

Football Notes.

By "THE GOALIE."

EXTREMES MEET.

NARROW VICTORY AT TREHARRIS.

GREAT STRUGGLE BETWEEN FOUR ENGLISH CLUBS.

The Southern League Second Division contest seems to have resolved itself into a great struggle between the four English clubs, who head the table. They all won again on Saturday, with the exception of Croydon, who dropped a point at Mid-Rhondda. Perhaps the most surprising result of the day was the inability of Luton to win by more than the odd goal at Treharris, for the latter have yet to gain their first point, while Luton have not yet lost a point. Brentford accomplished a good performance by inflicting on Swansea their first defeat, and Aberdare defeated Pontypridd, who are not doing quite so well as last season. Abertillery secured their first victory by beating Ton Pentre, and Stoke scored their fifth successive win by defeating Llanelly, who were previously unbeaten. Caerphilly did well to pick up a point on the ground of Newport County.

Luton not only deserved their victory, but let the home team off very lightly with the score at 2-1. With a little better shooting and more luck they would have piled up a fairly big score, but perhaps the peculiarities of the ground told against them. Wileman deserved to score on several occasions, and the other inside forwards all missed chances. Luton played their usual team, and the two sides lined up as follows:—

Treharris — Demmery; Timmins and G. Williams; Jarvis, Owen, and Pike; Tippet, Morgan, Willis, Downs and Whitcombe.

Luton — Mitchell; Jarvie and Elvey; F. Hawkes, Frith, and R. Hawkes; Stevens, Wileman, Simms, Rollinson and Wilkie.

Treharris won the toss, but gained no material advantage. Luton were soon attacking, but Wileman missed the chance by shooting wide. Treharris afterwards made a feeble attempt in attack but the Strawplaiters' defence was sound. After twelve minutes' play, Luton's right wing got possession and Stevens, beating the opposition, scored an easy goal. Another raid by the visitors was checked by Timmins and Demmery. A few minutes of excitement followed with Treharris threatening danger, but the visitors' defence was too robust for the home forwards, who were hustled off the ball. The visitors were trying their very best to increase their lead, but the home defence proved sound, although at times there was a tendency to get shaky.

Luton continued to attack, but the Lilywhites were playing a fine defensive game, Timmins and Williams being a stumbling block to the visitors' forwards for whom Wileman and Stevens were showing great form and continually getting the better of the home halves, but were unable to get further. Treharris made a brief attack upon Luton territory, but the visitors' defence packed their goal so well that a goal was not forthcoming. The Treharris forwards got well away again by tricky methods, and went in front of the Luton goal, but they shot very feebly. From a break-away by Wileman the visitors got into the Lilywhites' half, and a fine shot by the inside-right was brilliantly saved by Demmery. The visitors continued to have the better of the game, but offside by their forwards prevented them goaling. After this Tippet got away for the homesters, but they were pulled up for offside. At the interval, Luton led by the only goal scored.

The second half opened briskly with a few minutes' fast and keen midfield play, from which Treharris got away on the right, but Tippet was poorly supported. Treharris were at this stage doing more than holding their own, and the pace was very fast, and it was questionable whether the home team could maintain it. Treharris were attacking keenly, and burst away. Pyke, who was playing a great game at left half, relieved a threatened danger. At last Whitcombe received and netted with a fine shot, the Luton goalie being completely beaten. Roused by this success, the homesters put forth further effort, and they gave the Luton defenders plenty of work. Following a brief attack on the home goal, Fred Hawkes gained Luton's second goal with a low shot into the corner of the net. End to end play ensued, but neither goalkeeper was seriously troubled, and time came with the score:—

TREHARRIS 1, LUTON 2.