

PANTHER'S PLAY

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The Town fell away from the Cross, apart from the heavy game played by the "Cobblers," had left its mark. The players were allowed to play, but lost spirit in the second half.

LUTON TOWN 6
MILLWALL ATHLETIC 0

LUTON.—Harper; Graham, Till; Black, Rennie, Miller; Poynton, Thompson, Reid, Woods, Thompson.

MILLWALL.—Lansdale; Fort, Hill; Amos, W. I. Bryant, Graham; Chance, Moule, Parker, Phillips, Gore.

Referee: Mr. W. Evans, Barry.

Of the match on Christmas Day it may be said that the play of the Town was a revelation. They were masters throughout a game that was just as clean as the "Lions" wanted it to be, for they had to resort to unfair tactics on many occasions because they could not cope with the speed and skill of the Town forwards and halves. One cannot overlook the fine play of Graham and Till, but it must be said that the understanding between the Town halves and forwards was the most potent factor in the Town's success. It was remarkable how accurate the passes ran, and generally to the player most conveniently placed. Harry Woods has been playing for fifteen years, and it has been remarked in these columns that he showed lack of speed, but there was no such fault in this game, and all the forwards played with a dash, skill, and coolness that was far too much for the "Lions" middle men.

BLACK had the privilege of opening the scoring after a brilliant run through at the end of 20 minutes, though Norman Thompson hit the upright before then, and there was an appeal for a goal. However, THOMPSON got the second goal when he clamped home a centre from Jug Thompson, and REID scored the third goal on receiving from Black. The second half was even more in favour of the Town, and there were times when they toyed with the opposition. It was not a case of individual brilliance, but unselfish play, and really brilliant combination. One of these spells of passing enabled REID to score the fourth goal from Wood's pass, and then an effective push through the middle by Rennie gave REID the chance to make the hat trick, while a cleverly-placed flag-kick by Thompson enabled WOODS to score.

Apart from two fine efforts by Parker in each half, and a glorious opportunity wasted by the same player just before the end, the "Lions" forwards had a poor time. Gore was injured early on, and left the field eventually, his knee being damaged. Allowing for that, however, it was the breakdown of the "Lions" middle men that enabled the Town to win in such handsome fashion, and their play was a revelation to the visiting supporters not less than to the "Lions" team.

The ball was kept on the ground, the trapping and passing being high-class, and every man played for his side.

Millwall Athletic's defence has not had six goals registered against it since Feb. 4th, 1922, when Queen's Park Rangers won by 6-1. The 6-0 defeat inflicted by the Town on Christmas Day was the heaviest sustained by the "Lions" since the war, and amply avenged the 7-1 defeat the Town suffered at New Cross last season.

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The last time the Town scored six goals in a League game was on March 14th, 1925, when they beat Merthyr Town by 6-0.