

LUTON'S GREAT GAME.

DESERVED A HANDSOME WIN AT BOURNEMOUTH.

Two Goals Down at Interval

(By "CRUSADER.")

At Boscombe last night.

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LUTON TOWN	2

BOURNEMOUTH.—Wilson; Saxton, Collin; Roe, Smith, Leitch; Clifford, Roberts, Eyre, Bliss, Maidment.

LUTON.—Mingay; Anderson, Graham; Walker, Jennings, Millar; Moffat, Shankly, Thompson, Reid, Dennis.

Referee.—Captain Prince-Cox, Barnes.

A score of Luton people were to be seen in the stand at Boscombe last night. Their holiday at Bournemouth was brightened considerably by Luton Town's visit, and they left the ground smiling. They had seen a splendid game, and the only feeling of regret was that Luton could not take with them the full reward for their superiority. Unquestionably the Town were value for a big win. In the years that I have travelled with them I have not seen half a dozen games in which they have met with such a meagre repayment for so marked an advantage over their opponents. It was a most remarkable game, and I cannot but repeat that the new rule is making a tremendous difference. There were thrills by the dozen, and in the first half-hour the Town had so much the better of the game that they appeared

CERTAIN WINNERS.

They were playing like a championship side, and the frequency and speed of their attacks kept the crowd in a state of fearful expectancy. But the threats did not materialise, and, as is so often the case, the first goal went to the side that, on the run of the play, less deserved it. It was a good goal in its actual execution, but the preliminary movement was marred by slovenly play on both sides. When to that success was added a second—a brainy goal—the delight of the home crowd was almost unbounded. In the second half, however, the Town buckled into their work, and not only got a couple of goals, but it is no exaggeration to say that with

A HA'PORTH OF LUCK

they would have had half-a-dozen. Wilson had six times the amount of work that Mingay had. A point, however, is no small parcel to bring home, and the supporters may be assured that if the home team merited one point, Luton should have had five. The home Club's directors and players alike were more than happy with the result on the day's play, even if far from happy over the quality of their side, compared with that of their guests.

The rain accompanied us beyond Southampton. At Bournemouth the sun was shining now and then, but a lowering sky began to leak ere the players stripped. Fortunately, the weather cleared, and the ground was firm, although the sprinkling made the ball greasy. There was a slight breeze, and the home team took advantage of it when they won the toss. The Town

WENT STRAIGHT DOWN

From the kick-off, and Wilson was called upon in the first minute by Shankly. The home team promptly replied, but Maidment could not get clear of Walker, and was compelled to run the ball out. Thanks to the work of Thompson and Moffat, the latter cantered past Collin, but shot high over the bar when a centre would have been of more use. The Town were moving altogether too quickly for the home team, and Wilson was kept at work for some minutes. He saved shots from Dennis and Moffat, the former's a pile-driver, while Moffat sent over again. The little winger had begun well, except for shooting instead of centreing, and another high shot drooped rather than dropped just in the angle of the bar and upright, and only by

A GREAT EFFORT

was the long goalkeeper able to tip the ball over the bar. From the flag kick Wilson again saved a smart shot from Shankly, and Thompson made a praise-worthy attempt.

After this the home side had a turn, and Mingay twice handled, but was not in difficulty. This was a mild flutter, compared with the reply from the Town. In a severe attack Wilson was fortunate to be in the right place when Shankly and Reid shot, and the former was only inches behind with a fast ground shot which scraped the foot of the post in transit to the rails. The home team came back, and Eyre got through to give Maidment a pass, but Anderson compelled him to shoot against the side net. In line the Town returned, the ball travelling from left to right and right to left at a good pace, and Wilson had to punch out a centre from Dennis, and Moffat, attempting to score from the rebound, hit the rails. Jennings and Millar were prominent in another sharp assault, but Moffat's centre went over the bar.

Bournemouth improved, and Eyre was a source of danger by his speed in getting away and his

DEFT PASSES

to the wings. The Town were very persistent, however, and Reid was going through when pushed off, apparently well inside the area, but the ball was placed on the line for the free kick. Millar's shot was headed away, and Dennis met the rebound and sent paid over the bar. In a swift assault by the home team Graham, Jennings and Millar did yeoman service, and eventually got the ball away.

The Town goal then had a narrow escape. The home left wing forced a couple of corners, and Mingay had to be spry to punch away. Jennings next headed away, but Eyre, with a clever back heel, was only a foot too high. Bournemouth were having a good share of the play now. Walker neatly robbed Maidment close in, and from his clearance the town forwards came down, and Reid fired a hot shot a yard wide. From end to end the ball was carried, and then the home team scored 40 minutes from the start. Clifford received a long pass from Roberts, and although Millar overtook him, and Graham also came on the scene, the winger got a pass to ROBERTS, who hit the ball

FIRST TIME,

and had the joy of seeing it flash past Mingay into the net. The Town went down at once, and Reid headed into Wilson's hands, but the home team came back again, and after a little midfield play, got a free-kick just outside the penalty area. Although the Town players lined up, EYRE lofted the ball neatly into the top corner of the net, with Mingay well out of the picture.

Within a few seconds of resuming Mingay saved his goal by a brilliant save at full length, following good work by Clifford. The Town set about their uphill task in real earnest, and swarmed round Wilson's charge. A complete forward attack ended with Reid missing by inches. Wilson saved many shots, and Shankly was only just out of his reckoning with a clever shot. Moffat and Shankly became a nuisance to the home defenders, and with a little steadiness in front of goal, success would not have been delayed for eight minutes. Then Moffat made a run and the ball came out from his centre; Millar seized and made ground before passing to THOMPSON, who was 15 yards out. He was

A LONG TIME

getting the ball into position, but when he shot it travelled at a great pace, struck the bottom of the upright and glanced into the net. But for a lot too much close play in the Town defence at this point the home goal might have been in greater danger, for when it was released, the Town wings made "hacks" of the home halves and backs. There was a scene in the home goal-area after Wilson had tipped over the bar a long shot from Walker. Half a dozen times it seemed as if the goal must fall, but the defenders frantically booted it without being able to get it far away. The half was 20 minutes old when the pressure was rewarded. Shankly, Moffat and Thompson completely beat the defence, and the ball came to DENNIS, who shot a fine goal from a dozen yards' range, Wilson being helpless.

Again the home goal was assailed, and Wilson saved from Dennis. A moment later Thompson had burst through when Saxton brought him down heavily. Following the free-kick the Town

ATTACKED FIERCELY.

Five corners were conceded, and Wilson saved many times before the home forwards got away, and Mingay was brought into action, effecting a great save from point-blank range. Graham was conspicu-

ous for sterling work, and the Town returned to the attack. Dennis tested Wilson, a corner was forced and the home goal had a series of thrilling escapes. Thompson, Reid and Shankly all tried to push the ball through, but Wilson saved again and again. Twice he dashed out, and once when out of goal he intercepted and diverted a shot, but the ball was rammed in again. Saxton just managed to stop it on the goal-line, and although Shankly tried to dislodge the ball from between his feet, the back managed to scramble it back again. Then Moffat shot a yard over when Wilson was well out of goal.

The home team made a desperate rally in the closing stages. Mingay just stopped

A TERRIFIC SHOT

from Maidment at close quarters, and the ball hovered dangerously near the goal. Clifford was very active and gave a lot of trouble, but the Town halves and backs defended well, and the ball was got away. The Town were again attacking when the end came.

It was a hard, sternly-fought struggle, and the Town were masters for more than three-fourths of the time. Fore and aft they played resolutely, were always fast and often clever. Mingay, like everybody else, appeared to be taken by surprise by Eyre's goal, but made at least three magnificent saves, and he always appeared safe. On occasion Anderson's lack of inches was a drawback, but he played with judgment, and better than in any previous game this season. Graham was again in great form, and certainly has ensured his position. To the halves too much praise cannot be given, and Jennings had the toughest task, but he stuck it grandly; Walker and Millar were equally fine.

THE FORWARDS

were in splendid fettle, being much smarter in passing, and far more thoughtful than usual in selecting a recipient for the pass. Moffat played much better than on Saturday, and he and Shankly had Leitch and Collin almost desperate at times. The winger could do better if he centred more, for he is not a powerful shot. Shankly was the stylist of the attack and deserved better fortune with his shooting. Thompson would be a great centre-forward if he got off the mark quicker. He needs to practice the taking of the ball in his stride. Reid was as dashing as ever, but should have served his colleagues better when he had drawn the defence. Dennis played splendidly, and Arthur Roe found the wing too hot to keep in check, although he did much better than Leitch. A big feature again was the staying power of the team.

Wilson saved the homesters from a heavy thrashing. Saxton was a fine back; the halves were moderate; Eyre was a splendid centre-forward, and Roberts as good, while Clifford was a clever winger. Captain Prince Cox handled the game well, and the 6,000 spectators enjoyed it.