

LUTON TOWN'S GREAT VICTORY.

Five Goals of Seven at Aberdare.

We were all surprised by the news from Aberdare last Saturday afternoon, and yet, when we come to reflect upon what most of us have been saying during the last six weeks, there is not so much reason for surprise as we have been trying to make out. Everybody has repeated from time to time that the only thing that prevented the Town being a good side was the weakness forward; that in all other respects the team could hold its own with the best in its circle. We were particularly emphatic on the question of weight forward. The weight was in the attack last Saturday, with the result that the team won.

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It is true that two of the goals were scored from half-back, but the forwards had made the chances, and the liveliness of the vanguard in the second half, was most remarkable. The seven goals were scored in this order:—Smith (Aberdare); Shankly (Luton); Martin (Aberdare) from a penalty-kick; Thompson (Luton). Interval found the scores level. In the second half Graham (2) and Anderson scored for the Town.

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It is generally conceded that Aberdare had the better of the first half-hour's play, but Purdy played a very fine game in goal. When the home side took the lead for the second time Anderson had to retire with a damaged ankle, and the result was the moving round of players by Jennings. He asked Richards to take the place of Anderson, and Graham was brought over to right-half, Dennis dropping back to left-half, and Thompson coming from the extreme left to centre-forward, with Littlewood taking the left wing on his own. In the second half Anderson re-appeared to play at outside-left, and he had the pleasure of scoring a goal.

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In addition to the scorers mentioned, the Town players are unanimous in saying that Littlewood scored a fine goal immediately after Shankly had made the scores level by registering the Town's first goal. It was hard luck for the centre-forward to be deprived of this goal, for it would have given him a great deal of confidence, which is about all he needs to ensure that he will become a reliable leader. Moreover they were also unanimous that the penalty-kick should not have been awarded, as Richards was struck by the ball rather than that he handled it.

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It was in the second half that the Town showed such a big advantage over the home side, and Trainer Barr has good reason to smile over the way his men are out-staying opponents. At the finish of this game the Town had Aberdare almost besieged, and came within an ace of scoring on several occasions.

Perhaps the best way of proving the superiority of the Town is to give the following statements from the local papers:—

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The game was an extraordinary one in that Aberdare, who were not flattered by the half-time score, seemed to go to pieces after the interval.

Luton found the home defence wavering and were not slow in taking full advantage.

Before the end the home side showed complete inability to mature scoring chances. Smith was completely dominated by Jennings, while the home right flank failed to reproduce anything like their best standard of play.

On the run of play in the second half Luton were thoroughly entitled to their decisive win.—"Football Echo."

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During the whole of Aberdare's career the supporters have never seen their favourites so badly broken up as in the second half of this game. In the first half Aberdare should have put the game

LUTON'S NEW FORWARD.

Luton Town have signed for a month's trial Love, inside forward with a preference for the centre position, who was with Dumbarton last season. Love has arrived and has commenced training, and it is expected that he will be in the Town Reserves' team at Nuncaton on Saturday.

safe from the innumerable opportunities which came their way, but, after the resumption the visitors were far and away a superior team. Luton clearly deserved to win, and on the whole played splendidly. The home quintette were generally dominated by the visiting defence.—"Football Express."

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The game at Aberdare was one of varying fortune. The home team's display during the first period indicated that they might reasonably be expected to win, but Luton sprang a surprise in the second half and exhibited complete superiority in every department.—"Western Mail."

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Everybody was pleased with the display of Richards at back, of Graham and Dennis at half. I single out these because they were playing in unusual positions, and Graham's shooting made a big impression upon the home crowd.

Curious as it may seem, it was in defensive play that Dennis excelled when he went to half-back, and he and Till are said to have completely held a fast and lively wing. Jennings needs no greater praise than that accorded by the locals, and his policy following upon Anderson's retirement was a paying proposition.

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Miller shone in a lively attack, and by comparison the home quintette were not nearly so dangerous as the Town's.

LUTON TOWN 5

ABERDARE ATHLETIC 2

LUTON. — Purdy: Anderson, Till;
Richards, Jennings, Graham: Miller.
Shankly, Littlewood, Dennis, Thompson.

ABERDARE.—Brown: Walsh, Hickie;
Miller, Harwood, Nichol; James, Martin,
Smith, Burnham, Taylor.