

# FROM THE FOOTBALL FIELD,

## LUTON BACK KNOCKED OUT AT BRENTFORD.

It was the original intention to play Roe at centre-forward in place of Simms at Brentford on Saturday, but the suspension of Williams for fourteen days as a result of the incident at Southend brought the regular centre back to the side, and Roe, as a consequence, fell into his old position at inside right. Otherwise the team was exactly as the previous Saturday, Dodd retaining the inside left post. Brentford, after a brilliant opening month, went all to pieces until they surprised everybody by beating Reading a fortnight since and followed this up by winning away at Southampton. It was the first appearance at home of Searby who hails from Nuneaton, a district that has produced quite a number of League players. He is a product of Army football, inasmuch as he spent five years in the Service, and during that period has been playing in his Divisional team with several well known pros. He was wounded in 1918, and during his spell in England he turned out half a dozen times for Manchester United.

The weather was far from pleasant, and the crowd was not more than 6,000 when the following players lined up:—

Luton—Summers; Elvey, Dunn; Urwin, Rutherford, Parker; Hoar, Roe, Simms, Dodd and Bookman.

Brentford—Price; Hodson, Roier; Morris, Amos, McGovern; Cartmell, Boyne, Searby, Morley and Hendren.

Referee, Mr. R. Marshall, Kettering.

The turf was not so heavy as was expected, but there was a decided breeze on, and Hendren, by winning the toss, gave his side a big advantage. There was quite a series of corners, and from one of these the "Bees" drew first blood. They were in luck's way, for Dunn allowed the ball to travel over the goal-line under the impression it was last kicked by a Brentford player when everyone else on the ground knew it came from Parker's foot. There was a general laugh when Dunn tried to place the ball for a goal kick and the referee ordered the corner kick instead. The Luton player could not understand the position at all, it was evident, and when the ball came across from Hendren from the corner flag he was too surprised to realise the danger, and Searby just managed to find the far corner of the net before anyone tackled him. A few minutes later the Luton goal had a lucky escape. Summers, coming out, did not clear the ball, and before he could get back at least three Brentford players were given the opportunity to shoot at the goal defended by backs only, but they all failed to take advantage of their chance.

Luton were quite holding their own, but a sudden attack found Morley in possession of the ball, and he let drive from long range. The ball, travelling away from Summers, found a resting place in the net. Two goals down meant a heavy handicap, but still further disaster befell the Town, for a collision between Searby and Dunn resulted in the Luton back being removed from the field for the remainder of the game. It was difficult to see exactly what happened, and the referee himself could not say at the finish if either player was to blame. Searby was the first player to fall, but Dunn was seen to be staggering about, and finally he fell down full length on the ground also. Both players were carried to the touch-line and in a minute or so the crowd cheered Searby as he returned to the field, but it was evident something serious had happened to Dunn, and he was carried unconscious to the dressing-room. At first it was thought his jaw had been fractured, but a medical examination by a local doctor reassured Lawson on this point. It was, however, a regular "knock-out," and for half an hour all efforts to bring him round failed. Just before the finish of the match he so far recovered as to answer when spoken to, but it was still plain he scarcely knew what had happened. It appears the Brentford centre-forward's boot caught him on the "point" of the chin and effectually sent him "to sleep."

Hoar was brought from the wing to fill the left back position, and on the whole he did quite well, and, as a result, although reduced to four forwards, the Town were observed to be holding their own. Before half-time the lead had been reduced by a fine goal from Dodd, who had worked over to the right wing, and, taking aim, at least twenty yards out, gave Price no chance whatever with as fine a shot as it is possible to imagine.

All along the light had been bad, and the referee ordered the player to turn round without leaving the field. If this had not been done it is certain the game could not have been finished, for the last quarter of an hour was played in semi-darkness, and when the third goal was netted it was impossible from the stand to distinguish the scorer, who was afterwards identified as Cartnell. Previous to this point being netted all the play went to promise an equalising goal, for undoubtedly Luton were the more aggressive side, and the players are to be congratulated upon the fine fight they put up against odds. There was quite a number of Lutonians present, and the shout of "Play up, ten men," was much in evidence, but they could not manage the trick. Then the third goal, mentioned above, settled the result, and once again the Blues did not get their deserts. Result:—

Brentford 3, Luton 1.

The result, notwithstanding Luton's form at Griffin Park, was quite good, and the plucky effort in the second half to pull the game out of the fire aroused great enthusiasm among the Lutonians present. As one of the new players remarked on arrival in the dressing-room it was the best game the team had played. Simms appears to be recovering his old dash, and now wants to have a little tuck with his shooting. Roe was naturally overwrought without a partner, and he did quite well under the circumstances, and Dodd is making his position certain by notching a goal a match. The halves were in their usual form, and the Town supporters are well satisfied with them. Elvey also did finely, and Hoar dropped into the role of full back in fine style, and it was unfortunate his one slip gave Cartnell his chance when the third goal was scored.

For Brentford, Scarby is an enterprising centre-forward, and should train on. Henderson, as ever, was very dangerous with his centres, while Amos was the pick of the defence, for both backs were rather shaky under pressure.