

TOWN'S USUAL FATE AT BRIGHTON

SECOND HALF RALLY IN VAIN

(By CHILTERN)

BRIGHTON AND HOVE 2

Davie, Farrell

LUTON TOWN 1

Payne

BRIGHTON.—Thomson; King, Martin; Smith, Stevens, Walker; Richards, Wilson, Davie, Farrell, Stephens.

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

Referee.—G. T. Gould, South Norwood.

LUTON TOWN MET THEIR USUAL FATE AT BRIGHTON, though they were a true unlucky not to return with a point. The odd goal in the home side's favour rather rattled them, but they must be given credit for their enthusiasm, and for the way in which they clung to the two-goals' lead they held at the interval.

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THE TOWN TRIED TO PLAY THEIR USUAL GAME against a team that used tactics calculated to upset it, and they did. Swinging the ball about, and finding their men accurately, Brighton had the town defence guessing in the early stages, and they might have taken the lead in their first serious attack, had Davie shown more steadiness in front of goal. As it was, they went ahead in five minutes with a goal, the very suddenness of which took the visiting defenders by surprise.

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THIRTY SECONDS PREVIOUSLY A GOAL FOR BRIGHTON WAS NOT EVEN TO BE CONTEMPLATED, for Luton were in the home goalmouth. Stephenson tried to find Hodge with a long pass, only for Martin to intercept. The full-back punted the ball right down the middle of the field to DAVIE, who had positioned himself well. He took the ball in his stride, and shot as Dolman advanced. The goalkeeper hit the ball into the air, but it went over his head. He made a vain attempt to keep it out of the net, and almost succeeded.

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THE TOWN ATTACKED FREQUENTLY, but were never really dangerous, because of the forwards' inability to finish off their movements. Much of their football was good to watch, but they were lacking in punch in front of goal. Ball once seemed certain to equalise, but Thomson managed to smother the shot. The hard tackling of the Brighton defenders disconcerted the Town forwards, and the wingers could rarely get the ball across.

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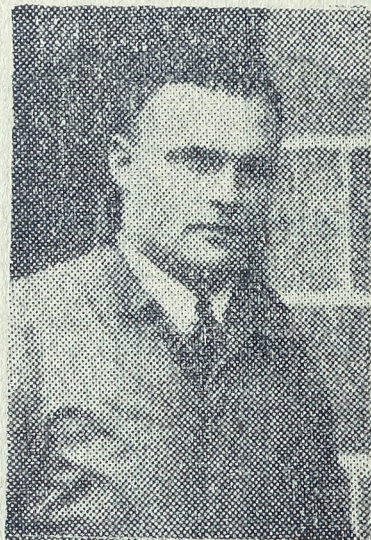
THE SECOND GOAL CAME AS THE RESULT OF ANOTHER SHARP ATTACK, ten minutes from the interval. Richards swung the ball right across to the left, and FARRELL banged it straight for the corner of the net. Dolman touched the shot, and it went in off the post.

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LUTON BEGAN THE SECOND HALF IN SUCH FASHION that it seemed almost certain they would pull the game out of the

fire. The forwards showed some of their best form, and, with Payne and Ball lying well up the field, the home backs and Stevens had plenty to contend with. There was still that weakness in front of goal, however, though Ball headed cleverly through from Finlayson's free kick. The goal was disallowed for a foul, and the decision seemed satisfactory enough to most of the Town players.

PRESSURE WAS MAINTAINED, and PAYNE gained a well-deserved goal after eighteen minutes, following a free kick well placed by Finlayson. The Town continued to be on top for some minutes, and then



W. DOLMAN.

Brighton took up the running once more. Dolman distinguished himself with three grand saves, and the home side should have added to their lead. In the closing minutes Luton made great efforts for the equaliser, but the forwards did not show their form of the last two matches, and they had to admit defeat.

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THEY DID MUCH CLEVER WORK, but Ball had a lean time in the middle, and could not find Payne with his flicks. Hodge and Stephenson could not make much of King and Martin, and their centres left something to be desired. Roberts worked hard, and Payne was the only one who was likely to get a goal, though his general work was rather disappointing.

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THE DEFENCE WAS UNCERTAIN IN THE FIRST HALF, but they had the misfortune to have to face the strong sun, and this can be put forward as an excuse. Nelson played strongly, and Fellowes and Finlayson both did much useful work. Mackey, though a little hesitant in his tackling, had a good match, and Smith gave nothing away after a rather shaky opening. Dolman could not be blamed for the goals, and his work late in the second half saved the Town from a heavier defeat.