

CITY LOOTIN' PAYS

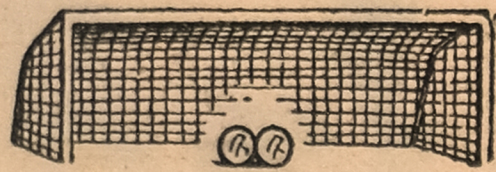
McCrohan and Puntun pop in goals to cap the Hatters

LUTON TOWN 0 NORWICH CITY 2

NORWICH CITY played like Second Division champions at Luton this afternoon. They outclassed the Hatters and for them, and for thousands of their supporters, victory was sweet revenge for the Cup semi-final defeat at St. Andrew's two seasons ago.

There was never any doubt about the Canaries' superiority. As early as the fourth minute Crossan was right out of luck with a shot that rebounded from the inside of an upright.

In the 22nd minute Puntun put City ahead when he stabbed home a Crossan centre, and eight minutes after the interval McCrohan made victory well-nigh certain when he scored direct from a free kick. Neither side made any late changes. City, therefore, fielded the team who beat Plymouth in midweek except that Bunny Larkin replaced the injured Terry Allcock at inside-right.



Puntun (City) 22 min.
McCrohan (City) 53 min.
Attendance: 22,252

LUTON WELL LICKED

THE best way to sum up City's superb victory is in the words of the managers of the two sides, the City chairman and a cross-section of supporters.

Said chairman **Geoffrey Watling**: "This time our boys really showed them how to play football. It was the most brilliant game I have seen them play. Skilful football brilliantly skilful football, won the day."

Even **Archie Macaulay** was moved to superlatives. "Brilliant, just brilliant—a great and wonderful display," he said. From Luton manager **Sam Bartram** came this compliment: "Norwich City played brilliantly. They fully deserved to win. Our team were much too slow."

Said one delighted supporter: "They were so good it was almost embarrassing for us. They played with them. They did just what they wanted at their own speed. Our journey certainly was very necessary."

AND FROM A LUTON FOLLOWER: "DISGUSTING. THEY MADE US LOOK LIKE A TEAM FROM THE BLIND SCHOOL."

The attendance of 22,252 at Kenilworth Road was easily Luton's best of the season.

LUTON—Baynham; Dunne, Daniel; Morton, Kelly, Pacey; Bingham, Turner, McBride, Brown, Imlach.

NORWICH CITY—Kennon; Thurlow, Ashman; McCrohan, Butler, Crowe; Crossan, Larkin, Whitehouse, Hill, Puntun.

Referee—F. P. Clarke (Coventry).

Ashman won the toss and after Luton had wasted their initial opening, a smart cross-field move ended with Baynham beating Whitehouse to a through ball from Crowe.

Butler conceded a corner from a free-kick when Luton replied. Kennon took it easily, set the Canaries on the move and when Kelly tried to head the ball back to his 'keeper, Whitehouse slipped in quickly and knocked it out of Baynham's hands.

THE 'KEEPER WAS ABLE TO RECOVER THE BALL, BUT WHITEHOUSE NEEDED A MOMENT'S ATTENTION BEFORE PLAY WAS RESUMED

HIT UPRIGHT

Bingham was twice checked when Luton came again, but the Hatters had the luckiest of escapes in the fourth minute when Crossan raced away, outstripping the defence to a through pass.

He ended his run with a great right-foot shot that hammered against the inside of the far upright, with Baynham hopelessly beaten, and rebounded into play.

Twice Kennon was in action taking low shots from Pacey and Brown, but the Canaries were showing great spirit. Hill broke through and his attempt at a short centre from the left was deflected into the side netting for a corner.

City urged on by an anthem-singing crowd, were finding the holes in Luton's defence in the early stages.

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It's Crossan the 'lion' as he worries Daniel in Luton 'den'

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When Bingham tried to send McBride away, Butler cleverly got his foot to the ball to check the centre-forward. Kennon had to punch away a Morton free kick and Imlach was offside when he moved over to the right to take a Bingham pass.

Then away went Crossan again to have his centre booted into touch by Kelly. Thurlow followed up with a centre that Puntun failed to meet cleanly and headed downwards tamely into Baynham's hands.

Bingham was obviously going to be the danger man to the Canaries. Once, after beating Ashman, he was brought down on the edge of the penalty area by Butler, and Kennon did well to take the free kick.

THEN ASHMAN HANDLED TO PREVENT THE OUTSIDE-RIGHT FROM BREAKING THROUGH AND CAME IN FOR A SHORT WORD FROM THE REFEREE.

PUNTUN ON THE SPOT

But it was not by any means all Luton. Crossan clearly had the beating of Daniel, and it was he who in the 22nd minute laid on the opening goal.

He beat his man for speed and clipped over a low centre that Baynham fumbled. Whitehouse and Dunne missed the rebound, but PUNTUN was right on the spot to stab the ball into the roof of the net.

There was a tremendous roar of delight from the Canaries' supporters and within a few minutes there was a City corner on the left and an Ashman shot that almost caught Baynham by surprise. The 'keeper had to jump high to knock the ball down from under the bar.

So far, Luton had been well held, though Kennon had to take several high balls into the goalmouth. City, in fact, continued to press and Crowe drove closely over before Kennon punched out a Bingham centre and Turner met the ball, driving it tamely high and wide.

The Canaries were always ready to shoot. Both Whitehouse and Hill let go with long-range efforts, both of them unfortunately wide of the mark.

When Luton switched their attack to the left, Thurlow and Imlach got into a tangle and were spoken to by the referee, though the free kick was given to City. Kennon was almost caught napping by a surprise effort from Imlach, but dived at the last second to grab the ball.

BRILLIANT KENNON

In the 29th minute a brilliant Kennon save robbed Luton of an equaliser. McBride met a Bingham centre and Kennon, diving to his left, turned the ball away superbly for a corner. He made yet another great save when Turner headed goalwards from the corner.

But there was more danger in City's work. Twice Larkin slung perfect long passes out to Crossan and from the second, the right winger, trying to pull the ball back to Whitehouse forced a corner off Pacey.

Yet again Luton were in trouble when Puntun and Hill worked their way down the left. Hill's final shot looked to be curling wide, but Baynham dived to turn it away for another corner.

BUTLER KEEPS COOL

Luton's forwards were trying tremendously hard and there was a gasp when Bingham slipped a pass through to Brown. The Luton man's shot beat a diving Kennon, but was turned coolly into the 'keeper's hands by Butler.

THROUGHOUT THE FIRST HALF THE CANARIES HAD LOOKED THE MORE WORKMANLIKE AND MORE INCISIVE SIDE AND THEY THOROUGHLY DESERVED THEIR INTERVAL LEAD.

Half-time:—

LUTON TOWN 0
NORWICH CITY 1

Turner, darting through the middle, had a chance at the start of the second half, but put the ball straight into Kennon's hands.

A minute later, after good work by Facey, Turner put another effort well wide. Then Bingham had a go from the right and again the ball went wide of the City goal.

Puntun, fed by Hill, cut in and tried a shot that was no better than Luton's efforts. City had a right wing corner, however, and Baynham jumped high to take it in spectacular style.

JIG OF DELIGHT

Bingham was robbed by Ashman, and after Larkin had tried to force his way through, Daniel gave away another corner when Puntun swung the ball over from the left.

Daniel also handled to stop a pass intended for the right winger and the free-kick, taken by McCrohan in the 53rd minute, put the Canaries further ahead.

McCrohan's effort, from some ten yards outside the penalty area, curled



BILL PUNTUN was the Canaries' Johnny-on-the-spot in the first half at Luton—being in the right place to hit their opening goal.

in under the crossbar with Baynham, caught completely by surprise, jumping far too late. McCrohan did a jig of delight and there was a split second's hush before the crowd realised what had happened.

It was a goal right out of the blue and there was another roar from City's supporters as the Canaries beat off Luton's effort to fight back.

THERE WAS AN ESCAPE FOR CITY, HOWEVER, WHEN BROWN PUT IN A DECEPTIVE LOW SHOT FROM THE RIGHT THAT BEAT KENNON AND TRICKLED PAST THE FAR UPRIGHT.

ASHMAN INJURED

There was a stoppage for attention to Ashman and the City skipper moved for a time to the left wing, Larkin going to left-half, Crowe left-back, and Puntun inside-left.

Luton tried hard to take advantage of City's handicap, but soon Ashman had recovered well enough to resume his normal place.

There came a spell in which the Canaries almost toyed with their opponents, but they were soon shown that they could not afford to relax.

Bingham again tried to get an attack going from the left without success, but Pace came up to drive a shot high on to the roof of the stand, and there followed an anxious moment for City as several Luton forwards tried to slam the ball through the Canaries' packed defence.

The move ended with a corner to Luton that Kennon punched away to the left wing.

HOOKED HIGH OVER

City immediately replied with a corner of their own and after it Hill worked his way through and drove across a low centre that Whitehouse missed and Larkin hooked high over the bar from a few yards range.

City had eased up considerably, but were still well in control and Pacey had to put the ball over his own bar to stop Puntun from breaking clean through.

By now even Luton's supporters were applauding City's work and the Canaries' anthem began to swell from the stands and terraces. With good reason, too. Larkin cleverly moved in from the left to send a shot whistling close by the far post. Then Hill met a Crossan pass and Baynham had to go full length to save.

LUTON WERE STILL FIGHTING, BUT CITY'S DEFENDERS WERE FAR TOO QUICK FOR THEM AND SEVERAL PONDEROUS MOVES WERE EASILY BROKEN UP.

The Hatters finished with a left-wing corner and a McBride run that was checked by Thurlow, but they finished a thoroughly beaten side, and the Canaries left the field to the biggest roar of the afternoon.

Result:—
LUTON TOWN 0
NORWICH CITY 2

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