

NO NEW POINTS RECORD

67/68

CREWE ALEXANDRA 2, LUTON TOWN 1

THERE will be no new record in the Fourth Division for the number of points gained set up by the Town. That was settled at Crewe this afternoon when the Town were beaten narrowly. Now the best they can do is to equal Peterborough's 66-point record by winning their final match of the season at home to Brentford next Saturday.

Of course, this was always regarded as a tough assignment for the Town, because it was a match that Crewe had to win to gain promotion.

When the final whistle went there were tremendous scenes of enthusiasm from the home fans, with quite a number of the crowd invading the pitch to congratulate the players, who found difficulty in leaving the field.

When they finally did so a great cheer went up and hundreds of people congregated in front of the main stand to continue their applause and cheering.

Undoubtedly this was Crewe's day, which I fancy the Town will not begrudge them, because after all they had already accomplished their mission.

Naturally it was disappointing for the Town to lose their second consecutive match after having made certain of the championship. There seems no doubt that a measure of reaction has set in, which is understandable.

At the same time, they fought hard and might have gained a point but for the fact that Branston's effectiveness was reduced when he was injured just after half-time.

With eight minutes left, Branston, who had shown considerable courage, limped off, but by then it was more or less certain that Crewe would be the winners.

Luton's worthwhile attacks after the interval were very few and far between. Only Rioch, who always looked the biggest threat, showed signs of his real form.

Green did plenty of chasing about without accomplishing much.

Insufficient use was made of the wingers, particularly French, who was neglected for the whole of the second half.

In the main, the defence did a fairly successful, rugged job, with Branston well on top until his injury, and Slough showing an improvement on his recent form. Still, there were moments of panic—though not on the same scale as last Saturday, when goals were so freely given away.

This was the Town's first away defeat since mid-January, since when they have played nine matches. Certainly, there is no disgrace about it because, in my opinion, they were always pretty well on a hiding to nothing.

Attendance: 8,634.