

LUTON v. GILLINGHAM.

Luton, 2; Gillingham, 0.

The quality of the football in Monday's match with Gillingham, when Luton won by two goals to nil, was in marked contrast with that witnessed in the game with Swansea—the clever Welsh club—on Saturday. The Gillingham team did not display any particular brilliancy, and Luton had by far the majority of the play.

The reconstruction of the Luton forward line, with the introduction of Hensman at outside left in place of Neale, and Roe taking the extreme right, with Tomlinson at inside, was a considerable improvement, but the forwards generally still have to learn the importance of sharp shooting. Simms, who played hard and well throughout the game, was the only forward who really did anything in the way of shooting; and in the second half, particularly nothing but good fortune saved the Gillingham side from a heavier defeat.

Williams, at inside left, was very disappointing, and he did not display that precision and ability in passing that one would expect from such an experienced player. He showed an undue tendency to individual play, and when he did pass, he generally put the ball too far ahead, which gave Simms absolutely no chance against the Gillingham backs.

If Williams and Simms will only play together, they will make a good pair, who will be a source of danger to any defence, but Monday's game—and Saturday's, too—did not produce any really unselfish combination between the two.

The Gillingham forwards attacked very little in the first half, and what Summers had to do he did well.

Luton's opening goal came about half-way through the first half, as the result of good play on the part of Tomlinson, Simms scoring with a shot well out of the reach of Beale. Just before the interval, Hensman sent in a good shot from the left wing, but the ball travelled a trifle wide.

In the second half, there were only occasional spurts on the part of the Gillingham forwards, but several excellent shots were sent in. Summers, however, played brilliantly—particularly in saving from Savage (when he "punched" out a very hot shot from the wing), Wood and Frost.

Tomlinson, who on the whole did well, obtained Luton's second goal from a well-placed centre by Hensman, who had cleverly beaten the backs. There was plenty of enthusiasm with Tomlinson and this took him a long way.

Throughout, Simms had exceptionally hard luck.

"Dick" Elvey, at left back, was the cleverest player on the field, and against his brilliant play the Gillingham right wing could do nothing. His partner, Fred Hawkes, who was introduced in place of Dunn, who was suffering from a strain sustained in Saturday's match, played a sound game, although he showed a certain tendency to wander up the field. The half-back line was very good. Teams:

Luton. — Summers; F. Hawkes, Elvey; Urwin, Rutherford, Parker; Roe, Tomlinson, Simms, Williams, Hensman.

Gillingham. — Beale; Buchanan, Leslie; Mahon, Bluer, Cavanna; Neill, Frost, Wood, Chalmers, Savage.

Referee: Mr. J. E. Head, of London.