

FOOTBALL NOTES AND NEWS.

By "Grasshopper."

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.

LUTON WIN AT BRENTFORD.

By winning at Brentford on Saturday, it was generally admitted the Blues achieved a fine performance, in view of the fact that most teams in the South have this season received their quietus from the Brentford lot. Even last season the Middlesex team took the maximum four points out of Luton—winning here by 2-0, and on their own ground by 2-1. The Strawplaiters, however, only secured the upper hand from a penalty, and as penalties are more or less regarded as a "bit of fat," it might appear that Luton had been a bit lucky; but the fact is, the argument strongly points the other way, for on their merits alone the Blues entirely deserved their win. And this, too, though they were without R. Hawkes, the vacancy being filled by Jones.

Brentford lost the toss, and started against the wind. Greaves just missed scoring from a pass by Hagan. The Luton forwards could make no headway, and for a time the ball never crossed the half-way line. A corner to Brentford should have brought a goal, but Platt was in exceptional form, and saved his charge repeatedly. A momentary relief was followed by a dashing piece of play by Greaves, who threaded his way through the Luton defence, and beat everybody but the goalkeeper. Warner at length opened up the game, and transferred play to the Brentford end of the field. They could make no impression on Taylor, however, who tackled splendidly, and placed the ball well among his forwards. From one of his passes Greaves got through, but without result, and a promising movement on the part of Barnes and Fitzpatrick was neatly frustrated by Jay. So far the defenders were having the better of matters, and the goalkeepers had little to do since the first hot attack on the Luton goal. After Barnes had hit the post with a hard shot, Brown missed an open goal by inches. Subsequently in attempting to clear, Watson handled the ball inside the penalty area, and Luton were awarded a penalty kick, which was taken by Jones, who succeeded in beating Williams.

The home side made great efforts to equalise. Platt caught a sparkling shot from McAllister, and cleverly evaded Greaves, who tried to charge the ball out of his hands. Platt was repeatedly tested, and several fine shots went wide of the posts. At half-time Luton led by 1 goal to 0.

The second half opened quietly, and with the rain coming down heavily, there was little excitement in the game. The home side could not quite get the better of the Luton defence. A corner against Brentford was easily cleared, and in a twinkling the "B's" were round Platt, and testing him from all directions. He proved equal to the calls made upon him, and at length got the ball well away. It did not stay away long, however, McAllister coming up in determined style and just missing with a terrific drive. Luton contrived to keep their lines intact, and when the whistle sounded for time they were winners.

Result: Luton 1 Brentford 0.