

LUTON BEATEN, BUT NOT DISGRACED.

SHANKS WITH HIS SHOOTING
BOOTS ON. ^{5/11} 04/05

"A SHOT OF A LIFETIME."

By GEORGE BRANN (English International).

BRENTFORD, 3; LUTON, 0.

Although they possess a lowly position in the Southern League, the men from Luton need not be down-hearted at their defeat by Brentford on Saturday. They happened to meet Shanks with his best shooting boots on, and they had left their's behind at Luton. Perhaps they had worn them out on the previous Saturday when they rattled up five goals; or, perhaps, they only make Rugby boots at Luton, for they certainly would have scored numerous goals under Rugby rules.

Both sides were slow in settling down, the forwards especially showing a great lack of knowledge as to the whereabouts of their fellows. Warrington for Brentford was the first to find a friend, and from a very good centre by him Shanks easily headed through. This had a stimulating effect on Luton, and their forwards showed some neat, clever passing in which their left wing—Barnes and Ross—took a prominent part.

The home team staved off the attack, and Shanks receiving a pass from the left scored number two, with the shot of a lifetime. Some thirty yards from goal and well out on the left he took a terrific right-foot "plug" which went through the far right-hand corner of the goal. I doubt whether Lindsay saw it pass him, so quickly was the whole thing done.

From now to half-time there was little to choose between the teams. The Luton forwards showed cleverness of foot, but dallied with the ball too long, and their halves were not of much assistance to them, and had a fatal tendency to pass to their backs instead of to their forwards.

M. Ewen, their captain, was the mainstay of their back division.

On re-starting, Brentford were nearly through in the first minute, but Luton were quick in retaliating, and gave Whittaker very anxious ten minutes.

In fact, all through the second half he was never idle, but—with one exception—the shots he had to save lacked devil.

Shanks probably saved him much anxiety by again getting clean away, and scoring his third goal, and the interest in the game was over.

Luton, however, pluckily struggled on, and Hawkes nearly scored. He was by far the best of the Luton forwards, and would be a dangerous man in a good forward string, as he uses his head, and goes straight.

The other forwards are clever, but a little too prone to drawing circles.

GEORGE BRANN.