

WELCOME WIN

Luton's Hard Fight with Gillingham

(By CRUSADER)

THOUGH it would require a stretch of the imagination to describe Luton Town's success at the expense of Gillingham as a great victory, the result was satisfactory, and did something to restore the hopes of the supporters. Gillingham played hard and fast football, and gave a lot of trouble before they had to admit defeat, but there could be no doubt that the winners were superior in nearly every department, and had no more than their deserts.

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AFTER a thrilling start by the visitors, in which they were frustrated only by the good work of Harford, the Town got into their stride, and five minutes after the start **RENNIE** beat Holland with a lob taken at a time when the goalkeeper was unsighted by a crowd of defenders. The manner in which the visitors crowded their goal against the Town attacks was a feature of the play, the inside-forwards falling back to assist the beleaguered.

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THIS was the only goal of the first half, but both goalkeepers made brilliant saves, Holland, especially, winning rounds of applause by his clever anticipation and the agility with which he got to shots that appeared certain to score. He was lucky several times, notably when Tait kicked the ball out of his arms, and Jackson cleared off the line, and again when a shot from Anderson struck him. There were good efforts, chiefly by Raleigh and Mills at the other end, and Harford did well to keep his charge intact.

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SOON after the interval Pease had hard lines with a shot that struck the under-side of the bar, but the referee refused the appeals for a goal. **RENNIE**, however, scored a splendid goal after receiving from Martin and rounding Collins, who was playing well to the rear, and Holland had no chance with the shot. The visitors' goal had narrow escapes after this, and then they set up pressure, and Kean handled in the penalty area, for **MILLS** to score from the penalty kick.

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GILLINGHAM several times threatened to draw level, but in another assault by the Town a penalty kick was awarded for "hands," and **McGINNIGLE** scored. The visitors were not done with, and after a good movement **RALEIGH** scored while the Town defenders were appealing for offside. Gillingham played hard for the equaliser, but the Town had more of the game, and eventually **ANDERSON** scored a nice goal to complete the tale.

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HARFORD kept goal finely, and his backs, after a rather shaky start, did great work against a harassing forward line. Kean and Fraser were on form, but McGinnigle was often beaten by the speed of the ball off the hard ground. Rennie played one of his best games, and Anderson enhanced his promise by a clever game. The others worked hard, and there was more team spirit than usual.

LUTON TOWN 4

GILLINGHAM 2

LUTON: Harford; Kingham, Mackey; Kean, McGinnigle, Fraser; Pease, Martin, Tait, Rennie (A.), Anderson.

GILLINGHAM: Holland; Jackson, Lester; Forbes, Collins, Kidd; Mills, Scott, Raleigh, Bethell, Liddle.

Referee: Mr. J. H. Allen, London.