

ANOTHER WELCOME POINT.

LUTON NEARLY WIN AT ABERDARE.

THE THIRTEENTH DRAWN GAME.

(By "DORIC").

ABERDARE ATHLETIC 1 goal
LUTON TOWN 1 goal
ABERDARE.—Thomson; Codd, Brooke; Burgess, Brophy, Sheldon; Young, Metcalfe, Smith, Jones, James.

LUTON.—Brookes; Anderson, Till; Mills, Jennings, Millar; Mackey, Shankly, Kerr, Dennis, Brown.

Referee: Mr. E. Pinckston, Birmingham.

Luton had good reason to account themselves unfortunate in this game, for they had some good reason to claim that they scored two goals to Aberdare's one. The referee thought otherwise, but the Luton players were evidently very sore about it, and they had some sympathy from the crowd, which was under 3,000 strong, when they trooped off the field at the interval.

The ground was in terrible condition, and in the early morning it was doubtful if the match would be played, but drainage work was carried out before noon, and this enabled the game to be played, although there were pools in places, and mud was thick all down the centre of the field. To increase the discomfort the weather was cold and rain was falling. The home team were without Harwood, Brophy taking his place, and Burgess dropping to the middle line, Jones coming in forward. Luton had Brown at outside left, and Dennis inside, vice Reid.

Jennings won the toss, and Luton had the wind behind them. They at once made progress, Shankly sending out to his partner, who showed his heels to Brooke and centred, but there was no one up to help, and Codd and Brophy got the ball away. The homesters replied on the left, James getting

A CLEAR PASSAGE.

but Anderson was too smart for him, and returned the ball to Brookes, who cleared. The home team swung the ball about well, and had the better of the exchanges for some time, James hitting the bar, and Brookes making several saves. Luton settled down, and their forwards played quick football, and Brown got a corner off Codd. From this Thomson saved brilliantly from Shankly, and play was carried to the other end. Here Jones narrowly missed, and then Brookes brought off a clever save. Aberdare came again, and Jones was brought down just outside the penalty area. BROPHY took the kick, and sent in a hard low shot, which glanced off Jennings' foot and went right out of Brookes' reach into the net, and opened the scoring for the Athletic. The game had then reached the quarter stage, and Luton at once strove might and main to make good the deficiency. Brown and Dennis got through and forced another corner, and this was got away with difficulty. Kerr tried a surprise shot, but the ball sailed well over the bar. A diversion by Young brought more danger to Luton's goal, and Brookes made

A GRAND SAVE

at the expense of a fruitless corner. Good work by the Luton halves, with Jennings particularly aggressive, put Luton on the attack again, and Brown went through and centred. Kerr met the ball and sent in what appeared to be a certain goal, but Thomson got to the ball and drew it back, and after a scramble got it away. Luton appealed strongly for a goal, but the referee refused the appeal. Luton now had much the better of the play, and attacked time after time, and eventually got their reward. Codd failed to get the ball away, and Kerr snapped it up and transferred to DENNIS, who gave Thomson no chance to stop a fine drive. Aberdare replied vigorously, but Till and Anderson were safe, and Brookes was not greatly troubled before the interval:—

ABERDARE ATHLETIC 1
LUTON TOWN 1

When the game was restarted on a quagmire, the home team assumed the aggressive, and

Brookes was speedily brought into action. He saved well from Smith, and then Till stopped Metcalf when the latter had made a fine run. A dash by the Luton left wing was shelved by Codd, but Millar returned the ball, and Brown got across a nice centre for Brooke to clear. Aberdare made a strong combined attack, and after Anderson had beaten back the left wing twice, Mills cleared

A DANGEROUS SITUATION.

Brookes saved splendidly from Jones, and Brophy narrowly missed with a grand effort. Jennings then rushed the ball away, and Shankly and Mackey made a raid, but Thomson cleared without difficulty. Forceful play by Young and Metcalf was beaten by Till, who sent the ball back to his goalkeeper, but the latter was nearly beaten, the ball going off the mud at a great pace. He cleared, and Luton woke up to some purpose. A fast run by Dennis and Brown had Codd in trouble, but Brophy came to the rescue and got the ball away. Then Kerr made a dash, but lost the ball in the mud, and Mackey was forced into touch by Sheldon when he looked likely to bring danger.

Play settled in mid-field, where lively tussles were seen, Jennings putting in hefty work, and Brophy holding up the visitors' inside forwards several times.

Mills set Shankly going, and the latter's effort was blocked by Brooke, but a minute later Dennis went close with a hot shot. Thomson had to save several times, and Jennings and Mills each had shots that went wide. Jones and James showed

NEAT COMBINATION.

but Anderson beat the former, and made ground well before sending the ball up the middle. Dennis and Kerr each made strong efforts, but Brooke was tackling resolutely, and his big kicking relieved danger. Till was clever in beating the home right wing pair, and Millar once made a fine recovery when Young was almost through.

Aberdare made strenuous efforts, but rarely got in a good shooting position, and as the end approached, Luton attacked furiously. Brown and Mackey sent over good centres, and once Jennings rushed through to meet a centre, but the ball went wide.

Dennis, Shankly and Kerr all made efforts, and Thomson brought off some good saves before the end, which came with the score as stated.

There was more speed and stamina about the Luton team's play, although they did not combine with the accuracy of the home team, and they quite deserved their point, although they could not be convinced that they did not actually get two good goals. Still, the home side had a little

MORE OF THE BALL.

and had they been as quick to seize shooting chances as were the visitors, they would have won.

Brookes was a fine goalkeeper, and he had two clever defenders in front of him. All the visiting halves played fast, robust football, in which their powers of recovery were remarkable considering the state of the ground. In defence, the visitors were better than Aberdare, and appeared to be more vigilant and much faster. Forward, the Luton men did not position so well, and many passes went astray. Dennis and Brown were the better wing, and gave Burgess and Codd a warm time, but Brooke held his own with the right wing, although Shankly was clever, and Mackey had a good turn of speed. Kerr also did well, but was handicapped by the awful state of the pitch.

For the home team, Thompson, Brooke, Brophy and the wingers were the pick.