

UNITED LEAGUE.

LUTON v. GRAY'S UNITED.

Luton Town took a walk-over Gray's United in this United League match on Monday on the Town Ground, about 1,000 people being present. The result was: Luton 9 goals, Gray's 1.

The teams were: Luton.—Platt; Blackett and McCurdy; F. Hawkes, White, and R. Hawkes; Gallacher, Warner, Macdonald, Pickering and Latheron.

Gray's United.—Mearns; Tranter and Austin; Mayes, Freeman, and C. Axcell; Taylor, McKierman, Johnson, Rose and J. Axcell.

Mr. S. A. Spurgeon (London) was referee.

Luton went away with the wind, and in the first minute tested Mearns (who was formerly "goalie" for Tottenham) with a shot which he cleared at full length. Then Grays pressed and looked like scoring, but after a moment's suspense Platt cleared. The opening stages were slow, but after twelve minutes' play Gallacher shot across the goal mouth, and Macdonald's head turned the ball into the net. Luton thus drew first blood, and from this stage the pace quickened.

From a scrimmage Pickering sent in a ground shot which Mearns rolled behind. A kick for hands from outside the penalty line was taken splendidly by Blackett, who struck the cross-bar squarely. "Bob" passed to Macdonald, and "Mac" to Pickering, who shot so hard that the keeper's hand was forced back and the ball bounced inside the goal. Number 2! A few seconds later, amid loud cheering, Warner passed to Blackett, who dropped a fine shot obliquely into the goal. The left wing next forced a corner, and Latheron passed to Macdonald and gleefully watched him head in goal No. 4.

After the interval six more goals were scored, only one of them being for Grays. Tranter stopped several rushes. The left sent in a cross shot, and Freddy Hawkes took a run and scored in fine style. Then Mayes sent in a shot from the penalty line which found the net. However, Luton returned to the attack, and Warner sent in an excellent shot which went just under the bar.

Pickering was the next to score, his shot bouncing off a back into the goal. A minute later Warner took a turn, and after a fine run and tricking several men, he banged in the ball again amid cheers. Finally, White received the ball and scored. Not content even then, Luton again pressed and scored an offside point. The final score was: Luton 9, Grays United 1.

There is but one word for Luton's display—it was excellent. The whole front string combined well and attacked strongly, and were aided and abetted splendidly by Bob and his partners, while the defence was sound. The home men fairly played with the visitors at times, and many a roar of laughter greeted some of their tricks. Blackett's fine kicking was again a feature, but McCurdy, though a good back, kicked often too high and not far enough.

Latheron, who was on trial in Barnes' place, did well, and Macdonald, who took Brown's position as that player was hurt, scored two or three goals. "Bob" distinguished himself by hard and excellent work, being all over the field at different times. Gallacher and the right wing were always prominent. Platt's long kicks and punches were a feature of the game. The Grays team failed chiefly through bad shooting.