

Excelsior Luton!

WEST HAM OUTPLAYED AFTER GRAND STRUGGLE

FOUR FORWARDS SCORE

(By CRUSADER)

LUTON TOWN 4
(Ball, Crompton, Roberts, Stephenson)

WEST HAM UNITED 0

LUTON: Coen; Mackey, Smith; Finlayson, Nelson, Fellowes; Crompton, Martin, Ball, Roberts, Stephenson.

WEST HAM: Conway; Chalkley, Walker; Fenton, Barrett, Cockcroft; Simpson, Marshall, Mangnall, Goulden, Ruffell.

Referee: C. P. West, Brighton.

LUTON TOWN achieved a veritable triumph yesterday afternoon when they defeated WEST HAM UNITED in the re-played Cup-tie.

Treacherous ground prevented football of as high a quality as was witnessed at Upton Park, but the game was fast and exciting until the second half was well advanced, and then Luton asserted an extraordinary superiority, and won almost as they liked in the end.

West Ham were skilful enough to extend the Town defence many times, and Coen made superb saves, but the Hatters had nearly seventy per cent. of the play, and on a less difficult pitch would have made the issue safe before half-time.

The crowd was not so large as had been expected, there being 17,527 pay for admission, and the receipts being £2,099 5s.

At one period of the game, shortly before half-time, mist became threatening, but it subsided, and the crowd had a good view right to the end. Mounting the Lane Stand was not allowed this time, but the advertisement hoardings at the Kenilworth-road end were fully occupied.

EARLY ATTACKS

Fellowes won the toss, and the game was started punctually to time. The first incident to evoke a shout was a big kick by Mackey, which travelled three-fourths the length of the field, and was accepted by Conway.

The Town made the first real attack, and a good centre by Crompton was met by Ball, who essayed a first-time shot, but the ball slewed off his foot and was picked up by Conway. Chalkley was glad to kick into touch two or three times, and once Smith raced well up field and shot for goal, the ball travelling wide.

Another rush was fraught with more menace for the Hammers, headwork on the Town left being very clever, and a final nod by Roberts sent the ball past the advancing goalkeeper, and it missed the target by a few inches.

FINE PASSING

The Hammers made a thrust on the right, but Smith stopped Simpson, and Nelson baulked Goulden when he tried to break through. A fine passing movement by the Hammers was distinctly troublesome, and eventually Marshall was left with a good opening, but he lifted the ball over the bar.

Luton replied hotly, and forced a couple of corners, the ball being scrambled away by Barrett. Then Smith made a grand clearance, but the Hammers rushed back, and Goulden sent in a beautiful hook shot which Coen saved in style. A free kick by Simpson was well taken, and Coen punched out for a corner. For a few minutes the visitors were assertive, but gradually the visitors were forced to retreat.

ROBERTS IN FORM

Roberts, who was playing finely, raced in and shot with great force, a defender luckily intercepting the ball, but there was a fortunate escape for the Town at the other end when a desperate assault by the Hammers brought two or three quick shots, and the last effort was blocked by Coen thrusting out a foot.

There was more excitement in front of Conway immediately, for Martin lifted the ball in front, and first Ball and then Stephenson slipped to the ground as they endeavoured to control it with only the goalkeeper to beat.

HAMMERS PRESSED

Barrett made a great clearance when Roberts was all but through, and Nelson did the same when Mangnall was dancing clear at the other end.

Then Ball had the goal at his mercy, but could not keep his feet, and there were scrambles in the Hammers' goal-mouth in quick succession, Ball and Stephenson each falling when the defenders were scattered.

Stephenson raced through and centred across goal, and Barrett failed to get the ball clear, and Ball was only just too late to get it through. Conway saved at full length from Martin, and two or three shots rebounded from defenders, who were packing goal well. Conway then tipped

over the bar a splendid shot by Ball, and Crompton finished a sustained attack by sending behind.

COEN'S TURN

Roberts made another fine run, and a scramble ensued, the ball being luckily cleared. Then the Hammers had another turn, their forwards passing cleverly, and Coen saved at full length from Mangnall, and then punched out the flag-kick. Another grand save by Coen followed when Goulden shot in, the goalkeeper going full length to keep the ball out.

Back went the Town, and Crompton and Roberts brilliantly gave Ball a golden chance, but the treacherous ground beat him before he could get in a shot and he was robbed. Goulden headed over after another good bit of work by Simpson, and Ruffell shot behind just afterwards. Half-time:—

LUTON 0: WEST HAM 0.

Luton attacked immediately the game was resumed, and Barrett once saved the situation by a fine over-head kick. The Hammers responded, and Coen tipped over the bar a fine shot by Ruffell, and then saved splendidly from Fenton.

QUICK GOALS

Play was taken to the other end, but the Hammers defended well, and the ball travelled quickly to and fro. Nine minutes after the resumption the crowd went wild with delight. Martin took the ball in midfield, and by bright feinting and dribbling misled the opposition; then he lifted the ball across to the left wing; Stephenson darted in and headed the ball past Conway; it would have entered the net, but BALL rushed up and made sure.

Luton swept back again, and the Hammers were hard pressed and could not resist the attack, and in a quick thrust by the left wing Roberts sent the ball over and CROMPTON, who had judiciously closed in, headed a grand goal.

IRRESISTIBLE ATTACKS

The Town were now almost irresistible, and the Hammers had to concentrate on defence. Crompton had the easiest of openings, but delayed his shot and was lifted clean off the ball by an opponent when only three or four yards out; the winger should have shot sooner, for he had a great chance.

However, the Town were dominating the game, and a dazzling movement by Fellowes and his left wing ended with Stephenson giving a perfect pass for ROBERTS to meet the ball on the run

WEST HAM MANAGER'S COMPLIMENTS

Gentlemen, I want to congratulate you on the brilliant exhibition of football this afternoon. You are easily the best team we have met this season, and I have seen worse teams win the Cup.

—Charles Paynter, West Ham United manager, to Luton Town players after the match.

and a lightning shot crashed past Conway to the tune of delirious applause. It was a gorgeous goal.

The Hammers' efforts had little punch, and the Town halves and backs were well on top. Mackey and Smith covered the wingers well, and although Mangnall made desperate efforts he could not get past Nelson. The Town almost toyed with the opposition as the game wore on, and Conway made good saves, while his colleagues were harassed, though kicking and tackling well.

A SPECTACULAR SAVE

There was one quick attack by the Hammers as the result of a free kick for "hands" against Smith. Fenton placed the ball well and Goulden headed in cleverly, but Coen again brought off a spectacular save. Luton soon replied, and Crompton sent behind after a great run by Stephenson; Ball headed over after Martin had made an opening, and Conway saved grandly at full length from Ball. The Hammers' goalkeeper made another wonderful save from Stephenson, and Fellowes narrowly missed with a good drive.

THE LAST GOAL

Finlayson, who had been a force in the support of his forwards, also sent two or three good balls into the goal-mouth, and eventually the fourth goal came. Ball took a pass and after a sharp tussle beat Barrett and Conway, and STEPHENSON rushed up and sent the ball into the net.

In the closing stages the Town took things easily, and the visitors were allowed a look at Coen again. They tried hard to beat him, but he brought off



Coen, who did magnificent work in goal, clears in fine style during a West Ham attack.

grand saves from Ruffell and Goulden, and the end came with the Town grand winners of a fine sporting game.

ALL DESERVED PRAISE

On every hand there was nothing but praise for the magnificent performance by the Town. Every shout of praise was deserved. The team work was glorious to watch, and the football as good as could be desired.

I will not praise any one man, but will hand medals to all of them for great football, wonderful team work, pluck and skill.

To the Hammers, sympathy for their defeat, because they played good football, and were not disgraced though vanquished.

SUCCESS over West Ham yesterday meant a great deal to Luton Town.

On Saturday week the team will challenge Manchester City at Manchester. Already we are told by the quidnuncs how fortunate Manchester City are to get such a draw: they are in the ninth round for shouting—

Well, we shall see. We have been told week by week that the Town could not survive League matches, especially against London opponents. We were told they had no hope at West Ham.

BUCHAN'S BAROMETER GOES WRONG

Even a seasoned player like Charles Buchan was telling us that West Ham would be too speedy for the Town, though how he arrived at that opinion is best known to himself. If he has seen the Town once this term I do not know of it.

He is good enough now to say that the Town will extend the City at Maine-road.

I have my own way of summing up the standard of the clubs in each division of the League, and although Manchester City appear to have everything in their favour, I do not think they are a whit better than the Hammers, and although it worries me a little that there should be yet another draw and the consequent addition to the League fixture list, I think the Town will draw at Manchester.

NOT TOO BOLD

That may be a bold prediction, but look at Manchester City's record before you crown at the idea of a draw.

At Maine-road the City lost to Grimsby Town 3-0, to Stoke City 2-1, to Sunderland 1-0; they could only draw with Chelsea 0-0, and Portsmouth 0-0, and were generally regarded as lucky to beat Pompey in the Cup last Saturday.

The Hammers had been beaten only once at home, and had made three draws.

On the assumption that the first ten clubs in the Second Division are the equal of the lowest ten in the First Division, the Town have as good a chance at Manchester as they had at Upton Park.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
West Ham	23	11	7	5	51	42	27
Manchester City	23	9	11	3	36	39	21

VALUE OF TEAM WORK

More reliant than any figures, however, is the great team work of the Town to-day, and it is upon that I pin my faith.

If they play against Manchester as they played against West Ham they will not lose unless the City pull out something exceptional.

BIG GATE AT MANCHESTER

From the financial aspect it is one of the plums. The only other Cup-ties within a wide radius are Liverpool v. Arsenal and Preston v. Sheffield United.

Last Saturday's gate at Maine-road was 53,000, and receipts £3,390. That figure should be exceeded when the Town are at Maine-road, because the further the progress in the Cup Competition the greater the pull on the followers, and I think the

Town's record will appeal to Manchester folk.

LOCAL FLAVOUR

Nor must we forget that there will be many Lancastrians wanting to see Smith, Nelson, Ball and Crompton again, if, as we hope, they are all available.

Nelson and Ball are Chorley men, Smith has Rochdale as well as Burnley associations, and Crompton has been connected with both Blackburn and Burnley.

Yes, I am just as confident about the visit to Manchester as I was about the West Ham affair, and if I am wrong—what matters? The League we want most of all.

GREAT GAME AT WEST HAM

Magnificent Struggle Ends With Honours Even

LUTON TOWN'S ill luck in the F.A. Cup did not daunt them for the struggle with WEST HAM UNITED at Upton Park, and after a magnificent game, clean and wholesome, in which the football was of a very high standard on a very soft ground, they were able to force a replay.

SINCE the greater interest centred in the second meeting yesterday, in which Luton won handsomely, and on their merits, it is not necessary to enter into extensive details of the first meeting.

THE "HAMMERS" match attracted 41,200 spectators, and the receipts totalled £3,002. Between three and four thousand spectators went by the several excursion trains from Luton L.M.S. and there must have been nearly as many went by ordinary train and by road.

THEY had no cause to regret the journey. Although the "Hammers" had the better of the early exchanges, and troubled the Luton defence a lot before they scored after nine minutes through MANGNALL, the Town players found their stride afterwards, and, before the interval, were well on top.

THE EQUALISING GOAL was scored by BALL following many hot attacks, the centre-forward heading through after a similar effort by Stephenson had been tipped out by Conway. Luton came very near taking the lead several times before the change of end. Conway saving well, and many shots going close.

SECOND HALF play was very even, the "Hammers" having the better of it for a while, and Luton responding as gallantly. Both goalkeepers were often tested, and made great saves. Luton took the lead when ROBERTS smashed in an unstoppable shot after a splendid run with Fellowes and Stephenson twenty minutes after the restart.

MORE THRILLING than ever the game became after this, and each goal had narrow escapes, and several chances were missed at each end. The "Hammers" pressed hard towards the end, and, with nine minutes to go, a clever bit of work by the inside forwards enabled RUFFELL, who was unmarked, to equalise.

LUTON'S defence held out strongly under further pressure, and there were two or three narrow shaves for the West Ham goal, but the end came with the scores level—a fair result on the run of the play. The teams were exactly as took part in the replay yesterday.

WAKE UP YOUR