

FROM THE FOOTBALL FIELD.

SATURDAY'S GAME AT BRENTFORD.

The Town were fully expected to beat Brentford at Griffin Park, on Saturday, but neither side played well enough to deserve to win. If the playing conditions were unpleasant the game itself was even more so. Quite early on the players started going for one another and, as at Luton, the referee, Mr. R. E. Ormrod, displayed little firmness in handling them, with the result that the feeling developed and the second half in particular was an exhibition of how not to play football. Stoppages for injuries and free-kicks for fouls became the regular run of things, and although neither side were free from blame, Brentford were the most persistent offenders.

As a game of football it was poor in the extreme, and neither team added to its reputation. Brentford started off in the most promising style and in the early stages pressed almost continuously, but after this the Town displayed the better of what football form was shown. A goalless draw would not have flattered them and they were distinctly unlucky to be robbed of a point in a bad light in the last four minutes. The goal came from a corner in which Bailey hit the ball on to the bar and it rebounded out, and in a scrimmage in which three of the visiting players landed in the net, Royle headed in. In the first half Morley, who took Spreadbury's place at inside-left, got the ball through, but had the point disallowed for using his hands, and King struck the upright. On the whole, however, Bailey had nothing nearly as much to do as Durston, who kept a fine goal and made several excellent saves.

Both Lennon and Tirrell gave a strong display at back, and the halves were sound without being brilliant. Higginbotham played like a man out of place and did not seem at home until nearing the end. Simms was the pick of the forwards. He was too carefully watched and unceremoniously handled about by Ames to do much on his own and he rarely attempted it, but he showed a fine spirit of unselfishness and good judgment in his distribution of the ball. Both Hear and Cookman had plenty of opportunities, but their centring was unusually weak and neither Bradley or Mathieson shone.