

# "HANDY ANDY" KERR

## SCORES TWO GRAND GOALS FOR LUTON.

### BRIGHTON BEACHED.

LUTON TOWN ..... 3 goals  
BRIGHTON & HOVE ..... 1 goal

LUTON. — Brookes; Johnson, Till; Walker, Jennings, Mills; Hoar, Cuckle, Kerr, Shankly, Dennis.

BRIGHTON.—Cook; Downs, Jenkins; McAllister, Cumber, Little; Nightingale, Dennison, Smith, Hopkins, Wilson.

Referee.—Mr. H. E. Gray, Forest Gate.

Most of us are agreed that the score flattered the Town, but there is less accord on the question of their deserts. Personally, I think the Town just deserved the success, not because they were the cleverer side, not because they were the better balanced, but because they made better use of their chances. Sance for the goose should be suitable for the gander, and if we say that the Town did not deserve to win any of their first four games because they failed to take their chances, well, logically we are bound to take the other view when they make the best of their opportunities. The general football of the Albion was more attractive than that of the Town, and, from a spectacular opinion, at times made us rather envious, but the difference between the teams was just those two goals scored by Andy Kerr, who made such an auspicious return to the first eleven. There was evidence of better understanding among the Albion players. They had

#### DEFINITE IDEAS

of attack, and often worked through with swift, easy passes and accurate placing of the ball, but they did not shoot with the precision and force that win matches. Andrew Kerr did so twice. Hence the spoils to Luton Town. That is why the Town deserved to win. That is the primary reason.

When the game was quite young there was enough spirit to indicate a grim struggle, and most of the anxiety was in Brookes' locality. The Town backs were playing very close together, and that did not help Brookes a lot, and Hopkins missed a comfortable chance after one mix-up. More than the backs was it the persistency of the Town's middle men that kept Brighton out. And when the Town began to take an interest in Cook's quarters, it was Dennis who made the most headway, but Kerr earned the respect of Dicky Downs. Strangely enough, however, neither goalkeeper had anything big to save, but the

#### SPECTATORS WERE THRILLED

when Kerr, after being fouled, took a free kick and shot with great power. The ball struck Downs, and Dennis tore up and fired into the side net. Most of us thought it was a goal. The Town forwards had the opportunities to attack quite as often as the Albion, but usually fell a prey to the age Downs. They made the error of holding the ball too close, consequently the tussles were more

(By "CRUSADER.")

exciting in the Town penalty area. But the first goal came at the Albion end, and the originator was Mills. The old Forester seized the opportunity to essay a little run on his own, and at the right moment swung the ball across just when he was expected to pass to Dennis. Cuckle got it and touched forward to KERR, who, although forced to the left of the goal, screwed in a very fast, low shot that beat Cook all the way, and evoked

#### A GREAT OUTBURST

of cheering. Brighton's efforts were quickened, and after several raids had been repulsed it appeared certain that Hopkins would equalise. He got the ball clear of the Luton backs, but Walker was in close attendance. By a great effort the half-back took the ball off the forward's toe and kept the man off while Brookes made the clearance. Then the Town had two or three turns, and it appeared as if they would lead at the interval. In the forty-fourth minute NIGHTINGALE made a very smart run. With Mills and Till out of position, he ran almost under the bar before beating Brookes with a fast, low shot.

Restarting with equality, the Town lost no time in making for goal, and Jennings was only inches too high with a splendid header that met Dennis' flag-kick, and Smith was likewise unfortunate from a centre by Wilson at the other end. Play was not so interesting or so fast, but the Town were kept on the defensive too long for the liking of the spectators. Then came

#### THE CHANGE

in the fortunes of the Town. After close play on the left, Dennis and Mills made ground, and the ball was transferred to the middle. Shankly and Cuckle each took a turn, and then the latter gave Kerr a deft pass some thirty yards from goal. Speeding forward a few yards KERR shot with great power as the backs came upon him, and the ball flew wide of Cook's outstretched arms into the net, the goalkeeper going down full length in his effort to save. For several minutes the Town attacked warmly, but Cook had nothing serious to do, and then Nightingale changed the scene of operations, and Brookes saved in the Town goal-mouth. With heavy rain falling Brighton tried to equalise, and there was a woe in struggle in the Town goal-mouth until the ball was rushed away. Thirteen minutes from the end MILLS sent the ball high into the Brighton goal-mouth. It came down very awkwardly, and Cook tried to turn it over the bar, but it fell between his hands and the cross-piece, dropped behind him, and then came out. The referee, without any hesitation, awarded a goal. Brighton protested in vain, and people

who were in a good position to see have told me that there was no question about the goal having been scored. The remainder of the game was even, and the Town thus obtained their first victory, and put their goal account on the right side.

That the football was not of the highest quality is true, but there was a lot of enthusiasm among the players, and the pace was hot and strong for about an hour, then a lull, then another stirring period, and finally a petering-out. For the first time for a long period I thought that the quality of the Town defence was not up to its average. Johnson and Till played well individually, but they seemed to lack understanding, and to get

#### IN EACH OTHER'S WAY

a good deal. The result was that Brookes had a good deal more anxiety than is healthy for goalkeepers, but he did his work very well. Till, unfortunately, got crooked, and the play suffered accordingly. It was the first time they had played together, and, no doubt, they will improve with further association.

All the halves played splendidly against an attack that was electric at times. Walker put up his best game, especially in defence. He looked after Wilson with great zeal, and this smart winger deserved all the pleasure he got out of the game, for Walker had him fettered most of the time, and won rounds of applause. They were deserved too. Jennings was again doing the work of two men, and Smith had scant room in which to work. Mills once more played finely, and he had a big share in the success.

The forwards were lacking the smoothness of the Albion's play, and instead of swinging the ball about they

#### HUGGED IT

under the noses of the Albion backs. Dennis was again in fine trim, and both Kerr and Cuckle made bad misses from his centres. The former's two goals were very fine, and he should now have broken a long spell of misfortune. Cuckle fed him nicely, and Shankly was a genuine trier, most and then doing clever bits of work, but often held on too long. Sid Hoar is still below his best, but was again well watched, and not fairly tackled. For the Albion Downs played a good game at back. Cumber ran McAllister very closely for premier honours. Nightingale was the best of the forwards, and played on the top of his form.

There were 8,000 spectators, and they were pleased with the manner in which Mr. Gray and his linesmen did their work.

**RUGBY PLAYER'S  
ATHLETIC SUCCESS.**

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