

For a long time in the second half the Town had to give most attention to defence, and though Banes had nothing of a very serious nature to accept, there were a few thrills. The halves were also working so well with the backs that the retreats were always well covered, and the attackers had to shoot before they could assume really effective position. Then it was that the Town began to strike back, and the City defence had hot work.

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Many times there were prospects of a goal, and every forward and half-back had a try, while once Kingham came tearing up the middle and drove in a fine shot, for which Allen safely positioned. When the goal did come it was thoroughly deserved, and though Rennie again had the pleasure of scoring, it was a co-operative effort, for half a dozen players had something to do with the movement. The left wing were the agents in the advance, and Bryce eventually presented the ball so that RENNIE could see most of the target, and the ball traversed that ten or twelve yards with such velocity that Allen had scarcely begun his effort before the ball had come back to him from the rear of the net.

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The Town had the game well in hand after this, but in the last despairing effort of the City, Reay managed to get clear on the right to centre the ball from near the flag; Roe, who had been striving desperately hard against his old team, was rightly positioned, and could he have headed the ball rightly the result would have been a draw. He could not divert it downwards, however, and it sailed just too high, and before Banes could take the goal-kick the end was signalled.

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It was really good work by the whole of the team. Brilliant movements and individual play there were, but in general it was the splendid spirit and co-operation of the team as a whole that determined the success, and if one or two players showed up to better advantage than others it was because they had the more opportunity, and because they were conscious of the assistance at hand.

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This was why Kingham was the best back on the field. He had Hodgson covering him when he went out to deal with the lively Pick, or Clark would fall back, and though the City left winger did many exceedingly clever things, the City would never have scored but for a lucky chance from the free kick. Both backs were in grand form again, and with Banes alert and not required too often, the charge was quite as safe as in the previous game.

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All the halves were bothered by the amount of ground that had to be covered to keep in touch with the opposing wings or the area in the middle of the field, and Clark was often running inside to the assistance of Gale in the first half. When they had developed understanding, however, they played finely, and in the second half the home forwards in vain strove to overcome them. They wore down these attacks, and took a strong hand in supporting the forwards.

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Gale was a great stumbling block to advances down the middle, and his physique and far-reaching legs foiled Phillips and company time after time, while his long shots to the wings were invaluable. Clark put in grand work, and here again was evidence of steady mastery over the better of the Coventry wings, and the ball was nicely served to the front liners. Fraser's football was delightful as ever, and if he does not score soon as a result of one of those brilliant runs that have become a feature of his play, I shall be surprised.