

FOOTBALL.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.

ANOTHER MODERATE DISPLAY.

LUTON'S FORWARDS AT FAULT.

An attempt was made by the directors on Saturday to find a winning forward line, and as a result it is possible that further experiments will have to be made. Although playing at home, Luton could only draw with Norwich City, who, judging by the form they displayed in this match should not have proved very formidable opponents. A change that caused considerable surprise was the inclusion of Heath in place of Wileman. On his day the latter is undoubtedly Luton's best forward, but he has not been doing himself justice lately. At the same time the action of the directorate is perhaps a little premature, for Wileman is one of those forwards who can win a match on his own. Heath did moderately well, and had the satisfaction of scoring the only goal that fell to Luton. The other experiment was made at inside left, where Chipperfield partnered Hoar, his old Clarence colleague. Chipperfield certainly did well enough to justify a further trial, although some of his best work was spoilt by Hoar, who had quite an off-day. The half-back line was a little stronger than on the previous Wednesday, Johnson playing in the centre with F. Hawkes and Wilson on either side.

The game did not provide much scientific football, but both teams certainly tried hard. Norwich ought to be quite satisfied with one point, for Luton put on more prolonged periods of pressure than the visitors, and had more chances. The calculations of the home team were upset by the fact that although playing with a strong wind in the first half, they were unable to cross over with the lead. At one time it appeared that they would even be in arrears, for quite early in the game Norwich took the lead. Turner, their centre forward, received a pass near the half-way line in a position that left him a clear run for goal. Elvey was in close attendance, and hung on to his heels. Mitchell possibly thought Elvey would be able to tackle the forward, and he delayed coming out until too late, and Turner was able to slip the ball past him into the net. It was a lucky point in some respects and a claim was made that Turner was in an offside position when he started. If he was, however, it was a very close thing, and the referee was probably right in his decision.

As time went on the spectators, who numbered about five thousand, including many Territorials, wondered whether the equaliser would ever come. Simms made two good attempts, but one shot struck the post and the other was just wide. Johnson beat the goalkeeper with a pile-driver from a free-kick, but one of the backs was standing in goal and kicked away. At last, however, a centre by Roberts left the three inside men in possession in front of goal, and Heath was able to make the scores level. In the second half, Luton naturally did not press so heavily, but they had the only scoring chance of this period. This fell to Simms, who after beating the back ran in, and to the dismay of everybody shot wide when a goal seemed certain. It is to be hoped that Simms' loss of his shooting form is only temporary, for he missed a similar chance on the previous Wednesday at a period when the game was in a critical state. Towards the close Norwich concentrated all their energies in defence, with the result that Luton did not get another chance, and had to be content with a draw of one goal each.