

LUTON OVERCOME ORIENT

THREE GOALS AFTER STRENUOUS STRUGGLE

Another Brace for Ball

(By "CRUSADER")

LUTON TOWN 3
(Stephenson, Ball 2)
CLAPTON ORIENT 0
LUTON TOWN. — Coen; Kingham,
Colquhoun, Thayne, Smith;
Martin, Ball, Roberts, Stephen-
son.
CLAPTON ORIENT.—Hillam; Searle,
Fogg, Fellowes, Ware; Miles,
Foster, Crawford, Rigby.
L. Boulstridge, Tamworth.

CLAPTON ORIENT put up their tradi-
tional game at Luton on Saturday;
and the methods invoked the wrath of the
referee, and the intervention of the official
was rather too often, and for a long
time prevented the Town from penetrating
the long, indeed, that many of us
begin to wonder if there would ever be a
goal the hard ground was also a greater
handicap to the home side than to the
visitors, whose first-time tactics served
better than the close play of the Town.
The Town middle line could not
get a grip of the game as generally
the forwards, and an hour had elapsed before
Hillam was beaten. Even then, for a little
time there was nothing like a certain suc-
cess and it was not until Ball had scored
his usual goal that the situation was
really bright for the Town.

REFEREE CRITICISED

Quite early on, there was a good deal
of dissatisfaction with the referee, who
seemed to make a lot of errors, but the
Town probably thought they were the
ones hit by these in the long run, for
they were denied what was apparently a
good goal in the first half.

The referee afterwards said that the
actual scorer for the Orient knocked the
ball in with his arm though, from the
press box, it seemed that he headed
through.

On the whole, however, the Town were
good value for their victory; they had
made the better of the play, were neater
in their work, and only the good goal-
keeping of Hillam and the rugged oppo-
sition by his backs kept down the score.

ROBERTS'S EFFORT

Stephenson would have got through for
the Town in the first run down had the
ball been true for him, but the bounce
beat him as he raced in for goal. Then,
when a corner followed, Roberts made a
very fine effort to head through, and, per-
haps, it was just a trifle lucky for the
Orient that a defender touched the ball
and deflected it past the upright. Two
or three offside decisions within a few
minutes appeared to be wrong, for no
allowance was made for the speed of Ball
in getting position behind the backs after
the ball had been passed. Raids by the
Orient had plenty of grit.

The Orient were forced to fight hard
in defence, and Roberts and Stephenson
especially were prominent with forceful
work, but were driven back.
When the Orient replied, their marksmen
kicked the ball too high, though showing
commendable promptitude in shooting.

ESCAPES

Ball nearly scored during the absence of
Stephenson, who was hurt in a tackle, and
the Town right wing did very good work
hereabouts, Martin especially being in the
picture. Now and then, the Orient rushed
to the other end, but usually shot
hurriedly, and the Town defenders posi-
tioned so well that the inside forwards
did not have many chances.

Martin won applause by a clever move
that flustered the Orient defence, and he
cracked in a fine shot that seemed a
certain scorer, but Hillam flung himself
sideways and diverted the ball over the
bar.

Stephenson's return was a cheering
factor, and he was soon in the thick of
it. The Orient defended desperately, and
Hillam made a good save when Wilfred
Crompton dashed in and tried a first-time
shot. Had he hit the ball properly, the
custodian must have been beaten but the
ball skidded gently from his foot, and the
goalkeeper was quick enough to push it
round the post.

ORIENT DISAPPOINTED

Following severe pressure, the Orient
got away on the right, and the ball went
to Farrell, who shot splendidly; Coen
managed to get his hands to the ball,
but it was headed, and Rigby rushed in
and sent it into the net.

To the dismay of the Orient, the referee
disallowed what appeared to be a good goal.
Most of us thought that it was for offside,
though that was difficult to understand,
but the opinion of the referee was that
the scorer knocked the ball in with his
arm.

The Orient came again, and Miles had a
fair chance, but sent wide and was like-
wise at fault when Farrell had won a
corner-kick. The Town took up the
tackling again, and Stephenson had hard
luck when he beat the defence, but his
shot struck the upright. On the stroke of
half-time, Hillam managed to get in the
way of a header from Stephenson, and so,
at the change-over, there was no score.

LUTON TOWN 0
CLAPTON ORIENT 0

Fierce attacks were made on the Orient
goal on the re-start, the Town forwards
being very lively, but the Orient backs
played strongly, and kicked with real power,
while the halves tackled with grim deter-
mination. Kingham, who was showing
brilliant form, and Mackey, both had to work
hard to frustrate efforts by the Orient, and
Miles was a dangerous little winger. The
Town forwards and halves replied with hot
attacks, and Hillam dived and turned round
the post a strong, low shot by Martin.
Hillam was kept on the active list, and
was lucky when a try by Ball hit him,
but he scrambled the ball away, and later
punched out a high one from Crompton.

LUTON GOES CLOSE

A number of free kicks was given
to the visitors, who never stood on
ceremony in their tackling, and some of
the Town players began to use their weight
in a fine movement carried out by the
Town at top speed, deserved success.
Through, Roberts and Ball carried the
ball through, and the latter centred from
the goal-line; Martin had closed in
with judgment, and met the ball first
with a quick thrust of the foot, and
missed the upright, with Hillam

beaten. The pressure was increased, and
the Orient crowded into their penalty area
to stem the tide. A round of applause
went up when Smith cleverly back-heeled
a ball that was too high to head, and it
was from this return that the movement
for the first goal eventually came.

TWO GOALS

The ball was headed out by the watch-
ful Fellowes, but Colquhoun captured it,
and passed to Martin; the latter transferred
to Crompton, who went on a few paces, and
then centred almost squarely along the
ground, defenders making frantic efforts to
reach the ball before STEPHENSON closed
in and shot past Hillam.

This was the tonic needed, for though the
Orient fought tooth and nail to recover the
lost ground, they were not allowed to go
very close to Coen. Thayne was applauded
for capital work, and Kingham had the
better of duels with Rigby.

The second goal came unexpectedly. A
move on the Town left brought a pass for-
ward from Stephenson, and BALL raced
almost to the goal-line and, turning round
with the ball at his feet, swung it inside, to
beat Hillam and find the net—a bit of
opportunism worth while, though, perhaps,
tinged with luck.

AGAIN BALL

The Orient were not finished, for their
left wing gave trouble, and Rigby tested
Coen, while shots at long distance by Farrell
and Crawford had to be picked up, and
once Miles cleverly tricked a way through
and centred, but Kingham headed away
grandly. Ball and Roberts were conspicu-
ous, and the latter just missed, and Crompton
also made a fine run and centre, which
was cleverly taken by Hillam. There was
some slackening of pace, and the Orient
gave further trouble, but met a stout
defence.

When the Town got going again, BALL
once more showed his appreciation of an
opportunity. The Orient backs were wide
apart for once, and when Smith booted
the ball into the gap, Ball snapped it up
and went straight on; he tried to shoot
hard, but failed to get hold properly,
though the ball travelled right away from
the goalkeeper and went just inside the
post.

The Orient tried hard to break through
in the closing stages, but were foiled, and
the Town deserved their victory.

KINGHAM'S BEST

Coen had few really anxious moments,
though he had to be slick at times to elude
the rushes of Foster when he had
accounted the ball.

Kingham has not played so well in any
game this season. Rarely did he fail to
connect aright against the lively ball, and
his tackling and positioning thwarted the
Orient forwards again and again, and his
work was made rather the more difficult
because Colquhoun seemed lacking in
pace.

Mackey played a steady game, and had
enough to do to hold his own with the
dapper Miles, and the well-built Farrell.
At half-back, Thayne gave one of his best
displays, more like the fine game he put
up at Stamford Bridge, while Smith was
always prominent, especially in attack.
Colquhoun was rather too deliberate at
times, but his supporting work was good.

The forwards found control very difficult
on the hard ground, and their close work
in the first half, though keeping the Orient
defenders hard at it, often came to naught,
because they carried on too far. They swung
the ball about better after change of ends,
and gained their due reward by more skilful
play all round. Every man did well, and
the team work was good as ever.

ORIENT

For the visitors, Hillam had no chance
with any goal against him, and he saved
well on many occasions. His backs were
rugged and fearless, and got through a lot
of work, while the halves, confined almost
entirely to defensive work, were relentless
tacklers and worriers. Now and then the
forwards showed a lot of skill, but they had
few opportunities than the Town attackers.
There were 7,966 spectators, and the
receipts totalled £432 15s. 9d.

THE LEAGUE: DIV. III. (SOUTHERN)

	P	W	L	D	F	A	P
Charlton	35	23	7	5	84	43	51
Coventry	34	18	9	7	77	42	43
LUTON TOWN	34	17	8	9	76	45	43
Reading	34	17	8	9	70	45	43
Crystal Palace	35	16	10	9	67	56	41
Watford	34	16	10	8	64	38	40
Brighton & Hove A.	35	16	13	6	57	43	38
Torquay United	35	16	14	5	66	59	37
Bristol Rovers	34	14	11	9	61	63	37
Northampton Town	34	14	13	7	53	57	35
Q.P. Rangers	35	13	14	8	50	55	34
Millwall	35	13	16	7	46	57	33
Exeter City	35	13	16	6	57	66	32
Swindon Town	33	10	13	10	61	62	30
Clapton Orient	34	11	15	8	48	56	30
Bournemouth	34	13	17	4	45	58	30
Bristol City	34	11	15	8	37	59	30
Aldershot	34	10	15	9	38	51	29
Cardiff City	35	10	16	9	48	71	29
Gillingham	34	9	17	8	46	66	26
Newport	35	9	21	5	46	90	23
Southend	33	8	19	6	48	63	22

LONDON COMBINATION

	P	W	L	D	F	A	P
Arsenal	38	27	7	4	110	43	58
Tottenham Hotspur	38	23	9	6	108	55	52
Brentford	39	21	11	7	68	43	49
Leicester	41	21	14	6	75	57	48
Watford	39	18	11	10	80	66	46
Crystal Palace	42	20	16	6	90	80	46
Chelsea	37	15	10	12	73	60	42
Reading	41	16	15	10	89	79	42
Coventry City	39	18	17	4	85	71	40
Portsmouth	37	15	12	10	60	50	40
LUTON TOWN	37	17	15	5	78	66	39
Swansea	37	15	15	7	59	62	37
Brighton & Hove	39	16	18	5	58	67	37
Bournemouth	39	13	15	11	46	72	37
Fulham	39	15	18	6	55	49	36
Q.P. Rangers	39	14	19	6	51	90	34
West Ham United	39	15	21	3	63	71	33
Clapton Orient	38	13	18	7	73	80	33
Bristol City	39	13	19	7	70	84	33
Northampton	38	13	18	7	43	68	33
Charlton Ath.	38	11	17	10	61	71	32
Millwall	39	11	18	10	51	86	32
Southend	39	9	22	8	45	82	26
Southampton	39	9	23	7	40	75	25

LUTON AND DISTRICT LEAGUE

DIVISION I: SUBSIDIARY SECTION