

Luton Put "Top Hat" On Ev

HARRIS BOYS DO WELL BUT NO LUCK

BY RANGER

EVERTON.—O'Neill, Moore, Tansey, Farrell, Jones, Lello, Harris (B.), Potts, Harris (J.), Fielding, Eglinton.

LUTON TOWN.—Baynham, Dunne, Aherne, Moore, Owen, Shank, Cullen, Turner, MacEwan, Cummins, Groves.

Referee: Mr. F. L. Overton (Derby).

George Cummins, the former Everton inside forward was captain for the day of the visiting side against his old colleagues, and on winning the toss set Everton to face the sun.

It was too far from goal, however, for him to threaten any danger.

PENALTY APPEAL

It was Harris again who outpaced the opposition and swung the ball across from the right, to provide a shooting chance for Potts. The latter hit the ball first time, but it struck Aherne on the arm.

There was an appeal for a penalty from Potts as well as a large section of the crowd, but the referee waved it aside.

Luton bore down twice in quick succession on the Everton goal, but without producing a shot. The third time they were more fortunate, and when MacEwan, out on the right wing, pulled the ball to Cullen, the latter hit a first-time drive which O'Neill fielded as he was falling.

Dunne cut across to cover Owen and take charge of a centre from Harris (J.), who once more had darted through and crossed a centre of nice length.

OFF-THE-MARK SHOTS

The first quarter of an hour had seen Everton the more dominant side, and Luton, who have made an excellent start to their first-ever season in the top flight, were not looking as good as anticipated.

Turner tried a 25-yard shot which flashed over the bar. Cummins and his former skipper, Farrell, had a tussle which ended with honours even.

A free kick to Everton in the centre circle produced another home raid who saw the ball bobbing about in the Luton penalty area until Baynham came out to take charge of both the ball and the situation.

It was from Baynham's clearance that Luton got away again, only for Turner once more to be off the mark with his shooting.

Potts declined to make a first-time shot after good work by Farrell and Eglinton had put him in a favourable position. He preferred to offer the ball to Harris (B.) whose toe-ender was safely caught by Baynham, who, a moment later, dealt in similar fashion with a shot, centre by Jimmy Harris.

Harris (J.) got a cheer for a clever back-heel which allowed Tansey to take a strong shot from 35 yards.

Baynham once more caught the ball confidently, despite falling full length over the other Harris as he was doing it.

EVERTON PRESSING

Jimmy Harris was still showing speed to his advantage, and was working tremendously hard, figuring alternately on either extreme wing as well as in the middle. It was when he was at outside left that he "cheekily" put the ball between Dunne's legs to provide a half chance for Potts.

It was nothing more than that, for the latter had his back to the goal, but when the Everton inside man back-heeled the ball it almost took Baynham by surprise.

George Cummins showed a bit of his clever footwork on a couple of occasions, but for some minutes now Luton had been almost exclusively on the defence. The most difficult thing O'Neill had had to do all through was to collect a pass back by Lello.

It was just a little of the right line which meant O'Neill had to dive for it. Harris (J.) got another rally for a smart bit of work when he killed a pass from his namesake, and then, in almost the same motion, hit a powerful right foot shot which flashed like a bullet a yard outside the upright.

TIMELY INTERCEPTION

A timely interception by Tommy Jones prevented Morton's square pass reaching MacEwan. It was a good job he did for the centre forward would have been an almost certain scorer from eight yards.

Jones stuck out his foot to concede a corner which brought Luton nothing, whereas if luck had been with them, they might have had a goal.

Turner teed up the ball for Cummins to take a left foot shot from just outside the penalty area to which O'Neill had to dive, and then Turner himself had a go without getting anything like the same power behind his attempt.

Luton were now having a bigger proportion of the play than earlier, but were still producing nothing as good as one had anticipated. The visiting forward line was tarred with the same brush as Everton, in that they frequently tried to work the ball just one move too many.

I must exclude Jimmy Harris from this, however, so far as Everton were concerned, and Hickson's successor earned more applause when he hit a strong shot with his left foot which was not more than a yard on the wrong side of the post.

This evidence that Harris can shoot with either foot very clearly pleased the crowd.

EASY FOR BAYNHAM

Harris (B.) made it easy for Baynham on three occasions when he crossed the ball high in the air too close to goal, and the Luton custodian had nothing to do but pluck the ball out of the air. The crowd applauded Harris, but actually none of the attempts was a really good one.

In fact the ball for some time now had been far too much in the air and we had not seen a great deal of really intelligent or stylish play.

Cullen from the inside left position delivered a 30 yards shot which curling away from O'Neill all the time. The Everton goalkeeper did well to

This was a poor and lustreless game, Everton never brilliant at any time were run off their feet most of the second half. Jimmy Harris shaped well during the first portion, but never had a chance to distinguish himself afterwards when the attack faded right out of the picture against Luton's quick tackling defenders. The ball was not only far too much in the air but there was nobody in the frontline after the change-over to produce a telling shot.

Luton were the better of two very ordinary teams and the standard of play was scrappy and uninteresting. At one period a section of the crowd gave Everton the slow handclap.

clutch it safely at the last second. Some of Potts' passes had been ideal and even though he was not always quick enough to be in the right spot for the return he had done his part well in helping to bring the best out of the Harris boys.

Half-time.—Everton nil, Luton Town nil.

Luton started the second half progressively with Cullen and Cummins both seeing strong shifts strike defenders and with the visiting side as a whole showing brighter ideas, than at any previous period.

A crossfield pass by Groves saw Cullen give Turner a possible chance but the latter lost the ball in the air against the sun so that Lello stepped in to clear.

MISPLACED PASSES

For some minutes play produced little of note apart from some hearty endeavour and more than a few misplaced passes. Cullen had a likely looking shot blocked away by Moore and then Potts' shot straight at Baynham following a corner taken by Harris (B.).

Everton's wingers continued to put the ball to Jimmy Harris high in the air, instead of giving him a chance to beat Owen by his speed and tricks.

A free kick against Potts, taken by Cummins, almost produced a goal, to Cullen, Tansey kicking the ball away off his toe for a corner in the nick of time.

Immediately after this MacEwan missed a great chance when Turnersquared the ball and all the Luton leader had to do was to tap it into the net from three yards. This was a bad miss, but a lucky escape for Everton.

Luton were still showing much better form than in the first half, but the ball, still far too often in the air, the game had deteriorated as a spectacle.

LUTON DOMINANT

Luton continued to look the more dominating team, for almost all the punch had gone out of the Everton attack and the defence was having all its work cut out to keep the visitors in check.

Cullen had become quite a force in the visiting attack and Luton were always ready to take a first time shot even if their direction was sometimes at fault.

At the 63rd minute, Luton gained their reward when Cullen after jiggling for some seconds, swerved round Tansey and crossed a ball into the middle when only a couple of yards from the corner flag. O'Neill and Jones both failed to cut it off and MacEwan had the easiest of tasks in tapping the ball into the empty net.

DESPERATE DEFENCE

Although this was a blow to the home crowd there was no denying that Everton had gone off very much this half, and the visiting side deserved to be in front.

After Lello had had two shots, each of which took an opponent, and Potts had once more refused to have a go himself, Luton were swarming around the Everton goal again and only some desperate defensive measures kept the Hatters at bay.

Jimmy Harris, who had had little chance this half to distinguish himself, largely because the ball was so often in the air, where Owen was his master, at last got a half opportunity, but an awkwardly bouncing ball caused him to screw his shot badly.

Everton were now struggling. What little rhythm and polish they had had earlier seemed to have entirely deserted them, and with the forward line fading out, the defence was very much on the collar.

THE SLOW HANDCLAP

A section of the crowd started the slow handclap with 20 minutes remaining, though it is difficult to imagine what it was hoped this would do, beyond letting those in authority know of the onlookers' displeasure.

Luton were now almost cheeky in their confidence, and George Cummins started to play exhibition football, and one run in which he beat three men might have brought another goal. His final shot flashed just over the bar.

Everton now looked disoriented and dispirited, through Eglinton might have put new heart into them if he had been able to slot the ball home from eight yards instead of hooking it yards wide.

BELETED REVIVAL

With five minutes to go Everton at last made a belated revival, but the ball would not run for them, and each time danger threatened Luton managed to scramble through safely.

Final.
EVERTON..... nil
LUTON TOWN..... 1
Official attendance: 44,337.

BIRMINGHAM V PRESTON

Preston had several escapes in the early stages. Brown twice missed in front of open goals after Birmingham had made openings by approach work. Birmingham had right-back Hall limping with a leg injury on the right wing after 20 minutes.

Morrison wasted a good chance from Finney's pass in one of Preston's spasmodic raids.
Final.—BIRMINGHAM nil, PRESTON 3.



B. Harris takes a centre from J. Harris in the match at Goodison Park to-day.

Everton Revival