

WHAT ABOUT IT?

LUTON TOWN'S RETURN TO WINNING FORM.

Brilliant Success at Brentford.

(By CRUSADER.)

At Brentford:—
LUTON TOWN 2
BRENTFORD 0
BENTLEY, BRD., Young; Alton, Bethune;
2, Elliott, Hunt, Kerr; Capper, T. Elliott,
Morris, Norton, Hendren.
LUTON TOWN.—Bailey; Lennon, Tirrell;
Foster, Walker, Roe; Bassett, Higgin-
botham, Simms, Butcher, Bookman.
Referee.—Mr. L. E. Vickery, Birmingham.

Curious, eh? Losing at home to a team like Bristol Rovers, and then going to Brentford and winning hands down? "where Southampton, Plymouth, and Portsmouth had failed! On more than one occasion during the match I wished most fervently that the whole of the League saw the scramble with the Rovers could have been on the Brentford ground. The "Bees" have a good side. Quite frankly the officials expressed confidence that the club had never before been in such a position, and all Brentford were proud of the hefty fellows that comprise probably the biggest side in the whole of the League. Mitchell has certainly made a big impression on the Brentford staff, and he has been there about two more generations he may perhaps effect an improvement in the crowd.

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WITH OBVIOUS DESIGNS.
The Luton player hit the ball with tremendous power, but the referee had been a bit of tough play in midfield, and Hunter had been thrice penalised in five minutes when he and Higginbotham met in square challenge. Bethune ran up the field.

but he declined to stop the game in spite of the show of force. On the other hand, looked round, apparently thinking the game was stopped, and had he not done so he might easily have scored, for with Bassett's help it was easy to beat Alton, but when the shot, the ball went straight to Young. And for a long, long time afterwards the referee was execrated. But he showed his mettle, and he kept a very tight hand on the game. It was an unpleasant game. On the other hand I should think it was the most enjoyable and the cleanest the teams have played against each other for some years. Hunt, Mitchell, and I thought of an offender, but he gradually came to the conclusion that it did not pay. Just before I left the Press box one gentleman leaned over and said: "You're the best I have had here this season. They thoroughly deserved their victory, for they were much the better side." At the dressing-room door of the home club, Archie Mitchell, and I shook hands with an opinion. "You have got a very fine side, and deserved the win," he said. Another Brentford gentleman came into the dressing-room, congratulated the team, and was especially anxious to shake hands with Louis Bookman.

Having quoted so many, I may now venture to add my own opinion. We certainly thoroughly enjoyed the match, and the better side when facing the wind and against it. The Town players were faster, cleverer, and stayed the pace better. It was a very fast game, but in the last ten minutes the pace was a trifle slower. The "Bees" halves and backs off their legs. It was amazing that so many chances were missed, but there was an element of luck in the Town's vanguard, and Young's goal had quite.

A CHARMED EXISTENCE
during this period. Shots were put in by the whole of the Town forwards and backs, and the referee looked on with laughter until Simms did get one through. Then they began to get thirsty and went home to tea.

Bookman played rugged football, and if weight and dash were all that were required to win a championship, they would probably go on top. They had a fair share of the game for nearly an hour, but the suggestion of superiority when the Town players got into working order. The main factor in the success of our side was that for which we were famous, the forward wing. The forwards swung the ball about splendidly. This was the real secret, and it took a lot of work off the defence, too. There were about a hundred Lutonians present, and the team all round, but particularly with the manner in which the wingers were called into action and the manner of their passing. It was a consequence of the fact that about twice the work of Bailey, and it was much more difficult, for the Town goalkeeper had not one shot from close range to his back, and he hurried by the ball, and back and halves. There was nothing very difficult that he had to do, either. T. Elliott, the old Notts Forest forward, got in one fine drive in the second half that Bailey did well to save, and the con-

dition was partly got rid of three or four corners kicked. Apart from the corners and an occasion when he held the ball rather too long, he never found the "Bees" very close to him. Lennon and Tirrell were again to be seen in the press box, and regarded as very nearly the best left winger in the south, but he found in Lennon a master, and as both played clean and skillful football, delightful duels were able to be seen. The referee was able to beat the Scot, who kicked cleanly and surely and tackled with wonderful accuracy. Tirrell's powerful booting was

A BIG ASSET
when the "Bees" were aggressive, and his judgment in gauging the pace and intention of a disposition, in the placing of the ball, was very fine. He had not such a handful in the outside man as Lennon had, but he had the best inside man to face, F. Elliott, the corner taker, and he allowed that sharpshooter few opportunities. The middle men were at their best, both in defence and attack. Weighing the merits of the opposition, the referee gave the Hendren-Foster half the most difficult task and is entitled to first mention. He played with his customary dash and good humour, and although he twice received a blow on the forehead from the opponent's elbow, there was no abatement of his zeal and enterprise. Walker soon warned to his work, and with such success that Morris, the top goal-keeper, was never in a shot. Roe was never in difficulties, and in both essentials of half-back play gave a superb display. The assistance that all the half-backs gave to the forwards was quite remarkable. In the closing stages of the game the three had the home forwards and halves at their mercy. They joined in passing movements, and the forwards at times dribbled through very cleverly and shot hard at goal. Young made one fine save from Walker, and had either Foster or Walker been a little more confident, they would have been surprised. We have come to expect big things of the backs and halves, and to take it as a matter of course that they will keep their end up, but the forwards have not expected to be so confident.

On Saturday, however, they played sparkling football to a man. The only fault that could be found was in the lack of shooting. The forwards were not so keen in this direction we should have had a big win, but to score two goals against a team like Brentford on their own ground is a meritorious performance. Moreover, the very nature of the game forced the Town's Simms hit the goalkeeper, while the latter could hardly have explained how he got at a couple of balls from Butcher. Just before the second half, the second half, Bookman tapped the ball practically all along the goal-line, and how Simms missed was

INEXPLICABLE.
On another occasion the latter hit the ball first time as it came over from Bookman, and Young, who was in the goal, was yet again he worked dead in front and was on the point of shooting when the ball rose on a lump of turf, struck his shin and rebounded inches the wrong side of the post. Bookman, on another occasion, saw

the ball screw off his foot when he was dead in front, not three yards away; he also hit the bar and the post, and once struck the goalkeeper with a shot. Bookman's work was magnificent. Showing his great ability, he would have been a first to admit that he owed his success very largely to the nursing he got from Roe, Walker, and all three of the inside forwards. Butcher's display, while not important in the matter of goals, was very valuable. Perfect passes he gave to his partner after drawing the defence, and he combined artfulness and virility. Bassett did splendid work, especially in the first half, and he did not get much to do in the second. Against a heavy brigade Higginbotham's thrustfulness was more than useful, and he distributed the ball with much accuracy. The referee was pronounced as ever. Simms' leadership was very fine, and Hunter was often referred to the necessity of tripping in order to keep him somewhat in check. Scurrying passes to the wings and left touches to the inside colleagues marked Simms' play, and if only his shooting confidence was restored he would get a big bag of goals. He had

WRETCHED LUCK
on Saturday, although his goal was a clever low screw shot that beat Young to the world. The whole line did remarkably well, and if they can maintain that form will be difficult to defeat.

Brentford are a vastly improved side from previous years. Big, strong fellows, with a forward line that often showed fine understanding. They played a clever, bold game, and the referee, I have to say, during the last sixteen years. The whole of the forwards played well, and T. Elliott and Hendren were the pick. The halves played well, and the backs, and, singularly enough, the best of the three was Kerr, who was deputy for Amos. He played hard to the end and displayed good judgment. Hunter spotted his work by frequent fouls, and the referee was not so lenient. He could not touch Bookman. Alton was the better back, kicking a good length and tackling keenly, but Bethune was more robust than clever. Young kept goal splendidly. He had no chance with the goals, and saved many shots that looked certain scores.

It was a great win, and ranks as one of the best performances the Town have given this season. If it can be kept up we shall probably recover the ground we have lost during the last month, and begin to make a mark again of points from Brentford.

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