

LINCOLN CITY v. LUTON TOWN.

Played at Lincoln on Saturday. Result:—

Lincoln City 4 goals.

Luton Town 2 goals.

The teams were as follow:—

Lincoln City: Wilkinson; McFarlane and Eyre; Hannah, Morris, and J. Simpson; Hall, Hulme, Robertson, Fletcher and Ross.

Luton: Williams; McCartney and McIlwen; Davis, Stewart, and Docherty; Gallacher, Coupar, Little, McInnes and Ekins.

Referee, Mr. Jeffries, Masboro'.

I said last week that with a little bit of luck Luton stood a very fair chance of winning at Lincoln on Saturday, but unfortunately the luck was all the other way, and Luton had very hard times indeed in being beaten by four goals to two. When the teams turned out, the rain was falling and a strong wind was blowing, and as Luton lost the toss, they had to face both rain and wind.

Still they played up very pluckily, and not only kept the City out for a very long time, but themselves came very near scoring on several occasions. There was not much that came Williams' way, and on the other hand Luton repeatedly threatened danger, but the forwards were very weak in front of goal, as they will be until the directors have seen the wisdom of making a change in the centre.

For the first thirty minutes it looked anybody's game, with Luton perhaps slightly the favourites, and then a remarkable change came over the scene. Gallacher, who had been playing a capital game, had another good effort spoiled by McFarlane, and the Citizens responding, Morris scored with a long shot, which was assisted in its course by the wind.

This success greatly encouraged the homesters, and the Luton defenders, who felt the strain of their previous efforts, seemed quite unable to cope with the determined rushes of the Lincoln forwards. It was not long before Fletcher sent in a good one, which McCartney returned, and Ross meeting the ball, scored a second goal with a grounder, which gave Williams no chance.

After a brief visit to the other end, the Lincoln forwards came away in very pretty style, and Williams was beaten a third time, Hulme doing the trick and the ball slipping between the custodian's legs. The City continued to have matters pretty much their own way, and Robertson netted the ball, but the point was disallowed after the referee had consulted with the linesmen. Just before the interval, however, Lincoln scored another goal, the honours being divided between Fletcher and Robertson, and the Citizens crossed over with a lead of four goals to nil.

It looked very much as though Luton were in for a crushing defeat, and if the wind had spoiled them to the extent that it did Blackpool the previous Monday, there is no knowing what the result in goals might have been. Fortunately, however, the Luton men came on in good style, and played up with a strong determination to reduce the Citizens' lead.

Luton had all the best of play in this half, and had the forwards made the most of their opportunities, they might have got on level terms. Thus, the City made some very dangerous rushes, and once a shot from Robinson struck the upright and rebounded into play, but after making all allowances in this direction, it certainly seemed hard that Luton could only put on two goals, for on the play, taking the game all through, the victory ought to have been Luton's and not Lincoln's.

Twenty-five minutes of the second half had elapsed before the visitors scored their first goal—the first legitimate goal, that is, for Gallacher and Little had both scored offside—Stewart being responsible, and just before the finish McIlwen registered another with a long shot. Nothing further was scored, and Luton were thus beaten by four goals to two.

In the other League matches, the Arsenal were defeated at Leicester by 2 goals to 1, Small Heath beat Walsall by 6 to 0, and Loughborough lost 7 goals to Grimsby, while the only visiting Club to win was Newcastle United, who beat Gainsborough Trinity, after Luton had paved the way for them, by 3 goals to 1. The League table is now as follows:—

					Goals		
	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	For.	Agst.	Pts.
Burnley	14	11	1	2	39	9	24
Newcastle United	12	9	2	1	25	12	19
Manchester City	11	8	1	2	30	8	18
Small Heath	12	8	3	1	25	19	17
Grimsby Town	15	7	6	2	30	23	16
Newton Heath	13	6	5	2	24	11	14
Leicester			3	4	19	13	14