

TWO FROM WALES.

LUTON TOWN'S SUCCESS AT ABERDARE.

By Crusader.

Mere comparison of the respective positions of Luton Town and Aberdare Athletic in the League table did not justify any assumption that the game would provide Luton with two points. Whatever the odds may be of a side succeeding at home, it is a very different proposition to win away. Take, for example, the big contest at West Bromwich, when Aston Villa bit the dust so heavily; compare the positions of Notts Forest and Clapton Orient, and the big fight between Bradford City, the prospective wooden spoonists of their division, and the aspirants for promotion—Portsmouth; or those other candidates for honour, Brighton, and our neighbours, Watford. Further, Aberdare had brought a point from Norwich and Watford when the Town had failed, and it was this success at Norwich that encouraged them to believe that they would overcome the Town. Well, they never looked like achieving their ambition. There was always a laborious aspect about their efforts, with the exception of their dapper left-winger, Callaghan, and, with the exception of one disappointed journalist, I did not hear a single complaint that they had been unlucky. On the other hand, there were a lot who held as we from Luton held, that the Town should have had at least one goal more.

POLICEMAN'S LOT.

The ground was soft for the greater part, and as I understand that Ynys means water, so this Ynys Field seemed to hold a lot a little way beneath the turf. The Town began like a winning side, and they pressed heavily for a long period. The home team had to be content with shots from afar when they were allowed to get going, but Evans, the home goalkeeper, early on got plenty of opportunity to prove his skill. And right well he did it. He is a policeman, but I doubt if he has ever made a smarter capture than when he put over the bar an effort by Thompson early in the game. It was not all Thompson, however, for the whole team seemed to be playing well within themselves, and showed coolness and skill in their constructive work, and in finishing. It was not quite so brisk as in the game against Newport, perhaps, but it was very attractive, and very dangerous for the home defenders.

ABERDARE'S CHANCES.

When the siege was raised, Aberdare got opportunities, but easy positions only came their way twice, and then the inside forwards missed when they might well have scored. The wingers were very active when fed, but as a rule the home halves were battling against the Town forwards, and well within their own half. It was a dribble by Pointon that gave Reid the chance to shoot into the net from an off-side position. The referee's negative was correct. It was good all-round work that provided Thompson with the opening for a characteristic effort in which he upset Brophy and crashed home the ball at terrific speed. The referee awarded a free kick against Thompson.

The home team did better work after this, but the change-over came without a goal. Aberdare played very strongly in the early stages of the second half, and for a time had the better of the game. Again it was the wing men who carried the danger, but all their efforts were in vain, and Harper's work was easy.

LUTON IMPROVE.

The Town seemed to take matters very comfortably for quite twenty minutes, and then they woke up to some tune. Forwards and halves worked cleverly, and P.C. Evans again showed his mettle. His goal escaped very luckily before he was beaten, and it was the sort of goal one likes to see, since in the preliminary movement probably eight or nine of the players took some part. Woods eventually got possession and put the ball forward all along the ground for THOMPSON to rush ahead, and, as the backs closed, he shot right away from the goalkeeper, who had no chance to save.

The last eight minutes were strenuously fought by Aberdare. They often had the ball in the Town penalty area, and yet the Town forwards, with nice open play, came nearer scoring. Thompson twice shooting close, and Clark was misled by a call for a pass when he might well have added a goal.

SPOILS TO LUTON.

Still the end came with the points for Luton. Harper had nothing very difficult at all. Graham had a warm time with Callaghan, but came out of the ordeal well. Richards was effective without being polished. He kicked and tackled vigorously, and in vain opponents tried to brush past him.

The halves were skilful, and were much better in attacking than in defence. All three accomplished good work, and they made a second forward line now and then. The vanguard maintained recent form, and played nice football. Thompson again played brightly, and Woods was a rare schemer, feeding both his centre and wing man with judgment. Both responded well, and Clark's centres were a source of danger. Reid played cleverly in the first half, but was inclined to hold on too long in the second, and Pointon could have done with more employment. The winger also held on too much at times, but did useful work, and helped to make an active attack.

Aberdare's defence struggled manfully. Evans and Brown were the outstanding figures. The halves also worked, but Sheldon and Callaghan were the two forwards most likely to inflict damage. There were 3,000 spectators.

ABERDARE ATHLETIC	0
LUTON TOWN	1

ABERDARE.—Len, Evans; Brown, Brophy; Beavor, Bell, Nicoll; Sheldon, B. Evans, Williams, Jones, Callaghan.

LUTON.—Harper; Graham, Richards; Black, Rennie, Mil'ar; Pointon, Reid, Thompson, Woods, Clark.

Referee: A. J. Attwood, Newport.