

teams would have lived with Chelsea in the first half hour. In a game to strain credulity, they almost seemed to be playing tip and run with the ball."

And when it was all over, the result was: Southampton 3, Chelsea 1. Why? Because no matter how much you monopolise the play, to win the game you have got to stick the ball in the net. You can run the opposition silly in midfield—didn't we do just that in last season's League Cup Final?—but it doesn't mean a thing if you don't take your chances. In front of goal is where matches are really won and lost. Always has been, always will.

* * *

Colour question: You may not believe that Crystal Palace won't know what colours they will be playing in this afternoon when they arrive at Stamford Bridge, but it's true. When we rang them to ask whether we should give their normal colours or their change strip on the team page of this programme, they surprised us with the reply: "We don't know—it will be for the referee to say. Some refs have decided, when we've played away, that as part of our shirt design is blue we must change if the home team wear blue. Other refs don't mind . . . so we pack both strips and if the ref says we need to change we put on the yellow". Flashback: In the corresponding match here last April Palace turned out in . . . yellow.

Incidentally, we would like to thank Palace for their special co-operation in supplying the team photograph that appears on page 16. As you know, they have added some big signings to their staff in recent weeks, and when we asked their Secretary, Chris Hassell, for a group picture, he said: "The one we had taken for the start of the season is way out of

Front cover shot

LOOK out, Crystal Palace—Steve Kember's after you! Well, he will be if he reproduces horizontal goalmouth action such as he did in this photograph from our last home League game against Leicester City a fortnight ago. And as he's our representative among three players lining up here this afternoon against their previous clubs, let's have a special shout of "Come on, Steve!"

date—I'll talk to Manager Bert Head and see what can be done." Sequel: Palace posed for a new group photograph on Tuesday morning, by Tuesday afternoon we received the print, by Tuesday night the block was made. Marvellous service . . . thank you, Crystal Palace.

* * *

Jimmy Greaves comes "home": Great news for Chelsea fans—Jimmy Greaves is coming back to play at Stamford Bridge! Only for one night, but what a night that will be in March when Chelsea Present play Chelsea Past in skipper Eddie McCreadie's Testimonial match. Jimmy, Terry Venables, George Graham have already said "Yes, we'd love to play", and Eddie is busy contacting other former Chelsea stars for the big line-up. The exact date is now being arranged . . . further details as soon as known. In addition, a "Boxing Night" will be held for Eddie's Testimonial at the Hilton on February 5—an evening dress, black tie affair. Tickets price £8.50 include dinner. Please write direct to Eddie McCreadie, c/o Chelsea F.C.

NEXT STOP STOKE ON THE CHELSEA TRAIN

FOLLOWING the successful running of our Club Excursion to the recent First Division matches at Liverpool and Southampton, the CHELSEA TRAIN will run again for the next two away League games—to Stoke next Saturday and to Wolverhampton on Saturday, December 16.

Details of the Stoke trip: Second-class return £2; first-class (includes lunch outward and dinner on return journey) £7.

Train times: Outward from Euston, 11.20., arrive Stoke 13.26. Return, depart Stoke 17.43, arrive Euston 20.00. We have match seats available for Stoke, price £1.

Rail tickets can be obtained from the main Chelsea F.C. Office after today's match, or during normal office hours next week. These reduced-price tickets are available ONLY from Chelsea direct, and cannot be bought from British Rail.