

FOOTBALL.

LUTON TOWN v. BRISTOL ROVERS.

ANOTHER DRAWN GAME.

On Saturday the Luton Town and Bristol Rovers teams met for the first time this season in the Southern League competition, the encounter taking place at Luton and producing a draw of one goal each. The ground was on the heavy side and the weather was somewhat dull, but there was a very fair attendance. The Luton team lacked the services of Blessington, who is under suspension for misconduct, and his position was filled by R. Hawkes.

The teams were:

Luton: Ord; Lindsay and Sharp; F. Hawkes, White and Williams; Durrant, R. Hawkes, Brown, Tierney and Colvin.

Bristol: Cartlidge; Dunn and Griffiths; Davies, Neilson and Lyon; Muir, Jones, Lamb, Willcox and Becton.

Referee: Mr. G. H. Muir (of Southampton).

The home team won the toss and in the early part of the game the exchanges were fairly even. The Bristolians were the first to settle down, and the operations had not been long in progress when Becton sent over the bar. Colvin was next to distinguish himself, and later on White was applauded for a very fine shot which was only a trifle wide. "Bob" Hawkes followed suit with a very difficult shot which was only just too high, and Muir was unfortunate with an effort that deserved a better fate. Following a free-kick R. Hawkes sent in another beauty which was well saved. A corner to the Bristol men was not turned to account, and a minute or two afterwards Ord distinguished himself by effecting a very fine save from a hard drive. Colvin was badly fouled by Dunn, who found that the little left-winger's pace was a trifle too much for him, and he resorted to the expedient of clutching hold of the "Midget's" garments. Subsequently, a corner to Luton was forced and Colvin sent wide of the mark. F. Hawkes followed this example, and so when the interval arrived the situation was still:

LUTON, 0; BRISTOL, 0.

Shortly after the resumption Ord gave away a corner. The next point of importance was that an unfortunate collision occurred between Tierney and Dunn and there was some concern when it was observed that the heads of both men were bleeding. During a temporary suspension of the game the Bristol player's injury was attended to on the field, but Tierney was compelled to retire. On the re-start a splendid pass from the left gave Jones a first-rate opportunity of scoring, but he did not take advantage of it. Muir shortly afterwards atoned for the failure of his wing-mate by lowering Ord's colours when the custodian had partially saved. There was a question, however, whether the Bristol outside-right was not off-side. The reverse seemed to have the effect of stimulating the locals, who afterwards played in far better style than during the early part of the game. Indeed, they had considerably the best of matters in the second half, and for a time penned in their opponents. Following this the Rovers broke away and one of the forwards shot so well that the ball struck the post and rebounded. During a period of strong pressure by the Lutonians which followed, another flag-kick was obtained and later on Colvin forced a further one. From this the ball came out to R. Hawkes, who scored with a very fast shot which gave Cartlidge no chance whatever. It should be explained that R. Hawkes had changed places in the second half with Fred Hawkes and that his shot was from a long range. The Rovers resorted to somewhat rough tactics, but these did not avail them any. As the end was approaching Durrant just failed to send through from a grand centre by Lindsay. There was no more scoring, however, and so in the end the positions were:

LUTON, 1; BRISTOL, 1.