

HONOURS EVEN.

Luton Town Bring Point from Millwall.

Quite a considerable following the Town had at New Cross on Saturday, and they were pleased with the improved character of the game. Contrary to rumour the referee was unchanged. He had a word or two with Fort and Jennings, the respective captains, before the start, and perhaps this had good effect. Anyway, there were only a few fouls—a few too many those—and the game, if not remarkable for good football, was interesting. It seemed to bring out the "Lions' " fine defence, and to enable the Town defenders to restore a confidence that has been somewhat severely shaken of late.

There was not a goal, and we have seen few games this season in which attack was so incompetent to overcome defence. Millwall failed from a penalty, Layton shooting high over the bar. The award was made through Reid hitting the ball just inside the penalty area a few minutes before the interval.

Gibbon had more work than Lansdale, but it was not very difficult. Once in the second half he missed the ball, and Molyneux kicked away from the goal line when a goal seemed almost certain, but Lansdale had two similar bits of good fortune in the first half. These were almost the only occasions when there was a real thrill. The Town were the better side in the first half, and the "Lions" in the second, and a draw was just about deserved.

The most pleasing features of the game from the Luton point of view were the splendid play of Graham and Jennings. The former, in place of Tirrell, showed first-rate form, and it is not saying too much to say that he was the equal of any other back on the field. His kicking was strong and accurate, and he took the ball well with either foot, while he timed his tackling nicely, and was very fast. Lennon came back into something like his old form, and he has certainly not played a better game this season. The pair covered Gibbon well all through, and that was the reason he was not often unduly anxious. Jennings was simply great at centre-half. In his Merthyr days we used to feel that he was the bugbear of the Town attack, and on Saturday we had, practically for the first time, similar benefit at the expense of Millwall. He was strong and active, and he broke up the attempts at combination made by the Millwall inside trio with—to them—monotonous regularity. He was almost as powerful a factor in attack as in defence, and he seldom failed, once he had the ball, to ply his forwards to advantage. Molyneux and Roe also played admirably, and while the former at times approached brilliance, Roe was the same thoughtful and judicious obstacle as usual.

The forward line was very curiously constructed, and had there been as much snap in their second half efforts as in the first, they might easily have won. There was a deficiency of strength among the inside players, for Higginbotham was on the extreme right. Triers as all were, they undoubtedly failed to rush the home defenders when at close quarters. Butcher's return gave them more of the ball than usual, and the best individual effort was his in the first half. Reid and Irvine were dashing and clever individually, and the latter gave Clarkson a good deal of work, which probably accounted for his being the most industrious of the line. Higginbotham made several good runs, but his centres were not always true.

For the "Lions" the best men were Hill, Riddell and Keen.

MILLWALL ATHLETIC Nil

LUTON TOWN 1

MILLWALL.—Lansdale; Fort, Hill; Pemberton, Riddell, Hankey; Layton, Moule, Keen, Dillimore, Pither.

LUTON.—Gibbon; Lennon, Graham; Molyneux, Jennings, Roe; Higginbotham, Butcher, Reid, Irvine, Clarkson.

Referee: Captain A. J. Prince Cox.