

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.

LUTON TOWN v. NEW BROMPTON.

A DRAWN GAME.

For the opening home League match of the season, Luton were visited on Saturday by New Brompton. Last week the Bromptonians opened the season with a victory over Kettering, while the Luton men were defeated at Portsmouth. In the corresponding matches last season, Luton won at home by 3 goals to 1 and the Kentishers did the same on their own ground by 3 goals to nil. This season New Brompton have got together a formidable eleven.

In the visiting team, Lutonians in the persons of Daw in goal, and McCurdy at right back were given a hearty reception by the crowd. Luton played the same team as at Portsmouth. Beautiful weather prevailed for the match, the sun shining brightly, and the ground was in perfect condition, while there was a large crowd of some 2,500 spectators present when the referee, Mr. J. H. Jamieson, of Plumstead, whistled the following 22 into order :

Luton : Frail : Lindsay and Sharp ; F. Hawkes, White and R. Hawkes ; Durrant, Blessington, Moody, Gall and Allsopp.

New Brompton : Daw : McCurdy and Archer ; Raisbeck, Goldie and Elliott ; Milward, Smith, Leigh, Satterthwaite, and Dunkley.

New Brompton won the toss, and Luton started the game from the railway end with the sun in their eyes. The visiting forwards pressed but Luton retaliated. McCurdy cleared from White, and Daw only just got rid of a shot from Gall as he was flored by Durrant. Frail saved from Goldie, and a fine centre from Smith went outside, while at the other end Luton forced a fruitless corner, Allsopp placing behind. A long curling shot from Elliott caused Frail anxiety, but he managed to clear.

Nothing daunted, however, the visitors came again, and after Frail had saved, Smith put across a fine centre from which Leigh beat Frail with a smart shot, giving the keeper no chance. Thus after 20 minutes play the visitors led. Luton now forced a corner, but it was cleared, and Gall made a fine effort to score. Hesitation by Moody lost Luton a good chance of equalising. Leigh and Satterthwaite both shot behind at the other end, and Durrant was given offside when in a favourable position. Nothing tangible resulted before the interval, which arrived with the score.

New Brompton.....	1 goal
Luton	0 ..

The home side attacked vigorously, on resuming. Allsopp centred well and Moody equalised with a grand shot, giving Daw no chance whatever. Only two minutes had elapsed and the crowd cheered loud and long, and urged the home team to victory. Daw saved grandly from Blessington on the line from a good centre by Allsopp. Gall forced Daw to give a corner, but Allsopp placed behind. A beautiful shot from Durrant completely beat the goal-keeper, but as luck would have it, the ball struck the post and rebounded into play. It was a very narrow escape for Brompton.

Both teams were now putting in all they knew to gain the winning point, and the game was very fast. In the excitement, technical offences were far too frequent, the home team, perhaps, being the chief offenders. A flying shot by Durrant went just by the post, and several times it seemed certain that Luton must score, but the visitors' defence prevailed. As the end approached, the game slackened somewhat, and the only thing of any note was a grand shot from Allsopp which struck the post, and rebounded into play when Hawkes shot behind. Luton pressed right up to the finish, but nothing further was done, the end coming :—

Luton.....	1 goal,
New Brompton.....	1 ..