



**HAMMER**

**Welcome,  
Ararat  
Erevan!**



# HAMMER

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME : TENPENCE

**EUROPEAN  
CUP WINNERS CUP  
1975-76  
Second Round  
Second Leg**

**Boleyn Ground  
Upton Park, London  
WEDNESDAY  
5 NOVEMBER 1975  
7.30 p.m**

**WEST HAM UNITED**

**ARARAT EREVAN (U.S.S.R.)**

# HAMMER

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## WEST HAM UNITED F.C

BOLEYN GROUND  
UPTON PARK, LONDON, E.13

*Directors:*

REG H. PRATT (Chairman)  
LEONARD C. CEARNS  
(Vice-Chairman)

WM. F. CEARNS  
ROLAND G. BRANDON  
BRIAN R. CEARNS, F.C.I.S.

*Manager:* RON GREENWOOD

*Secretary:* EDDIE CHAPMAN

*Team Manager:* JOHN LYALL

*Honorary Consultant:*

W. ALEXANDER LAW, Esq.,  
O.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.S.

*Medical Officer:*

Dr. J. C. BELL, M.B., CH.B.

*European Cup Winners Cup:*

Winners 1964-5 Semi-Finalists 1965-6

*Football Association Cup:*

Winners 1963-4 1974-5

Runners-up 1922-3

Semi-Finalists 1932-3

*Football League (Div. II):*

Winners 1957-8 Runners-up 1922-3

*Football League Cup:*

Runners-up 1965-6

Semi-Finalists 1963-4 1966-7 1971-2

*F.A. Charity Shield:*

Joint Holders 1964 Runners-up 1975

*Football Association Youth Cup:*

Winners 1962-3

Runners-up 1956-7 1958-9 1974-5

Semi-Finalists 1952-3

## Programme Information

The information for this programme has been collected from several sources, and we thank all concerned for their contributions.

A new correspondent in these columns is ARTUR ROTMIL. Artur was born at Cieszyn, Silesia, Poland; he came to England in 1947, and has been a journalist for twelve years.

He specialises in European soccer, and writes for several journals, including "Kicker" (the West German soccer weekly), "Sport" (a Swiss publication in Zurich), "Neue Zürcher Zeitung" (a Swiss daily) and English journals such as "Football News" and "World Soccer."

Artur is a frequent visitor to Upton Park.

We are also pleased to again call upon our Swedish correspondent in Stockholm—FRANK SJOMAN. He provided background information on our First Round opponents Reipas Lahden, and his wide experience in European soccer has revealed itself in the items contributed on this occasion.

MIKE AMBROSE of the "Soviet Weekly" provided up-to-date news which has enabled us to fill in extra details of Ararat players, etc.

We have also received information from the staff of "World Soccer," and thank JACK ROLLIN, PHIL RISING and colleagues for assistance.

It will be appreciated that translation of Russian names into English is not easy, and we have therefore adapted these as far as possible so that the pronunciation is facilitated for our readers.

## ПРИВЕТ ГОСТЯМ

Сегодняшний вечер является исключительным событием на нашей лондонской спорт-площадке клуба УЕСТ ХЭМ ЮНАЙТЕД, потому что мы впервые почтены посещением команды из СССР.

Хотя ереванский матч был нашим первым состязанием в СССР., это не было нашей первой встречей с советской командой. В 1959 г. команда Уест Хэм Юнайтед принимала участие в состязании четырех команд словакии, организованным братиславским клубом Красная Звезда. Мы играли в первом матче с московским Спартакoм и проиграли 5:1.

Надеемся теперь улучшить счёт, но каков бы ни был результат, мы окажем душевный и приятельский приём гостям, как игрокам, так и должностным лицам и сторонникам. Надеемся отплатить за гостеприимство, оказанное нам в Ереване две недели тому назад.

ДОБРО ПОЖАЛОВАТЬ, АРАРАТ ЕРЕВАН

## A CORDIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS FROM ARMENIA

This evening is a special occasion at the London ground of West Ham United, as it will be the first time that we have been honoured with a visit by a team from the Soviet Union.

Although the match in Erevan was our first appearance at a stadium in the U.S.S.R., it was not the first occasion on which we have played a team from that country. During 1959 West Ham United participated in a four-team tournament in Austria; we met Moscow Spartak in the first match, and were defeated by five goals to one.

We hope to achieve a better result on this occasion, but assure our guests that whatever the outcome they will receive a hearty and cordial welcome from our players, officials and supporters. We hope that we shall be able to return the hospitality which we received in Erevan two weeks ago.

Welcome, Ararat Erevan!

# The European Cup Winners Cup

During its early seasons it was said that the European Cup Winners Cup was something of a poor relation to the European Champions Cup, because relatively few countries had a bona fide cup competition. But now the gap has almost disappeared, and the quality of the teams who have competed in the 15 Finals emphasise the importance of one of Europe's major tournaments.

Cup-ties have been a feature of British soccer for some 100 years, and there has always been a special aura attached to the F.A. Cup among English clubs since the competition commenced in 1871. But for a lengthy period the Continentals were more inclined towards a national championship purely on a league basis, and matches outside this framework were usually of an "exhibition" nature.

However, an increasing number of national associations and leagues were eventually converted to following the British example, and several countries have had their equivalent to the F.A. Cup for many years. In some cases these are organised by the league rather than the national association, but the outcome is basically the same.

The institution of a European Cup Winners Cup tournament finally tipped the scales throughout the Continent, as it is a condition of entry that a club must win its national tournament to qualify (or be the losing finalist if a club completes the League-Cup double).

Neither could it be overlooked that there was the benefit of additional revenue to be gained from a national cup competition. This became of increasing importance as financial commitments became heavier, so cup

tournaments are now accepted as a permanent part of the scene all over Europe.

British clubs have enjoyed the benefits of a built-in experience of cup-tie soccer, but although English sides have won this trophy on four occasions, it is notable that so far no Scottish club has its name engraved upon the trophy.

Additionally, there is the remarkable fact that Real Madrid won the European Champions Cup during each of the first five seasons of that competition—which would indicate that by and large any good team can adapt itself to the transition between league and traditional "cup tie football." Basically, it seems to come down to the difference between the "long grind" and "sudden death"!



## Cup Winners Cup 1975-76

### First Round

First leg scores given first, then the second leg, with aggregate in bold type

|                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Ararat Erevan (U.S.S.R.)    | 9 - 1 - 10 |
| Anorthosis (Cyprus)         | 0 - 1 - 1  |
| Basle (Switzerland)         | 1 - 1 - 2  |
| Atletico Madrid (Spain)     | 2 - 1 - 3  |
| Besiktas Istanbul (Turkey)  | 0 - 0 - 0  |
| Fiorentina (Italy)          | 3 - 3 - 6  |
| Borac Banja Luka (Y'slavia) | 9 - 5 - 14 |
| Ruemelingen (Lux'bourg)     | 0 - 1 - 1  |
| Eintracht Frankfurt (W.G.)  | 5 - 6 - 11 |
| Coleraine (N. Ireland)      | 1 - 2 - 3  |
| Haladus Vasutas (Hungary)   | 7 - 1 - 8  |
| La Valetta (Malta)          | 0 - 1 - 1  |
| Home-Farm (Eire)            | 1 - 0 - 1  |
| R.C. Lens (France)          | 1 - 6 - 7  |
| Panathinaikos (Greece)      | 0 - 0 - 0  |
| Sachsenring Zwickau (E.G.)  | 0 - 2 - 2  |
| Rapid Bucharest (Rumania)   | 1 - 0 - 1  |
| Anderlecht (Belgium)        | 0 - 2 - 2  |
| Reipas Lahden (Finland)     | 2 - 0 - 2  |
| West Ham Utd. (England)     | 2 - 3 - 5  |
| Skeid Oslo (Norway)         | 1 - 0 - 1  |
| Stal Rzeszow (Poland)       | 4 - 4 - 8  |
| Spartak Trnava (C'slovakia) | 0 - 0 - 0  |
| Boavista Porto (Portugal)   | 0 - 3 - 3  |
| Sturm Graz (Austria)        | 3 - 0 - 3  |
| Slavia Sofia (Bulgaria)     | 1 - 1 - 2  |
| Vejle Boldklub (Denmark)    | 0 - 0 - 0  |
| Den Haag (Holland)          | 2 - 2 - 4  |
| Valur Reykjavik (Iceland)   | 0 - 0 - 0  |
| Celtic (Scotland)           | 2 - 7 - 9  |
| Wrexham (Wales)             | 2 - 1 - 3  |
| Djurgarden (Sweden)         | 1 - 1 - 2  |

### Second Round: First leg

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Anderlecht (Belgium)             | 3 |
| Borac Banja Luka (Yugoslavia)    | 0 |
| Ararat Erevan (U.S.S.R.)         | 1 |
| West Ham United (England)        | 1 |
| Atletico Madrid (Spain)          | 1 |
| Eintracht Frankfurt (W. Germany) | 2 |
| Boavista Porto (Portugal)        | 0 |
| Celtic (Scotland)                | 0 |
| Fiorentina (Italy)               | 1 |
| Sachsenring Zwickau (East Ger.)  | 0 |
| R.C. Lens (France)               | 3 |
| Den Haag (Holland)               | 2 |
| Sturm Graz (Austria)             | 2 |
| Haladus Vasutas (Hungary)        | 0 |
| Wrexham (Wales)                  | 2 |
| Stal Rzeszow (Poland)            | 0 |

### CALCULATION OF RESULT

1. The winners are decided an aggregate goals.
2. If the scores are level on aggregate, then goals scored away shall count double in order to decide the winners.
3. If the aggregates are still level, then extra time of 15 mins. each way shall be played. Away goals during this period shall count double in the event of the aggregate still being level, so that if the number of goals scored in extra time are equal (i.e., other than a 0-0 draw) then the away team on this leg would qualify for the next round.
4. If the aggregates still remain level at the end of extra time, the tie will be resolved by penalty kicks; each team to have five penalties, the one scoring the highest number to qualify. If still a draw, five other players must be nominated, but this is on a "sudden death" basis, the side being ahead after equal number of penalties being declared winners.

# ARARAT EREVAN

Although the Ararat Erevan club was founded in 1937, it is only in recent years that its name has become more widely-known in U.S.S.R. and European football.

The original title was Dynamo Erevan, but the name was changed to Ararat Erevan in 1963. It remains part of the vast Dynamo organisation, which has numerous branches throughout the Soviet Union.

The club first reached the top Division in 1949, and was runner-up to Dynamo Kiev in the National Cup Final of 1954, losing 1-2.

In 1961 it finished eighth out of ten teams and played in a lower Division for three of the next four years. It regained senior status for 1966, being 13th of 19 teams and eighth during the following year.

1968 ended with Ararat placed 16th out of 20; in the next season—when the league was divided into two groups of ten—it finished eighth.

1970 brought an improvement to twelfth out of 17, and from thence onwards the club commenced to hit the headlines. Manager Nikolai Glebov, a former national coach, was largely responsible for this progress; he concentrated upon an attacking style, and the benefit of his work was reaped by Nikolai Simonian who took over the team in 1973. That was the year they defeated Dynamo Kiev by 2-1 in the Cup Final, to avenge the defeat sustained 19 years earlier.

Simonian is the highest all-time scorer in the National League with 144 goals, and a Russian international. He is now Assistant Chief of the Football Department of the U.S.S.R. Sport Committee.

Ararat had finished second and fourth in the League during 1971 and 1972. By winning the Championship in 1973 they completed the League



and Cup "double," finishing three points ahead of Dynamo Kiev in the table and also beating them in the Final.

The club dropped to fifth place in the 1974 table, but in August 1975 again won the National Cup by defeating Sarja Voroshilovgrad 2-1 before a 60,000 attendance in Moscow.

Simonian has now been replaced as manager by 64-year-old Victor Maslov, famous as the man who developed the Dynamo Kiev club to its present high standing (Kiev are likely to be league champions this season). Kiev eliminated Glasgow Celtic from the First Round of the European Champions Cup in 1967, the season after the Scottish club won it.

Maslov has a propensity for developing young players, and the club is particularly proud that the current team is entirely of Armenian birth.

## COACHING

Ararat Erevan is traditionally an attack-minded team, noted for opportunist moves which quickly develop from defence; it has been said that nearly all Armenian youngsters would rather be forwards than defenders! Therefore the rearguard was to some extent susceptible, even during recent successes, but Maslov has placed additional emphasis on this part of the technical development.

## THE STADIUM

Ararat play their home matches at the Rasdan Stadium in Erevan; it has a capacity of 70,000. When they won the league title in 1973, the average attendance there was 57,000. The gate at our match was 66,662.

The Stadium is constructed in a huge excavation made in a hillside outside the city. A triple-shift worked for a whole year on the construction, and many local soccer fans added their voluntary assistance to those of the regular workers.

Bowl-shaped, it is all seating with no standing places.

The pitch is surrounded by an all-weather, eight-lane athletic track, and the whole complex reflects the enthusiastic attitude shown by the Government to sport in the U.S.S.R. Even our most modern stadia in Britain could well do with some of Rasdan's facilities.

The average price of admission is equivalent to £1.

## COLOURS

The club colours are white shirts, shorts and stockings. However, for the match in Erevan (which was televised) they wore yellow shirts, green shorts and yellow stockings.

## Previous results in Europe

### European Champions Cup: 1974-5

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| Viking, Stavanger | 4-2, 2-0 |
| Cork Celtic       | 5-0, 2-1 |
| Bayern Munich     | 1-0, 0-2 |

### U.E.F.A. Cup: 1972-3

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| EPA Larnaca, Cyprus  | 1-0, 1-0 |
| Grasshoppers, Zurich | 4-2, 3-1 |
| Kaiserslautern       | 2-0, 0-2 |

(lost on penalties)

### Cup Winners Cup: 1975-6

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Anorthosis Famagusta | 9-0, 1-1 |
| West Ham United      | 1-1,     |

Goalscorers: Markarov 5, Bondarenko 2, Oganesian 2, Petrosian (N.) 1, Petrosian (S.) 1.

## RESULTS THIS YEAR

### League

|                       |   |     |
|-----------------------|---|-----|
| Dniepr Dnepropetrovsk | H | 3-0 |
| CSKA Moscow           | A | 1-0 |
| Locomotiv Moscow      | A | 1-4 |
| Dynamo Tbilisi        | H | 1-0 |
| Dynamo Kiev           | H | 2-3 |
| SKA Rostov            | A | 2-3 |
| Dynamo Moscow         | A | 0-1 |
| Spartak Moscow        | A | 0-0 |
| Sarja Voroshilovgrad  | H | 2-0 |
| Schachter Donetsk     | H | 1-0 |
| Pachtakor Tashkent    | H | 2-0 |
| Zenith Leningrad      | A | 2-1 |
| Torpedo Moscow        | A | 1-1 |
| Cernomore Odessa      | H | 1-0 |
| Karpaty Lvov          | A | 0-2 |
| Dynamo Kiev           | A | 0-4 |
| Dniepr Dnepropetrovsk | A | 0-1 |
| Dynamo Moscow         | H | 3-5 |
| Spartak Moscow        | H | 2-1 |
| Pachtakor Tashkent    | A | 0-1 |
| SKA Rostov            | H | 2-2 |
| Cernomore Odessa      | A | 1-1 |
| Zenith Leningrad      | H | 4-2 |
| Torpedo Moscow        | H | 2-0 |
| Locomotiv Moscow      | H | 2-0 |
| Karpaty Lvov          | H | 0-1 |
| CSKA Moscow           | H | 2-0 |

### U.S.S.R. National Cup: 1975

(The whole tournament was played during the spring, except for the Final which was during the summer).

#### FIRST ROUND:

|                           |   |     |
|---------------------------|---|-----|
| Krylja Sovietov Kuibyshev | H | 4-1 |
|---------------------------|---|-----|

#### SECOND ROUND:

|              |   |     |
|--------------|---|-----|
| Karpaty Lvov | H | 1-0 |
|--------------|---|-----|

#### THIRD ROUND:

|                  |   |     |
|------------------|---|-----|
| Locomotiv Moscow | A | 1-1 |
|------------------|---|-----|

(5-3 on penalties)

#### SEMI-FINAL:

|                |   |     |
|----------------|---|-----|
| Dynamo Tbilisi | H | 3-1 |
|----------------|---|-----|

#### FINAL (in Moscow)

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Sarja Voroshilovgrad | 2-1 |
|----------------------|-----|

Kusnetsov scored first for Sarja Voroshilovgrad, Andreasián equalised and Markarov scored the winner.

„ՀՐԱԳԴԱՆ“ ԿԵՆՏՐՈՆԱԿԱՆ ԱՏԱԴԻՈՆ

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Երաններեն թիվը 22 22

ՏՈՒՆԵՐԸ ՎՃԱՌՈՎԱԹՄ ԵՆ ԿՈՆԿՅՈՒՄ ԼՈՍՏԵՐՈՎ ԵՐԵՎԱՆԻ ԲՈՒՆԵՐԻ ԹՐԶՆՈՐԹՅՈՒՆՆԵՐԻՆ  
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A reproduction of the poster advertsing the match in Armenia

# The First Leg in Erevan

There was no doubt that our 1—1 draw at the Rasdan Stadium in the first leg was one of our best-ever results in European competition, and congratulations are due on a great performance.

It was a great example of team-work, with every player giving a hundred-per-cent display of courage and determination against a side whose recent record has been very impressive.

Our prospects were not enhanced when we learned that Trevor Brooking would be unable to play because of a stomach upset. With Kevin Lock and Billy Jennings also out of action our eligible squad was depleted, and re-organisation was necessary. However, the tactics worked out to perfection, and very much impressed the Erevan officials as well as their players.

Ararat put on pressure directly from the kick-off, and it was during this opening period of 20 minutes that we gave early indication of our defensive propensities. Although they hit the

bar on one occasion the home side was often hurried into inadequate finishing, and this was an apparent weakness in their make-up on that occasion, as many shots went well off target after excellent approach-work.

Having weathered the opening storm our XI began to put it together, and the home fans realised that their team might not achieve the success which many had been anticipating. As far as we were concerned, a goalless first half was midway to a moral victory.

Eleven minutes after the resumption it was our turn to begin to hope for complete success. A combined move downfield ended with the ball being pushed through by Billy Bonds to leave Alan Taylor in the clear with only the goalkeeper to beat. To the Hammers' fans it appeared to take ages for Alan to administer the coup-de-grace, but an almost eerie silence broken only by the cheers of some fifty Hammers' supporters indicated that Ararat were one down.

A re-doubling of effort took the Erevan team back to attack, but although two free-kicks just outside the penalty-box spelled danger one came to naught and the other was well saved by Mervyn Day. Thus, when the equaliser did arrive, it provided even greater astonishment than did our goal, being completely unexpected in its execution.

Day was being harrassed by Nazar Petrosian as our 'keeper prepared to either throw the ball to a colleague or take the opportunity to make a clearance kick; the Armenian succeeded in dispossessing Mervyn by heading the ball from between his hands, and followed up amid a flurry of arms and legs to send the ball over our line.

The referee immediately awarded a goal, although in the opinion of English onlookers the situation would probably have ended with a free-kick to the Hammers if it had taken place over here.

Subsequently it appeared that the referee had booked two of our players, but his actions before resuming the game were to indicate to each linesman that he was adding two minutes of overtime for time-wasting.

With 24 minutes remaining the resumed cheers of the home fans gave renewed confidence to Ararat, but as time ebbed away these died down and the closing minutes were played out in a quieter atmosphere. Erevan made a substitution a quarter-hour from the end, but to no avail.

A very pleasing feature was the sporting manner in which the match was contested. The referee afterwards remarked that the players had given him an "easy ride," and that it was one of the most pleasant engagements which he had fulfilled.

The merit of our all-round display was underlined by the nine British press and radio-men present. Their delight was reflected in the reports, and we must hope that we can justify their optimism by progressing to the Quarter Finals.

## MATCH STATISTICS

Ararat Erevan: Abramian, Gevorkijian, Sarkisian, Martirusian, Mesropian, Andreasian (capt.), Azarian, Oganessian, Markarov, Petrosian (S.), Petrosian (N.) (Pogosian 75).  
West Ham Utd.: Day, McDowell, Lampard, Bonds (capt.), Taylor (T.), Coleman, Taylor (A.), Paddon, Gould, Holland, Robson.  
1—1 (H.T. 0—0). Scorers: Taylor (A.) (56), Petrosian (S.) (66).  
Attendance: 66,662.  
Referee: Hans Weyland (West Germany).

## Match Photos

We apologise for the omission of match photos in this issue, due to circumstances entirely beyond our control.

Some 30 hours before the match we had tied up the preliminaries and received confirmation a couple of hours before kick-off that photos would be in our hands before departure on the homeward journey. This was again confirmed after the match, but the photos never arrived.

We had reproductions made from photographs which appeared in local newspapers, which we obtained at the airport before departure. Unfortunately, these could not be of the standard we require, so we decided to leave them out.

The group photo of Ararat Erevan was obtained by borrowing a picture from a special display in the press room at the Rasdan Stadium.

# Ararat Players

## Alexei Abramian

Born 1945. Considered one of the top four goalkeepers in U.S.S.R. 218 appearances.

## Arkadii Andreasian

Born 1947. Left-side Midfield. Rated by many as the finest player in the team. Small, but clever, always on the look-out for a quick breakthrough. Played in the 1972 Olympics and the World Cup qualifying matches of 1974. A dozen full caps. Has been voted the best player in the country in his position for the past two years. A strong shot. 38 goals in 170 appearances. Team captain.

## Shota Arutjunian

Born 1954. Defender.

## Armen Azarian

Born 1955. Midfield.

## Sergei Bondarenko

Born 1948. Midfield. A very strong player with great stamina. 24 goals in 203 appearances.

## Noraer Demirchan

Born 1945. Reserve goalkeeper. 89 appearances.

## Sanasar Gevorkijan

Born 1951. Right-back, but has operated in midfield. 60 appearances.

## Levon Ishtoyan

Born 1947. A dangerous winger, he has scored 28 goals in 177 appearances. An idol of the Ararat fans. Has five full caps.

## Sascha Keropian

Born 1956. Attacker.

## Eduard Markarov

Born 1942. The finest goalscorer in the current U.S.S.R. game. Scored 119 goals in 349 appearances, and is set to overtake Simonian's record soon, as he has reached the 130-mark during this season. A very dangerous player with a strong finish, he scored five goals against Anorthosis in the

First Round of the E.C.W. Cup competition this season. Aged 33, he is contemplating retiring at the end of this season. Played for U.S.S.R. v Chile at Sunderland in the World Cup 1966, but his individualistic approach does not lend itself to rigid tactical formations.

## Suren Martirusian

Born 1949. Defender. Fast, strong tackler. 98 appearances.

## Noraer Mesropian

Born 1946. Defender, who can play an overlapping role. 273 appearances.

## Arutjan Minasian

Born 1954. Midfield. Three appearances.

## Alexander Mirsoian

Born 1951. A central defender, who can also play in midfield as a defensive marker. 68 appearances.

## Artucha Mousesian

Born 1954. Midfield.

## Kheren Oganesian

Born 1955. Midfield or attacker; is a comparative newcomer to the regular side. Plays for the current Under-23 squad.

## Aram Parsadanian

A newcomer to the team this season he played in a couple of matches during September.

## Nazar Petrosian

Born 1951. Attacker; a very good ball-player and dribbler. Seven goals in 74 appearances. At present in the national Under-23 squad.

## Samvel Petrosian

Born 1954. Midfield. Six appearances.

## Sergei Pogosian

Born 1948. Attacker. Nine goals in 136 appearances.

## Armen Sarkisian

Born 1953. Defensive stopper, in the current U.S.S.R. Under-23 squad.

**NOTE:** Appearances and goals refer to matches up to start of the 1975 season.

# West Ham Utd

Mervyn Day

John McDowell

Keith Coleman

Frank Lampard

Billy Bonds (capt.)

Tommy Taylor

Kevin Lock

Mick McGiven

Alan Taylor

Graham Paddon

Bobby Gould

Billy Jennings

Trevor Brooking

Pat Holland

Keith Robson

Alan Curbishley

Bobby Ferguson

● Jersey numbers, changes, etc., will be announced.

Referee :

ROBERT HELIES

Linesman : Red Flag

ROBERT SRAUCIEL

Linesman : Orange Flag

ANGE RANCELLI

All officials are from the French F.A.

# Ararat Erevan

1 Alexei Abramian

2 Sanasar Gevorkijan

3 Armen Sarkisian

4 Suren Martirusian

5 Noraer Mesropian

6 Arkadii Andreasian  
(captain)

7 Armen Azarian

8 Kheren Oganesian

9 Eduard Markarov

10 Samvel Petrosian

11 Nazar Petrosian

13 Sergei Pogosian

14 Aram Parsadanian

Grischa Abramian

Shota Arutjunian

Sergei Bondarenko

Noraer Demirchan

Levon Ishtoyan

Sascha Keropian

Arutjan Minasian

Alexander Mirsoian

Artucha Mousesian



ARARAT EREVAN: 1975

## Our Visit to Armenia

The city of Erevan is in the Soviet Republic of Armenia, situated about 10 miles from the Turkish border, midway between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea in the Caucasus Mountains at an altitude of around 3,000 feet.

The name, when literally translated from the Armenian, can be spelled in three ways: Erevan, Jerevan or Yerevan. For the purposes of this programme we have used the first of these.

The Erevan club takes part of its name from the famous Mount Ararat which is part of the Caucasus chain. 16,916 feet in height, it has Biblical associations, and is attributed as being the spot upon which Noah's Ark came to rest after the Great Flood.

Mount Ararat is now in Turkish territory, but the Armenians still regard it as "their" mountain and a symbol of their traditions.

Erevan, with its 700,000 population, is the capital of the Soviet Republic of Armenia. It is one of the oldest cities in the world.

The city is known for its manufacture of textiles and machinery. Armenian brandy is world famous, and compares with its equivalents in France. The unending stream of jokes poured out daily by "Radio Erevan" is another local talking-point.

The citizens are proud of their Armenian background, and are of a Latin temperament in contrast to that which we in Britain normally associate with the U.S.S.R.

### IN THE AIR

Our journey was by Aeroflot planes, using TU154A jets. These have a cruising speed of 900 km (560 m.p.h.) at an altitude of 10,000 metres (32,000 feet). They are excellent planes, and the in-flight service was attentive.

The outwards flight was routed from Stansted to Moscow, a hop of 2,700 km. (1,700 miles). Following this three-hour-plus flight, there was

a stop-over of about two hours for customs and other checks before we embarked on the second leg to Erevan — another 2,300 km. (1,450 miles). This took over two-hours-and-a-half, so by then it was well past midnight (local time), as the clocks in Erevan are three hours in advance of B.S.T. After bus-travel from the airport and a meal it was around 3 a.m. when we got to bed.

We were up at 6.30 a.m. for the return journey, with take-off at 10 a.m.

As we travelled entirely in daylight we were able to observe the Russian scenery. There was a magnificent view of Mount Ararat soon after take-off, and we then traversed the snow-capped Caucasus range. The country flattened out from thence to Moscow, where we had a two-hour stop with the temperature at around 40°F. Between Moscow and Riga (Latvia) we flew over hundreds of miles of lakes—a fantastic piece of scenery. The route then crossed the Baltic Sea to Copenhagen (Denmark) and over the North Sea, to make our English landfall. We landed at Stansted at 3.25 p.m. (B.S.T.).

### HOSPITALITY AND TOURING

The hospitality accorded to our entire party was really tremendous, and every endeavour was made to give assistance whenever possible. There were obvious language problems, but the abilities of interpreters, the know-

ledge of English by some club officials, etc., and interchange of other European tongues were adequately supplemented by "sign language" which is universally acceptable.

There were three interesting sight-seeing tours. These were firstly a general run around the city and the Stadium; then a visit to a church and cathedral; and finally, a journey into the mountains to especially visit reconstructions of buildings which date back to the eras of B.C.

The Cathedral is the headquarters of the Armenian Church, which is a world-wide creed and receives financial assistance from abroad.

### SOCIAL NICETIES

During the course of our visit there were two official functions—on the nights of Tuesday and Wednesday.

During the course of these there were exchanges of gifts, and our Chairman—Mr. R. H. Pratt—received a presentation plaque which depicted Mount Ararat. Mr. Pratt thanked the President of Ararat Erevan for the gift, and reciprocated it with one from the Hammers; Mrs. Pratt also presented some chocolates for the President's wife.

A speech was also made by Mr. Marcel Genicot, the U.E.F.A. representative from the Belgium Football Association; he travelled with our party both ways, this being the easiest manner for him to get to the match.

We were also introduced to "Tiger" Khomich. He was goalkeeper for the Moscow Dynamo team which visited Britain soon after the War, and is now a press photographer. Tiger renewed acquaintance with his old friend Bernard Joy, against whom he played when Dynamo met Arsenal during that tour of long ago. Now aged 56, Tiger was playing in a veterans' match on the following day at Tbilisi.

Farewells took place in a replica of an ancient Armenian house, and provided a pleasant finale to the making of mutual friendships.

### MATCH PROGRAMMES

We regret that supplies of match programmes for the game in Erevan are not available for general sale.

A limited issue was printed, and we were only able to obtain some as personal souvenirs. This was a four-page leaflet; it did not include a list of teams, but gave a brief history of the Hammers in the Armenian and Russian languages and details of U.E.F.A. regulations.

We distributed surplus copies of Hammers' programmes and team-pictures to many Ararat Erevan fans, and these created a lot of interest.

## Catering Triumph

A considerable contribution to the success of our visit to Erevan were the facilities provided by our Club caterer, Pat Doran.

Pat and his son Pat were in charge of the catering liaison with the chef and staff of the Hotel where our party was staying. They had several hampers of provisions on the plane, and these were the basis of the meals produced for the players and officials.

Pat soon got on good terms with the chef, and they worked well together in providing English-type meals. These contrasted considerably with the local food, and keeping to a near-normal diet was to the physical advantage of our players.

These facilities were extended to the supporters and press at the time of our arrival in Erevan on the Tuesday morning. It was a most welcome surprise to be provided with a meal of melon, cold meats, salad and sweet at 2 a.m., and everyone expressed their appreciation to the Dorans.

We thank Pat for making those arrangements, and much credit is due to him for his efforts.

# Soccer in the U.S.S.R

A review by ARTUR ROTMIL, FRANK SJOMAN and JACK HELLIAR

The history of football in Russia can be traced to the last century; and its cradle was in the country's second largest city, then called St. Petersburg, but since renamed Leningrad. The game later began to develop in Moscow, where the first league championship was staged, and then gradually spread to other parts of the country.

The birth of football in Russia is officially recorded as 1897, but organised soccer on the scale quickly achieved by other European countries, has for many years been hampered by the adverse climate and enormous distances, with thousands of miles separating the principal sports centres. This was the main reason why the National League was not started until 1936.

British footballers first arrived in Russia in 1911, when a combined Oxford-Cambridge side gave the Russian teams an insight of the arts and crafts of the game. A year later, Russia's first test abroad, in the Olympic Games in Stockholm, ended in a first round defeat against Finland by 1-2. In a consolation match the Russians were swamped by Germany to the tune of 16-0.

But a number of resident Britons, who played for Russian teams, eventually helped to improve standards. Probably due to this influence the Russians have always been noted for their superb athletic preparation, speed and determination, rather than for adventurous play, subtlety of movement, or artistry on the ball. How soccer has caught on, can be gauged from the fact, that today the Soviet Union has over four million registered players.

### VISITS TO BRITAIN

Russian footballers made their first impact on the British sporting public soon after the war, when the famous Moscow Dynamos came to these shores in the autumn of 1945. Their visit aroused such tremendous interest, that 271,000 spectators watched the four games in which the Russians

remained unbeaten against Chelsea (3-3), Cardiff City (10-1), Arsenal (4-3) and Glasgow Rangers (2-2).

### INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS

Soviet footballers have sometimes suffered from semi-isolation. While other European nations eagerly exchanged ideas on methods of coaching, the Russians were restricted to their home-bred experts. Thus, for some years, their style of play did not compare with the modern concept of the game, as demonstrated by the Central Europeans from Austria and Hungary in the early 'fifties, or by the great Real Madrid and Benfica club sides of the late 'fifties and 'sixties. It was not until 1958, in fact, that the Soviet authorities entered the national team for the first time in the World Cup competition, although their representatives had successfully competed in the Olympic Games, winning the 1956 tournament in Melbourne.

Through improved international contacts the Russians began to produce outstanding individual players (and more recently club sides) to match the best in Europe. Such stars as Lev Yashin (generally regarded as one of the finest goalkeepers of all



time), defender Shesternev, half-backs Voronin and Netto, and forwards Simonian, Streltsov and Ivanov, became known and respected all over the world.

### WORLD CUP TARGET

The reigning champions, Dynamo Kiev, last season became the first Russian team to win a European trophy—the Cup Winners Cup. They are today regarded as one of the most accomplished teams in Europe. As they largely comprise the national side, they are worthy successors to the team which won the first European Nations Cup for the Soviet Union in 1960, and were finalists in 1964 and 1972. With this brilliant team as a backbone, the Russians are now aim-

ing not only to win the European Championship, but also the World Cup in 1978.

### "SUPER CUP" WINNERS

Another honour which came to a Russian club a few weeks ago was the winning of the U.E.F.A. Super Cup. This event is between the winners of the Champions Cup and the Cup Winners Cup of the previous season, and is played in two legs.

Dynamo Kiev did a noted "double" in winning the trophy, for they twice defeated Bayern Munich (the Champions Cup winners). The first leg in West Germany ended 1-0, and the return in Kiev brought a 2-0 score, Dynamo winning 3-0 on aggregate.

**The principal soccer honours won by the U.S.S.R. during the past twenty years have been in the Olympic Games of 1956 and the European Nations Cup.**

They defeated Yugoslavia 1-0 in the Melbourne Olympics, and their European Finals were:

- 1960 U.S.S.R. 2 Yugoslavia 1
- 1964 Spain 2 U.S.S.R. 1
- 1972 West Germany 3 U.S.S.R. 0

### NATIONAL STATISTICS

The U.S.S.R. Football Association was formed in 1934, and the national colours are red shirts, white shorts, red stockings.

From a population of 210 million, there are 4,300,000 players. These are formed into 180 clubs with 50,163 teams.

The national stadium is the Lenin Stadium in Moscow, which holds 102,000 people. Among other big arenas are:

- Ukraine Republic, Kiev (90,000);
- Kirov Stadium, Leningrad (84,000);
- Rasdan Stadium, Erevan (70,000).
- Pakhtakov, Tashkent (60,000);
- Dynamo Stadium, Moscow (54,000);
- Dynamo Stadium, Tbilisi (40,000);

### ALL AMATEURS

All players come under the amateur classification, as they have other employment apart from football. The Ararat players are mainly students or physical education instructors, and their wages average around 1,300 roubles (£500-£600) a month. There is a win bonus, but in the main these amounts are dependent upon gate receipts.

Most clubs are sponsored by local factories, universities and Army garrisons.

### EUROPEAN CUP 1974-76

The current European Nations Cup competition started disastrously for the U.S.S.R. when they lost 3-0 to Eire in Dublin in October 1974.

This led to a decision to form two separate squads, one for the European championship and the other for the

1976 Olympics qualifying tournament. Each squad was based upon a different club-side, in order to assist in cohesion of play.

The 1974 champions — Dynamo Kiev — were chosen as the basis of the European team, and runners-up Spartak Moscow form the nucleus of the Olympics side. Both can call upon other clubs' resources if they consider they need strengthening, and in fact Kiev have loaned some players to the Olympic squad when Spartak's form declined.

Results so far are:

### European Championship

|           |             |   |             |   |
|-----------|-------------|---|-------------|---|
| Oct. 1974 | Eire        | 3 | U.S.S.R.    | 0 |
| Nov. 1974 | Turkey      | 1 | Eire        | 1 |
| Dec. 1974 | Turkey      | 2 | Switzerland | 1 |
| Apr. 1975 | U.S.S.R.    | 3 | Turkey      | 0 |
| Apr. 1975 | Switzerland | 1 | Turkey      | 1 |
| May 1975  | Eire        | 2 | Switzerland | 1 |
| May 1975  | U.S.S.R.    | 2 | Eire        | 1 |
| May 1975  | Switzerland | 1 | Eire        | 0 |
| May 1975  | Switzerland | 0 | U.S.S.R.    | 1 |
| Oct. 1975 | Eire        | 4 | Turkey      | 0 |

|             | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|-------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Eire        | 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 5  | 7   |
| U.S.S.R.    | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 6  | 4  | 6   |
| Turkey      | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4  | 10 | 4   |
| Switzerland | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4  | 6  | 3   |

### Remaining matches

- Nov. 12 U.S.S.R. v Switzerland
- Nov. 23 Turkey v U.S.S.R.

### Olympics 1976

|                     |   |     |
|---------------------|---|-----|
| Yugoslavia Olympics | H | 3-0 |
| Yugoslavia Olympics | A | 1-1 |
| Iceland             | A | 2-0 |
| Norway Olympics     | A | 3-1 |
| East Germany        | H | 0-0 |
| Iceland             | H | 1-0 |
| Norway Olympics     | H | 4-0 |

Thus, after the initial setback, both squads have done well, and there appears to be every possibility of qualifying for the Quarter-Finals of the European Nations Cup as well as for the Olympic Finals.

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

The top division in the U.S.S.R. National League is called the "Championship League"; it consists of 16 clubs, of which two are relegated at the end of each season.

The promoted clubs come from the First Division (virtually the second division); this is also nationwide, and comprises 20 teams.

Below this are about half-a-dozen Second Divisions, made up in geographical zones. The winners of these play off for the two promotion places in the First Division.

The U.S.S.R. has for many years been playing a spring-autumn season like the Scandinavian countries, but in order to re-align with the rest of Europe it is proposed to revert to an autumn-spring campaign. The change will probably take place in 1976.

Although Dynamo Kiev have dominated this season's championship, several clubs have been in contention for the next higher places. Positions have changed week-by-week, with the majority of the teams being very evenly-balanced.

### CHAMPIONSHIP LEAGUE: 1975

|                      | P  | W  | D  | L  | F  | A  | Pts |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Dynamo Kiev          | 25 | 15 | 7  | 3  | 44 | 25 | 37  |
| Schachter Donetsk    | 27 | 13 | 8  | 6  | 38 | 22 | 34  |
| Dynamo Moscow        | 26 | 10 | 11 | 5  | 33 | 21 | 31  |
| Torpedo Moscow       | 27 | 12 | 7  | 8  | 40 | 29 | 31  |
| Ararat Erevan        | 27 | 13 | 4  | 10 | 37 | 34 | 30  |
| Dnepropetrovsk       | 27 | 10 | 9  | 8  | 31 | 27 | 29  |
| Karpaty Lvov         | 27 | 9  | 10 | 8  | 33 | 27 | 28  |
| Sarja Voroshilovgrad | 27 | 9  | 10 | 8  | 31 | 36 | 28  |
| Dynamo Tbilisi       | 27 | 10 | 7  | 10 | 29 | 30 | 27  |
| Spartak Moscow       | 26 | 9  | 8  | 9  | 26 | 26 | 26  |
| CSKA Moscow          | 26 | 6  | 11 | 9  | 27 | 31 | 23  |
| Cernomore Odessa     | 27 | 8  | 7  | 12 | 25 | 33 | 23  |
| Lokomotiv Moscow     | 27 | 5  | 11 | 11 | 24 | 31 | 21  |
| Pachtakor Tashkent   | 27 | 8  | 5  | 14 | 30 | 41 | 21  |
| Zenith Leningrad     | 26 | 7  | 7  | 12 | 25 | 39 | 21  |
| SKA Rostov           | 27 | 4  | 8  | 15 | 23 | 44 | 16  |

as at 24 October

### FINAL TABLE 1974

|                      | P  | W  | D  | L  | F  | A  | Pts |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Dynamo Kiev          | 30 | 14 | 12 | 4  | 49 | 24 | 40  |
| Spartak Moscow       | 30 | 15 | 9  | 6  | 41 | 23 | 39  |
| Cernomore Odessa     | 30 | 12 | 11 | 7  | 35 | 31 | 35  |
| Torpedo Moscow       | 30 | 13 | 7  | 10 | 35 | 28 | 33  |
| Ararat Erevan        | 30 | 11 | 10 | 9  | 37 | 28 | 32  |
| Dynamo Moscow        | 30 | 10 | 11 | 9  | 42 | 33 | 31  |
| Zenith Leningrad     | 30 | 8  | 15 | 7  | 36 | 41 | 31  |
| Pachtakor Tashkent   | 30 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 45 | 44 | 30  |
| Dynamo Tbilisi       | 30 | 8  | 14 | 8  | 29 | 34 | 30  |
| Dnepropetrovsk       | 30 | 9  | 11 | 10 | 31 | 39 | 29  |
| Karpaty Lvov         | 30 | 8  | 12 | 10 | 33 | 33 | 28  |
| Schachter Donetsk    | 30 | 8  | 12 | 10 | 31 | 35 | 28  |
| CSKA Moscow          | 30 | 7  | 12 | 11 | 28 | 33 | 26  |
| Sarja Voroshilovgrad | 30 | 8  | 10 | 12 | 32 | 41 | 26  |
| Kairat Alma Ata      | 30 | 8  | 10 | 12 | 37 | 47 | 26  |
| Nistru Kischinev     | 30 | 4  | 8  | 18 | 32 | 59 | 16  |

**U.S.S.R. CHAMPIONS**  
League and Cup Winners  
Since World War II

| League Champions    | Cup Winners      |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 1946 CSKA Moscow    | Spartak Moscow   |
| 1947 CSKA Moscow    | Spartak Moscow   |
| 1948 CSKA Moscow    | CSKA Moscow      |
| 1949 Dynamo Moscow  | Torpedo Moscow   |
| 1950 CSKA Moscow    | Spartak Moscow   |
| 1951 CSKA Moscow    | CSKA Moscow      |
| 1952 Spartak Moscow | Torpedo Moscow   |
| 1953 Spartak Moscow | Dynamo Moscow    |
| 1954 Dynamo Moscow  | Dynamo Kiev      |
| 1955 Dynamo Moscow  | CSKA Moscow      |
| 1956 Spartak Moscow | No competition   |
| 1957 Dynamo Moscow  | Lokomotiv Moscow |

|                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1958 Spartak Moscow       | Spartak Moscow    |
| 1959 Dynamo Moscow        | No competition    |
| 1960 Torpedo Moscow       | Torpedo Moscow    |
| 1961 Dynamo Kiev          | Schachter Donetsk |
| 1962 Spartak Moscow       | Schachter Donetsk |
| 1963 Dynamo Moscow        | Spartak Moscow    |
| 1964 Dynamo Tbilisi       | Dynamo Kiev       |
| 1965 Torpedo Moscow       | Spartak Moscow    |
| 1966 Dynamo Kiev          | Dynamo Kiev       |
| 1967 Dynamo Kiev          | Dynamo Moscow     |
| 1968 Dynamo Kiev          | Torpedo Moscow    |
| 1969 Spartak Moscow       | Karpaty Lvov      |
| 1970 CSKA Moscow          | Dynamo Moscow     |
| 1971 Dynamo Kiev          | Spartak Moscow    |
| 1972 Sarja Voroshilovgrad | Torpedo Moscow    |
| 1973 Ararat Erevan        | Ararat Erevan     |
| 1974 Dynamo Kiev          | Dynamo Kiev       |

## Happy Party

We are making especial mention in our next issue about the supporters who travelled to Erevan, but meanwhile provide these comments.

The happy atmosphere of our party was infectious, and the people of Erevan responded to their approach. The British sense of humour prevailed throughout travel-delays which at times appeared unaccountable, for we soon learned that form-filling, production of documents and other checks were a necessity that had to be fulfilled.

In this respect we were fortunate to have Mr. George Scanlon as interpreter. George formerly played soccer for Cambridge University and the famous Combined Universities club Pegasus; he is now a lecturer at the Formby Educational College, Liverpool. His fluency in Russian and other languages helped very much.

The official club party was under the guidance of the very experienced "Brod" — Mr. C. Broderick of Thomas Cook. This is his second visit to Europe with us this season, and four days after his return he was off again to the Continent with the F.A. party for two England games in Czecho-Slovakia last week.

The supporters' party was in the charge of Miss Kathy Archer of Messrs. Campkin Sports. An indefatigable worker, she added her own special charm to the job of rounding up her "flock" through four days.

## Off the Record

by BILL REMFRY, Hammers' "DJ"

It will be my very great honour and pleasure to again greet a visiting foreign team in their own language this evening. Our visitors come from Armenia, and sometimes use the local dialect. However, many speak English, which is widely taught in schools.

The Russian language is the one mainly used throughout the Soviet Union, but whilst I can manage a greeting in most European languages Russian is one that I have not studied. For this evening's effort I have been coached by an office colleague of mine, Mr. Ronald Roderick of Southend; he speaks the language fluently, and I am most grateful to him for his kind assistance on this and previous occasions.

The music tonight will have a Russian flavour, in honour of our guests; many tunes are well-known.

# Sales Service at Hammers Shops

HERE IS A SMALL SELECTION OF ITEMS

Full details available from Hammers Shops

REVISED LIST No. 1

other lists will be printed later

ALL PRICES INCLUDE POSTAGE, PACKING AND V.A.T.

| LEATHER GOODS (in best quality leather and crested) | AT SHOP      | BY POST      |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Comb in leather case                             | 17p, 28p     | 25p, 35p     |
| 2. Book Match case                                  | 12p          | 20p          |
| 3. Season Ticket case                               | 45p, 55p     | 55p, 65p     |
| 4. Key case   | 35p          | 45p          |
| 5. KEY FOBS   |              |              |
| (a) Leather   | 16p          | 24p          |
| (b) Leather with metal crest (52)                   | 25p, 30p     | 35p, 40p     |
| (c) Footballer type (94)                            | 20p          | 30p          |
| (d) Football Boots (95)                             | 20p          | 30p          |
| (e) Perspex: Crested—Small and F.A. Cup (14)        | 20p, 25p     | 30p, 35p     |
| (f) Football  | 20p          | 30p          |
| (g) Special Large Metal Cup Badge                   | 40p          | 50p          |
| 6. MOTORIST'S COMPANION                             | 35p, 70p     | 45p, 80p     |
| 8. NOTE CASE  | 85p, £1.30   | 95p, £1.40   |
| 10. POCKET WALLET (Super quality)                   | £1.25, £1.65 | £1.35, £1.75 |
| 11. TEDDY BEAR 24 ins. (Claret, Blue and White)     | £2.80        | £3.15        |
| 12. TEDDY BEAR 14 ins. (Claret, Blue and White)     | £1.85        | £2.25        |
| 13. LAPEL BADGES                                    |              |              |
| (a) Official West Ham                               | 20p          | 30p          |
| (b) Other Clubs (First Division) & W.H.U. Cup, etc. | 25p          | 35p          |
| 15. EMBROIDERED CRESTED BADGE                       | 30p          | 38p          |
| 16. SCARVES   |              |              |
| (a) Woollen named (W.H.U.) College                  | £1.70        | £1.85        |
| (b) Woollen: College or Bar, 48 ins.                | £1.20        | £1.30        |
| (c) Silk, with motif and/or crest, 48 ins.          | 60p, 70p     | 70p, 80p     |
| (d) Silk, Lady's Head (98)                          | 70p          | 80p          |
| (e) White Crested Satin Scarf with Player's Photo   | 80p          | 90p          |
| 20. CUFF LINKS (Crested and Boxed)                  | £1.65        | £1.75        |
| 21. TIE CLIPS (Diamond Cut and Crested)             | 80p          | 95p          |

There are several NEW ITEMS now available which do not all appear on this list.

These include: Metal Cup Badge (40p); White Crested Satin Scarf with Player's Photo (80p); full-colour individual photos, 5" x 3 1/2" (18p); full-colour photo of F.A. Cup squad, 8" x 6" (42p), black and white, 11" x 8 1/2" (40p); E.C.W. Cup Commemorative Postal Cover v Reipas Lahden (Finland) (40p). Add 10p to each item for postage.

Postal charges included are for sales in United Kingdom only. Overseas rates on application.

PRICES AND POSTAGE RATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Postal applications must be carefully and clearly marked "Sales Service."

Sales Service Dept., West Ham United F.C., Boleyn Ground, Green Street, London, E.13. Tel.: 01-472 4214 and 01-472 0704.