

THE CHELSEA FOOTBALL & ATHLETIC CO. LTD.

(Founded 1905)

Registered Address
STAMFORD BRIDGE GROUNDS,
FULHAM ROAD, LONDON SW6
(Tel: 01-385 5545)

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COLOURS

Shirts: Royal Blue. Shorts: Royal Blue with White Seam. Stockings: White.

HONOURS

Football League Champions 1955
F.A. Charity Shield Winners 1955
Football League Cup Winners 1965
F.A. Cup Winners 1970
European Cup-Winners' Cup 1971
Won promotion to Div. 1 1907, 1912,
1930, 1963
F.A. Youth Cup Winners 1960, 1961

The Talk of Stamford Bridge

TODAY we fulfil our 24th first-team fixture of a season only twelve weeks old. It is not so many years ago that the playing of two games a week was confined to early and late season with perhaps the odd F.A. Cup replay in the New Year. Now we find that we shall have played, on average, every midweek through the first three months, and if progress is maintained to an advanced stage in the League Cup and also made in the F.A. Cup we could exceed, come the end of the season, our previous highest match total of 60, first set in 1965-66 and equalled last season.

That is in the unknown future. Turning the clock back ten years, we find that at this particular stage of the season we had played only 15 matches (all in the League); twenty years ago the number was 14. There was no League Cup in those days and from mid-September the season became "Saturdays only" until Christmas. It all goes to show how vastly the pattern of the game has

changed at top-club level.

After Wednesday night's failure here against Atvidaberg in the European Cup-Winners' Cup, we revert to League matters with this visit of Nottingham Forest. We need to pick ourselves up at once after the shock of being eliminated from Europe so that we are in shape for the League Cup replay at Bolton on Monday night, when we hope we shall earn a place in the fifth round away to Norwich City only nine days later on November 17.

The following week brings Glasgow Rangers to Stamford Bridge for Ron Harris's Testimonial, and if we stay on course in the League Cup we could find ourselves with only two midweeks free from competition between now and

Christmas.

Injury report: Peter Houseman, who damaged a ligament in the left shoulder when Nottingham Forest were here for the League Cup replay on October 11, satisfactorily tested himself—with a view to being available against Atvidaberg on Wednesday—in the Combination side at Fulham on Monday night. That match also marked the season's first appearance of