

A DRAW AT NORWICH.

LUTON TOWN'S WELCOME IMPROVEMENT.

(By "CRUSADER.")

Right in the thick of the noisiest section of the Norwich crowd, a solitary voice shouted now and then, "Play up, Reds! Stick it, Reds!" Even when the "Canaries" were on fiercest song, he could not be entirely extinguished, and, it was good to hear him. The Town players wore red jerseys, for the City have adopted white instead of yellow and green stripes for their first team. The owner of that voice, probably, was a Lutonian domiciled in or near Norwich, and, no doubt, he will have a happier time among his friends there than would have been the case had the Town lost. It was the defence that earned the point and nearly won the game, for after the Town had the better of the first half exchanges, the City put up a storming game in the second half, and only the grand defensive work of the Town kept the City forwards out until four minutes from the end. There was more swing and dash about the Town's play in the first half than there has been in any other game away from home this season, or even in most of their home matches. The halves were stronger, but the use of the wingers made for

MORE OPEN PLAY,

and this had the effect of keeping the City halves and backs on the run. Dennington would have had a great deal more to do if the shooting had been as good as the mid-field play, and it is a singular fact that Mills was once more as good a shot as any member of the attack. The best shot of the half, undoubtedly, was one from Kerr, and it would have beaten most goalkeepers, but Dennington, who is a local product, made a great save as the ball was about to pass under the bar at the junction of the upright and cross-bar. There were many centres put across by Hoar and Dennis, who were well served by their partners, and Hoten had three hot drives rebound from opponents, while Mills and Hoar were a shade too high. It was the enterprise of Hoar in preventing a ball from going behind that led to Mills getting a chance to shoot, and it was a scoring shot but for the happy intervention of Coulthard's head, which deflected the ball to the left. DENNIS trapped it, and without hesitation, he crashed in a brilliant shot that had Dennington

HOPELESSLY BEATEN,

and elicited a warm cheer even from the Norwich supporters. This was after 42 minutes' play.

In the second half the City, inspired by the deafening encouragement given by their supporters, swarmed to the attack, and they had the ball in the Town half for long periods. Reinforced by Hoten, the Town halves and backs put in a lot of hefty work, and Brookes made three or four fine saves. Now and then the Town forwards overcame the offside game of the home backs, and went through, but were unable to increase their lead. When it seemed that the Town defence would prevail, the City equalised. There was an attack on the right, when Featherby managed to catch a ball that was kicked towards touch by Roe or Graham, and he dropped it into the goal area. Several of the home team tried to get in a shot, but the ball was beaten out. JACKSON, however, who was unmarked, shot in, and although the Town goal was packed by friends and opponents, the ball went right among the crowd and landed in the net. Even then the match was not won, for with a minute to go, Kerr went after a long kick up the field, and caught it after beating Coulthard in the run. Cleverly hoodwinking the back, he put the ball right in front of goal, and Butcher got to it, but could not gather it cleanly, and as he shot, Campbell's foot got in the way and

PREVENTED A GOAL,

which would have won the game. Still, a draw was a gratifying performance, for the City have been doing remarkably well and figure high on the League table. If we may take this as the Town's future form, we can look forward to good results in the long series of away matches. There was more stability in defence and attack, and not the least responsible player for this was Butcher. He could hold the ball and draw the man, and some effective passing movements were seen both on the right and left wings, while Kerr was a different player altogether. Butcher did much brainy work, and everybody on the Town side would have been delighted could he have notched the winning goal. The front line did very well indeed. Kerr made half a-dozen thrilling runs, and swung the ball about well, while Hoar and Dennis each showed speed and cleverness in greater degree than in any previous game. The former was not treated at all well by opponents, and was off the field for nearly ten minutes in the first half. Hoten also showed improvement, and all round the line was more effective than for a long time.

The middle line had a tremendous task. Jennings was

MORE LIKE HIMSELF:

vigour, enterprise and generalship marking his play. He gave and received many hard knocks, but went on unperturbed to the end. Mills was a mighty worker, and against the better of the Norwich wings he was very effective. His tackling and feeding alike were sound, and his shooting good. Roe gave Featherby very little chance to shine, and safety in defence and usefulness in attack marked his play. Anderson was a long time settling down, but in the second half he played with all the skill and judgment that won such golden opinions last season. Graham maintained his form, and was superb, especially when play was at its fiercest. Brookes was safer than ever before, and made several good saves.

For the City, Dennington was a safe custodian; both young backs were good, and Martin played a fine game at centre-half, although he was none too scrupulous. In the forward line, Stoakes was the pick, for he played clean, skilful and steady football, some of his runs being very clever, but his colleagues could do little with his centres.

It was a keen game, not as scientific as it might have been, but there were not many fouls. The weather was beautiful and nearly 8,000 attended.

NORWICH CITY 1

LUTON TOWN 1

N O R W I C H C I T Y. — Dennington; Coulthard, Campbell; Hannah, Martin, Earl; Featherby, Banks, Jackson, North, Stoakes.

LUTON TOWN. — Brookes; Anderson, Graham; Mills, Jennings, Roe; Hoar, Butcher, Kerr, Hoten, Dennis.

Referee: Mr. S. A. Donaldson.