

LUTON v. NORWICH CITY

If Watford were fortunate to carry a point away with them, how much more were Norwich, who visited Luton on Boxing Day? One did not anticipate that the "Canaries'" luck of last season was going to serve them in good stead again this season.

For the home side, Rankin was again put at centre forward, and White came back into his usual place, but Watkins still deputised Hogg. Certainly for three-parts of the game Luton were all over "Punch" McEwen's team, and shot after shot went into Roney. But though for the first few minutes the visiting custodian appeared a little shaky, he soon got in his stride, and kept goal with remarkable coolness. It was indeed a superb exhibition of Roney's, for he must have saved a score of very hard shots. Yes, Luton did very well in attacking, but the shooting of the forwards lacked accuracy. The ball went either just over the bar or a few yards by the post—that was if the attack was followed up—which it always wasn't. But when Fred Hawkes missed an open goal there was great disappointment amongst the crowd of seven thousand. Norwich had the breeze against them in the first moiety, and were kept practically on the defensive, Platt having practically nothing to do. McEwen is not so safe as he used to be, but he is quite as tricky as ever; and it was always well understood that "Punch's" trickiness got him out of no end of tight corners. The Norwich defence was put to the task and it answered the summons nobly. Newlands was really great at back, and was never once beaten, while Roney, as already said, was a veritable marvel. There was no score at half time.

Crossing over Luton held the upper hand, and threatened the visitors' goal time after time. But the same thing always happened; either the forwards "messed" the ball, or the shooting was weak and ill-judged. Moody tried his utmost, but this time Rankin did not prove himself a successful centre-forward, and the bad centres of Walders also went against the locals. Now and then Norwich came down the field, but Platt had nothing very difficult to deal with. Tommy Allsopp, who played outside left for Norwich, had one good chance, but he missed the ball. Otherwise Norwich were never really dangerous. In only dividing the points Luton had the worst of luck. The game ended in a goal-less draw.