

TOWN PULL THROUGH AT Highbury.

CLAPTON ORIENT BEATEN IN REPLAY

McGinnigle Shines.

By Crusader.

WELL, we are through that troublesome first round, and I wish that every follower of Luton Town could have been there to see how it was done. The game at Highbury, on Thursday, simply confirmed the run of the play on Saturday. If we make allowance for the favour of ground as applied to the Town in the first game, personally I do not think the Town showed such all-round skill as in the first game, yet none denied them the palm for superior football, and the merit of victory. I was amused to read in one paper on Thursday evening that it was a poor game; actually there were times when the quality was high-class, and the scrappiness came when both teams had almost played themselves to a standstill. There was no fluke about the win, though there were spasms of luck for each side.

PLAY UP, BONNY BOYS.

Highbury was what it pertains to be, and when finger-prints and other passports had gone down with, there was a fair degree of comfort. The ground was in good condition considering there had been a match on it the day previous, and so the inside forwards were able to use the ball with more confidence, and the attacks at either end were edged with a little more sharpness. The Town played in royal blue jerseys and white knickers, because the Orient wore their white jerseys with red cecron. The official return of attendance was a staggerer to most people, who had estimated at well over 10,000, but the figures were 2,000 paid a total of £509 for admission. There would have been a bigger crowd, but there was a fog hanging around, and the air was dank and cold. So to four or five hundred supporters of the Town made themselves heard, and the Orient had a much stronger following. "If any of the habitués of Highbury condescended to attend this game they were supporting the Orient, but the Lutonians had a voice, and my mind went back ten years, when a very small party went to South Shields, and suddenly there rent the air, "Play up, my bonny boys!" It was heard before the start at Highbury, and a window was banged down just then, so I thought that Highbury was not accustomed to that sort of thing.

GIVE AND TAKE.

Little advantage could be seen in winning the toss, but Clark managed to guess the fall of the coin all right, and punctually at two o'clock Reg Tricker started the ball. There was a quiet opening, and then Rennie suddenly hooked the ball out to Bryce, who streaked past Morley, but the ball travelled just too fast, and went out. Then came a movement by forwards with halves supporting, and Armstrong took the first real shot, but got too far under the ball. Jack went away with a clear course, but Kingham dashed across and dispossessed him, and Galbraith did the same for Bryce. Kingham was too good for Tricker in another sortie by the Orient, and a super-human effort by Evans frustrated a brainy pass by Armstrong to Rennie, who would have had the chance of a telling blow. Hereabouts McGinnigle began to take a dominant hand, and rushed up the middle before sending a fine pass to the right, but M'Nestry could not overtake the ball. A sharp thrust by Fletcher presented Fowler with a fine chance, but he completely missed his aim, and the ball was cleared.

TWO GOALS.

Morley had to make a long stretch to intercept a fine pass by Bryce; Evans despoiled Rennie in the nick of time, and Blackwell had to save a long drive from Clark. In quick succession three free-kicks against the Orient were poorly used by the Town, following which Dent headed wide. Then came the occasional wide pass for the unattended Fletcher to rush clear away; he swung the ball to the other side of the field; JACK collected, and ran in to shoot hard, and Banes was beaten, though it seemed from the stand as though he touched the ball. This goal came after ten minutes, and Fletcher made a similar move, but Banes saved finely his hard shot. The Orient were benefiting by their goal, and in another attack Tricker shot over. Back came the Town, and opened up a fierce onslaught. Rennie robbed Bryce, and Tricker darted away to skim the bar with a nice shot. The Town replied, and Rennie was twice whistled off-side, but nice play by Fraser and Dent brought a furious assault, and the Orient goal was in constant jeopardy. Armstrong pushed the ball through for RENNIE to dash between the backs; he shot when Blackwell least expected, and the ball went right away from the clutching hands, and bounced into the net.

McGINNIGLE MAGNIFICENT.

Aft.: Banes had accepted a fine shot from Tricker, McGinnigle filled the picture by his powerful play, and the ball came to the left for Bryce to shoot, and hit the upright, the ball going behind. McGinnigle was playing magnificently now, and time after time the Town forwards swept down, but Morley and Evans kicked and tackled stoutly, and Blackwell was not much troubled. Then Jack made one of his periodical rushes, Kingham heading way grandly, and Hodgson following suit just afterwards when Fowler swung the ball in. The Orient were forced back, and a brilliant movement by the Town front line ended with Armstrong shooting over. When Morley and Galbraith tried to sandwich Dent the whistle sounded, but Fraser did not place the free-kick nicely. At this stage the Town were playing well, showing decided mastery in their work, and Armstrong again had too much elevation when he took a fine pass from Rennie. The Orient goal escaped in a hot bombardment, after which Tricker made tracks for goal, but Hodgson stopped him. McGinnigle won applause for brilliant tackling, but Clark mis-kicked, and Jack was sent away. Fraser stopping him at the expense of a corner which was cleared only by sterling work.

TWO MORE.

The Orient had a short spell of attacking, but Banes had nothing to bother about, and then Bryce went through by clever dribbling, and centred finely, Rennie's head bobbing up to send the ball only an inch or two above the bar. A left-wing run by the Orient ended with Banes catching a hard drive from Fowler, but this was but the prelude to a thrilling attack by the Town. Bryce and Dent did the initial work, and the former sent across to M'Nestry, who passed inside, and Armstrong shot fiercely, the ball just touching an opponent to be deflected from the goal and to go on by the farther post. Clarke then opened up finely for M'Nestry, whose centre brought a hot rally in the goal-mouth and after many attempts had been beaten off Armstrong secured, and as Evans re-shot him, he deftly tapped the ball for M'NESTRY to come in at tremendous speed and crash the ball past the helpless Blackwell amidst a storm of cheering. Hardly had the echoes ceased when the Orient came away and Hodgson mis-kicked, the ball going to CROPPER who shot on the run to beat Banes all ends up. Then the Orient fought with tremendous energy, and Kingham and Hodgson did grand work in the coolest fashion. Then Clark sent the ball down the middle, and Rennie took it in his stride, but fired too high. Dent manoeuvred skilfully with Fraser, and Bryce over-ran the ball after beating the defence. Hodgson again put the check on Tricker just in time, and the

Town were away again when the interval was signalled with the score:

TOWN	ORIENT
1	2

Kingham made a capital clearance on re-starting, and M'Nestry dashed away, a severe assault on the home goal causing Blackwell to handle thrice in rapid sequence, the best shot coming from McGinnigle. A free-kick to the Orient gave some cause for anxiety, but Hodgson cleared skilfully, and a swift thrust at the other end found Rennie thrown off-side. A fine shot by Cropper was brilliantly saved by Banes, and Blackwell had to be alert a minute later to beat out efforts by Bryce and Dent, while M'Nestry hit the side-net. Armstrong controlled nicely, and then a really delightful movement by Fraser, Dent and Bryce ended with the latter running inside, the ball at his toe. Two men were outwitted and then Galbraith put a stop to the raid by using his hands. The referee was not able to see the offence, but the linesman got full view, and a penalty-kick was awarded. RENNIE took the kick, and scored with a fast and well-directed shot, that woke up the Town contingent on the terraces. This goal came after the second half had been in progress 13 minutes. The Orient right-wing advanced from the kick-off, and Tricker moved that way to take a pass; he was dribbling well when Fraser flung himself at him, and a penalty-kick was promptly awarded the Orient, amid a burst of excitement from the Orient crowd. Fowler took the shot, but Banes had anticipated splendidly, and threw himself across to beat the ball down, recover, as Fowler rushed up, and away up the field went the ball while Luton followers lifted a lot of the fog above.

ORIENT'S FLUCK.

The Orient now fought with remarkable zeal, and a big burden fell on the Town defence. Jack and Fletcher were the great danger spots, but all the forwards were doing well. Hodgson was frequently in the picture, and Kingham made a series of clever clearances, while McGinnigle did a giant's work. Banes had to handle several times, and it appeared as though the Town were falling back on defence, but the spell was broken at last, and Armstrong and M'Nestry broke through, only for the former to drive wide. Rennie then had a shot and hit the post as the whistle went for off-side. Beautiful footwork all along the Town front line seemed certain to bring a goal for the Orient defenders were outwitted, but Blackwell saved, and when the ball was sent to the right, M'Nestry lifted over the bar.

NEARING THE END.

Again the Orient played desperately, and strenuous defence was necessary. A struggle in the goal-mouth followed a free-kick for "hands"; Hodgson yet again countered Jack in timely fashion, and Banes had to jump to a hot free-kick by Galbraith. The players were tiring now, and the Orient wingers were getting a lot of the ball, but their centres were well-covered, and in a Town retaliation M'Nestry rushed the goalkeeper, and dispossessed him, but the ball went behind. Dent was dribbling through in characteristic style, when "hands" against Morley held up the run, and then Blackwell had to run out, and just managed to forestall M'Nestry. The Orient forced a corner, and a scramble ensued, Banes clearing well. Still the Orient persevered, and McGinnigle and the backs played valiantly. A rally by the Town right-wing followed, and M'Nestry fired in a shot which travelled along the face of the bar, hit the upright, and went to the left, and a melee occurred in the Orient goal area, but the ball was got away.

ARMSTRONG SUCCEEDS.

Ten minutes from the end, however, the Town left wing overcame the opposition, and Bryce centred; the ball eluded Rennie, and came to ARMSTRONG, who promptly shot into the net with the goalkeeper helpless, and the Town supporters cheering themselves hoarse. But the Orient were not done with. Time after time they rushed down the field, and the halves fought ruggedly along with the forwards, but the relentless play of Kingham and Hodgson, and the glorious resistance of McGinnigle succeeded, and when the Town darted back to the other end a beautiful drive by Rennie flashed just over the bar. The last minutes seemed to go never so slowly, but the Town were holding the opposition well when the end came with the two goals margin established.

McGINNIGLE'S ADVANCE.

Banes did his work with more crispness and confidence than he has ever shown. He had some difficult stuff to deal with, and had his share of the credit. The play of Kingham and Hodgson was splendid. In spite of the one error by Hodgson, he was the most stylish defender on the field. Kingham, however, played a great game, his certainty in tackling and his sure kicking being brilliant. As a pair they were in front of the Orient backs, though the latter had a more gruelling time. At half McGinnigle played as for his life. All along I have held that his only drawback has been lack of speed in recovery. In this game he was brilliant to a degree, and showed a speed that was a revelation, while his recuperative resources were unequalled. No player could pass to better advantage, and his tackling was wonderful in its accuracy, strength and fairness. I am ever so glad to pay that tribute, and he deserves every word of it, for his play was an inspiration to his colleagues and the despair of opponents. The one tendency to spoil his play was shared by Fraser, that of holding the ball just too long after beating one and sometimes two men. Both did this frequently, and finessed with rare skill, but Fraser seemed to get a knock in the first half, and that reduced his speed. Clark played hard, but could never master Fletcher, who shared with Tricker and Jack many dangerous advances. More speed was wanted by the Town half, and his tackling was not so sure as it can be. His best work was in his efforts to set the forwards going.

FORWARDS.

All the forwards played finely. Dent gave another brilliant exposition of constructive football, his manipulation in variable sending Bryce away on a mission that brought a centre or an attack, and the left-wing pair were a very hot proposal. On the other flank Armstrong lay low in the rear, and manoeuvred cleverly. He gave M'Nestry some nice passes, but the winger has played better, though he did many brilliant things. Rennie distributed well, and was disposed to assert himself rather more than usual, and the line showed more cohesion than that of the Orient.

For the loters Evans was a fine back, and at half Bolson took the eye most, while the forwards were good individually, with Jack, Tricker and Fletcher again a difficult lot to hold.

M. W. Parsons conducted the game well, and had no sort of trouble.

GOLF.

SOUTH BEDS SECOND DIVISION TROPHY.

J. E. Kay is the winner of the trophy, although he was not one of the lucky ones to get a bye in the first round. Progress of the competition was as follows:—

FIRST ROUND.

W. B. Carnley beat E. V. Larssen.
E. B. Tarrant beat E. Swain.
J. E. Kay beat P. W. Aylott.
J. M. Lyon beat P. H. Stanbridge.
J. T. Garrett beat C. E. Pratt.
J. W. Trench beat M. C. Bishop.