CHELSEA FOOTBALL & ATHLETIC CO. LTD.



League Champions 1955

FOUNDED 1905

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F.A. Youth Cup 1960 and 1961

The Talk of Stamford Bridge

FIFTEEN matches packed into 53 days, starting with tonight's re-arranged fixture with Tottenham, lie before us in our quest for honours in the three major tournaments: League Championship, F.A.

Cup and League Cup.

Victory against Peterborough United put us in the F.A. Cup semi-Finals for the seventh time (the third since the war), so that only 90 more minutes of Cup football are between us and Wembley. Amidst our pleasure at winning on Saturday, we offer commiserations to Peterborough on their misfortune in losing captain Vic Crowe to injury in the second minute. By the fifteenth, we led 3-0 and had reached the semi-Finals without need for a single replay, a situation which must benefit our challenge for the Championship.

The other Sixth Round ties are all being staged tonight, and we hope to relay latest scores to you at half-time and the finish. After Saturday's League visit to Manchester United, we switch to League Cup football here next Monday with the first leg of the Final (provided Leicester do not draw their F.A. Cup-tie at Liverpool tonight).

Saturday's win followed a day of intense snow-clearing activity here. At 10 a.m. on Friday, a 4 in. layer covered the pitch, and playing a match little more than 24 hours later looked improbable, to say the least.

But, in a great team-behind-the-team effort, many hands went to work, and the result was little less than miraculous. To all those, known and unknown, who backed groundsman Chris Payne in this gigantic sweep-and-shovel operation against the clock, our grateful thanks.

They included junior groundstaff and reserve players, office and training staff, members of the greyhound staff, some 30 Army servicemen, four supporters, and local referee Mr. Jack Sturgeon. He came off night shift to inspect the ground at 9 a.m., joined the working party through the day and, by 5 p.m., was able to inform the F.A. that the pitch would be playable.

Our thanks also to Arsenal F.C. for so readily enabling our players to use their indoor gymnasium for training last Thursday afternoon.