

Wednesday Football.

Western League.

LUTON DRAW AT THE PALACE.

Luton Town played against the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, in the Western League, on Wednesday, and succeeded in making a draw, the final score being a goal each. The game was a distinctly good one, but for all that it was a match brimful of "lost opportunities," especially so in regard to the exhibition of the Glaziers. For 20 minutes from the start play ruled fairly even. The visiting forwards played with surprisingly good combination, and were much smarter on the ball than were their opponents. Luton's defence, however, was rather weak, and time after time the backs had to kick out in order to stop the rushes of the Palace men. Soon Luton came within an ace of scoring. Rigate getting through centred to Pearson (who was again played) and a hard drive was sent in, but the ball accidentally hit one of the home backs, and the homesters managed to get out of an extremely dangerous corner. R. Hawkes was back in his old form, but the forwards did not take advantage of the many openings he gave them. At the other end Needham skimmed the cross-bar with a lovely shot. The locals kept up a perfect bombardment of the Luton goal, but Platt was not to be beaten, and Hogg, who once more turned out, was just now superb at back. Once more getting away, Rigate put in a nice centre, but Pearson, when well placed for shooting, accidentally handled the ball. The interval arrived with a blank score.

Resuming, the Palace went away with a rush, and after a nice bit of passing between Davis, Needham and Owens, Platt was beaten with a fine shot from Davis. This reverse put energy into the Blues, though on the other hand the Palace were making a desperate effort to maintain the lead. Both goal keepers, too, were in fine form. About 20 minutes from the re-start, the visiting forwards got away, and after Moody had cleverly tricked Balding, he scored with a good shot. The remainder of the game went very much in favour of the home side, but they failed to again penetrate the Luton defence, and the match accordingly ended in a draw of one goal each.