

MR. STAGG.

## Bartram family get together for 500th game

SAM BARTRAM, that lovable, capable character of Charlton and English football, goes out for his 500th League game against Portsmouth tomorrow with one regret (writes Jack Wood).

His mother, Mrs. Mary Bartram, is not well enough to make the trip from the colliery town of Boldon, in Co. Durham, to see Sam keep goal. The rest of the Bartram family will be there.

Portsmouth are taking an iced cake in the shape of a playing pitch for Sam to cut. Charlton are providing the champagne for an after-game celebration.

"It would have been grand to have mother with us," said Bartram last night. "You see, she talked me into trying my luck with Charlton after I had been turned down as a wing half by Reading, back in 1935."

Bartram looked to the future as he talks of his wonderful past.

"They tell me Iremonger played 599 games in goal for Lincoln and Notts County," he says. "I don't aim to retire for a long while yet—perhaps 1960—so we should pass that total all right."

D. Mail

5/4/54.