

TOWN FORWARDS' DAZZLING DISPLAY

SOUTHAMPTON HUMBLLED AT THE DELL

(By CHILTERN)

SOUTHAMPTON 3

Osman (3)

LUTON TOWN 6

Roberts (2), Vinall (2), Ferguson,

Parris

SOUTHAMPTON.—Warhurst; Sillett, Roberts; Day, Affleck, Hill; Bevis, Parkin, Gaughran, Osman, Smallwood.

LUTON TOWN.—Dolman; King, Smith; Finlayson, Nelson, Fellowes, Ferguson, Dawes, Vinall, Roberts, Parris. Referee: W. E. Ross-Gower, Abbeywood.

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AFTER GOING SINCE SEPTEMBER 13 WITHOUT A WIN, LUTON TOWN came out of their shell with a vengeance when they met SOUTHAMPTON at the Dell. Curiously enough, their last victory was on an opponent's ground, Newcastle being the victims. On Saturday, Luton nearly won the "sweep," and their six goals were the result of fine teamwork, clever football and great enthusiasm for the job in hand.

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THE EARLY STAGES OF THE GAME did not promise a big win for the Town, for the "Saints" were the more impressive at the start, but they found themselves in arrears in six minutes, VINALL was the scorer, and he rammed a partial clearance by Warhurst hard into the net, after Ferguson had dispossessed Roberts, the home back.

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SOUTHAMPTON MADE SOME SHARP ATTACKS after this reverse, and following a long throw-in by Parkin, and a quick pass by Hill, OSMAN was presented with an easy opportunity to put his side on level terms. Play proceeded on fairly even lines, with Luton always the more dangerous in front of goal.

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BECAUSE OF THIS, IT WAS NO SURPRISE to see them regaining the lead after 36 minutes. ROBERTS was the scorer with a brilliant shot from the edge of the penalty area which left Warhurst absolutely helpless. Vinall made the pass that enabled Roberts to break through. Actually this goal was the turning point in the game, for the Town never looked like losing afterwards.

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WITH THE FORWARDS PLAYING WITH RARE SPEED AND SKILL, they came near to increasing their lead before the interval, Dawes being especially unlucky. The second half opened with a goal from FERGUSON, following a centre from the left, but the Saints reduced their arrears through OSMAN, who let fly a terrific shot that gave Dolman no chance.

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LUTON WERE DOING MUCH AS THEY LIKED NOW, and the "Saints" could find no way to stop the forwards cutting through. Dawes and Roberts easily drew them out of position, and the sixth goal came when Ferguson took a pass from Dawes and put in a perfect centre for VINALL to jump up high and head past Warhurst.

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THE SCORING WAS NOT ENDED THEN, for four minutes from the end, the "Saints" made a spirited attack, during which OSMAN took a back heel pass, and beat Dolman for the third time to complete a notable "hat-trick."

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ALL PRAISE MUST GO TO EVERY MEMBER of the Town forward line for one of the most virile and clever displays I have ever seen. They continually harassed the defence, and soon found out the weak links. Goals were always in the offing, and the margin in their favour might easily have been more.

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VINALL LED THE LINE IN SPLENDID FASHION, and was always a dangerous raider. He constantly deceived Affleck, and even had the better of the tall centre-half when the ball was in the air.



F. ROBERTS

Roberts and Dawes schemed very successfully, and were both ready for a chance to shoot. Dawes was the only forward not to score, but he deserved more than one goal.

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FERGUSON AND PARRIS FILLED THE BILL on the wings admirably, and the wing play was more effective than it has been in any previous match this season. Both were fast and direct, and put in some grand centres. Ferguson usually did not wait for the back to tackle him, but swung the ball into the middle immediately.

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FINLAYSON AND FELLOWES GAVE THE FORWARDS every possible assistance, and were continually bringing the ball through, and lending weight to the attack. Nelson covered the centre of the field capably, and King and Smith were two full-backs who never took any risks under pressure. If there was any danger, they did not hesitate to kick out. Dolman's display was faultless, and two of his saves were in the top flight.