

Luton's New Attack Smashes Saints

"SUNDAY PICTORIAL" SPECIAL

Southampton 3, Luton Town 6

37/38

PAYING their first visit to Southampton for sixteen years, Luton romped away with the points in a nine-goal match.

So quick on the ball were their forwards, that the Southampton defence had a very worrying afternoon, and weaknesses in covering were exposed.

Vinall, who seems to have quickly found a way of fitting into the Luton attack, was always a very dangerous man, and he exploited some clever moves to draw Affleck, the home centre half back, out of position.

This was not the end of the plan by any means, because Roberts and Dawes were always on hand to carry on any movement which had been checked.

Right "Left" Saints

This was the big feature of Luton's forward play. A movement seldom faded out, it had not only to be checked, but definitely broken up.

There was a threat of what the Luton forwards could do when Vinall put them ahead in the first five minutes. Although Osman equalised shortly afterwards when Hill gave him a neat through pass, the visitors crossed over ahead, Roberts scoring their second.

The goal avalanche came in the second half. Ferguson, the Luton outside right, scored his side's third when the home defence was in a tangle.

Osman, who had changed places with Gaughran, the Saints' centre forward, gave hope to the supporters by scoring a good goal shortly afterwards, but Luton simply ran away with the match with three goals in succession from Roberts, Parris and Vinall. All were headed from right wing centres. This mode of attack always seemed to catch the Southampton defenders out of position.

Osman's Hat-Trick

Osman, who has scored eight goals in his last four matches, completed a hat-trick ten minutes from the end.

Although considerable praise must go to the Luton forwards for this surprise victory, there was a big difference between the two teams in defence. Luton were much the sounder and Nelson, their tall captain, was the king pin of a rearguard that covered and kicked strongly.

P.S.—After seeing Luton play West Ham in the rain last week Don Caswell wrote that, if heavy grounds continued, they would be a rising team.