

BRIGHT GAME

Luton Just Manage to Win

(By CRUSADER)

LUTON TOWN'S victory over WATFORD last night was obtained in much more impressive manner than the score suggests. The goals scored by the visitors were due to slackness in defence, and Imrie should have stopped the last. For an hour the Town almost toyed with the visitors, who seldom got near Imrie in the first half, but Slater, in the Watford goal, was in great form, and saved time and again. His charge was constantly in danger, and only the fine work of himself and his backs prevented the Town forwards finding the net several times before the first success. Rowe and Rennie soon had the crowd cheering, and there were cries of "Play up the transfer men," as Rennie found his partner with beautiful passes, and Hutchison fooled the visitors by his clever scheming.

Tait once chased a long kick right into the goal-mouth and collided with the goalkeeper, the latter dropping the ball but managing to clutch it and hold on. Slater managed to intercept one effort from Rennie in very lucky manner, and shot after shot either went just wide or over the bar. Eventually Rennie sent through for Tait to turn the ball out to Rowe, and the latter returned the ball squarely and HUTCHISON scored with a splendid drive.

Imrie had to save a long shot from Woodward, and then the Town attacked again, forcing several corners, and from one of these there was a scrimmage, and ROWE banged the ball into the net. Chapman raised Watford's hopes with a clever run and centre from which the ball was scrambled away, and then Imrie made a good save from Barnett. Slater was soon busy again, and made grand saves. A spurt by Lane in which he knocked the ball down with his arm and got right through without intervention from the referee nearly succeeded, but Mackey kicked away from the goal-line. Just before the interval Rennie completely beat Slater with a glorious drive, the ball hitting the underside of the bar and falling behind the custodian, and it certainly seemed to be a goal, and the referee put his whistle to his mouth, but did not use it. The change over came with Luton well deserving their lead.

LUTON 2

WATFORD 0

Slater was soon in action when the game was resumed, and Mills tested him very severely. Then Rennie headed on to the bar from a corner kick by Rowe. Watford were penned in, and Slater played a great game. Shot after shot was aimed at the goal, but though there were many escapes it did not fall. A raid by the visitors left Lane with a good chance, but Imrie made a good save. The Town were soon at it again, and Tait snapped up a pass and sent to ROWE, who scored with a wonderful shot that took the crowd by surprise.

Following the reverse there was some slackness among the Town defenders, and Watford went down on the right, where there was too much scope allowed to Chapman, and when the ball came across Lane passed for BARNETT to score a grand goal. This encouraged the visitors, and they soon returned, and Chapman was allowed to go through and centre, and LANE scored with a shot that Imrie allowed to slip past him as he went down.

Watford now pressed hotly, and had their best time, and the Town responded to the shouts of their supporters, and Moran got the ball away from under the bar when Slater was hopelessly beaten by Mills.

It was a fine, clean game, contested in the best spirit, and as one of the Watford directors remarked after the match that it was the best match in which which Watford had been engaged this season. The attendance was only 4,100, and perhaps the effect of the Club's action in regard to re-engagement of players had something to do with it.

Rennie, Hutchison and Rowe played brilliantly, and the crowd were not slow to comment on the fact that they were being allowed to go. Tait could not get on really well, though always trying, and Mills had not the best of luck, for time after time balls that he meant for centres landed in the goalkeeper's arms. All the halves played well, and Kean's return was welcome. He mastered the Watford left wing. The backs also did well, but there seemed to be some slackness generally when there had been a good lead established, and in spite of the fact that the Town had so much the better of the play, they gave their supporters a fright before the end.

LUTON TOWN 3

WATFORD 2

LUTON: Imrie; Kingham, Mackey; Kean, McGinnigle, Fraser; Mills, Hutchison, Tait, Rennie, Rowe.

WATFORD: Slater; Brown, Moran; Findlay, Inglis, Woodward; Chapman, Barnett, Lane, Lowe, Barnes.

Referee: Mr. B. C. White, Walsall.