

POINT PICKED UP AT BRIGHTON

LUTON'S DEPLETED FORCES DEFEND UNDER DIFFICULTIES

BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION 1
Walker
LUTON TOWN 1
Martin

BRIGHTON.—Thomson; King, Martin; Smith, Stevens, Walker; Richards, Farrell, Law, Egan, Stephens.

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

Referee.—W. J. Lewington, Croydon.

LUTON TOWN brought home from Brighton a very valuable point, and they deserved it thoroughly, because they did not lose their heads when everything appeared to be against them. After half-an-hour's play, in which they had gained the lead, they lost Crompton, and then a severe kick by an opponent, who escaped attention, laid out Smith, who was crippled for the rest of the game.

PLENTY OF TURF there was, but the rain during the day had made it very slippery, and no one discovered this more than Boyd, who must have fallen more times than any other player. He was operating in the worst part—down the centre of the field. The Albion forwards kept their feet very much better, and that was why they were able to give the Town defence so much more trouble.

LUTON BEGAN WELL, in something like their old style as a matter of fact, and they earned their goal when it came after seven minutes play. The move was made on the left wing; Stephenson took a quick throw-in, and Martin accepted and dribbled towards the centre, putting Boyd through nicely: the centre-forward's shot was blocked, but the ball spun away and MARTIN, who had followed up, promptly banged it into the net.

PLAY was even generally, but there was a difference in the methods of the teams, for the Albion used their wingers more, and the halves and back kicked strongly. On the other hand, the Town forwards usually kept the ball too close, and tried to advance through the middle. Neither had many shots at goal.

HALF-AN-HOUR elapsed and then came a bad blow for the Town. Crompton's knee gave way when he was taking a free kick, and he had to be helped from the field, and did not return. Smith was laid out; the first time he headed the ball, and shortly afterwards when he was kicked as he held off an opponent while the ball went out of play.

UNTIL near the interval the Albion were not able to give Coen any trouble, and only one difficult shot he had in the first half; that came from Egan, and he saved splendidly. Neither did Thomson for that

matter, and the game deteriorated as a spectacle, neither side playing promotion football. Still, the Town deserved their lead at the change of ends.

THE ALBION pressed hard after the interval, and the Town players concentrated on defence. Coen was given much more work, and made several good saves. He was beaten by a header from WALKER following a free kick that should never have been awarded against Smith. Later there were narrow escapes at the Town end, but Coen made fine saves.

STEVENSON made a few raids to the end, and Boyd was very unfortunate to lose his balance two or three times when he had misled the offenders. Stephenson



COEN

and Roberts each gave Thomson hot hand-fuls, but the goalkeeper saved well, and play was often forced into the Luton half. Nelson and his backs were strong, however, and the end came with honours divided.

COEN'S fine goalkeeping in the second half was probably the best feature of the game, though Nelson and the backs and halves generally put up a sound game. Both Finlayson and Fellowes worked hard, and Tom Smith played heroically under great difficulties. The forwards were unbalanced and disorganised, and there was a lack of understanding and combination.