

DISAPPOINTMENT AT LUTON.

SOUTHEND UNITED SHARE EIGHT GOALS.

(By "CRUSADER.")

To say that the performance of Luton Town disappointed their supporters last Saturday is to put it mildly. The play of the home defence, which has reached a very high standard during the last three months, was very poor indeed, and while the absence of Jennings may have been the principal cause, that does not account for the whole of the trouble. Shepherd, who got another chance in goal, was a failure, Till was much below his best, Anderson was none too safe, and the middle line also below par.

There were times when the Town appeared able to do almost as they liked with the visiting halves, and when the home defenders seemed non-plussed by the methods of the visitors. The ground was in a tricky condition while that interfered with ball control and footwork, the combination was not what the Town players were frequenting in heaps rather than in a disciplined line. They had much more of the latter and frequently overwhelmed the defenders, but the finishing was not good, or, if it were, Hall brought off a number of saving saves. Luton opened well, and MILLAR netted from Hoar's flag-kick after ten minutes' play. GOODWIN quickly equalised when Till and Shepherd were at fault. Then DAVIES put the visitors ahead with a rather simple shot, and KERR equalised after brilliant work by Hoten. Just on the interval, SHEPHERD turned into his own goal a centre from Johnson, and the visitors crossed over with a lead of 3-2. Five minutes after the restart Dreyer fouled Green in the penalty area, and HOAR scored from the spot kick, but almost immediately DAVIES again beat Shepherd with a cross-shot. Luton pressed warmly, and fifteen minutes from the end Dreyer handled in the penalty area and HOAR again levelled up the score with a kick from the spot. Luton all but snatched a victory through Kerr's brilliance in the closing stages.

Anderson and Millar were the best of the Town defenders, but all the forwards did well, especially in the second half, Hoten, Hoar and Kerr especially shining, but the combination might have been much better.

For the visitors, Hall in goal, Evans at back, Edwards at half, all did well, and the forwards were a pretty level lot, ever on the look-out for opportunities.

LUTON TOWN 4 goals

SOUTHEND UNITED ... 4 "

LUTON.—Shepherd; Anderson, Till; Walker, Foster, Millar; Hoar, Green, Kerr, P. Clarke, Hoten.

SOUTHEND.—Hall; Evans, Dreyer; Kay, Edwards, Slater; Johnson, Dobson, Goodwin, Davies, Middleton.