

WALLOPED AT BRISTOL.

The visit to Bristol was undertaken by a jaded and shuffled side, and the result was a repetition of last year's debacle, the Rovers winning by five clear goals, as they did twelve months ago. There did not appear to be any sign of such a defeat when the teams left the field at the interval, for the Town defence had stood the racket very well indeed, but within a quarter of an hour of the restart the Rovers had pulled it across to the extent of four more goals, one having been registered in the first half.

Luton had a lot of the play in the opening, and Hoar once ran round Hall and centred the ball right off the goal-line. Shankland seized it and banged it into the net, but the referee, who was toiling away down the field, gave him offside, much to Luton's chagrin.

Half-an-hour from the start, Walters and Compton cleverly beat Lamb and Semple, and the ball came over to Boxley, who had an easy task to open the scoring. Luton tried hard to get on equal terms before the cross over, but they failed, and so changed over a goal down.

Soon after the resumption, Higginbotham got in the way of a hot shot, and the ball stuck between his arm and side. In spite of protests, the referee gave a penalty, and Boxley notched his second point. From this point Luton seemed to lose heart entirely, and their defenders were run off their legs. Goals were quickly forthcoming from Palmer, who got through after Crompton had hit the upright. Sims headed the fourth, and after a clever run by Palmer, Crompton headed the fifth. Lamb was injured when the second goal was scored, and he now limped off.

Luton played up desperately after this, and managed to keep out the home vanguard, but they seldom looked like reducing the deficit, although Hoar and Bookman made one or two sprints and centres, and Mathieson showed neat footwork at times, but there was little decision among the inside forwards, and they must all have been very glad when the end came.

Bailey kept goal well, but the defence was not strong enough to hold the bustling Rovers' forwards, and Walters, in particular, had a field day. The Luton halves played strong football for the first half, but were outpaced and outgeneralled when they returned after the interval. Lennon was the cleverer back, but the halves were not a polished line, although they worked very hard. The forwards showed quite nice combination for half-an-hour, but against a resolute and bustling defence they were given few opportunities to test Whatley.

BRISTOL ROVERS.—Whatley; Bethune, Hall; Howes, Sims, Steere; Walters, Crompton, Boxley, Leigh, Palmer.

LUTON TOWN.—Bailey; Lennon, Semple; Bayliss, Higginbotham, Lamb; Hoar, Shankland, Simms, Mathieson, Bookman.