

HOLIDAY FOOTBALL.

Luton Town Win Four Points.

At Shepherd's Bush on Friday:

QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS 1 goal
LUTON TOWN Nil

LUTON TOWN.—Bailey; Lennon, Tirrell; Molyneux, Walker, Roe; Hoar, Reid, Mathieson, Butcher, Bookman.

QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS.—Hill; Marsden, Bain; John, Burnham, Ashford; Faulkner, Birch, Chandler, Gregory, Edgley.
Referee: Mr. F. Todman, Croydon.

At Luton on Saturday:

LUTON TOWN 2 goals
CHARLTON ATHLETIC ... Nil

LUTON.—Bailey; Lennon, Tirrell; Molyneux, Foster, Roe; Hoar, Reid, Mathieson, Butcher, Bookman.

CHARLTON.—Barnes; Burton, Goodman; Dowling, Whalley, Hampson; Castle, Bailey, Cox, Steele, Wilson.

At Luton on Monday:

LUTON TOWN 3 goals
QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS 1 goal

LUTON. — Bailey; Lennon, Tirrell; Molyneux, Foster, Roe; Hoar, Higginbotham, Reid, Mathieson, Bookman.

RANGERS.—Hill; Marsden, Bain; John, Burnham, Ashford; Faulkner, Birch, Chandler, Gregory, Edgley.

Luton Town have done very well out of their holiday programme. Four points out of a possible six and five goals to two is a pretty good haul as things have been going this year. It was unfortunate that Higginbotham could not play at Shepherd's Bush on Friday, for his presence on Monday made a big difference. Walker was very unfortunate on the Rangers' ground, for he was badly handled, and the result was that he could not play in the two home games. The Rangers' team is very different from what we have been accustomed to in previous years. The forwards can play pretty football, but there are three or four members of the team who are not good sportsmen—and that is putting it mildly. Monday's game was the most unpleasant seen on the Town ground this season.

Friday's game at Shepherd's Bush was the occasion of Gregory's benefit, and as he had been with them since 1911-12, and been in the first team practically all the time, it will be gathered that the London club do not recognise claims any too early, for Gregory has been, and is, a really fine player, and loyal withal. Gregory scored the only goal of the game 19 minutes after the start. It was lucky in so far as he headed in from a flag-kick that should never have been given, and again as the ball glanced in off the post. The game was pleasantly fought for the most part, but the Town had the worst of luck, as Walker got his eyebrow slit soon after the start, and although his retirement was only temporary, he got the wound re-opened in the second half, and his colleagues declare that it was the result of a blow from a player's fist. Then Bain was penalised for kicking him when he returned to play on the extreme right, and so he had an unhappy day in all except that he played a great game.

The Rangers were the better side, and Bailey made many fine saves. His backs were splendid, and the halves an industrious trio, Molyneux showing up well on his reappearance in the side. The forwards were not very good until late in the game, when they came very near equalising.

Against Charlton Athletic on Saturday Foster came in at centre-half owing to Walker's injury, and he had no small part in the victory. The strong breeze spoilt much good play, but the second half found both teams improved. The goals were scored

in this half. The first came from Mathieson, who snapped up a centre from Hoar, and although he and a back fell, the Irishman was first on his feet and beat Barnes with a well-placed shot. Butcher got the second, following good work by Bookman and a little melee in the Charlton goal area. The Town should also have had a penalty just before the close owing to Whalley handling in the penalty area.

Nevertheless, the Athletic did not deserve to lose by two goals, and with a little better luck they might have won, for they had the happy knack of shooting hard and often, and many shots rattled round the woodwork, while Bailey made several grand saves. Their goal also had several narrow escapes, and once in each half the ball was practically on the goal line, but no Lutonian could get near enough to put it through.

Bailey and his backs once more formed a remarkably fine defence, and the halves put up a strong game. Foster doing magnificent service at centre-half. The forwards were moderate in the first half, but improved as the game wore on, and Bookman was about the pick.

For Charlton, Barnes was a capable keeper, and Burton the better of a useful back pair, while Whalley gave a great display at half. Castle and Cox were the most dangerous of a fast and enterprising forward line.

On Monday the Rangers started fortunately against a strong wind, for after their goal had narrowly escaped, the forwards broke away and BIRCH got a lucky goal. He just managed to deflect the ball after several of the home team had missed it, and it struck the post and glanced into the net. There were few other occasions when the Rangers were very dangerous, and but for poor finishing Luton should have got many more goals. HIGGINBOTHAM got all three, two by "headers"—the first coming after a terrific assault on the goal, and the third after the interval from a penalty for John handling.

For the most part, however, ill-feeling was manifest, and there were many fouls. Bain had to leave the field before the interval; Burnham had a cut over the eye sustained during an attempt to head the ball; Roe had a knee laid open, Molyneux two or three big bruises, and Mathieson was badly shaken just before the end. There were minor casualties as well.

Hill kept goal finely for the Rangers, but he was foolish enough to interfere with the spectators, and the result was that his name was taken by the police. Marsden had no superior on the field at back, and John spoilt clever half-back play by foul tactics. Of the forwards, Birch was the best and cleanest.

The Town forwards, reinforced by Higginbotham, gave a better display than on Friday or Saturday; all were strong and fast workers to a man. Reid played much better at centre than he does in an inside position. Foster gave a wonderfully fine show at centre-half, and Roe and Molyneux supported him well, while the backs were strong and as accurate as one could expect when playing under such conditions—the wind again sadly interfering with accurate football.

The referee, however, should have prevented the rough play.