

Luton Beat Newport.

FORWARDS STILL LACKING IN MARKSMANSHIP.

(BY CRUSADER)

Luton Town's success over Newport County was thoroughly deserved because they had the greater part of the game, and they proved much cleverer than the Western side, but the supporters were very disappointed with the poor work of the forwards in front of goal. In midfield, when it was a question of dribble or pass, the Town forwards often played fine football, but there was still an absence of constructive work as a line, and the changes did not make for any great improvement.

The left wing, comprising Butcher and Hoten, was improved a little, but the Town captain was so persistently ignored that the crowd often urged him to "go and fetch it." When he did "go and fetch it" he showed that he only needed proper feeding to make havoc with Newport's defence. Several times he outwitted his opponents with superb dribbles, and just what the crowd would have liked to do to Reid on one occasion I should not like to say. Hoar had come half the length of the field, the ball beautifully controlled, and he was

clear of everybody except Carr, the goal only half-a-dozen yards away, nobody to interfere with Hoar's shot, and he was gathering himself for the final drive, when Reid suddenly poked out his foot and sent the ball over the bar. It was as ridiculous a thing as we have seen on the Town ground this season.

Kerr was no more conspicuous than he has been during the last month, and he is still lacking the efficient colleagues that will realise the sort of feeding he requires

to be successful. Hoten was not comfortable on the extreme wing in the first half, but in the second he did splendid work, and he made chances that should have been turned to account.

The Town half-backs were again the strong part of the side, and they all played well in their respective styles. Walker initiated attacks with a celerity that was admirable, and it was only after many chances had been missed that he decided to show the forwards how it should be done. He then dribbled cleverly past three or four opponents, and wound up with a shot that gave Carr no chance to save. That was a very fine goal, and it appeared as if the forwards had taken the lesson to heart, for in the two or three minutes that remained before the interval, they bombarded the Newport goal, which escaped very luckily.

Roe put up a classic display, his intuition and control being delightful, while Foster was a powerful and robust thwarter. The backs, save for the tendency to hold on too long instead of getting rid of the ball when danger threatened, were very safe, and Gibbon's hardest work came from long range. He did it well, especially the putting over the bar of shots that looked likely to score.

The visitors were lucky in not having more than one penalty kick given against them. Even the one that did come, and from which HOAR scored the second goal eight minutes before the end, was for an offence that the referee never saw, for it was the linesman's vigilance that led to Whitton being penalised for "hands."

Carr, White, Whitton, Gittins and Cook were the pick of the visitors.

The attendance mustered 6,000.

LUTON TOWN 2 goals

NEWPORT COUNTY ... Nil

LUTON. — Gibbon; Anderson, Till; Foster, Walker, Roe; Hoar, Reid, Kerr, Butcher, Hoten.

NEWPORT.—Carr; White, Dimmock; Whitton, Nairn, Carney; Charlton, Gittins, Connor, Lowes, Cook.

Referee.—Mr. R. Lethaby, Bristol.



ANDERSON