

THE LEAGUE-DIV. III

DEFEAT AT SWANSEA.

Luton Go Down Heavily.

Luton Town went down very heavily at Swansea, although the victory of the "Swans" was equalled by Swindon and excelled by Plymouth when the Town visited those places. On each of the two previous occasions, however, the home team better deserved their success than did the "Swans." The Town players readily admit that the home team were the better side on the day's play, but, not only the players themselves, but others who accompanied the party, were agreed that they had to contend against circumstances that, to say the least, were not calculated to improve the quality of football in any way whatever. Then they had not been playing long before the crowd, which numbered about 15,000, began to barrack one player after another on the Luton side, and this not only appeared to affect the players, both sides, but also the referee, and the whistle was going far too frequently, and, it seemed, often needlessly. After a brisk start, Luton got away, and Reid met a centre and headed in away from Denoon. The home goalkeeper plunged and scooped the ball out, but the Town players unanimously, those immediately at hand, aver that the ball was well over the line. The referee refused to allow the point, and soon afterwards he gave a penalty kick against Jennings under circumstances that increased the dissatisfaction of the Luton side. A shot was sent towards the Luton goal, and Brookes had it covered. Fowler began to run through to tackle the goalkeeper, when Jennings, a little way inside the Luton penalty area, stepped in front of him, but did not "go" for him in any way. He simply barred the way, and the referee gave a penalty. It pleased the crowd immensely, and FOWLER scored. This was the only goal before the interval, although there were many attacks at each end, and both goalkeepers had to save good shots.

Swansea started the second half at a great pace, but were well held until Swansea's backs adopted the offside game, and play became almost a farce. From a run by Miller, the ball went across to SPOTTISWOODE, who scored easily. Soon afterwards Sykes made a clever move, but when he sent forward it appeared as if both FOWLER and Thompson were offside, and there were prompt appeals, but the referee allowed the former to "carry on," and a third goal resulted. Then the Town attacked desperately, and the left winger took advantage of a mistake by MacPherson, and the ball came over for REID to score a good goal. Shortly before the end, when it was almost impossible to follow the play, Mills tackled Fowler thirty yards out, and the referee gave another free kick, from which FOWLER scored with a flashing shot direct.

So ended a most unpleasant game, the worst the Town have had this season. Had the homesters got home by the odd goal, the Town would not have grumbled, but the players made no secret of their discontent with the manner in which the game had been handled, and the treatment they received from the Swansea crowd. They were fighting an uphill battle all through, and they felt that the odds were against them.

SWANSEA TOWN	4
LUTON TOWN	1

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.