

Football.

LUTON TOWN V. OLD ST. MARKS.—This match in the first round of the competition for the English Cup was played on the Town ground on Saturday in good football weather before between 1,500 and 2,000 spectators and resulted in Luton being qualified for the second round by 4 goals to love. Both clubs were strongly represented, the visitors having their best team and the homesters the services of Cheshier. Julian won the toss for his side and Wood kicked off a few minutes after 3-30. Play was fast and exciting in the first half and Luton had considerably the best of matters though the St. Mark's defence was strong. Shot after shot was sent in, Cheshier, Allen, Brown, Taylor and Julian being prominent in the attack. Occasionally the St. Mark's forwards forwards broke away and then proved dangerous. Burley had to throw out, but the ball was returned behind the Luton goal line. The home back division relieved at once and changed the scene of play, securing two corners in quick succession. St. Mark's retaliated but only for a moment, their citadel being afterwards more closely invested. Several more corners followed but nothing definite resulted though Brown and Cheshier worked hard to score. At last to the great satisfaction of the townsmen, H. Whitby from a neat pass by Allen managed to open the account of the homesters with rather a "soft" goal. The Whitbys by some fine running and passing down their wing got a corner and Harry took the kick. From a pass by Taylor, Brown scored the second goal. Just before the interval a very regrettable incident occurred. The referee had awarded a free kick to Luton on an appeal for foul, upon Allen, when Leese, one of the St. Mark's backs, challenged Mr. Maynard's decision and declared it to be false. He had been previously cautioned for rough play and was ordered to retire from the field. At half-time the teams crossed over, Luton leading by 2 goals to nil. The forward division of the homesters pressed continually and each of the front line in turn sent in shots. As the visitors were only playing one back, the offside regulation, most happily for them but very provokingly for the townsmen, intervened time after time, preventing the Lutonians scoring. Wood now and then led an excursion into his opponents' territory but Sanders and Hoy as often relieved. Play was for some time very slack, though Burley had once more to fist out. From a good pass across the mouth of the goal by Brown, F. Whitby notched the third point. Cheshier next tried, but his shot went wide. The St. Mark's goal was soon very hotly pressed, Payne saving splendidly, and at last from a corner Julian headed through the fourth goal. Schumacher thereafter joined Jarvis as back and St. Mark's struggled gamely to improve their position but without success. Brown, Allen and the Whitbys had several shots before time was called when the Chelsea Old Boys had to bid farewell to their chances in the English Cup competition for another 12 months at least, Luton winning by 4 goals to nil. The winners were distinctly the better side, their play being superior at all points; indeed, they might have put on two more goals had it not been for erratic shooting and the frequent operation of the offside rule. The forward division of St. Mark's was smart, and the strong point in their team though the backs occasionally shone. Their goal-keeper defended brilliantly. The home eleven all played well, Julian, Cheshier and Brown being most to the fore. Teams:—Old St. Mark's: J. W. Payne (goal), F. J. Lesse and C. G. Jarvis (backs), A. W. Vautier, W. H. Silvey, and J. Thornley (half-backs), J. R. Schumacher and J. M. Baxter (right wing), J. F. Wood (captain) (centre), C. Cattell and W. D. Redmond (left wing) (forwards). Luton Town: J. Burley (goal), A. Sanders and A. Hoy (backs), J. W. Julian (captain) A. H. Taylor and J. Wright (half-backs), W. Cheshier and R. Brown (right wing). F. Allen (centre), H. Whitby and F. K. Whitby (left wing) (forwards). Referee: Mr. R. E. A. Maynard (Reading). Linesmen: Messrs. H. Shane (Luton), and A. E. Clark (Old St. Mark's).