

SOUTHEND'S SUCCESS.

IT was a big surprise to the 10,000 spectators that Southend were able to take away the points on Saturday. That they deserved the victory on their merits none would deny, for while the Town had an equal share of the play, the visitors showed more finishing ability, and if their movements were fewer, the method of carrying them out showed a great deal more ability or adaptability to the prevailing conditions.

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The sun shone with great power, the ground was terribly hard, and few of the players escaped sore feet. There was nothing much between the teams in the first half, though the visitors played well enough to indicate that they were not going to be beaten without a great struggle. They gave Harford many anxious moments, and he was extremely lucky to reach half-time with only one goal against him. This was scored by BORLAND after a clever run with Donovan.

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Before then Rennie had hit the upright at Moore's end, and the Southend custodian had saved well on several occasions, but so well did his colleagues play that the possibilities of Southend scoring were always the greater. Rennie hit the upright on a subsequent occa-



HARFORD

LUTON TOWN'S GOALKEEPER.

sion, and two or three good chances were missed, but as the visitors were playing all out there seemed a real probability that the Town would take command after the change of ends.

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After the turn round the Town did begin as though they would soon discount Southend's first half advantage, and the visitors' defence had a warm time, but they struggled through successfully, and when BORLAND got a second goal the issue seemed to be fairly clear, and certainly not in Luton's favour. This point came after a fine dribble and shot by Jones, Harford having great trouble to push the ball out, and the scorer was not slow to seize the chance.

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Try as they would, the Town could not get together in workmanlike style, and their attacks were beaten off several times. When Brophy had to retire with a broken wrist they were not distressed by the handicap, for they re-arranged their team, and fought back with surprising virility. It only remained for BARON to head through a third goal from Borland's corner-kick to make the triumph complete, and the Town retired goal-less.

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Harford kept goal well, and Kingham and Richards played stoutly at back, the former again doing remarkably well. The halves were not able to hold a very likely quintette, however, and though they did better in attack than in defence, the forwards were seldom able to carry on well enough to raise the burden from the defence. Fraser was the best of the halves, and if any man deserved mention in the forward line it was Rennie, who gave nice passes without getting much back.

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Until there is a vast change in the conditions underfoot the Town are not likely to show much improvement, but when rain does

come and the grounds are softer. I shall expect to see them recover the valuable ground they have forfeited in these early games. Ball control was easier for the lighter and quicker-footed Southend side, and they made the best of their opportunities.



Southend are a business-like team, sound in defence, quick and resolute at half, and nippy and skilful forward. Moore kept goal well, and of two good backs, French showed up the better. Armitage was a splendid pivot, and in the attack, where all played well, much was due to the delightful foot-work of Jones and Donovan, who fed their partners and Baron with nice passes.



LUTON TOWN	0
SOUTHEND UNITED	3

LUTON TOWN. — Harford; Kingham, Richards; Black, Morgan, Fraser; Daly, Yardley, Rennie, Woods, Bedford.

SOUTHEND UNITED. — Moore, French, Brophy; Dixon, Armitage, Johnson; Barnett, Jones, Baron, Donovan, Borland.

Referee : G. T. Gould, London.