

LUTON'S FINE FINISH.

EASY VICTORY OVER NORWICH CITY.

(By "CRUSADER.")

LUTON TOWN 4
NORWICH CITY 0

LUTON TOWN.—Gibbon; Graham, Tirrell; Foster, Walker, Roe; Hoar, Butcher, Reid, Hoten, Bonsall.
NORWICH CITY.—O'Hagan; Hope, Woolley; Wilkinson, Martin, Wright; Mills, Dennison, Hannah, Booth, Stoakes.
Referee.—Mr. H. J. Weber, London.

Before the end we were reminded of the football calendar, but I do not think there was one grumble about the game in the first hour. It was a thrilling first half, for the Town went about their work in whirlwind fashion, and there was a keenness more suggestive of September than May. Within a quarter of an hour the "Canaries" must have realised that a miracle would be required to avert defeat, and as that was not forthcoming they retired heavily defeated. The only difference might have been in the actual result, for no opposition this season has escaped more lightly after undergoing such a gruelling time. The Town forwards played fast and clever football, and O'Hagan had a most unhappy experience, although he had not time to think about it. How his goal escaped downfall long before the score was opened was a mystery. There was



Geo. Butcher

A PERSISTENT FUSILLADE.

and it seemed as though some invisible agency were assisting him. When, at the end of 22 minutes' play, BUTCHER sent the ball between the keeper's legs into the net, it was a deserved goal, but somewhat lucky, and O'Hagan was not to blame, for there was a plunging, squirming mass in front of him, and he never saw the ball before it was passing between his legs.

Two minutes later he was beaten again. BONSALL had made a great effort and deserved the goal. He took as neat a pass as Reid has ever given, and went through to finish with a fast high shot that struck the bar. It should have been put in the net by Butcher, but he lobbed it without getting it past O'Hagan, and it came over to Bonsall, who had only to nod it into the net to get the distinction of scoring a goal in his first big League game.

What O'Hagan had experienced before was as nothing to the trials that were to come, and he was the central figure in a prolonged bombardment. How he saved some of the shots he himself could not tell, but he got in the way somehow, and in addition he brought off many fine saves, and fully deserved

THE OVATION

at the interval, when he retired with only two goals registered against him.

The second half the Town began as they had left off, and for a quarter of an hour the "Canaries" had no peace. They could not hold the Town forwards, and when Butcher outwitted the defence, Sid Hoar went straight through and then slipped the ball in front when the defenders were expecting a shot. The ball struck one of the defenders and was diverted from Reid to HOTEN, who headed the third goal. More pressure and then Butcher again led a movement that was successful. Following a Norwich raid the defence was spreadeagled, and Butcher snapped up a pass and sent forward for HOAR to sprint clear and finish up with a terrific shot that O'Hagan was helpless to stop, and the Town were four up. From this period play dropped into a leisurely exhibition, and was at walking pace.

At times it seemed as if the Town defenders were inviting Norwich to bring Town's "goals against" to the half-century, but the City forwards could not get the right direction and elevation concurrently, and they failed to beat Gibbon. It was

A GOOD WIND-UP

and was the tenth win in 12 games—20 points out of a possible 24. Perhaps the finest feature of the game was the forward work, which at times reached a very high standard and had the Norwich defenders thoroughly beaten. George Butcher's shooting was almost as good as anybody's, and he quite surprised the crowd with the velocity of two or three drives, but, even so, his approach work was better, and his use of Hoar and Reid was fine. Hoten was unfortunate with thrilling runs, and he deserved the goal. So did Reid, but he did not get one. I thought the smart shot he sent into the net was a good goal, but the referee thought he was offside. He missed the penalty kick entrusted to him. There was plenty of power behind it, but it struck the bar. The youngster had no luck with his shooting, and he was often very slow to accept a chance, but he opened out the game much better than usual, and that was a comforting improvement. Hoar was in capital form, and got more work than usual, and his goal was a gem. Bous-

hall showed much promise, and with experience he should prove

A REAL ASSET.

although he is not yet the equal of Clarkson.

The halves did well. Walker's period with the Reserves has not been wasted time. He fed much better than on his previous appearance with the first eleven, and he found time to think before parting, which is the beginning of a class half-back, and his stopping was as good as ever. Roe and Foster were always masters of their opponents, and both showed splendid form. Graham and Tirrell were sound, and seldom in difficulty, while Gibbon had an easy time.

Of Norwich the best were O'Hagan, who gave a great display in goal, Hope, Martin, Dennison, and Booth.

The game, apart from the Town's long run of success, should have attracted more than 6,000 spectators.

CHAMPIONS' BIG WIN.

Eleven Goals Scored at Leagrave.

(By "UNO.")

Leagrave wound up the season with a big win at the expense of Slip End United. Although not strongly represented, the visitors put up a good game and twice were leading the home side.

LEAGRAVE.—Weedon, Bent, Hawkins; Verran, Osborne, Pakes; Hyde, King, Golby, Brown, Bates.

SLIP END.—Noble; T. Clarke, G. Dyer; Gardner, Nelson, B. Dyer; Chaney, Mardle, Lawrence, Norris, Clarke.

Referee.—Mr. T. Skelton.

Leagrave attacked early, and Verran put across a troublesome centre, but Dyer cleared. Lawrence made a strong effort, but Hawkins cleared, and the ball went to the other end, where King finished by sending behind. Ten minutes from the start GOLBY seized a rebound and beat Noble. Play was quieter after this, and the football was not of good quality. Slip End improved, and NORRIS brought the scores level with a nice shot, and shortly afterwards the same player went through to give the "Slippers" the lead, and this they maintained to the change of ends. Leagrave 1, Slip End 2.

Immediately on resuming Leagrave attacked strongly, and Hyde sent in a hard low shot which Noble cleared. A clever run by Verran ended in a corner, and a well placed ball dropped on to OSBORNE'S head, and the scores were levelled. King was next prominent with a fine effort, and Clark and Dyer defended well. Receiving from Mardle, LAWRENCE deceived the home defence and gave the visitors the lead, much to the surprise of all present. Afterwards Leagrave put a little more life into the play, and in a very short time got an equaliser. Golby hit the post and BROWN made sure from the rebound. Within a few seconds BATES got through and centred for KING, who appeared to be offside, to add the fourth to the Leagrave credit. From now onwards the home side had the majority of the play, and Slip End were gradually fading away. KING put Leagrave further ahead, and then Weedon had to run out several yards to clear. The ball was driven back, but Hawkins was on the spot and kicked away. The homesters scored through BATES, who met a pass from Golby and easily beat Noble. The game developed into a farce, the visitors being practically penned in their own half. Golby drove out a long pass to Hyde, who ran through and centred for Golby to simply walk the ball through, and just before the finish NOBLE, in clearing a centre from Hyde, knocked the ball into the net, and the game ended in a win for Leagrave by 8 goals to 3.

OTHER RESULTS.

Bath City 0, Portsmouth Res. 2.
Exeter City Res. 3, Brighton Res. 1.
Southend Utd. Res. 2, Swindon Res. 2.
Watford Res. 3, Coventry City Res. 0.
Yeovil and Petters 0, Boscombe 3.
Kingstonians 4, Hampstead Town 1.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION III.

		P	W	L	D	F	A	P
Bristol City	(—)	42	24	7	11	66	40	59
Plymouth A.	(2)	42	23	12	7	61	29	53
Swansea T.	(10)	42	22	11	9	78	45	53
Brighton & H.A.	(19)	42	20	11	11	52	34	51
LUTON TOWN	(4)	42	21	14	7	68	49	49
Portsmouth	(3)	42	19	15	7	58	32	46
Millwall A.	(12)	42	14	10	18	45	40	46
Northampton	(17)	42	14	17	11	54	44	45
Swindon T.	(6)	42	17	14	11	62	56	45
Watford	(7)	42	17	15	10	57	54	44
Queen's P.R.	(5)	42	16	16	10	54	49	42
Charlton A.	(16)	42	14	14	14	55	51	42
Bristol Rov.	(14)	42	13	13	16	35	36	42
Brentford	(9)	42	13	17	12	41	51	38
Southend U.	(22)	42	12	17	13	49	54	37
Gillingham	(18)	42	15	20	7	51	59	37
Merthyr T.	(11)	42	11	17	14	39	48	36
Norwich C.	(15)	42	13	19	10	50	71	36
Reading	(20)	42	10	18	14	36	55	34
Exeter C.	(21)	42	13	22	7	47	60	33
Aberdare A.	(8)	42	9	22	11	42	69	29
Newport C.	(20)	42	8	23	11	40	70	27

(Figures in parentheses denote final positions last season.)