

SKILFUL FORWARDS

PROVE TOO HOT FOR BOURNEMOUTH'S DEFENCE

A Brace for Roberts

(By CRUSADER)

LUTON TOWN 4
Roberts (2), Crompton, Ball.

BOURNEMOUTH 0

LUTON. — Coen; Kingham, Mackey, Colquhoun, Thayne, Smith; Crompton, Martin, Ball, Roberts, Stephenson.

BOURNEMOUTH. — Mellors; Turner, Smith (G.); Smith (W.), Richmond, Moralee; Ritchie, Farrow, Lawson, Chalmers, Parris.

Referee: F. W. Wort, Nottingham.

LUTON TOWN thoroughly merited their sixth consecutive victory when they trounced BOURNEMOUTH at Luton on Saturday. Once more it was a good clean game, though the firm ground and light ball did not make for easy control. The Town were superior in the middle and forward lines but while the visitors were denied a goal, it was very largely due to their own faults in front of goal, and to the command the Town forwards had of the match, which meant restriction of chances for the opposition front line. In the first half there was a decided shakiness about the Town defence, and Bournemouth should have scored twice.

FLANK HALVES BUSY

Early play found the Town the more aggressive, and both Smith and Colquhoun on the flanks endeavoured to pave the way for assaults. Bournemouth soon showed their mettle, however, and by long kicks and swinging passes, had the Town defenders worried. Parris, especially, was a troublesome fellow. The Town forwards, however, playing well within themselves, harassed the visiting defence seriously, and Turner and George Smith were glad to boot the ball anywhere for safety, while Mellors was kept on the alert. Following a movement that elicited a roar from the crowd, Ball was left with a fine chance, but he got his boot right under the ball, and it went among the crowd on the top row of the terraces.

CROMPTON'S HEADER

There was a breathless moment at the other end, following a big kick by Farrow from near the middle line. The ball sailed into the Town goalmouth, and Coen, Thayne and Parris all went for the ball; the Town goalkeeper seized it, but collided with Thayne and lost possession; Chalmers got the ball, but failed to turn it into the vacant goal. The Town forwards now threatened hotly, and after one or two bright movements had been foiled or spoiled.

Colquhoun initiated the first success. He had raced over to the other flank, and, keeping the ball down, passed prettily to Roberts; the latter sent his partner away past the opposition, and a fine centre found CROMPTON just right for acceptance, and he headed a good goal.

MORE IMPRESSIVE

The Town were much the more impressive aside, and again and again the forwards worked the ball through, either to fall against the sturdy tackling of the visiting backs, or the judicious positioning of Mellors. Bournemouth's forwards fought pluckily, but Coen's duties were very light by comparison with Mellors' job. Often it looked as though one or other of the Town forwards must succeed, but Mellors managed to keep his lines clear, and he could find no fault with the energetic assistance he received from his colleagues. The combination of the Town forwards was an entertainment, and had they finished well they would have had the game won in the first half-hour.

ROBERTS' GREAT SHOT

There was evidence of looseness in the Town defence again when Chalmers broke clean through, but, with the goal at his mercy, turned the ball behind again. Lawson also narrowly missed with a very fine shot when Parris had made the position possible. Still the Town held the master oand, and again and again the Bournemouth goal was in danger, all the forwards saving a turn. It was to Roberts the prize came, though half-a-dozen players had some part in the advance, the ball being rapidly transferred from player to player before Stephenson whipped it across goal; Ball was expected to try a header at goal, but instead, he headed it back very cleverly to ROBERTS, who was unmarked, and a great first-time shot gave Mellors no chance. Bournemouth made a desperate effort to recover, and a fine effort by Farrow struck the bar and rebounded, for the defenders to clear, and at half-time the Town were two goals up.

LUTON 2
BOURNEMOUTH 0

The Town resumed strongly, and Turner saved his goal by stout tackling in the first minute. Mellors soon came into action, and got the ball away. Bournemouth made a bid in which they won a corner, but play soon went to the other end. The Town men set up a strong attack, which was maintained, and there was a persistent rumbling at Mellors' charge, though not many shots had much power behind them. Still, the goal had very close shaves, and only the sterling courage of the visiting backs, and the shrewd anticipation of Mellors, kept down the score.

BALL'S TURN

Ball, who had deserved success if only for his unselfishness in serving his colleagues, eventually scored the third goal, he start of the movement came when Kingham tapped the ball to Colquhoun; e, in turn, fed Martin; the latter lifted the ball right across to the left wing as surprise for the opposition; Stephenson returned it to the middle when the defenders were drawn to him, and BALL got clear of Richmond's attentions and shot at great speed into the net, the ball being hung up, as it was wedged between the net and the support.

END THEN ROBERTS

Bournemouth were rarely out of their own half for a long time, and Tom Smith Colquhoun took turns as the sixth forward.

The sharp, close passing of the three inside forwards had the Bournemouth defenders running the wrong way, and ROBERTS was presented with a pass and a clear shot at goal, and once more drove the ball hard and true past Mellors.

The remainder of the game was almost tirely in favour of the Town, though towards the end the visitors made another ave effort to recover, and gave Coen ne work, but usually he had plenty of ne to see the ball and to clear.

STEPHENSON'S EFFORT

The Town maintained their supremacy ward, and the visitors' goal had many row escapes, but Mellors kept goal ll, and his backs were hard workers all e time. Stephenson once went right ough, but his effort to direct the ball t the approaching Mellors failed, and

in another attempt the Town left witout found himself dribbling through at great speed on the right wing, and he ended with a hard shot, which rattled the bar, and again the visitors got the ball away through the wise perception of Mellors.

COLQUHOUN'S WAY

The Town defence gave cause for business at times, though it cannot be said that any player did badly. It appeared to be a lack of understanding chiefly. Coen had not much work from his old team, and Kingham and Mackey had only a few exciting moments. Both kicked and tackled well enough, though Kingham had quite as much as he could manage when Parris got the ball.

Thayne also had a deal of trouble in checking Lawson, who was a strong little leader with a quick shot in either foot, and there were two efforts that with a little luck would have scored.

Colquhoun pleased the crowd generally, his cleverness in positioning being an asset, while his support of the attack was always effective. On the other flank, Smith did fine work, and was the equal of any half-back on the field.

Apart from a tendency to lift the ball now and then, he put up a splendid game, and in his defensive work he was very sound.

DELIGHTFUL ATTACK

The forwards again played a delightful game, keeping the ball down well, and making their advances either by deft, short passing or well-placed, long passes that enabled the wingers to break clear. So well did they play together that none could be chosen above his colleagues, and all that one could desire was better marksmanship to round off their approach, though four goals is no small feat in these days. The fact remains, however, that they were so much superior in midfield that they should have doubled their score, and probably would have done so had the conditions made for easier control.

BOURNEMOUTH

For Bournemouth, Mellors was a fine goalkeeper; his backs, especially Turner, played strongly, while Moralee did good work at half. The forwards gave evidence that with fair assistance they would trouble any defence, but their methods had not the stylishness of those of the home forwards. Attendance, 8,497, receipts £468 1s. 1d.

RESERVES' SECOND DOUBLE

Northampton Beaten at the County Ground

LUTON TOWN RESERVES 1

(Cook)

NORTHAMPTON RESERVES ... 0

NORTHAMPTON RESERVES. — Cave; Thompson, Craven; Riches, Melville, Higgins; Edwards, Potter, Ridding, Robson, Watson.

LUTON TOWN RESERVES. — Harford Payne, Coots; Kean, McGinnigle, Taylor Harrison, Hackett, Cook, Rennie, Hutchison. Referee.—W. H. Waring, Hinckley.

LUTON TOWN RESERVES just deserved their success at Northampton, for they were the better side in constructive play, though the "Cobblers" gave a very good show, and much better than their position in the Combination table indicates. It was the second time the Town had scored the double this season.

The "Cobblers" had rather the better of the game in the first half, though there was not much in it, and the Town's inside forwards were well stopped by Melville. Ridding had hard luck with a fine shot which struck the upright, and he also headed over from close quarters. Harford had to save several times, but his back-kicked strongly, as did the pair at the other end when the Town tried to get through.

RENNIE'S GOOD WORK

Rennie did good work in opening up the attacks for the visitors, and Hutchison also was clever, while Kean made his presence felt on two or three occasions, but Cave had little work. Potter scraped the bar with a splendid shot just before the change of ends which came without a goal.

COOK GETS THERE

Luton improved considerably, and had the better of the play, Cook especially being prominent with determined attempts. Harford had to save from Edwards and Ridding, and then Luton resumed the aggressive. A fine move on the left by Rennie and Hutchison brought a centre from the latter, and COOK scored with a grand cross-shot.

The "Cobblers" fought back with great determination, and several times were within an ace of equalising. Harford made a daring save when he threw himself at the ball as Ridding was about to shoot, and the home centre-forward was hurt, and had to go to the extreme left for a few minutes.

The Town replied with a hot attack Rennie sending Cook through with a beautiful pass, and the centre-forward was only inches too high with a tremendous shot. Cook was hurt in a tackle by Melville, and he also had to go to the extreme left. Cave made a fine save from Hutchison, and to the end, the "Cobblers" strove their hardest, but could not save point.

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