

THE FIRST WIN.

FOUR GOALS FOR LUTON.

THOMPSON'S NOSE BROKEN.

(By "CRUSADER.")

LUTON TOWN 4 Goals
LUTON TOWN.—Gibbon; Lennon, Tirrell;
Roe, Walker, Miller; Hoar, Higginbotham,
Thompson, Reid, Mosley.

BRENTFORD Nil
BRENTFORD.—Wright; Alton, Rosier;
Kerr, Hunter, Haggan; Capper, Clayton,
Morris, Duncan, Stott.

Referee: Mr. L. E. Vickery, Birmingham.

So we got on the winning track last night, and Brentford bit the dust rather badly. I did not hear the Legion Band's programme, but the match had not been in progress five minutes before I wondered if they broke off with "The Gladiators." It was a "Death or Glory" sort of opening, and those who saw the game at Brentford the previous Monday, were not a bit surprised. The frayed tempers at the conclusion of that game were in evidence again last night, and the fault was not all one-sided.

The Town early showed their mettle, but a shot from Thompson rebounded from Alton and went for a corner—a lucky escape for the "Bees." But a dash by the visitors nearly brought disaster to the Town, for a corner kick to them gave Haggan a chance, and a good shot hit the bar and went over. It was twelve minutes after the start that our first goal came. Hoar got away and centred. Alton missed the ball and Reid and Thompson each tried, but failed to deliver the goods, but HIGGINBOTHAM was

ON THE SPOT

and banged the ball into the net.

Reid and Thompson each tried to get through again from a corner, but Wright cleared; then Mosley sent high over, and Reid handled before putting the ball past Wright a few moments later. Reid was only inches out with a great drive following a neat pass by Higginbotham. The Town continued the more aggressive, and Alton used his fist to punch away a header from Thompson. Hoar took the penalty and scored easily.

Gibbon's job was not as warm as Wright's, but he made several good saves, and once Tirrell kicked away from under the bar when all others were beaten. The visitors, however, seemed to rely on Morris for their goals, and he was not given any latitude. The interval arrived with the score:—

LUTON TOWN 2 Goals
BRENTFORD Nil

The Town opened strongly in the second half, and after several attacks had been beaten off, Kerr used his hands to stop a centre from Mosley, and another penalty resulted. HOAR again took the kick and scored with ease. For a long time the Town had the attack, although the forward work was not altogether happy. There were one or two tit-bits by the wings, however, and when Millar gave Mosley a nice pass, the left wing beat the defence by clever passing, and Mosley sent across nicely. Reid missed, but THOMPSON drove the ball home all right, and put the Town in an impregnable position.

After this we had the usual experience when the Town have a good lead—a slackening by some players, and other players having to work double time in order to keep things afloat. Brentford forwards had more of the game, and Gibbon made three or four remarkable saves, while Morris hit the bar once with a neat slanting shot. Then Wright made a fine save from Mosley, but Gibbon capped it with a brilliant dive that kept out a certain scorer. Incidentally he got a finger dislocated, but soon resumed. Several raids were made by the Town wingers, and from one of these Hoar got a corner and placed the flag kick well. Once Wright saved at full length when Thompson made a clever dribble and gave a sweet pass in front of goal. Thompson just failed to direct the ball through with his head, and at the same time he came into collision with Higginbotham, with the result that he sustained a broken nose and had to be carried off.

Play was of a scrambling nature to the end.

The defence was on its best behaviour. Scarcely a kick went astray, and the tackling was quick and determined. The halves were splendid, and Walker not only gave his best of the season to date, but was the finest half-back on the field. In the forward line the right wing was the better, and the left showed up more than on Saturday, while Thompson was a thrustful but unlucky leader.