

# At Nottingham On Monday

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LUTON TOWN.—Coen; King, Dunsmore; Finlayson, Dreyer, Roberts; Clark, Redfern, Billington, Connelly, Stephenson.

FOREST. — Ashton; McCall, Munro; Clark, Davies, Pritty; Betts, Fryer, Hindley, Surtees, Beaumont.

Referee: G. Dutton, Warwick.

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Notts Forest were in grim trim for the encounter on Boxing Day, for they had pulled off an unexpected victory over

Sheffield United at Bramall-lane on Saturday, and they fully expected to take both points from this game, and lift themselves a little farther from the danger zone.

It was a great disappointment to their followers, many of whom left the ground some minutes before the finish, despite the fact that the Forest were making a big effort to wipe off arrears.

Ground conditions were not nearly so bad at Nottingham as they had been at Luton during the holiday, but the pitch was difficult, for it was in a glassy state for some distance in front of the goals, and in the centre and on the wings it was almost boggy. For this reason the Town forwards failed to control the ball well, and the Forest were not playing the scientific type of game at all, but were just giving the ball a lot of boot and trusting to luck for a successful dash against the Town defence.

These tactics looked like succeeding early on, but the Town players kept their heads well, and countered with sterling defensive play, and their forward movements were always of a more constructive and entertaining fashion than those of their hosts.

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#### FOREST SCORE

However, the Forest opened the scoring after 15 minutes when a corner was forced, SURTEES heading through following a corner kick, and no player more deserved it, for he had been the main-spring of the Forest attack, and remained so during the game.

The Town were capable of fighting back hard, however, and they came again and again with nice movements which broke down more than once by reason of the slippery ground. However, the equalising goal came almost unexpectedly. Clark raced through and centred, Connelly baulked the defence by running across the flight of the ball, which went on to BILLINGTON, who headed it wide of Ashton's outstretched hand, and so the scores were level.

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#### IN FRONT

Play became fierce, and the tackling was relentless on both sides, but the Town's skilful movements were more promising than those of the Forest, desperately though the home forwards strove to get through. CONNELLY put the Town ahead when he ran in and his first time a centre from Clark, the ball whizzing past Ashton at a great pace.

Play continued to be fought at a great pace right to the interval.

Forest threw themselves into the struggle with greater heartiness, and the Town defence won praise for the clever manner in which they covered up, and Coen was several times brought into action. So was Ashton, for when the Town forwards got going they usually gave some trouble to the Forest defence, and they gradually grew stronger in their attacks, and came near scoring several times before they succeeded.

This third goal came as the result of a corner forced by Billington, who compelled McCall to put behind his own lines. Stephenson drove the ball over nicely, and Ashton could only push it out, it struck another defender and fell to the feet of REDFERN after Clark had vainly tried to shoot through, and the inside-right made no error from close quarters.

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#### ANOTHER FOREST SUCCESS

The Town pressed hotly for some time, and once Munro kicked from under the bar when Ashton was beaten, and the goalkeeper did saved well from Billington. In a sudden spurt by the Forest, Dreyer could not get the ball under control properly, and after a tussle HINDLEY emerged with it at his feet and went on to bang it into the net and give the Forest new hope.

Coen saved at full length, and the Forest fought like demons, but they were met by sterner measures, and the Town forwards came into action again to good purpose.

Connelly opened up a movement by dribbling into the middle when he was expected to go to the wing; then he shot the ball out for CLARK to take it in his stride, race well in and then shoot hard, and the ball struck the foot of the upright and careered round the inside of the net.

Though they fought to the very last kick, the Forest could make nothing of the Town defence, and the game ended with the spoils for Luton.