

FOLKESTONE'S VALIANT STRUGGLE.

LUTON TOWN IN SECOND ROUND OF F.A. CUP.

SECOND HALF IMPROVEMENT.

(By "CRUSADER.")

LUTON TOWN 3 Goals
FOLKESTONE Nil

LUTON.—Purdy; Till, Graham; Richards, Jennings, Millar; Miller, Shankly, Littlewood, Reid, Dennis.

FOLKESTONE.—Goodman; Johnson, Hadley; Pearson, Middleton, Saunders; Fraser, Keen, Ames, Weale, Nunn.

Referee: Mr F. Todman, Croydon.

We had our doubts and misgivings during the first hour of the game, not so much through fear of the Town losing as of the possibility of the score sheet being blank. That was the ghost in front of us for an hour, with occasional shocks when the Folkestone forwards made dangerous raids. Their game proved convincingly that it is well-nigh impossible to forecast with certainty the result of a Cup-tie, even when there is a great difference in the standing of the teams. It may seem strange in the face of this result, but I shall expect the Town Reserves to win their game against Folkestone. Nature did much to diminish the ground advantage of the Town, for the snow was but thinly spread, and the ground itself was hard and slippery. We saw the Town players generally taking more than customary care of their limbs, whereas Folkestone were not so particular. Indeed it was not until after the interval, when they began to realise the speed of time, that the Town went all out irrespective of risk. They finished well on top, and the

VICTORY WAS DESERVED.

Quite a smart lot of fellows Folkestone looked when they turned out in their Royal blue jerseys and black knickers. In the first three minutes the Town began as if they would overrun the visitors' defence, but it was a mere dash in the pan, and soon the struggle was proceeding with equality of opportunity in attack and of strenuous resistance in defence. The Town had just a little the better of the play, but very few openings for a shot. The wingers dropped the ball in front of goal time after time, but the Folkestone backs and halves were very quick in tackling, and what was more important, lost no time in getting the ball away. The best chance to the Town in this half was in the first three or four minutes, when Littlewood had a close-up view of the goal, but he slipped as he shot, and the ball went across goal. Three or four scrammages round Goodman should have brought a goal, but the best that could be done was to hit the bar. Folkestone had two or three good chances. Ames once banged the ball too high when Nunn had made a fine opening, and Keen once got right through, but at an angle he could only direct wide.

So the interval came with the score sheet blank. There was

SOME EXCITEMENT

when the Town began to hammer at the Folkestone goal in the second half, but the visitors' defence withstood the attack, and a tense period for the Town defence followed. It was a great save by Purdy that saved the Town ten minutes after the restart, for he dived at Weale's feet and snatched the ball when it appeared that the inside left must score. It was after this that the Town set about their task with an energy they had not previously shown, and very soon took the lead. There was a full-strength attack, and the Folkestone goal had two or three narrow escapes. Play veered to the right, and Miller passed in to Shankly, who shot. There was an appeal for a penalty kick, but the cry was cut short as REID met the ball and shot first time, a beautiful drive finding the corner of the net right away from Goodman. The second half had then been in progress fifteen minutes. Folkestone at once made spirited reply, but they were driven back by a resolute defence, and the Town came again more confidently than ever. Goodman's goal was

PIERCELY ASSAILED.

but the tall goalkeeper was safe, and he got several shots away in capital style. Then came a long pass forward by Richards to Miller, who beat the opposition and skimmed the ball across goal — a tempting pass which none was near enough to convert. Dennis, however, came along with a rare burst of speed, got the ball on the line, and dropped it in front for SHANKLY to head into the net right away from Goodman, the ball glancing off the upright.

The issue was safe then, perhaps, although Folkestone did not think so, because they continued to play earnestly. The Town, however, had a firm grip of the game now, and many sharp assaults were made, but the end was near before they succeeded. Once more Miller drove the ball across, and Dennis caught it on the line and returned it in front. There was a sharp scuffle, and then the ball came out to Shankly, who shot. LITTLEWOOD was in the line of fire, and two or three defenders were close upon him when he turned the ball into the net. There was

A STRONG APPEAL

for offside, and Nunn pulled the referee right round in an endeavour to get him to reverse his decision. Mr. Todman took out his book, and Nunn, apparently, will be reported.

The end of the game was signalled immediately afterwards with the score as above.

Folkestone's plucky fight won warm praise. I don't think they played a lot above their League form, but the Town team played a lot below their reputation. Purdy had a fair amount of work, and made one brilliant save in the second half. The outstanding player on the Town side was Till. Against Nunn, a very clever forward, it was necessary for the Town right back to give his best, and his display was superb. He was the one player on the Town side who was at home on the treacherous ground. His tackling and kicking were beyond praise. Graham was puzzled early on by the tricks of the ball on the snow, but subsequently played finely. The halves were a poor line in the first half, not one reaching his average standard, but after the interval they played

A BIG PART,

and none more so than Millar. He was a very different player in this period, and not only good in stopping, but a factor in attack. Of Jennings and Richards much the same may be said, and their vigour was very necessary, for the visitors' forwards were always eager to put strength against strength. The forwards gave few combined efforts. Dennis played a very fine game, and his earnest following up was responsible for two of the goals. He had not enough to do in the second half. Miller was more than useful in his runs and centres, but he failed when he had two or three good opportunities of scoring. Shankly was better than in the two previous games, and he gave Miller some nice passes. Littlewood was energetic, but did not find the ground conditions to his liking. Reid came into the side as a result of Thompson being unfit. As usual, he came in for a lot of loud criticism, and it does seem that the young Welshman gets

more than his share of attention in this respect. He is not a clever player, but he is as reliable a marksman as any we have, and he had the satisfaction of shutting up his critics by scoring a very fine goal.

Folkestone were well served by Goodman, his backs, Middleton, Keen and Nunn. The last named is as clever as any winger we have seen on the ground this season.

Mr. Todman is not on the League list of referees these days, but he did very well in this game, missed little that offended, and was well up with the play.

There were 7,019 paid for admission, and the ground receipts totalled £408.

LEYTON V. ST. ALBANS CITY.

Citizens' Goal Disallowed.

(By "SPHINX").

By the only goal of the match, scored in the last five minutes, Leyton qualified for the second round of the F.A. Cup Competition at the expense of St. Albans City. Misfortune has dogged the City Club this season, but at no time was this more keenly felt than on Saturday, when W. Winter, the International leader of their attack, was prevented by an accident, which befel him on Friday, from taking the field. He cut his left thumb to the bone, and was weakened by loss of blood, which robbed him of the energy for such a match. This necessitated a re-arrangement of the forward line, H. Figg partnering E. Miller, and F. Dear playing at inside left with A. Bishop in Winter's place. As might be expected, the line missed Winter, but even without him the attack gave a more impressive display than Leyton in the first half. In general tactics, Leyton showed superiority, but the forwards lost their heads in front of goal, C. Cannon only having two awkward shots to save throughout the game. The City forwards were always shooting. In the first ten minutes Hipkin gathered a terrific cross shot from Buckingham, while P. Bird once grazed the post with a long drive, and Bishop narrowly missed with a header. H. Figg put plenty of dash into his work, and F. Dear was a decided acquisition. Hipkin cleverly handled in the Leyton goal, and at the interval the score sheet was blank.

In the hope of improving the attack in the second half, the City unwisely altered their forward line, Figg changing places with Bishop. This destroyed the balance of the line, and did not have the desired effect. Early in the half Buckingham again tested Hipkin, and would certainly have scored had he been more happily positioned. All the players were clean and healthy triers. Fifteen minutes from the end Miller actually scored with a curling shot which struck the bar and fell in goal (Leyton defenders admitted it after the game), but the referee did not allow it, and penalised Figg for elbowing the ball in a great attempt to make no mistake about the goal. It was bad luck. Players and spectators were resigning themselves to thoughts of a replay when the goal came which decided the issue. Cable, the great worker in the Leyton defence, put the ball well down the left for Hawkins to speed away with Donaldson in pursuit. He lifted the ball neatly over Cannon's hands, and HALL gently headed in, Cannon actually touching it in flight, but not hard enough to divert it. A draw would have been a fair issue. Result: Leyton 1, St. Albans 0.

By Appointment to H.M. The King.



FIRE ENGINE MAKERS.

Merryweathers'

Largest Makers of High-class

HOSE PIPES

in the World.

Dab-Sab Canvas for Fire Duty.
Admiralty Leather for Flushing.
Armoured Rubber for Mines.

Write for "Hints on Hoses," and quotations.

MERRYWEATHER & SONS,

Fire Engine and Hose Works,

GREENWICH, LONDON, S.E.

COCKER'S

SKIN OINTMENT

Renowned for 30 years as one of the best for ECZEMA, SCURVY, and all Skiv Diseases. In 1/3 and 3/- pots. Special Skin Soap at 7½d. tablet.

H. E. COCKER
PHARMACIST,
169, DUNSTABLE ROAD, LUTON.

May also be had from—
W. S. CLARK, Pharmacist,
25, GEORGE STREET.