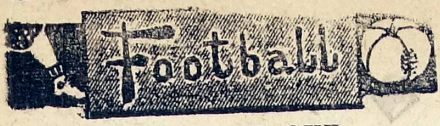

SECOND LEAGUE.

LUTON V. NEWTON HEATH.

A HEAVY DEFEAT.

When Newton Heath came to Luton at the end of November, they were victorious by 1 goal to nothing. On Saturday, however, at Clayton Bank, Luton lost the day by 5 goals to nil. Commenting on the game, a Northern writer says that there were times during the earlier stages of the match when the Southerners were much the better side. They gave evidence that they were not going to be overthrown without a big struggle, while they were streets ahead of the "Heathens" in the matter of combination. For a time McInnes kept his wings going in the most approved style, and had Brown and Durrant shot with anything like precision Barrett would not have had the easy time he had.

It was while Luton were all over their opponents that Daw was called upon to negotiate a shot from the left wing. He had heaps of time to clear, but he fisted the leather very gingerly, and landed it on the head of Godsmark, who never expected the opening. This happened after about a quarter of an hour's play, and though a game response was made by Luton they hardly ever seemed capable of getting on a level footing. Immediately after the restart, however, they went away towards Barrett in a body, and, feeding the right wing very judiciously where the "Heathens" halfback was very weak, McInnes must have been very discouraged to have witnessed the ball sent high over the goal.

Luton had some more bad luck, when Dow, in trying to clear from Cassidy, did not get the sphere far enough way from the goal mouth, and Godsmark got a second point. There was no mistake about the third goal, for the shot by Cassidy which put the ball beyond the reach of Daw would have beaten the majority of goalkeepers. At the interval, the "Heathens" were generally voted to be lucky in having such a good lead as 3 goals to 0.

The story of the second half is soon told. Instead of improving, Luton went to pieces, and although they should not have been beaten by 5 goals to none on the day, they were much the inferior side. The defence was to blame for the big score. The halves were weak, and although Dow at times showed great resource he committed many faults. In the concluding half, Daw atoned for his mistakes by splendid work. As far as combination went the Luton five were better than the home lot. As marksmen, however, they were complete failures, and this weakness explains to a great extent their reverse.

Newton Heath : Barratt ; Stafford and Erentz ; Morgan, Griffiths, and Ambler ; Godsmark, Smith, Leigh, Jackson, and Cassidy.

Luton : Daw ; Dow and McCurdy ; Brock, Williams, and J. Brown ; W. Brown, Durrant, McInnes, Eckford, and Dimmock.