

LUTON TOWN IN THE

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RECORD BREAKING CUP FEAT

SNOWSTORM CAUSES HOLD-UP AT HALIFAX

TWENTY-SEVEN MINUTES STOPPAGE
—AND YORKSHIREMEN SING

TAIT GETS ONLY FIRST HALF GOAL

NELSON'S SUCCESS AFTER THE
CHANGE OVER

Players Triumph Over Slippery Conditions

(By Crusader).

For the first time in history the F.A. Cup draw for the round preceding the semi-final will on Monday include the name of Luton Town.

Luton Town encountered the full force of the snowstorm at Halifax this afternoon, and the referee called the players in after twenty-seven minutes' play. It was another twenty-seven minutes before there was a resumption.

At half-time the Town led by the only goal, scored by Tait at the end of twenty minutes.

The teams changed over without a break, and Nelson put the Town further ahead ten minutes after the interval.

To this lead the Town tenaciously hung on in the face of desperate attacks by the Northerners.

WHEN LUTON TOWN started for HALIFAX this morning at nine o'clock it was the third occasion on which they had travelled north on the same errand—the Cup! Although this was not the excursion train, it might have been by the number of supporters who accompanied the team, and everybody was more confident than ever that success awaited them in Yorkshire, and the players not less than anyone else.

That was a good sign, and although Halifax did not subscribe to the general opinion of Luton that the task before the Hatters was easier than on their two previous journeys, on the achievements of the teams there was ample justification for the view that Luton would win.

Halifax fancied their chances because they were at full strength, but many of us held the opinion that the Town would not suffer by the absence of Mills, since it meant the return of Rennie to the leadership, and the change would give the right wing added weight to meet a hefty left flank in opposition.

We ran into snowstorms across the Yorkshire border, but even there, there were patches of sunshine, and we hoped for the best. At Halifax, however, snow was falling heavily. Before Bob Hawkes and myself reached the ground we had snow inside, as well as outside, our clothes, and were like snowmen when we got there.

We had no little difficulty in getting in the ground, having to break long queues of spectators who were braving the snow and cold breeze. Colours were everywhere, and there was a crowd estimated at 15,000 half an hour before the start. The Press seats were right on the front, and we were just right for stopping the heavier flakes of snow, so we were in for an unpleasant afternoon and just how much I could get through was a problem.

Twenty minutes before the start, groundsmen were busy clearing the lines with brooms. The water poured over my hands and paper as I scribbled away, and, on the whole, I fancy the photographers had the better job, in spite of being in the open, for they were not troubled with frozen fingers.

Things improved when the snowfall ceased, and we were able to lift our heads and take a peep at the ground. It deserves all the compliments paid to it, and, as far as we could gather when the snow was cleared, was in good condition.

Four minutes before the kick-off there would be a crowd of 20,000, and more were waiting to get in. Just as the teams turned out a band paraded the ground headed by a couple of hopefuls, one in the Halifax colours, blue and white, bearing a Felix cat, and the other holding aloft a large imitation of the F.A. Cup.

Right	LUTON TOWN				Left
	Harford				
	Kingham		Mackey		
Kean		McGinnigle		Fraser	
Nelson	Tait	Rennie	Alderson	Roberts	
O					
Tunstall	Wellock	Chambers	Brown	Davies	
	Parkin	Craig	Thompson		
	Barrie		Flack		
	Shirlaw				
Left	HALIFAX TOWN				

Referee:—Mr. J. J. ...

To-day's Marksmen



T. TAIT.



A. NELSON.

How The Goals Were Scored

There was a stiff cross breeze. Kean lost the toss, and Luton were soon away, but Rennie was pulled up for off-ice. A good effort by Fraser gave Tait a chance for a shot, Shirlaw saving.

ANYBODY'S GAME

The Town kept on the attack for a few moments, Kean being prominent. A first-time effort by Rennie was yards too high, and then both Harford and Shirlaw had to run out to clear. A long shot by Alderson proved ineffective.

The ground was slippery under the snow, and it was anybody's game.

Roberts again did neat work, and Nelson met his centre and put over. When Nelson slipped he let in Davies, but the latter was given offside, and play settled in midfield.

FIRST SCORE AN OFFSIDER

Kingham was called upon to clear, and there was a great yell when, after another miss by Fraser, the home team got through the middle and Chambers scored, but the whistle had gone long before he got the ball.

The Town got away from McGinnigle's pass and completely beat the defence, but Alderson shot badly and missed a good opportunity. Foothold was very bad indeed, and he could be excused.

Halifax got away, but again they were offside. Roberts and Alderson sent across goal, and Nelson just missed.

TAIT WINS THE LEAD

Snowflakes were falling heavily now, and the Town rushed through on the left. The ball came across to TAIT, who tricked Craig, and shot. The ball struck Parkin and went into the net, to give Luton the lead after twenty minutes' play.

Tait had another shot, which Shirlaw saved.

A great movement by the Town forwards brought a pass from Nelson to Rennie, but a clever shot rebounded from the goalkeeper and the ball was scrambled away anyhow.

REFEREE CALLS A HALT

The Town were having all the play in a driving snowstorm, and it came as no surprise when the referee called a halt after twenty-seven minutes.

Snow was falling heavily, and my hand could scarcely drive pencil across paper.

Whether there would be a resumption or not it was impossible to say, but it looked very doubtful. The crowd began singing "On Ilklay Moor 'baht 'at" and continued for ten minutes. Then the snow thinned a little and they began to call for the game to be resumed.

When the referee and the two club managers returned the groundsmen became busy with brooms, and the snow ceased almost as suddenly as it had begun, leaving a clear landscape. For how long we could not say.

Every spectator in the open and in the enclosure was wearing a coat of snow, and so were the Pressmen in the first row of the stand.

TWENTY-SEVEN MINUTES BREAK

The men with the brooms were cleared, and the referee was urged to fetch the teams out, for the spectators wanted the match to go on. The referee started the game again after a break of twenty-seven minutes, to a cheer.

The first incident was a rush by the Luton right, and Tait shot into Shirlaw's hands. A moment later there was another rush, and Nelson passed well, but Rennie shot wide.

A quick burst by the home forwards was stopped grandly by Mackey, and then Davies went right through, and with only Harford to beat, shot over the bar. Mackey and Kingham did well now, for the snow lay thick, and it seemed to suit Halifax.

Another assault by the Town brought a couple of corners, but these were got away. A great bit of work by Tunstall, in which he beat Kingham and Mackey, compelled McGinnigle to give a corner, but Kean cleared, and the Town got away.

ANOTHER GOAL APPEALED FOR

Alderson played grandly to beat the defence, and Rennie shot in a gorgeous first-timer. Shirlaw could not hold it,

and the Town unsuccessfully appealed for a goal, as the goalkeeper turned round and hooked the ball out.

A moment later Flack kicked out a shot from Mackey with the goalkeeper beaten.

Half-time:—

HALIFAX TOWN	0
LUTON TOWN	1

The teams changed over without leaving the field.

At once Halifax got away and forced a corner. This was not very troublesome, but Halifax were now playing desperately, and required holding. Snow was beginning to fall again, and the wind increasing, and the Town were facing it.

NELSON GETS THE SECOND

Mackey got the better of the home right wing, and was again strong in defence. A burst by Tait and Nelson looked promising, but neither Alderson nor Roberts could act in time, owing to the slippery state of the ground. Ten minutes after the restart Fraser opened a movement, which Alderson and Roberts carried on. The ball was centred to Rennie, and his shot hit the goalkeeper, but NELSON was at hand and easily scored.

DEFENCE STAND UP TO IT

Halifax were desperate now, but the Town defended grandly. Harford punched away three times in grand style, and Kingham and Mackey were doing well under difficult conditions.

Tunstall was well watched, and could not do much. Flack got the Town left in a dangerous situation, and then Thompson was damaged by the heavy ball.

A good run by Tait ended with a wide shot, and just afterwards he ran right through and drove in a hard shot which Shirlaw saved well.

RENNIE BARRED BY THE BAR

A fine centre by Davies gave Wellock a chance, and he shot well, but Harford saved at the post. Roberts shot into Shirlaw's hands after Tait had given him the opening.

Mackey had to give a corner to stop Tunstall, but this was cleared by Kean. A fine run by Rennie ended well, with a close drive.

Just afterwards Rennie dribbled through and beat Shirlaw, but the shot hit the bar and went over.

Result:—

HALIFAX	0
LUTON TOWN	2

RECORD ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE: 29,235.
RECEIPTS: £1,624.
The attendance beat the record by over 7,000.