

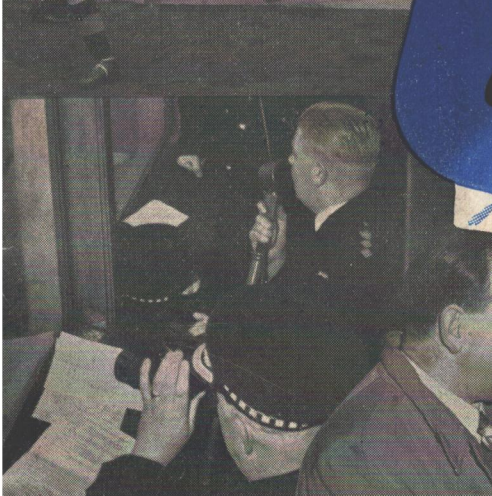
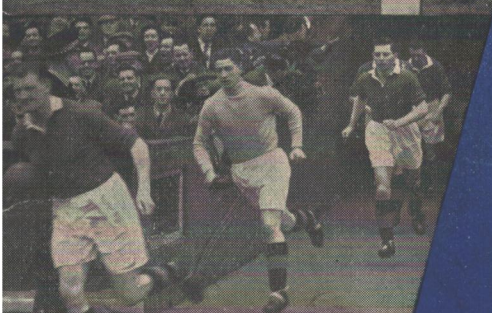
PRICE

2/-

# RANGERS

FOOTBALL CLUB

*Supporters' Association*



ANNUAL ————— 1954

# Rangers F.C. Supporters' Association Annual

Editor : Eric M. H. Galbraith, M.A.

VOLUME FIVE

PRICE—TWO SHILLINGS

JANUARY, 1954



SCOTTISH CUP, 1953

W. Simpson, J. Pryde, J. Hubbard, W. Paton, G. Niven, J. Little, W. Waddell, G. Young,  
W. Woodburn, I. McColl and D. Grierson

*Printed and Published for*  
THE RANGERS F.C. SUPPORTERS' ASSOCIATION

*by*  
JOHN LITHGOW,  
57 OXFORD STREET,  
GLASGOW.

# "The Way to the Stars"

CONSULT SCOTLAND'S PREMIER BOXERS' MANAGER

## TOMMY GILMOUR

THE "STAR MAKER"

WHO PRESENTS FOR YOUR APPROVAL



PETER KEENAN, Ex-British and European Bantamweight Champion

WILLIE ARMSTRONG, Scottish Middleweight Champion

DANNY MALLOY, Scottish Welterweight Champion

CHARLIE HILL, one of Scotlands Most Promising Young Featherweights

JIMMY THOMPSON, Flyweight Prospect

AND MANY PROMISING YOUNG LADS



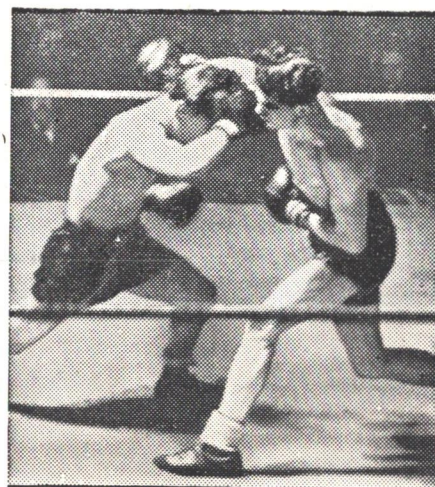
All Communications to:—

**TOMMY GILMOUR**

**682 RUTHERGLEN RD.**

**GLASGOW, C.5**

TELEPHONE: SOUTH 1708



**GYM:—**

**THE OXFORD**

**29 GORBALS ST.**

**GLASGOW**

TELEPHONE: SOUTH 3178



**BOYS WISHING TO TURN PROFESSIONAL PLEASE WRITE  
OR PHONE SOUTH 1708**

## CONTENTS



Buses Waiting in Fairlie Street to take Supporters Home

	Page
Foreword ... ..	7
The President's Message ... ..	9
The Association, 1953-54 ... ..	11
The Fourth Rally ... ..	13
Coaching ... ..	15
The Rangers and Ulster ... ..	16
Johnny Little and Rangers ... ..	19
Rangers' Review ... ..	21
Rangers v. Dynamos ... ..	23
Rangers' Almanac ... ..	25
Glasgow from Ibrox Press Box ... ..	28-29
Rangers' League and Cup Record ... ..	30
The Players ... ..	32
Rangers' Pryde ... ..	35
George Young ... ..	36
The National Playing Fields' Association ... ..	37
Sammy Cox ... ..	38
Fun with Rangers ... ..	39
George Niven ... ..	40
Jimmy Caskie ... ..	41
Mr. W. Struth ... ..	44
R. McPhail ... ..	45
Jock Shaw ... ..	46
Davie Meiklejohn ... ..	50
Wm. Maley's Tribute to Mr. Wm. Struth ... ..	51
Billy Simpson ... ..	53
Johnny Hubbard ... ..	54
Editorial ... ..	55

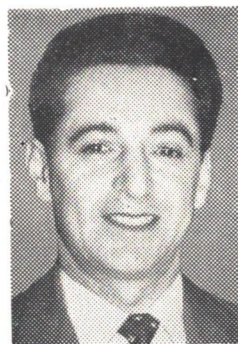
# NEWS! NEWS! NEWS!

- ★ STARS OF THE SPORTING WORLD
- ★ STARS OF STAGE, SCREEN, RADIO and T.V.

ALL SHOP AT **ESQUIRE'S**

- ★ THE LARGEST VARIETY OF SHIRTS IN EUROPE
- ★ 14 COLLAR SHAPES OF U.S.A., FRANCE and SWITZERLAND  
By Arrangement with LONDON, PARIS and NEW YORK FASHION EXPERTS
- ★ 5,000 SILK LINED TIES, including London Shapes, Slim Jims, Mississippi Bows, Cravats
- ★ NYLON, TERYLENE and POPLIN, Ready to Wear Stocked

- CALL AND JUDGE FOR YOURSELF
- EXCLUSIVE SOLE MAKERS

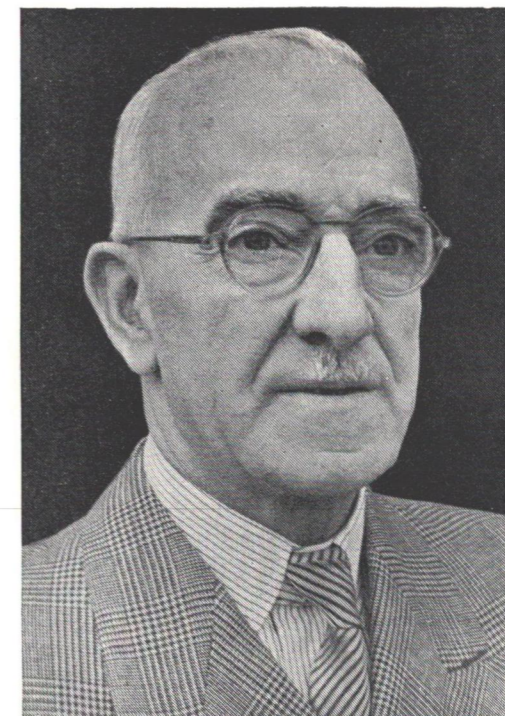


Personally Supervised by  
BOB FLETCHER, Scotlands  
Leading Shirt Designer and  
Fashion Expert



## Foreword

By Bailie J. F. Wilson,  
Chairman of Rangers F.C.



I was delighted and honoured when I received the invitation to write this Foreword. I have liked "The Annual" since its inception and I congratulate those concerned for giving to us such a high-standard production.

I have always been interested in your Association and I know the great work you have done and are doing especially with regard to Charities, and I am fully aware of your high ideals, and I feel that we claim no more than is justified when I say that The Association, as the Team, exerts a far-reaching influence on our national game.

We at Ibrox look to our followers to uphold the dignity and sportsmanship of the club. The club's good name has been entrusted to us.

That is a sacred obligation, and that trust is reposed not only in the Directorate and players, but also in our followers. We feel we do not ask in vain when, knowing the splendid men associated with the Association, we emphasise that it is the duty of every branch member to show his pride in club by his example to others.

True sportsmanship is often revealed more in adversity than in victory. It is but human to feel the backwash of bitter disappointment, but how can you enjoy to the full the joy of success unless you know the reaction of failure? We finished last season with the grateful knowledge that our players had once more shown their fortitude and skill in adding to the honours in the record books. They disclosed their eagerness to throw every ounce of resource into their play at a time when we were in a critical period of the competitions by injuries. To register the double of Scottish League Championship and Scottish Cup was a feat of great merit and could not have been accomplished without the treasured harmony that exists at Ibrox, from the humblest member of our staff to the Boardroom. Our thoughts in our hour of achievement were with our supporters because their encouragement meant much to all within The Stadium, particularly when our outlook was not so roseate as it eventually became.

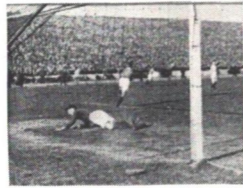
I would say to all of you that you should derive a deep feeling of satisfaction in being linked to the Rangers F.C. through your Association and that you should set yourself more firmly, if such be possible, on the road that leads to acclaim from others in your approach to the game, no matter where it be played. You owe that to the team you admire as much as to yourself.

You are doing a grand job, boys. Let the good work continue. The affinity between club and supporter has never been stronger. We at Ibrox are sensitive to your aims and appreciative of your efforts.

## SCOTTISH CUP FINAL, 1928



Thomson clears header from Fleming.



Thomson beaten by Archibald.



Thomson again beaten by Archibald.



Thomson clearing.



Meiklejohn (captain) with the cup.



Thomson again clears.



Getting over a difficulty.



Rangers take the field.



After the game—the rival captains shake hands.

*These photographs were taken from a framed photograph in the Ibrox Tea Rooms*

Incidents in the game—Hampden Park, Glasgow, 14th April, 1928  
Result—Rangers, 4; Celtic, 0.

## THE ASSOCIATION 1952-53

By THE EDITOR

Always, when this self-appointed historiographer to the Association sits down to add another chapter to our lengthening history, his imagination goes to that wee room in the Townhead District and to the seventeen men called from their homes by the magic wand of Mr. M'Clymont and their own enthusiasm.

They were men not noted for riches or of any prominence in their city's life; but they had what it takes—a boundless love for the Rangers, a belief in themselves and enthusiasm without limit.

The questions arise—they are inevitable—are we letting the pioneers down? are we living up to their ideals?

Consider the past year. Two aphorisms come to the mind.

1. Mr. McLeish of Belvidere at the Annual General Meeting:—

“No person matters, the Constitution doesn't matter—the Association must go on.”

2. Mr. Caskie from the platform at a Representative Council Meeting:—

“I shall always do my best to get Branches or Individuals to a match, no matter the personal risk?”

“Then again during all last season we did not have a single member disqualified for ungentlemanly conduct, and we did not have one alteration of the Constitution.

“But moreover, our Donations and Collections for charitable purposes, £30 to the National Playing Fields, £192 for the ‘Guide Dogs for the Blind’ Association, and the magnificent total of over £300 to establish Radio-Telegraphy at Ibrox so that the unfortunate in hospital may enjoy matches—besides other small sums and acts of loving-kindness too numerous to mention—all these speak eloquently of our keeping up the standard.

“Then again our efficient organisation, our very efficient distribution of tickets (close on £7,000 worth), our trips to Cardiff,

Wembley and Belfast, add to the message we send to the pioneers—‘We are living up to your ideals; we are keeping up the standard which you set seven years ago.’”

It may be said that the E.C. never changes; in fact it is often guilty of not realising that there has been change; it plods along steadily, governing this hydra-headed organisation, ably assisted by the Areas.

We have changed the pilot. Mr. McCall, who has guided us for nearly six years, felt compelled through ill-health to relinquish the helm to the hands of another. Mr. Alex. Fraser, our new President, has had a gruelling apprenticeship in No. 1 Area (Secretary), and as E.C. Auditor and Minutes Secretary. He is showing himself well up to standard.

Mr. F. Smith, the new Vice-President, was an able E.C. Representative for his Area, No. 1. He should do well as deputy for his senior.

Another newcomer to the E.C. is a “come-back”, Mr. Dick Foster. He was once a popular Social Convener, a great worker, and his return is welcomed.

The General Secretary, the Treasurer and the Editor kept hard at it all the summer and when the season started were well on with the work of their departments.

Mr. Murphy is well forward with No. 5 Rally and attends efficiently to “The Corner.”

Another newcomer to the E.C. (as Auditor) is Mr. F. McKenna of Elder Branch. Mr. McCulloch, the Senior Auditor, had a particularly bad illness during the summer months but that did not prevent his still taking an interest in his job for us.

Mr. Scott, the Assistant Secretary, has taken over the duties of Registrar, Mr. Buist having lost his place in the E.C. through a technicality.

Mr. McBride seems to have got over his operation and is indefatigable in his duties.

Of the Area Representatives, Mr. Murphy, No. 1 Area, Mr. McMillan, No. 2 Area, Mr. Cameron, No. 3 Area, are new but soon became part of the Team which works very harmoniously in its twin duties of critics and workers.

While our day-to-day activities might lead the outsider to think that we are apprehensive only of our own interests, nevertheless the sums quoted above raised for Charity are not acquired without a great deal of hard work and sacrifice. During last year we raised by two Rallies the sum of well over £500—of which £208 went to Mearns Kirk and Law Hospitals and the remaining £308 is held in Reserve as the nucleus of a fund to provide Radio-Telegraphy to a local hospital. Then our collection, taken at Ibrox on 15th December, raised £109 for "Guide Dogs for Blind Organisation" is the largest Collection of its kind. Lastly our £30 to the National Playing Fields was raised by an appeal from the Editor, and without any fuss or bother. It represents practically 1d. per member and the Editor hopes that he will get the same this year.

Our Finances cannot be said to be good, in that we ride the Treasurer on too tight a rein. Whilst we are solvent we have a paucity of ready cash that impedes efficiency.

Publications have had a very uppy-downy year. Financially we lost on the Newsletter and gained very much on The Annual. Compared with former years the sales were phenomenal. After we got over the disappointment of the Publisher's broken promises, the Association acknowledged the No. IV as the best of the series, and indeed that judgement is a good one. One of the features about the sales was that we had a sale of 300 in Belfast. During a visit the Editor paid to Belfast last June, it appears that the sales in Belfast of No. V will be close on 1,000.

Mr. Warren and his Bowling Committee again ran a great show; it is reported elsewhere.

During the winter, the E.C. resuscitated its annual outing—had a theatre night and dinner—this was pronounced a splendid function—it certainly helped to get the E.C.

members to know each other better and to make the work of the session less tedious.

The Annual General Meeting was again very good. This method of having an A.G.M. is now established and together with the Plebiscite Vote is an improvement, democratically, on what went before. It imparts the right of each member participating and it ensures Branch equality at the actual meeting itself. But whilst the numbers voting is greater than we used to have, they are still not enough, and it would be a good thing if Branches maintained interest into the middle of May, but what would you? Men are but men, bowling greens call, the gardens call, wives who have been football widows during the winter and weans claim some attention in the good nights. Perhaps we should change the date of our A.G.M.—the Voting at least. There was no desire to have the A.G.M. anywhere else but in Glasgow.

When the new season started we were plunged into the ticket business immediately and also into the elaborate arrangements for Belfast. These have been undertaken by Mr. Caskie, Convener of the International Committee in conjunction with Mr. Ritchie, the Secretary of our Belfast Branch. For the first time the International Committee has worked through the Area Secretaries and this has been to the good, as for the first time all monies have been paid before the actual match.

We have been in the midst of a Financial Crisis for some months now, and to help the Editor, Publications got up a Diary; the Agents gave us this free and one was given to each person donating at least one shilling to the Funds. This had some success, although not what reasonably could have been expected.

Scarcely had the new session started when we lost the services of Mr. Buist, owing to a technical hitch. Mr. T. Scott, the Asst. Secretary undertook the duties of Registrar.

Then the Newsletter ceased publication owing to the defection of the Publisher.

In September our ranks were further depleted by the resignations of Mr. H. McKechnie, the Social Organiser, Mr. R. McCulloch and Mr. F. McKenna.

# THE 4th RALLY

1st FEBRUARY, 1953

Who that were present at the Rally will ever forget it. But for many thousands who were excluded (for lack of space) the humble efforts of The Annual will endeavour to bring to you a taste of that memorable evening last February when nearly 3,000 people were jam-packed into the large and stately surroundings of the St. Andrew's Halls, Glasgow.

Then the miracle happened; 3,000 people, guided along the road by the excellent Chairmanship of Mr. George Brown, M.A., Hon. President of The Association, stirred by the music of the pipes, 3,000 from "a' the airts the wind can blow," breathed as one man—gazed as one man—on that lonely but impressive figure in their midst, dressed in his Rangers Blazer, as the Lord Provost, presented Willie Thornton with the *Sunday Mail* "Oscar" as "Footballer of the Year," and a breathless silence hung on the air as all bent forward the better to listen to the hero of the evening.

Mr. H. McKechnie, his Rally Committee and the General Secretary worked hard to organise this our fourth and greatest Rally and the organisation was wellnigh perfect.

Within a quarter of an hour of the doors opening, the hall was packed and during the community singing that preceded, lustily, the "kick-off," the only empty seats were those reserved on the platform for our guests. Programme-sellers and Raffle-ticket Sellers were doing their stuff and reaping a rich harvest.

At last the platform party arrived amidst great acclamation and fathers were pointing out to their sons (and daughters), men to their wives and sweethearts, the well-known figures of past and present, who were assembling in support of Mr. Brown.

The chief guests were the Lord Provost and Lady Provost, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kerr; Mr. George Young, Captain of Rangers and Guest Speaker, and Mrs. Young.

*Continued on page 14*

SPECIALISTS IN

**SPORTS PRINTING** OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

**PORTSEA** PRINTING WORKS LTD.

Represented By **DUNCAN STODDART**

79 ROBERTSON STREET, GLASGOW, C.2

TELEPHONE: CITY 6668

*We supply all Bookmakers requirements*

CALCULATORS

BETTING TICKETS

COURSE BOOKS—DOGS & HORSES

BOOKMAKERS STOOLS

BOOKMAKERS JOINTS — BEST  
QUALITY CHROMIUM PLATED

S.P. OFFICE PRINTING OF EVERY  
DESCRIPTION

"Rex" of "*The Sunday Mail*," and Willie and Mrs. Thornton, and Gordon Smith, the recipient of the "Oscar" the previous year.

In his opening remarks the Chairman expressed his great pleasure at being the Chairman of such a terrific audience on such a memorable occasion.

The McInnes Shaw Pipe Band filled us with martial ardour and the spirit of comradeship of the Clans and then the guests were introduced and cheered.

What a brilliant Chairman is Mr. George Brown.

The musical programme, compered by Bert Denver, was ably sustained by accordionist, Mat Shaw; Fay and Bell, a bright and breezy vocal and dance turn; Charles Greville, a delightful tenor; the two Glissons, a breath-taking acrobatic act which caused the platform party many anxious moments; a clever xylophonist, Redman; and Donnelly and Sutton, entertainers at the piano. Mr. D. Hughes was Musical Director.

The high-light of the evening was the presentation by the Lord Provost, Mr. Tom Kerr, to Willie Thornton, of "*The Sunday Mail*" Statuette to "The Player of the Year."

Rex, who had instituted the Trophy the previous year, said that he had no difficulty in making his choice, that the choice had been received by universal acclamation and approval. Willie Thornton was the greatest centre-forward in Light Blue that he had seen, and he had seen them all. Davie Meiklejohn had prophesied on his advent to Ibrox, that he would top the bill and he had. Willie had that extra something that put him on a plane by himself. He had been at Ibrox for seventeen years and had not made an enemy.

When the other day Jimmie Smith took Willie to the surgeon, about Willie's toe, he asked the surgeon if Willie would be all right after the operation. "Yes," he would be all right assured the surgeon.

"And will he be able to kick a ball?"

"Why, certainly," rejoined the medico.

"That," said Jimmie, "will be a miracle. He's never been able to do it up to now."

Rex assured the audience that Willie would be back.

It was very fitting continued Rex, that the presentation to the first footballer should be

made by the first citizen, the Lord Provost, Mr. Tom Kerr. He thanked the Lord Provost and called on him to make the presentation.

What a lovely voice Mr. Kerr has! It is not difficult to remember that he had a long association with choirs. How stately in his charm, how kindly, how sympathetic.

The Lord Provost informed us that he had once played centre-half for Winchburgh, the team from which Thornton had graduated. "And," went on Mr. Kerr, "had Willie been playing then he would not have lived to play for Rangers." He had watched Thornton for seventeen years and he described him as more than a footballer. He is a gentleman; he is a good boy.

First of all I want to dispose of the idea that I am a Rangers supporter. I love football, it is a lovely open-air game, not individualistic like golf and other games. I go to see a football match because I love to watch the sportsmanship of the players moving on the green turf, and I watch often the little moves just as if they had been on a chess board. And I always hope that the best team will win, provided Rangers is not defeated.

As Rex says, Willie Thornton has just that something that others do not have. He has earned that something that all do not earn. It is not a question of liking him, it is not a question of loving him. Liking and loving are ephemeral—they pass forgotten and are changeable. But when a man is a sportsman, apart from being liked, that man has the respect of his fellow-men—it is something greater than life itself, it is that little something that is apart from his football genius—the fact that through it all he has been a gentleman. Now I want to say that the pleasure I take in this ceremony is not casual, and the duty is not an "ought" something I must do as Lord Provost. This to me is personal, and an honour, and I have the greatest fervent pleasure in presenting Willie Thornton with this statuette.

The Lord Provost handed over the "Oscar" and Willie Thornton was left alone on the platform. At this point St. Andrew's Halls nearly burst its seams. Cheering and singing the fans went to town—the exuberance of the Wembley hordes was nothing like this—and through it all, wild and tumultuous as it was, one could see that love, reverence almost—that mede of homage that a gentleman and a footballer only can evoke.

Willie made several efforts to give thanks but the cheering prevented; but at last the audience realised that they might be missing something and they settled down to listen to as dainty and as perfect a speech as ever we have heard, reminding us of his first article in "*The Evening News*" reprinted in No. 1 Annual, and in our opinion, in spite of all his experience as a journalist, his best—it touched the hearts.

#### THORNTON'S SPEECH

"I welcome this opportunity to thank you all for the wonderful reception you have given me. The Lord Provost, the Chairman, Rex, have been very kind and much too generous in their reference to me. If Wilfred Pickles decided to ask me about my most embarrassing moment, I would say 'it is now.'

"I deem it a great honour to be worthy to be the footballer

*Continued on page 52*

## COACHING By BOB MACAULAY

The subject of "Coaching" has recently had much publicity for many reasons and the scribes went to town when the S.F.A. coaching courses failed. Of course the players got the blame. If we examine the question we shall find that criticism more or less unjustified.

In most cases the Trainer or an old player in most teams supplies fairly efficient coaching at the Team H.Q. That inducement out, what is left? There is in Scotland no inducement for the player to become an efficient coach—the object of the courses. There is no post available in Scotland although I see now that Jimmy Mason has been appointed "coach" to Dumbarton and I wish him all the luck that's going.

In England, on the other hand, coaches are used on a large scale—County Associations, works Teams, schools, employ them through the F.A. at the rate of 32/- per session. One coach of my acquaintance in the Midlands has made up to £15 per week. That is worth having.

There is no such chance in Scotland. The only organised coaching of which I have heard has been the Easter courses for school boys who were willing to pay the small fee involved. But the benefit of these is dubious owing to the shortness in time of the courses.

So that the boys will really benefit we should have three official coaches attached to each Education Authority in the country; thus would we lay the foundation that would again make it possible for Scotland to take her place in the Football world. At first the Football Authorities who take so much out of the game could pay for the coaches, and afterwards by arranging County Competitions which I am sure the public would support, the schools could pay their own way. It only requires a start.

The F.A. of the United States has given us a fine lead in its hiring Matt Busby to coach and lecture all over the country. In 1924 I played in the Grenadier Guards Team of Montreal. Our own coach was brought over from England. This was Steve Bloomer and in 1925 the coach was Sam Chedzoy, the Everton winger. This was done and paid for by a private individual—Col. Meighan, a well-known Canadian sportsman, who did great work for Canadian Soccer. The club

was amateur, all the players having regular jobs apart from their football.

The qualities of a good coach are a thorough knowledge of the game with the ability to demonstrate all the points he wishes his pupils to know. Above all he must be able to impart that knowledge, for "if the pupil has not learned, the teacher has not taught."

To recapitulate. If the S.F.A. wants coaches it must provide some incentive.

#### JOHN PRENTICE

John Prentice came to Rangers in March, 1951, and in his second full season he has been deservedly awarded his first cap—against the Irish League in September. Coming to Rangers as a half back from Hearts, he last season made the inside left position his own and this season has attracted the attention of the scribes. Here is a tribute to him paid after the opening match of the season at Stark's Park.

Across this sweltering, sweating Stark's Park strode a tall, strapping figure; a figure who struck terror into Raith's defenders every time he got the ball. A figure whose display helped us to forget those long minutes of mediocrity; the figure of a fellow called John Prentice.

If this is the shape of Prentice to come—the Prentice we are to see on heavy grounds—heaven help the opposition.

Speed, strength, science, he had them all. A bit slow, perhaps, at getting into his stride but once he was in top gear with the ball at his feet there was no stopping "juggernaut Johnny."

Take his goal in the 23rd minute. A slick Simpson backheeler showed him the way. Shouldering a path between two Raith defenders, he unleashed a grounder Johnston never saw.

But don't reach for that "big basher" label. There's brains in that there brawn! Prentice spoonfed Hubbard into leading McLure a merry dance. He clipped daisy clippers across to Waddell, shot square jabs to Grierson, forward prods to Simpson.

Yes! Take a bow big fellow. On this showing you are worthy of one of the highest compliments in the game—you are real Rangers class!

# THE RANGERS AND ULSTER

By N. Brodie, "Ulster Telegraph"

Glasgow Rangers... to hundreds of Ulster men and women—and hundreds is the operative word—the name of the Ibrox club spells magic to them. They are enthralled at the very mention of it and of all the cross-Channel glamour sides Arsenal, Spurs, Sunderland, Preston—"the lot"—the Light Blues reign supreme.

They, unquestionably, have the largest following in Northern Ireland. Their supporters have now become organised, and in fact, last September the Belfast and District Branch of the Rangers Supporters' Association closed its ranks with a membership of 120. Dozens of others could not be admitted so don't be surprised if another Branch requires to be formed in this loyal part of the United Kingdom.

Most members of the Belfast body, in addition of course to hundreds of others, have attended important fixtures in which Rangers have been engaged this season. For instance, almost 70 members were the guests of the Plantation and Kinning Park Branche last September during the week-end of the "Auld Firm" clash. And this hospitality was reciprocated at the October international between Ireland and Scotland at Belfast. During that period too, the Belfast Branch held its first annual concert which was attended by the Lord Mayor (Alderman Sir Percival Brown), whose wife, a Scotswoman, is also a follower of the Ibrox club.

One of the proudest possessions of this enthusiastic but embryonic Branch is a photograph which the chairman, Mr. R. Moffatt, and live-wire Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Ritchie, had taken during a recent visit to Ibrox with Belfast-born, Billy Simpson, the Ireland centre-forward, and Willie Thornton, another of the Ranger's idols in Ulster.

Yes, Belfast's Rangers supporters are amongst the most loyal in your vast, progressive organisation. And as the years roll by this Ibrox organised outpost will grow until it is a "colony." What Northern Ireland folk desire most of all is more frequent visits to Belfast of the Glasgow club, their last appearance being a few years ago when they

opposed Everton in a benefit game for Mr. J. Price, the former Irish League secretary. But then, Rangers are wanted everywhere. Last summer while in the United States and Canada with the Ireland touring team, Scottish and Irish emigrants, to whom I spoke, were all desirous of seeing the Light Blues make an American tour; in British Columbia official representations to Ibrox for a trip to be organised have been planned.

Why are Ulster folk so interested in—and I write this through no form of partisanship—the most famous Scottish club of all? Two L's, I feel, are the answer. There is a loyalty about an Ulsterman—and there is Linfield, Belfast's own Rangers, whose supporters form the bulk of the Ibrox Ulster following. Indeed, it would be correct to say that every Linfield fan when he opens his Saturday evening paper looks for the Rangers result immediately after that of his own club. Judge the interest, too, from that and from the fact that reports of all Rangers games are carried in the leading Belfast papers.

Actually, Linfield and it's headquarters, Windsor Park, setting of all Ireland's home international matches, are modelled on that of Rangers. Relations between the clubs have been of a brotherly nature. In fact, it was "The Gers" who were the first cross-Channel side to play on the now famous Windsor pitch, "graveyard" of many of the world's leading international players.

Northern Ireland, generally, has had multifarious associations with Rangers, many of her internationalists in past years having had spells on the Ibrox staff. To name but a few... A. Craig, S. English, R. Hamilton, W. McCandless, R. MacDonald, B. Mander-son, A. Stevenson, and W. Simpson.

So with an ever-alert Belfast Branch functioning now, and the many past associations which have been formed with the club, those two famous words "Aye Ready," your Association's motto, will be blazoned throughout a country where Rangers, to the soccer followers, is well... a household word and not just the name of a cross-Channel club which crops up in the news-paper sports pages—or your coupon!

## Mr. A. McCall says Good-bye!



Andrew McCall, after giving seven years service to the Association in the E.C. decided to retire as his health did not permit of him carrying on. Indeed he had to cancel his appearance at the last A.G.M., and in the month of June broke down at two E.C. meetings.

During his seven years in the E.C. he occupied various offices, Auditor, Asst. Treasurer, Vice-President and finally President, a post to which he was unanimously re-elected five years in succession.

He never forgot the ideals of the Association and continually held them before the members. In the Chair, he was firm but kindly—eminently fair, wise in his compromises and judgements and pleasing in his manners.

He brought to the Association the rich experience he had gained in the Orange Order in which he had attained to many positions of distinction.

We have not lost him entirely. At his own request he has been made an Honorary Vice-President, and so we can always tap this font of experience and wisdom.

In his last evening in the Chair of the E.C., he was presented by the E.C. with a gentleman's toilet set. The speeches all mentioned his fairness, his kindness and his honesty of purpose. We wish him long life and prosperity.

Through the Annual he sends a message of thanks for support and sympathy, and regret for his absence at A.G.M. and retiral through illness.

## "IBROXSHIES"

Ian McColl has joined Willie Thornton, Willie Waddell, George Young and Willie Woodburn in the journalist ranks and is now writing a very readable column in the *Saturday Evening Times*.

The 70 members of the Beltast Branch who came over for the game v. Celtic in September, were entertained to meals in the Ibrox Restaurant by the Plantation and Kinning Park Branch, which later handed over their premises in Howwood Street to their visitors for a smoking concert. This was visited by Willie Waddell and his father, A. Fraser, the Association President, Lt.-Col. Elder, the President of the Belfast Branch, Mr. Galbraith, Editor, and Bailie J. F. Wilson, Mr. Moffat, Chairman of the Belfast Branch was in the Chair.



This photograph was taken on the occasion of the official opening of 194 Oxford Street



Little at his books

Phone  
SOUth 2003

**TEC LTD**

*"The Firm to Rely on"*

**12 BRIDGE STREET  
GLASGOW, C.5**

**YOU CAN OPEN AN ACCOUNT FOR ANY GOODS REQUIRED**

— DEPARTMENTS —

- T.V. & RADIO ● FURNITURE ● MUSICAL ● TOYS
- PRAMS & CYCLES ● CLOTHING ● SPORTS ● CAMERAS
- ELECTRICAL GOODS ● FOOTWEAR ● RADIO, MUSICAL  
& CYCLE REPAIRS, ETC., ETC.

**BE SURE**

**WITH**

**M<sup>C</sup>CLURE** (Member S.P.B.A)

**5 MAXWELL STREET, PAISLEY**

Phone: PAI 5181

**8 LEIGH CARTSIDE ST., JOHNSTONE**

Phone: JOHNSTONE 700

**19 DUNLOP STREET, RENFREW**

Phone: RENFREW 2334

**RACING ★ FOOTBALL ★ GREYHOUNDS**

## JOHN LITTLE AND THE RANGERS

It was a "dream come true" when I signed for Rangers in July 1951, from Queen's Park. At the end of that same week I was even more excited when I learned that I was included in Rangers team to meet Aberdeen at Pittodrie in the first round of the St. Mungo Cup Competition owing to injury to Willie Woodburn.

It was a great thrill and a great ordeal to wear a light blue jersey for the first time. We lost 2-1 that afternoon and it is a game I shall always remember. I must thank my team-mates for the encouragement and help I was given in my start. I had always imagined professional football to be a very dour and serious business but the jovial atmosphere in the Ibrox dressing room was anything but that. Plenty of laughs and good fun is essential in a game like football with all its ups and downs. Of course, serious training and determination are essential in present day football, but some fun during training can often make it more enjoyable and more pleasant. Hardly a week goes by without some one being the victim of a practical joke. Life is never dull at Ibrox with such men as Sammy Cox, Jock Shaw and Willie Gardiner around.

Since coming to Ibrox, my greatest disappointment was when we lost 3-2 to Dundee in the final of the League Cup, but that was certainly avenged when we defeated the same team at Dundee in the second round of the Scottish Cup last season and we went on to win the competition. It was a proud moment for all of us when we ran off the field at Hampden after defeating Aberdeen 1-0 in the final, but we also felt that it was tough luck on John Prentice, Sammy Cox and Duncan Stanners that only 11 medals were presented to the members in the actual final.

I was delighted when my friend Derek Grierson came to Rangers, a year after myself. We had both been team mates with Queen's Park but our friendship goes back even further than that. Until quite recently Derek had lived in Largs and myself in Millport, just across the water. Many a time we were opponents on the field when Largs Select met Millport Select. Football is

always very popular in the Clyde resorts and always attracts very big holiday crowds.

It was a great event last summer when Rangers sent down an XI to play a local select in aid of charity. It was the first time that Rangers had visited the island and practically everyone in the town turned out. Fortunately it was a grand day: George Young was referee and John Prentice and myself were linesmen. As was expected Millport put up a grand show for the first half hour, but then the pace and superior training began to tell and Rangers finished worthy winners. The talking point of the day was without doubt the brilliant play of our two young inside forwards, Hunter McMillan and Johnny Woods for whom bright futures are forecast.

At the end of last season, Derek Grierson and myself decided to forsake the Firth of Clyde for our holidays and we spent a fortnight in Majorca, an island off Spain in the Mediterranean, about twice the size of the Isle of Man.

It certainly turned out to be Sunny Spain although at times the heat was just too oppressive, especially in the afternoon. Practically all work stops from mid-day until 5 o'clock and it is the custom to have a siesta. Work resumes until about 9 o'clock in the evening.

Talking of football the Spaniards are just "fitba daft" and the only time they will forego watching a bullfight is when there's a football match on. Football in Spain itself is of course a professional sport and the star team there at present is Barcelona F.C., who won the "General Franco Cup" last season. This competition is the equivalent of our Scottish Cup competition and was started by General Franco who donated a cup to be played for every year. To win this cup is considered the supreme honour in Spanish Soccer, and like the bullfighter, the Cup Finalist is the envy of every Spaniard.

Football in Majorca itself is entirely amateur and is not of a very high standard. There is an amateur league and rivalry among the various towns is very keen. Even on holiday we could not get away from football. An official from Palma F.C., one of the leading teams on the island, asked us if we could take part in an exhibition match. We had to refuse of course, as we are professionals but even had we been able to play I doubt if we would have, after hearing of a recent incident. A week before there was a match between two of the local teams and after some bad decisions by the referee, crowds of spectators invaded the field. A riot broke out and the police only just managed to quell it at the point of their guns. Finally the game was abandoned but even then it was not the end of the trouble. Hundreds waited outside the pavilion and it wasn't until 3 hours later that players and officials were able to leave the stadium under police escort—and remember that this was just amateur football.

Little and Grierson had much chaff to endure when they returned to Ibrox looking like Spaniards.

Both have started well this season. They both have the distinction of having gone into the "A" team almost on signing. Little has missed only one game in two seasons and is being marked for a "Cap" in the early future.

John has completed a P.T. Course at Jordanhill and helps to put his team mates through their paces at training. He is studying at the University for a Social Science Degree.

Good luck, John, and many years in the Rangers!

One trophy that our Team did not get was the *Daily Record* Golf Trophy, and that in spite of being captained by "Minty" Millar. It went to St. Johnstone.

Playing in the Reserve Team, Bobby Brown at Hampden against the Strollers was tested by an old pupil of his own at Alloa Technical School. Another of his ex-pupils has been provisionally signed by Hearts. Bobby himself has been attending the F.A. Summer Coaching School.



Telephone : CENTral 1541

# W. HALE

*Ladies and Gents  
High Class Tailor*

CUSTOMERS OWN MATERIAL MADE UP

**ALL WORK PERSONALLY DESIGNED,  
CUT AND FITTED**

**49 Jamaica Street, Glasgow, C.1**

*Meet your friends after the Match at*

## THE REGAL BAR

Proprietor: JOSEPH CHAMBERS

.....  
DRAUGHT AND BOTTLED BEER ALWAYS IN  
SPARKLING CONDITION

LARGE STOCK OF FINEST WINES AND SPIRITS  
.....

**216 PAISLEY ROAD WEST, GLASGOW, S.W.1**

## RANGERS v. DYNAMOS

By ALLAN BRECK

It was on Wednesday, November 28th, 1945, that Rangers played the Moscow Dynamos at Ibrox and I started my report of the match :—

“ Never had Ibrox seen such scenes. This was football Glasgow’s—and indeed, football Scotland’s—day of days. You could feel the excitement—I was going to say the electricity—in the atmosphere among the crowds making their way by every conceivable means to the great Rangers ground.”

But the excitement had started long before the day of the match. The Dynamos lived at the Beresford Hotel. They had brought loads of their own food with them, and we were very much impressed in those austerity days at the amount of butter, eggs and chocolate drinks they consumed. They trained at Ibrox, and thither for three days before the game we made pilgrimages to see the Russians.

The night before the match they threatened to pack their bags and return to London.

The Russians objected to Caskie’s playing on the grounds that Caskie was really an Everton player. In vain officials pointed out he was nothing of the kind. At a Corporation dinner on the eve of the game they brought Sir (then Mr.) George Graham into the conference to convince the Russians they were mistaken. No use! They announced they were going home and filed out of the City Chambers.

With all the tickets sold and the city in a ferment—Rangers were faced with a problem. Round about midnight they agreed to withdraw Caskie from the team. The match was on.

Teams :—

Rangers—Dawson, David Gray and Shaw, Watkins, Young and Symon, Waddell and Gillick, Smith, Williamson and Johnstone.

Dynamos—Khomich, Radikorsky and Stankevich, Blinkov, Semichastny (Capt.) and Oreshkin, Archangelsky and Karsev, Beskov, Bobrov and Soloviev.

The referee was Tom Thompson of Leamington, now deceased.

“ At two o’clock the Russians appeared for the pre-match practice. There were twelve of them with six footballs.

“ At 2.8 the Dynamos retired and at 2.12 the team reappeared in company with the Rangers in blue and white hoops, and the Russians in bluish green jerseys with light blue shorts. The two

leading Russians carried bouquets of flowers which were presented to Arthur Dixon and Jerry Dawson.

“ Lord Provost McNeill followed, and after being introduced to both teams along with the two leading Russian officials, the national anthems of both countries were played, while players, photographers and others were all mixed up in the centre of the field.

“ In two minutes the Dynamos were a goal up. In their first run down Symon pulled down a Russian forward just at the corner of the penalty box (Paisley end).

“ Karsev took the kick (again I quote from my report) and to the astonishment of the loosely lined Rangers defence, and the crowd, he drove the ball past Dawson’s left hand. It looked ridiculously simple.

“ Sensational play followed. Williamson, dribbling his way through, was glaringly fouled inside the penalty area. A penalty was awarded at once.

“ Waddell took the kick and although he gave the ball all he had Khomich played it on to the crossbar and the rebound was scrambled away for a corner.

“ The Russians knew most of the tricks, and the way the forwards brought the half backs into the game was an eye-opener.

“ Rangers did most of the pressing, but the Russians played very confidently and never seemed at a loss what to do.

“ In 24 minutes Karsev scored a second goal for the Dynamos. The goal was the outcome of completely devastating forward play.

“ The ball was passed and repassed before the bewildered Rangers defence until Karsev got the opening he wanted and swept the ball low and hard into the left hand corner of the goal from 14 yards.

“ Five minutes from the interval Rangers persistence was rewarded. Smith went into a cross from the left as ‘Tiger’ Khomich advanced. There was a clash between the two big men, but Smith just managed to get his foot on the ball and steer it into the net. He was injured but carried on.

“ The Dynamos defenders used the arm a lot at close quarters and frequently annoyed the crowd. They were quite unmoved and continued to play in a way which almost looked nonchalant.

“ Rangers were clearly puzzled by a team which

could pack its defence so quickly." At half time Dynamos led by two goals to one.

In the second half Ibrox was a boiling hot cauldron of excitement. Again my report :—

"The Hampden roar had been imported to Ibrox and it got full vent when Williamson and a Russian landed among the photographers.

"Excitement boiled right over when Smith and Khomich got involved in another clash. It ended with the referee awarding a free kick in Khomich's favour. The duels between the "Tiger" and the big Rangers centre were full blooded. Honours were about even as thrill after thrill took place in the goalmouth.

"The Dynamos withdrew a player and put on a substitute after 17 minutes. The inside left position was involved.

"With 14 minutes left for play Smith retired, and Duncanson came on to inside left with Williamson at centre.

"Rangers got a second penalty twelve minutes from the end for Johnstone being upended. The award followed a Rangers appeal and after con-

sultation with linesman Calder. Young scored from the spot and before the end Watkins hit a post from 40 yards range."

Then from my summing up :—"Dynamos are a first class team of ball players and their positional sense is quite extraordinary.

"It would have been a travesty if Rangers had been defeated. They had most of the play and from first to last fought with a tenacity which did them credit.

"There were incidents in this riot of excitement, but a strict and diplomatic referee saw the thing through without anything serious."

I noted too that opposite the stand the Russian flag kept company with the Rangers league championship pennant.

I recorded many other details and impressions of what, in my experience was the most exciting day I have ever known at Ibrox.

It was one of those occasions when you like to say "I was there."

Oh yes, the final result—Rangers 2, Moscow Dynamos 2.

## Rangers' Almanac

Factual — Objective — Non-Critical — Memory Stirring

In our last issue we left the Team in the Doldrums. They had lost the Glasgow Cup and were still to a certain extent underneath the shadow of their initial defeat by Hearts. But what a difference. They finished season '52-'53 League and Cup Winners.

**4th October, 1952—Kilmarnock at Hampden in the League Cup Semi-Final—0-1**

A bitter defeat and wrong tactics.

**11th October, 1952—Hibernians at Ibrox—1-2**

A score which rather flattered Hibs. Grierson scored.

**18th October, 1952—East Fife at Bayview —2-3**

A dour game. Thornton and Grierson scored.

**25th October, 1952—Dundee**

This game off as Dundee was in the League Cup Final.

**1st November, 1952—Queen of the South—3-1**

We saw the inimitable ever-young Charlie Johnston. Liddell, Simpson and Paton.

**8th November, 1952—Falkirk at Brockville —2-1**

Prentice and Simpson scored.

**15th November, 1952—Clyde at Shawfield —6-4**

A game that had everything—with a wonder goal. Not since 1946 v. Hamilton had we a like score. Waddell 1, Grierson 1, Simpson 3, and Prentice 1, were the scorers.

**22nd November, 1952—Raith Rovers at Ibrox —3-2**

Prentice 1, and Grierson 2, scored.

**29th November, 1952—Motherwell at Fir Park—**

No game owing to fog.

**6th December, 1952—Aberdeen at Ibrox—4-0**

Dazzling left wing play. Whizz bangs from Prentice a feature. Young 1 (pen.), McCulloch 2, and Simpson scored.

**13th December, 1952—Hearts at Tynecastle —2-2**

A terrible day of rain; second half was a dim out. Simpson and Grierson scored.

**20th December, 1952—St. Mirren at Ibrox —4-0**

Rangers impressive. Simpson scored all four goals. His quick thinking and brilliant devices lofted him to top class.

**27th December, 1952—Airdrie at Broomfield —2-2**

Conditions splendid, a dour game. Airdrie exploited Ranger's defensive weaknesses. Grierson and Simpson scored.

**1st January, 1953—Celtic at Ibrox—1-0**

Lovely day, conditions good, subdued game, spectators very good. Simpson scored.

**3rd January, 1953—Third Lanark at Cathkin —2-0**

Terrible day, fog, frost. Entertaining game by Balunas, McColl, and Hubbard. Grierson the scorer.

**10th January, 1953—Partick Thistle at Ibrox —2-2**

Foggy. Rangers got a rare fright. Grierson and Paton scored.

**17th January, 1953—Hibernians at Easter Road—1-1**

A lovely day that had everything, cross talk and Niven too. Grierson scored.

**24th January, 1953—First Round Scottish Cup—Arbroath at Ibrox—4-0**

Another delightful day. Arbroath no match for Rangers. Hubbard, Prentice, McColl and Simpson.

**31st January, 1953—East Fife at Ibrox—4-0**

The collapse of East Fife. McColl 2, Simpson 1, Grierson 1.

**7th February, 1953—Scottish Cup—Dundee at Dens Park—2-0**

Wee Red Devil Hubbard to the fore.

**14th February, 1953—Dundee at Dens Park —1-1**

Dundee's near revenge. Cox's name taken.

Phone : GOVan 1560

### James C. Gray

Wine Merchant

It is a Guarantee you are obtaining the Finest Goods procurable when you shop at our premises . . . .

There is always a big selection of Finest Wines in Stock . . . . .

LET US SUPPLY YOUR BOTTLE BEER ORDERS

**492 GOVAN ROAD  
GLASGOW**

P. McNEILL

### The Exhibition Bar

FOR GOOD COMPANY

**G** WINES  
**O** SPIRITS  
**O** BEER  
**D** SERVICE

AND CIVILITY

**21/23 PAISLEY ROAD WEST  
GLASGOW, S.W.1**

Proprietor : A. McNEILL

21st February, 1953—Scottish Cup—Morton at Cappielow—4-1

Cowan and Little of Morton brilliant. Scorers, Grierson 2, Simpson and Prentice 1 each.

28th February, 1953—Falkirk at Ibrox—4-0  
Very stale beer. Simpson 3, and Prentice 1.

7th March, 1953—Clyde at Ibrox—1-2

A game that opened in sparkling manner and then passed into a game of sparklets. Woodburn and Simpson ordered off. Scorer, Young (pen.).

14th March, 1953—Scottish Cup—Celtic at Ibrox—2-0

A glorious game. Rangers vastly superior. Grierson and Prentice the scorers.

18th March, 1953—Raith Rovers at Kirkcaldy—1-3

A rout. Prentice scored.

21st March, 1953—Motherwell at Ibrox—4-0

Some wonderful saves by Niven. Team inspired, Hubbard superb. McCulloch 1, Grierson 2, and Simpson 1.

28th March, 1953—Aberdeen at Pittodrie—2-2  
Grierson, Gardiner.

4th April, 1953—Scottish Cup Semi-Final—Hearts at Hampden—2-1

Grierson, Prentice.

6th April, 1953—Hearts at Ibrox—3-0

Poor game. Simpson, Prentice, Adie (o.g.).

11th April, 1953—Partick Thistle at Ibrox—2-1

Grierson, Young (pen.).

15th April, 1953—Airdrie at Ibrox—8-2

Grierson 4, Prentice, Paton, Young (pen.), Cross (o.g.).

18th April, 1953—The International at Wembley—

Cox injured.

20th April, 1953—Motherwell at Fir Park—3-0

Paton 2, Young (pen.).

25th April, 1953—Final of Scottish Cup—Aberdeen at Hampden—1-1

A rugged battle with Aberdeen in generous mood. Niven badly injured. Young takes over. Prentice scored.

29th April, 1953—Replay at Hampden—1-0  
Simpson scored.

2nd May, 1953—Dundee at Ibrox—3-1

Grierson 2, and Simpson 1.

4th May, 1953—Charity Cup—Queen's Park at Ibrox—1-1

Queen's Park won toss.

7th May, 1953—Queen of the South at Palmerston—1-1

League won on goal average. Waddell scored.

13th May, 1953—Coronation Cup—Manchester United at Hampden—1-2

Bad luck. The team staged a marvellous come-back in second half. McMillan.

16th May, 1953—

Team off to Turnberry.

#### SEASON 1953-1954

##### League Cup

8th August, 1953—Raith Rovers at Kirkcaldy—4-0

Dreich—in torrid heat. Raith no match for a rampant Rangers including the mighty Prentice. (Young pen.), Grierson, Simpson and Prentice.

12th August, 1953—Hearts at Ibrox—4-1

Hectic. A wonder goal by Hubbard. Names taken, including Cox. Young (pen.) Grierson, Simpson and Hubbard.

15th August, 1953—Hamilton Acas. at Ibrox—5-1

A good first half. Hamilton no match, but bonny fechtors—clean and sporting. Grierson 3, Paton 2.

19th August, 1953—Glasgow Cup—Clyde at Shawfield—2-1

Phew! What a game! Not a dull moment. Eye injury to Young. Plays outside left second half. Two exhibitions of marvellous goalkeeping. Paton 2.

22nd August, 1953—League Cup—Raith Rovers at Ibrox—3-1

Rangers near fright. Paton go(al)getter 2, McCulloch 1.

24th August, 1953—Charlie Johnston's benefit at Dumfries—1-3

The occasion a great social success. Paton.

26th August, 1953—League Cup—Hearts at Tynecastle—1-1

Held to a draw by a more virile and determined Hearts. Wonder save by Niven. Grierson.

29th August, 1953—League Cup—Hamilton Acas. at Hamilton—5-0

Good practice for Rangers. A field day for Paton, with 4 goals, Waddell netting the fifth. Wonderful welcome from Hamilton.

1st September, 1953—Glasgow Cup Semi-Final—Celtic at Ibrox—1-1

The "bhoys" gave the "gers" an inferiority complex. Evans stars in goal. Hubbard.

3rd September, 1953—The Replay at Parkhead—4-0

A great press, unexpected victory and a thriller. Grierson and Prentice, Paton 2.

#### League

5th September, 1953—Partick Thistle at Ibrox—3-0

Played in a drizzle. Partick's challenge faded out. Game over in 20 minutes, with goals from Grierson, Paton and Prentice.

12th September, 1953—League Cup Quarter Finals—Ayr United at Ibrox—4-2

Caldow for Young—fair. A real fright for Rangers. Rescued by Prentice 3, Grierson 1.

16th September, 1953—At Ayr—2-3

Rangers shocked. Ayr's splendid game. Waddell (pen.), Paton.

19th September, 1953—Celtic at Ibrox—1-1

A splendid first half, second half marred by Rowdyism at interval, Paton.

26th September, 1953—Stirling Albion at Stirling—0-2

Rangers trounced. Cox injured, Woodburn sent off—the team a shadow of itself.

3rd October, 1953—

Young, Cox and Waddell in the Scottish Team v. Ireland at Windsor Park, Belfast.

Telephone: GOVAN 2082

ESTABLISHED 1878

## DUNCAN G. WALKER C.M.B.H.I.

WATCHMAKER & JEWELLER

809 GOVAN ROAD, GLASGOW, S.W.1

Specialities

Engagement Rings

Wedding Rings

Wrist Watches

Pocket Watches

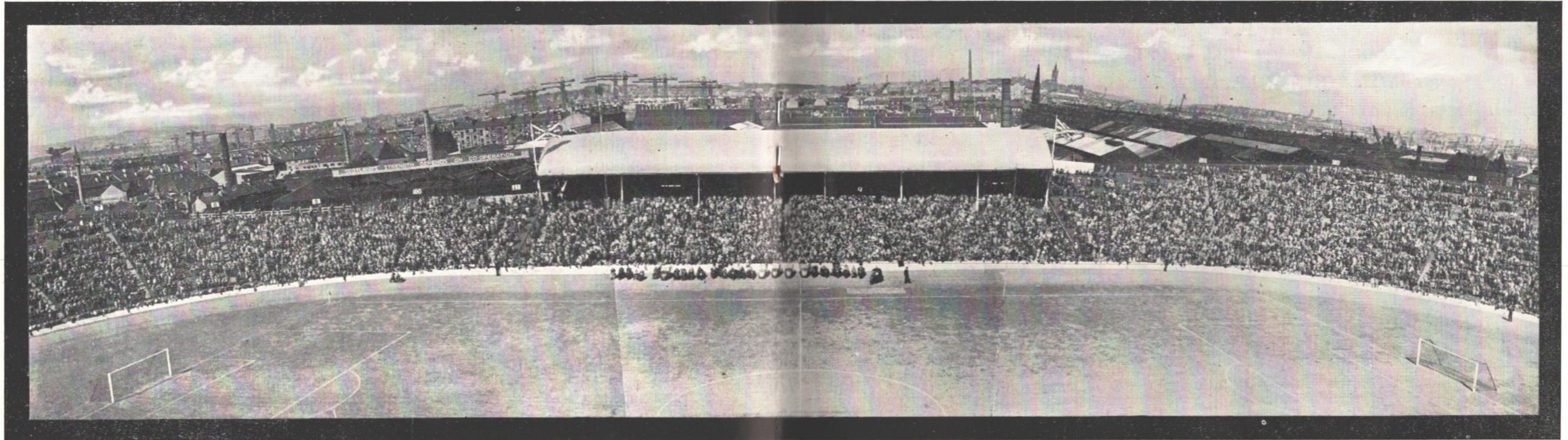
Chiming Clocks

Electric Clocks

Special Attention to Repairs

Long Experience is at Your Service

# GLASGOW FROM THE IBROX PRESS BOX



## Panoramic View—

To get this picture many things had to coincide, clear atmosphere, a crowded Stadium, players on the sward, a photographer and an Editor in the Press Box. We have been trying for four years to get the combination. We succeeded on 15th August, at the Rangers v. Hamilton Acas. match.

In days of yore from beyond that line of hills in the background, the familiar Campsies came the MacColls, the MacIntoshes, the Macphails, the MacCullochs, the MacMillans the MacGregors and kindred clans; they swept through the Lowland plain to bereft

it of some of its wealth which they took back behind the line.

To-day, their descendants return the loot in full in the shape of wonderfully entertaining afternoons at the Stadium and other football grounds.

In front of the hills we see innumerable spires directing men to a higher and nobler life.

And here below translating the Golden Rule into action on the field and in private life we have sportsmen in Royal Blue who are following a host of others who have sought "to do unto others as they would that others do to them."

There is the tower of Gilmorehill beloved

by her sons and daughters and respected by all who hail from Glasgow. In the past Doc. Marshall and Doc. Paterson have been there and in the present J. L. Little and A. Millar are there, to mention only four of a distinguished group of Rangers players who have sought a way of life and living beneath that tower.

Dominating the foreground are the cranes, the biggest in the world is there (can you pick it out?), the shipyards, the dear Clyde, the docks, the works of all descriptions. In this issue we read of Dave Meiklejohn at work somewhere here, and the majority of players and supporters are men of industry. We are reminded here that without industry

all would fade, spires and Stadium, all would become as a dream.

And right in the foreground is the Stadium itself. Scene of many a brilliant victory, and trying defeat. In the left hand corner we are reminded of the team spirit, we are reminded that Union is Strength. It is the spirit that inspires our team; may it one day infuse all Supporters.

This we think is one of the finest views of its kind, perhaps the best from any sports ground. May it bring sweet memories to the exile, cheer to the sufferers in hospital, and interest to all our readers old and young.

# The Rangers Football Club Limited

IBROX STADIUM, GLASGOW

SEASON 1953-54

## Hon. Presidents

The Right Hon. LORD WEIR OF EASTWOOD, P.C. Sir JOHN T. CARGILL, Bt., D.L., LL.D., J.P.

Directors—Councillor J. F. WILSON, D.L., J.P., *Chairman*. WM. STRUTH, J.P., *Vice-Chairman*.

ALAN L. MORTON G. C. P. BROWN, M.A.

Manager—WM. STRUTH, J.P., IBROX STADIUM, GLASGOW, S.W.1

Secretary—J. ROGERS SIMPSON, C.A., Trainer—J. SMITH Assistant Trainer—J. CRAVEN  
Groundsman—D. MCLEOD

## RANGERS IN SEASON 1952-53

### 28th League Flag

(Won 18, Drawn 7, Lost 5)

Aberdeen	(h)	4-0	Hibernian	(h)	1-2
Do.	(a)	2-2	Do.	(a)	1-1
Airdrie	(h)	8-2	Motherwell	(h)	4-1
Do.	(a)	2-2	Do.	(a)	3-0
Celtic	(h)	1-0	Partick Th.	(h)	2-2
Do.	(a)	1-2	Do.	(a)	2-1
Clyde	(h)	1-2	Queen of So.	(h)	3-1
Do.	(a)	6-4	Do.	(a)	1-1
Dundee	(h)	3-1	Raith Rovers	(h)	3-2
Do.	(a)	1-1	Do.	(a)	1-3
East Fife	(h)	4-0	St. Mirren	(h)	4-0
Do.	(a)	2-3	Do.	(a)	3-2
Falkirk	(h)	4-0	Third Lanark	(h)	4-1
Do.	(a)	2-1	Do.	(a)	2-0
Hearts	(h)	3-0			
Do.	(a)	2-2			80-39

### Scottish Cup

Arbroath	(h)	4-0
Dundee	(a)	2-0
Morton	(h)	4-1
Celtic	(h)	2-0
Hearts (H'den)		2-0
Aberdeen (H'den)		1-1
Aberdeen (H'den)		1-0

16-3

### Scottish League Cup

Hearts	(h)	2-0
Do.	(a)	0-5
Motherwell	(h)	2-0
Do.	(a)	3-3
Aberdeen	(h)	3-1
Do.	(a)	2-1

12-10

Quarter-Final		
Third Lanark	(h)	0-0
Do.	(a)	2-0

### Semi-Final

Kilmarnock	(H'den)	0-1
Glasgow Cup		
Queen's Park	(a)	2-0
Partick T.	(H'den)	1-3

### Charity Cup

Queen's Park	(h)	1-1
Queen's Park	won toss	
of the coin.		

## OUR HONOURS

International honours conferred on Rangers players in Season 1952-53 :—

England—Young (capt.), Cox, Woodburn.

Wales—Young (capt.), Cox, Waddell, Woodburn.

Ireland—Young (capt.), Cox, Waddell, Woodburn.

English League—Brown, Cox, Young (capt.)  
Waddell, Woodburn.

Irish League—Brown.

Eire League—Brown, McColl, Young (capt.).

Rest of Britain v. Wales—Brown.

America—Cox, Young (capt.), Woodburn.

Denmark—Cox, Thornton, Young (capt.).

Sweden—Cox, Thornton, Young (capt.).

726 representative honours have been conferred on Rangers' players an easy record for a Scottish club. Caps against England number 156. Neither does the total take account of awards against foreign countries.

Director Alan Morton, with 43 awards, Association and League, is our most honoured player. Alec Smith, with 33, comes next.

## TELL-TALE TABLE

The following table shows Rangers' wins, draws and losses in the League against the named clubs since the start of the competition in season 1890-1891. It will be seen that we hold a majority of wins over every club we have met.

	P.	W.	D.	L.
Aberdeen - - -	78	44	23	11
Airdrieonians - - -	74	47	10	17
Ayr United - - -	44	39	10	4
Celtic - - -	112	44	37	31
Clyde - - -	90	66	15	9
Dundee - - -	98	59	18	21
East Fife - - -	12	8	2	2
Falkirk - - -	78	50	16	12
Hearts - - -	112	63	21	28
Hibernians - - -	98	60	21	17
Kilmarnock - - -	82	62	11	9
Morton - - -	74	56	9	9
Motherwell - - -	86	57	17	12
Queen of the South - - -	24	18	4	2
Queen's Park - - -	80	59	12	9
Partick Thistle - - -	94	65	16	13
Raith Rovers - - -	42	32	2	2
St. Mirren - - -	110	74	24	12
Stirling Albion - - -	4	4	0	0
Third Lanark - - -	100	68	16	16
	1,492	975	284	242

A place where you can  
enjoy a drink in comfort  
and good company and  
served with civility

## McKENZIE'S BAR

Wine and Spirit Merchant

★

42 OSWALD STREET,  
GLASGOW, C.1

## Thomsons

GOLD MEDAL PIANOS  
and ORGANS

Large  
Selection of NEW and  
RE-CONDITIONED PIANOS  
at Moderate Prices

### RADIO

All the latest Sets and  
Radiograms in Stock

Agents for  
The Compton Electronic  
The New Electronic  
Church Organ



Full particulars gladly sent on request

Send for List of Reconditioned Pianos

Open till 6 p.m. including Tuesday and Saturday

Wm. THOMSON & SON

"Beethoven House," Paisley Road Toll  
7 to 19 GOVAN ROAD, GLASGOW

Telephones: SOUTH 1157-1158

Branches at CLYDEBANK, FALKIRK, GREENOCK and PAISLEY

CIGARETTES

TOBACCOS

LIGHTERS

PIPES

TOYS

**WILLIE WADDELL**  
Telephone: South 1312

STATIONERY

GREETINGS CARDS

CIGARETTE CASES

WHIST DRIVE PRIZES

JOIN OUR LENDING LIBRARY

W. WADDELL & SON · 143 PAISLEY ROAD WEST · GLASGOW

Telephone: IBROX 1616

**James McIvor**  
WRIGHT and BUILDER

SHOP and OFFICE FITTINGS  
ALTERATIONS and REPAIRS  
GARAGES

156-158 COPLAND RD.  
GLASGOW, S.W.1

BRANCH AT  
12 LORNE STREET, KINNING PARK

## THE PLAYERS 1953-54

Position	Name	Joined Club	Previous Club	Height ft. ins.	Weight st. lbs.	Birthplace
C.F.	W. Thornton	Mar. 1937	Winchburgh	5 9½	12 3	Winchburgh
C.H.	W. Woodburn	Oct. 1937	Musselburgh A.	5 11½	12 1	Edinburgh
O.R.	W. Waddell	May 1938	Forth	5 10½	12 2	Forth
L.B.	J. Shaw	June 1938	Airdrie	5 7	11 8	Airdrie
R.B.	G. Young	Sept. 1941	Rob Roy	6 1½	13 4	Grangemouth
I.R.	W. Paton	Nov. 1943	Rob Roy	5 9	10 6½	Glasgow
L.H.	W. Rae	April 1945	Petershill	5 11	11 0	Glasgow
R.H.	I. McColl	June 1945	Queen's Park	5 10¼	11 6	Alexandria
Goal	R. Brown	May 1946	Queen's Park	5 11¾	11 3	Dunipace
L.H.	S. Cox	May 1946	Dundee	5 7½	10 5	Darvel
I.R.	W. Findlay	May 1947	Albion Rovers	5 11½	10 6	Motherwell
C.H.	D. Stanners	Sept. 1947	Dunipace	6 0¼	12 0	Denny
Goal	G. Niven	Dec. 1947	Cupar Angus	5 9½	10 10	Blairhall
L.B.	G. Mackenzie	June 1948	Pollok	6 1	12 4	Glasgow
I.L.	R. Dunlop	July 1948	Baillieston	5 11	11 10	Dumfries
O.R.	W. McCulloch	June 1949	Strathclyde	5 10	11 7	Glasgow
C.F.	A. Simpson (H.M.F.)	June 1949	Pollok	5 9½	10 7	Glasgow
O.L.	J. Hubbard	July 1949	South Africa	5 5½	8 9	Pretoria
L.H.	J. Pryde	April 1950	Newburgh	5 10	11 7	Leuchars
O.R.	A. Millar	May 1950	Annbank	5 6½	11 0	Troon
C.H.	A. Elliot	May 1950	Irvine M.	5 10½	11 0	Glasgow
C.F.	W. J. Simpson	May 1950	Linfield	5 9	11 0	Belfast
O.L.	W. Beckett	Mar. 1951	Renfrew	5 9	11 4	Dumbarton
I.L.	J. Prentice	Mar. 1951	Hearts	5 11	12 4	Shotts
C.F.	W. Gardiner	June 1951	Bo'ness United	6 1	11 12	Larbert
R.B.	R. J. Little	July 1951	Queen's Park	5 10	11 12	Calgary
I.R.	W. Boyd	Aug. 1951	Ashfield	5 10½	10 9	Glasgow
L.H.	I. Neillands	Sept. 1951	Bo'ness United	5 9½	10 8	Edinburgh
O.L.	C. Liddell	Nov. 1951	Hearts	5 11½	12 4	Glasgow
L.H.	P. H. McMillan	Mar. 1952	Airdrie Academy	5 9	10 4	Glasgow
I.R.	J. Woods	May 1952	Pollok	5 5¾	9 12	Glasgow
L.B.	E. Caldow	July 1952	Muirkirk	5 8	10 5	Cumnock
I.R.	R. Carmichael	July 1952	Muirkirk	5 9	10 8	Shettleston
I.R.	D. Gr'erson	Aug. 1952	Queen's Park	5 5	10 2	Prestonpans
L.H.	H. MacMillan	July 1952	Airdrie	5 6½	10 0	Airdrie Acad.
C.F.	D. MacIntosh	Sept. 1952	Inverness	6 1	11 12	Inverness
I.R.	S. Smith	July 1953	Larkhall Thistle	5 8	10 11	Larkhall

Rangers seem to be making a corner of Managers and Journalists.

Willie Gardiner entered the ranks of the Benedicts at the beginning of the season and was duly helped to it by his Ibrox colleagues with fitting ceremonies.

The Ibrox Turf is now a success and in August anyway, was most luxurious, requiring cutting three times per week. The money expended two years ago is now showing a dividend.

Ex-Ranger Archie Macaulay, is now Player-Manager with Guildford.

ON AND OFF THE **TRACK**  
HAVE A BET WITH **BLACK**

YOU ARE ALWAYS ASSURED OF PROMPT PAYMENTS,  
STRICT PRIVACY AND COURTESY IF YOU PHONE  
OR SEND YOUR **RACING, FOOTBALL AND**  
**GREYHOUND COMMISSIONS TO:—**

**CHARLES BLACK** Phone: CITY 6466  
Phone: CEN. 9554  
(4 lines)  
**27 JAMAICA STREET, GLASGOW**  
**S.P. ALL THE YEAR ROUND**

**P. J. LOTT**

WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS

**TOYS - GAMES - NOVELTIES**

**24 JAMES MORRISON STREET  
GLASGOW X**

AND

**28 BRIDGEGATE (off Saltmarket)  
GLASGOW, C.I**

Telephone—BELL 2017

**DANCE NOVELTIES AND CARNIVAL HATS**  
"WE SPECIALISE IN TOYS FOR KIDDIES  
TREATS"

**E. DEANS**

✱

Finest Quality

WINES, SPIRITS and BEERS

✱

Meet Your Friends at  
The "HOUSE of CALL"

✱

**821 Shettleston Road  
Glasgow, E.2**

## Our International Team—

★ J. LETTERS  
★ D. REES                      ★ F. DALY  
★ M. FAULKNER      ★ J. PANTON      ★ T. HALIBURTON  
★ J. ADAMS   ★ F. van DONCK   ★ L. AYTON   ★ H. WEETMAN   ★ A. LEES

ALL USE AND RECOMMEND THE FAMOUS  
SCOTTISH GOLF CLUB

*Master Model*  
By **JOHN LETTERS**

JOHN LETTERS & CO. LTD., 125. HOWARD STREET. GLASGOW. C.I.

“HOPE FOR THE BEST”

# DAVID HOPE

RADIO AND TELEVISION TECHNICIAN

AGENTS FOR—

HOOVER WASHING MACHINES

CYCLES . . . BEST MAKES

ASTRAL NOISELESS REFRIGERATORS

RADIO & TELEVISION

TWENTY DIFFERENT SETS TO

CHOOSE FROM

EXPERT SERVICE

**266 SARACEN STREET - GLASGOW, N.**

Telephone—POSSIL 8132

## RANGERS' PRYDE

Jimmy Pryde, who has been with the team since 1950 has had three appearances in the Scottish League, two in the Scottish Cup, one in the Charity Cup and one in the Coronation Cup.

He deputised for Cox in the Cup Final and Replay last April and so became a Medal holder.

It is not generally known that he was spotted for Rangers whilst playing a trial for Celtic. He had already “tried” for Arbroath and Dunfermline. It was our old favourite David Kinnear who managed to get him to the Stadium.

In every grade of football in which he has played, Jimmy has won honours. With Leslie Hearts he won a Secondary Juvenile Cup Medal, in Junior football he had three caps, and now he is one of the proud possessors of a Scottish Cup Medal. Let Jimmy tell you a wee bit about his sensations, fears and joys on that glorious evening 29th April.

“To play for mighty Rangers! Surely the ambition of practically every soccer-minded youngster in the country. It was certainly mine as I played with a ‘tanner ba’ in the streets of my native Ladybank, as a school-boy. Never did my wildest dreams of imagination, however, portray me playing in a Rangers Scottish Cup-winning team.

“Although I had been an ardent Rangers supporter for years, the first opportunity I had of seeing them play was in the Final of the Scottish Cup in 1950 when they emerged victors over East Fife by three goals to nil. As I sat in the stand that afternoon, little did I realise that exactly three years later I would be wearing that famous light blue jersey, doing my utmost to assist Rangers to yet another Scottish Cup victory. Incidentally, it was the first time I had played on Hampden’s famous sward, and also my first Scottish Cup-tie. To say that I was nervous would be putting it mildly.

“When news came through the previous Saturday that Sammy Cox had met with a most unfortunate injury at Wembley playing against England, and as Willie Rae had strained a groin the same day playing for the “A” team, it suddenly dawned on me that I would probably be called upon to occupy the left-half berth in the cup-final XI against Aberdeen. The magnitude of my task seemed beyond me as I realised I would

be attempting to fill the boots of the most accomplished footballer in the game. From that moment the butterflies started to flutter in my stomach and did not cease until the game had commenced. It is no exaggeration to say that I lost approximately 4 lbs. through nervous worry during the week preceding the cup-final. I went completely off my food and could scarcely sleep at nights.

“When the eventful day finally arrived after what seemed to me eternity, I met for lunch with the regular first team players. After a light meal, Sammy Cox drew me aside and gave me a private pep talk, which later proved invaluable. What really settled me, however, was the short, but inimitable talk which the “boss,” Mr. Struth, gave to us before we made the short and swift ‘bus run to Hampden. From then on it seemed plain sailing as there was only time to get ready for the game before we descended the few steps into the tunnel leading to the pitch to be greeted by the world-renowned Hampden roar.

“Strange as it may seem, I remember little of the actual game, although I think we would have done better than the 1-1 draw, if George Niven had not met with an accident whilst making a daring but clever save at the feet of Paddy Buckley, the Aberdeen centre-forward. It necessitated him leaving the field for 15 minutes during which the strain of playing with ten men considerably sapped our energy and was instrumental in allowing Aberdeen to snatch the equaliser in the closing minutes. Still, justice was served when we deservedly won the replay 1-0 the following Wednesday.

“I must have been one of the happiest and proudest persons in the country when I was presented with a Scottish Cup winners medal, although I realise I am perhaps the luckiest ever to receive one. My only regret is that I virtually “stole” it from Sammy Cox—or should that be a boast as very few footballers get any change from Sammy!

“To return to a more serious vein, I should like to say that as long as I am associated with the Rangers Football Club, I shall endeavour to give my best if only to show my gratitude to the Management for the confidence they showed in me when they threw me in at the deep end that memorable Saturday afternoon in April, 1953.”

## A MESSAGE TO RANGERS' SUPPORTERS

From George Young, Captain

I thank the Editor for giving me this opportunity of sending a message to all supporters through the medium of The Annual.

To all of you who throng the terraces and the Stand, who travel by bus and train to wherever we may be playing to support us, I extend my own thanks and those of my colleagues.

We know that you are our severest critics but we know that you are loyal.

During the very hard time we went through at the back end of last season, when we were without some of our stalwarts, we were kept going by the team's traditions and by the knowledge that you were there "rooting" for us.

As Captain I was delighted with our success and I hope that this season we shall give you greater cause to rejoice.

The Editor tells me that supporters look on the Team Captain as their Captain. If that is so, I am proud to be your Captain, and as such I do congratulate you on your own splendid achievements of the past. Go on with the good work.

As a columnist I am especially interested

in your Annual. All here are interested in it. I congratulate the Editor and his Committee and I think that you are fortunate in having such a vehicle of information and interest. I wish the Annual all success.

Good luck to you all and more power to your elbow.

### GEORGE YOUNG

In season 1952-53 the Captain of Rangers and of Scotland, rose to unprecedented heights. He had prophesied on New Year's Day that the team would win the League and the Scottish Cup also, and to him more than to any other player, the double is due. His prowess as a player, added to his gifts as a Captain made the team play beyond itself, and in spite of having to do without Woodburn and Cox as well as Simpson at a critical time of the season, the team won through. He himself played in six matches in eight days and perhaps those fans who look back to "the good old days" when men were men and the Rangers was the non-pareil of all football, will admit that no captain ever had a harder season than had George Young. He certainly deserves the title bestowed on him by a writer, "The outstanding player of 1952-53."



George Young, Goalie



With George at the helm and the rest pushing, Rangers are O.K.

## The National Playing Fields Association



Willie Woodburn

small sum from our members on behalf of this great work (you gave me about £30 last year).

We should be pleased if each Branch would do something, and yet we do not want it to come from Branch Funds. Let each member donate a penny or twopence, take a collection at a meeting or on the bus some Saturday. Send the money through your Branch Secretary and thence Area Secretary to, National Playing Fields Association, c/o The Editor, 194 Oxford Street, C.5. I can assure you the cause is good and the money economically spent and I hope at the March meeting of the Representative Council to be in a position to thank you ALL.

Willie Woodburn as befits a sportsman of his calibre is, himself, interested in the above project as you can see from the letter below.

It is not generally known in the West that Willie is, like Young, Waddell and Thornton, a columnist. He writes a very good weekly article in "The Weekly Scotsman." This paper, by the way, is excellent fare for 3d. and is issued on Thursdays.

Willie's articles, are like himself, sincere, straightforward, and meaty, packed full of information and sage counsel. He shows that, whilst he has been compelled to specialise on the field, the whole field of football is interesting to him. Well worth reading.

TO THE EDITOR,

DEAR SIR,

I commend you for taking an interest in the National Playing Fields Association and congratulate those who assisted you last year. It is a very worth while object and the Association, under the leadership of The Duke of Edinburgh is doing a grand job.

I do hope that your appeal will have great success this year.

Yours sincerely,

WILLIE WOODBURN,

Rangers F.C.

The Duke of Edinburgh is President of The National Playing Fields Association, of which H.M. The Queen is Patron. His interest in it is not merely titular—no task is too humble for him in the furtherance of this project, and the ladies and gentlemen who conduct the affairs of the Association in Scotland are no whit behind him in self-sacrifice and painstaking service.

The Editor, whose pet charity this is, was entrusted by the E.C. with the task of going to the A.G.M. last May.

Believe me, it was no task, it was a pleasure, to see and hear people like The Earl Cawdor, Sir Patrick Dollan and Major Fiddes, the Secretary, to realise that behind a modest demeanour, with no trumpet blowing there was this vast work going on, giving to boys and girls throughout the breadth and length of the land a place of their own in which to play, free from the twin bogies of traffic and police, was indeed a great privilege.

Last year the Association paid away in grants and loans over £4,000.

On hearing our report the E.C. again entrusted us with the task of collecting a

## SAMMY COX



Willie Waddell in one of his "Evening Citizen" articles dubs Sammy, his colleague, the Jimmy Gordon of Scottish Football.

"Cox" he says, "is a wonder player, no matter his position (except goal). Sammy takes pride of place over the many great football personalities of the present, principally because of his versatility and his ability to give a top-class performance, no matter the occasion, be it for team or country.

"He has a natural eye and feeling for a ball and I doubt if any one can clip a ball so hard and direct with either foot. In fact he is so adept with both right and left that it's difficult to judge that he's a natural right. As a full back his positioning and tackling—where does he get the strength in the tackle for one so slight in frame—is a point often debated, are unexcelled.

"Stanley Matthews will tell you of Cox's ability at left back because four years ago Sammy gave one of his most brilliant performances against the English winger when Scotland won 3-1 at Wembley. He is compact in style and kicking.

"At left half he combines his defensive duties with that of sixth forward and his powerful shooting has been a great asset to Rangers.

"At inside forward two seasons ago he showed how to do the thing with the ball, looking for the man in the open space and

delivering the ball in any direction without fuss."

Cox joined Queen's Park from Ayrshire Juniors', Hurlford United in February 1942, and since then he has played in every position except goal.

"But Sammy is as full of life off the field as he is when playing. He is game for anything," says Laurie Reilly.

"I have seen Cox dressed as a Red Indian chief in America, as a Highland chief in Scandinavia, and as gum-chewing, cigar-smoking Yank aboard the *Queen Mary*."

### "NO SPIKKA!"

Everywhere the Scottish team goes abroad, he has a stock answer to interviewers and autograph hunters: "No spikka de English, bo," and then breaks out into a Cox brand of "foreign" tongue made up of words only he knows.

Biggest gag he pulled was aboard the *Queen Mary*, when he dressed up as a steward and proceeded to take a "Public Opinion Poll" on how the first-class passengers were enjoying their trip.

Sammy's "American" accent went down so well that no one ever twigged it was just an act.

But it wasn't so funny for Sammy when the passengers started looking him out to ask questions about the trip, their luggage, and personal problems!

I doubt if any one will ever prove it, but I have a deep suspicion that it was Sammy who was responsible for Willie Woodburn being taken for a theatre attendant on that same American trip.

We were in Fall River, for a game against New England, and spent the evening before the match at a theatre. Before the show started we were all standing around chatting in the foyer, when an old lady came in to claim her ticket.

She was fussier than a referee in a Hibs-Hearts game, and when she had finally collected the ticket she started looking around for someone to show her to her seat.

Big Willie Woodburn was standing all on his own, looking fine and dandy in his Rangers' blazer, when the old customer went over to him as if he were an attendant.

Willie was flummoxed, but when he protested that he had nothing at all to do with the theatre and was only there to see the show, the old dear threatened to report him to the management for incivility.

Woodburn has yet to live that story down at Ibrox, where a "Take-your-seats-please" cry still goes up when he enters the dressing-room.

## FUN WITH RANGERS

By JIMMY SIMPSON

During my time with the Rangers we were famed for our criticism of each other on the field and many a time an opposing player would say, "Thank goodness I don't play for the Rangers."

Certainly we didn't mince matters if a mistake were made and could have been avoided, but once the game was over all was forgotten and we were watching for some one on whom to play a joke.

One could always look for a laugh from Jerry Dawson and Jimmy Smith, and if things went wrong I was tagged on to take the blame. I will give you two laughs against myself. The first was during a game at Ayr which happened to be one of Bobby Main's first games for Rangers. During an attack on the Rangers goal I cleared the ball upfield near Bobby which had him trying hard to keep it from going over the side line in vain. I heard the voice of Jimmy Smith shouting, "Don't worry Bobby, that was supposed to be a pass for me, you'll soon learn!" The other was a game against St. Johnstone at Ibrox in which we were leading quite comfortably. I received the ball in our own half and somehow or other I managed to wind my way to the St. Johnstone goal area and flash the ball just past the goal. Running back to my position with the applause of the crowd making me feel good I was brought back to earth by the voice of Jerry shouting "Now you have done it, you will be dropped on Saturday."

Sure enough I received a lecture to keep in mind I was a centre half and not a centre forward so Jerry's words just about came true. Another amusing incident which always brings a smile when I think of it, happened one night during special training at Turnberry.

We had all been ordered to bed and as usual Jerry, Jimmy Smith and myself were last to make our way upstairs except Bob McPhail who was having a conversation with two directors. On passing Bob's room on the first floor one of us noticed a huge wardrobe along from his door. We pushed this against the door of Bob's room. This was just right, no one would have guessed a door was behind. We hid ourselves to watch the result. Up comes Bob and walks up to where as he thought was his door and then the look of amazement crossed his face as his thoughts seemed to tell him he was on the wrong floor. So up he goes another flight and still no sign of his room. So down to the first floor again and with the numbered key in his hand he began his search again for the missing room, but on his return we couldn't withhold our laughter so with dire vows of vengeance ringing in our ears we left him to shift the wardrobe.

Happy Memories and in conclusion I would like to thank the supporters for letting me contribute to their Annual and sincerely hope their memory of me hasn't spoiled this short article for them for it has been a pleasure and an honour for me.



Cox assisted off

# THE STORY OF HERO GEORGE NIVEN



HIS DISASTER DIVE



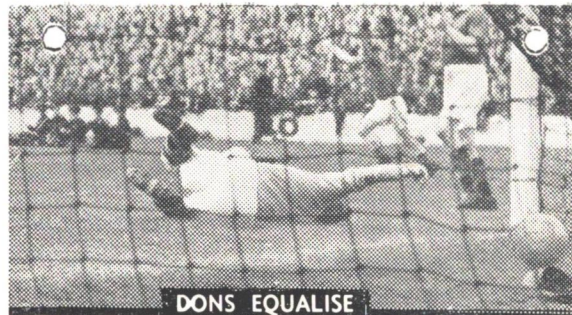
STRETCHER EXIT



YOUNG TAKES OVER

RE-ENTER NIVEN

George Niven, who has kept his place in goal since August 13th, 1952, by superb goalkeeping and has been honoured by the Scottish League was nearly lost to football. He has had to stand up to the criticism of being "too wee." However, what he lacks in inches he makes up in supreme confidence and skilful agility.



DONS EQUALISE



CONGRATS—FROM HAMILTON TO HERO NIVEN, AND SCORER YORSTON

Photographs by the kindness of "Sunday Post"

When he was playing for Coupar Angus he attracted the attentions of Partick Thistle, but they released him. Back in Coupar Angus he was seen by a Rangers Scout, and after a show in the Reserves he was signed on. And it was a capture, as all the fans now can see for themselves. He had to wait five years for a game in the First Team and all that time he worked in the pit and travelled for training and for the games with the Reserves with no grouse or talk of "Transfer."

It is no secret that the special agility exercises that he has had were devised by Bobby Brown whom he has superseded, and among the good luck telegrams that he received was one from Bobby. What a great sportsman!

To one who has watched him since the Reserve days it has been interesting to watch his superb confidence blossoming. Like Frank Swift, he is the "boss" of the goal

Continued on page 51

# JIMMIE CASKIE

One night sitting in the Board Room at 194, I was interrupted by Jimmie Caskie breezing in and offering me the following article and the two historic photographs published below.

We were delighted to have them, but more delighted to meet Jimmie. We wish him all good luck in his "retirement."

## A MEMORY

Having reached the stage of retirement after nineteen years in football, I find it difficult to satisfy the Editor's request for one memory of Ibrox.

My football life has been spent with so many grand clubs that "Memory Lane" is a bit crowded.

Entering the palace-like entrance of Ibrox, signing, playing in a Royal Blue jersey, playing for Scotland at Hampden or at Wembley, travelling abroad with the Rangers—these are rich memories. They are all mine although I share them with players past and present.

I think, however, that the one that comes readiest to the mind even now, is my sitting in the Ibrox Stand, a spectator, watching my colleagues battling with the Moscow Dynamos. That was in November, 1945. There was I, a signed player of only three days standing, there was I sitting in the Stand and just previously I had nearly been the cause of an International Incident. This had been settled by the diplomacy of Mr. Struth.

During the game we had seen eleven Russians plus a substitute brought to Referee Thomson's notice by the ever alert Torry Gillick. The sparks flying from Linesman Calder's flag one minute to go for an infringement inside the box, and George Young bulging the net with his penalty kick, to make the score level.

That memory of eleven grand fighters under electrifying conditions cheered by fans from Ibrox, Parkhead, Aberdeen, aye the whole of Scotland, will to me be an everlasting memory.



These two photographs are historic. The one on the left shows Jimmie Caskie shaking hands with Winston Churchill at a War-time International at Wembley, the other shows him in a Junior International Team at Belfast, with Tiger Shaw, Torry Gillick and others

**Make Your Goal THE CLACHAN BAR after the Game**

The Best can never be surpassed  
VISIT THE NEW WALNUT LOUNGE AND  
COCKTAIL BAR

**The Clachan Bar**

248-252 SHAWBRIDGE STREET  
POLLOKSHAWS - GLASGOW, S.3  
Tel: Langside 5683

Our Establishments give that  
little extra that others lack

**The Clachan Bar**

96 NEILSTON ROAD, PAISLEY  
and  
3 ST. JAMES STREET, PAISLEY

**GEORGE C. MULLEN, Wine & Spirit Merchant, GLASGOW**

SEND FOR YOUR RULE BOOK TO

**WM. KING**

MEMBER S.B.P.A.

TURF COMMISSION AGENT

RACING  
S.P. or TOTE

GREYHOUNDS  
N.G.R.C. S.P. or TOTE

**19 HOWARD STREET - GLASGOW, C.1**

BUSINESS HOURS—10 A.M. TO FINISH OF RACING

BRANCH CLUBS: 7 SURREY LANE, GLASGOW, C.5  
46 KINGSTON STREET, GLASGOW, C.5

**AGENTS WANTED**

ESTABLISHED 1932

TELEPHONES: CENTRAL 2584-5-6 (4 Lines)



THE PICTURE

## MR. W. STRUTH

On April 12th, 1953, Willie Allison of "The Sunday Mail" wrote, "Director-Manager William Struth in his long and eventful reign, has guided the Rangers to their days of greatest glory. He has seen them win every honour and creating records that may never be equalled. Now he is to receive a personal honour unique in football—the presentation to him by Glasgow's Lord Provost, Mr. Tom Kerr, of his portrait in oils, by Mr. Charles Chapman.

"The 'Boss' was completely taken aback when told that a number of noted Glasgow businessmen, some of whom he has yet to meet, had decided the time had come when they should pay tribute to one who had done so much for the sporting city.

"When I was invited to attend the first meeting and asked if I would approach the Ibrox Chief to make arrangements for the sittings I sensed how he would react.

"What Mr. Struth said to me that afternoon must be told. He looked at me long and solemnly before answering. 'I would be less than polite were I to refuse such an honour, but anything I have done for the Club has been with the love and pride that seek no reward. Rangers' F.C. has been my very life and so I accept such a gesture with heartfelt thanks—for my club—and my boys—more than myself.'"

The presentation took place in the City Chambers on the 15th May, before a distinguished gathering—and was of such an emotional nature that only the fact may be here mentioned.

The Editor of the Annual made his annual pilgrimage to the "Boss" for facilities required in getting out the magazine.

With his usual courtesy, Mr. Struth gave every facility requested and took a keen interest in everything pertaining to "The Annual." He thinks that it is a grand show, like the team it honours, it is efficient and it must carry to the many exiled from their favourite sport, great cheer. Through the

Annual he reiterated his message in the Programme. He thanked the Supporters for their loyal support.

I told him that Willie Maley had written a tribute of him for "The Annual." He was highly delighted. He showed me the portrait which hangs in the Board Room. When I said that it was a wonderful tribute to him, he retorted, "Yes: It's a wonderful tribute to the team."

What an article he could write; but he is too modest and besides he has not the time. I gather that any minutes spent on anything but the team and the boys is time wasted.

We were pleased to procure this picture from Kemsley House showing Mr. Struth arm-in-arm with his old opponent and friend, Mr. Maley, and the Lady Provost, Mrs. Tom Kerr, and we were equally fortunate to persuade Mr. Maley to write the tribute on another page.

Lawrie Reilly tells the following yarn about Woodburn.

Woodburn pulled a fast one during the Fall River stay of The Scotland Team. He makes a great show of taking sport with deadly seriousness, and we wondered what would happen when we started playing baseball.

Something did. When his turn to bat came, he was run out by a mile—but he flatly refused to go off.

The umpire, who was our selector, Mr. Bob Williamson, tried to reason, but it was no good. "LOOK" said Willie, "I never get arguing with referees at home, but this is a different game and I'm arguing with you.

"I'm here, and here I stay. And what's more, if you insist on sending me off I'll never play another game of football this trip."

He made it sound so serious that everyone thought he meant it; but, of course, it was a Woodburn trick to get another go with the bat. And he got it!

## R. MACPHAIL

Early in my football career I realised I should never want to lose touch with the game. But I never thought I could find such a pleasant way of keeping in touch as through the job I am doing to-day.

Three years ago, when I was trying my hand at football journalism, Mr. Struth invited me down to Ibrox and asked "Will you take over the reserve team for me?"

I jumped at the chance—and have never regretted my decision.

It's great to work with the young lads at Ibrox, trying to remedy a defect here and apply a bit of polish there.

Among the many hard things said about the young players of to-day is "They just won't take advice."

That hasn't been my experience—or maybe I have simply been in luck with the laddies who have come my way.

Of course, some react better than others. There's nothing gives me a bigger kick than to guide the footsteps of a keen youngster, watch him grow in stature and football wisdom, working his way up the ladder until, perhaps, he makes the first team.

Playing in C League, of course, provides us with some journeys well off the beaten track—and some strange and humorous experiences.

But, so far, for a gem of football humour I have come across nothing to beat what happened in a Celtic-Rangers game at Parkhead many years ago.

It was a boiling hot day—something like the first Saturday of this season—and, not surprisingly, tempers were becoming a bit frayed. So much so, fouls were cropping up just too frequently.

Eventually the referee—Mr. Leishman of Falkirk—decided he had had enough.

He blew his whistle and waved all players to gather round him at the centre of the field—obviously intending to deliver a bit of a lecture.

Last man to join the throng was our old friend Tommy McNally. And when Tommy strolled up what did he say but—"Now we're all here, chaps, who's in favour of a blind man paying his share of the stairhead gas?"

You can imagine the laugh that went up. The spectators must have wondered what was happening.

But, as far as Mr. Leishman was concerned, it was a perfect moment. For the tension that had entered into the game was completely dispelled. We resumed playing like "good boys" and remained that way to the end.

## BOWLING TOURNEY



The above is a picture of Lt.-Col. Elder, President, the Belfast Branch, presenting the McClymont Trohy to the winning team, Bathgate.

This Tourney, excellently run by Mr. J. Warren and his Committee provided much interest and helped in bringing branches, strange to each other, together in friendly rivalry, to promote that harmony for which our Association stands.

The final, played on the links of Bellahouston Bowling Green, was hotly contested by Bathgate: Messrs Smith (Skip), Sharp, Gillen, and Burnett and Larkhall, the holders: Messrs. Jamieson (Skip), Douglas, Wilson, and Little.

At the presentation speeches of congratulation were made and thanks rendered to the Committee, to Bailie Wilson and Mr. W. Anderson, for their continued interest, and to the greenkeeper and his wife for lunch.

## JOCK SHAW

I am not a writing man but the Editor was so insistent and then I admire his work so much that I could not refuse. Again, I have always enjoyed contacts with the Supporters and getting into touch with so many in such an easy and agreeable manner is particularly welcome.

I cannot remember when I did not like football. I have always enjoyed my football and the stages when I drifted from one class of football into another are hazy. To me it was all football.

I can look back and remember many people to whom I have been indebted—teachers, secretaries, managers, team mates, but the person to whom I am most indebted for spurring my ambition is “the fellow on the terracing.”

All my life I have been a Ranger's fan, and I was delighted when Rangers procured me from Airdrie. To have realised an ambition—to be considered worthy of helping “my team”—that was nectar indeed.

Since coming to Rangers I have had a triumphant career. I joined Rangers in 1938 and captained it for a long time until relinquishing to George Young in 1951. During my time in the First Team we won the Scottish Cup three times in succession—namely in 1947-48, 1948-49, 1949-50; the Glasgow Cup seven times, in '39, '41, '42, '43, '44 '47, and '49; the Charity Cup, ten times and the Scottish League four times—in 1939, '47, '49 and '50. In addition, during the War Years the Team were West Regional Champions in 1939-40 and Southern League Champions in all six competitions. I have had four International Caps, two against England, and one against the English League and one against the Irish League.

As you all know I am still wearing a Royal Blue jersey and though not now in the First Eleven I am happy in the Reserves; next to playing for the First Team, it is excellent to know that I am

helping to shape the First Elevens of the future. I am paying my debt to those who helped me.

My other sports are tennis and golf, and of course I take a great delight in Five-a-side Football.

The match I shall always remember, a match that teemed with dramatic incident—is the match v. The Dynamos of Moscow.

Many have asked me where I acquired the nickname “The Tiger.” It is thought that my team colleagues who are very fond of sticking labels on each other, gave me it. That is not so. The credit is the Ibrox fans; to I have enjoyed its acquisition. At Airdrie they called me Dick.

I must say that I like your Annual, it is a great piece of work. I have read every issue so far, and of course, I am looking forward to No. V. I hope it is a record.



Shaw and Charlie Johnston. Rival Captains at Charlie's Benefit, Palmerston

## JOHN ALLAN

By W. STRUTH

(From the Half-Time Programme)

As a man walks life's road, be it short or long, grim or comparatively uneventful, there is, if he's fortunate enough, given to him deep friendships which fortify him on his way. Such a friendship existed over the long years between John Allan and me. His death came as a great shock and with profound sense of loss. Because John Allan was not only the Rangers historian with an abiding love of the club—he was a MAN. And like all true men, he had a shyness and with it an infinite charm which endeared him to all.

His writing of “The Story of the Rangers,” “Eleven Great Years” and the third volume, “Rangers Eventful Years,” was indeed something of a crusade to him. When he took up his facile pen to write the first of the three books, I have known him to leave his office after many hours of exacting work in putting away his morning paper, slip quietly into his home and pen the deeds of our great teams of the past until roused from his labours by the dawn breaking in on his thoughts. A few hours sleep and he was back at his desk.

### BRILLIANT PEN

So brilliant a pen as his could have told an absorbing story without the necessity of detail. But as he said to me “Without the facts to prove the greatness of the club, my task would be incomplete.” It meant days of research—yes, months if measured in the hours he spent among his unique record books and in the old files that took him back to the beginning of the game. In the end, he compiled the most meticulous and comprehensive lists in the world of soccer. They are, in fact, the only ones of their kind in existence.

That was the type of man he was—of tireless energy, self-effacing and with it all a fearless critic by the written word or in voice. Rarely did we see him “upstairs” on a match day, preferring to join his colleagues in the Pressbox even when, in his failing health, it would have been easier for him to join us in the Directors' Box, to which he had an open invitation. But dear John would

come along to see me for a crack in mid-week and I see him still walk into my room with the smile of the kindly heart and the clasp of a loyal Ranger.

### SECRETS SHARED

He knew many of my secrets. They were sacred to him. No confidence was ever in danger when given to John. Our success was his success, yet in his role of critic—as “Brigadier,” “Jonathon Oldbuck” or his own name—he was a forthright, honest chronicler who sought no favours and gave none in his line of duty. It comes to few men to succeed in such a position because few have such a precious gift of indestructible honesty and few could follow his code which demanded such sacrifice.

His last hours were spent as he would have wanted—at The Stadium. He had come to watch the Scottish Cup semi-final replay between Aberdeen and Third Lanark against doctor's orders. Maybe he sensed his days were growing short and wanted again to see the old spot he loved so well. He became ill during the game and overnight his brave heart beat its last. He has gone, but his example remains an inspiration to all who knew him—my great friend.

Through his life he held the open hand,

As the compass his heart was true;  
And he looked round to find the good

That his hand or his heart might do.

Old comrade, good-night! We shall cherish,

As long as the years roll by,  
Kind thoughts of your golden friendship;

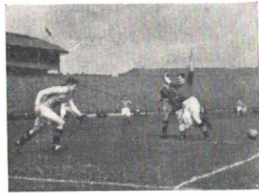
These, at least while we live, cannot die.

By the loss of John Allan, “The Annual” has lost one of its earliest friends and kindest critics. He wrote “The History of Rangers” in our first issue, he always wanted to know well ahead the “plans” for the next issue and would advise and criticise with a kindness that was refreshing.

John Allan was responsible for “The Daily Record” starting “The Supporters Corner,” surely a fitting memorial if there were not others, for any man.

All who knew him loved him and miss him.

**CUP-TIE PICTURES**



On the alert.



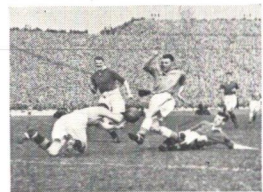
Niven injured.



Niven taken off.



Young saves.



Niven at Buckley's feet.



Young in a tangle



Jimmie Smith and Joe Craven  
anxious about Niven.



Young and Little on the  
watch.



An ugly situation.

Taken at Hampden during Cup-Tie between Rangers and Aberdeen  
25th April, 1953  
Score, 1-1. Rangers won the re-play, 1-0.



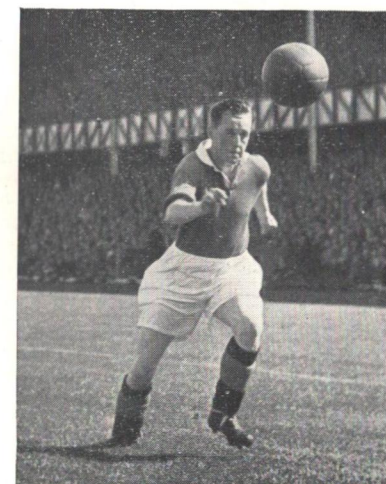
MR. J. MURPHY  
*Social Convener*

**ABSENT FROM EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE PHOTOGRAPH**



MR. N. McMILLAN  
*No. 2 Area*

***In Action***



WILLIE PATON



JOHN PRENTICE

## DAVIE MEIKLEJOHN



Davie leads on The Team

These episodes from the life of our old hero "Meik," now manager of Partick Thistle, are taken from the "Sunday Mail."

One day Davie was startled to hear on the telephone that he had been drowned at the docks. It was the morning of an important match at Ibrox. Davie was busy in the workshop when the phone went, and he heard an agitated voice asking if it were true that Davie Meiklejohn had been fished lifeless out of the docks at Govan. "I followed Mark Twain's example," says Davie, "and gave my unknown friend the assurance that the news was premature. Then the bell kept ringing until in sheer disgust and annoyance I took the receiver off the hook!"

Of course Mr. Struth was especially anxious and his relief can be imagined when he heard from Davie that the footballer was alive and kicking and was playing that afternoon. There were hundreds of calls at Ibrox.

In the afternoon he had a strange reception and the looks of hundreds of spectators and their silence nearly convinced him that he was a ghost as no doubt many believed.

Early in his career Dave learned to take only a small portion of easily digested food before a match. Clear soup, fish and a bit of dry toast for preference.

One day, however, he was not included in the Rangers side because of a slight accident that he had sustained the previous week.

"Being a healthy young fellow I indulged in a good square meal before going along to Ibrox, never for a moment thinking that I would be playing. As bad luck would have it, Jock Nicholson who was my substitute did not turn up. I was asked to stand by. Ten minutes from the 'kick-off' Jock still an absentee. Imagine my distress when I was told to strip."

If he had owned up then and there he might have been excused. But he didn't. "I thought 'half-time' would never be signalled. I endured the pains of hell. I was dizzy, and sick and all upset in the inner works. Never was the interval of a game more welcome to me. After the stomach pump had been applied and a soothing lotion taken by me from the wee bottle carefully guarded by a careful trainer, I was more able to play."

## Wm. Maley's Tribute to Mr. Wm. Struth

I am very pleased to send to the Rangers Supporters' Association a short article on their Club's Manager, Mr. William Struth, whom I have known since the early 1900 period.

My first knowledge of him was seeing him at many professional gatherings, such as Bridge of Allan, etc., and later on when he became Trainer of Clyde F.C. under my brother Alec, then Secretary for Clyde F.C. His good work there earned for him promotion to the Trainership of the Rangers F.C.

Rangers F.C. then came under the Chairmanship of the late Mr. Joe Buchanan, who combined his financial sagacity to Willie Struth's athletic knowledge and the old Club took on that "superior air" which they have maintained now for such a long period by genuine good play.

Mr. Struth did great work in the last Great War in the many military hospitals where he learned much that has become of much service to himself and Rangers F.C. Through this phase of his life he learned much of the wonderful knowledge he has of men and their bodies which he has reproduced in the many fine trained men he has turned out to do credit to Rangers and Scotland. This past year the Rangers seemed fated to fall back a little through his seemingly "weak" team but what they lacked in real football was made up for by good, hard, enthusiastic work in the field, and season 1952-53 found them maintaining the great traditions of their old Club, a fact to be earnestly copied by many other League Clubs.

When Woolwich Arsenal lost their "never to be forgotten" leader, Herbert Chapman, both Mr. Struth and myself were sounded on the matter of being his successor and the old tag of "East, West, Hame's best" worked on our respective feelings till we both declined with thanks, and Willie has never regretted it and from being Rangers' Trainer he has risen to be a Director of the famous Govan Club.

I regretted, with the general sporting public, his unfortunate loss of his leg and the subsequent illnesses which followed but,

"Aye wi' a hert abune them a'" Willie has weathered a very bad time and is still a "scratch man" in any event of life he enters for, to use a sporting phrase.

I hope he may be spared for many seasons yet to run the great Club he loves so well and for which he has done so many years of great work since he rose from the trainership of the "Bully wee Clyde" to the high position he now occupies with the Rangers F.C., whose place in our National game is not surpassed by any Club in Britain to-day.

WILLIE MALEY.

George Niven—Continued

area, and Young and Little and even Woodburn have to skip lively when wee Georgie says the word.

He is Hon. President of the Blairhall Branch of the Supporters Association, and that Branch and indeed the village of Blairhall did him honour at a special function on the 8th August.

Not only is he supremely confident but he has the heart of a lion. Who will forget his dive at Buckley's feet last season. Who will forget his coming back into goal against advice and standing there sure of himself, but with Jimmie Smith sweating behind the goal.

### A FISHING STORY

To our old friend Torry Gillick a rainy "Fair" is the goods, for then, loaded up with fishing gear our old favourite goes off angling. He has been a fly-fisher for a good number of years and has initiated another Ibrox favourite into the art. Anent that here is a typical Gillick story for you.

It happened one Sunday afternoon. Rangers had returned from Aberdeen. Billy Williamson had received from a friend the present of some fish. When he went to collect them from the dressing room, he found Torry had them in the bath and was calmly fishing with a corner-flag, a bit of string and a pin.

Continued from page 14

of the year and to be awarded this beautiful statuette by "Rex" of "The Sunday Mail." Coming in this Coronation Year, which should be a memorable one for all of us I consider this my crowning glory.

"I do know, however, that this award could not have been given me had I not had the invaluable assistance of many other people.

"Firstly I pay tribute to the players against whom it has been my privilege to play. I pay tribute to them for having played me 'fair and clean.'

"Secondly I thank my own colleagues because without their help and co-operation I could not possibly have won this.

"Thirdly I thank you, the faithful Ibrox Fans, whose appreciation and encouragement have always been an inspiration to me.

"Perhaps I have been fortunate to have been reared in the Ibrox atmosphere, where I stood in the shadow of the giants of the past, who are well represented on this platform to-night. I owe much of my success to them and I humbly say from the bottom of my heart that I cannot find words to express my thanks. I am sure that there are many Rangers former players on this platform to-night who would have won this honour had it been instituted in their day and I am confident that members of the present team will in the future win this honour.

"If any newspaper firm or football body were to make a similar award to Managers, I am sure that that also would come to Ibrox, to our own Manager, Mr. Struth. I, like many other players, owe all the success I have enjoyed in football—and in life for that matter—to him. I well remember his words of wisdom that he gave me as I stood timidously in his office for the first time seventeen years ago. He said, 'Listen, look and learn, and you will never regret becoming a Rangers player.' I am still listening, looking and learning, and I have no regrets.

"I take this opportunity of thanking all who sympathised with me during my recent time in hospital. I was cheered by the fact that Rangers was raised to the top of the League.

"Glasgow, I believe, is the greatest football loving city in the world, so it is up to us all to worthily uphold the tradition of sportsmanship. Football is such a wonderful game that it would be a tragedy to spoil it in any way. I can remember one of my early school teachers impressing upon the class of which I was a member, 'He that cannot make sport should mar none.'

"I thank you, my Lord Provost, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Kingsley, ladies and gentlemen, for your kindness and your wonderful reception. I will treasure the memory of this evening."

Last year's recipient of the honour then stepped forward, and then back. The reception he received, second only to that accorded to Thornton, took him completely by surprise; after recovering he said, "This is the greatest moment of the Association's history." Gordon was evidently pleased. He looked it and said it. "That reception is not the reception I usually get from Rangers Fans." He knew what Willie Thornton was feeling. He thanked the Association for having him there to be able to congratulate Willie Thornton in person.

The Guest Speaker of the evening had a great reception. It seems that not only is George Young the captain of Rangers F.C. but that he is also Captain of the fans. He said:

To-day I feel highly honoured by having been asked by the Rangers Supporters' Association to be the speaker at their Fourth Annual Rally.

I can tell you with all sincerity and from the bottom of my heart that we, the playing staff at Ibrox, appreciate the whole-hearted and unflinching support which you have given us in the past and how it has helped us this season to overcome that disastrous start.

Some people delight in putting your head down for the third time, but we have proved all those people wrong and even made a few of our noted authorities on the game eat their words of

scorn. One big reason which I attribute for our great comeback was that you people, our Loyal Supporters, didn't desert the terracing and so, gave our management and playing staff the right incentive to go forward and put our flag once again at the top of the mast. It is this Loyalty between Club and Supporters that has made this name Glasgow Rangers world famous.

We find people when talking of Football Supporters are inclined to let their minds wander to the gutter and look upon them as hooligans. But we need only look at the papers or glance through the Supporters Annuals and we find that either Rangers or Celtic or Hibs or some other Supporters' Club has given a Television Set to a hospital or helped in some benevolent way, people who were poorer than themselves. By doing those acts they are teaching their members that goodwill and brotherhood to one another will prevail over hooliganism.

For many years now I have attended ordinary meetings of many Supporters' Clubs and the efficient way in which they were conducted would make many a Lawyer think he was back in the High Court.

To-day we are honouring a player who by his efficiency made himself a household name in Scottish homes. We, his fellow players have always felt it an honour to play in the same colour of jersey as he. To W. Thornton I would like to say that we, his fellow players are thrilled by this latest honour which has come his way. I am sure that there is no one more suited to be the Player of the Year than he. I hope that when he looks at this Statuette on his sideboard (if he has one) he will think himself lucky that we let him play with us.

It is a long time now since I saw so many personalities gathered together on the same platform at one time. If I remember rightly the last time I saw such a gathering was in the early days of the Players' Union, and looking back we had the honour of J. Smith and Dougie Wallace acting as doormen. I don't think we could have found another two players more suited for the job. As the years go by it seems funny how faces and names disappear from the football field.

It is just like the old song, Old Soldiers Never Die, they only fade away. This season is no exception, we have a player in our midst who like many before him has had to give up the game through injury. His club to which he has given Loyal Service was started in its early days from the 3rd Lanark Volunteer Reserves, but I hope that Jimmy Mason will not be like the song and fade away; we need his kind, and I am sure there will be some job for him in the game.

Many a time when we have had to chase him all over the field, I have often wished he had been a Ranger, and saved us a lot of bother. However for everyone that goes another must come, and as Captain of the team, I would like to point out that at all times the Playing Staff at "Ibrox" are only too pleased if they can be of service to the young players in the club.

The older hands realise that when our day is done, we may also be standing on the terracing with you as Loyal Rangers Supporters, so therefore if our experience and words of advice are taken seriously by the young players, we will then be doing this great club of ours a service which we ourselves will enjoy in the years to come.

We all know how much publicity our particular kind of entertainment receives in the papers of to-day. I don't think there is another City in the World in which so many people make a living by writing on football. We understand that it is not possible to please everyone and that everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but as far as the Supporters Association is concerned I think they must all agree that by their strenuous efforts, they have made each ground in Scotland a credit to our Country and our Sport.

Let's continue the good work and have no bad publicity.

In my wanderings round the various Supporters' Clubs I often stop to think of the enormous amount of organisation that is entailed in bringing together all the Rangers Supporters Clubs in Scotland under one Association. In all my dealings with the Clubs and Associations I have at all times found them to be functioning in a true Rangers manner, and it is up to each little Supporters' Club to see that the rules as constituted by the Association are at all times adhered to and respected. Some members are often inclined to look after their own individual branch and apt to forget the needs and requirements of the Association. Do not let us forget that we must at all times have a leader and I do not know any better leaders than the people holding office at present in the Association or the men who lead the destiny of the Rangers F.C.

With your loyal support I am sure that we can go forward together hand in hand and keep our club the foremost in Scotland.

Continued on page 54

## BILLY SIMPSON

I was delighted to learn from the Editor that Mr. Brodie of the "Belfast Telegraph" had written an article for ANNUAL No. FIVE.

I was also pleased when a group of Fans in Belfast decided to form a branch of The Rangers F.C. Supporters' Association in Belfast. All over Ulster there are ardent fans of the Light Blues. On many occasions numbers of them have come over—usually for the matches in which Celtic F.C. figure, and always they visit Ibrox. There they are welcomed and they appreciate it. They are also given great hospitality by Branches of The Association.

I see from the Programme that you are expecting a large contingent over for the 19th September, and I expect that there will be many get-togethers.

I do not think that this one branch in Belfast will be the end. My brother, who is on the Committee tells me that many have been disappointed that the Branch has had to close its doors to any more members, so it will be a natural consequence that these will want to form another Branch.

I am sure that the Belfast boys will not be slow in taking part in the work of the Association; its work for charity; its work in cleaning up the terraces—all that will appeal to an Irishman's heart; and I hope that the Editor will get some of the benefits by a sale of Annuals in Belfast. Last year you sold over 300. This year I hope that you sell that, and as many more, for believe me, the people who in Belfast are interested in "The Rangers" are by no means confined to those you have seen and know.

I wish The Association and the Annual all success and I thank the Editor for giving me this opportunity to add my word to the work of fraternisation between Glasgow and Belfast that is represented by your Belfast Branch.



Simpson training and Sandy

### VISIT The Blythwood Bar

(WM. BRECHIN)

For the best of  
WINES, SPIRITS AND BEERS  
All well-known brands stocked

803 GOVAN ROAD  
GLASGOW, S.W.1

Phone: GOVan 1349

"FOOTBALL"

By Jock Miller

Poem quoted by George Young at "The Rally"

What a glorious game is "Football,"  
It's enjoyed by old and young.  
No matter how or when it's played,  
You'll hear it's praises sung.  
From the day we leave the cradle  
We're just like a little "Ball,"  
We keep trying to go "Forward"  
Till we answer our last call.  
Sometimes we may go "Half back"  
Or "Full-back" just the same.  
Never get downhearted,  
For life is just a "Game."  
Just keep on kicking "Forward"  
Towards the "Goal" of your ambition.  
Don't be hampered by "Foul play"  
And you'll get a good "Position."  
When "Time" is called at last  
And you hear the "Final Whistle" blow,  
The "Great Referee" will then decide  
Into which "League" you go.  
Though the "Score" may be against you  
Keep trying just the same,  
At "The end of the season" you can say  
I've always played "The Game."

Mr. George Brown, M.A., Hon. President of the Association was accompanied to the Platform by Lord Provost Tom Kerr, and Lady Provost Mrs. Tom Kerr, Mr George and Mrs. Young, R. E. Kingsley (*Sunday Mail*), Mr. and Mrs. Thornton, Gordon Smith and from Rangers F.C.—J. Hubbard, J. Shaw, J. Woods, A. McPhail, D. MacKintosh, J. Pryde, D. Stanners, W. McCulloch, W. Waddell, I. McColl, W. Simpson, G. Niven, J. Little, J. Prentice, D. Grierson, S. Cox, J. MacKenzie and W. Gardiner. Former Players—J. Drysdale, G. Jenkins, R. Macaulay, J. Dawson, C. Johnston, J. Duncanson, J. Craven, R. Main, J. Caskie, J. Fiddes and M. Dickie. From Celtic, J. Mallan, R. Evans, R. Collins. From Clyde, W. Millar, From Dundee, G. Anderson. From Falkirk, R. Shankley. From Hibs, H. Howie, B. Johnstone, From Partick Thistle, T. Reid, A. Dixon, D. Meiklejohn, J. McGowan. J. Husband. From Queen's Park, D. Letham. From Third Lanark, H. Mooney; and Messrs. G. R. Aitken, W. Allison, T. Jennings. J. Blair, J. Harkness (*The Press*) and many others.

George McKenzie signed for Rangers on October 2nd. An ex-colleague of Neillands in "Edinburgh Thistle" he was released by Hibs after four seasons. He is the Woodburn type in build and style and it is hoped that he will have as successful a time as Willie.

## Johnny Hubbard

Described in our Almanac after the game versus Dundee last February as "The Wee Red Devil," Johnny Hubbard is one of the players who were introduced into the team last season, along with Niven, Grierson and Prentice. And he has earned his right to wear a Rangers' jersey.

He came to the Rangers in 1949 from Pretoria, South Africa, is 5 ft. 5½ ins. and weighs 8 st. 10 lbs. and according to Willie Waddell, writing in "*The Evening Citizen*" he is quite a character.

Waddell in describing the dramatic Glasgow Cup match against Clyde at Shawfield. "There he (Hubbard) was, all 5 ft. 5½ ins. of him (I mustn't forget the half inch or he'd be after me) playing inside to 6 ft. 1½ ins., 14 st. 3 lbs. George Young. As one man in the crowd next to me said, 'You feel like shouting—come out of there sonny or you'll get tramped on'—He was like a wee boy playing with men.

"But once you know Hubby you realise that that small frame covers a tremendous heart. He has guts, confidence and loads of skill. His ball control and positional sense was never more apparent than during that second half. In fact the pass he made to open up the Clyde defence to lead to Ranger's first goal was the acme of precision. Even Raich Carter would have been proud of it.

"Most surprising factor of Hubby's performance was the energy he expended. Where did he get it from, we wondered. It's certainly not from body building foods. Any one of us could eat more in a day than he eats in a week. His staple diet seems to be lemonade and biscuits.

"After the last International at Wembley when we were all guests of the management, Hubby was absent from the dinner. He turned up after supper and said that he had been at a cinema. 'Did you have anything to eat?'" He answered that he had had a bottle of lemonade. That was enough.

He is a wonderful manipulator of a ball as the fans must often have seen, but he is equally familiar with tennis balls, snooker balls and is a by-ordinary cricketer.

## Editorial

Away back in May—it seems like ages ago—when the order to start the Fifth Volume of our Annual was given, time seemed all ours. The whole "summer" was before us, and although we were quite conscious of the mass of work that had to be done—both mental and physical we thought that there was all the time in the world to do it; but these last few weeks time has been rushed towards us with the speed of a Jet bomber, threatening our very existence. Our dreams have been disturbed by voices whispering, whimpering, shrieking, "Dead Line," "Dead Line." Even at matches when the fans shouted "Foul," we heard, "Dead Line."

But we have beaten the dead line by a day; so away goes the copy to the printer leaving us tired but content. Soon, of course, other nightmares will obtrude themselves; fears about the date and apprehensions about the reception by the readers; and the sales.

We think that No. Five has surpassed its predecessors. Knowing our limitations in advance, and having full control of the photogravure, this Volume is better balanced, for one thing, and for another, more of the players have written for us. A third factor is the note of controversy introduced by Bob MacAulay, and the centre-piece gives the imagination free scope.

We acknowledge with humble thanks the services of the many who have helped us on our way; Mr. Struth who gave us the freedom of Ibrox once again, the Staff at Ibrox and the players who have contributed, the gentlemen of the Press who have been wonderfully generous, John Lithgow, printer, who helped us out in an hour of need, and members of the E.C. who have to put up with the "cantankerousness" of a temperamental author; all have combined most nobly in the creation of No. Five.

Let us not forget Mr. John Gibb of the Glasgow News Agency, who has carried out



instructions for photographs, sometimes very vague, and to whom is due the wonderful panoramic photograph that graces our middle pages; nor the Sports Editor of "*The Weekly Scotsman*" for the photographs of the match versus Celtic used in the cover design.

It is our earnest hope that No. Five when it takes its bow, will show to the members of the Association just what a good organisation they are in; to the general Public, the value and work of our Association, to the exile wherever he may be that Rangers are still pre-eminent and that Rangers Supporters have no equal in the soccer world; to the lonely in hospital and the sick may it bring a wee measure of comfort and to the soldiers furth of Scotland serving their country may it sweeten dreams of demobilisation.

At a largely attended concert organised by the Belfast Branch on the eve of the International in Belfast, the Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of Belfast, Alderman Sir Percival Brown, K.B.E., presented a banner to the Branch and was thanked suitably by Lt.-Col. Elder, President of the Branch, and Mr. E. Galbraith, Association Editor, who with Mr. George McBride, Asst. Treasurer, was representing the Association.

**RANGERS SPORTS**

AN AMAZING MAN, MR. STRUTH, HE NOT ONLY INVITED THE SUN TO APPEAR AT HIS RANGERS SPORTS BUT HAD HIS INVITATION ACCEPTED.

THE POOR WEE SOWL HIS MAE SEEN IT BEFORE!

HE GAVE HIS 'GERS FANS A SPECIAL TREAT BY LETTING A LAD CALLED O'REILLY WIN THE HIGH JUMP IN A GREEN STRIP.

AH'D RETHER SEE THE GREENS PITTING THE BA' OWER THE BAR?

AND BESIDES HIS USUAL STAR-STUDDED PROGRAMME HE EVEN ARRANGED FOR AN AMBULANCE MENS 100 YARD SPRINT WITHOUT HAVING TO GIVE THEM PRIZES.

HE SENT BIG GEORDIE YOUNG OUT TO PLAY IN THE FIVE-A-SIDES IN A THIRD LANARK JERSEY, WHICH SO INSPIRED THIRD LANARK THAT THEY WON THE FINAL.

HE SHOULD SIGN ON SENATOR M'CARTHY, HE'D SOON GET RID O' THE RIDS!

C'MON, DADDY AN' GET ME! — AN' MAY AN TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY O' CONGRATULATIN' MR. STEVENSON ON HIS TERRIFIC PERFORMANCE IN THE TWO MILES.

AND IF NEXT YEAR HE ARRANGES FOR A SMALL CIRCUS TO FILL IN ANY ODD MOMENTS BETWEEN EVENTS, WE WON'T BE AT ALL SURPRISED.

HE EVEN ARRANGED FOR WEE BOYS TO SAY A FEW WORDS OVER THE LOUDSPEAKER, A CONCESSION THAT WASN'T FULLY USED.

JACK LINDSAY.

# PATON BROS. LTD.

FOR COACH HIRES ON ALL OCCASIONS

— ENQUIRE NOW FOR —

FOOTBALL MATCHES

SUMMER OUTINGS

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS, ETC.

# PATON BROS. LTD.

TOWER GARAGE · FERRY ROAD · RENFREW

TELEPHONE—RENFREW 2159



## Dress Wear Hire Service

Dinner Suit	- -	20/-
Evening Suit	- -	25/-
Morning Suit	- -	25/-
Black Jacket, & Vest & Stripe Trousers		20/-
— ALL ACCESSORIES — Shirt, Shoes & Tie, Etc.		

**NO DEPOSIT**



# CRAIG'S

28 ST. ENOCH SQUARE

TELEPHONE CENTRAL 3559

Hours of Business - - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
(Saturdays Included)

OPEN ALL DAY

NEXT DOOR TO SKINNER'S TEAROOMS