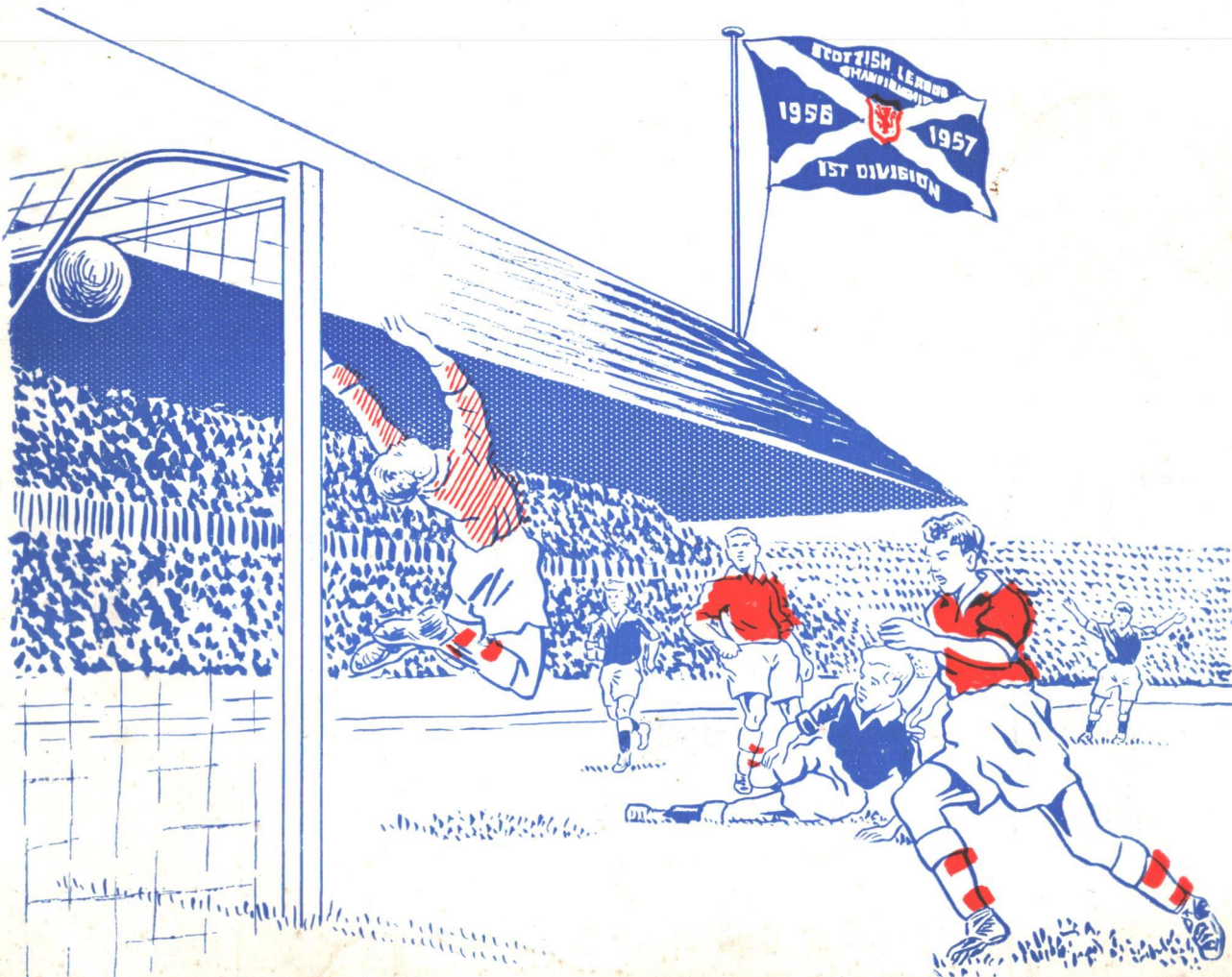


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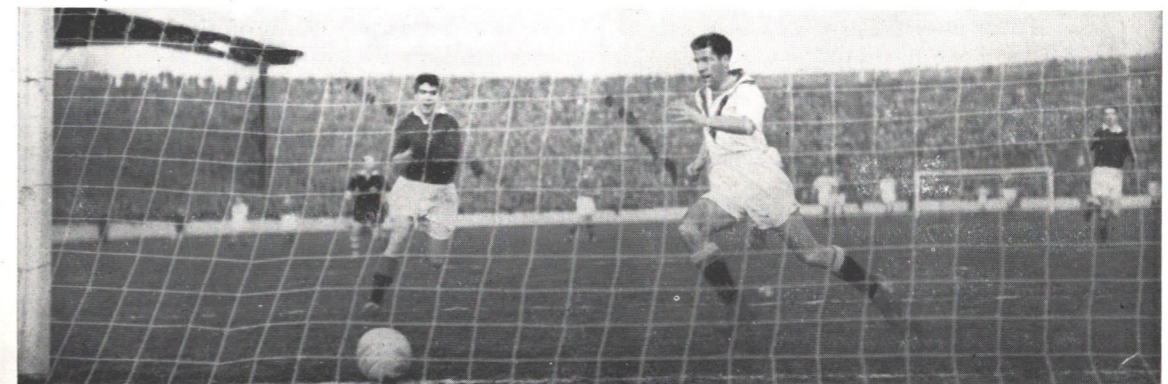
Billy Simpson's winning goal against Hearts at Tynecastle



Johnny Hubbard watches his hook shot hit the back of the net



Murray's second goal against Queen of the South



Rangers second goal against Airdrie scored by Sammy Baird who is not in picture



# FOREWORD



**J. S.  
SYMON**

Ibrox Stadium

10th October, 1957.

IN my foreword to this year's "Annual," I hasten to thank the Association members, who comprise such a large section of our followers, for their loyal and valuable support, especially at our away from home games, and I am happy to learn of the large increase in membership.

Looking back on last year's achievements, in addition to the retention of the League Championship, we annexed the Glasgow Charity Cup for the 31st, and the Glasgow Cup for the 33rd time. We look forward to another successful season ever mindful of the uncertainties of Football.

At time of going to press, we are through to the 2nd round of the European Cup, and despite the numerous calls on our players for National duty, we prepare for our next appointment with the utmost confidence.

The Reserve League was won for the nineteenth time. A most gratifying performance from our young players, several of whom had their first team Baptism, and can be called upon at any time to take their place in the first eleven.

To conclude, I express the wish that the "Annual," meets with the success it thoroughly merits coupled with the wish that 1957-58 will be a noteworthy year for the Rangers F.C. Supporters' Association.

J. S. SYMON.

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## MR. F. SMITH, VICE-PRESIDENT

AS I write this, at the invitation of the President, who does not feel that it would be right and proper for him to do so, as he has taken on the job of editing, I am confident that this is another winner for the Association. I have been privileged to view some of the articles and prints that will go to make up the Annual, and I find it all very interesting, with a new slant on how and what the Annual should be comprised of.

Knowing Mr. McKechnie as I do, having worked in office with him over the past two years, and as a committee member prior

to that, I know that he is his own biggest critic and it will have to be good before he will let it pass.

I have much pleasure in recommending the Annual to anyone who is interested in the Rangers and the Association. It is well worth the time to read and will be more valuable as the years go by to possess such a grand recording of a great year in the history of both.

Yours sincerely,

F. SMITH, Vice-President.

## SOME FACTS OF INTEREST

RANGERS have won their thirteenth League Championship Flag—a record unequalled by any other team in football.

Let us examine some of the facts here. It has to be admitted that the winning of the League Flag calls for greater consistency than any other competition, and when we look at the way in which Rangers have had their name inscribed in the records as League Champions, we must add that they have been consistently consistent. Thirty times League Champions, not including joint champions in 1890-91 and six times Southern League Champions during World War II. In the twenty-one years between the wars Rangers won the League Championship sixteen times, a feat of which they can be justifiably proud.

The teams to take points from Rangers last year were:

Kilmarnock, 4 points—

Home—0-1.

Away—2-3.

Raith Rovers, 2 points—

Away—1-5.

Motherwell, 2 points—

Home—2-3.

Ayr United, 2 points—

Away—0-1.

Airdrieonians, 1 point—

Away—3-3.

Queen's Park, 1 point—

Home—3-3.

Falkirk, 1 point—

Home—1-1.

A total of thirteen points.

In the Scottish Cup after a great victory at Tynecastle Rangers were defeated by Celtic at Ibrox, after a thrilling game at

EAST FIFE are the leading League Cup holders, having won it on three occasions since it started in 1946-7. Dundee hold the distinction of being the only club to have won it two years in succession, Rangers come next, having won it on two occasions. We have not won this trophy since 1948-9, and it would go well this year beside the Glasgow and the Charity Cups.

Rangers dismissal in the European Cup by Nice (Olympique Gynmaste Club) caused a great deal of controversy, when a fruitless journey caused Rangers a further trip to Nice, which resulted in them being beaten 1-2 which made the aggregate 3-3. Some say, and we think quite rightly, that the game should then have been played in a neutral country which obviously should have meant that the game would then have been played in England, the country which is central to both. If the game had been fixed for London I'm certain there would have been an invasion similar to an International. It would have been indeed a labour of love to the General Secretary had it worked out that way. Anyway, it was not to be and Rangers were eventually defeated in Paris. Far too long after this did the Logie affair lie on the table seemingly forgotten by the Heid Yins, so much so that his game was ultimately affected.

Parkhead, which resulted in a 4-4 draw. Celtic also won the League Cup section but Rangers beat them in the Glasgow Cup at Parkhead, 4-3, and in the Charity Cup, 1-0, at the Stadium. We went on to win both these cups, beating Clyde, 2-0, and Queen's Park, 2-1, in the finals.

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## GEORGE MITCHELL

By NEIL STUART

**E**X-POLICEMAN George Mitchell, one of Scotland's best known and most popular Highland games heavies, has stopped throwing his weight about.

His weight is more than 18 stones.

A strained heart put big George out of the games scene in 1930 when he had to stay in bed for eight months.

But this boxer, wrestler, hammer thrower and cable-tosser fought his illness with the same grim determination that he applied to his training and his performances on the field.

He became convalescent, but he just couldn't keep away from athletics. So he began training young police athletes.

And suddenly George discovered that in showing them how, he was putting in a great deal of effort, yet feeling extremely fit.

So he went back to his doctor. This rather startled man gave big George the okay, and soon the former police sergeant was back in the Highland Games business, not as a coach, but as a competitor.

But he has now made his last public appearance—though I imagine he will still be doing his good work behind the scenes.

He works in Glasgow now with the same banking trust company which employs Gordon Pirie in London.

Big George, now in his fifties, was 14 pounds at birth, the heaviest baby ever born in Dunblane.

He joined the Glasgow Police in 1925, when he was eighteen, but before then, his father, also a noted athlete, had taught him the secrets of hammer-throwing.

In 1928 he won the Scottish Heavyweight Boxing Championship, the Scottish Cumberland Wrestling Championship, and also created an all-comers' record by throwing the hammer 120 feet 5 inches. The record stood for more than 20 years.

George is the only Scot ever to hold the British Cumberland Wrestling Championship. That was in 1939, and in the same year he was holder of five Scottish heavy event titles.

When I met George at his Crookston home the other day, I found this gentle giant relaxing. He was in a reminiscent mood too, recalling old triumphs, and as a good sportsman, old defeats.

He gave me this advice for young athletes—"Train hard and regularly, and take good care of yourself."

Big George has done just that. He is a teetotaler, a non-smoker, but has an appetite in keeping with his weight and muscle.

His favourite food—grilled steaks (fat ones), with plenty of potatoes.

George's last big-time appearance was at the Cowal games in September. But you'll see him next season, among the spectators at Highland Games all over Scotland.

And if you are a new competitor and want a few hints—seek out George.

He'll be delighted. And he'll be very useful.



G. E. Mitchell in action

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### THE GLASGOW CUP

#### RANGERS v. CELTIC: Glasgow Cup (Stadium)

A pleasing sight here, prior to the kick-off, was the two ex-Clyde players, Sammy Baird and Billy McPhail shaking hands before the teams lined up. Mr. Mowat sent them off and in the first minute Sharkey missed a glorious opportunity, with only Niven to beat. Full marks to Niven, as he kept his head and parried the ball down and eventually cleared. A few minutes later George had another great save from McPhail. Harold Davis started to come into the game here and went on from strength to strength and with Valentine, after a shaky start, coming more on to his game the Rangers, even facing a very stiff west to east breeze, started hitting back. Baird scored in the thirty-sixth minute to give 'Gers the lead and although the Celtic tried hard with the Fernie, Collins, Tully trio continuously interchanging Davis and Caldwell had their measure and the first half finished with Rangers definitely on top. The second half opened in lively fashion with Murray playing on himself, after Sharkey had been injured and the game had been to all intents and purposes stopped, then appealing for a penalty kick after the whistle had gone. Sammy Baird made a bad pass back and held his head in his hands as Niven dived at the feet of McPhail. However Sam made amends for this by scoring a grand goal from twenty-five yards. Full marks to all here, and to the spectators too, who surpassed any previous good behaviour. As it should be.

#### Partick Thistle v. Rangers, Firhill (Floodlit)

**A**FTER a first game draw of one goal each when Kichenbrand scored a great goal from a very acute angle after a Baird through pass and MacParland scored for Thistle one minute from time from a corner kick taken by Ewing, it looked as though the odds were in Partick's favour. Teams were not announced until just before the kick-off, and the only Rangers change from the first game was Hubbard for Wilson. Thistle had a number of changes, Baird moving in to take Kerr's pivot in place of Davidson and up front Wilson was taking the place of Smith at inside right.

Rangers got down to business right away and Thistle's goal was under pressure from the start. In four minutes Rangers went

ahead when Kerr only partially stopped McColl's hard pass and Kich running in swept the ball past Thomson from eight yards. In another two minutes Simpson had the Rangers supporters' spirits high when he crashed an unsaveable shot past Thomson from twenty-five yards. Fifteen minutes later Kich was fouled just outside the "Penalty Box" and whilst Partick lined up for a McColl shot Baird suddenly slipped the ball to "Simmy" who crashed another one into the net from eighteen yards. The game looked virtually over and more especially in the thirty-eighth minute when "Kich" rose like a bird to a Scott cross and Thistle were four down. The 'Gers were right on top here and at half-time the rain did little to dampen the supporters. At the resumption 'Gers suffered an early set-back when wee Ewing came from nowhere to smartly head the ball past Niven. Rangers panic was beginning in the defence. Bad covering enabled Wilson to score from twelve yards to make the score now four three in Rangers' favour but not to Rangers liking.

Thistle were now rampant and Rangers middle men had no answer to the quick thrusts of Ewing and Wilson. Niven had to come to the rescue but he was beaten all the way by a great shot from Wilson, which, lucky for Rangers scraped the paint off the bar. Scott revived the 'Gers and Simmy again had Thomson beaten only to see Kerr clear on the line. Undeterred Scott and Simpson tried again and this time the combination had Thistle in a spin after a brilliant run by the former "Simmy" rose to his cross and headed a beauty into the net. Rangers fifth and his hat trick. Rangers steadied and came back into the game holding Partick down now to their own half and just for good measure Alex. dazzled almost the entire Thistle defence and racked in a beauty from ten yards to make the score six-three. That's how it finished and although Rangers were the better team for the major portion of the game Thistle showed that the slightest let-up can be fatal. When you break step it's hard to get into "pace" again.

Partick: Thomson; Baird Mathers; Wright Kerr, Brown; McKenzie, Wilson, Mallan, MacParland, Ewing.

Rangers: Niven; Caldwell, Little; McColl, Moles, Miller; Scott, Simpson. Kichenbrand, Baird, Hubbard.

Referee: E. McTaggart (Glasgow).

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## RANGERS v. NICE

The teams at the Stadium, Wednesday, 24th October, 1956 (foodlit):

Rangers: Niven; Shearer, Caldwell; McColl, Young, Logie; Scott, Simpson, Murray, Baird, Hubbard.

Nice: Colonna; Bonvin, Nani; Koczur "Ferry," Gonzalez, Nurenberg; Foix, Muro, Bravo, Diratz, Faivre.

The referee was A. E. Ellis, Halifax.

The interchanging of Muro, Bravo, and Riratz, and the deep-lying game of Gonzalez, was a feature of the game, not forgetting the lightning-like flashes of Faivre. However the Rangers led by Big Geordie tamed them and went on to win, 2-1.

## RANGERS v. BRITISH ARMY

The game against the British Army on December 18th, 1956 (floodlit) was another game worthy of mention.

Rangers: Ritchie; Shearer, Little; McColl, Young, Logie; McCulloch, Grierson, Walker, Baird, Wilson.

British Army: Hodgkinson (Sheffield Utd.); Foulkes (Manchester Utd.), Shaw (Sheffield Utd.); Anderson (Sunderland), Spears (Reading), Coleman (Manchester Utd.); Crawford (Hearts), Charlton (Manchester Utd.), Curry (Newcastle), Edwards (Manchester Utd.), Jones (Swansea).

What a lucky man Matt Busby is, when he has players like Foulkes, Coleman, Charlton, and Edwards in the Army and can still carry on a full top-speed programme. Incidentally those four players went into the Cup Final team, which was unsuccessful, at Wembley, and was beaten by Aston Villa, 2-1.

## MAX MURRAY'S GOALS

Here again we must recognise another record. Max last season scored 34 goals and thereby holds the post-war goal-scoring record for Rangers. Keep up the good work, Max, your efforts are always appreciated, although on occasions the ball does not run too kindly for you.

The Reserves once again won the Reserve League championship and a pleasing feature of this is that some of the young yins have already made their debut in the first team and have shown great promise. Particularly Wilson, Morrison, Walker, Smith, Millar, and Ritchie. Brand, Moles, and Melrose are valuable assets.

Here again the defence is particularly

## TELEVISION AND FOOTBALL

One of the most controversial subjects "To be" or "Not to be" of televised football before the football public to-day is the ball. It has been discussed and re-discussed at board room level, committee level, and eventually council level and where have we got. We have got to the stage now where some of the so-called "pioneers" have held their hands over their eyes and ears and only use their mouths to voice the pitiful state that they are in, by their own short-sighted stupidity. When the Big Bad Wolf Television came within the reach of the ordinary mortal, and here the great film industry wasn't asked the cinema houses started to undergo a serious threat to their existence. Did the film producers lie down to this? Not on your life. They then gave you more than you had been used to getting and at the same money although Mr. Government was pocketing quite a slice of it, and even if you don't agree that they are winning back their public you must admit that they are still putting up a brave fight which, I am convinced, will eventually prove successful. Football has given a lot to a lot of people but the person who should have been looked after first is the man who pays his humble two bob every Saturday. This matter was neglected for years and now that the game has been relieved of entertainment tax we have heard that a large portion of this will be utilised in making things more comfortable for him.

sound, as they only lost 49 goals, having scored 107, which gave them the championship on goal average. Scott Symon has a rare eye for talent and he is still gathering what he considers the right talent to wear the light blue jersey and carry it to further honours in the future. Apart from having the football ability the youngsters must also possess an exemplary character before they are taken under the Rangers wing. Those are the two main ingredients looked for in the youngsters and they are then moulded to fit the main plan. The Big Don is back from S.A. raring to go, so look out all centre halves; you are in for a hard time trying to hold him. He will be out this year to get back into the first team again, and he knows full well that the only way that he can do that is by proving that he is the best at Ibrox in the centre-forward position. Did we say "Look out all centre halves!" We should also add "Look out, Max Murray!"

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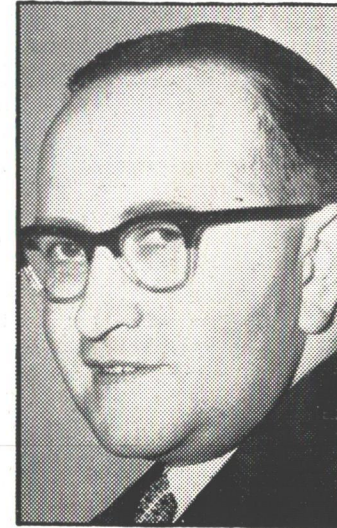
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## BILLY RITCHIE COMES TO IBROX



By JIM RODGER

Daily Record

the Glasgow Charity Cup in May, 1956, when Rangers drew but lost the toss of the coin.

The following season he played in the Glasgow Cup tie at Parkhead against Celtic. And he won't forget the match.

### SCOT SYMON 'PHONES

Just before he was leaving his Addiewell home, Billy got a 'phone call from the boss.

Manager Scot Symon told him—"Billy you'll be playing to-night, and you'd better hire a car since the railway line is blocked and your train wouldn't get in for kick-off time."

It was another instance of how the Ibrox chief keeps a check on all details before a game.

Billy's League Cup debut came against East Fife the following Saturday, and the next week he made his League debut against Queen of the South.

Son of a policeman, 21-year-old Billy is a joiner to trade and apart from football is keen on dancing, bowls, billiards, and table tennis. He stands 5ft. 11½ins. and weighs 11 stone 8 pounds.

Billy is a versatile player. He played at left back for West Calder High School and centre half for Addiewell Hearts.

### SAVED TWO PENALTIES

He answered an S.O.S. by Seaford United for a goalkeeper and saved two penalties in his first game. And he has been a goalkeeper ever since.

During his spell with Bathgate he had a number of brilliant games before going to Rangers to become one of the brightest post-war Ibrox prospects.

MARK the name—Billy Ritchie. For he is following in the footsteps of the great Rangers goalkeepers.

Billy has already proved his goalkeeping abilities, when he has deputised for George Niven in the first team.

Yet it was only by a piece of luck that Billy became a Rangers player.

When Rangers were running three teams—the third playing friendly matches with junior teams—the Ibrox club asked Bathgate Thistle for the services of the provisionally signed Rangers goalkeeper, John Neil, for a friendly match with Shawfield Juniors.

But Bathgate Thistle had an important cup-tie at Newtongrange, the town where Billy Ritchie was born.

The Bathgate officials pleaded—"Could we have Neil for our cup-tie and we will send his deputy, Billy Ritchie, whom we have signed to take Neil's place, when he is called up to Ibrox."

### REQUEST GRANTED

Rangers agreed to the request and young Ritchie played so well that he was provisionally signed and called up by Rangers to make his first team debut, after a spell in the reserves, against Third Lanark in

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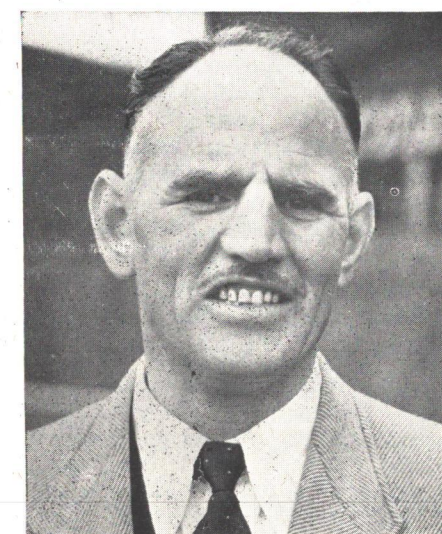
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## GENERAL SECRETARY

## SOCIAL ORGANISER



I AM happy to report that the interest and enthusiasm for the Association is growing throughout Scotland and in most countries of the world where a Scotsman, and especially a Glasgow man, is to be found. The increase in affiliated members and branches prove to us that Rangers supporters never lose contact with their team wherever they may be domiciled.

This fervant interest in the Association augurs well for the future, and the executive and the office-bearers and committee being conscious of the responsibility placed in them have adopted a long-term policy regarding your finances.

The recommendation that two-thirds of the yearly balance be placed in a special reserve fund met with general approval at the A.G.M.

It is with confidence that you and I can look forward to a strong Association, sound in finance and policy to the day when we will be in a position to have Association and club rooms where members outwith Glasgow can meet and be entertained on your visits to Ibrox.

To the Editor, our President, Mr. H. C. McKechnie, my very best wishes for the success of this annual, and to the office-bearers, area and branch secretaries, my sincere thanks for the help given me by all in carrying through the duties of the General Secretary.

ALEX FRASER.

ON the 10th February, 1957, was staged the Eighth Annual Rally in St. Andrew's Halls before a record "house." The proceeds of this venture was divided between Hairmyres Hospital and the Scottish Council for the Care of Spastics.

As usual, the audience was most appreciative of the entertainment provided by a cast headed by that popular Star of the Variety World, the one and only, Lex McLean.

On this occasion we were extremely gratified by the appearance on our platform of the Lord Provost of Glasgow, Mr. Andrew Hood, whose short and witty speech evoked great applause.

Our Hon. President, Mr. George C. P. Brown, M.A., carried out the Chairman's duties in his usual inimitable fashion and headed a platform of eminent sporting notabilities, including Directors of other senior clubs and a representative section of the Scottish Sporting Press.

I tender my warmest thanks to all who contributed in any way to the success of this happy occasion.

J. MURPHY.

Page Seventeen

## European Cup

### RANGERS v. ST. ETIENNE

Rangers v. St. Etienne—European Cup (The Stadium), Wednesday, 4th September, 1957.

Rangers: Niven; Shearer, Caldwell; Davis, McColl, Baird; Scott, Simpson, Kichenbrand, Murray, Hubbard.

St. Etienne: Abbes; M. Tylinski, Wicart; Domingo, R. Tylinski, Bordas; Njo-lea, Mekloufi, Ferrier, Goujon, Le Fevre.

Referee: Leo Helge (Denmark).

So far this season this was the highlight and everything was set for a game. The Press boys had really gone to town on this lot, the most colourful team to come over here for some time and they would do this and do that to Rangers at such speed and with such precision that, the poor old 'Gers would hardly know where to turn. What would be Rangers team? This was the big pre-match question. Valentine was injured, some didn't think Davis was fast enough to cope with the fast-moving French forwards and that left . . . who? Mr. Symon didn't keep them long in suspense and it was announced that the centre half berth had been given to Ian McColl with Davis going to right half. The same defence and forward line as against Raith Rovers.

The scenes outside the Stadium prior to the start of the game reflected the popularity of star-studded floodlit football, as the queue snaked its way along Edmiston Drive and down Copland Road, eight and ten abreast. To an almost Hampden roar the game started and Rangers immediately swept into attack. Abbes was early in action and here we knew that we had a real Continental goalkeeper. The Don is an unknown quantity to R. Tylinski and the centre half is more than a little bewildered. That should worry Kich. Here we saw a sample of the clever interchanging of Njo-lea, Mekloufi, and Ferrier, which ended in them over-working the ball and Baird, stepped in to intercept an obvious move and send the 'Gers back into attack.

However the Frenchmen were first to score and a real beauty it was. Mekloufi received the ball about the perimeter of the centre circle, inside the Rangers' half, and was allowed to travel in towards the penalty area, where everyone was sure he would part to a better placed colleague, but when he was still five yards from the penalty line he suddenly let go a terrific shot and the ball travelled away from Niven to scream into the goal at his right handpost. Here was a turn-up and no mis-

take. Quite undeterred back came Rangers to the attack and three times Abbes came to the rescue from Scott, Murray, and Scott again, the pressure was on now. However The Saints were not lying down and their every move unfield was fraught with danger to the 'Gers. Our boys put everything into attack and the equaliser came five minutes later.

A high ball from Simpson bounced into the penalty area; this had the Saints defence worried and while they are worrying the Don is up above them all and the ball is over their heads and the goalkeeper's upstretched hands and lies snugly in the net at the right hand corner of their goal. One all and still the promise of a really great game.

So it went on. Rangers having a little territorial advantage but the keen thrusts of the Saints a menace to the Rangers defence. At half time both teams got a great ovation going off and deservedly so, a truly great forty-five minutes of football. Up until now Rangers best were Baird and Shearer, Caldwell, and Niven settling down in defence even after George had his shoulder hurt in a clash with Goujon. He was able to resume after treatment. Best for the Saints were Abbes, M. Tylinski, Domingo, R. Tylinski, Njo-lea, Mekloufi, Ferrier, and Le Fevre.

### SECOND HALF

The lights were now showing up very well and the new colour which gave the impression of daylight was a great improvement on the white glare from the previous arrangements. The management is due a word of praise here for the way in which they have unstintedly endeavoured to improve on the old, to reach this very fine standard and quality of floodlighting.

The second half was only two minutes old when Scott unleashed a thunderbolt and beat Abbes all ends up to put Rangers in the lead. Baird was now outshining the Frenchmen with delightful footwork that pleased the home fans, and with Davis in command of the situation on the other side of the field Rangers were now on top. The third goal did not come until the eighty-second minute when Simpson scored. Here I think Abbes tried to anticipate Simpson and went to cover his right-hand corner. Billy only half hit the ball and it bounded away to the goalkeeper's left and was in the net before he could turn round. Best for Rangers were Baird, Scott,

(Continued Column 2, Page 20)

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## PARS OF INTEREST . .

WE all heartily congratulate Falkirk on winning the Scottish Cup and doubly so, as two ex-Rangers played a big part in making this possible. John Prentice and Derek Grierson couldn't find a regular berth at Ibrox and finished up by being two of the mainstays at Brockville and contributed in no small way to winning the Scottish and at the same time saving Falkirk from going down. Well done, John and Derek. Another ex-Ranger at Brockville is Bobby Brown and we would just like to tell you, Bobby, that you haven't been forgotten and your letter last year to the general Secretary, was greatly appreciated. Willie Paton left us also last year and we are indeed sorry that you have gone down to the Second Division, Willie, your talents deserve much better than that. Departed too is one of the most forceful half-backs we've had at Ibrox, Willie Rae. He joined Newlands at Palmerston Park and we all wish you well, Willie. You will long be remembered. Young A. Elliot joined Q.O.S. later and you too, Alex, will be remembered for your great game against the auld enemy, at Parkhead.

John Valentine came to Rangers to fill the gap, and what a gap, left by Big Geordie. All the "wise" men have been shaking their heads and murmuring: "He'll no dae," etc. We all realise that John has a mighty big job to do and that he will always be under the microscope and measured by the George Young yard stick, but we are convinced that he will break through and become a true Ranger and worthy of the title, Rangers' Pivot. He is not the first and, no doubt, he will not be the last to suffer from this overhanging shadow of the mighty one who went before and Rangers supporters are more than a little critical of the newcomer, never-the-less, others have come on to prove that they had what it takes and have in due course endeared themselves to the hearts of everyone. In the first few games he was being nursed along by Captain Ian, but soon he'll be solo and moving as a separate unit in the mechanism of the Rangers team. Go to it, John, all power to you!

On March 13th, Ian McColl captained the Scottish League team against the English League and a real job he made of it. The right flank of McColl, Fernie, and Collins, was an inspiration that night and laid the foundation for victory early in the game. Eric Caldow in this game played himself right into the Wembley team, his remark-

**Rangers v. St. Etienne**—Contd. from Page 18  
Kichenbrand. Ian McColl did all that was asked of him and came out of the game very well too, Murray was a little lost at times and Hubbard has lost his edge. Davis finished strongly after a hesitant start.

Best for the French team were Abbes, Domingo, R. Tyliniski, Bordas, Mekloufi, Ferrier, and La Fevre. The full backs M. Tyliniski and Wicart were never comfortable and Njo-lea and Goujon faded after the first half and were seldom seen.

Referee: Full marks.

Rangers European Cup victory over Saint Etienne throws the door wide open and we now await the next round. All the scribes gave full marks to the French club for the way in which they played to beat Rangers and yet paid tribute to the great game that John Valentine played. Not having been there I have to rely on the accounts as related, but it so happened that I met a gentleman whose holiday at Monte Carlo coincided with this game and he was fortunate to acquire a ticket—so through he went. Here is his account of the game, and I can vouch for his knowledge and fair criticism, as he was and still is a well-known name in football all over the country. "John Valentine certainly played a great game because the ball was more often around him than it was anyone else. It was not possible that any team could stand up to the battering that Rangers took in that game. (This is nothing new). It has to be said in their favour that they did not wilt in the face of all this tremendous pressure and came out at the end the winners on aggregate by 4-3. Ian McColl gets full marks for his game as does Shearer, Caldow, and Miller. Wilson paid his way and his goal was well taken, and was the man who was behind the penalty kick given to Rangers with only fourteen minutes to go. Simpson had his eye cut and it was a general rough-house, with the supporters giving vent to their feelings in all the un-sportsmanship like manners imaginable." Someone once said that football was not a game for strong girls or for that matter weak boys—could be.

able powers of recovery against one of the fastest wingers in present day football, Harry Hooper of Wolves, was a feature that was quickly noted by the selectors and his name was automatically before them when the men for Wembley were being chosen. Scotland's choice for right back and the best left back in the country.

## TRAVELLING IN THE FUTURE

By GEORGE AITKEN



competition on similar lines for the winners of the Scottish Cup.

And as supporters you'll have to start thinking of football in terms of matches in Prague and Madrid as well as Paisley and Motherwell. I mean TRAVELLING TO THE CONTINENT.

It is true that Rangers invariably have a small band of supporters wherever they go. I've caught up with them in Austria, Germany, France and sundry other spots. But that small band is going to enlarge.

Fanciful? I don't think so. Remember before the war Rangers travelled a hundred where to-day they take a thousand. Why? Well to-day you've got Saturday free and the omnibus has opened up all Scotland for you.

And so it will be as the club moves into more and more European game commitments. For that's how the pattern is going . . . towards an increasing number of tilts with the clubs across the English Channel.

The airplane has made a match anywhere in Europe a mere two-day business and thereby brought closer the dream of a European League. And if a team can do that, why not the team's support.

Too expensive? So might be bus trips all over Scotland Saturday after Saturday if you didn't have weekly contribution schemes and other cash-raising ways.

I believe you'll have to think about two-day travel much sooner than later . . . for Rangers and other clubs who grab the chief prizes in Scotland are going to get a further pay-off on the win against the best on the Continent.

If a fair number of you haven't flown to a match on the Continent within the next five or ten years I'll put on sackcloth and ashes and kick-off at the Ibrox public trial in 1967.

Be seeing you in Paris or Prague or some such place!

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## SYNOPSIS OF ELEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THE Eleventh Annual General Meeting of the Rangers F.C. Supporters' Association took place on the 26th May, 1957, in the Orange Hall, Lorne Street.

The Meeting opened with Mr. H. C. McKechnie, President, in the chair. Mr. A. McCall, Hon. Vice-President, was also present. The Chairman remarked on the numerical and financial progress of the Association during the past year. Certain bad features, due to past misuses of privileges given to certain egoists, had been finally overcome and the Association was in a stronger position to-day than it had ever been. The financial side was one in which all could share confidence as a constant watch was maintained by the entire E.C. and all extravagancies, such as were experienced in the past, were brushed aside. At the same time we are not living a life of austerity and the Council Rooms, at headquarters, were more comfortable to-day than they had ever been due to the installation of electric heaters, granted by the Representative Council. Relationship between the Ibrox Management and the Association had never been better and the General Secretary was in contact with Mr. Symon. He then thanked the E.C. members for their support during the year and also thanked the Delegates for the assistance that they had given and asked them to take back to their branches the good wishes of the E.C.

The Financial Statement was then submitted and approved and the Treasurer, Mr. F. McKenna, was thanked for the fine work that he had done. The Auditors, headed by Mr. R. McCulloch, then gave a resume of their work and of how it had been made easy with the way in which Mr. McKenna had kept the accounts. Mr. Buist and Mr. Montgomery, acquiesced.

The General Secretary, Mr. A. Fraser, then reported on the work of the Association and the good relation between himself and the Area Secretaries, whom he thanked for their co-operation. Due to the generous allocations of visitations it had been possible to allow over 3,000 Association members to visit the Stadium during the season. In his opinion and as far as he could gather from the records this was a new high visitation and it augured well that the member's enthusiasm was at such a high level. Letters had been written to the Scottish Football Association on the question of televised games and here the General Secretary has first-hand knowledge of how this

would be appreciated in Hospitals, as he is second-in-command to Jimmy Cuthbert, who broadcasts to The Southern General Hospital over the Tele-Radio line from the Stadium.

The Social Convenor, Mr. J. Murphy, gave his report on the social relationship of the Association, and thanked all for their help during the season. The International trips have been successful and he was already negotiating in connection with Belfast.

Miss R. Bilsland, the Registrar, made her report to the effect that the Association membership was the highest in her time of office and even up to the very last we were still receiving applications for membership. It can now be said that we span the world, having members in all parts of the British Isles, the U.S.A., Canada, Newfoundland, Gibraltar, Malta, S. Africa, Colombo, Malaya, Singapore, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand, and other places, too numerous to mention.

All office-bearers were re-elected, with the exception of Mr. A. Hannah, who was replaced by Miss Burns, as Assistant Secretary.

The sum of £103 12s. 10d. was moved to reserve.

It was reported by the General Secretary that the Annual had been a financial success, and the adoption of all reports was made.

Mr. A. McCall took over from Mr. H. C. McKechnie for the election of office-bearers and spoke in his remarks of how happy he was to be at the meeting and of how he had watched the Association "Return" after undergoing its teething years with some complications thrown in. He paid tribute to all the office-bearers for the manner that they had unstintedly executed their duty, had emerged with banners flying. He then installed the office-bearers, as only Mr. McCall can, giving each in turn the benefit of his long experience in his simple but sincere remarks.

Mr. McKechnie returned to the Chair and thanked all for their continued support and after handing over Honoraria to the following office-bearers: Mr. A. Fraser, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Murphy, Miss Bilsland, Miss Guthrie, Minute Secretary (who at this stage was thanked for the grand work that she had done). The Chairman closed the meeting. A vote of thanks to the chair being accorded.

## SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP

### RANGERS v. ST. MIRREN

**R**ANGERS started the season with a dazzling display against St. Mirren and the comments after the game were that if St. Mirren were any criterion of what the other teams in the league were like, well who indeed would be second to Rangers. Billie Simpson and Max Murray started off with hat-tricks that day and Sammy Baird came within inches of scoring several times.

John Valentine made his debut here and although he did not hit the high spots he certainly did what was asked and was equally credited with the others for keeping the goal intact. Everyone played well that day, but I think the seasoned campaigners will forgive me if I say that the play of young David Wilson delighted a lot of hearts if not Higgins of St. Mirren.

### PARTICK THISTLE v. RANGERS

Off we went to Firhill to do battle with Partick and a real rollicking game it was. Play ranged from end to end with both teams countering every move of the other with fast tackling and speedy returns. Rangers eventually proved the fittest of the two and emerged the winners.

### RANGERS v. RAITH ROVERS

Here was a game that gave at the start the impression that we were all correct in our original deduction but was in fact the first indication that the Iron Curtain was no longer there and that there were little gaps beginning to appear that hadn't been evident before, due, no doubt, to the fact that the forwards were keeping the other team too busy in defence. Does this in itself not prove that the best form of defence is **ATTACK**. The 'Gers were coasting along with a four-goal lead after eleven minutes' play of the second half gone, having led 3-0 at half-time, when all of a sudden—**BLAM**—within fifteen minutes the score was 4-3 and Raith now had their tails up and were heading down-wind in search of victory which surely must come. Ian McColl mustered his men together and patched up the gaps which had suddenly appeared to hang grimly on to the end. Ian and his merry men must have been relieved to hear the final whistle. Well done, Rangers; well done, Raith Rovers; full marks, both teams, for a real great game.

### ST. MIRREN v. RANGERS

There was nothing saintly about the weather on this particular Saturday, although the heavens opened and contributed by no little means to the afternoon, much to the disgust of the spectators. If anyone is due any praise and credit here I think we should start with "Seterday Sanny," the man who has proved time and time again that if you are prepared to deliver the goods then he is prepared to pay for them no matter the condition—rain, hail, snow, frost, TV, in fact the lot. Here he was, in all his miserable glory, following his darlings and happy and proud to do so, what a character! To the game: St. Mirren started out early to prove that the 6-0 defeat at the Stadium was going to be avenged and played with a virility that left this so-called power-play lying dying in a corner. However Rangers again emerged as the winners, and were now at the head of the section with full points from four games. Everything seemed rosy and bright and with St. Mirren and Raith at four points apiece we could hardly be caught even although we had Raith to play at Starks Park. Read on.

### RANGERS v. PARTICK THISTLE

This looked a "push over" if anything ever did. Thistle had not scored a goal, they did not possess one point, they were weakened with injury and we were back at full strength, with both Hubbard and Valentine back. Ian won the toss and played with the wind. For the first six minutes Rangers simply battered the Jags goal but all in vain; still it would come and after the first one the rest would be easy, but wait, what's this, Partick are on the attack, the ball has come out from the Rangers goal—we're still alright, there are plenty of them there and Ewing is going to blast this one—he has, and **IT'S IN**. The ball has got past them all and now lies snugly in the net at the back of the goal. Still, not to worry, that will make it a better game now. Down come Rangers again and hammer away at Partick's goal. Ten minutes gone, Jags have broken away again and the ball has again come out to Ewing and again Ewing has put the ball past six or seven defenders and Jags are two up. Thirteen minutes gone and Rangers are more than a little worried, the ball comes from the Jags left but there is no danger, Valentine and Caldwell are there but who's this who has come tearing in and has taken the ball from them and has

placed it past Niven—the fair haired laddie, Henderson, and 'Gers are three behind. Well that's how it finished and all due credit must go to the Jags for their courage, to Ewing and Henderson for their opportunism and a great big slice of sympathy and shame to the so-called sportsmen at the East End of the terracing, who cheered and cat-called and who seemed delighted that Jimmy Davidson was terribly hurt. I often wonder if this type can realise how another person feels standing beside them and having to associate themselves with this sort of thing, to follow the Rangers. How many of this "breed" were at Paisley? Not many I'll warrant. Jimmy Davidson is a fine player, a hard tackler I will agree, and will wear Scotland's jersey, aye even this season, he gets as much as he gives and never once have I seen him complain. The demonstration that night by those "sportsmen" is completely foreign to the minds and principles of our Association, the Rangers Management, and the Rangers Players.

### RAITH ROVERS v. RANGERS

We still stood at eight points, Raith six. The position thus:

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
Rangers .....	5	4	0	1	15	6	8
Raith Rovers .....	5	3	0	2	12	7	6

Raith had to win 2-0 which would put Rangers 15-8 in goals and Raith 14-7, 3-1, or 4-2 or 5-3 would also suit the Rovers—so it would be a desperate battle. The odds were definitely in favour of Rangers but we have all seen before how a team that has everything to gain and nothing to lose can knock the other team off balance and go on to reap the benefit of their pre-match psychological advantage. What would it be Raith for attack, Rangers for defence, the old "what we have to do" policy—not on your life.

Ian McColl led his men on to the field fully resolved to score more goals than Raith and much to the discomfort of Willie McNaught Rangers had sent the Don on to give Ian a hand. The Don had returned and what a reception he got. Sam Baird was taken back to make room for Max Murray, who had moved over to accommodate the Don. Valentine was injured and Harold Davis again stepped into the centre half berth. Alec Scott did a nice solo and finished up by putting the ball neatly past Drummond, time seven minutes. One minute later Urquhart scored for Raith after he had beaten down a sizzler from

Kelly. The Rovers now smelt possible victory after being one down, but in the twenty-fifth minute Alec Scott does another solo and lofts the ball over Drummond's head to make the score two all. One minute later a cross ball from Simpson intended for Hubbard, who was waiting to receive and possibly score, was handled by Pollard and Hubby netted the resultant penalty. Half-time, three all.

After the restart Rangers put everything into attack and Raith's goal had narrow escapes, although it must be admitted that Rovers were trying all they knew too. After all the Rangers pressure that had availed them nothing. Ten minutes from the end Raith had the ball in the net again—4-3. Could they make it 5-3 and qualify? They had ten minutes to do so and Rangers knew it, too, and again started to pile on the pressure for another goal, but a lot of the fire had gone from the game and the second half was only a cheap fabrication of the glorious first half, and I think we were all glad to see the end. Raith are a fine team and we all wish them well this year and thanks for a wonderful afternoon's entertainment.

Referee—Well Handled. Kich—Well handled.

So Rangers qualified with 1.8 to Raith's 1.6, with 8 points each.

### Semi-Final Scottish League Cup

#### RANGERS v. BRECHIN CITY

Rangers: Ritchie; Shearer, Caldwell; McColl, Valentine, Miller; Wilson, Robertson, Kichenbrand, Melrose, Murray.

Brechin City: Robertson; Paterson, Hodge; Stormont, Christie, Stewart; McRae, Fowler, Warrender, Scott, Duncan.

Referee: H. Phillips (Wishaw).

The flu germ was the first obstacle that both teams had to overcome but, as they say in another form of entertainment, "The Show Must Go On." Both teams turned out the best at their disposal and in ideal football conditions Mr. Phillips sent them away. Brechin let us see early that they were not over-awed by the greatness of Hampden and the crowd, and Caldwell came to the rescue dispossessing Fowler and thereby breaking up a likely Brechin attack. Rangers settled and Robertson missed a good chance, then Hodge kicked a great Kich try off the line, which was followed by Miller hitting the cross-bar from a "free" twenty yards out. Brechin came back and Valentine cleared to Miller, who sent Murray away, whose shot was tipped

over the bar by Robertson, the Brechin goalkeeper.

A foul on Kich and taken by McColl was headed in by Melrose in the twenty-third minute. A well-taken goal. A claim for a penalty by Brechin for Shearer's tackle on Warrender was waved aside, but not so at the other end three minutes' later, when a foul on Kich by Hodge was sustained and Shearer netted the resultant penalty in 41 minutes.

An all-out attack on Rangers goal followed this and the 'Gers were lucky and thankful to see a great shot from Duncan hit the cross-bar and rebound, to be thundered again at goal and blocked and eventually cleared.

Brechin started the second half where they had left off and by this time we were all wondering if the pace would tell and, if they would fade. The pitch by this time had shown signs of being a little soft and was now affecting the younger Rangers forwards. For a period of twelve minutes Brechin fought gamely and Captain McColl did all in his power to muster his colleagues and turn defence into attack but Brechin were having none of it and into the attack they stormed. A ball from Fowler skated across Rangers goal and found no takers, then MacCrae headed past when well placed. Warrender was now playing a deep lying centre forward game and this was definitely troubling the Rangers. However Rangers came back into the game and forced three corners which proved fruitless. Back came Brechin, you can't hold them down, and a great shot from Stewart is just over, then grand play by Fowler and Warrender finishes with them being just that little too clever and Caldwell steps in to clear, when that one move less could have made all the difference.

Just when Brechin, who by this time have convinced everyone that they could still be running until the following Saturday. McColl sent Wilson away and the wee'fla scarpers up that wing like a man possessed and sends over a beauty. Paterson goes to clear and has the horrible experience of seeing his clearance go t'other way and finish up at the back of his own net. Tough luck, Paterson, you hadn't put a foot wrong up until now. Well it was all over and Melrose showed that he was not so heavy legged as we had thought, when he flashed

through on to a Kichenbrand pass and put past the out-rushing Robertson.

Well done, indeed, Brechin City. You were not disgraced and you certainly showed that you had the ability to get to where you had got in the League Cup. Full marks to the referee, although you were not popular with the Brechin supporters at one stage.

The seasoned players in Rangers defence helped to steady the young forwards. Miller played a hard game and came through. Melrose proved that he knows how and has ability to follow on. Wilson shone when he got the ball properly and although Robertson came up very well at times his style of play, at the moment does not suit Wilson. A new Kich was seen here, and the goalkeeper, Robertson, had a pleasant afternoon. Never once was Kich ever robust and although I am against his indiscriminate charges I felt that here was a filleted salmon trying to jump the rapids. What then is the answer? Has his name ever been taken? Has he ever been ordered off? Has anyone who has played against him ever denounced him as a dirty player? He isn't what one would call a "heavy-weight," he is only one pound heavier than W. Moles and H. Davis, and they weigh 12 stone 6 pounds. There must be an answer somewhere. Murray did alright in an uncomfortable position, but a certain section of the crowd will not let up. WHY?

### RANGERS v. CELTIC

League Cup Final, 19th October, 1957  
(Hampden).

IT is not the intention of this Annual to criticise the Rangers players, in a derogatory manner, but it is hard to find anything about this game that would be otherwise if the game has to be reported from the "Rangers End." Many a heart was sore around 4.30 p.m. that afternoon, and I heard one sorrowing Rangers fan say, as I left the park: "No team should be able to beat Rangers 7-1. It just should not be possible." That may, or may not be justifiably true but nevertheless Celtic proved that it can be done and they have also proved, twice this year to Rangers, that the true art of football will triumph in face of all opposition. Where has the early promise of Rangers gone? Inside a matter of six weeks (see reports on previous League Cup games) the team has gone from

the heights to the utmost depths of form. Let us, for example, compare the two teams without bringing in the score for the moment. Celtic were much quicker to the ball than Rangers, their trapping and control was much better, they invariably beat Rangers in the air, so much so that they had that little extra something that afforded them accuracy. Both teams compare in the ages, but Celtic seemed to have a virility which Rangers lacked.

One thing this game did prove, as far as I am concerned, the Celtic management are more correct about Willie Fernie than any one else. Willie's display was right out of the dream book, and although it is difficult to single out anyone in particular of the Celtic team I think that you will agree that the understanding of Fernie and Collins contributed greatly, in the early stages of the game, to giving Celtic the lead to play the ball and utilise the "Open Space." I have no doubt that Ian McColl led his men on to the field resolved to win; that they did not, and the reason, is a problem that I trust will be well and truly solved before this Annual is in your hands. Rangers Management and players in the past have given the best in the world to their fans and I have heard nothing that causes me to think that there has been any change in that policy. Two years ago they were "Written Off" and again to-day they have been quoted as being a poor representative of Scottish Football in the European Cup. I am confident that they will be back with a bang in the very near future. Take heart all "Ye Rangers" supporters it's sore to take but the taking will prove the man. Not like the monstrosities of animal life that we saw being escorted from the terracing, at both ends, where all Hell had broken loose. I think I speak for the Celtic Supporters' Association when I speak for our own, that we absolutely deplore the conduct of that type and we are only sorry that apart from any measures that the Glasgow Magistrates take, we, in the Association, are powerless to offer a workable solution. Whenever the names of the offenders are made known our Register is carefully scrutinised and if any of the names appear on the roll they are immediately "Disqualified." In our eleven years the occasions have been very few that warranted this action but we stand resolute in our efforts to cut out this canker in Scottish Football.

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Rangers F.C. Supporters' Association.

No. 11 Area.

Mr. H. McKechnie, Publications.

Dear Sir.—May I, on behalf of the Radnor Park Branch, members of the above area, extend the thanks and appreciation of the said Branch to Mr. Murphy, Social Convenor to the Association, for the enjoyable day they had, when competing for the Bowling Shield in the final against Parkhead.

They had a most entertaining game and while the Radnor Park Branch won by 13 shots to 2 shots, the score does not allow for the standard of the losers' play, which was keenly contested.

The invitation from Bailie J. Wilson was generously appreciated and the Branch would like the fact to be made known to the Rangers chairman—also the prizes of the Association—Ties and Scarves were a delightful reward for their efforts.

May I also add my thanks, as, being a mere spectator, I was invited to participate in the after game ceremonies at Bellahouston.

Yours faithfully,

T. SINCLAIR, Area Secy.

## ALEX. SCOTT

By HUGH TAYLOR, Evening Citizen

THE Bo'ness United trainer grinned, but rather ruefully.

"Oh, dear Alex," he said, "you again? I thought you were away home by now." The chubby-faced youngster looked embarrassed.

He stammered: "Oh, I was just wondering if it would be all right if I went out to do some training?"

The trainer laughed. "What, train on a Saturday night just after you've played a hard game? I've never met any player as keen as you. All right, away you go."

And young Alex. Scott gleefully trotted out to the pitch with a football at his toe.

The trainer gazed thoughtfully after him. That lad, he was thinking, will go far; he just lives for football.

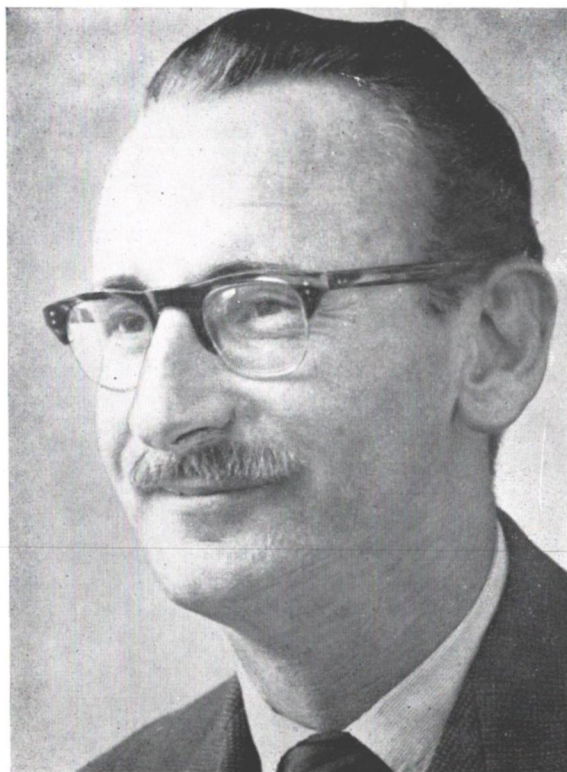
Every spare hour, nearly all day on Sundays, young Alex. was practising. Not for him the joys of cinema or television, skating or dancing—these modern attractions cursed by so many football managers for luring young players from training.

Like all the great players of the past, Alex found complete happiness just kicking a ball around.

It was obvious that he had great skill. Even in such a crack junior team as Bo'ness United, he was outstanding. Senior Clubs watched him keenly. Aberdeen and Dundee tried to sign him. So did Falkirk, and that club thought they had a chance for Alex. lives near their ground, Brockville.

But there was just one club for Alex.—the famous Rangers of Ibrox.

And the reason he practised so devotedly was because he wanted to follow in the footsteps of great Ibrox wingers like Alan Morton and Willie Waddell and he knew that it was only from hours of playing alone, becoming complete master of the ball, that these famous players had reached the top.



His wish came true; he became a Rangers' player.

And on March 9, 1955, he played his first game for Rangers.

As the quiet youngster of 18 walked into the impressive stadium, he must have felt a quiver of nervousness; but he didn't show it. A quiet but warm word of welcome from George Young made him feel at home. He was determined to give of his best and create a good impression.

He knew the thousands of fans on the terracing would watch him closely but he tried not to let that upset him.

There were conflicting opinions about Scott. The veteran Rangers' supporters shook their heads and said: "This would never have happened in the old days. Imagine playing a laddie from a junior team in the Rangers' first eleven right away. In my young days he would have had to play a couple of seasons in the reserve side before he got a chance in the big team."

But others thought Scott should have his chance. Rangers were going through a period of reconstruction. The new policy

was to put the accent on youth. "We need new blood in the forward line," said the progressive among the supporters, "and this boy Scott certainly has talent."

They eagerly awaited his appearance.

But even Scott's most enthusiastic supporters didn't expect such a debut. It was a schoolboy's dream come true—something which had seldom happened before in the long history of Scottish football.

that a new star had appeared on the Ibrox scene.

Young Alex had the composure of a veteran—and there was no doubting his talent.

He had the temperament of the real football star. He had fine ball control. He could cross cunningly. He could shoot with both feet. And he had power and pluck.

At half-time the Ibrox faithful were satisfied that in Scott they had an international right winger of the near future. Actually, they hadn't yet seen the real Alex Scott in action.

Two minutes after the interval, Scott began to make Scottish football history. A neat pass was given by big John Prentice. Alex had cleverly run into the open space to receive it and coolly he went on to score his first goal.

That gave him the confidence he needed. He forgot his fears and began to play just as though he were on the Bo'ness field. Falkirk defenders, anxious, shadowed him relentlessly. Alex thrived on it. The harder he was pressed, the more tricks he showed.

He scored two more goals and ended the game in a blaze of glory.

A hat-trick in his first game for Rangers! No wonder Press and public hailed him the next day as the new Willie Waddell of Ibrox.

Alex, a sensible youngster, didn't let the praise go to his head. He knew he was only at the start of his career; knew, too, that the football crowd can make you a hero one day—and jeer you mercilessly the next.

He went on training and practising as hard as ever.

But Scott had come to stay in the Rangers' team. On the Saturday, he again created a fine impression, holding his own against Harry Haddock, of Clyde, the Scottish international back.

After that match, Alex went out again to practise, trying out moves which he had learned from the fine play of Haddock.

Alex then beamed an international football celebrity.

He was chosen to play for Rangers against Arsenal at Highbury. Part of the match was televised.

Alex had never played before such a large crowd. But he kept his head. In the first half he scored two goals, the first of which reminded the Highbury supporters of the famous goal Puskas, the Hungarian star, had scored against England.

London sports writers praised him. "Not since Alex James arrived at Highbury has a Scottish player shown such promise," one of them wrote.

Alex Scott had come to stay in the Rangers' team. His future is bright

But when he is congratulated, Alex still simply smiles shyly and says: "Excuse me, I must go out to practice."

So the lesson for any young player who wants to make a dream debut like Alex is this: You must earn fame by hard work and constant practice. That is the secret of Alex Scott and all the other stars of football.



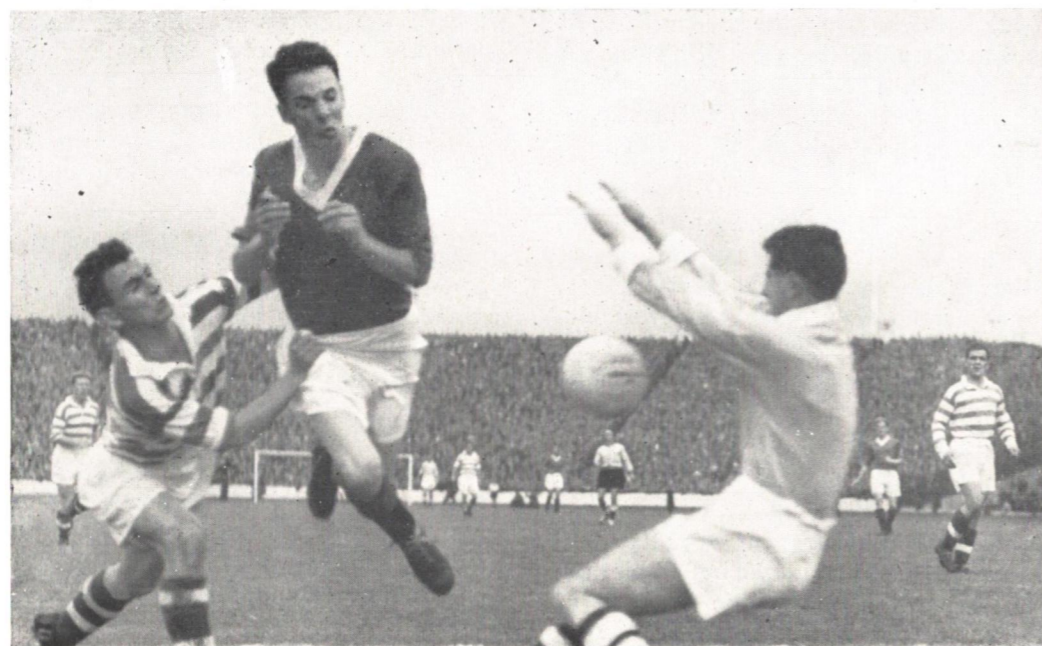
Sammy Baird scores the first of his two goals against Celtic in the Glasgow Cup—19th Aug., 1957



Forsyth powerless to stop Simpson making Rangers second hat-trick—10th Aug., 1957



Billy heads home No. 4 as Drummond looks helplessly on—17th Aug., 1957



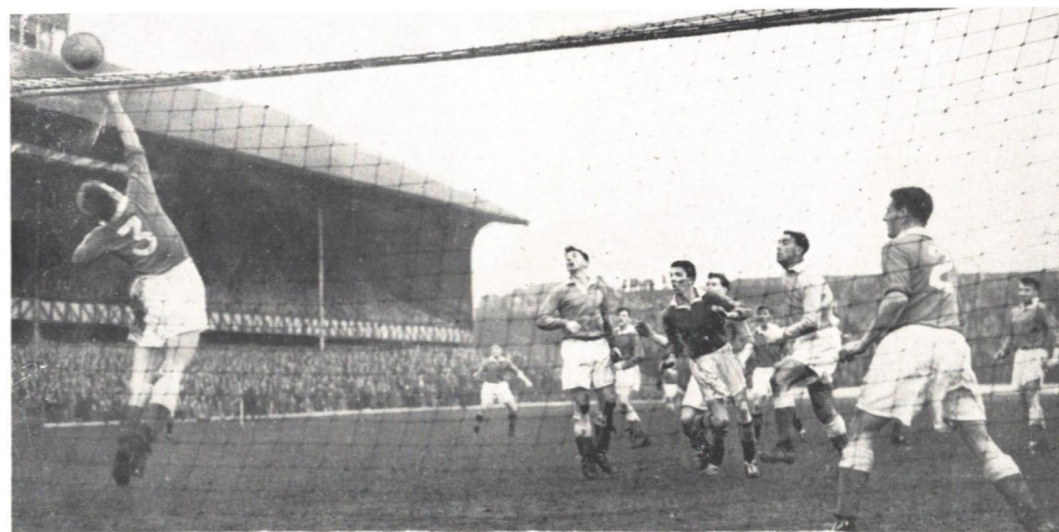
Peacock, Murray, and Beattie—19th Aug., 1957



Rangers first goal by Simpson against Aberdeen—24th Nov., 1956



Hubbard converts a penalty after Simpson had been fouled by Martin



Caldwell (Aberdeen) makes a wonderful save from Baird in Vain. Hubbard converted this one too.



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## GOLF . .

**D**EPARTING from football for a moment, I think we should all join in hearty congratulations to Eric Brown, Buchanan Castle, on winning the Masters Tournament, thereby also winning the Vardon Trophy. Eric, a well-known "Blue Nose," has been criticised for some of his doings, but at least he has done something and his critics are, in the main, those who have done nothing and are completely incapable of ever doing anything. Welshman Dai Rees showed his confidence in him when he put him in first of the singles at Lindrick in the Ryder Cup against the much-feared "Thunder" Bolt. Eric soon "Strück" him down with a few "Lightning" strokes and emerged the winner by 4-3, thereby giving the lead to all the others out in the Bush that what Brown could do they must try.

Well, you know the story, they all tried and "DID" and brought back the Ryder Cup after twenty-four years. Well done! A real shot in the arm for British Golf.

Still on golf, congratulations to "Hibs" on winning the "Daily Record" Golf Trophy at Crow Wood. John Paterson's 69 was the feature of the day and supported by Law-

rie Reilly, Tommy Preston, Willie MacFarlane, and Eddie Turnbull, they simply walked away with the Cup. It was not out of turn, as they have been runners-up on two occasions. This year they were followed by Dundee and Queen of the South. Don Kichenbrand came in for a very nice wedge for his contribution to the day. He was not present to receive it and Joe Craven accepted it on his behalf. Captain Ian had the best Rangers score and considering that he has not hit a ball since June and played over the course for the first time, his eighty was well above average.

Another Blue Nose golfer is Fred Daly. I met Director George Brown at Killermont, watch your pronunciation there chaps, during the Penfold Tourney, and he was on his way to give Fred a wee gift. Whenever he has it on and whoever sees it will know that a "Blue Nose" is he. Kenneth Wolstenholme has one too. I wonder?

There is nothing better the players like than a day at Turnberry, and when the "Boss" gives the O.K. for a day on the links all who can creep on that bus are there.

## THE EIGHTH ANNUAL RALLY

### ST. ANDREW'S HALLS

10th FEBRUARY, 1957

Speaker: IAN McCOLL

**I**N his tribute to the Speaker, Harry Andrew, Sports Editor "Sunday Express" said that this had been Ian's best year and although he had always been a great Ranger he had made his biggest step from being a brilliant club performer to becoming a great internationalist. Ian has never been a glamour puss—content at all times to get on with the game AND WIN.

There are few harder players in the game than Ian and yet he comes through every game with flying colours in endeavour and sportsmanship.

His understanding with "Big Geordie," when he played right back, was really "something." Often has Big George cut the ball back from the touch-line knowing that Ian was there waiting and quickly turned defence into attack much to the discomfort of the opponents. Few in the game can "kill" a ball in the air like Ian, and his extra life at the end of his jump for a ball in the air is another feature of his ability.

His speech that night contained many amusing incidents of himself and his teammates during the team's tours abroad and he received a thunderous ovation at the end.

The Platform contained more football celebrities than ever before which proves the growing popularity of The Rally and we were honoured with the presence of Glasgow's first citizen, Mr. Andrew Hood who, like his predecessor is a notable Ranger's Man.

Our Honorary President, Mr. George C. P. Brown, M.A., presided in his usual very capable manner and introduced present and past Rangers players, players from all of the Glasgow clubs, club managers, members of the sports press and officials of other Supporters' Associations.

A letter was read regretting the absence of Rangers Manager, J. S. Symon and Director Allan L. Morton.

Rangers Chairman, J. F. Wilson, D.L., J.P., is an "ever present" at this function also and has always shown a great interest in the Association.

The cast was headed by "Glesca's Ain—Lex McLean" and he kept the fun going.

The proceeds amounted to £159 0s. 10d. which was donated equally to Hairmyres Hospital Comforts Fund and the Scottish Council for the Care of Spastics.

May I in closing thank all who assisted in making the night a success not forgetting the advertisers on our programme.

★

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## THE CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE



By  
IAN McCOLL

WITH the retirement of my team-mate and captain I was given charge of the team on the field, and I fully realise what a great responsibility this is and I am also aware of the tremendous assistance that can be given to anyone on that field by the supporter.

I fully appreciate the valuable assistance that you give to the team, especially when we take the field to face a formidable opponent and I will do everything in my power to warrant that support.

The entire playing staff is conscious of the great part we have to play in our responsibility to the club and the supporter and it is with that thought in mind that we take the field each game, whether in the first or reserve teams. Results count with the supporter and to maintain the great name of the club — everyone who wear it's colours is resolved to carry them high.

I was thrilled when you honoured me with the distinction of being "Speaker" at your Rally, but I would rather play in front of 150,000, at Hampden, than face that again. However I am delighted that you still have thoughts for the less fortunate and that the proceeds of your annual rallies go to some worthy charitable organisation.

May your Association go from strength to strength and to your members I wish a happy season of good football.

Let us all keep in mind that we are truly concerned with the great club, "Rangers," and that we will uphold the good name in all respects, regardless of victory or defeat. Progress must be well ordered to endure.

Sincerely,

IAN McCOLL.

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Ed. Cavena, Proprietor

# IS CONTINENTAL STYLE OF FOOTBALL THE BEST?



By **ANDREW WALLACE**

**Scottish Daily Mail**

**Y**OU'VE heard them—the groaners and moaners who move around this talkative football world repeating how low the standards of the game have fallen in Scotland.

We must say, with sorrow, that in some ways they are right, but do you agree that Scotland might have been right on the ball if clubs had worked at and developed what has become known as the Continental style. You no doubt saw and admired the Hungarians and the Austrians, who came before them, showing football of a type which old-timers said had been "Scottish" long before the war.

Scotland took hammerings and humiliations and so did clubs who were bold enough to venture on Continental tours. We all suffered. Our Scottish pride was humbled.

If all the words written about the ills of Scottish football were joined together they would go round every tier of Hampden. But, lo and behold Scottish clubs stayed

as they were. Celtic at the height of the controversies made a tentative attempt to find the Continental "secret" by signing coach Jimmy Hogan fresh from Austria, but that didn't last long.

So Scottish football continued on its own sweet way. Why? Let's try to find out.

Players to whom I have talked on the subject show a wide division of opinion. So do the fans. Say some "The chess-like moves of the Continentals would become a real bore if one had to watch it every week." Players claim that most times their instructions are to "get in there and win," which excludes any fancy passing patterns.

But the majority opinion is that our own style is the best from the point of view of spectators and in striking power. Jimmy Smith who used to ram in the goals for Rangers always scoffed at the Continental ideas saying "What's the sense of making six passes when you can get to the same place in two." That is the most widely held view among Scots. A long pass, a short square pass and bang, it's a goal. That's the ideal. Rangers have played with this idea for a long time now, and they have not done so badly, thank you.

And now there are signs that the Continentals are changing their ideas. They have learned to fear our tackling and speed of counter-attack. The Austrians who usually lead the way in Continental ideas have stated that "hard tackling" is their new policy and they are going in for longer passing. Maybe Scotland wasn't so far off the mark in up-to-date football. Anyway it all comes back to the ability of individual players. We have leeway to make up in that direction.

## REFEREEING

**A**S you start to read this your thoughts have flashed back to the last game you watched. The Referee in charge was the "World's worst," your team was robbed and he always penalised your man, yet he let the other fellow away with murder. Believe me, I should know. Many a time you have bawled that lot at me when I've been on your particular game.

About four months before I retired from football refereeing, I was a guest at the North West Branch Dinner and Cabaret and during the usual speeches I disclosed for the first time that I was retiring at the end of the season. What a cheer went up and my old friend, Jerry Dawson, who was also a guest remarked that it was a pity I hadn't resigned ten years ago and everybody would have been happy.

Seriously, there are some incidents which happen and they do upset the fans, e.g., the way in which a forward is jostled, held or barged in the penalty box and you sometimes get the decision of a non-scoring free kick instead of a penalty kick. I feel that there are one or two referees who just haven't the courage to carry out the full penalty. The same applies to the offside law. Occasionally we see young linesmen just on to the list going out to do his best but, sub-consciously, he is refereeing the game instead of keeping his eye on the position of the players and where the player was when the ball was last played, which is the important part. Sometimes when the young linesman sees an attacker through on his own he panics, up goes the flag and the referee, if he has been caught out by a long clearance, immediately takes the "flag" and starts off the fans, with many suggestions as to what to do with the flag. I think the S.F.A. Supervisors could do a good job here by insisting to the League that new lads to the list be given line jobs in the Reserve League for the first season until they get the hang of a very important part of a three-man team, which is what everybody wants.

Another good job that could be tackled by the same body would be to press the League to bring back the team system which was very successful a few years back. Per-

sonally, where I was concerned, it was a social afternoon instead of what now seems, a task. I had the same two linesmen for the season and a half in which it was in vogue and again I say everybody agreed it was successful, but no one found out why it was stopped.

I would also like to see the League asking every referee for a report on their games and where any controversial points had arisen during the game for which the public couldn't find the answer, the information could be had from the League Offices for the benefit of the Press.

I seem to be trying to change things, so here goes for another. What about doing away with the "Wee Black Book" and instead of reporting the caution, give the referee power to order the player concerned to the pavilion for fifteen minutes, allow him on again and if he does not repeat the offence the caution is scrubbed. If he does sin again then he is ordered off in the usual manner and believe me the Clubs would see to it that they had all their players on all the time, after they found out what could happen in any important game.

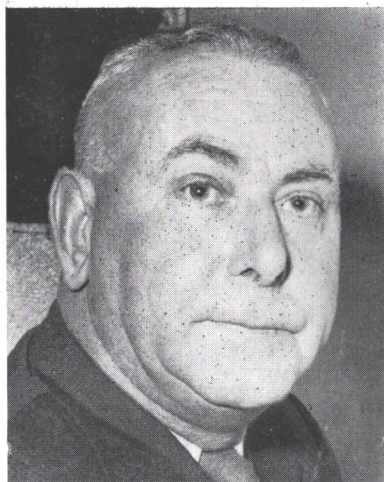
On this point I wonder how many of you have thought "How does the player or referee react when they meet after an "ordering off incident." The answer is everything goes on just as usual and no hard feelings. Speaking for myself I found it that way and it is the same with my colleagues. In fact, not so long ago, there was a case at the S.F.A. Offices which had filled pages in the newspapers, yet when it was finished and the interested parties were leaving, it was raining heavens hard, the referee and his linesmen went round for their car and then picked up the player (who had been suspended) along with his manager and drove them into town. Maybe hard to credit, but very definitely true.

In closing, I wish the Association all the best and hope I have given something for the lads to argue about. Don't forget, however, it is only my opinion and maybe Jerry had something when he cracked about everybody being happy.

**WILLIE DAVIDSON.**

# A TRIBUTE TO GEORGE YOUNG

TED SOUTAR, Evening Citizen



YOU see a lot in almost half a century of watching football all over Britain. Perhaps I have a notion now that I have acquired a right to finger-poke at the faded pictures of the celebrities of other days and dare speak with a smattering of authority.

I saw them all. I knew them intimately, both off and on the field. They were undoubtedly the greats in English football away back in the pre-war football. Legends grew up around him. They were the headline personalities of their day.

Never, was it sadly lamented, would we see the like of full back play as perfected by Sam Wadsworth (Huddersfield), Alex. Finney (Bolton), Eddie Hapgood (Arsenal), and Warney Cresswell (Sunderland and Everton). Nor would it be easy to match the football skill and individual enterprise of centre half back play as performed by such as Frank Barson (Aston Villa, Manchester United), Fred Keenor (Cardiff City), Jimmy Sneddon (Bolton), George Wilson (Sheffield Wednesday) or Stan Cullis (Wolves).

There are others who crowd on me and happily jog my football memory.

But abune them 'a, I shall always have a cherished and everlasting impression of the outstanding football capabilities of big Geordie Young.

He is what I should describe as a priceless piece in a football collector's bag, a

player one would glory in bragging about, now and forever, as something plus.

All the players I have named mastered the one position; they were not called on to duplicate their play and reveal outstanding versatility elsewhere in the side.

Not so George Young. I shouldn't want to go on record, be dogmatic, and declare that Young was a better centre half than he was a full back, or vice versa. The Scottish selectors thought he was of international class in either of the two positions. And I shall echo, how right they were, too.

An historical interlude: When a raw laddie, George Young joined the Rangers from juniors, Rob Roy, in September, 1941. During his 16 seasons at Ibrox Park, he was honoured 73 times by Scotland. When last seen on the field of play, big Geordie stood 6 foot 1 inch and weighed 14 stone 3 pounds.

George Young was one of the cleanest players that ever pulled a jersey over his massive body. I won't whisper it, but shout as loudly as my vocal chords will allow that he never resorted to any of the well-practised churlish and hurtful body tricks of football's artful dodgers.

They now talk about the gentle giants. George was a gentleman of a giant. He played with scrupulous fairness at all times. His conduct was a classic example; he surely brought blushes to the actual and potential "Dirty Dicks"; he was the man with the muffled boot, though I have known

him to receive so much provocation as to try anyone's patience.

George Young captained Rangers. He talked plenty and continually shouted encouragement to his colleagues on the field. Some would fault him for his talkative asides with referees.

Why, I should gladly plead guilty on his behalf to that "indiscretion," but I should wish to receive commendation not condemnation for him by showing in this way his inspiring enthusiasm and leadership for Rangers . . . and Scotland.

George Young was an idol, an idol, though who never developed anything remotely resembling a big head. And who could have blamed him if he had "put on the style"!!

But it is a pleasing thought to recall that he was the No. 1 pin-up footballer of thousands of schoolboys. They would be more readily steeped in the right football mould by modelling themselves on the big fellow.

I remember so well, when a few years ago, the Evening Citizen issued glossy autographed photographs of famous footballers,

that the demand for the picture of Young far out-stripped, apart from Willie Waddell, that for any other featured player.

I shall make no attempt to delve and try to sort out George Young's best games, for his so-called "bad games" could almost be lispied by a toddler.

There should have been a story-book ending to such an illustrious career. There wasn't. All Scotland was keyed up to hear that George Young in the close season of 1956-57 would say a memorable farewell by playing for Scotland against Spain at Madrid in a vital World Cup tie.

The Scottish selectors, aiming to be practicable but unmindful of the 73 times he had represented his country with distinction, dropped him from this glamour game.

And so ended a great footballer's career on an angry and anguished controversial note.

This, gentlemen, has been one of my most pleasant journalistic assignments—to write a tribute to George. There won't be many left or to come who will be fit to lace his boots!

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## ASSOCIATION CHARITIES



The Perth Branch donated £50 to local charities. They organised a Stop Watch Competition and out of the proceeds decided to send Postal Orders for £1 to thirty-five Old Age Pensioners in the City of Perth, the names being supplied by the Perth Old People's Welfare Council. They also have members in the County, and donated £10 towards the Crieff Old People's Summer Outing, and £5 to the Auchterarder Old People's Summer Outing. They propose to continue this good work.

The Carnwath Branch donated £5 5s. to the local Children's Gala Day; £5 5s. to the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation Cancer Fund; £3 3s. to Rex's Fund for Mearns-kirk Hospital and a donation of £2 to the Ladies' and Gent's Bowling Club.

No. 6 Area's annual visit to Hairmyres Hospital took place on January 28th, when they entertained the patients of Wards one and two. The late Mr. James Mackie conveyed to the patients the good wishes of Number 6 Area and the appreciation of the patients was so great that apart from wards one and two being visited there was a special request from wards five and six which, needless to say, the committee readily agreed upon and visits were also made to those two wards. Mr. J. Cunningham, Vice-President and Mrs. McCall dis-

tributed fruit, sweets, cakes, and tea to the patients and Mr. Allan of Gilbertfield Branch acted as compere to the night's entertainment. Mr. Mackie then presented to the Sisters of Wards one and two a beautiful cake with the Rangers F.C. Supporters' Association crest in icing surmounting it, which when cut was to be given to the patients of the two wards. Mr. A. McCall, Hon. Vice-President of the Association brought the evening to a close by thanking the Sisters for their valuable assistance during the evening thus demonstrating that actions speak louder than words.

From the Scottish Council for the Care of Spastics.

To the General Secretary.

13th June, 1957.

Dear Sir.—We have received your letter of 11th instant enclosing cheque for £79 10s. 5d., being contribution from the above Association to the Scottish Council for the Care of Spastics, for which we thank you.

Hairmyres Hospital, East Kilbride.

To the General Secretary,

Dear Sir.—It is with very much pleasure that I have to acknowledge receipt of your

Continued on Page Forty-Two

## THE SOUTHERN GENERAL

By  
JIMMY CUTHBERT



"he can broadcast none, doesn't even mention the best team in the country—CELTIC." But the two wee Davids in the same ward . . . "the best commentator in the world . . . he supports the RANGERS." See what I mean? Whether the broadcaster or commentator is good or not it is enough to get bed-fellows arguing and debating on the result, and "their team." But all are agreed . . . "it's a great system." The nurses say it's wonderful, and mark you many of them take a ribbing from the patients if I do happen to mention their (the nurses) names in my usual before-the-kick-off round of the wards with messages.

In ward —, they are still waiting for the tiles to turn BLUE; they're GREEN, but then the staff nurse is a CELTIC supporter, but a real nice Celtic fan. Come to think of it, they are all very nice . . . and very wonderful !!!

**P**ATIENTS in the Southern General are still enjoying the broadcasts on the relay system from Ibrox, and in our fourth season, the letters are still steadily arriving at the box—answered, and added to the library at the supporters' headquarters.

As you know, we invite any of the staff with the time off, and patients on leave or ex-patients to come along to the box at any game and say a few words to the patients in particular wards, or friends, and this season, only halfway through, we have had more than normal. Many a crack is passed and some "wolf whistles," when nurses in and out of uniform, appear in the box, but they are immune to it all

It only takes a visit to the wards to really find out the wonderful appreciation, and when I visit occasionally on a Sunday, for about two to three hours, I see and talk with old patients and new patients. The long-term patients tell the others . . . "that's the fellow who broadcasts from Ibrox . . . then the fun starts . . . Michael in Ward —; and take it with a smile.

When leaving the Hospital after a visit. I think of the unselfishness of the staff, and the sometimes difficult duties they have to carry out, and how appreciative are the patients. Isn't there more we healthy people can do? May I suggest that branches with the time to spare, adopt a ward or wards—visit, talk with, entertain the patients, take fruit, sweets, books, magazines, etc.; a great deal of happiness can be spread by simple thoughts and acts. Now is your opportunity to do more; maybe it's possible that a further link-up to other hospitals could be considered. If you could see the eager faces of the football fans in bed—the excitement, the anguish, the relief when the game is finished and their team has won—I have this from members of the staff—it would do your heart good. I feel we are not doing enough. Get busy with your ideas, you'll be repaid many times over in utter happiness. I have had many laughs in the Southern General and at the many letters received. Why not share them?

Continued on Page Forty-Two

Page Forty-One

### THE SOUTHERN GENERAL—Contd.

It is most surprising, but someone in the hospital generally knows some player's folks, and they get "cracking" with the family history. A wonderful tonic for the patient. Why not try it sometime?

Again I have to thank Alec Fraser and David Buist for the grand assistance they give in the box before and after the game—and at half-time, that's when I get the chance of a drink. (Soft, of course).

And let's not forget the great help given by the switchboard operators to whom "it's no trouble at all," when using up their time on my usual phone calls to the wards, and the staff of nurses who make things so easy for me when seeking information and visiting the wards out of hours.

I'm sure you will agree with me When I say that the Rangers Supporters' Association installed the system for all patients to enjoy the game whether Rangers, Celtic, Partick Thistle, etc., etc., supporters. There is a slight chance that we may have converted some of them. Who knows?

### ASSOCIATION CHARITIES—Contd.

letter of 29th May, enclosing a cheque for £79 10s. 5d., being the sum gifted to the Comforts Fund of Hairmyres Hospital from monies disbursed to charities by your Association.

I shall be grateful if you will accept for yourself and if you will convey to the members of the Rangers F.C. Supporters' Association, the very sincere thanks of my Board and of the patients in Hairmyres Hospital for this generous gesture which I can assure you is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

G. R. HALL,  
Secretary and Treasurer.

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Scott sends over, up go Kichenbrand and Baird but Jocky Robertson (Third Lanark) wins and the ball is cleared



**RANGERS No. 2 against  
ST. ETIENNE**

By Scott

Abbes lands in a heap at the  
post . . . he has failed to stop  
Scott's shot

No. 3 By Simpson  
Two Rangers rush to con-  
gratulate scorer Simpson . . .  
the Frenchmen are discon-  
solate



## THE EDITOR

AT the Annual General Meeting we could not find an Editor and it was not until after we had recessed and had returned to duty that I had fully decided that if an Editor could not be found to produce the Annual, a publication in which I wholeheartedly believe in, I would undertake to produce this work myself. In fact by now it was too late to ask anyone to start in head first and it would have been very difficult for someone who was not familiar with the Association to have done so unless he had the necessary editorial experience, and such a person was not to be found within the ranks. It was not due to the lack of lobbying certain members who were known to have the know-how, but eventually there was only one course open to me and that was that if I wanted an Annual for the Association this year, then

I would have to take the job on myself. I am not, by this introduction, preparing a screen behind which I will immediately jump if things become unstuck, I stand or fall by my own doings and on top of that I am also aware of the deep duty that I owe to the subscribers to make it a success and keep and maintain their good name.

I wish to thank very sincerely all who have assisted me, and to all the others whom I continually annoyed until they eventually convinced me that they did not have the photograph that I wanted or the information that I sought. I added a host of friends to my already overflowing Associationships.

Sincerely,

HUGH C. McKECHNIE.

---

## SIR GEORGE GRAHAM

THE passing from the football world of Sir George cannot go unmentioned in this Annual; we are all the poorer to-day with the going of G.G. He was a real boy at heart when it come to football—never away from the game and at the same time for ever striving to better the lot of everyone. His journeys around the world for and on behalf of Scotland and the many committees that he sat in took him into contact with many people who would have completely changed the face of football and would have left the door wide open for all the trickery that professionalism can bring in it's wake but when they came to Sir George they had arrived at the end of the line and how well they knew it. Possessing a powerful personality it was not long before by this quality and forth-right speech whether popular or not had gathered together the true disciples of the game and had halted any proposed changes, that were, in the opinion of the council

he represented, not for the good of the game. A man maybe not liked in all corners of the football world, but most certainly respected. A man whose word was his bond, who devoted a lifetime to football and came off the field at the end fresher than the grass itself. He goes now from labour to rest but we all hope that his experience will not be left untapped and that he will be brought into the fringe of things whenever a storm is eminent. Even although he has in the sense of the word retired I feel sure that if you just had a wee look most Saturdays you would find him sitting "out" looking "on." Good luck G.G., long may you enjoy your retirement.

Before we leave this scene let us all offer Sir George's successor, W. Allan, every good wish in his new position. He too has a hard job before him but he was lucky that he spent so many good years under the Master and he is now able to say without any qualms: "It shall be done."

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## INTENDING MEMBERS

**T**HIS is an invitation to join up at 194 Oxford Street, the Headquarters of the OFFICIAL Rangers F.C. Supporters' Association, who are now in their eleventh year of existence.

The advantages of being a member are many. You meet kindred spirits who are followers of your team, you are automatically included in your Club's Ticket Ballot, when a very important game comes along and "Briefs" are at a premium. You have no travel problems when Rangers are playing away from home as your Club Secretary knows all the answers as to how to get there. You will be put in touch with the nearest Club Secretary to your home or work, whichever is the more suitable, and there is a vast network of Rangers Clubs throughout the country.

Then again, you partake in the social activities of both your Club and Area, and it is a very full one, with Annual Outings, Whist Drives, Dances, Concerts and Bowling Tourneys (during the close season).

Finally, there is the pleasant feeling of knowing "you belong" and are no longer just a Rangers fan.

Another aspect of the work of the Rangers Association is the charity work they carry through the year.

The proceeds of the Annual Rally are devoted to easing the lots of inmates of Hospitals and other institutions in different parts of the country. Each week a commentary is broadcast direct to the Southern General Hospital from Ibrox Stadium and these broadcasts are eagerly looked forward to.

The yearly fee per member is 3s, if you wish tickets for every game you will require to have the sum of 4s. to your credit at Headquarters.

This sum is necessary to allow us to purchase tickets on behalf of the members.

The following emblems can be purchased by you if you desire.

Badge — 2s.  
Blazer Badge — 7s. 6d.  
Tie — 9s. 6d.  
Scarf — 21s.

The Tie and Scarf are of Silk. All the above have the Association crest which is the exclusive property of the members.

I trust this information will be helpful and that you will enjoy the companionship of being associated with us.

Having read this article and you feel you will join, simply write to Mr. Alex. Fraser, General Secretary, 194 Oxford Street, Glasgow, C.5, and you will receive a warm welcome.

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