

Luton Town Football Club.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.

BRENTFORD v. LUTON TOWN.

A CREDITABLE WIN.

The first meeting between these elevens took place at the Middlesex town on Saturday. It was expected, after the improvement shown by Brentford in the last few matches, that they would make Luton go all the way if they wished to secure victory. Although Brentford are now the "wooden spoonists" of the League and can only claim two victories they have been unlucky in several matches.

Notwithstanding their many reverses, Brentford's supporters have continued to rally round them, and for this match a large crowd assembled to give Luton a welcome. Both teams had strong elevens, the home club giving a trial to a new goal keeper named Bishop, their regular custodian being on the injured list. The referee was Mr. H. C. Ayling.

Rain spoilt what would have been a really good game. Luton repeated their performance of last season by securing a couple of points after a hard game. For the second game at Brentford in succession a referee reversed his decision. Blessington in the second half put through during a melee, and Mr. Ayling gave a goal, but a linesman signalled that the ball had gone behind before it was passed to Blessington, so the official in charge gave a goal-kick instead.

In the opening half the Middlesex men were seen to advantage, but failed badly near goal, though Frail saved several times. Each side scored once before the interval, the home team opening the ball about ten minutes or so from the start through Maher, whilst about five or six minutes later Allsopp equalised with a grand cross-shot. Luton held the upper hand after changing over, Davidson giving them the lead almost immediately after the restart, whilst Blessington scored a third point. Result :—

Luton 3, Brentford 1.

The better team won, and in a large measure the victory was due to the superiority of their half-backs. Near goal, Luton were much the more dangerous lot, the left-wing being the pick of an evenly-balanced line. R. Hawkes played a capital game at half, and was the best man in that position on the field. There was not much difference between the respective backs, and both goalkeepers did some very creditable work. Bishop, of the 2nd Scots Guards, who was making his first appearance in the home goal, stopped several difficult shots cleverly, but his clearances left a lot of room for improvement.

To-morrow will be a great day for Luton, as Tottenham Hotspur visit us for the return match in the Southern League. It will be remembered that the first match at Tottenham ended in a draw of 1 each, and the reputation the Hotspurs have made in the English Cup should ensure them a hearty welcome. There is no doubt that the Hotspurs are a fine team, and one of which the South may well be proud, and a large crowd should be present.