

Team Work in Luton's Success at Bournemouth

(By CRUSADER)

LUTON TOWN gained their third consecutive success away from home when they handsomely beat **BOURNEMOUTH & BOSCOMBE** at Dean Court on Saturday. Luton were masters of the struggle from first to last, and had they not relaxed their grip a little in the last quarter of an hour, they would have beaten Bournemouth pointless.

THE first goal came after thirty-five minutes, but the Town had been gradually asserting their superiority from the kick-off, and time and again they nearly broke down the gallant defence of Mellors, G. Smith and Richardson. The home forwards, led by Tom Tait, the former Town player, got very little of the ball after the opening stages when Parris was troublesome on the left.

BALL led the Luton attack with splendid judgment and energy, and the combination was always too much for the opposing halves. Consequently, Mellors and his backs were tested consistently, for the shooting was better than usual, and apart from the plucky display by the home rearguard, there were occasions when luck alone averted disaster.

Once Ball had Mellors beaten to the wide with a shot that struck the foot of the upright, and rebounded; Bell had a drive strike the goalkeeper when he knew little or nothing about it; Pincott headed from under the bar when the custodian was beaten, and many shots went very close, while Mellors saved again and again.

BROWN'S goal was the climax to a persistent attack that lasted for several minutes, during which many corners were forced. The ball was got away from a crowd of players close in, and **BROWN** came up, and from a little way outside the penalty area, put in a storming drive which would have beaten any goalkeeper.

fine drive by Pincott, and then luckily saved from Fletcher.

THERE was just as how a time for the home rearguard just afterwards, for Mellors saved again and again, and then rushed out, but was beaten by a header from Ball. Pincott kicked off the goal-line while his goalkeeper was prostrate several yards from goal.

Pincott was responsible for Bournemouth's attack that met with success. He made a fine dribble and shot, which Coen brilliantly deflected for a corner. Following the flag-kick, **FLETCHER** scored with a grand shot, very similar to that of Brown. This was four minutes from the end, and there was no further danger for the Town.

Team work among the Town players was remarkably good. Ball led his forwards with great dash, and was always troubling the defenders.

Rennie has not played better for years, and all the others rose to the occasion. The middle line dominated the game, and all played well, while in the rear, Mackey was the best back on the field, and a great captain. Kingham also did well, and Coen, when his turn came, proved that Bournemouth parted with a first-class goalkeeper.

TOM TAIT was the best of the home forwards, and but for the close marking by Thayne, he might have done some damage. However, Mackey also attended to him closely when Thayne was not at hand, which was rarely. The halves found little time to assist their forwards, the backs and Mellors were overworked, but the goalkeeper made many good saves.

LUTON TOWN 3
(Brown Stephenson, Martin).
BOURNEMOUTH & BOSCOMBE 1
(Fletcher).

BOURNEMOUTH.—Mellors; Smith (G.), Richardson; Smith (W.), Pincott, Moralee; Mortimer, Fletcher, Tait, Farrow, Parris.

LUTON. — Coen; Kingham, Mackey; Brown, Thayne, Fraser; Martin, Bell (S.), Ball, Rennie, Stephenson.

Referee: Mr. F. W. Mort, Mottingham.



J. COEN

A FEATURE of the play was the steady combination between the Town halves and forwards, with Rennie playing his best game for a long time, inasmuch as he was using his weight when necessary, and defenders find it difficult to move him. Ball was equally hard to thwart, and it was a characteristic effort of his that brought the second goal.

Martin centred well, and Ball's head forestalled those of the backs and the fist of the goalkeeper; the ball appeared to be going into goal when **STEPHENSON** rushed in and made certain. It was said afterwards that the ball would just have missed.

BOURNEMOUTH never tested Coen in this half. He had a few balls to handle, but they were not shots at goal. Tait played hard, and Parris did clever things now and then, but there was only one brief period when the Town goal was in real danger, and when the ball was cleared from a scrimmage. At the change-over, the Town were good value for their lead, which might have been heavier on the run of the play.

LUTON 2
BOURNEMOUTH 0

THE second half provided fewer thrills, and the game was not so fast, but the Town continued to hold the upper hand. Within a very few minutes G. Smith had kicked wildly, almost from under the bar, when Martin sent over dangerous centres. Mellors also cleared centres from the same player. Coen had to handle again, but not a shot, and his first trouble came when Mortimer put in an overhead kick, and the ball skidded lower from the turf, and the goalkeeper had to put the ball round the post for a corner.

RENNIE shot over, and Stephenson missed when he tore in from the left and had a good chance. Martin, Bell, Brown and Ball gave the home defence a warm time, and Mellors made good saves. When Bournemouth did get in an assault, they remained in the Town territory for some time, but rarely looked like scoring. The ball was kicked forward into the goal-mouth several times, but the defenders were always ready, and Coen had not a hard shot to take.

TAIT was the agent in most of the attacks by the home forwards, and he strove with all his might to break through, but he rarely managed to escape the attention of Thayne. Once, however, Thayne had to go over to the right and attend to Mortimer, who was threatening to come right through, but a square shoulder charge laid the winger low. Tait made a desperate effort to score from a corner kick, but fouled Coen, and a free kick was awarded.

The issue was assured for the Town when Martin scored the third goal. There was a rousing attack in which all the Town forwards took part, Fraser having initiated the movement. A succession of shocks followed as first one player and then another essayed to beat Mellors. The goalkeeper did well to get the ball away twice: Ball hit the post again, and two