

Town Narrowly Beaten After Exciting Tussle At Coventry

Defences Had A Grip On The Forwards, But Chances Were Missed

(By CHILTERN)

COVENTRY CITY 1
Lake

LUTON TOWN 0

COVENTRY CITY.—Morgan; Astley, Metcalfe; Frith, Mason, Archer; Taylor. Davidson, Lake Roberts (E), Ashall

LUTON TOWN.—Dolman; Carte, Smith; Finlayson, Nelson, Loughran; Ferguson, Redfern, Vinall, Roberts (F), Stephenson. Referee.—G C Denton, Northampton.

YET ANOTHER THRILLING CHAPTER was added to the story of the meetings of COVENTRY CITY and LUTON TOWN on Monday night. Twenty thousand spectators saw one of those non-stop games, with play veering quickly from end to end, and with each defence having its turn of anxious moments.

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LUTON WOULD NOT CALL Highfield-road the luckiest of grounds, for they never seem to get the reward their play earns them. In this match, they undoubtedly deserved a point, and even the most ardent of the City supporters were openly saying so.

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THE TOWN PLAYED WELL ENOUGH to deserve a point, and played well enough up to a point. What let them down once more was inferior finishing. Most of the attacks were well planned and well executed, but the penalty area found each forward wanting.

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SEVERAL CHANCES that might well have been turned to account were allowed to slip. Against a team with a defence as strong as that of the City, that was fatal, and try as they would, the Town could not get the ball past Morgan.

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TAKING THE GAME ALL THROUGH, the Town did rather more of the pressing than the City, but too close play, especially in the second half, brought many attacks to a premature conclusion. The Coventry forwards often seemed the more dangerous, simply because they moved the ball on quickly.

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PERHAPS, FOR THAT REASON, too, the chances that fell to them were easier than those the Town had, but the City were equally remiss near goal. Indifferent finishing was the one thing that prevented this game being really great.

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HOWEVER, DUE CREDIT must be given to the defences for the bold front they presented. There was little to choose between the two rearguards, but I think that Coventry had rather the more shaky moments. In each, the centre-half was a dominating figure, and Nelson and Mason came out with flying colours.

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NELSON ALWAYS PULLS OUT SOMETHING out of the ordinary at Coventry, and he was a great defensive force in this match. He seldom allowed Lake to have a kick at the ball. He blocked the middle, and yet was able to go out to the wings to give aid.

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CARTE, WHO CAME INTO THE SIDE because of an injury to Dunsmore, came through a stiff test very creditably. He was as cool as an old hand, and kept a close watch on Ashall. Smith, too, did well, and he has been at the top of his form in these opening games.

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LOUGHRAN, ALSO, HAD A GOOD MATCH, but Dolman could not complain of being overworked. Of the forwards, Ferguson and Redfern formed the more effective wing, and the latter confirmed the good impression he has made with the Reserves.

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VINALL PUT ANY AMOUNT OF LIFE into his play, and had the better of Mason several times. He had wretched luck in the first half when he saw his terrific shot strike the underpart of the bar, and come back into play. Fred Roberts, as usual, was a prodigious

worker, but Stephenson did not touch his best until the closing stages.

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THE ONLY GOAL OF THE MATCH came after 32 minutes, and was rather a lucky affair. Roberts (E.) made the pass, but seemed to foul Nelson in the process. The ball went to LAKE, who lashed out first time, and had the satisfaction of seeing the ball enter the net off the inside of the post.