

Southern League.

COVENTRY v. LUTON.

Played at Coventry on Friday. Result:—

Coventry 6 goals.

Luton 2 goals.

Luton commenced their holiday programme at Coventry on Christmas Eve with a weakened team, which was depleted during the course of the game by injuries. Brown being unable to get away, Johnson took the outside-right position, and Trueman appeared at left-half instead of R. M. Hawkes.

Improvement in the City's play was conspicuously marked. Arnold and Tickle at once took the ball up the field, and it needed all Jarvis's skill in goal to clear, but then Luton pressed, and from Stansfield's centre Saul put the ball through his own goal.

From this point Luton were overplayed, and Coventry held the winning lead of 4 goals to 2 at the interval. The scorers were Arnold, Smith, Buckle, and Bradley, the latter from a penalty kick. Johnson got Luton's second goal. Coventry's first two goals were scored while Fred Hawkes was off the field, having sustained a kick on the head, and the other two were obtained while McCurdy was off. He came on again afterwards, but was not able to do much.

The game fell off in the second half, during which Tickle and Arnold put on two more goals. The ground in the second half was in a very bad state, and good football was impossible. Tickle's goal was scored after the best bit of play of the afternoon.

Both sides worked hard, and there was creditable combination in the early part of the game. In the last half-hour Luton were the better team, but could not score. There was not much difference between the two front lines, but Luton were weak at back as compared with Saul and Hanson on the other side. Jarvis did better goalkeeping in the first half than afterwards.