

UNITED LEAGUE.

LUTON v. TOTTENHAM HOTSPURS.

A GREAT VICTORY.

Most Luton folk looked upon the game at Northumberland Park, Tottenham, on Saturday as one of the most trying matches in prospect. Up to date, the rivals had met four times during the season, Luton winning three times by 3 goals' margin, and drawing the first match at Tottenham. Since their dismissal from the English Cup at Luton's hands, the Spurs have, however, done several smart things, and their supporters were fairly confident that their pets would rise from the ignoble position of "wooden spoonists" at Luton's expense.

The Spurs underwent special training for the event, while Luton were somewhat handicapped through having played their Kettering Cup semi-final with Leicester Fosse on the previous Thursday. Something like 600 Lutonians journeyed to London by the special train, chartered by the club, and on arriving at the ground, found over 5,000 spectators watching a schoolboys' match, Tottenham v. West Ham. The latter were victorious, and some very pretty football was shown by the winners. Before the start of the League match, the Walthamstow Silver Band attempted, with painful effect, to play a popular Luton selection and even the crowd smiled. The London suburban bands are still in blackest darkness and it would be charity for the Red Cross to give them a little illumination.

When the men turned out, it was seen that both sides had the best possible muster. Luton were without Perrins, and the Spurs tried Allen, Clapton's light-haired centre-forward. The two elevens were:

Luton: Williams; McCartney and McEwen; Davies, Stewart, and Docherty; Gallacher, Coupar, Galbraith, McInnes, and Ekins.

Tottenham Spurs: Ambler; Burrows and Montgomery; Devlin, Almond, and Crump; McElheney, Milliken, Allen, Clement, and Payne.

The referee was Mr. A. G. Kingscott, of Derby, and Birch took the line for Luton.

Losing the toss meant little or nothing for Luton and Galbraith kicked off at 4.30. The Spurs at once rushed away at terrific speed and the forwards put on every ounce of steam they possessed. The sultry pace seemed to disconcert Luton very considerably at the start and McEwen gave two corners. Hardly had these been placed than Devlin aimed straight from the out-field but as the ball penetrated the net, the Luton men made a unanimous appeal for "hands." Lutonians, who stood behind the goal, told me that it was a most palpable case of handling but, unfortunately, Mr. Kingscott ignored it, and to the great jubilation of the crowd, the Spurs thus opened the score in less than 2 minutes.

Such a fluke would have encouraged any team

having by far the best of the play, and in the last quarter of an hour were simply all over their opponents. Eventually, 8 minutes before the end, Luton were awarded "hands" at comfortable range; Docherty placed in his best style, and as the ball dropped in goal, a terrific scrimmage ensued, and McInnes breasted the ball through.

This was the third and decisive goal of the day, and its advent was hailed with enthusiasm by the Luton folk present. Soon after the return to the centre, McElheney electrified the home supporters by a dashing run and splendid shot from the wing, which Williams saved grandly. With a less capable goal-keeper it might have proved an equaliser. The Spurs worked hard up to the finish, but were manifestly outclassed, and in the end Luton won a creditable victory as under:

LUTON	..	..	..	2	goals
SPURS	..	..	..	1	„