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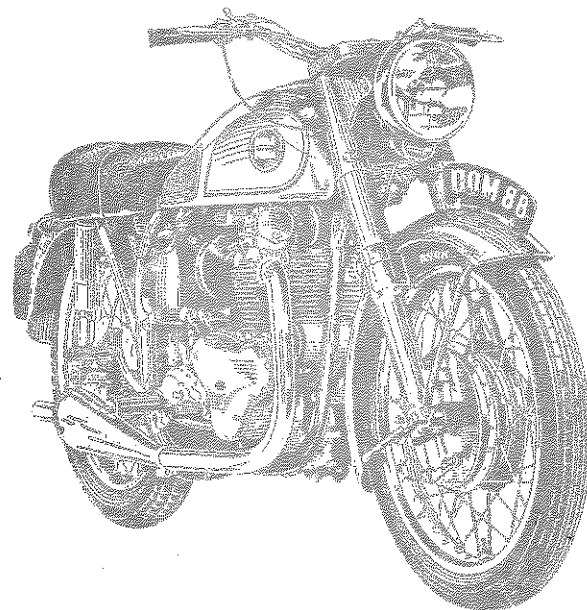
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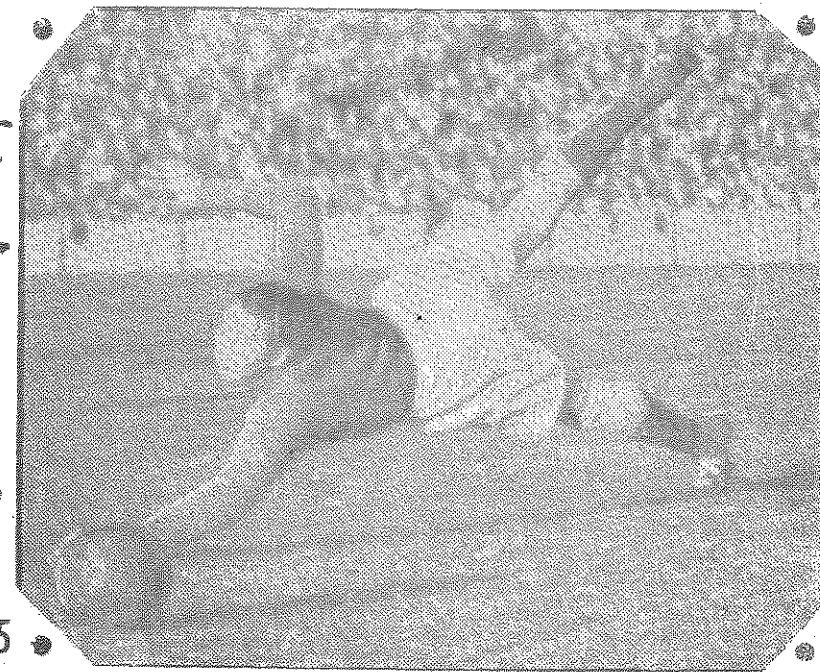
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WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

It is my privilege and pleasure as President of the Queensland Soccer Football Association to extend, on behalf of the many players and supporters of Soccer in this State, a most hearty welcome to our visitors.

Most of us remember the Chinese Teams which toured this country in 1941 and 1953, and the many fine displays they gave during those tours. From reports received about the matches which this team has played in this country, it is evident that the members of the team are as fine exponents of the game as were the members of the 1941 and 1953 teams.

I trust that the team will enjoy the matches it plays in this State and that in later years the members of the team will look back on their visit to Queensland with many happy memories.

L. EASTMENT,
President.

To the South China Soccer Team.

Brisbane welcomes you—not only our Chinese Community here, but all lovers of Soccer, as well as every true sportsman.

We give you a particularly warm welcome to show our appreciation of the fact that your Association was one which sponsored the first visit of the Chinese Soccer team to this country, and thus created a greater interest in this game, and a cordial relationship and better understanding between China and Australia.

We note that eight of your members now visiting us represented Free China at the Second Asian Football Games in Manila last year, and their team won the Championship Cup.

We also accord a special welcome to your Secretary-Coach, Mr. Lee Wai Tong, the "King of Soccer," who has played with the South China Soccer Association for more than 20 years and who played here in 1927.

Five of your team were here in 1953, and we hope you will enjoy your visit and renew old friendships. To every Queensland sportsman "the game's the thing." We know that in this respect you will prove to be true ambassadors of the sport of Soccer as shown by your previous teams.

On your behalf I would express appreciation of the initiative of the Australian Soccer Football Association in making possible your visit and especially of the Queensland Soccer Football Association for arranging your itinerary in Queensland.

T. M. CHEN,
(Consul for China in Brisbane).

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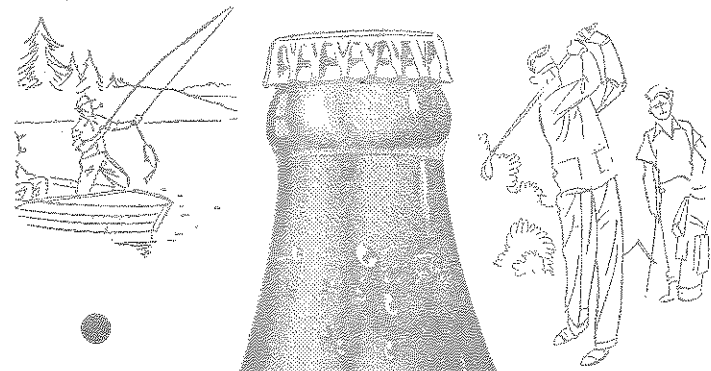
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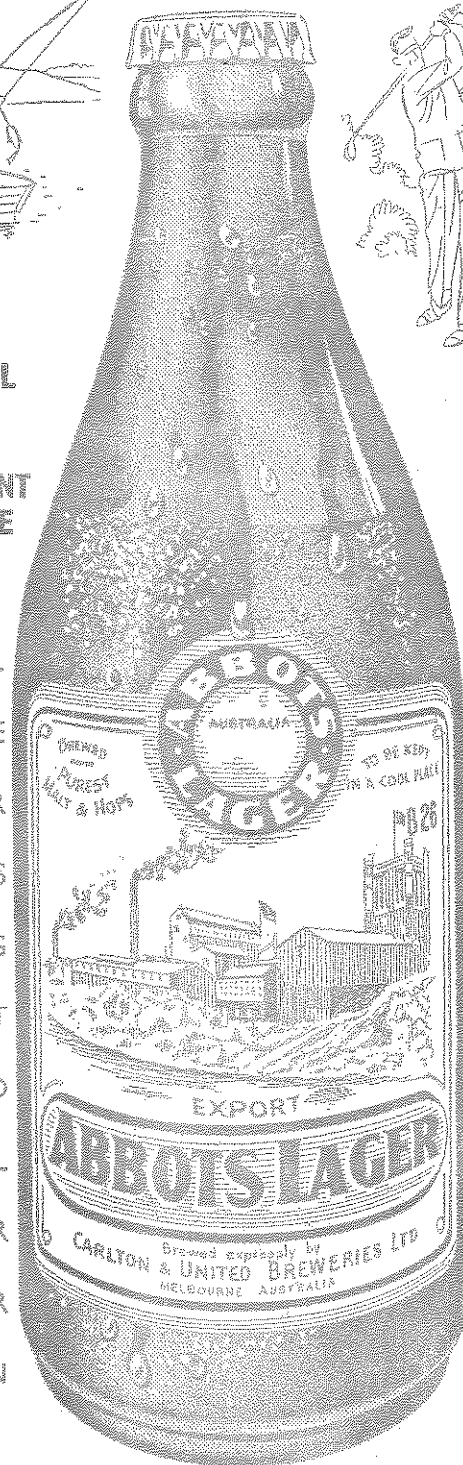
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Our Visitors

Lee Wai-tong: The football idol of China, name known all over Asia, and was called "Alex James of the East." Started his Soccer career in South China A.A. in 1922, represented China in 1923 in Far Eastern Olympic Games. Visited Australia in 1923 and again in 1927. Captained China Soccer team in 1936 Berlin Olympiad, and acted as coach in 1948 London Games. Also coached China's Victorious Team in 1954 Asian Games in Philippines. His colourful career over a long span of 26 years ended in 1947. Although inactive on the field he is still closely connected with the game by writing articles, giving lectures and doing coaching work. He is also a famous Soccer commentator.

As secretary-coach of the present touring team, he brings his son (Yuk-tak) along, who was born in 1927 while he was playing in Melbourne. Says he will be thrilled to meet his old friends again.

Mr. Kwong Kin On: Assistant manager of football team of the South China Athletic Association, Hong Kong, is the hon. treasurer of the Soccer team of the South China Athletic Association, touring Australia.

The young Mr. Kwong is a very keen sport promoter. He spends a lot of his time to help Mr. Kwan Yue Pang, manager of football team of the South China Athletic Association, to build up the strength of the Soccer team.

He is the proprietor of the A. Lung, Flag and Sail Maker, which is very well known in Hong Kong and abroad.

Ko Po Kung, centre half-back of South China Soccer team touring Australia, is connected with the South China Athletic Association for pretty long time. He has been playing centre forward and outside right, but the most suitable position for him is centre half-back. Ko Po Kung is a serious player.

Yiu Cheuk Yin: Inside left of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, is named "Hong Kong's Precious," being considered to be Hong Kong's best inside left. He co-operates with

Tong Sheung and Mok Chiun Wah to form a well-known "Iron Triangle."

Tong Sheung: Left half-back of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, has been elected "football star" of 1955, by readers of the "South China Morning Post," Hong Kong. He is a remarkable left half-back. He co-operates with Yiu Cheuk Yin and Mok Chiun Wah, forming a well known "Iron Triangle." He was married to a Portuguese girl, on 31st May, this year.



Chan Chi Kong: Outside right of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, can play left half-back as well as right half-back. Chan Chi Kong is a daring player of the "devil may care" type.

Chu Wing Keung: Centre forward of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, is an all-round football player. His Soccer playing techniques are highly admired. Chu Wing Keung is a daring player with a cold head.



Chu Wing Wah: Outside right of the Soccer team of the South China Athletic Association touring Australia, is a player trained up by the Association. He was picked up from South China B. team by officials. Chu Wing Wah is a sharp shooter, making rapid progress.

Lau Chi Bing: Right back of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, is a successful player trained up by the South China. He is a hard player, who attacks as well as defends.



Ho Cheung Yau: Inside right of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, is named "Two Gun General" for his daring action. He played for Sing Tao B. team for only one year, and was promoted to A. team for his remarkable showing.



Lau Kin Chung: Goal keeper of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, is a daring goal keeper with much brains. He is very keen and steady, being considered by his admirers as the "most suitable goal keeper."

Lau Yee: Left back of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, is considered to be the best left back in Hong Kong. He co-operates very well with Lau Chi Bing, forming an "Iron Gate." Lau Yee is a young player with very good prospects.

Lee Yuk Tak: Centre forward of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, is named "Soccer Prince," as he is the son of the "Soccer King," Mr. Lee Wai Tong. Like father like son, he is a sharp shooter, playing in similar way as his "Soccer King" father. His father is proud of him.

Luk Tat Hee: Outside right of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, is a daring player. He played for the Kit Chi Soccer team at first, and joined the South China a year ago.

Mok Chiun Wah: Outside left of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, is named "Cow Boy" by his admirers. He is trained up by the South China, to form the well-known "Iron Triangle," with Tong Sheung and Yiu Cheuk Yin. Rapid action has brought Mok Chiun Wah his fame.

Bao King Yin: Goal keeper of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, is considered to be one of the best among goal keepers in Hong Kong. He is a daring player with a cold head. He is also an excellent coach, who is very enthusiastic in giving Soccer lessons to students.

THE AUSTRALIANS

Lee Chun Fat: Centre forward of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, plays centre half-back just as well. He visited Australia with the Eastern Soccer team last year.

Szeto Man: Outside right of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, also plays inside right. He was trained up in the South China Athletic Association's Soccer class. Szeto Man played for the Buss Co.'s Soccer team for a period, and rejoined South China, this year.

Szeto Yiu: Left half-back of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, also plays left back. He is the younger brother of Szeto Man. Szeto Yiu's admirers all consider that he is a daring player with excellent prospects.

Tang Sum: Right half-back of South China's Australia touring Soccer team, is a hard player with rapid progression. His techniques of attack and defence are well balanced, and is considered to be a Soccer player with brains.



R. LORD (Goal): One of Australia's best, who must be in top form to have replaced Bill Henderson, who played in the first two Tests. Queenslanders will remember his fine display against Queensland at the "Gabba" in 1950 when only he alone was responsible for N.S.W. holding their 2-0 advantage, when Queensland pressed so persistently in the closing stages. Has previously represented Australia in many Tests.

R. BIGNALL (Right Back): Bob is yet one more of the older brigade who have played for Australia, did a good job in previous Tests, and held his place. A hard worker rather than a good ball player, Bob, can generally stay the full 90 minutes.

K. O'NEILL (Left Back): Has been one of Australia's most consistent players for many years, and is still in good form. His job in the Tests is a tough one, for his opponent is likely to be the free scoring Austrian winger, R. Korner.

R. WILLIAMS (Right Half): A player about whom we in Queensland know little. He impressed Southern selectors, hence his inclusion.

JOSA MARSTON (Centre Half, capt.): Recently returned to Australia after a five season spell with Preston North End in England. Was a member of that side when they played their way into the F.A. Cup Final at Wembley in 1954. They were unsuccessful in that game, West Bromwich Albion defeating them.

One of the best players Australia has produced, Marston will be a tower of strength to our side in this Test, and his experience should give our younger players confidence.

Queensland is happy to welcome Joe back to Australian football.

CLIFF SANDER (Left Half): One of Australia's outstanding ball players, and his future in Test Soccer appears assured. In each of the four Tests he has played has greatly impressed the critics. Always fit, he can be relied to be all out for the full period of 90 minutes.

C. ALMOND (Outside Right): Has played for Australia in many Tests, and has since had a spell with a prominent Scottish League Club. This experience has done him a power of good, and he played fine football in the first two Tests.

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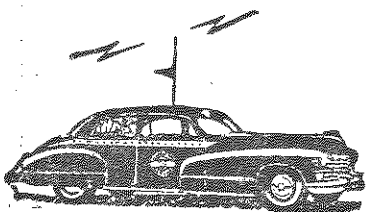
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Write to Charles Buchan, 408 Strand, London, W.C.2., England.

J. LAUGHRAN (Inside Right): Another newcomer, who created a good impression in Melbourne last week. Great things are expected of him.

G. "BUNNY" NUNN (Centre Forward) Has led the Australian attack in numerous Tests, but foltack in numerous Tests, but following a lean spell was dropped. This spell came after the South African Tour, when "Bunny" sustained an ankle injury, which has affected his play until recently. During the training of the Queensland team this year, he was given a game at inside right instead of his natural position at centre forward, and was a success. This enabled the Queensland selectors to include Col Kitchen, the young Bundamba centre to lead the attack.

K. LEARMOUTH (Inside Left): Has played in several Tests, in the centre forward berth, but has not been successful; change of position might improve his play.

R. NEAL (Outside Left). Has been chosen for the game follow-

ing an impressive debut in the second Test. Former Australian skipper Bob Lawrie has great hopes for this lad, whom he saw last week in Newcastle, and if Bob thinks well of him he will certainly be a good prospect for the future.

THE MANAGER

Mr. R. Mac'die: Better known to most of us as "Bob" has been associated with Soccer in Queensland for many years. His work as a referee, and in more recent years as a member of the Queensland Referees' Union, are well known to Queenslanders. In private life is a schoolmaster.

Sufferers from one form of hay fever, a medical article reminds us, dare not go near a horse.

This probably accounts for the large number of starting price backers!

SOCCER'S PROGRESS IN QUEENSLAND

Having dealt elsewhere with the game in Brisbane and Ipswich area, I would like here to deal with the growth of our game in the country areas of our State.

The influx of migrants has given Soccer in country districts a real "shot in the arm." This we are ready to admit, but our main reason for being pleased at the growth, is the fact that everywhere we hear of the games being taken up by the schools, and of course this is really where we can make big progress.

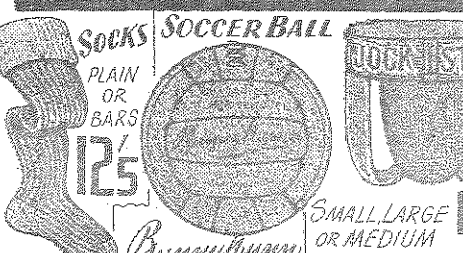
It is only reiterating an old phrase to say that the schoolboy of to-day is the International of tomorrow, and with the advance now being made in schools in Queensland we can feel that at last we are on the right road to occupying our rightful place in winter sport.

Frankly, I am tired of Rugby League's ridiculous claim to be "the greatest game of all." The only

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thing they have is a majority of support in one country, and there only in a couple of States.

We must be honest with ourselves, and admit that this is so in Queensland and N.S.W., but apart from that they have nothing whatever to substantiate their claim.

They staged a World Cup series in France last year, but what a set-up to give such a title. Australia, New Zealand, France and Britain were the only competing nations, and here again their claim must be whittled down, when it is realised that in Britain only two countries play Rugby League.

Compare this set up in Britain with that of Soccer, where there are so many top line teams, comprising four major competitions, and thousands of other teams of a high standard, apart from the thousands more who are strictly amateur sides, and you will at once see the foolishness of Rugby League's claim.

Here in Queensland there are factors that give League a supremacy over us, and these factors could be righted by us.

With set interchanges of visits with N.S.W. each year, the Bu-

limba Cup series, which brings in Toowoomba and Ipswich, into competition with Brisbane, and the regular visits from England, New Zealand and France, they have a line up of attractive representative football that keeps their game in a keen stage all the time.

Leading up to these games, is a series of top level trials, to give the selectors a chance to see the best in the State.

Is this so with Soccer? The answer is obviously no.

Do we encourage our Country boys? Again the answer must be no.

A short time ago I received a letter from Bill Bowdidge, secretary of the North Queensland Association, and in it Bill told me of two outstanding players there. Bill has represented England as an amateur and played against such teams as the famous Russian side, "The Dynamos," so that we can feel sure that he is a top line judge of a player. Bill tells me that either of these two (and one is a winger) could easily make top line English football, but we make no effort to make our trials anything of a real State nature.

These Country boys have quite

as much right to consideration for State selection as do the Brisbane and Ipswich lads, and the sooner we get down to giving it to them the better.

I know that distance and expense is our main trouble, but until we do act in this matter we shall never really grow as we would like. Bringing teams from Bundaberg, Maryborough and Stanthorpe are all very well, but they only touch the fringe. We must see these fellows in action with some of our best players to get a real line of the standard.

The spread of Soccer throughout Queensland has made the territory in which it is controlled by the Q.S.F.A. one of the largest in the world.

In this regard the thanks of the Q.S.F.A. goes out to the various "affiliated organisations" for the grand work they are doing, and the fine assistance they are giving the parent body in this matter of controlling such a vast area.

People from overseas, look with amazement when we tell them of the tremendous area controlled by the Q.S.F.A. The distances are so great they are almost speechless.

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THE EDITOR REVIEWS SOCCER IN BRISBANE AND IPSWICH.

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Once again the position in the first division premiership of the Brisbane and Ipswich competition is most interesting. There is, however, a difference from last season. Then the position was such, that any one of six teams could win, and it was not until the final game, that the championship was decided in favour of Dinmore.

Now we have Bundamba and St. Helens out in front, and no other team can possibly win. Therefore, the interest is likely to be maintained until the end of the competition again this year, but with the certainty that either Saints or Bundamba must win.

Which one will it be? That is a question in the minds of all Soccer fans.

These two have run "neck and

neck" throughout the season, and there has scarcely ever been more than a point separating them, with first Bundamba, and then Saints, taking the lead. This is just how a competition should be.

While on the subject of St. Helens and Bundamba, it is interesting to notice that they have been drawn to play each other in the first round of the Tristram Shield, our top line "Knock Out" competition, and the game will be played on St. Helen's ground, on August 27.

This should draw the biggest crowd ever at Ebbw Vale. These two always draw big crowds when ever they meet, and with so much at stake, all roads will lead to Saints ground on that day. Already many

(Continued on page 10)

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 (3) K. O'Neill
 (4) R. Williams
 (5) J. Marston
 (6) C. Sander
 (7) C. Almond (8) J. Laughran (9) G. Nann (10) K. Learmonth (11) R. Neal
 Reserves: D. Leo, N. Clarke, A. Warren, S. Kitching.
 Referee—Mr. W. MALOOLM. Linesmen—Messrs. V. DOBINSON and L. E. YOUNG.

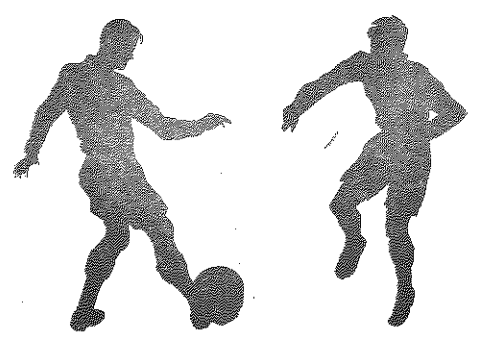
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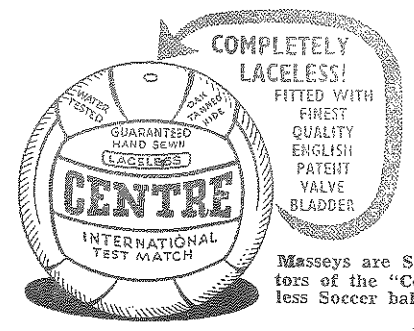
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(Continued from page 7)

Brisbane fans are arranging to travel to see this great clash. With so much international football we are apt to lose sight of our important local games.

Great interest is also centred around the clubs whipping in the field of our first division. Two are in definite danger. Caledonians and Bulimba. Only one point separates them here, with Caledonians trailing Bulimba by a single point.

Which team will be relegated? Here again we have a parallel, with last year. At that time it was "neck and neck" between Y.M.C.A. and Callies, but just when all looked hopeless for Calies, they came home with a great finish to draw level with Y.M.C.A., and then go on to defeat them in a play off, and retain their position in top flight.

Caledonians have been at the bottom of the table so much, that until a week or so ago, everyone thought them doomed, but the return to the side, by Andy Greaves appears to have put new life into them, and they have gather a few points while Bulimba have fallen from grace, and dropped to the very edge of the relegation morass. And so it goes on, this glorious uncertainty that permeates our game at all times. Many of our clubs oppose this promotion and relegation method, but in my opinion it is the very life of our game. Without it we should not see these grand fighting efforts put up by teams fighting to win the championship, and equally fine, although in this case, born of desperation, attempts to avoid relegation to a lower sphere.

SECOND DIVISION

Throughout the season it has always appeared as if Y.M.C.A. would win this division and return to top flight, from which they were relegated a year ago.

They have had a grand season, and it is again akin to the fine show put up by Corinthians last year when they returned from the second division "wilderness" to return to the "sunshine and roses" of the elite in our game.

Gli Azzurri and Latrobe in their turn challenged Y.M.C.A. for a time, but the "Triangles" finally put the issue beyond doubt, and are now certain of promotion.

We welcome them back, and trust that they will build on their present team so as to make a return to second division impossible.

THIRD DIVISION

Our third division is equally interesting, for here a play-off will be necessary to find which team shall be promoted to second division.

Annerley have won the third "B" and will have to play off with the winners of third division "A," which appears likely to be Carina. This play off, even if it be some other team than Carina, that meets Annerley, will be one of the highlights of the season.

JUNIOR SOCCER

The standard of Junior Soccer in this State has been very high for some years, and what is more, has been steadily improving. The improvement will in future be even more marked, on account of the greater interest now being shown in Junior football by the senior administration.

Coaching facilities now available, will also bring about results that we have looked for in vain in the past. We shall find our youngsters coming into senior football, trained along the right lines, and so we shall go on to greater things.

Many of our spectators to-day will be strangers to our Code, so that it would not be amiss if we mentioned the great achievement of our Junior State team of last season.

They went to the carnival in Adelaide, and surprised all and sundry by their fine display of football.

This "All State" affair, was really the highlight of last year's Soccer, and Queensland's showing in it was outstanding. They went through undefeated, and centre forward, Gerry Nahuysen, had a great time, netting 12 out of the 20 goals scored by Queensland.

Incidentally Gerry scored in all 112 goals last season, and now in second division senior ranks has already been chosen as a reserve for the State senior team.

Another of the lads has gained State senior selection against South China; he is Chris Bligh, one of the most promising ball players in the Commonwealth.

There are so many others of great merit, that in a few years we may expect to see most of them in action for the State team, and some in Test games for Australia.

With such an array of talent in this team I felt what a great pity it was that we have no provision in our main competition for a Colts team. This side of juniors, if kept together under the guidance of the State coach could have been

welded into a team that could have confidently competed against any other State team in Australia. It would have perhaps taken a couple of seasons, but the waiting would have been well worth while.

Clubs might have suffered, but Queensland and Australian Soccer would have derived immense benefit.

Now that many of that team are in senior ranks, it is amazing to see another fine crop of top line juniors coming along to replace them in junior competition.

Junior secretary, Mr. Jim Hunter has a great opinion of the standard of play amongst the juniors, and is hopeful of fielding a State team equally as strong, if not stronger than last year's champions, Well Done Juniors!

—Len Todd.

THE ART OF SHOOTING

By Ronnie Rooke

Bedford Town Player-Manager
Former Arsenal and Fulham Star

Accurate shooting means goals. Goals count in football. Therefore, you cannot have too much practise in perfecting this art of shooting.

It is the low, quick-moving ball that gives the goalkeeper most trouble, so always keep the ball as near to the ground as possible. And do not try to break the net. A well-placed shot is much more effective.

When shooting, the weight of the body must be well over the ball, with the "standing" foot close up to it. That gives control. At contact, the toes should be pointing to the ground, with the instep arched to hit the ball squarely in the middle.

Select a spot about three feet inside the upright. Try to run on to the ball so that it lies in a direct line with you and the target. Swing the foot freely, hit the ball firmly and follow through as far as possible.

All the time, the eyes must be fixed on the ball, like those of a golfer making his shot. It is fatal to look up to see where the ball is going. That is the cause of so many ill-directed attempts.

The correct time to shoot is when there is no colleague better placed in front of goal. When you do shoot, try to make certain of hitting the target. There is always the possibility of a rebound from the goalkeeper.

Long range attempts and shots from impossible angles should be indulged in only when there is

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nothing else to do with the ball. It is usually far better to try and manoeuvre an opening than to blaze away for goal from a long distance.

If you do get clear of the defenders and have only the goalkeeper to beat, shoot while he is on the move. Once he gets into position, the angle is narrowed considerably.

In order to practise shooting, mark out a goal on a wall and place two marks on the ground about a yard inside each upright. Try to hit these marks with every shot, without stopping the ball as it rebounds from the wall.

Use both feet. This is essential for quick and accurate shooting.

To make the practise more difficult, fix V-shaped boards across the goal. When the ball strikes one of these it will rebound at an angle.

You will have to be alert and two-footed to be able to return it on the mark with accuracy.

Once the mind is made up, the player must make his tackle with all the force at command. It should be made with the nearest foot, with the weight of the body well forward to take the force of the impact.

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YOU'VE GOT TO BE FIT

By TREVOR FORD

Cardiff City and Wales.

"Find 'em young!" is the slogan with all big football bosses—and there is a wealth of wisdom in the technique.

Men who make the big-time grade in the game are, without exception, players who possessed an inborn love of soccer almost from the moment they were old enough to kick a ball.

In my own case, from the age of nine years, nothing else mattered to me but football. And, to be truthful, at the present time this state of affairs still applies.

At the age of nine I started playing for the local school team at Swansea in the centre-half position. Later, as an emergency measure, I played left-back at my senior school and played there for quite a while, even after schooling was over.

Much to the disgust of my parents, lessons were often neglected in order that I might have a game

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of football on a park near to my home.

The first disappointment occurred at 13, when I was picked to play for Wales as a Schoolboy International and missed this "cap" by reason of a broken leg. Even today, on looking back, the loss of that "cap" remains a great disappointment.

As soon as I was 17, I signed for Swansea Town as a left-back but, very soon after the outbreak of war, I was called up for Army service and there I was converted into a centre-forward which, on my return to "Civvy street," continued to be my position.

Subsequently, as a centre-forward I have earned many caps for Wales, and hope to earn still more.

Joining up for service in H.M. Forces was certainly a great step in my career as, not only did I put on weight and height, both of which were badly needed, but it also enabled me to find my best position.

And this is one important lesson I should like to emphasise to the up-and-coming youngster. As speedily as possible, find out the position for which you think you are best suited and continue to play in that position.

It is very desirable, and at times necessary, that a player should have versatility; but, with due respect to everyone concerned, I voice the opinion that there is one position, and one position only, in which an individual can give of his best.

He might be a good player in another position, but not so good as in the position which he himself favours.

I shall always subscribe to the opinion that a player is the best judge of the position to which he is most ideally suited.

Again, like every other profession, hours of practice and concentration are necessary, and the value of "two-footedness" is too apparent to need emphasis.

Hours of practice are needed, and the two-footed player has the advantage every time over an opponent who can use only one foot. It is, indeed, surprising that in present day football there are a considerable number of players who can rely on one foot for 90 per cent. of the play.

Heading practice is another essential for all players. Particularly is this so in the case of forwards, as the deflection and direction of a headed ball invariably can beat a

defence if properly executed.

In this connection, perhaps I might refer to such well-known forwards as Dixie Dean and Tommy Lawton, both masters at this phase of the game, but only by reason of the old adage—Practice makes perfect!

I would draw attention to my own position of centre-forward.

The centre-forward is the spear-head of the attack and is bound to give and take some hard knocks in his quest for goals.

The same thing, of course, applies to defenders. There is no mollycoddling on the football field, and no worthwhile player expects to be mollycoddled.

One of football's most outstanding attractions is the fact that it is a "man's game." It is healthy, full-blooded business. And always bear in mind that it is ninety minutes' action and goals that the public demands. To provide the customers with full value for money, a player must be 100 per cent. fit.

There are, of course, various styles of play and some exponents of our great game are more robust than others.

My own style of action falls into the robust category and I rarely emerge from any game without a fair share of hard knocks and buffeting.

So—bodily fitness! I cannot too strongly stress its terrific importance.

Most great players admit to kicking a ball whenever the opportunity offers and it is amazing what one can learn through daily practice, accompanied by a colleague, or even through taking out a ball sole and kicking it around.

And this brings me to another of my strong arguments.

A great deal of emphasis nowadays is placed upon speed off the

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Where to See Soccer in Brisbane and Ipswich

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Memorial Park, Bulimba. Location. Oxford Street, Bulimba (near Ferry).

Corinthians and Caledonians:

Langlands Park, Stone's Corner, Coorparoo. Location. Stop 21a Cavendish Rd. or Belmont Tram.

Eastern Suburbs:

Heath Park. Location. Balmoral Tram stop 20.

Oxley:

Graceville Oval.

Thistle:

Lanham Park, Grange. Location. Grange Tramp stop 28.

IPSWICH**Blackstone Rovers:**

Blackstone Oval. Location. Thomas St., Blackstone.

Bundamba:

Bundamba Soccer Ground. Location. Main Ipswich Road, Bundamba.

Diamore:

Dinmore Oval. Location. Queen St., Dinmore.

St. Helens:

Ebbw Vale. Location. Main Ipswich Road, opposite Ebbw Vale Station.

STATE SCHOOLS

The Queensland State Schools' Association is sponsoring a visit of the Schoolboys to Mackay during the school holidays. Two teams of 14 boys, one from Brisbane and one from Ipswich will make the trip and at least one team will play at Rockhampton on the return trip.

Nice work Schools' Soccer Association.

mark. As a matter of fact I am inclined to the belief that this speed business is becoming rather overdone.

To my mind, we would probably see much better football than sometimes we do if youngsters were instructed to train with the ball and not without it.

What is the use of being able to run fast in practice and, on match days, not to be able to equal this performance of speed with the ball at one's feet?

No doubt you have seen, or experienced for yourself, this fallacy of speed. Suddenly a player puts on a great burst of speed, but by the time he reaches his objective he is no longer in possession of the ball. He was moving so fast he left the ball behind enroute!

As I say, anyone can run, and most chaps can work up a high degree of speed. But what is the use of that speed if you cannot control the ball at the same time?

In short, my advice to youngsters who have a love for this great winter game of ours is to find and stick to their best position; practice to become proficient with both feet as well as the head, and strive always for bodily fitness.

One more point. Whenever the opportunity presents itself, model

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your play on the style of the leading players of the moment who occupy your chosen position. Endeavour always to emulate such players, and strive for the elusive perfection which, while always just around the corner, persistently remains just out of reach.

More important still. Put everything you have got into your game. And if at times you feel just a little bit discouraged, remember that countless other youngsters, who are big names to-day, trod this self-same road before you.

They overcame their difficulties—and so can you. Good luck!

SLOGAN IS "SAFETY FIRST"

By Alf Ramsey
Spurs and England

Mistakes made by full-backs can turn victory into defeat. Except for the goalkeeper, they are the last line of defence and should mould their style accordingly.

The whole secret is correct positional play. A back, for instance, must know exactly what his goalkeeper, his partner, the half-back in front of him, and, in fact, all the side, are doing.

Let me deal with each one separately. First, the goalkeeper. When he advances to meet a cross from the right-wing, it is the right-

For General . . .

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back's job to cover him by taking up position on the goal-line.

If the goalkeeper shouts for the ball, let him have it. But move into a position where you can deal with any other threat to the goal.

Then you must have an understanding with your partner. When he goes upfield, I, as a right-back, make a point of covering both him and the centre-half. I must not be caught square, or one well-timed through pass will find the goal uncovered.

And I always get into position to receive a ball from him. It may

not come, but at least I know I am in position to help.

Now to the man in front of me. With the Spurs, it's Bill Nicholson, of course. Well, he takes the inside-forward so that I can concentrate on the wing-forward.

My main object is to keep in such close contact with Nicholson that I can cut off any pass intended for the wing-forward. It means a close study of your colleague's style.

There are times when the wing-forward gets the ball before I can get near enough to intercept it. Then it is my job to see that the winger does as little damage as possible.

So I keep him out on the touch-line whenever possible. Not only is there no danger to the goal there, but it gives time for my defensive colleagues to take up position.

One thing a full-back must not do in these circumstances is to rush for a quick tackle. He will be easily beaten if the opponent has the ball under control.

Always, if possible, try to form a second line of defence with the centre-half. Cover him whenever possible.

Above all, if beaten, get back to goal as quickly as possible. Quick recovery is the hall-mark of a full-back.

You must be able to use both feet equally well. In fact, a right-back should be stronger with the left foot.

When clearing, the ball must be placed to a colleague. Low, whenever possible, so that defence can be turned into attack with one well-placed kick.

You cannot be too expert at kicking, heading, trapping the ball and the other finer points.

Practise until you are well-nigh perfect. And practise at close quarters, just as if an opponent were rushing down on you.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I gratefully acknowledge the assistance given me by the following publications: The Telegraph, Sydney Sun, Charles Buchan's Publications, and the weekly programmes of the other States.

Please accept my sincere thanks.—LEN. TODD.

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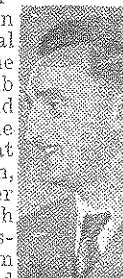
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**BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY!**

By Gil Merrick

Birmingham and England

A goalkeeper, the last line of the defence, cannot afford to make a mistake. His slogan must be "Safety First."

So he must not take unnecessary risks. Every move must be designed to eliminate errors. It is better to be safe than sorry.

When dealing with a shot, always get the body behind the hands. If a waist-high shot, catch the ball

close to the body and grasp it firmly. If low, place the legs behind the hands and arms as a second means of preventing the ball entering the net.

The eyes must never be taken off the ball. Even when play is at the other end it should be followed keenly, and position taken just as if it were close at hand.

Positioning is the keynote of the goalkeeper. He will never allow the forward more space to shoot at than he can possibly help.

From whatever angle the danger may come, he must be on the spot to meet it. From a position about a yard in front of the goal-line he can narrow the shooting angle so that it is almost impossible for the ball to pass him.

Correct positioning — and that means a lot of time spent on studying angles — saves the need for desperate saves like diving full-length or throwing himself at the

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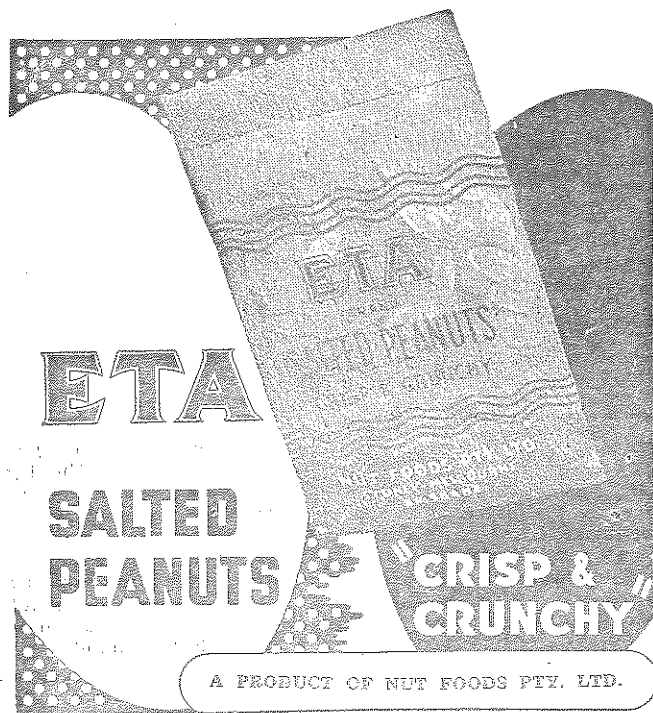
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feet of an on-rushing forward. That should be a goalkeeper's last resource.

He must never indulge in spectacular play. And he must never be caught on the move. His action is limited if he is not firmly set in position.

If in danger of being caught in possession, it is better to get rid of the ball quickly either by throwing it to a colleague or punching clear.

But the ball should always be sent towards the safest place, that is, towards the wings.

A goalkeeper must study every move in the game—and plan his actions accordingly. If a forward is clear of the defenders, the goalkeeper must advance and take up such a position that the forward has little of the goal at which to shoot.

That should be in the goalkeeper's mind throughout the game—to give the opposition marksman as little of the target as possible.

And when clearing the ball—either kicking or throwing—it should be done with a definite objective.

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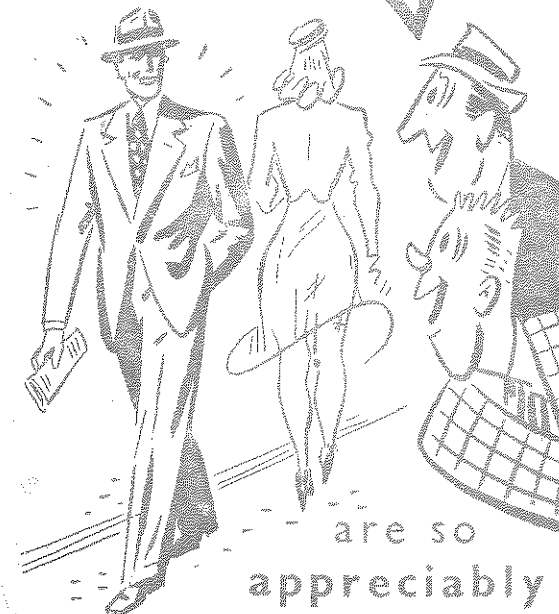
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