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Mr JOHN MCARTNEY
Manager of
Heart of Midlothian F.C.
1909-1919

HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN F.C. LD.,
TYNCASTLE PARK,
5th Dec. 1909.

To declare that Mr Walter Mackenzie, Athletic Outfitter, Tollcross, Edinburgh, has during my ten years' association with the above Club, supplied practically the whole of the material for the equipment of the players and the field of play. His Footballs are in a class by themselves, whilst clothing, etc., has given entire satisfaction.

JNO. MCARTNEY.
Manager and Secy.



JOHN McCARTNEY

"The 'Hearts' and The Great War"
"The Sport in War"
"Communism in Sport," etc.

STORY

OF THE

Scottish Football League

1890 — 1930

BY
JOHN McCARTNEY

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GLASGOW RANGERS F.C.
COWLAIRS F.C.
NEWTON HEATH F.C.
(Manchester United)
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Early Struggles

Pen Pictures of Many Celebrities

Historical Facts

Illustrations

EXPLANATORY.

DEAR READER,

We may have fallen short in our hurriedly written story of the early years of the Scottish Football League, or we may have said too much; but, whichever way, it is a matter entirely for you to determine.

It is a recollection almost exclusively from memory, so that whatever failings or lapses may appear, we would respectfully appeal for even a mite of indulgence. The full rehearsal of a lifetime in Football, with its thousand and one incidents and experiences, is not easy of recapitulation. If such were possible, a huge volume would be necessary, which of itself would, we believe, prove perhaps a rather monotonous study for the general follower of the game. As you know there are numerous useful publications issued annually, in which are given "Competition Fixtures and Dates;" "Tables of the Various Leagues;" "Results of Cup Finals with those of Association and League International Matches;" "Secretaries' Addresses," etc.—all more or less a collection of cold facts. We, on the other hand, have endeavoured to make our work fascinating and attractive. It may claim more sympathy and consideration than that generally extended to the Government instructions received with your Income Tax return. Hence our reason for the issue of this brochure in simple language, depicting life scenes with outstanding and historical incidents only.

J. McC.

EDINBURGH, *October* 1930.

The Scottish Football League

FORTY YEARS

WHAT ONCE WAS—AND NOW IS

THE League was formed in 1890 and, as is natural in most organisations, the initial proceedings were somewhat of the primeval and antiquated order when viewed in the light of present-day status. In so saying it is far from the writer's intention to belittle or ridicule the work of the pioneers. Rather does he congratulate and admire the pluck and perseverance of those far-seeing governors of the great national game who set the wheels in motion to make football the power that it is today. Visualise Columbus and his tiny craft touching *terra firma* in a hitherto unheard-of region somewhere in this little old world of ours. He was treated contemptuously and termed crazy as he set off on his great adventure, yet his confidence and daring added the Western Hemisphere to the world's map and all that that has meant ever since.

CONFOUNDING THE DOUBTERS

The doubting Thomas lived at the birth of the League as he did in the era of the famous explorer. The most confirmed pessimist cannot live down the optimist. The gorgonzolian opposition soon fell from "mighty" to "mity" as the League gradually became established. No reform, be it political, economical or social, has ever been launched free of virulent antagonism and ridicule—for a time at least. Even the Press received the new body coldly, *e.g.*:—"We are not in a position to say what the likely outcome of League football will be." We hope that writer is still amongst us enjoying the pleasant aftermath. If in those days they "*could not say*," what must we think of their volubility of the moment! Apart from criticism we note periodically: orders, bogey tales, threats, warnings of dire disaster, and cheap sarcasm unless clubs take serious heed of the choleric quill drivers. If forty years ago our Press friends were undeniably pessimistic they are superbly optimistic now.

THE PRESS AND FOOTBALL

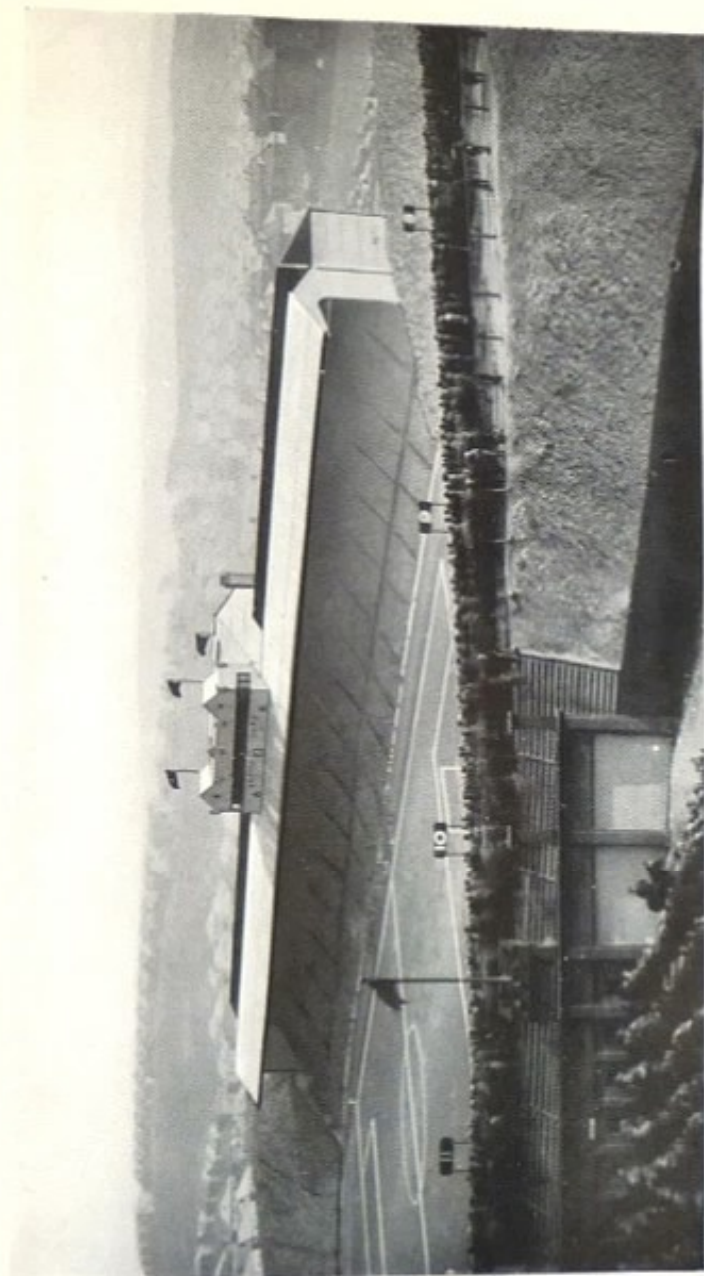
Yes, League football has proved a boon and a blessing to the Press and a valuable asset to many hundreds of other causes. Faith, Hope and Charity might well have been the motto chosen by the pioneers of our national game in all its aspects. Our loftier writers, free from choleric or dyspeptic grips, have been and are still doing magnificent work for football, and we rejoice exceedingly thereat. The Utopian phantasmagorias, built on contraction of vision with a sublime plastering of stupendous egotism, are not and never can be of service to club controllers. The sincerity of the writers is not questioned but clubs do resent what, after all, can only be a superficial or limited conception of their exclusive business, being thrust down their throats. Clubs rightly claim to be masters of their own destiny, and they surely cannot be held as spineless when they beat the Press in visualising the future in 1890.

NO C3 MEN

The epoch year quoted shall stand alone for all time in the history of football. It might well be held sacred as the precursor of great things for the development and welding together of the sons of Scotland. In proof thereof one has only to notice since the War with what avidity many European nations have actually state-aided the development of all branches of sport. They have realised, as the outcome of the struggle, that a lethargic and phlegmatic manhood must always remain a bad second.

BEGAN WITH A SCOT

Various reasons are given for the creation of a Scottish League. One writer is emphatic that it was because England adopted the principle two years before, and added the cruel and withal untrue assertion that "the Scots followed England in everything." Any student of football history knows that Scotland has led all the way. We are aware of the fact that England began League football two years before Scotland did, and we also know that the idea originated with a Scot, to wit, the late William M'Gregor of Birmingham. Scotland taught England the Association game as we know it today. The



GROUND AND STAND—HAMPDEN PARK
(Queen's Park F.C.)

Photo

Southerners rapidly shed their "flying full-back"; "stand-off half-back"; "three-quarter half-back"; "scrum throws-in," etc. The best brains of Scotland were spirited across the Tweed to teach and coach—just as the Continental nations are making use of British experts these last few years. All that Scotland ever sought from England was an agreement of such a nature as to reduce or stop the wholesale traffic over the border. Follow England forsooth! 'Tis absurd.

PROS AND CONS

By no stretch of imagination can it be said that the clubs themselves were in any spirit of unanimity in regard to League football. Each club had argument for and against the proposal as it appeared from their own particular standpoint. What was good for one was looked upon from a different angle by another. Thorny points were many. Chief amongst these were the Scottish and Glasgow Cup-tie dates. Glasgow insisted that she must have as many Saturdays as she required. (There were no mid-week replays then.) The same stipulation was required by the S.F.A. whose Cup-ties began early in September, with *all* its clubs included in the ballot.

THE QUESTION OF FINANCE

But to the writer's mind the financial question was the preponderating and most difficult problem for the clubs to solve. Glasgow clubs and one or two others could "shove along," but there were also the poorer brethren "helplessly bogged." The day of the greater good of the greater number had not yet dawned. The Levite still remained on "the other side." The angels of light and self-abnegation had not yet shed their lustrous eyes upon the darkness surrounding our groping pioneers. The Dumbartonshire clubs, then amongst the most powerful in Britain, were the first to call for a sharing basis in matters of finance. They had a distinct grievance. Whilst they played in Glasgow before many thousands there were only hundreds at home. There can be no scintilla of doubt about the fame and popularity of the Leven Valley lads being the mighty factor in drawing huge and highly delighted crowds to the City enclosures.

RENTON TAKE THE LEAD

Why should they be the means of providing considerable revenue for Glasgow clubs without some degree of reciprocity? Although the clubs were amateur, yet match expenses, with rents, rates and taxes increasing annually, required to be met. It was no surprise, therefore, when the Renton club in the year quoted invited the following thirteen clubs to meet them in Glasgow for the ostensible purpose of forming a League as a mutual benefit concern:—

Queen's Park	Dumbarton
Rangers	Vale of Leven
Cambuslang	St Bernard's
Third Lanark	Heart of Midlothian
Celtic	St Mirren
Cowlairs	Abercorn
Clyde	

CLUBS THAT HELD ALOOF

With the exception of Queen's Park and Clyde, all the clubs were represented. The absentees offered no explanation. Matters were fully discussed and various opinions expressed, after which it was resolved that the whole question be referred back to the clubs for further consideration, with a view to a definite finding being arrived at. The decisions reached were to be laid before a subsequent early meeting of delegates, and Queen's Park and Clyde were to be notified of the procedure. The adjournment was a short one and the momentous evening was duly heralded. The twelve clubs who graced the first meeting were again represented, whilst Queen's Park and Clyde still remained mysteriously silent and absent. Perhaps the two believed in their own infallibility and that they were immune from all troubles, worries and difficulties in their own small circle. But a rude awakening in subsequent years brought about a complete disillusionment. The key position—finance—opened the door of their cribbed and cabined souls. They have not lost a hair in their gambollings with the lions, and are today an honoured part of the grand comity of sports. Both hold high traditions and honours worthily earned. Long may they remain the well-established institutions they are.

See the game in its true perspective

No event can ever be correctly judged except in its relation to the events that have preceded it.

It is irresistably modified by the history of those related things that have gone before.

WHEN you read football criticism in the "Daily Record" you have the assurance that the writer knows not only that game, but many games. That because he can make comparisons, he can form judgments.

WAVERLEY and his staff of experts have this knowledge—and over many years have applied it so as to make their articles both sound and intensely alive and interesting.

GET YOUR FOOTBALL FACTS—RIGHT—in the

DAILY RECORD

SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER

ACTION WANTED

At the epoch-making meeting the delegates placed their cards on the table. There was unanimity of feeling that something had to be done, and that speedily, to maintain Scottish prestige and virility on and off the field—not in one particular area alone but in the country generally. The Association could only offer their annual Cup competition. It suited all *their* requirements, so why trouble? Not so with the clubs who had spent much in grounds, buildings and improvements. They might have only one decent "gate" in the season with which to liquidate a year's expenses and have their capital at the same time hanging by a thread.

REFORM NOT REVOLUTION

The position was fast becoming irksome. The Celtic Board, always to the fore in works of reform—eschewing sentiment and sycophancy—held no brief for selfishness. They dared do anything for the sake of honesty and purity being maintained sacred and for the protection of the rights and claims of *all* the clubs. Small wonder then that the late J. H. M'Laughlin (who appeared meteor-like in the football firmament for an altogether too brief space of time), formally moved that a League be formed. In so doing he emphasised the declaration that the League was not intended to circumvent or undermine the authority or function of the national Association. Rather was it to vitalise that body and give inspiration for the adoption of many needful and urgent reforms. (Notable amongst other changes since achieved were the legalisation of Professionalism; inauguration of the Qualifying Cup and the institution of Exemptions.) There would meantime be uncertainty and difficulty regarding fixtures, but these would gradually right themselves as time advanced. There would also be guarantees for a beginning, with the assurance that same would be examined periodically and readjusted as circumstances warranted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The solid reasoning and burning eloquence of the late lamented John H. smashed all barriers where the props were composed of doubt, jealousy, fear or selfishness. He was

indeed a happy man after he had put his resolution to the meeting and found it carried without a dissentient voice.

The meeting proceeded to elect office-bearers and Committee, after deciding that the League consist of eleven clubs for the first season.

List of Clubs and their representatives :—

Dumbarton . . .	A. Lawrance, <i>President</i>
Cowlairs . . .	G. Henderson, <i>Vice-President</i>
Rangers . . .	W. Wilton, <i>Treasurer</i>
Celtic . . .	J. H. M'Laughlin, <i>Secretary</i>
Vale of Leven . . .	J. Buchanan, <i>Committee</i>
Heart of Midlothian . . .	J. Richardson "
Cambuslang . . .	R. Livingstone "
St Mirren . . .	A. Towns "
Third Lanark . . .	J. Thomson "
Abercorn . . .	T. Hastie "
Renton . . .	A. M'Intyre "

Fixtures were provisionally arranged, and the net gate receipts to be apportioned as follows :—

Two-thirds to the Home club and one-third to the Visitors, with a minimum guarantee of £5.

RENTON EXCLUDED

No light is shown in League records as to why St Bernards were not included. It is said that the League's earliest Minute Book went astray and, despite diligent search plus exhaustive enquiry, no trace has been found. It looks as if the secret of the St Bernards exclusion must remain a mystery—at any rate so far as official records are concerned. This by the way reminds us that the popular "Gamage" handbook does not include Renton as taking part in the first League campaign. This may have given rise to the oft-repeated assertion that the initial quota consisted of only ten clubs. It is as certain, however, as Niagara Falls, that there were *eleven* within the fold. This statement is, however, subject to the qualification that at the beginning of the season the St Bernards were suspended by the Scottish Football Association for "professionalism," and that the Renton club, taking on a match with the "Edinburgh Saints" in defiance of the Association's

ruling that the St Bernards and the "Edinburgh Saints" were one and the same, were expelled from the Association, a judgment which gave rise to protracted law proceedings. Renton had played five League games, winning one, drawing one and losing three, and this record was expunged from the League table.

GONE—NOT FORGOTTEN

Of the original eleven clubs only four can lay claim to the ever-present mark, viz.:—Rangers, Celtic, St Mirren and Heart of Midlothian, whilst two—Third Lanark and Dumbarton—are marking time in the Second Division. No less than five, 'tis sad to relate, have crossed the Styx. But Cambuslang, Abercorn, Cowlares, Renton and Vale of Leven are names not soon to be forgotten. Have they not produced dozens of Internationals for their country, very many of whom were experts of the highest degree of excellence? Dumbarton were joint League Champions in 1890-91, whilst they were actually the first club to secure the coveted honour without qualification. The Scottish Cup, too, has found its way half a dozen times to the Valley of the Leven. Vale of Leven thrice; Renton twice and Dumbarton once, were proud winners. On each occasion, 'mid sounds of revelry, the fires of victory illumined the countryside from Dumbuck to Ben Lomond. "Down the Vale" was made a popular refrain in those halcyon days.

THE OLD SOCIAL SIDE

The demise of five of the pioneer League clubs is a sad reflection, especially to those of us who lived with them. A tender chord is touched as we soliloquise. So many kindred spirits, officials and players alike, have passed to the other side of that veil placed between us and the "great beyond." The spirit of fraternity always remained high above the stress of conflict. However keen and strenuous the battle raged, and whatever spasm of temper or chagrin crossed the struggling players, the tea and social together after the match wiped the slate. Where—oh, where, have those happy functions gone? Alas, the Jew and the Samaritan occupy the stage, and each in his own way leads the play.

LEAGUE PRESIDENT

1890-1896



ALEX. LAWRENCE, Esq., J.P.
(Dumbarton F.C.)

FIRST CHAIRMAN

Amid our reverent recollections of "what once was" we are comforted with the knowledge that there are still amongst us a goodly number of witnesses closely identified with early League ramifications. From the initial list of office-bearers we are enabled today to address the first president, Armour-Sgt. A. Lawrance, known to the English-speaking race the world over, as having won the Queen's prize at Wimbledon as far back as 1882 and the Prince of Wales medal in 1883. He has on several occasions since been in the last hundred. He joined the Volunteer Force 58 years ago, but is still able and keen as ever to have a "crack" at the butts. An honest, upright and true sportsman, he added dignity to any position he occupied. He held the League chair with honour for six consecutive years.

Doubtless there are other members of the Committee who still survive, but, unfortunately, the writer has no particulars. To those who still remain we raise our hat in respectful salutation.

MEN WE MOURN

We do know that three have crossed the bourne, leaving us to mourn a loss difficult to compensate. Willie Wilton was aye a gentleman and a staunch friend. His geniality and sagacious business acumen gained for him the love and esteem of all with whom he came in contact. His premature death in May 1920, through accidental drowning at Gourrock, came as a tremendous shock to many thousands of admirers, and to none more so than the writer. Truly, the Rangers club lost a full sterling asset.

Archie Towns—a solid 18-carat St Mirrenite—was never wanting in his earnestness of purpose and the rigid conservatism with which he acted in his club's interests. "Once a buddie aye a buddie." There was no mistaking his enthusiasm and keenness, but rarely did that laudable acquirement extend beyond the confines of his own club. In a body elected to control an organisation built for the mutual benefit of *all* its members, it is obviously difficult for any single hide-bound individual to succeed. This may have militated against his

advancement in office. Archie did, however, reach the vice-president's chair after long years of service. In everyday life he was the soul of geniality and a warm friend.

GREATEST OF THEM ALL

We have already touched lightly on the outstanding football statesman, the late John H. M'Laughlin. The Celtic club has always from its inception been blessed with an excellent Board of Management, and may probably be equalled by the Rangers only in that respect. In addition to a regular quota of business and legislative power, each Board has contained a pronounced complement of practical men. That is the only workable theory upon which a successful club may be built and maintained. A study of the constitutions and the results accruing therefrom, pertaining to a large number of clubs, more particularly in England, is proof, if need be, that our contention is a sound one. John M'Laughlin, we hold, was the most powerful, progressive and eloquent legislator Scotland ever possessed.

A HATER OF SHAMS

His gifts were unlimited. Clearness of vision and intellect, coupled with an ample depth of reasoning, made him the Ajax he was. We have noticed his shirt-sleeve methods in the forming of the League, but they paled before his gigantic and determined assault to batter down the pseudo-amateur door. He was not against the "Amateur," but the pseudo brand stank in his nostrils. He and others knew that underhand methods were being employed to circumvent the rules. "Why not," he cried, "be honest and banish canting humbug by openly declaring for professionalism?" Already the S.F.A. had been making furtively lifeless raids and enquiries East and West as to alleged payments to players, but these led to little or nothing. John's eloquent clamour at last carried the day. Legalised professionalism meant, to use a colloquialism, the death of the man with the muck-rake. The country breathed freely and progress naturally followed. Shibboleths and cobwebs, with a paraphernalia of snivelling and musty rules, regulations and judgments, were handed over to schoolboys and greybeards for their elucidation and amusement.

NOTICE TO FOOTBALLERS

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Good Attention

Oldest Licensed Restaurant in Glasgow

W. MALEY, Proprietor

"OH! FOR AN HOUR OF WALLACE WIGHT!"

Oh, to have a John M'Laughlin with us at the moment! He would settle the Intermediate fiasco in ten seconds. He would argue:—

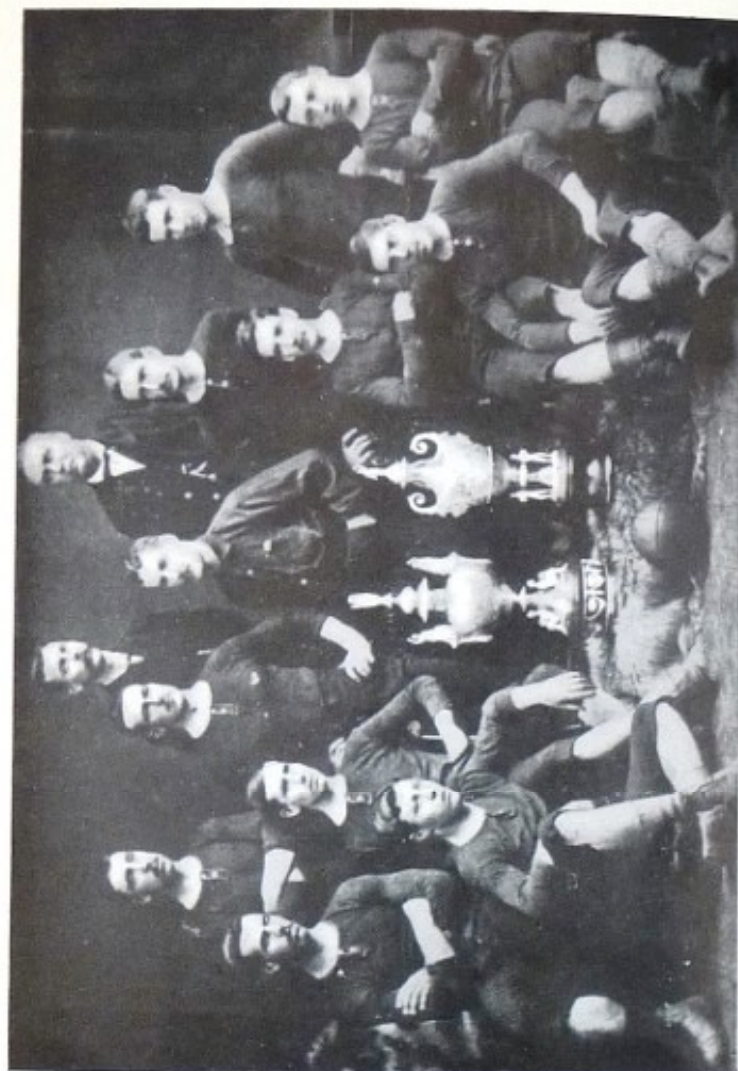
- (a) *That* other Associations will accept the registrations of professional players with or without wages.
- (b) *That* the said Associations work in peace and unity.
- (c) *That* a pigmy club, perhaps a colliery organisation, is protected from the night-raiders and stand to gain a fee for any promising lad destined for the higher circle.
- (d) *That* Scottish senior clubs are deservedly reaping the whirlwind of their own misdeeds.
- (e) *That* a generous hand, with mutual trust and reciprocity, gains most in the end.
- (f) *That* the present contretemps is the logical outcome of pure and unadulterated pigheadedness.

We grieve to think that John is not with us. He had virtues many. We have listened to his inspiring strains on the grand piano. His humour and repartee at social gatherings were a feature. His strongest forte was his unflinching stand for right without equivocation. . . . R.I.P.

THE OLD ORIGINALS

Whilst on the subject of men who scintillated in the League circles of 1890-91, we have before us photos of each of the eleven clubs, picturing their officers and players of that period. The following glossary may prove of historical interest to modern enthusiasts:—

Those star marked are known to have taken their final leave of all things earthly. 'Tis a terrible toll and makes us pause. There may be others, but we hope and pray that the number is a very limited one. Several have gone abroad, but particulars are not available in all cases.



R. KILSO A. BARBOUR A. HANNAH J. LINDSAY J. MCCALLUM J. CAMPBELL
A. McCOLL J. McNEE J. KELLY

Rangers	Heart of Midlothian	Renton	Third Lanark
Reid Gow *Muir *Marshall *M'Creadie (A.) Mitchell Wyllie *Kerr M'Creadie (H.) *M'Pherson *Hislop with *J. S. Marr *D. M'Kenzie *J. M. Grant *A. B. M'Kenzie as officers	M'Kay Adams *Cairns Begbie M'Pherson Hill Taylor Mason Common Scott Baird with *D. Blackley *J. Heggie *M. D. Davidson *J. Stewart as officers	*Gow M'Lean *Campbell *Brown *Gardiner M'Nair *Duncan Mathieson (G.) M'Arthur *M'Call *Cameron with *J. Glen *P. Campbell *A. Mathieson A. M'Kenzie as officers	*Downie Scott Dewar M'Farlane Love Lochead M'Intosh *Thomson *Lapsley Johnstone Burke with *Capt. Wilson *J. Brown *— Montgomery as officers
Vale of Leven	Celtic	Abercorn	Dumbarton
*Wilson Whitelaw *Murray Buchanan *M'Leod M'Nicol Cowan M'Millan *Rankin (G.) *Sharp *Bruce with *J. Ferguson J. Rankin *J. M'Intyre as officers	*Bell Reynolds *M'Keown *Gallacher Kelly *M'Laren Madden *Dunbar *Groves *Dowds *Coleman with *J. Glass T. Maley *J. O'Hara W. Maley as officers	*Duff Cuthbertson (A.) Cuthbertson (D.) Johnston Bowie Reid *M'Laren *Nicol Raeside *Buchanan *Bonner with *J. Gemmell W. Fulton D. Barton *J. Goudie as officers	M'Leod Watson *Hannah Boyle *M'Millan *Keir Taylor *Galbraith *Mair *M'Naught Bell with *A. Little *J. Parnie *D. M'Aulay as officers
St Mirren	Cambuslang	Cowlairs	
Deans *Hunter *M'Bain (E.) M'Cartney *M'Farlane M'Bain (A.) Douglas M'Aulay M'Bain (D.) *Dunlop *Brown with J. M'Queen *J. Harper *R. Allison as officers	Ross *Smith (W.) Cuthbert Russell Buchanan Guy Low Brown *Plenderleith Gourlay *Smith (G.) with A. Jackson *J. N. Reynard *R. Wright as officers	Duff M'Cartney M'Leod Masterton *Kennedy *M'Pherson *Bishop *Mathieson *Dempsey *Binks *Dickson with J. S. Savage *J. Halley *J. M'Kenzie *E. Russell as officers	

IN COUNCIL AND ON THE FIELD

Officers.—John S. Marr, Dugald and Alex. B. M'Kenzie, Peter Campbell (of chicken-bree fame), John Glass (the *paterfamilias* and super-optimist), James M'Kenzie, Edward Russell, John Goudie, John Ferguson, Capt. Wilson, were each genuine sportsmen and herculean workers for their clubs.

Players.—Amongst the giants on the field of play it creates a sob to notice the historic names of John and James M'Pherson, John Muir, James M'Call, Michael M'Keown, Michael Dunbar, Peter Dowds, John Murray, Gilbert Rankin, Andrew Duff, James M'Naught, James Dunlop, Andrew Brown, Eddy M'Bain, Andrew Bishop, Willie Groves, Leitch Keir, Tom M'Millan, James M'Laren ("the ould General." Most genial of souls), Hy. Gardiner, Robt. Downie, William Thomson, Daniel Bruce and James Plenderleith.

" THEN " AND " NOW "

The writer feels honoured that he has had many times the privilege of playing with or against all those included in the teams under review. The memory of the departed brethren is ever green, whilst those who still move amongst us are held secure in an affectionate bond of brotherhood. Hale and hearty, many of the stalwarts still court the football field as enthusiastic spectators. Their criticism of "what now is" as compared with "what once was" is always interesting and instructive. Comparisons may be odious affairs unless loaded with matured reasoning. It is argued by latter-day critics that the slow game of 40 years ago was not so enthralling and gripping as the present-day stuff served up by our speed merchants. Each style has its admirers but, personally, we plump for the purely scientific brand of old as against the fast and more direct methods now employed—perhaps more so in England.

QUESTIONS OF STYLE

The methodical style permits of the essence of science being displayed and, on that account, appeals to all. The faster game can only be more or less "chancy." If the individual gets away quickly and rounds off a forty, a fifty or a sixty yards' sprint with a goal he raises hair and is dubbed

a hero. We hold that the scientific mode will be more prolific in goal scoring than the spasmodic efforts of the flying individualist. But there: "You pays your money and you takes your choice." Even the great army of "deadheads" will argue, debate and order. They have on occasion gone so far as to threaten a boycott unless matters were speedily brought round to their way of thinking. So important do they consider themselves that in an age pregnant with wonders it would be no surprise to learn one of these days that their acceptance of complimentary tickets could only be acceded to on the express condition that the recipients had unrestricted use of the *sanctum sanctorum* and the entire control of the running buffet with payment for services rendered.

O'ER THE BORDER AN' AWA'

It may be proper to digress for a moment to examine the trend of affairs as they prevailed before the fusion of the English and Scottish Leagues in 1897. The registrations of both Leagues, anterior to the year quoted, only held good for one season. This permitted the clubs of either League, if so minded, to purloin each other's players without fee or consideration, at the end of the registered term. When professionalism was legalised in Scotland in 1893 it certainly led towards an equalisation to the extent that fluctuations were considerably reduced. It was admitted that because England had the larger purse she still held an advantage. This was evident when we notice great artists like Gow and M'Creadie (Rangers); Adams and M'Pherson (Hearts); Gardiner and M'Bride (Renton); Groves, Dowds and M'Callum (Celtic); Murray, Bruce and Cowan (Vale of Leven); Raeside (Abercorn); Boyle, Taylor and Bell (Dumbarton); M'Cartney and Douglas (St Mirren); Dempsey and Kennedy (Cowairs), were lured across the Border. English wages were then much in advance of that paid in Scotland. A few Scots were enticed to retrace their steps, e.g. Miller (Sunderland) and Hyslop (Stoke) to Rangers; Marshall (Blackburn Rovers) to Celtic.

BAD OLD DAYS

This does not exhaust the list by any means but it is indicative of the ravages made by the "invaders." Nothing like it had occurred from the times of the "bold bad Barons" of the

Border region. Many remarkable and hair-raising stories are extant of how villagers lay in wait throughout the eerie hours to welcome and supply the "Pirates of the Night" with a plentiful supply of tar and the necessary feathers. Large stores of eggs, fruits and vegetables of rather ancient quality were held in reserve. Sometimes it developed into an exciting form of steeple-chasing with the "Tote" frequently registering a balance in favour of the Southerner. The latter had often to thank a modern "Sir John Monteith" for success or failure. Add to the foregoing list the tremendous exactions made by England from our clubs for three or four years before 1890, and it is small wonder that our exacerbation reached boiling point. It was a desperate business to carry on and maintain a hard-won prestige; so that the only logical conclusion was that some would fall by the wayside. Disaster, deep and tragic, followed.

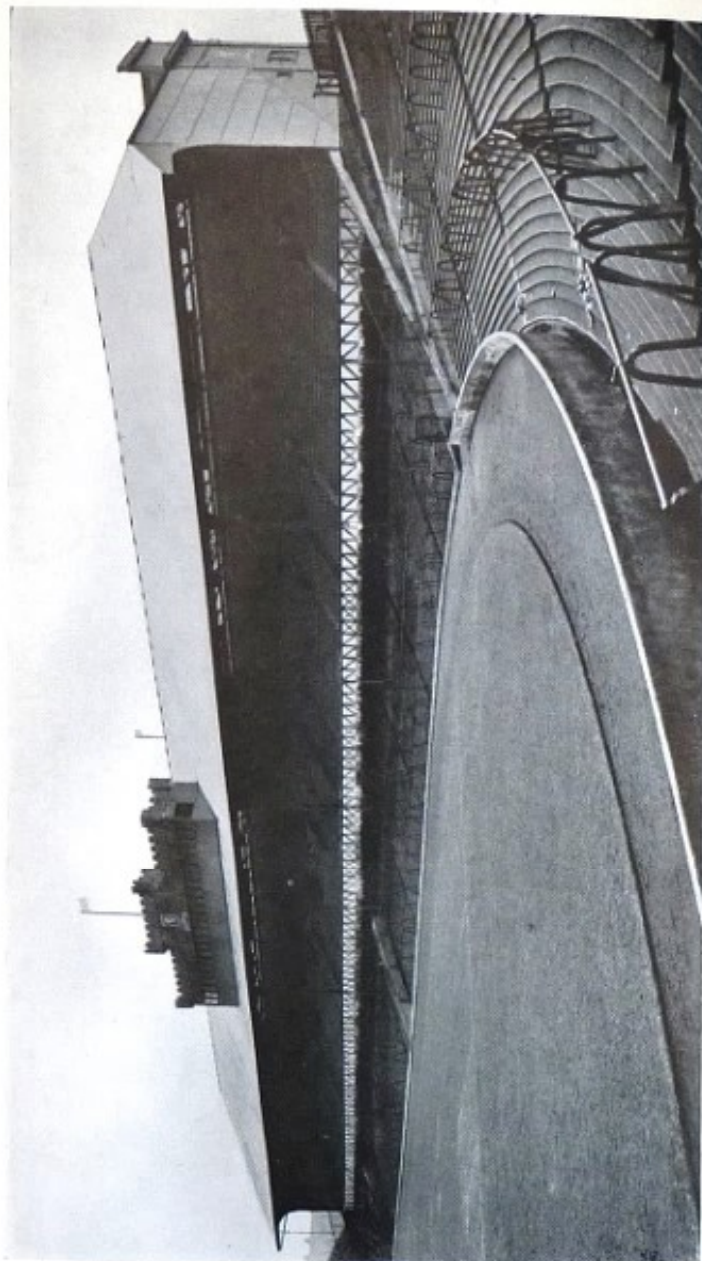
HOME DEPREDATIONS

The three Dumbartonshire clubs struggled valiantly for a few years, but death overtook two of them, leaving Dumbarton—now a mere shadow—as "dim" evidence of "what once was." Others suffered not so much from English clubs as they did through their own kith and kin. Cowlairs, Abercorn, Cambuslang, Vale of Leven and Renton lost many players just before 1890, the first and last named being perhaps the hardest hit. The desertions from Cowlairs were: M'Creadie (A.), Mitchell, M'Pherson (John) and Kerr to Rangers, Robertson to Queen's Park and Scott to Hearts, M'Innes to Notts County and Calderwood to Newcastle West End. Of the regulars only Duff, M'Cartney, M'Leod, Bishop and M'Pherson (James) (the two latter are now deceased) were left to form a team to meet Dumbarton in the opening League match played at Dumbarton on 16th August 1890. Two of the new players—Kennedy and Dempsey—had not been registered in time, with the result that the club had four points deducted.

THE IRONY OF CIRCUMSTANCES

To aggravate matters the same two players were shortly afterwards spirited away to Newcastle West End to become professionals. The Newcastle club were not members of the

1930



GROUND AND STAND—IBROX PARK
(*Rangers F.C.*)

English League and the players were amateurs in Scotland. Cowls were at the bottom of the League when the season ended because of overpowering circumstances apart from actual playing abilities. Their first essay in the League was also their last. If his mind goes ruminating the Springburn Falstaff will today betray his anguish of soul in great bitter tears. But cheer up, "Bill," the catastrophe was none of yours. Renton shed:—Lindsay and Barbour (Accrington), Hannah (Everton), Kelso (Newcastle West End), Kelly (Celtic), Campbell (H.) (Blackburn Rovers), Campbell (J.) (Sunderland). M'Callum and M'Nee also went to England. Powerful clubs in Abercorn and Cambuslang met with dire misfortune and grievous disappointment. Heartsick officials could not hasten the day of the half-gate principle and so, figuratively speaking, yielded up the ghost.

GOOD AS WELL AS ILL

As certain as the lack of revenue placed so many famous clubs in a hopeless position—eventually ending in the inevitable—it is just as certain that the greatly improved attendances with the division of gate receipts had the logical effect of giving fixity of existence to some as well as stabilising others who had more or less "felt the draught." Added to this the guarantee has intermittently been raised from £5 to £100. While the reform was too late to save those hapless wights of whom we have spoken, it has stimulated and made possible many others, as is revealed by the League card.

FIRST MEETING OF THE LEAGUES

It was in 1892, on the Bolton Wanderers' ground, that the English and Scottish Leagues met in International rivalry for the first time. Except during the War years these contests have been carried through alternately on English and Scottish—Glasgow to speak more correctly—grounds. The balance of wins is pronouncedly in favour of England. It took Scotland six years to record her first victory. In extenuation of this humbling experience it may be adduced that it was in those years that the big majority of our clubs were passing through a period of disintegration. Shoals of the very best Scottish brand, as we have already said, were regularly "crossing over" to energetically engage in creating, teaching and main-

EDINBURGH—KING'S THEATRE

A JULIAN WYLIE PANTOMIME

Commencing MONDAY, 15th DECEMBER, every Evening at 7 o'clock
Matinees at 2 (as under)

MOTHER GOOSE

Strong Cast includes:

NITA CROFT

HARRY GORDON



ARCHIE GLEN

MOLLY FISHER

MATINEES Wednesday, 17th and Saturday, 20th December; daily from 24th December to 3rd January; every Wednesday and Saturday thereafter

EDINBURGH—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SEASON, 1930-31

LADDIE CLIFF in association with FILFOT LTD.

Will present **GEORGE CLARKE** and full West End Company in

BLUE ROSES

AN ENTIRELY NEW MUSICAL PLAY

8 ————— Each Evening at ————— 8

2.30 ————— Matinees as under ————— 2.30

OPENING PERFORMANCE, MONDAY, 22nd DECEMBER 1930

MATINEES 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th and 31st DECEMBER
1st, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 10th and 17th JANUARY

GLASGOW—KING'S THEATRE

Special Six Weeks' XMAS SEASON
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D'OYLY CARTE OPERA COMPANY

IN

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GLASGOW—ROYAL THE HOME OF PANTOMIME

SATURDAY, 13th DECEMBER, at 6-45, thereafter 7 p.m.
Matinees at 2 p.m.

FORTY-THIRD "ROYAL" PANTOMIME

"GOLDILOCKS AND THE THREE BEARS"

TOMMY LORNE

Babette O'Deal

Herbert Langley



W. S. Percy

Famous Tiller Troupe

ALMA BARNES

MATINEES—Wednesday, 17th and Saturday, 20th December
and every day, 23rd December to 7th January.

taining the leading English organisations. But the 1897 agreement, arrived at mutually, ended an incongruous state of affairs and Scotland began to recuperate. In due course the menacing Irish and Southern League doors were also banged against the recalcitrant and disgruntled player. These happenings were all to the good of the players themselves, though few were able to see it quite that way.

SCOTS IN ENGLISH SERVICE

Responsible officials were satisfied. The match referred to above ended in a draw of two goals each. It is remarkable from the fact that England employed Scots to assist them for the one and only time in their International match history. For any of their legislators to even suggest a similar proposition today, most assuredly the Tower would be his fate.

To refresh the memory of many and correct the beliefs of others in misquotations of the teams we herewith present the actual names of the players and the clubs to which each belonged:—

SCOTLAND

M'Leod (Dumbarton)
Hannah (Renton)
Doyle (Celtic)
Maley (Celtic)
Boyle (Dumbarton)
M'Bride (Renton)
Taylor (Dumbarton)
M'Callum (Celtic)
M'Call (Renton)
M'Mahon (Celtic)
Bell (Dumbarton)

ENGLAND

Reader (West Bromwich Albion)
Holmes (Preston North End)
Gow (Sunderland)
Reynolds (West Bromwich Albion)
Gardiner (Bolton Wanderers)
Groves (West Bromwich Albion)
Bassett (West Bromwich Albion)
M'Innes (Notts County)
Goodall (Derby County)
Chadwick (Everton)
Daft (Notts County)

The four Anglo-Scots in the English side—with their original clubs in brackets—were: Gow (Rangers); Gardiner (Renton); Groves (Celtic) and M'Innes (Cowlsairs).

BOYS OF THE OLD BRIGADE

It is a pleasure to chronicle that there still remains with us a generally healthy and active remnant of the 1890 brigade. We may be pardoned for seeking to "throw the rule" over just a few.

DAVIE BAIRD.—An elusive and sprightly left-winger. Most difficult for any defender to hold in check. A native of "Auld Reekie," he is at present a director of his one and only club—the Hearts.

BILLY LOVE.—Centre-half. Native of Thornliebank. Third Lanark were the means of proving him a speedy and resourceful middle-man. He prospers in U.S.A.

JIMMY ADAMS.—A speedy full-back and a scientist in the game. Just short of first-class. Left the Hearts to spend some years with Everton. A sculptor and mason he owns a lucrative business in U.S.A.

ISAAC BEGBIE.—Still a grafter in his native Edinburgh. A player of the tenacious bull-dog breed and an excellent placer of a ball. With M'Pherson and Hill, he completed an international line—one of the best of the many excellent half-back divisions produced by the Hearts.

GEORDIE SCOTT.—Is a man of position in his native Glasgow. A tremendously strong forcing player and a splendid shot. He very effectively supported internationalist Bobby Calderwood in Cowlsairs team ere migrating to Edinburgh, where he kept the impetuous Davie Baird on the move.

JERRY REYNOLDS.—A terror to evil-doers if such a cognomen may be applied to too venturesome forwards. Could return a ball as far with his head as most full-backs could kick it. Later saw service with Burnley and is now on the Celtic ground staff.

BILLY M'LEOD and DONALD GOW.—Two powerful full-backs of the highest class. M'Leod on occasion assisted the Queen's Park and took part in their English Cup-ties. But it was with Cowlsairs he claimed the right to be acknowledged a real "topper." As a masterly tactician and a great captain he was simply invaluable. Still roves in Springburn—the place that knew him first. Gow was outstanding for speed, judgment and lengthy well-directed volleying. Should class him as one of the best, if not the best, that ever Rangers had. As previously stated he went to Sunderland. He had also a spell with Millwall. Is now employed on the North-east coast of England—Monkwearmouth to be precise.

(The writer has always held it to be the proudest and pleasantest period of his career to have played alongside two such talented artistes as M'Leod and Gow.)

LEAGUE — 1930 — CHAMPIONS



(The Bulletin)

GLASGOW RANGERS F.C.

(Photo)

TOM MALEY.—A sprinter of the first order. Made full use of his pedal powers when opportunity presented itself. Required careful watching by opposing defenders. Generally essayed outside-left position and played for Celtic, Third Lanark and Queen's Park. Made marked success as a manager with Manchester City and Bradford (Park Avenue). A prolific writer on many topics and a teacher by profession.

WILLIE MALEY.—A stylish as well as a class right-half-back. Never flurried and scrupulously fair at all times. Is now known to the entire football world as the long and faithful pilot of the Celtic club. His success, girded with brilliant achievements, is a standing monument to his sagacity, anticipation and resource. In him is found a warm-hearted friend whose first thought is the good of his fellow-man.

JIMMY KELLY.—A member of Renton's 1888 world's championship team, he later found sanctuary at Celtic Park. He served his two clubs faithfully and well. His noted speed and breaking-up tactics were a powerful and effective contribution to the strength of his side. Jimmy on and off the field was aye the smiling, pleasant-natured gentleman. Still a director of the Parkhead club. Has for many years carried on business at Blantyre.

JOHN BELL, DICKY BOYLE and JACKY TAYLOR.—Bell and Boyle are ornaments to their native county in which they reside after essaying wonderfully successful years in Lancashire (Everton and Preston North End). Taylor, like his two colleagues, is a Dumbarton lad, and, like them, he proved full International standard. Has made his home in Liverpool.

SIDNEY ROSS and JIMMY LOW.—Were stars in Cambuslang and helped to make their team the power it was. At goal and outside right respectively they were outstanding.

JIMMY JOHNSTON.—A really classic and stylish half-back. Member of Abercorn's best team ever.

Almost all of these gained International honours.

Overleaf is a facsimile of the first Fixture list :—

Facsimile of the SCOTTISH FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIXTURES—SEASON 1890-91

DATE	3rd L.R.V.	Celtic	Rangers	Cowlairs	Heart of Midlothian	Cambuslang	St Mirren	Abercorn	Vale of Leven	Renton	Dumbarton
Aug. 16	—	Heart of Midlothian	Heart of Midlothian	Dumbarton	Rangers	Vale of Leven	—	—	Cowlairs	Celtic	Cowlairs
" 23	Dumbarton	Heart of Midlothian	Cambuslang	Heart of Midlothian	Celtic	Rangers	—	—	Cowlairs	St Mirren	3rd L.R.V.
" 30	—	Cambuslang	Renton	St Mirren	Dumbarton	Heart of Midlothian	—	—	Abercorn	Rangers	Heart of Midlothian
Sept 13	Celtic	—	Dumbarton	Heart of Midlothian	Cowlairs	St Mirren	—	—	—	Vale of Leven	Rangers
" 20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oct. 4	Abercorn	Cowlairs	St Mirren	—	Renton	—	—	—	—	Heart of Midlothian	Vale of Leven
" 11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Abercorn
" 18	St Mirren	Abercorn	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nov. 15	Cambuslang	Heart of Midlothian	Heart of Midlothian	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dec. 6	—	Vale of Leven	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 13	Cowlairs	Dumbarton	Renton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jan. 27	Rangers	St Mirren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 31	Heart of Midlothian	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Feb. 7	St Mirren	Rangers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 21	Rangers	Dumbarton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 28	—	Vale of Leven	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mar. 7	Dumbarton	Cambuslang	St Mirren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 14	—	Rangers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 21	Abercorn	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 28	Vale of Leven	Abercorn	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" 11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The Letter (A) signifies that the Match is played on the ground of the Club at the top of the column.

These Fixtures are subject to alteration by the Committee during the Season.

The List of presidents of the League, 1890-1930 reads :—

A. Lawrance, Esq.	Dumbarton F.C.
J. H. M'Laughlin, Esq.	Celtic F.C.
R. M'Farlane, Esq.	St Bernards F.C.
D. R. Montgomery, Esq.	Third Lanark F.C.
J. K. Horsburgh, Esq.	St Mirren F.C.
A. Geake, Esq.	Queen's Park F.C.
J. Henderson, Esq.	Rangers F.C.
W. B. M'Millan, Esq.	Morton F.C.
W. Ward, Esq.	Partick Thistle F.C.
T. Hart, Esq.	St Mirren F.C.
T. Robertson, Esq.	Queen's Park F.C.
W. Maley, Esq.	Celtic F.C.
R. C. Liddell, Esq.	Falkirk F.C.
W. Duffy, Esq.	Motherwell F.C.
E. H. Furst, Esq.	Heart of Midlothian F.C.

The list is in chronological order. Various terms have been served in some cases but the big majority have each had a three years' tenancy of the chair.

" GENTLEMEN, ' THE CHAIR !! ' "

The League has indeed been fortunate to possess an excellent body of leading officials throughout its existence. We differ from the Irish orator who declared that :—

" The swatest mimories
in loife are the recollections
of things forgotten."

Of course, he didn't mean what he actually did say. His idea, undoubtedly, was to express his love for men that had shone refulgently in the world's firmament and, also, his veneration for happenings that periodically had gladdened and sweetened the Universe in the years gone by. Unhappily for our Demosthenes his linguistic powers played havoc with his orthology. Without any endeavour to utilise language of a super-effusive nature or a superfluity of high-sounding phraseology, we have no hesitation in saying that the affairs of the League have always been well and truly governed from the dais. Each occupant has had distinctive characteristics—genial, pawky, humorous, sedate, resolute, far-

seeing—yet each, in his own particular way, has contributed to the honour and dignity of the position he held. The consolidation of the organisation is pretty much the result of their work.

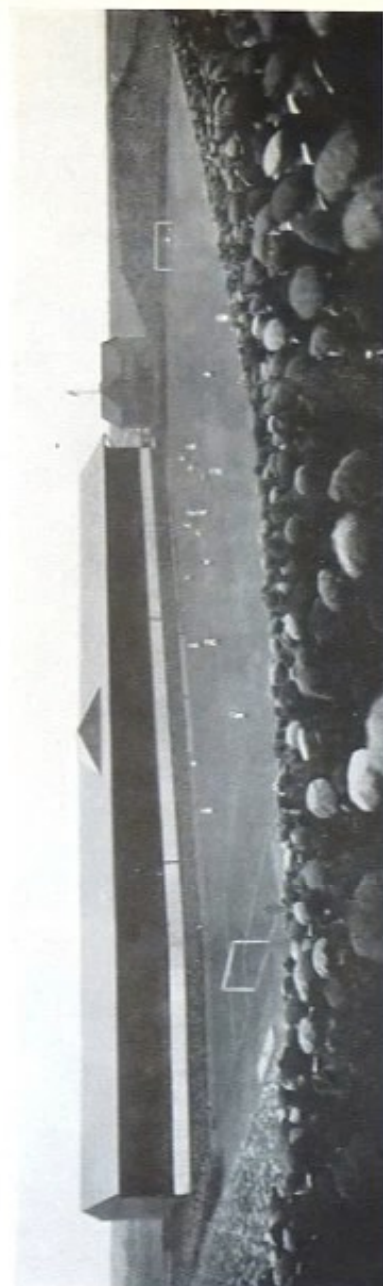
A MODEL SECRETARY

The outstanding feature in the life of the League, if we may say so, rests in the personality of the Secretary, and it discredits no one if we assert that Mr MacAndrew is its very soul. He might have been one of the Lords of Session, lolling on the crimson woosack, but for his unequivocal earnestness and loyalty to the job he undertook thirty-one years ago. He brought pure daylight out of a semi-chaotic darkness. His business is carried on and maintained in a manner betokening a very high degree of efficiency. Only those whose duties fetch them into close touch with Mr MacAndrew are able to realise to some extent what numerous and multifarious transactions he has to negotiate. He might be termed the central figure of a Spanish Inquisition but the figure not that of the Inquisitor. The worries of a regiment of club managers alone is enough to demolish any Sphinx, yet his wonderful tact and diplomacy has converted garrulous lions into the meekest of lambs. His predilection for the soft answer is proverbial. Much—very much more could be said in eulogy of Mr MacAndrew but we spare his blushes and conclude by saying that he is one of the most modest and likeable of fellows—a warm-hearted and considerate friend.

FRA' SHEFFIELD

Having moralised to some extent on the very early years of the League it is not our intention, nor is it necessary, to use a great deal of space upon its doings during the current decade. The present-day enthusiast has a more than retentive memory and may be safely reckoned on possessing details of things that really matter. It is not politic—nay, it is positively dangerous—to even suggest that you know more than the other fellow. Of course, there existed mortals of this class “way back in distant eras.” One such is recalled by the writer. A Yorkshire friend some thirty years ago was locally known and addressed as the “Athletic News” and the “Sporting Chronicle.” It was never safe to gamble against him. He

1930



GROUND AND STAND—PITTODRIE PARK
(Aberdeen F.C.)

was always "it" when consulted on data pertaining to football, cricket, knur-and-spell or racing. As a side hobby he added to income by putting posers. "Bet thee five bob tha cant tell in what county Sheffield is?" Quick as lightning—"Yorkshire of course . . . barmpot." "Not so much barmpot thee. . . . *Hallamsheer* . . . brass up."

SMALL THINGS TO GREAT

The tremendous strides made in League football may be judged from attendances in say three decades. Opening in 1890, they ranged from 3,000 or 4,000 to 8,000, then from the latter figure to as many as 60,000 in 1905, whilst recently they reached the staggering figure of 90,000. Coatbridge, Hamilton, Aberdeen and Edinburgh are able to boast of 20,000, 21,000, 27,000 and 50,000 respectively. To the stern and resolute pioneers, who still move and have their being amongst us, these figures must be an immense source of gratification and pleasure. In addition they are witnesses of beautifully laid-out grounds with palatial Stand and Pavilion buildings. It is worth paying a first-class fare to make a special inspection visit to the headquarters of the Rangers, Queen's Park, Celtic and Heart of Midlothian clubs. The majority of the other clubs also possess "homes" that would have been worth a ransom in the 1890 period. Contemplate the little wooden "shanties," holding to suffocation 22 players, with an unlimited number of "Kommittee" men, plus several "frenzied rabids" hollering in at the door and window (in some instances there were two) "what had to be done" and "who had to be watched."

SPARTAN DAYS

The rear of these cabins generally had a construction, disclosing the hall-mark of ancient architecture, for the display of a few tin basins containing rancid or stagnant water. With only one piece of soap and perhaps a couple of towels players were expected to "purify" themselves. A shower bath could be obtained simply by tipping overhead a basin (if you were fortunate to secure one) of equal parts mud and water. And mind you all this performance took place under the open canopy of heaven. Sometimes the "cabin" could boast of an effusively-smoking, coal-tormenting iron box with a length of

gutter-piping endeavouring to function as a chimney. It usually stood in a corner. Sometimes a little "excitement" after the match was the direct cause for the over turning of the innocent coal-box attended with the surrender of the hard-working chimney-piece as it crashed to the floor.

On another ground an important match was attended by an exceptionally large audience. The "box" roof was early loaded with excited humanity. A field incident caused some commotion and amid it all the agonised timbers gave way. An execution could not have been illustrated better—even allowing for the absence of Calcraft. We took rather longer to dress in consequence—the search for missing garments, boots, etc., proving somewhat tedious. Watches, money and other valuables were always placed in the safe keeping of a known spectator.

SURREPTITIOUS ENTRY

Really we spent many such pleasant afternoons, finishing up in the evening with a grand tea and social—yes, that was all. It is an incontrovertible fact that no footballer will claim kinship with Ananias. Most of the grounds were provided with a grim structure known as the "Grand Stand." It had one paying entrance and others of the non-revenue class. Youngsters during the week were religiously engaged unfixing a small piece of "sarkin" board and setting it innocently against the opening, thus providing for their surreptitious entry on Saturday. Some were indiscreet enough to take their "timber" home for family use. The seating was usually composed of rough sawn deals. Often there were planks upon which to rest feet and legs, otherwise those parts of anatomy dangled in space. On a wet day the condition of the seats may be readily imagined. Layers of clay from seat to seat helped keep the spelfs from obtruding. Let us add that nearly all the erections were void of roof cover. We have sat in them at Hampden, Ibrox and Cathkin (No. 1) parks.

"SEEING RED"

Many pieces of turkey-red cloth were used in flag-making. These embellishments were generally floated from a six-foot pole erected above the "box" or "shanty" door. Talk of

lending enchantment to the scene—eh what! It is thus historical that quite a lot of people saw "red" then, just as some do now. Little did the clubs dream that one day their pet colour would become the emblem of frenzy, revolution and bloodshed.

The contrast between "what was" and "now is" in Stand and Pavilion erections is almost beyond the power of the pen to portray. If we suggest a war zone dug-out as against the almost supernal heights of Elysium the comparison would not be overdrawn.



Drawn from memory

PAVILION AND ENCLOSURE
Renton F.C. (World Champions, 1888)

A' TH' COMFORTS

Having listened to a review of the old we shall now hear something of the new conditions. Dressing-rooms *de luxe* are on most grounds, hot and cold enamel-bricked pond to hold an entire team, Turkish, in addition to "slipper" baths with the latest in showers and sprays. Enamelled H. and C. wash-hand basins and accessories are provided with all modern conveniences. Then there are Drying-rooms of an up-to-date order. Billiard-room and Gymnasium are in some cases much

in advance of that to be found in public premises in our cities and towns. The whole of the rooms under the big stand are artificially heated. Referees and linesmen are well provided for in an apartment for their own exclusive use. It also includes bath facilities. The Board-room, Secretary's office and the "Holy of Holies" are furnished and equipped almost regardless of outlay. Kings, Queens, Princes and Princesses, Premiers and Ambassadors of most nations, Members of Lords and Commons, notables of all other ranks at home and outwith, scientists, philosophers, writers, journalists, financiers and, in fact, all elements of world life have been welcomed and comfortably accommodated in the modern Stand.

FOR THE PUBLIC

The buildings are so arranged and sectioned off that provision is made to suit the purse of anyone desirous of a seat. Large terraced enclosures, roofed in, are at the public disposal for standing room only. In many cases the terraces are of concrete. Nearly all the clubs have their "slopes" or "banks" terraced with timber and fine ashes. There are numerous conveniences for public use. Large bunting is flown from stately flagstaffs, in all instances bearing the club colours. On occasion championship and national flags are unfurled.

UNDER DIFFICULTIES

A thought intervenes at this juncture. How in the name of Jupiter did those men of forty years ago manage to play, let alone reach the lofty pinnacle of International brilliance? Possibly, they may have "dreamt of dwelling in marble halls" and thereby found an inspiration. We do know that the "ancients" did not last the pace as long on active service as a large percentage of the present generation seem capable of doing. The concluding fifteen years of the last century and a few at the commencement of this, disclosed a wonderful vitality amongst the players of our leading clubs. It seems hardly credible that they were able to play so brilliantly, considering the heavy handicap entailed by hard (and often very hard) regular weekly employment. It has also to be weighed in the balance that their training facilities were of the crudest and their time in the evenings only fractional. Enthusiastic and optimistic spirits they were when you realise the risks they courted.

1930



GROUND AND STAND—TYNECASTLE PARK
(Heart of Midlothian F.C.)

WHY MODERNS LAST LONGER

In winter darkness, visualise them doing the hundred in ten to twelve seconds quite oblivious of any obstacle likely to obstruct their passage. Treading on a small pebble has been responsible for many players being laid aside. Their dieting was not universally of the type consistent with the bodily requirements of a conjoined athlete and workman. Chops and steaks were edibles not always at the command of scores of our best exponents. They were still Amateurs and as keen—possibly more so—than the professors of the moment. The latter category, with their princely reward for services rendered, never go hungry. Ample time have they in the glorious light of day to perform their evolutions without much else to worry about, except, perhaps, their plan of campaign in the next match. Comparing the two pen pictures herewith drawn it is no difficult matter to urge the reason for longevity as against prematurity.

PLAYING INTO MIDDLE AGE

It must not be understood from our survey and general synopsis of the two eras of footballers that there is the slightest intention to cast any reflection whatever upon one side or the other. Instead, we are second to none in our admiration and veneration for both. Each stand for greatness and no Roman, Titan or Grecian Tribune could command greater adulation. Yet, we believe the reader will recognise, if he has not already done so, why the football life of a player has increased by at least fifty per cent. Exceptional longevity, it is interesting to recall, is revealed in the career of two old friends and keen antagonists—Billy Meredith and Johnny Goodall. Playing first-class football they reached their fiftieth and forty-second birthdays respectively ere seeking an armistice—a really wonderful record. They played the game!

FACTS IRREFUTABLE

Whilst for the reasons already advanced we do not propose to enter into a detailed account of the League's latter-day doings, yet there are one or two outstanding features that history cannot refuse to embrace. The intention of this memoir is to deal with facts and reduce controversial matter to a minimum.

Foremost in our thoughts is the illuminating and astounding pre-eminence of the Celtic and Rangers clubs in championship honours.

A reference to our tabulation record achievements is to learn a story without words.

Of the many great elevens possessed by each, who can ever forget the undernoted :—

<i>Celtic XI.</i>	<i>Rangers XI.</i>
Adams	Watson
M'Nair	Smith (N.)
Dodds	Drummond
Young	Henderson
Lonie	Stark
Hay	Robertson
Bennett	Walker
M'Menemy	Mackie
Quinn	Speedie
Somers	Donnachie
Hamilton	Smith (A.)

We recall 'twere but yesterday that we assisted at the first match ever played on Celtic ground :—

“ EDINBURGH HIBERNIANS v. COWLAIRS ”
Hail the “ Greens ”

The eloquent speeches welcoming the advent of the newly formed Celtic club at the dinner given 42 years ago in the George Hotel, Glasgow, still tinkle in our ear. The genial John Glass had charge of a host of celebrities and the players of both teams. No club ever had a better send-off and, viewing its subsequent high and honourable career, no club better deserved it. The greatest attribute attaching to the Celtic club is their consistency and patience in dealing with young players. They are prepared to undergo periods of transition, with descent in the League ladder and consequent loss of revenue with somewhat of prestige, in order to “ manufacture their own goods.” Latest proof of this is evident to-day.

THE “ BLUES ”-EXCELSIOR

Unlike the Celtic the Rangers were not born with a silver spoon. From the Elysian plains of Glasgow Green to the

stately home at Ibrox is but a hop. Yet more than one of the seven seas must be grateful to the Clyde river for their existence since the eventful 1873. 'Twas in that year Rangers first saw the light [15 years anterior to the birth of their great rivals at Parkhead].

Troubles, trials and heart-failure spasms were for years in close attendance. Only exuberants of a super brand saved the club from disruption and death. The Rangers trail from the Glasgow Green lay by way of Burnbank and Kinning Park to their present quarters. Singularly, as at Celtic Park, it was also the writer's privilege and honour to take part in Ibrox Park's first ever :

“ PRESTON NORTH END v. RANGERS ”

Rangers, like Celtic, give splendid opportunities for the “ young idea ” finding the way to fame. Both clubs have contributed an army of the greatest players known in the annals of football.

COME AWAY “ MAROONS ”

The Heart of Midlothian in the honours list come third in order of merit. To say it is a very bad third requires no elaboration or equivocation in language. It is more than regrettable that Edina's pride is such a long way off from the home of the “ immortals.” Their traditions are glorious and their friends, east, west, north and south, are legion. Despite playing lapses and circumstances over which control was difficult and sometimes impossible, they are still one of Scotland's “ big three.” They have boasted teams equal to the finest in Britain but fortune refused to smile. Why—yes why? Often did the almost imperceptible balance of the scales register against them. When it is realised that the thousandth part of a goal has determined the winning or losing of a championship our declaration may be understood. An outstanding tragedy in the Hearts history was the loss by War of their great young team. If then they were denied the League championship they assuredly gained the V.C. of football on another and a greater field.

Boyd

Crossan Currie

Briggs Mercer Nellies

Low Wattie Gracie Graham Wilson

Other brilliant personalities have occupied the Hearts stage.

TEAM BUILDING

The points chart is about the only means of obtaining some guidance on the question of methods or principles adopted by the various clubs in team building. Money is useful but does not always guarantee success. This is strikingly manifest with some easily named English clubs. Purchase a lb. of sugar and you have value in return. Pay five to ten thousand pounds for a footballer and you may easily secure a misfit. The player has not grown up with you and often, like the plant from a foreign nursery, withers and decays. Thus is effected a double calamity in that he has let down his new masters and perhaps irreparably injured the playing status of the club he left. We at once declare our unmitigated abhorrence of the mad gamble in human flesh pursued by the magnates. Even if success followed Barnum and Baileyism in football there certainly would be no credit attached or due to anybody.

We have noticed a certain type of football journalism weeping and sympathising with clubs unfortunate enough "to take the wrong turning" by purchasing tame felines. Rather should they scourge with whips and scorpions those who would dare emulate the virgins minus their oil. Nothing is more foolish than canting humbug.

Backed by personal experience we here and now boldly assert that our best and most consistent teams have uniformly been reared from the "cradle."

Complete assimilation of the units by early contact bears fruit not usually obtainable where more or less matured elements are brought together.

Dealing with the subject of young teams and the art of building them there are provincial clubs who have performed wonders in that respect. Ponder for a moment to what heights Airdrieonians, St Mirren and Raith Rovers might have reached had they been in a position to retain their excellent material. The blame for loss of talent lies at the door of public apathy and subsequent lure of English gold. The faithful adherents of the clubs named must appreciate that necessity is the determining factor. Grumbles and threats carry no weight if the necessary public support is denied hard-working and capable officials. Motherwell's club is an example of what is attainable in rural districts where revenue balances expenses.

HOT BEDS

Our cursory glance at the evolution of Scottish League football may, we hope, reach to the younger generation of devotees in such a way that it will inspire an even greater enthusiasm for an organisation that has proved invaluable to the life of the nation. The League has undoubtedly been the direct means of reducing County and several other Associations to a mere name. It may seem strange if we applaud that result. Many minor bodies were nothing more than cabals of ribaldry, jealousy and spleen. Their judgments and decisions were of the notorious Jeffrey type. True, we have the Glasgow F.A. still with us. It is strong and flourishes because of its membership being composed of League clubs only. North and South, East and West, there were vile happenings. It would fill a volume to give details of crude, rude and desperate actions.

TAIL WAGGING THE DOG

The writer has been a disgusted witness of much that went on. Each Association had a "tail" of pigmies ever ready to wag the head unless, like the spoiled child of gargantuan proclivities, its bread was well buttered. Protests were the chief mainspring for running riot. We remember the old Glasgow North-Eastern F.A.—the Cinderella of all. Its "tail" (clubs born today and dead tomorrow) has actually placed the cup in possession of a club that hadn't won it. A protest, based on something that occurred in Noah's Ark, did the trick. On another occasion Cowairs could not meet Tollcross in the final on the date ordered because of a previously arranged important fixture. The "tail" saw its opportunity for a part of itself being hailed as winner. Tollcross were instructed to appear on the ground, kick-off and put through the empty goal. There being no nets in vogue it has been hotly disputed whether the ball went inside or outside the post. But Tollcross were declared winners and the "conquering heroes" were met with the usual fantasies as they entered the salubrious suburb beyond the murky Clyde.

A SORDID EXISTENCE

Even club life in the years before the League advent experienced many weird rulings and curious situations. Some

cannot be told *in extenso*. We shall only rehearse one, but for obvious reasons we do not name the club. At this particular time the Committee was made up of the entire membership which included the players. At 2s. per head the number would generally reach approximately thirty. A resolution was carried that three members be empowered to purchase a bottle of whisky *for rubbing purposes only*, the bottle to be locked in the Pavilion cupboard and only released when required in the presence of three members (excluding players). Sometimes the three members happened to be of one mind. Excuses were made that, owing to bad weather, replenishments became more frequent. Unanimity was seldom reached as to who was to lift the gate money. Recriminations on these and other matters usually led to the meetings being adjourned more than once during the week. That club is one that has held, and still holds, a high and honourable position in the League membership.

SAVED BY THE LEAGUE

We reiterate that the League saved Scottish football and its bigger clubs. Yea, further, it is the parent of some strong and healthy babes, in addition to being the M.O. responsible for the rejuvenation of a few of more ancient nativity. It has used its good right arm in an endeavour to widen its ramifications, but the lack of populous centres does not lend much towards securing a successful issue. Consequently, the Second Division is a weakling. It is quite safe to assume that Scottish football would gradually have descended to little more than Junior level had there been justification for counter efforts composed of jealousy, suspicion, selfishness and hatred. The Scottish F.A. have no regrets at the coming of the League.

In conclusion, let us again seek forbearance for our shortcomings in attempting to give the rising generation a further illustration of how great things have emanated from small beginnings. Metaphorically, that tiny seed planted at Renton 40 years ago is responsible for an extremely healthy national crop. The sower and the reaper share equally the showers of blessing and thankfulness unselfishly bestowed upon them by an appreciative and grateful democracy.

SCOTLAND v. WALES, AT IBBRON PARK, 1930.



(Photo)

Back Row: KERR (Trainer),
Front Row: McRODIE.

McNAB,
BROWN.

GRAY,
BATTLES.

THOMSON,
GILLESPIE (Capt.).

GILMOUR,
STEVENSON.

HILL,
MORTON.

1st Ballerina

NAMES OF CLUBS

*in Membership with the League (Div. I.) at
different periods.*

1890-91 - 1930-31 (inclusive)

Figures opposite represent years of service.

Rangers	41	Dumbarton	15
Celtic	41	Port Glasgow Athletic	8
St Mirren	41	Clydebank	7
Heart of Midlothian	41	St Bernards	7
Third Lanark	36	Cowdenbeath	7
Hibernians	36	St Johnstone	6
Dundee	36	Leith Athletic	5
Partick Thistle	32	Albion Rovers	4
Kilmarnock	32	Abercorn	4
Clyde	31	Renton	3
Queen's Park	30	Dundee United	3
Morton	30	Dunfermline Athletic	2
Motherwell	28	Cambuslang	2
Airdrieonians	28	Vale of Leven	2
Falkirk	26	Cowlairs	1
Hamilton Academicals	25	Alloa Athletic	1
Aberdeen	24	Bo'ness	1
Raith Rovers	16	East Fife	1
Ayr United	15		

The life of the League, including the 1930-31 season, covers a period of 41 years.

It will be observed that 37 clubs have been in membership with Division I. at one time or another.

If we exclude the season 1890-91 joint championship, held by Rangers and Dumbarton, the following clubs are revealed as winners and runners-up :—

Winners		Runners-up	
Rangers	17	Celtic	12
Celtic	17	Rangers	8
Heart of Midlothian	2	Heart of Midlothian	5
Third Lanark	1	Airdrieonians	4
Dumbarton	1	Dundee	3
Hibernians	1	Falkirk	2
		Motherwell	2
		Morton	1
		Aberdeen	1
		Hibernians	1

The figures opposite indicate the number of occasions.

A FURTHER THOUGHT

In the larger sense League football has quickened the game from its inception and has now reached to great eminence and power—so much so that the position attained is not exaggerated when we declare it to be the one and only factor that matters in the control and destiny of the game today. This may appear an assertion difficult of acceptance, but we hasten to make it more than evident that there undoubtedly is a "power behind the throne."

Without League football there would be few paid professors and certainly no wages for anyone to live upon. There would be no salaries for National Association officials and staffs. No palatial offices of latest architectural distinction and design. No Grand Council crimson-seated chamber with its awe-inspiring Tribune. No foreign and colonial outings and junketings (occasionally seized upon as little health restorative excursions). No rush for seats in the legislative throng—more pegs than hats.

The great League structure, we reiterate, has been industriously and carefully welded together by the faithful disciples of a clear-thinking Scot. No accusation dare be made on this occasion that:—

"It is a sham, a sham that's made in Birmingham."
("Labby" was thinking of screws—not football.)

The League rose in its majesty, creating in due course envied posts and coveted perquisites. It stimulated the rush

for places in the sanctums of Associations, comparable only with a hectic gold-field stampede. Heads now exceed hat capacity at the periodical pow-wows and palavers.

Metaphorically speaking, if League football was withdrawn from the National Associations we should witness a holocaust of Nabobs, Moguls and glittering thrones tumbling to the dust as did such trappings following on the world War. It would be a just retribution, for is it not notorious that a type of somnolent hibernation lurks around Associations—aye and many clubs as well. With returning vision as the scales drop off, the species will suddenly develop a tremendous activity. Those who have toiled and moiled throughout the dark winter of struggle and adversity are called upon to quit in tones befitting a mellifluous sergeant-major.

The League is so powerful, that it rightly occupies the first chair in the national orchestra. Scotland's amateurism is so fractionally infinitesimal that we do not propose to discuss its position. It is a different matter when approach is made to the huge and uninviting Colossus installed at Lancaster Gate. Be not terrified, quaking soul, his ivories are well filed and his shining blade well padlocked. He knows his limit and satisfies himself by looking "orribly orful." He is conscious that his hive is over-swarmed with drones and that the assistance of a famous powder has become a necessity. He realises that democracy must govern, and despite the amateur scream against increased League representation he had reluctantly to give way.

The Football Association would feign remain an autocracy, but the march of progress will not permit of cabalistic government remaining a permanency. More especially is this so when the professional has to find 95 per cent. of the entire revenue, whilst his spending power is only perhaps 5 per cent. of the whole. Representation by value is not recognised in the Association constitution, e.g. Kent County with some ten clubs within its borders, and three without, has the privilege of sending a representative to the Council. The inclusion of Brighton and Hove Albion (Sussex), Portsmouth (Hants), and Southampton (Hants) with Kent is obviously monstrously absurd. The three outlanders with a capital outlay of £80,000 are disenfranchised and entirely at the mercy of Kent's contingent valued at the liberal estimate of £10,000. It has also to be borne in mind that the three League clubs named are in

direct affiliation with the Football Association, whilst the Kentish clubs are, as a group, affiliated through their County only.

The electoral roll reeks of this sort of thing, and is undoubtedly responsible for a constituent assembly composed of (Office-bearers excluded) 49 amateur delegates as against 17 professional members (including the 8 from the Football League). Herein is the root cause for all the iniquitous inequalities in connection with:—

Council representation,
Rationing Cup final tickets,
Distributing Cup competition finance,
Drafting Referee lists and mode of selection,
Fining of Clubs and players.

Reform is urgently required as no discerning person can deny. Fortunately there is a power at hand to enforce it. The vision has already been dimly reflected on the wall, and may at no distant space of time be amplified to brilliance. The tail must cease to wag the head—the Government of professional clubs by amateur organisations is a super incongruity.

SPECTEMUR AGENDO

In League official life many splendid characters have occupied the stage. Forty years' progressive work, culminating in the firm and lasting establishment of football, was only made possible by the wise and able guidance and control of its leaders. As they have built up a valuable state asset they are entitled to full national thanks and appreciation. This applies with equal force to many *habitués* of the club board-rooms, and amongst those not specifically mentioned heretofore we should be failing in our duty if we did not place on record the undernoted names. In club and League business they have done, and many are still doing herculean work frequently at great personal sacrifice. No task was considered too irksome and in all their labours they diligently strove for right and equality.

Sir John Ure Primrose	.	.	Rangers F.C.
Bailie Jos. Buchanan	.	.	.
Jas. K. Horsburgh	.	.	St Mirren F.C.
Thos. Hart	.	.	.
Dan. Gilmour	.	.	Kilmarnock F.C.
John Walker	.	.	.
Phil. Kelso	.	.	Hibernian F.C.
Owen Branigan	.	.	.
William Lorimer	.	.	Heart of Midlothian F.C.
W. C. P. Brown	.	.	.
Capt. Wilson	.	.	Third Lanark F.C.
William Abel	.	.	.
Thos. White	.	.	Celtic F.C.
Thos. Robertson	.	.	Queen's Park F.C.
William Ward	.	.	Partick Thistle F.C.
John Goudie	.	.	Abercorn F.C.
Jas. Philip	.	.	Aberdeen F.C.
William Nicol	.	.	Falkirk F.C.
Thos. Moore	.	.	Hamilton Academicals F.C.
And. R. Dick	.	.	Cowdenbeath F.C.
Bailie Thomson	.	.	Airdrieonians F.C.
Bailie H. Brown	.	.	Clyde F.C.
John Cameron	.	.	Dundee F.C.
— Adamson	.	.	Raith Rovers F.C.
Thos. Colquhoun	.	.	Clydebank F.C.
Hugh Martin	.	.	Albion Rovers F.C.
A. M'A. Kennedy	.	.	Dumbarton F.C.
Peter Campbell	.	.	Renton F.C.

Did ever self-abnegation gain such a victory?

"TIME DISCLOSES ALL THINGS"

Strange query put to us:—

"Has ever an Edinburgh referee taken charge of a League match in Edinburgh when a Glasgow club was in opposition?"

The psychology school of Viennese professors having failed to diagnose dreams of a subject creation commonly known as "football crank," a specially convened conference is about to be called, consisting of B.M.A. high dignitaries, to prosecute further enquiries *re* this mysterious phenomenon.

A serum wanted for a seemingly incurable disease affecting all football clubs. It is dubbed "the-best-team-ever." Always of a horrid nature and generally super-virulent in August each year. "Out for promotion" seems the more cancerous element.

It is said that a Union of Critics is about to be formed, with a certain Bartimeus at its head, in order to take charge and supervise certain atoms attending football matches. N.B.—Pressmen are excluded from benefit.

A glorious heritage is *football uncertainty*.

To put into tablet form, for easier consumpt, the seven thousand two hundred and five reasons advanced for the formation of "Supporters Clubs." The V.C. with a bar (!) awaits the successful Chemist-cum-Analyst.

Who is ever satisfied in the ranks of Directors, Managers, Players, Referees, and Press critics? Duds, of course, says the *office boy*.

Credence is being given to the story emanating from London that Transfer fees shall yet reach to the £100,000 mark, even should the required player come from the North Pole or Libya. The tale is brought perilously near to being linked up with a verbose showman in the line. It is only a rumour, so go to sleep.

LEAGUE PRESIDENT

1930



E. H. FURST, Esq., J.P.
(*Heart of Midlothian F.C.*)

The only Hearts' official to reach the Chair since the League's inception. If the wait has been a lengthy one there is consolation in knowing that no better legislator ever ascended the Tribune. Business acumen of high degree—backed by clearness of vision and lucidity of expression—are powerful assets possessed by the new leader.

What provision, if any, has been made by clubs for the old age entertainment of the "Deadhead" community? It must not be forgotten what vast and valuable services have been rendered to football and to the clubs themselves by the loyal and unceasing attentions of this self-denying fraternity.

The football Inflator is alleged by Tailors and Hatters as the cause of endless trouble in their business with officials and servants engaged in the game. They suggest that a remedy is at hand if the instrument is only allowed to perform its own legitimate duty.

Referees and Linesmen have been taught, advised and ordered to see "eye to eye" with each other for the good conduct of the game. "The Guv'nor's" signally failed, however, to give certification that their officials were each possessed of the full complement. Is this the reason for cross-eyed decisions and the presence of inspectors?

It has taken 47 years to percolate from Blackstoun Park, Paisley, to the Imperial Stadium, Wembley, London. It is Seestu's proud boast that she was the first to introduce evening football under artificial light auspices:—

Abercorn v. Paisley Olympic (the Zulus) in 1883 scored goals through the agency of "Wells Lights." For the same purpose the Stadium has just been fitted up electrically.

Tempus fugit!

That goal-scoring record! Glasgow Thistle v. Cowlairst. 1st round, North-Eastern Cup. Cowlairst 11, Thistle 1. One player scored 9 goals for Cowlairst. Can any person give the name?

Still unclaimed is the V.C. gained by that member of the Fourth Estate, who epitomized in 1890 that:— "it would be tedious and profitless to relate what *followed* the formation of the League." Was ever a Hindenburg line more easily surmounted?

The first year's total income of an "ever present" member of League Div. I., amounted to £1 18s. od. Who is it?

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