

SHARPSHOOTING FOR LUTON

BOYD SCORES FIVE AGAINST THE ORIENT

(By CRUSADER)

THREE MEN had a great deal to do with the defeat of Luton Town at Lea Bridge in the opening match of the season—Hillam, goalkeeper; Affleck, pivot; and Crawford, centre-forward, who did the hat-trick. All three played finely at Luton on Saturday, and, indeed, the whole of the Orient side put up a grim and determined battle to lower the colours of the all-conquering Luton team. They failed to check the progress, and Luton retained pride of place at the head of the League table.

* * *

VICTORY went to the better side, undoubtedly, but they never had anything to spare, and even when they were three goals ahead they found the opposition ready for a raid or a mix-up, and striving as hard as in the first stages. The Orient scored the first and the last goals, facts which in themselves indicate the spirit of the side, for at no period did they relax, and at times, in spite of the heavy pressure on their goal, they forced relief, and the forwards gained respite for the defence.

* * *

CRAWFORD opened the scoring for the visitors after half an hour, during which Luton had been almost constantly aggressive, and Hillam had saved again and again in wonderful fashion. The chance came when Nelson was unable to gauge the run of the ball in the mud, and Crawford took possession and beat Coen with a clever shot as the goalkeeper advanced.

* * *

WITHIN five minutes BOYD had put Luton ahead. His first goal came after a hot shot by Roberts had smacked the bar, rebounded from the goalkeeper, and had been pushed out by a defender, but BOYD net it and shot past Hillam. A minute later BOYD took a fine pass from Martin and again had Hillam well beaten with a splendid low shot, which had so much speed that it carried back into the field after hitting the back of the net.

* * *

ORIENT made a desperate effort to draw level, Miles putting the ball right into the goalmouth, and only after a fierce tussle, in which defenders and attackers were mixed up on the goal-line, did relief come through the whistle. Then came a move by the Town right, and BOYD snapped up the pass and turned the ball into the net to give the Town a lead of two goals at the cross-over.

* * *

FERCE pressure was made by the Town after the restart, and Hillam kept goal in marvellous fashion, shots from all quarters being saved grandly, while his backs and halves fought as resolutely as ever. Many times the goal seemed bound to fall, but it escaped, though once Boyd beat the goalkeeper, only to see the shot rebound from the opposite post to be scrambled out of danger. All Luton's forwards played well during this period and had their turns at shooting, but Hillam was superb.

* * *

RAIDING on the left, the Orient scored their second goal, Crawford and Smith being most prominent, and they literally forced their way through the Town opposition before SMITH got in a shot which Coen had not the slightest chance to save. For a few minutes there was danger that the visitors would draw level, for they were playing strongly, and gave a lot of anxiety to a defence which seemed to be very fatigued.

* * *

BOYD restored the brighter complexion for the Town—a brilliant individual goal. He took a pass inside the penalty area, and weaved a way past two opponents; although he slipped down in the mud he was up again instantly, and drove in a shot right out of the reach of Hillam. Pressure was not relaxed, and Crompton and Martin went away cleverly, the outside-right centring right into the goalmouth for BOYD to slip the ball past Hillam.

* * *

UNDISMAYED, the Orient rallied strongly, and after several efforts had been repelled. Miles made a good run, and eluding the attentions of Smith and Fellowes, banged over a fine centre, which CRAWFORD met with his head to direct the ball into the net away from Coen. It was a good wind-up to a hard-fought struggle.

* * *

TOWN players all did well, though Boyd captured most of the limelight, but every man served him well, and the understanding was good. The halves were workers all, and the flanks gave good support to the forwards, while Nelson did a very hard job as a defensive half. Finlayson and Smith were powerful backs, and Coen had little to do, and no chance with the scoring shots.

* * *

HILLAM saved the Orient from an overwhelming defeat, many of his saves bordering on the miraculous, and he had any amount of pluck, as well as agility and judgment. His backs kicked strongly, and they and the middle men tackled hard, while in the forwards Crawford and Miles were very troublesome to the Town defenders.



W. BOYD

LUTON TOWN 5

(Boyd 5)

CLAPTON ORIENT 3

(Crawford 2, Smith)

LUTON TOWN.—Coen; Finlayson, Smith; Colquhoun, Nelson, Fellowes; Crompton, Martin, Boyd, Roberts, Stephenson.

ORIENT.—Hillam; Searle, Taylor (J.); Fogg, Affleck, Heinemann; Miles, Taylor (H.); Crawford, Smith, Mayson.

Referee.—L. Boulstridge, Tamworth.