

FOOTBALL CHAT.

(By CRUSADER.)

Luton Town have certainly done very well this season. Of course, the London writers, seeing them at Brentford, cannot understand them reaching such a position in the table. We who have seen them play at home, can, but we cannot understand them losing to teams like Brentford and Norwich anywhere. It is always difficult to pick up points away from home, and the Town have shown that, however superior at Luton, they cannot be relied on to win away from home. We quite expected on their work against Norwich and Brentford that they would have picked up points at these places, but they failed, and it is pretty clear now that there is not much chance of promotion unless there is a radical change.

With only one exception a dozen writers agreed that Luton were much the better side at Brentford, and that it was hard luck that BOYNE should score the only goal of the game five minutes from the end after Luton had done a tremendous lot of pressing, and the home goal had some miraculous escapes. It was a rough game, and those who saw the sides at Luton the previous week expected it. The "Bees" are built that way, but if vigour alone were used there would not be much to grumble about. It is when the meaner tricks are employed that one wonders that referees should allow things to get to such a pitch that players openly threaten each other and actually get at grips.

Simms is suffering because of his goal-scoring proclivities, and every defender now appears to think that it doesn't matter so long as he is stopped somehow from scoring. I have been told very emphatically this week that Luton can do their share. When I have seen Luton players do so I have said so, and shall continue to do so, but I think everyone who has regularly attended Luton's matches will know who have been the aggressors, and so I do not propose to say more about it.

Luton were better in all departments of the game, but the goal went to the home side, and that is the main thing. Bailey was again in good form in goal, and he has the confidence of his colleagues. At least two saves at Brentford were really brilliant. Lennon and Tirrell were sound at back, and the halves played a strong game, Higginbotham doing very good work as the stop-gap for Parker. Cockerill played his best game to date, and Molyneux was also in trim. Simms got in good work at centre, in spite of Amos playing policeman, while Hoar and Bookman were remarkably fast and clever. Bradley and Mathieson were useful, and the line as a whole combined well.

For the "Bees," Durston, Rosier, Amos, and Morley were the pick.

Brentford.—Durston; Hodson, Rosier;
Elliott, Amos, Morris; Taylor, King, Boyne,
Morley, Cartmell.

Luton Town.—Bailey; Lennon, Tirrell;
Molyneux, Higginbotham, Cockerill; Hoar,
Bradley, Simms, Mathieson, Bookman.

Referee.—R. R. Crump, London.

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