

STILL WINNING

Luton Town Take Three Against the Orient

(By "CRUSADER")

LUTON TOWN pulled off another victory when they accounted for CLAPTON ORIENT at Luton, thanks to a successful rally in the second half. It was not nearly so good a game as the average we have seen at Luton this season, for the hard ground and the light ball made control difficult, and were not conducive to accurate combination.

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R. Kingham

MOREOVER, the Orient's rugged methods had the tendency to put the Town off their game, and although the pressure on the Orient's goal was considerably heavier than that suffered by the Town, the finishing of the home forwards left something to be desired, even making full allowance for the good goalkeeping of Hillam, and the good fortune he enjoyed in the first half.

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THERE was no score until fifteen minutes after the change of ends. The Town pressed hotly, and frequently came near scoring in the first half. Stephenson almost got through within a few seconds of the start, while Ball, Roberts and Martin all had good efforts well saved by Hillam, and Crompton only just failed to beat the goalkeeper with a first-time shot.

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THE Orient, without showing brilliance, worked tremendously hard, and often gave the Town defence anxious moments. Once they got the ball in the net for what appeared to be a legitimate goal, but the referee held that the scorer had propelled the ball with his arm, and promptly disallowed the point. Just before the change-over Stephenson again had hard luck with a shot that struck the upright.

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AFTER give-and-take play in the early stages of the second half, though Hillam had the more work, and once saved brilliantly by diving to turn round the upright a drive from Martin, the Town took the lead. Hillam had been busy, but looked like keeping a clean sheet. Then from a fine bout of passing Crompton centred right across goal, and STEPHENSON ran in and scored.

THE issue was placed fairly safe when BALL added a second goal after Stephenson had done the major part of the work, for from his pass Ball raced to the goal-line, and as Hillam came out the centre-forward turned the ball past him just inside the farther post.

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THE Orient fought with great spirit, and several times called upon Coen, but most of their efforts were from long range. The third goal came nearing the end, when BALL took a long pass between the backs, and managed to turn the ball just inside the upright well away from Hillam. To the last minute the Orient strove to improve the position, but failed against a well-balanced defence.

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THE Town forwards were again in lively mood, and had the conditions been better for ball control they would probably have scored several more goals. The combination was good, but the shooting left room for improvement, though Hillam had not a little luck in saving.

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THAYNE gave a much better display at half, and Smith was ubiquitous as ever. Colquhoun was skilful in his service to the forwards, but was often lacking in pace against a quick wing. Kingham gave a splendid display, quite his best of the season, and Mackey was a steady partner, with Coen safe as usual.

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FOR the Orient, Hillam kept goal well, and his backs presented a grim problem to the Town attack. They kicked and tackled fiercely, and were just as relentless when three goals behind as before there was a score. The halves were much the same, and the forwards were willing to give and take anything the Town defenders could do. There was good team spirit and plenty of energy, even if the combination of the visitors did not reach the standard of the Town.

LUTON TOWN 3
(Stephenson, Ball 2)

CLAPTON ORIENT 0

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

CLAPTON ORIENT.—Hillam; Searle, Crompton; Fogg, Fellowes, Ware; Miles, Farrell, Foster, Crawford, Rigby.