

SUCCESS AT NEWPORT

Luton Town Maintain Their Form

(By "CRUSADER")

LUTON TOWN maintained their fine sequence of successes in the League when they won at Newport of Saturday after a hard game in which they laid the foundations of success in the first half. From the start they gave the County lessons in ball control and accurate passing on very heavy going, and at half-time had a lead of two goals. The main reason for their success in this period was the brilliant work of the half-backs, who dominated midfield, and assisted their forwards by clever feeding.

BEFORE there was any score the County goal had narrow escapes, nearly every unit of the Town attack taking part and testing Emery. The ball, however, often stuck in the mud when the defence was beaten, and enabled the home backs and halves to recover before the final shot could be made. To add to the difficulties of the Town, Fraser received a very bad kick just below the knee, and was off the field for a short time, and when he returned was lame.

HE had barely returned when he saw the Town make a movement from the middle in which Rennie, McGinnigle, Kean and Martin took part before Pease raced through to middle perfectly, and BELL met the ball on the run and lammed it into the net for a splendid goal. Now and then the County gave trouble, and once Harford brought off a glorious save from Haycox, turning the ball over the bar when a goal seemed certain. Still, there was almost as good a save by Emery from Kean at the other end, where there was much more shooting practice.

HUTCHISON was the scorer of the second goal eight minutes before the change of ends, and here again the goal was the result of magnificent team work, beginning with the half-backs, and being carried on among the forwards, chiefly through the bright footwork of Martin. He lifted the ball over from the right to the left wing, and Hutchison coolly beat Robinson and then calmly placed the ball out of the reach of Emery.

THERE was a big change in the second half, the County having much the better of the general exchanges, although when it came to scoring opportunities they did not have the chances that came to the Town. The County goal-mouth, however, was a heap of mud, and several times Bell and Pease got right through, only to be foiled through inability to move the ball out of the thick mud, with the result that the defenders came to the rescue of Emery, and the ball was got away.

PEASE, however, did get the ball through on one occasion, as the home goalkeeper afterwards admitted, but the referee gave the home side the benefit of the doubt. Pease beat the defenders for speed, and went right on and shot, and the goalkeeper managed to get his hands to the

ball, but could not prevent it passing him, and he turned quickly and scooped it out of goal. The Town players were congratulating Pease when the referee waved for play to proceed.

NEWPORT put on tremendous pressure at times, and with Fraser compelled to go to outside left soon after the re-start the attack was crippled. Hutchison played very well at half-back, and the defence rose to the occasion admirably. Harford did not have a great deal of work until the last ten minutes, and he was beaten only once, and that five minutes from the end, when HAYCOX headed in a centre by Reynolds.

BEFORE the final whistle there were determined assaults by the County, but the Town defence played brilliantly, and attack after attack was frustrated. Harford made one glorious save at full-length, and several corners were forced, but try as they would the County could not find a loop-hole, and the end came with the points safe for the Town.

HARFORD did grand work in the closing stages, but had only one serious task in the first half. Kingham and Mackey both played finely, the latter again being a dominant force when the County were at their best. The key to success, however, lay in the middle line, where there was great work from all three. McGinnigle and Kean put up a wonderful game, as did Fraser before his mishap. Martin again shone in the attack, and Bell led the line with rare spirit and skill, while Pease and Rennie responded well, and Hutchison proved useful both on the wing and at half-back.

LUTON TOWN 2
NEWPORT COUNTY 1

LUTON: Harford; Kingham, Mackey; Kean, McGinnigle, Fraser; Pease, Martin, Bell, Rennie (A.), Hutchison.
NEWPORT: Emery; Robinson, McLaughlan; Clarke, Jordan, Jones; Reynolds, Burgess, J. Haycox, Higgins, Thomas.
Referee: Mr E. Pinckston, Birmingham.

THE LEAGUE: DIV. III. (South)

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Norwich	26	15	5	6	58	36	36
Coventry	26	13	6	7	64	36	33
Reading	25	13	6	6	54	31	32
Rangers	24	14	6	4	46	29	32
Charlton	24	14	7	3	55	35	31
Exeter	26	13	9	4	50	36	30
Luton Town	26	12	8	6	54	44	30
Bristol R.	24	12	7	5	51	33	29
Aldershot	25	9	7	9	31	31	27
Swindon	25	11	9	5	37	41	27
Palace	24	8	9	7	39	41	23
Orient	26	9	12	5	38	48	23
Northampton	23	8	9	6	43	44	22
Brighton	24	7	10	7	36	36	21
Torquay	25	9	13	3	31	55	21
Bournemouth	25	8	13	4	30	55	20
Southend	25	7	12	6	29	44	20
Watford	25	7	13	5	42	45	19
Newport	25	4	10	11	25	41	19
Gillingham	25	6	13	6	45	64	18
Cardiff	25	7	15	3	37	59	17
Bristol C.	23	4	11	8	32	53	16