

THREE GOALS IN TEN MINUTES

SWINDON'S FLYING START AGAINST LUTON

Two Hat Tricks

(By "RAILMAN")

SWINDON TOWN made a flying start against LUTON TOWN in the Southern Section Cup-tie last night at the County Ground, Swindon, and, in ten minutes, had scored three goals. That was altogether too big a handicap for the Luton side, but they played with such spirit afterwards that they came very near to equalising, and, even late though it was in the game when Turner was injured and had to leave the field, with his presence, they might have snatched equality.

MISSED CHANCES

While it was not a game to evoke a lot of excitement, good constructive football was seen at times. Luton contributed to their own downfall by weakness in front of goal, especially in the first half, when they had enough chances to have won the match, but not until very late in the struggle did they reveal real shooting ability.

TURNER INJURED

When Swindon had a lead of five goals to two, the visitors pulled out splendid football, and were making a fight of it when Turner was ~~checked~~ ^{knocked}. The Luton winger came into collision with Cousins, and sustained a nasty kick on the shin which compelled him to retire. This disorganised the attack when the line had just found its best form. It was after this that Stephenson scored with the best shot of the match.

The match had a sensational opening. In the first minute, Parmley went down on the home right, a unanimous appeal for offside being ignored, and sent the ball across to Lowry, who returned it inside for FOWLER to snap up the ball, and, with the Luton defence spreadeagled, the centre-forward availed himself of a very easy chance.

EARLY "HAT-TRICK"

Three minutes later came another goal. Lowry initiated a delightful movement on the left wing, and Brae received a pass and patted the ball through for FOWLER to take it in his stride and dash through to give Coen no chance. Five minutes later came a third goal. There was a strong suspicion of "hands," when Parmley was allowed to centre, and, with the Luton defenders appealing for offside, FOWLER fastened on the ball, and banged it into the net, Coen having no chance.

STEPHENSON'S REPLY

Luton set about their work with great courage, and pressed hotly, but they finished badly after good approach work, and Rutherford was not severely troubled. However, after 16 minutes' play they were rewarded. Turner and Stephenson were prominent with clever passing, and Cook dashed down the middle from the pass, and turned the ball over to STEPHENSON, who netted cleverly.

This success had a salutary effect on the visitors, and they played strongly. A free kick, taken by Nelson, seemed bound to score, but Armstrong headed out from under the bar with Rutherford beaten. The home goalkeeper, on his knees, then brought off two sensational saves from Cook at point-blank range.

Rutherford was kept busy, but many chances were missed, and the visitors had only themselves to blame that they were in arrears at half-time.

SWINDON	3
LUTON TOWN	1

Luton showed promise again when they resumed, but the backs were caught wide apart, and a Swindon raid five minutes after restarting put the home side further ahead. From a free kick, Cousins lobbed the ball into the goalmouth, and BRAE nipped in to score with a shot which glanced in off the upright.

FOWLER'S FOURTH

Swindon dominated the game for some time, and Coen made many good saves, his backs and halves failing to hold the lively home forwards. He was cheered for fine saves from Parmley and Lowry, but he was beaten for the fifth time by FOWLER hooking the ball through when Lowry muddled from near the corner flag.

So far from despairing, Luton buckled in with a will, and gave of their best in the last 20 minutes. Again and again they attacked, and Rutherford had to save hot shots from all the forwards.

THREE FOR "STEVE"

It was during one of these hot assaults that Turner was injured and had to retire. Still Swindon had to fight hard, and, following a nice movement in which all the four Luton forwards took part, STEPHENSON ran through to score.

Luton maintained the attack, and, two minutes from the end, STEPHENSON scored with a dazzling shot from thirty yards' range, the ball scarcely rising a few inches from the ground, and beating Rutherford all the way.

The trouble with Luton was in the middle line, all being too slow to deal with the nippy Swindon forwards. Nelson could hold up the opposition, but he frequently dallied to such an extent that he was dispossessed by one or other of the home inside forwards, especially by Fowler. The flank halves were moderate, too, and though Colquhoun gave his forwards some nice passes, he was slow in recovery.

Thus a heavy burden fell on the two backs, both of whom kicked and tackled well, but they were overrun too often. Coen kept goal well. The forwards showed much cleverness in their combination, but were terribly weak in front of goal, with Cook a very big sinner. He badly missed on three or four occasions in the first half. Stephenson and Turner were the better wing, but the right wing pair did well until Roberts was injured in the first half, and in the second period he changed places with Crook.

There were 3,057 spectators, and the receipts were £151 14s. 6d.

SWINDON TOWN	5
LUTON TOWN	3

SWINDON TN.—Rutherford; M'Carthy, Smith; Cousins, Armstrong, Newberry; Parmley, Cochrane, Fowler, Brae, Lowry.

LUTON TOWN.—Coen; Mackey, Hubbard; Colquhoun, Nelson, Kidd; Crook, Roberts, Cook, Stephenson, Turner.

Referee.—A. J. Brown, Bristol.