

ARGYLE'S HARD FIGHT.

Honours Shared Again at Luton.

(By "CRUSADER").

Plymouth Argyle once more shared the points at Luton on Saturday, but the fight will rank as one of the hardest they have experienced this season. Their party also accounted it one of the best they have put up, and one of the most sportsmanlike games they have had this season. It is quite remarkable how the matches at Luton are winning the compliments of visiting teams and officials, and it is to be hoped that the Town players will meet with like sportsmanship when they fill the role of guests.

Unquestionably the Town should have won on Saturday, and at least one error in defence helped the Argyle to avert defeat, for on the run of the play the Town should have had more than three goals if the Argyle deserved that number. From the beginning it was evident that there would be a keen and close struggle, and the Town were encouraged immensely when they opened the score through WOODS after four minutes' play. Russell handled to stop a dash by the Town right wing, and Pointon took the free kick with just the right measure, and Woods did the rest with his head.

Then Till had to give a corner to keep out the active Black, the Argyle's left winger, who had bored in, and from the latter's flag-kick FORBES levelled the scores two minutes after Luton's success. It was anybody's game for a time, for while the Town did the more attacking, the raids of the Argyle were fraught with much danger, their understanding being a feature of the play. However, the Town took the lead again when Craig, stopping a header from Norman Thomson after Graham had taken another free kick, was bowled into the net, the ball in his arms, by the alert REID. The Town continued to have the better of the exchanges, in spite of the clever work of the visiting attack, but when Graham, attempting to allow a ball to roll out of play, allowed Black to gain possession, the latter tapped the ball in front, and COOK once more brought the scores level.

This was the score at the interval, following which the home team played finely. Attack after attack was launched, and Craig and his backs were often in difficulties, but the goalkeeper was very safe, and he frustrated many efforts. He was beaten when Reid shot in and hit the post, and Pointon slammed the rebound hard against the goalkeeper, from whom it went for a corner kick. This the Town right-winger placed admirably, and WOODS again got his head to it and gave the Town the lead for the third time.

The Argyle forwards were very sharp, however, and they responded splendidly after the Town had the better of the game for a prolonged period, and eventually BLACK took advantage of a loose ball that came out from a scuffle, and drove it into the net well out of the reach of Harper. There was no further scoring, although the Town made many desperate efforts, and the Argyle also put in some dangerous work.

For the home side, Harper made several good saves, but seemed anything but comfortable on two or three occasions. Graham and Till did well on the whole, although the former made the one fatal error. Rennie gave one of his best displays, showing splendid footwork, and Millar rose to his very best in the second half. Black was successful as an attacker, but he was often out of position when swinging passes found the Argyle left-winger.

Of the home forwards, Reid again showed capital form as leader, and was well supported both by Thomson and Woods. It was good to see the former giving Pointon plenty of work, and the winger gave a heap of trouble to both Hardie and Titmuss. Time after time he galloped past them and centred nicely, and he has seldom got the ball over to better purpose. Woods was fine throughout, his control and passing being very accurate, and it was unfortunate that Dennis did not do so well as we expect. He might have had more work, but several times he made a mess of good passes.

For the Argyle, Craig was a grand goalkeeper, even though he made one mistake, and Cosgrove and Titmuss, if not so reliable as some backs we have seen in the Argyle colours at Luton, were a sturdy pair. The intermediate line played soundly, Logan doing exceptionally well, and of the forwards Black was nearly always in the picture.

There were over 8,000 spectators.