

LUTON WIN AT HOME

Interesting Game with Cardiff City

(By "CRUSADER")

LUTON TOWN succeeded at the expense of CARDIFF CITY on the Town ground on Saturday, and well deserved their points. The game was always interesting, and often very bright, for the football was largely of scientific character, and on the whole very cleanly conducted, though there were a few fouls against the City's lusty backs, particularly Russell.

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FIRST danger came from the City, who repeatedly attacked, thanks to the service of their wingers, who soon gave evidence of speed and trickery. Probably this toned up the Town defence a little, for eventually the team as a whole got going, and the City defenders had many anxious moments. It was no more than was merited when RENNIE capped good all-round play by the forwards and Fraser by scoring at close quarters.

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THIS was the only goal of the first half, but there were many more splendid efforts, and good goalkeeping at either end won applause. The Town by no means had matters all their own way, for they were frequently hard pressed to keep the nippy City attackers at bay. Still, they held their lead at the change-over.

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THE City resumed the second half as they had started, and Jones was the leading spirit in a good deal of trouble for the Town rearguard, but Harford had not much work. When the Town took up the running they were rather lucky to get a goal so quickly. It came as the result of a shot driven very hard by MARTIN from about twenty yards' range; the goalkeeper was almost taken by surprise, but managed to leap across and grasp the ball, only to slip off his feet and allow the ball to roll over the line.

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THE Town wingers had not been very good in the first half, but they showed much more go and enterprise in the second, and the City goal had narrow escapes as a result of the improvement in the combination of the line generally. Somewhat unexpectedly, however, the City reduced the arrears. Jones made a brilliant dribble and then shot the ball over to the left; Hutchinson took it and shot in, but the ball was returned, and WEST, hitting it hard, saw Harford grasp the ball just under the bar, but it spun out of his hands, and although he made a desperate effort, he could not hold it, and over he went backwards, and the ball landed in the net.

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THE Town put on hot pressure after this, and many fierce attacks were beaten off by the stubborn work of the City backs and the skilful goalkeeping of Adams. However, the goal must have fallen when Pease and Martin beat the defence, and the winger gave Rennie a pass close in, but the centre-forward was

tripped almost under the bar, and MCGINNIGLE scored from the inevitable penalty kick. The City were not finished, however, and shortly before the end the Town goal was saved only by a glorious effort of Harford, who dived right across goal and pushed round the upright a grand shot by Jones.

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THE Town defence was fairly safe, with Mackey the shining light. He played a great game, and the duties of captain are taken very seriously by him. Reece, making his first appearance, seemed over-anxious, and made a lot of errors in the first half, but after change of ends he did very much better, and did much good work. Fraser was the best half-back on view, but both McGinnigle and Brown played well.

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THE re-arranged forward line could well be continued, for while Pease and Pearson were much below their best in the first half, they improved a great deal afterwards. The former is still far below his best, and seemed to have lost some of his old confidence, but showed evidence of revival. Pearson is clever enough for any line, but spoilt so much combination in the first half by hanging on to the ball, and more often than not losing it. In the second period he dropped a lot of the individualism, and as a result he was much more efficient, and the line did better work in consequence. Rennie led well, and Martin was very clever, while Hutchinson was the equal of any forward in the game.

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LUTON TOWN 3
CARDIFF CITY 1

LUTON: Harford; Mackey, Reece; Brown, McGinnigle, Fraser; Pease, Martin, Rennie, Hutchinson, Pearson.

CARDIFF: Adams; Calder, Russell; Maidment, Galbraith, Duthie; Marcroft, Jones, West, Curtis, Hutchinson.

Referee: Mr. E. R. Westwood, Walsall.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION III (SOUTH)

	P	W	L	D	F	A	P
Norwich	18	11	3	4	44	24	26
Rangers	17	10	4	3	32	18	23
Coventry	18	8	4	6	39	22	22
Reading	17	9	5	3	38	24	21
Charlton	17	9	6	2	43	27	20
Exeter	19	8	7	4	34	29	20
Palace	18	8	6	4	36	31	20
LUTON TOWN	19	8	7	4	40	35	20
Swindon	17	8	5	4	27	30	20
Bristol R.	17	8	6	3	29	22	19
Brighton	18	7	8	3	29	26	17
Orient	17	6	7	4	26	26	16
Aldershot	17	5	6	6	16	22	16
Torquay	17	7	8	2	24	40	16
Northampton	17	6	8	3	30	34	15
Bournemouth	17	6	8	3	28	34	15
Gillingham	17	5	8	4	30	38	14
Newport	17	4	7	6	15	25	14
Watford	17	4	9	4	24	30	12
Bristol C.	17	3	8	6	23	38	12
Cardiff	17	5	10	2	23	40	12
Southend	17	4	9	4	15	30	12