

SWAMPED AT SWANSEA.

LUTON TOWN'S HEAVY DEFEAT

(By "THE BARD.")

SWANSEA TOWN 4 goals
LUTON TOWN 1 goal

SWANSEA. — Denoon; Morley, Milne; MacPherson, Sykes, Bellamy; Miller, Deacon, Fowler, Thompson, Spottiswoode.

LUTON. — Brookes; Anderson, Graham; Mills, Jennings, Millar; Hoar, Butcher, Reid, Dennis, Brown.

Referee.—Mr. J. W. Lucas, Fulham.

For a quarter-of-an-hour there were prospects of the game being of the high standard we look for at Swansea when these teams meet, and something like 15,000 spectators enjoyed the opening bouts, especially as the "Swans" set about their work as if they intended beating their record of a fortnight ago, when they chalked up seven goals against Brentford. The Luton defenders had other views on the subject, however, and they put up a sturdy opposition, the home attack being compelled to part with the ball very quickly or lose it. Each defence was tested early on, and in one Swansea rush Fowler committed an indiscretion. Denoon was better covered than Brookes, and so the latter was warmly cheered when he made two or three brilliant clearances, but Denoon eclipsed any save he has made this year as he got rid of the ball from a close range shot by Reid. The Luton players clamoured for a goal, and it appeared to many that the ball was well over the line. This chance came from,

A GREAT EFFORT

by Hoar, who was to prove the mainspring of the Luton offensive throughout the game, and after he himself had crashed a great shot against the side net, and Sykes had dealt with a packet of trouble, for Milne could not hold the Luton right winger.

Swansea then woke up to some tune, and launched attack after attack, but they were well held. Unfortunately, some of the players were inclined to get out of hand, and the referee was whistling a lot, but not showing sufficient firmness. There were several stoppages when either side was dangerous, but one was serious for Luton. FOWLER ran full tilt into Jennings, and the referee gave a penalty kick, and from this the Swansea centre-forward opened the score. Luton protested strongly, but unavailingly, and the subsequent play became ragged and uninspiring, although there was no lack of vigour. For a considerable time Luton were short of Dennis, who was injured, and half-time arrived with the score:

SWANSEA 1 goal
LUTON Nil

Lucky to begin the second point with a goal ahead Swansea at once went to the attack as if determined to make the issue safe immediately, but they were foiled again and again. Almost every time Jennings tackled an opponent he found the whistle against him, and the Luton players showed their disgust at the manner in which they were pulled up. Play became rough, although the forwards on both sides were doing good work, with the "Swans" having the better of it. Miller made a sparkling run and passed to Deacon, who sent over to the left for SPOTTISWOODE to dash in and beat Brookes for the second goal. Swansea maintained the upper hand, and Sykes cleverly initiated another attack, which found FOWLER and Thompson in very doubtful positions. The Luton players yelled offside, and the two forwards hesitated before the centre-forward shot to score the third goal. Luton set up a strong pressure, and with all the forwards combining well, the ball was placed to the left, and MacPherson and Morley were outwitted, and the ball came across to REID, who opened the score for Luton.

Luton made further efforts, but the whistle was continually heard, and

SPOILT GOOD PLAY.

Then, just before the end, Mills and Fowler had another mix-up, and the referee gave a free kick against the Luton player. FOWLER took it and registered the fourth goal with a glorious shot from thirty yards, few people seeing the ball owing to bad light. Soon afterwards the end came with the result as stated.

A good match was spoilt. Offences were committed with impunity very early on, not much more serious than irritating, but gradually they became worse, and players of both sides were to blame, and the referee should have acted with more authority long before he did. Luton could not blame Brookes, who kept a good goal against his old club, and his backs kicked strongly and tackled well, but were sometimes wild in their attempts at placing, if they did attempt that. The halves were rare spoilers, but did not give much assistance to the forwards. Jennings did very well indeed, and Fowler could make little headway. The penalty was given against him, but Mills was the pick of the line, Miller proving too fast for Millar. Hoar was the outstanding figure of the visiting attack, with Dennis a splendid worker, and Reid a thrustful little leader, but Butcher did not play so well as he has done at Swansea, and Brown was not the winger we knew at Cardiff.

Swansea's best were Morley, Sykes, Miller and Deacon, the forwards playing magnificent football.