

FOOTBALL NOTES.

[BY "SPECTATOR".]

BRENTFORD DEFEATED.

TWO MORE LEAGUE POINTS.

Luton had an engagement with Brentford in the Southern League on Saturday and there were hopes that another couple of points would be secured at the expense of the home team. Nor on this occasion were the local supporters disappointed. There was a fair company of Lutonians present at the match. The Luton men were Frail; Lindsay and Williams; R. Hawkes, White, and F. Hawkes; Durrant, Blessington, Davidson, Moody, and Allsopp. Referee, Mr. Ayling.

The first half was rather evenly contested, both sides alternately attacking and providing the goal-keepers with something to do. Frail cleared well and Brentford cleared his goal as well. The match had not been in progress long before the home side got down into the Luton half, and the ball was placed past Frail. There was a great deal of applause at this success of the home team, and the prospect of a win for Brentford—a luxury very seldom indulged in by the B.'s—appeared before the home supporters.

The ground was evidently telling on both teams, the rain having thoroughly soaked the pitch. The Luton men evidently had no desire to remain behind, and at once, on the re-start began pressing. For a time they were denied the pleasure of equalising. A fine run by the Luton forwards looked very formidable and eventually the ball going to Allsopp, the Luton outside left put in a grand shot which found the corner of the net. This goal was really brilliantly obtained, and Allsopp is to be commended.

The point seemed to take a good deal of the energy out of the Brentford men. Still they persevered and occasionally made runs which were nipped in the bud by Lindsay or Williams, who were playing a good game. The Luton half-backs were in fine form, and continually frustrated the attempts of the home forwards. At half-time the score stood:

LUTON, 1; BRENTFORD, 1.

The second half had not been started long before it was apparent that the Brentford men had had enough of the sport. A penalty-kick was given against the home side, and from the kick Luton gained the lead. Brentford were not quite done with, though it was not very often that they got over the half-way line. Whenever they did the half-backs promptly pulled them back, or Lindsay or Williams cleared, so that the shots which Frail had to save were few and far between.

Davidson placed the matter beyond doubt by scoring the third goal. Bishop towards the end of the game had a lot of work to do, but he cleared well, and though Luton pressed considerably no further points were scored. It must be mentioned that Luton got the ball into the net no less than half a dozen times. The referee had awarded one of these as a goal, but the linesman informed Mr. Ayling that the ball had gone behind before being passed to Blessington, who had put on the finishing touch. The result of the match was:

LUTON, 3; BRENTFORD, 1.

The spectators were naturally very interested in the performance of Bishop, of the 2nd Scots Guards. He cleared well on several occasions, but was not so quick in getting rid of the ball as he might have been. The half backs tried hard, but were repeatedly beaten by the superior tactics of the visitors. About 10 minutes before the end Newsome, who had been playing a poor game, left the field. Underwood was the best of the home forwards, but he was very much neglected by Connor and Turner.

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The Luton forwards were in good form, and the inclusion of Davidson is having a good effect on their play. Blessington, in particular, shone and he and the new centre-forward were the best of the 10 forwards. Allsopp and Moody made a very capable left-wing, whilst Durrant did some smart things as Blessington's partner. Altogether Luton's forwards were much superior to Brentford. R. Hawkes played a fine game at half-back and White and F. Hawkes followed up very closely. They were always triers. The backs were very sound and Frail had more work than usual to do and did it well.

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Although Southampton could only draw at Bristol, whereas Reading won at Watford, Southampton still hold a substantial lead in the tourney. Still, it is a good fight between the three top clubs for championship honours, and any slip by one or the other will prove expensive. Portsmouth and Tottenham Hotspur both showed excellent form in their matches, but Millwall, in view of next Saturday's Cup tie, did not exert themselves at Wellingborough, and were well beaten. One game, that at Northampton, had to be postponed owing to torrents of rain. West Ham drew with Swindon.

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