

BOYD BEGINS

BRILLIANT GOAL AT NOTTINGHAM

PAVED THE WAY FOR GRAND VICTORY

LUTON TOWN 3
Boyd, Stephenson, Martin.
NOTTS COUNTY 0

NOTTS COUNTY.—Knox: Mills, Feebury, Lawrence, Clarke, Grice; Steele, Rickards, Motley, Rankin, Fallon.
LUTON.—Coen; Mackey, Smith; Finlayson, Nelson, Fellowes; Crompton, Martin, Boyd, Roberts, Stephenson.
Referee: B. Ames, Worcester.

MEADOW LANE ground on Christmas Eve was covered with snow, which hid a layer of ice. On Christmas morning the snow had disappeared, and much of the ice, too, but the turf was hidden beneath and that had been frozen as hard as concrete, and miniature lakes were dotted over the ground.

One feared that the game would not take place, but everybody wanted to get the business over, and games have been played under worse conditions.

Just how treacherous the ground was may be gathered from the fact that Coen kicked the ball, and it skidded off the ground at such a pace that it bounced over the goal-line at the other end, with Knox, the County goalkeeper, watching it. Notts won the toss, but there was no apparent advantage. The Town were first away, the right wing making the threat; Crompton rounding Feebury neatly, but his centre slanted into goal, and Knox inched away. Then Coen had to do the same from Steele, in whose drive there was much danger.

The County left wing was lively, but Mackey held up Fallon, and the referee strongly gave a corner. This also was cleared by Mackey, and Coen was applauded for a good save from Fallon.

Boyd came into prominence with a speedy raid, in which he eluded Clarke, but Feebury got the ball when it skidded from the hard ground. Mills found Stephenson too speedy for him, and resorted to tripping, but the referee caught him, and the County goal was in danger for a few moments, and Knox was twice tested, but as alert.

BOYD THE MAINSPRING

After seven minutes the Town's new centre-forward scored, and he was the main-spring of the movement. As the ball came up the middle he pounced on it, and although tackled and knocked aside, he had beaten the opposition; Crompton had slipped into the middle, and took possession; Boyd took the position on the right, and Crompton slipped the ball that way. A perfect pass, and BOYD beat Knox all hands up with a splendid shot at which Knox leaped in vain.

The County sought a way through the middle, and Rickards, a weighty fellow, dribbled well, but Nelson held him up. Roberts, who was doing good work, sent Feebury away, but his centre was reeled by Feebury. Then came a grand dribble by Martin, whose shot flashed only inches wide, the goalkeeper's attempt to stop the ball failing.

The County goal narrowly escaped from Crompton's long kick, Knox just managing to pick up a snap shot from Boyd. Then Roberts slipped through the middle and drove in a hard shot which changed the panel advertisement after missing the target by inches only.

RIGHT ON TOP

At this stage the Town were right on top, and Stephenson raced through and not only a foot wide. Crompton was ruled by Feebury, but the referee gave the free-kick the other way. The Town came back as the result of a strong clear-

quick to reply, and Roberts was badly fouled. The free kick was cleared, and Notts made vigorous efforts, but Nelson, Mackey, and Smith gave them few chances at close quarters, though Fallon once headed well over from a nice centre by Steele.

Stephenson and Roberts now came into the picture with fast dribbling and passing, and Mills had a bad time.

Finlayson drove in after good combination with his wing men, but Knox saved well, and from a centre by Crompton a grand effort by Roberts to head through only just failed.

The Town were again on top, and Stephenson slipped through, but finished with an express shot which travelled a foot wide. For some minutes the Town assailed the County goal, and Knox saved well.

A thrust by the County right and Notley seemed likely to succeed, but Smith fell back and cleared with good judgment when Coen was on the ground.

STEPHENSON'S BRILLIANT GOAL

Twenty-two minutes had elapsed when STEPHENSON brought the crowd to their feet as the result of a spectacular goal. Nipping inside, he snapped up the ball, after Crompton and Martin had initiated the move; he was about 35 yards out; by brilliant feinting and side-stepping beat half-a-dozen opponents, and finally the goalkeeper. It was a great goal, and the crowd cheered to the echo.

Stephenson and Boyd were again prominent, and the latter shot behind after beating Mills very neatly, and then from a long cross by Stephenson, Boyd slipped over the ball to mislead the defence, and both Martin and Crompton slipped as they essayed to trap the ball in front of the target.

The Town persisted, and Knox made a grand save from Boyd. A sharp raid by the County right was checked by Nelson, but a corner followed, and Smith headed away.

Then Boyd emulated Stephenson, dribbling right through the defence, and only the goalkeeper to beat was



Luton Town have had fewer goals scored against them than any club in the League.

Of the 15 on their debit account seven were scored in the first three games, and 11 in the first nine. Only four have been scored against Coen in the last 11 games, and not one in the last five before tomorrow's match.

Coen is keeping goal as brilliantly as any custodian in Luton's long history.

pulled down; the whistle went as Stephenson darted in and scored. Finlayson took the penalty kick, but placed the ball within the reach of Knox, who parried it; Finlayson closed in, and a scrimmage ensued, in which Knox flung himself on the ball and was hurt. A free kick was given against the Town, but the ball was soon in the County territory again, and after a few rebuffs MARTIN dribbled through and put a high shot right across goal out of the reach of Knox; the ball struck the farther upright and glanced into the net.

Three minutes from the end, then the Town had another goal, and Knox brought off a very fine save from Roberts.