

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE
Saturday, 12th February, 1977



Celtic v Partick Thistle

KICK-OFF 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 10p

An 8-goal romp over the "Jags"

IT'S a long time since Celtic have lined up against Partick Thistle at Celtic Park for a league match.

Indeed today's match will be the first ever meeting of the two clubs in a Premier League match. Circumstances have combined this season to prevent the two teams playing their two games of the first half of the season. As a result the Firhill and Parkhead players are going to see a lot of each other as they proceed to play off all four league matches in the course of three months.

An added feature, if any additional ingredient is required for a Celtic match with Thistle is that ex-Celt Bertie Auld will be in the visitors dug-out and ex-Thistle boss Davie McParland will be in the home one.

However games with the Thistle never require any 'extras' and this encounter will not be an exception to the rule.

These games also invariably produce plenty of goals and indeed the last time the Firhill team played a league game at Celtic Park (March 1, 1975) they lost by the odd goal in five.

The game we recall today however produced even more goals and ended in a runaway victory for the Celts.

This was how the teams lined up at Celtic Park on December 27, 1969.

Celtic: Williams; Craig and Hay; Murdoch,

McNeill and Brogan; Johnstone and Hood; Wallace; Auld and Hughes. Twelfth man: Lennox.

Partick Thistle: Ritchie, Campbell and Holt; Johnston, McKinnon and Hansen; Rae and Smith; Bone; Flanagan and Duncan. Twelfth man Gray.

John Hughes opened the scoring for Celtic after 17 minutes when he blasted a terrific shot past Billy Ritchie. Ten minutes later from a Hughes pass Bertie Auld added a second goal and just on the half-time whistle Billy McNeill got into the scoring act to give Celtic a 3-0 interval lead.

Just seven minutes after the break Willie Wallace scored Celtic's fourth goal from a Harry Hood pass.

After sixty minutes play John Hughes scored his own second and Celtic's fifth goal and four minutes later George Smith scored for Thistle.

Celtic's sixth goal was scored by Willie Wallace from the penalty spot. This was a very significant goal for Willie because it was his 100th goal for the Parkhead club.

In the 81st minute John Hughes scored number seven to complete his hat-trick.

With only five minutes remaining to play Bertie Auld added to the Thistle discomfiture when he added the eighth and final goal for Celtic. Only Bobby Lennox who substituted for Harry Hood during the second half, is still on the Celtic playing staff.

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