtained a couple of goals and so passed into the Final.

So far as London was concerned, Evesham Town were rather an unknown quantity who had nevertheless created some surprises and incidentally a record in fighting their way right through the preliminary and other rounds into the Final. The great event took place at the Crystal Palace before a crowd of 15,000. Train loads of enthusiastic supporters travelled from Evesham, many of them arrayed in fantastic costume. The game opened 'midst the greatest possible excitement with the early stages very much in favour of the Caley's, who, had they then shown their customary steadiness, might easily have established a winning lead. A light ball, on a fast ground with the additional handicap of a strongish wind, is never too easy of control and may to some extent account for the many chances which went abegging at this and other periods of the game. We followers of the Caley's were just beginning to get a little anxious when a movement by Andy Sloan and Jack McCubbin gave the former a chance to let fly with a first time shot which landed the ball safely in the back of the net and for the time being our confidence was restored. Within a quarter of an hour, however, Evesham equalized in a manner so extraordinary it produced a thrill all over the ground and we may be pardoned if we venture to describe it as being in the nature of a miracle. A high centre from the right, deflected by the wind, just eluded the watchful Basil Gates and the Evesham inside left, tearing up at full speed met the descending ball with his forehead, a good twenty yards out, and with marvellous force and precision sent it flashing past poor Peter Dawson before he could so much as move an eyelash. This was distinctly hard lines on Peter for until then he had kept goal in masterly fashion as, indeed, he did throughout the game. At the end of ninety minutes there was no alteration in the score and both sides were showing unmistakable signs of wear. Some five minutes of extra time had passed when the subtle mind of Jimmy Blyth quickly conceived a possible opening. At some risk to himself he secured

Winners—F. A. Amateur Challenge Cup and Lynn Hospital Cup—Season 1922-23



Back Row—J. F. Mitchell R. C. Klob C. Fairweather R. G. Morrison F. A. Lawrence A. C. Anderson A. Macintosh J. F. Reid C. L. Tennant  
(Committee) (Vice-Pres.) (Committee) (Committee) (Match Sec.) (Committee) (Committee)  
Middle Row—D. C. Adams B. H. Gates R. Stewart J. McCubbin I. C. Blyth A. T. McDonald P. J. B. Dawson I. M. Hamilton E. H. Gates W. Giddings  
(Committee) (Committee) (Vice-Capt.) (President) (Vice-Capt.) (Hon. Sec.)  
Sitting—J. McCree R. Noble A. T. Ratson (Hon. Sec.) W. Barr (Capt.) A. M. P. Sloan H. M. Finn  
(Insets)—D. W. G. May J. W. Donaldson



possession and managed to get the ball across to the other wing just at he was most unmercifully bowled over. He had the satisfaction, however, of seeing his inspiration develop and the ball land at the foot of the unmarked and imperturbable McCubbin who, coolly steadying himself, took deliberate aim and from twenty-five yards distance drove unerringly into the net well wide of the goalkeeper who made a desperate yet hopeless attempt to get to the ball. This success put fresh life into the Caleys who, but for over anxiety on the part of the forwards, might have added to their score on more than one occasion. The game probably did not produce much play of a very high standard, but that it was full of incident and exciting thrills no one will attempt to deny, and though the Caleys seemed to lack the smoothness of movement and general understanding that had carried them into the final they certainly were the better side and fully deserved to win.

In the last week of the season Dulwich Hamlet were met in the final of the London Charity Cup on the ground of The Arsenal at Highbury. The Hamlet had a "regular day" or perhaps I should say a "regular evening out" and, with the Caleys also showing something of their best form, a great game was witnessed. The Hamlet scored first and Bobbie Noble equalized with a real "snorter." A well earned goal by Nichol, just before time, gave the Cup to Dulwich who just about deserved to win a really healthy exhibition of the game—2-1.

Last season with the team showing such excellent form up to, and well after Christmas, great hopes were entertained that they might retain possession of the F. A. Amateur Cup. The London Amateur Cup and the Championship of the Isthmian League at one time also appeared to be within their reach and a few jolly old optimists may have had visions of a record season. In the first round of the F. A. Amateur Cup a close match with Civil Service at Tufnell Park left the Caleys victorious by the only goal scored. A fortnight later Barking on their own ground had to bow the knee after leading by a goal at half-time. Marine (Liverpool) came South to be somewhat summarily disposed of by a five





goal margin. Wycombe Wanderers, at High Wycombe, also failed to stay the progress of the Caleys and were well beaten 3-0 and thus was the semi-final reached for the second year running. In the London Amateur Cup the Caleys, in the meantime, had defeated Leyton (away) and later qualified for the semi-final by beating the Hamlet (2-0) after a tough struggle at Dulwich. In the semi-final of this competition the Caleys met Tufnell Park when the latter were right on top of their form. It was a clean, well fought contest right the way through, and though their 4-2 victory was certainly unexpected, Tufnell Park, on the day, were undoubtedly the better side. To those who saw them on this occasion it came as no surprise when they eventually won the Cup. The semi-final round of the F.A. Amateur Cup required three meetings with Erith and Belvedere, with extra time on one occasion, before a definite result could be arrived at. The Caleys with a re-constructed team, necessitated by injuries to players, were ultimately defeated on Chelsea's ground at Stamford Bridge by three goals to one.

If the season's final results were something of a disappointment to many of us we ourselves were probably most to blame, for there was a tendency—an unwitting one perhaps—to expect rather too much from the team. The philosophic Jock Mitchell put it in a nutshell when he sagely remarked many years ago "we canna be expeckit to go on winnin' for ever." One thing however we may be certain of and it is that our fellows will ever give of their best as, indeed, they have always done.

The Caleys, for some seasons now, have been fortunate in being able to field more or less the same team. Peter Dawson's form in goal for a long time inspired the whole side with that confidence so necessary to success—on many occasions he has been positively brilliant—and it was only a recurrence of some old knee trouble that brought about what we all hope is merely a temporary retirement from the game. Basil Gates at right back has maintained his high reputation and has continued to show all the speed, resource and power of recovery which have gained him so many honours in Amateur International and other representative games, and little more need be said of brother Eric than that

he has at all times proved a most worthy partner. By their scrupulous fairness, their magnificent understanding, their ability to cover each other, and their adroitness in getting the side out of difficulties this pair have established a reputation almost without equal in amateur football. Eric, who this year assumes the responsibilities of Vice-Capt., seems, if possible, to be showing greater form than ever. At right half, Jimmy Blyth needs to be seen to be properly appreciated. He talks of soon retiring from serious football, but I have a feeling that he will be reluctant to do so until he has scored that goal upon which he apparently has so set his heart and which he so very nearly accomplished at High Wycombe last season in the Amateur Cup Tie. The side had a three goal lead at the time and Jimmy quite properly believed that he might, for once, safely risk a solo effort. Easily beating the half he completely deceived the back who positioned himself for the expected pass. James, however, went merrily on himself and drew the goal-keeper who wisely came out to offer precious little to shoot at. With a touch of that genius he so often displays James quietly lobbed the ball over the goalie's head towards the net. Alas! even the elements were against him, for just as we were about to shriek our hearty congratulations a sudden gust of wind carried the ball against the far post from whence it gently "slithered" back into play. (Never mind, Jimmy, when *it* does come, as it most assuredly will, it will be a "real blinder.") Willie Barr who has captained the team so efficiently and with such success during the past two seasons, and who has now retired from that office so that "honours may go round" has been a real tower of strength ever since the war, and it says a deal for his enthusiasm for the game, and the Caleys in particular, that two years ago he was awarded a gold medal in commemoration of the fact that he had then already participated in over a hundred consecutive games for the club.

Harry Finn, the left half (incidentally he prefers the other wing) has a happy gift of being able to mislead the opposition into regarding him lightly, while to those who know him he is one of the most convincing halves the Caleys have ever played. A skilful tackler, he



places judiciously and is a real worker who never seems to tire. Ian Hamilton made his first appearance in an important match when he helped the club to win v. St. Albans in the semi-final of the Amateur Cup. He also played in the final at the Palace where an unfortunate injury prevented him showing his best. The claims of the London University have, so far, kept him from playing regularly with the Caley's who, however, entertain great hopes of this young and forceful forward. It is not too much to say of Bobbie Noble that in many ways he has been the making of the forward line ever since he joined the club, though at the same time it must be admitted that he has enjoyed the confidence of the forwards themselves who, for the most part, have been only too eager to help. His great natural ability plus a profound knowledge of the finer points of the game often enable him to create or to see and take advantage of openings that probably would never occur to a player less gifted, and added to all this, as a shot at goal, he will undoubtedly rank among the most deadly of all time. He succeeds Willie Barr, in the captaincy of the side and started his first year of office in good style by scoring the first goal of the season, while a week later against our friends Tufnell Park he added still another "hat trick" to his many similar feats. Andrew Sloan, the Irish Amateur International, more often than not displays that "fire" and dash that go to make the really great centre. His is a style that tends to brighten the game and it is worth while making even a long journey to see him perform, for he rarely has an "off" day. Clever headwork in front of goal and a readiness to suddenly break through on his own probably account for the fact that last season he was the side's most prolific scorer. "Duggie" May at inside left has a good deal of Andy Sloan's dash, yet he frequently employs quaint and very useful methods exclusively his own. For a long time I have closely watched his play and have come to the conclusion that just when he appears certain to lose the ball is always a most anxious moment for the opposing defence. "Duggie's" injury against Marine (Liverpool) coming as it did at the most critical period of the season had the effect of seriously dis-

## Sunday Times

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organizing the forward line and was a severe blow to the Caley's hopes of retaining the Amateur Cup. Jack McCubbin, who last season decided—somewhat prematurely most of us thought—to retire from strenuous football, had a very big share in the Caley's Cup success, for apart from his performances at Ilford and at the Crystal Palace he scored a particularly clever goal, all on his own, and at a time when it was most sorely needed, in the tie against Summerstown, and so paved the way for what was ultimately a fairly easy victory.

Besides the aforementioned players who composed the side that actually won the Cup, there were others deserving of the highest possible praise for the unselfish and thoroughly sportsmanlike manner in which they so willingly stepped into a breach whenever, as frequently happened, the occasion arose. Of these I have specially in mind Jack Donaldson, late of Queen's Park, who was unlucky enough to lose a regular place in the side through an injury which kept him out of the game for several weeks. By the time he was properly fit again his deputy was performing so well it was not considered policy to make a change and Jack with admirable spirit stood aside—training hard the while—so that he was able when required to do credit both to himself and to the side. It is an experience such as his that makes the biggest call of all on a fellow's loyalty to his club and one which inevitably brings out the man. And what is here written of Jack Donaldson applies in a great measure to Bob Stewart and (last season) to young N. C. Wootton.

Jimmy McCree's earlier appearances with the first team were full of promise, but it was not until last season that he developed the form that enabled him to become first choice at outside right, not only for his club, but in several important representative matches as well. Jimmy's slashing centres, especially with a heavy sloppy ball, are of the kind to rave about and, indeed, I once heard a player do so—right heartily—when he “came to” after rashly intercepting with his head. Last season with Peter Dawson a very doubtful starter Lieut. Murray was fortunately able to come to the rescue and at once proved to be the very man required. His work



throughout the season was of the highest class and the game in which, by his quick judgment and agility, he saved two well directed penalty kicks, within a few minutes of each other, is not likely to be soon forgotten.

It is safe to say that during the past twenty odd years pretty nearly every Caley, who has played at all regularly for the first eleven, must at some time or other have had his minor hurts tended to by the ever cheery Walter Giddings, and it would be something of an injustice to him not to mention the fact here.

The Caleys have always been happy in their choice of officials and the present executive is no exception, for a more experienced or conscientious body of men it would be difficult to get together. Alex McDonald was President for two seasons, the second of which saw the capture of the Amateur Cup, and he was thoroughly deserving of that piece of good fortune, for no one, certainly in recent years, can have taken a more lively interest in the affairs of the club. Charles Fairweather, who took over the office from "Mac," and who too is now entering upon his second term, for many years has thrown heart and soul into his duties as player and officebearer, while Archie Mathieson, the new Vice-President, is hardly less keen. Jimmy Laughland assumed the duties of Hon. Treasurer, while still taking an active part in the game itself, and it would indeed be difficult to decide in which capacity he has rendered the greater service to the club. Certainly his work in connection with the financial side is done with such thoroughness, one is forced to the almost impossible conclusion that he must find figures congenial. At the Annual General Meeting it is a genuine delight to listen to our old friend Mr. E. J. Webber, the Hon Auditor, pay tribute to the simplicity and clearness of Jimmy's statements of account. (The club, by the way, is heavily indebted to Mr. Webber, who has been kind enough to audit its accounts for many more years than I care to remember). The duties of an Hon. Match Secretary entail a lot of hard work and some of it of a trying nature. Alex Macintosh, however, seems to thrive on it, and, in addition is able to tell us an interesting yarn week by week.

## The Daily Telegraph

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For those who follow Football keenly there is no Journal to equal *The Daily Telegraph*. On Saturdays during the season a complete forecast of the day's matches appears, and on Mondays a most exhaustive and accurate report of the games is given regularly. Col. Philip Trevor, C.B.E., is in charge of the Rugby Section, and Mr. B. Bennison and his expert staff deal with League, Public School, and all other "Soccer" matches of importance.



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Charles Tennant is another whose membership goes back a long way, and whose experience as a player, both with the reserves and with the first team is of the greatest value to the Selection Committee. It is worthy of mention that both he and Bob McCubbin are making a point of watching the reserve elevens from time to time with the object of unearthing likely talent, and from what we have seen already it seems their efforts do not always go unrewarded. During the season D. C. Adams, J. F. Mitchell, Fred Lawrence and J. F. Reid all devote a very considerable part of their leisure to useful work on behalf of the club, and the two last named have been known to put in a bit of overtime at the annual Bohemian concerts. Tom McIsaac, full of ripe experience, has sat continuously on Committee from the

very early days, and is one of the oldest Presidents. He still regularly attends meetings and matches, and is justly proud of being able to claim that he has seen more Caley matches, home and away, than any other member of the club. Andrew Ritch, recently elected an Hon. Vice-President, is another old member who is rarely absent. Andrew, in the early nineties, used to run a team known as 'The Scottish Fossils', mainly composed of Caley, whose record of successes proves them to have been by no means so decrepit as the name might imply.

David Gow, W. Stuart Gordon, Andrew Fortune and Peter Clephane should all have been mentioned much earlier in this story, for each, in his time, did priceless work for the club while acting as Hon. Assistant Secretary.

The subject of the Caley's Easter Tours is one which I should like to deal with at much greater length than the limits of this little book will allow, for,



T. McISAAC.



inspired no doubt by the Scots' natural instinct to explore, they have always shown exceptional enterprise in their annual spring expeditions. A much valued photograph has been reluctantly dragged from its timestained mount and frame for the purpose of reproduction in these pages, and the group is well worth inspection, for it shows the first touring side—that of 1889. Reading from the left the names are :—*Back Row* : John Harvey, R. Neilans, J. A. Lambie, H. Scott-Macpherson, John Barbour. *Middle Row* : Humphry Barbour, W. E. Fry, Quinton Neil, A. E. Casselton, R. H. Clark, Wm. Stirling, Steve Smith, J. C. Rea. *Seated in Chair* : R. Haldane Stewart. *On Ground* : J. Burns.



Those of us who are old enough followers of the game will no doubt observe that our old friends Clapton kindly lent some of their best talent for the occasion. The tour was certainly an ambitious undertaking and for the most part highly successful. Everton (2-1) and Stoke (4-2) were defeated on their own grounds.

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Queen's Park, in Glasgow, however, proved too much for the tourists who were heavily defeated by eight goals to nil, and a five nothing defeat at the hands of Aston Villa completed the trip. Mr. H. Scott-Macpherson likes to recall the fact that he was able to bring back the sum of forty pounds after paying all expenses—a very welcome addition to the club's funds in those days of small gates. The Caley's also visited Belfast on several occasions when they were usually able to account for Cliftonville, but for a good many years their native land was the favourite touring ground, and visits were made as far north as Inverness and Aberdeen. These Scottish trips were always very popular, for they afforded the players, and usually a strong contingent of followers, the opportunity of meeting old friends and relations. Many interesting and amusing anecdotes are told of incidents connected with these tours, and I was recently reminded of one which may be worth recounting here. It was after a match near Edinburgh in which Bob Simpson had saved the side time and again and Peter Wynne, a dear old "leg puller," proceeded to congratulate him.

"Man, Bob, ye played a grand game the day. Whit'll ye hae?"

"I'll tak a drap o' Scotch, thank ye Peter," replied Bob modestly.

"Laddie!" burst out Peter with all the abandon of a multi-millionaire, "ye kin hae *Irish* if ye like."

During Easter 1898 the Caley's sent a team to Paris to play a match *v. Le Club Français*, and this was probably the first team to visit the Continent. It had been arranged to play on the Monday and the terms agreed upon were a guarantee of twenty-five francs plus—a *banquet*. As soon as the visitors arrived the Secretary was approached with an offer of a largely increased sum to play on the Sunday, an offer which, though sorely tempted, he could not, in those days, even entertain for fear the news might leak out at home that the Sabbath had been broken. After spending four delightful days in the "Gay City" the Caley's easily won their match before quite a big crowd of excitable and—as regards the rules of the game—not very well



informed spectators. In more recent years the Caley's on several occasions have visited Holland and later Belgium. During a trip to Denmark they met and defeated that country's full international strength—a performance which reflected great credit on the tourists. In the early summer of 1914, just before the outbreak of war, they spent a fortnight touring Austria and Hungary. Since then only one trip has been made abroad—in 1922, when they paid a second visit to Denmark. Andrew Ralston may be prevailed upon some day to write a true account of the many thrilling adventures encountered in these later tours, for he accompanied the team in all of them—meantime—I have already exceeded the space allotted to me for this little history of the Caley's.

A.C.C.



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# FIRST TEAM MATCHES

DATE	CLUB	GROUND	CUP OR COMPETITION
1924			
Aug. 30	Wood Green...	Wood Green ...	Charity Match
Sept. 4	Woking ...	Tufnell Park ...	Isthmian League
" 6	Tufnell Park ...	Tufnell Park ...	Isthmian League
" 10	Woking ...	Woking ...	Isthmian League
" 13	Clapton ...	Tufnell Park ...	Isthmian League
" 20	The Casuals ...	Crystal Palace...	Isthmian League
" 27	Oxford City ...	Tufnell Park ...	Isthmian League
Oct. 4	St. Albans City ...	Tufnell Park ...	Isthmian League
" 11	Tufnell Park ...	Tufnell Park ...	London Charity Cup
" 18	Clapton ...	Forest Gate ...	Isthmian League
" 25	Oxford University ...	Tufnell Park ...	Friendly
" 27			London Challenge Cup
Nov. 1	Civil Service ...	Tufnell Park ...	Isthmian League
" 8	Cambridge University ...	Cambridge ...	Friendly
" 15			4th Rd. F.A. Cup
" 22	Civil Service ...	Cricklewood ...	Isthmian League
" 29	Ilford ...	Tufnell Park ...	Isthmian League
Dec. 6	Nunhead ...	Nunhead ...	Isthmian League
" 13	Leytonstone...	Tufnell Park ...	Isthmian League
" 20	Leytonstone...	Leytonstone ...	Isthmian League
" 25	Tufnell Park ...	Tufnell Park ...	Friendly
" 26	Oxford City ...	Oxford ...	Friendly
" 27	Dulwich Hamlet ...	Tufnell Park ...	Isthmian League
1925			
Jan. 3			1st Rd. F.A. Am. Cup
" 10			1st Rd. Ldn. Sen. Cup
" 17			2nd Rd. F.A. Am. Cup
" 24	London University ...	Tufnell Park ...	Friendly
" 31	Wimbledon ...	Wimbledon ...	Isthmian League
Feb. 7			2nd Rd. Ldn. Sen. Cup
" 12	Oxford University...	Oxford ...	Friendly
" 14			
" 21	The Casuals ...	Tufnell Park ...	Isthmian League
" 28	Oxford City ...	Oxford ...	Isthmian League
Mar. 7	Wimbledon ...	Tufnell Park ...	Isthmian League
" 14	St. Albans City ...	St. Albans ...	Isthmian League
" 21	Nunhead ...	Tufnell Park ...	Isthmian League
" 28	Wycombe Wanderers ...	High Wycombe ...	Isthmian League
April 4	Wycombe Wanderers ...	Tufnell Park ...	Isthmian League
" 10			Friendly
" 11	Easter Tour		Friendly
" 13			Friendly
" 18	Ilford ...	Ilford ...	Isthmian League
" 25	Tufnell Park ...	Tufnell Park ...	Isthmian League
May 2	Dulwich Hamlet ...	Denmark Hill ...	Isthmian League
" 9			

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