

BRISTOL CITY'S FALL

Luton Town's Four in One-Sided Game

(BY CRUSADER)

NOT UNTIL there was less than a shadow of doubt about the result were BRISTOL CITY allowed much rope in their game with LUTON TOWN. Now and then they were dangerous, of course, but generally they were so well held in their attacking department, that the game was providing thrills in the duels between Luton's attack and the City's defence.

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ONE-SIDED was the game without victory for Luton being certain until just after half time when two goals quickly obtained by Ball must have stripped the last shred of hope from the visitors, whose goal was bombarded so fiercely and so persistently that it would not have occasioned surprise had the score reached double figures. That it did not was mainly due to the stolid and persevering defence of the City, and very good goalkeeping.

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SHOTS had been rained in during the first quarter of an hour, and every forward had been very near scoring. It is a moot point as to whether Stephenson actually scored before the shot that was allowed to count. He had broken through and drove in a shot which struck the post and swerved upwards and along to hit the



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other upright and then come out. Spectators behind the goal said that the ball hit the net, and the referee's actions led one to think he had allowed a goal, but he turned when play proceeded and followed the game without proceeding to the centre as he had started to.

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HOWEVER, it was soon after this that Payne sent out a pass which STEPHENSON took on the gallop to beat Wilson with a shot which a defender vainly tried to hook out. There were many frantic scenes in the City goalmouth, but their defenders kicked and tackled grimly, using their

weight to some purpose, while Wilson saved again and again when all seemed lost. The interval arrived with Luton one up.

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RESUMING with the same determination Luton gave the City defence no rest, and a movement on the Town right had the defenders all astray when Hodge whipped the ball in front of goal for BALL to head through easily. Two minutes later the Town centre-forward drew a bow at a venture, and saw his shot swerve right away from the goalkeeper, who did not expect it, and enter the net.

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LUTON MAINTAINED the pressure for some time, and every forward went near scoring, while the defenders again and again frustrated efforts when the ball was almost over the line. Wilson kept goal finely again, but had a deal of luck. When Luton slackened the visitors threatened, and Dolman had to make two or three good saves, White and Dryden being the important factors in the raids.

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IN THE CLOSING STAGES the Town scored their fourth goal after several hot attacks had been beaten off with difficulty. The ball was swung over to the right, where Hodge was lying in wait, and as Bridge could not get near enough to the ball the winger had a clear course; he raced well in and as Wilson came out HODGE lifted the ball neatly over the goalkeeper's head and it found the billet all right.

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THE CITY were no real match for the Town in the matter of football, but they plugged away with resolution and vigour. Their backs kicked well, but the halves could not manage the Town attack, and the forwards got little support. Wilson kept goal grandly all through the piece, and showed splendid judgment in taking centres.

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DOLMAN had little to do until the game was wearing late. Mackey has played better, although it was not until the second half that he showed lack of confidence, and that was against the City's better winger, Smith was splendid in all he did, and Nelson was great in holding the opposition, but apt to hang on at times when a clearance would have been better. He came up several times and gave his forwards good support. Finlayson and Fellowes shone in this art, and took a big share in the numerous attacks, in which all the forwards played fast and entertaining football, with none outstanding.

LUTON TOWN 4, BRISTOL CITY 0.

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LUTON: Dolman; Mackey, Smith; Finlayson, Nelson, Fellowes; Hodge, Payne, Ball, Roberts, Stephenson.

BRISTOL CITY: Wilson; Roberts, Bridge; Morgan, Pearce, Brinton; Peters, Armstrong, Haycox, White, Dryden.

Referee: W. J. Lewington, Croydon.