

AT LAST!

LUTON TOWN WIN AWAY.

Deserved Success at Exeter.

(By DEVONIAN).

EXETER CITY Nil

LUTON TOWN 1 goal

EXETER. — Bailey: Pollard, Flynn; Pullian, Crompton, Potter; Matthews, Kirk, Lievesley, Davis, Compton.

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

Referee: Mr. E. E. Small, Bristol.

Exeter City had an easy task when they faced Luton Town last Saturday. So they, and their supporters thought, and when the visitors made a good start, and began battering at Bailey's goal, the spectators were rather tickled. They thought it was merely a case of the "Grecians" getting into their stride, and then basting the visitors as Brentford had been served the previous Saturday. But as the minutes sped and Luton showed no disposition to slacken, some of the home players began to get a bit anxious. The long and short of it all was that whenever one of the home team had the ball, his passage was so well blocked, or his intentions so easily read, that there was

NOT MUCH TROUBLE

for Brookes. Then when Luton took the lead, as the result of a grand bit of opportunism by Dennis, it was realised that the home team would have to fight every inch of the way for victory. They fought, but could not get on level terms, and with a little good luck Luton would have won by a more decisive margin. They thoroughly deserved their success, for they were the better team—defence and attack.

The play of the visitors was a genuine surprise, for they were faster, cleverer, and, better still, they played with more judgment and composure. There was

A DIRECT CONTRAST

between the eager, anxious rushes of the home forwards, and the quick, snappy passing of the "Strawhaters." Well led by their colleagues, the Luton wing men showed great speed, and with Kerr and Reid ever ready for a burst and a shot, Bailey was kept alert, and saved several times before Brookes was called upon to show ability. Thirlaway was very active, and Flynn did not quite know what to do with him. The goal, however, came from the other flank. Millar held up the home right wing and sent well ahead. While the home defenders and Bailey were not quite sure whose was the ball, Dennis decided it was his, and he was through in a twinkling. Bailey came out, but the ball was sent past him into the net, and so Luton led when the game was at the first quarter. It was

ONE OF THE NEATEST GOALS

seen at St. James' Park for a very long time, for there was the narrowest of spaces open when Bailey advanced. The "Grecians" immediately started to recover lost ground, but were well held, and the home defence was sorely tried. Reid was a hard snooter, and twice he came near beating Bailey, while Kerr and Shankly also made strong attempts. Exeter gave Brookes nothing very troublesome until nearing the interval, when he saved nicely from Matthews, and when the "Grecians" was signalled Luton had the lead.

LUTON 1 goal

EXETER Nil

Exeter appeared to have been recovered during the interval, for they resumed at a lively pace, but were countered with equal vim and vigour, and the home goal had the greatest "let-off" of the match, for Kerr polished on the ball which Flynn miskicked, and went away from all assistance save Bailey. Reid a glorious chance, but screwed the ball across the goal and missed. This encouraged the "Grecians," and they gave the Luton attack a warm period, but Brookes saved grandly following a free kick against him for "carrying," and the tenacity of the visitors brought play to a stand for a spell. Staunchly Luton again took the aggressive, and the left wing and Kerr sent a passage to enable Shankly to shoot, but Bailey saved. The pace quickened appreciably, and in

A FIERCE ONSLAUGHT

by the "Grecians" Lievesley had hard luck when he headed on to the bar, and then Jack Matthews struck the post. Luton retained high spirit, and Kerr and Reid took a shot each that skimmed the bar, following a great spring by Dennis, while Bailey brought on a clever save from Thirlaway. Luton played up courageously, and try as they would, the home forwards failed to beat down the resolute defence of the Luton halves, and the judicious tuckling of the backs. In the closing stages Luton were content to hold their lead, and retired with the points and the honours.

THE WIN WAS DESERVED.

It is true that the sharp breeze interfered with the play a good deal, but which helped the boys better than the home team, and, once they had the lead, Luton looked like losers.

Brookes, the goal-keeper, had more work than he wanted, perhaps, in the second half. Anderson and Till, the shadiest pair of backs seen at Exeter this season, showed more skill than any other pair. They were never hurried and were almost unerring at times in the way they combined to dispose of the home forwards, while they kept just the right length to help forwards. The halves were magnificent. Jennings and Millar did not stand on ceremony, and were quite as crazy in tackling, while Walker kept a tight hold on the one man in the home attack likely to bring the equaliser—Compton. All three played with understanding, and were very helpful in attack. The Luton left wing was

THE MAIN SOURCE

of danger, for both Reid and Dennis were fast and thrustful, and combined well. The former was the most enterprising marksman on the field, and the latter marked almost perfectly. Shankly and Thirlaway were quieter in method, but achieved many clever bits of work, and Kerr, apart from his bad miss, was too fast for Compton. His speed would have profited him more had he shot with any degree of precision.

For the home side Bailey kept goal well; Pollard was the more reliable back, and Crompton again played a clever game at centre-half, while the wing men were the best of the forwards.

These were the spectators.