

FOOTBALL NOTES AND NEWS

By "Goalie."

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.

LUTON'S REVIVAL.

SOUTHEND ROBBED OF A POINT.

NEW MEN PLAY WELL.

It was a great relief to Luton football enthusiasts on Saturday to hear that the Blues had made a draw at Southend. The United have been doing so well of late, and Luton have been so disjointed, that the visit to the resort was looked upon with dread, and as the death blow to Luton's hopes of promotion. The result, however, still leaves Luton in the running. Both Cardiff and Swansea secured victories, but they could only defeat Mid-Rhondda and Newport County respectively by a single goal. Pontypridd defeated Mardy by 1-0, and Ton Pentre gained their first victory of the season by scoring the only goal of the match against Aberdare. Luton have no match until to-morrow (Saturday) week, when they should annex two points from Llanelly, but they must not make the mistake of under-rating their opponents.

A large number of Lutonians took advantage of the excursion to Southend arranged by the Supporters' Club, and they saw a fairly good game. The result—one goal each—was a fair reflex of the run of the play, for though during the first half, Luton played strongly, Southend had the better of the second portion, especially after they had equalised. Luton had two new men in the team. They were Holland and Jarvie, both of whom come from Tottenham. Jarvie played at left-back and Holland partnered Worth on the left wing, and both men made a promising debut. Smith also played a good game at centre forward, and had the honour of scoring Luton's goal.

Southend opened well, and from the manner in which they swarmed around the Luton goal and the shots Bateman was called upon to deal with, it appeared as though they had a soft thing on. But when Luton found their feet they almost monopolised the attacking work. Nevertheless, Southend should have crossed over with a lead at the interval. Wileman, of Southend, with an open goal before him, shot wide, while just before half-time he missed a penalty awarded for hands. Both goals were scored in the second half. Luton were first to find the net, Smith applying the finishing touch in an exciting scrimmage in the Southend goal. The home team equalised twenty minutes later, when Bradshaw placed a corner kick so well that Wilson had no difficulty in netting.

On the day's play Luton revealed themselves to be a more evenly balanced side than Southend. Bateman in goal, performed finely. Both backs—Potts and Jarvie—did all that was required of them, and Bob Hawkes was the outstanding player of a good intermediate line. Wileman, a brother of the Southend player of the same name, was responsible for the neatest footwork of the forward line, but the Southend defenders found Smith's hustling methods in the centre a source of worry. Smith has been the recipient of a good deal of criticism this season, but he rarely plays in a match without scoring.

Frankly, Southend did not show their best form. They are capable of better things than they accomplished on Saturday. Kebbell was safer in goal, and Thomson was sound at back, but Spencer was inclined to be erratic. Axcell was the best of the halves. Moon, however, did not do well, while Emery did not get the measure of Worth until the second half. The forwards lacked cohesion and method. T. A. Mason, whose transfer was obtained from Tottenham on Thursday, appeared at centre forward. He did not dovetail in with the rest of the line, and showed very little dash. Wilson and Wileman were the best wing, but the latter appears to have lost much of his shooting abilities since his accident. Bradshaw tried hard without much luck. On the extreme left Parke was always mastered by F. Hawkes.