

AMATEURS OVERWHELMED

LUTON TOWN GET NINE AGAINST CLAPTON.

(By CRUSADER.).

LUTON TOWN 9 goals
CLAPTON Nil

LUTON.—Abbott; Kingham, Graham; Black, Rennie, Fraser; Pointon, Yardley, Reid (S.), Woods, Dennis.

CLAPTON.—A. Moore; J. Pingree, J. F. Crussell; C. James, R. McNeil, C. Cable; S. Baker, C. F. Williams, R. Offord, H. S. Munden, H. Cairns.

Referee: Mr. W. Parsons, Hitchin.

One hardly knows how to describe the played Cup-tie between LUTON TOWN and CLAPTON at Luton yesterday. Curiously enough, the game was almost a replica up to the 56 minutes played on Saturday. At the abandonment Luton led by 5-0, and they had a similar lead in that time yesterday. They were value for that number multiplied, for after the opening goal in 15 minutes they monopolised the play. Every man did his part well, but it would have pleased the crowd better had there been maintained the desire for goals. Time after time, in the second half especially, forwards were waiting in front of goal for passes that never came, and at a very low estimate a dozen chances went begging. In addition, there were wonderful saves by Moore, the bar and the uprights were struck, and altogether it may be said that the amateurs failed to make any impression against a far better side. After the match the gentleman in charge of the Clapton team congratulated Mr. McCartney on the clean, sportsmanlike game put up by the Town, and hoped they would get through the "third round." "You will beat Norwich," he said. If the Town play football of the bright, wholesome type shown in this game I think they will.

Fast and clever individually and collectively they battered the Clapton defence, and after a quiet opening they peppered Moore's charge to some tune. YARDLEY put into Moore's arms at close quarters, but soon afterwards, following a corner by Dennis, scored with a great shot. Luton pressed fiercely and REID notched the second with a characteristic drive. Then Yardley was tripped badly when right through, and a penalty kick was awarded for DENNIS to register with a lightning shot. Now and then the visitors' right wing got away, and Abbott made a couple of fine saves before the Town set up another bombardment, and YARDLEY again beat Moore from a centre by Dennis.

It was all the Town's game now, and everybody felt that the issue was quite safe when the change of ends came with the score:—

LUTON TOWN 4 goals
CLAPTON Nil

The amateurs won a corner immediately after the restart, but were then driven back, and Luton did much as they liked except for increasing the score. Then REID notched another grand goal, meeting the ball with a great first-timer from Pointon's centre. Luton toyed with the visitors, and YARDLEY headed the sixth from Dennis' centre. Moore was applauded for brilliant saves. The bar and the uprights stopped other shots, and the Pointon was evidently keen on joining the ranks of the scorers, for he shot with great power several times, but could not beat Moore on occasions when the other forwards could hardly have missed. However, from one of many grand runs by the right winger, DENNIS got the seventh with a fine shot.

Then the Town began to play to the gallery, but the amateurs were plucky, and several times got away, chiefly on the right wing, in dangerous fashion, Abbott saving well from

Williams, Baker and Offord. After a time the Town took command again, and after missing an easy chance as the ball rebounded from the bar, WOODS neatly headed the eighth goal, and shortly before the end YARDLEY headed the ninth.

Comment is unnecessary, for the Town were obviously the better side, and could have scored many more goals. Abbott did his little well. The backs were safe, generally, but Rennie was not so powerful as on Saturday. Black and Fraser played finely, and all the forwards were on song.

For Clapton, Moore again kept goal magni-

MUIR'S DEPARTURE.



Yesterday James Muir, the Luton Town goalkeeper received his release from contract with the Town, his agreement being cancelled by mutual consent. He is the fourth player to be allowed to go within a fortnight, but was not included in the list of 11 players already available for other clubs.

ficently, and had no chance with the scoring shots. Crussell and Pingree defended well, but the much boomed McNeil did not come up to expectations. Williams and Baker were the best of the forwards.

The attendance was 3,600, and the receipts £203.

NOW FOR NORWICH?

Until to-night we do not know whether Poole or Norwich City will be the guests of the Town in the second round. Their re-play is to-day. It should be Norwich, of course, on form. The "Canaries" defeated the Town by 3-2 at Luton in the first home game of the season, and won by 3-0 at Norwich, but have not been doing so well lately. The Town should win this game.

MEANWHILE, MERTHYR.

Meanwhile, Merthyr are visitors on Saturday, and the Town hope to field the same side again. Two points will be welcome.

The Town Reserves are at Portsmouth, and with several of the team having completed their engagement with the club, and Panther on the suspended list, they will do well to bring away a point.