

COVENTRY CITY WIN.

Three Goals in Four Minutes.

Hutchinson's Debut.

(By CRUSADER.)

COVENTRY CITY	5
LUTON TOWN	1

COVENTRY. — Allen; Crown, Watson; Stokes, Dinsdale, Bell; Richards, Widdowson, Loughlin, Lake, Pick.

LUTON.—Banes; Smith, Richards; Fraser, Smeaton, Millar; Daly, Birch, Hutchinson, Yardley, McInnes.

Referee.—W. Evans, Barry.

SUCH a defeat as that sustained by LUTON TOWN at COVENTRY CITY, on Saturday, takes some explaining away after the assertion that they appeared likely conquerors for a considerable part of the game. As often happens, the introduction of many reserves provided a surprise, and a right good game most of the substitutes played for a portion of the 90 minutes. Though at the close one could point out mistakes, and could grumble that this or that player did not merit his place, we were all more inclined to blame the referee for spoiling a good match, and the players, to a man, were bitter in their denunciation of Mr. Evans.

UNSETTLED.

The Town team, as could be understood in view of the numerous changes, were a long time settling down, and the City had the better of the early play. Banes, however, showed his mettle, and made splendid saves. Smith and Richards put up a valiant resistance, too, and although all three of the rearguard were lucky to see a shot from Loughlin rebound from the upright after it had beaten Banes, they deserved their fortune. The Town forward efforts were straggling. McInnes was tricky in approach, but his finishing was weak, and Hutchinson was the only inside forward about when the ball came near the City goal. The City got no more than their due when LAKE scored after 22 minutes' play, following a centre from the right, an appeal by the Town players against the source of the centre being ignored.

A TONIC.

That goal was more of a tonic to the Town than to the City, and they should have levelled up straight from the kick-off, but Hutchinson missed a glorious chance after the right wing had presented the opening. Then he got a chance from the left wing, but tried to dribble to the goal-line when a shot could hardly have failed, and so he was overtaken and robbed. Still, it was the debutant's forceful play that brought the equaliser. He hustled the defenders and won a corner, and from Daly's fine flag-kick HUTCHINSON headed a splendid goal.

COVENTRY CITY 1

LUTON TOWN 1

The City resumed all the better for the refresher, and again the Town halves seemed to have lost their fire. Several attacks were launched, and when they were beaten off McInnes went right through and centred across the goal-mouth, with Allen frantically calling for the help that was not. Neither was there a Town inside forward there, and when Daly managed to catch the ball he sent it out. We saw more of Bance then. Millar made a quick rush and kicked the ball off the toe of the City right winger just in time, and the referee gave a free kick. Stokes placed the ball across goal, and Lake returned it for WIDDOWSON to head in, the ball creeping in and, after touching the post, rolling over the line.

THE TROUBLE.

It seemed as if the Town must equalise again immediately for Hutchinson dashed between the backs with great spirit, and when he had the goal at his mercy he simply kicked wildly over the bar. For a few minutes the Town fought with great spirit, and then it was that the referee gave a series of free kicks against the Town. Square shoulder charges by Richards and Smith were penalised, but when Hutchinson and Frazer each had his feet swept from under him no offence was seen. Then the whistle went for an offence against a Town player when Daly was careering towards an open goal, and the ball was brought back some 30 yards. A clear case of offside against the whole of the home forward line was dismissed, and the Town players then simply slackened off.

HECTIC FINISH.

The result was three goals in less than four minutes. The City simply came along from the kick-off and scored. Richards, the City right winger, had a free course each time, and from his centre PICK scored the third goal, WIDDOWSON the fourth (another free kick), and LOUGHLIN the fifth, and the final whistle went, to the general relief.

There were 13,000 spectators.