

TWO AT ONCE.

Luton Town's Stiff Win.

Charlton Lose by Odd Goal.

(By "CRUSADER.")

There was good reason for the supporters of the Town giving a hearty cheer when the final whistle announced that they had once more earned the full bonus. Since they defeated Queen's Park Rangers by three goals clear on the first day of November, they have never won a match, although, as at least any team that has visited Luton will testify, they have come very near it. Curiously enough, the month of February has been clear of defeat, but four games have yielded only five points, although three of the games have been at home.

There was no question as to which was the better side on Saturday, and the Town adapted themselves much better to the conditions. The ground was in an awful state, and some officials would have declared it unfit. Mr. Head declared that the match must be played—a wise declaration, I think, because there must be a limit to postponements somewhere, and there are enough overdue games now without Luton adding to the number.

Quite early on the visitors seemed likely to have the better of the struggle, but when the ground had been churned a little more, the Town became the masters of the situation, and they never relaxed their grip. Even allowing for the difficulty of getting the ball through the mud, they got so close on many occasions that it seemed impossible to fail, but fail they did when it came to the finishing touch. At half-time we had seen some fine goal-keeping, and the score sheet was blank. Only four minutes had elapsed in the second half when REID got the goal that won the match. He collared the ball as it came over from a free kick by Anderson near the middle line, and broke through to beat Preedy with a shot that struck the post and went in. He netted cleverly a minute later when Kerr was offside, and that effort was equally deserving of a goal.

It was Preedy who saved the Athletic from a heavy defeat, and if he had some luck, he was in such fine form that he did not deserve to be beaten at all, so well did he play. Comparatively Brookes' job was a sinecure, although we could not well overlook two wonderful saves the Town goalkeeper made in the first half. The Town's backs were the cleverest pair, although the Charlton duo got through a lot of work with credit, and they certainly shirked nothing. For improved use of the ball and fair tackling, however, Anderson and Till were the best. The Town had better middle men, too, and Jennings played a splendid game, much finer than on the previous Saturday. Someone said that his refereeing of the police match on Wednesday gave him an advantage over the other players because he got used to the mud! Be that as it may, mud stuck very closely to him on Saturday, and he carried off more of it than any other player. Mills and Millar also played dashing football, and the forwards were often skilful in cohesion in spite of the holding nature of the ground. In the attack there was no man a great deal in advance of his fellows, but Thirlaway and Shankly were better than on the previous Saturday, and Reid put in very good work all through the game. Kerr gave a lot of hard work and was ever dangerous, while Dennis maintained his form just as easily on the extreme left as he does inside.

For the visitors, Preedy, Herod, Purdy, Allen and S. Smith were best.

There were 5,000 spectators.

LUTON TOWN	1 goal
CHARLTON ATHLETIC	Nil

LUTON TOWN.—Brookes; Anderson, Till, Mills, Jennings, Millar; Thirlaway, Shankly, Kerr, Reid, Dennis.

CHARLTON.—Preedy; Smith (N.), Herod, Purdy, G. H. Armitage, Steele; Allen, F. Traylor, Goodman, Cox, Smith (S.).