

HOW LUTON LOST.

DISPUTED GOALS AT SELHURST.

(By CRUSADER).

THOSE followers of LUTON TOWN who preferred to continue the journey to Selhurst rather than the Cup-tie at Highbury were very sick at the end. They have no doubt as to why the Town did not count CRYSTAL PALACE as victims, and Mr. J. Kelley, the referee, will never be a welcome figure at Luton. The Palace could not claim any advantage on the run of the game, and they were very fortunate indeed to benefit by two decisions which reversed the scores.

The Town were first to settle down, and they gave the home backs a lively time, and Rennie almost scored early on. The exchanges became more even later, but after 25 minutes a nice movement originated by Fraser and Woods culminated in a goal. The ball travelled all along the forward line to Pointon, who centred well, and RENNIE "killed" the ball and shot a fine goal. The next minute Rennie was put through again, but sent wide when a goal appeared certain. However, he made amends five minutes after his first success. After good work by the left flank there was a hot assault almost under the cross-bar, and Callender and his backs scrambled the ball away several times, but RENNIE secured and slipped it into the net from a difficult angle.

TWO AHEAD.

Two goals up in thirty minutes again! It seemed as if the Town were disposed to fall back and defend their holding at this stage, instead of keeping the ball on the move, and well out to the wings; and the Palace made many attacks. The Town goal had one or two narrow escapes, and eventually TONNER headed through from a corner-kick by Harry.

This was shortly before the interval, but the Town nearly went ahead again. Rennie did shoot into the net, but was offside. Still it was a happy position to hold a lead at the interval:—

LUTON	2 goals
PALACE	1 goal

Within five minutes the Palace had drawn level. Clarke, who gave a lot of trouble, had been foiled several times, and when one clearance was made SALT got possession and brought the scores level with a long shot. Abbott was taken by surprise, and was probably unsighted. Then came the Town's first disappointment. Dennis got well away, and, after drawing Cross, hooked the ball back to the middle. Rennie got possession, and scored with a great shot, the ball hitting the underside of the bar, falling behind Callender, and bouncing into the net. Callender made a desperate effort, but the pace was too much for him.

REJOICED TOO SOON.

We all felt certain that Rennie had scored his first hat trick, but to the consternation of the Town players and supporters, and the glee

of the Palace, the referee disallowed the point. Why he should have done so was a mystery, for Rennie was certainly not offside, the ball coming back to him, and when that excuse was ruled out someone invented the idea that Rennie had handled. That was not so. The player was turned in the direction of the Press box when he received the ball, and it was the general view that the goal was all that could be desired. My own impression was that Mr. Kelley was too far away to see what happened, and that he gave Rennie offside.

Subsequently the defenders had all their work cut out to keep the Palace out, but Abbott had not a great deal of work, and certainly not such handfuls as Rennie gave Callender. About 10 minutes remained for play when the Town suffered an even worse misfortune. To some extent they were responsible, for they should not have stopped playing, yet on this occasion the ball was obviously out of play on the Palace right. The Town players held up, and everybody expected a goal-kick. Instead, the Palace right winger was allowed to middle the ball and TONNER, with none to hinder, put it into the net. It was a bad decision, and though the Town nearly equalised again as the result of a fine shot by Rennie, it was evident that they were badly upset by the decision, and so the game ended without further score.

It was a pleasure to see a ground in such good condition, and apart from one or two fouls by Greener and Tonner, the game was quite pleasant. The Town defence stood up to its business well. Abbott had not a heavy afternoon. Richards played a strong game, his vigour and strong kicking being useful. Till was clever as usual, and some of his obstructive work was very good.

Black was in brilliant form in the first half, but could not keep Clarke in check in the second, and Fraser had a tough handful to deal with in Harry. Ramage played a strong defensive game, and also fed his wings nicely, but several times lost the ball when attempting to dribble. The shooting of Rennie was a happy feature of the attack, and he must certainly be regarded as a success on this form. Woods and Yardley foraged to good purpose, and Pointon and Dennis were very useful.

The Palace best were Callender, Cross, Greener, Harry and Clarke.

There were 12,000 spectators.

CRYSTAL PALACE	3 goals
LUTON TOWN	2 goals

PALACE.—Callender; Cross, Orr, Hamilton, Salt, Greener; Harry, Mulcahy, Hopkins, Tonner, Clarke

LUTON.—Abbott; Richards, Till; Black, Ramage, Fraser; Pointon, Yardley, Rennie, Woods, Dennis.

Referee: J. Kelley, Harlesden.