

ONE GOAL AT SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

Luton Pointless.

Lack of Thrust in Attack.

(By CHUSADER.)

QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS ... 1

LUTON TOWN 0

RANGERS. — Cunningham; Pollard, Pierce; McNab, Cockburn, Neil; Moffat, J. C. Burns, Goddard, Rounce, Young.

TOWN.—Harford; Kingham, Richards; Fulton, Clark, Fraser; Daly, Yardley, Rennie, Woods, Bedford.

Referee:—Mr. J. M. Wiltshire, Sherborne.

LAST season the Town had reached the third Saturday in October, and their eleventh game, before they suffered defeat. The first Saturday of this October witnessed their fourth reverse in nine games, and their third in succession. By comparison with last season's record they have only seven points from their first nine games as against 16 points, and on the results of corresponding matches they are five points down. They have certainly not had such good fortune as attended their early games last season, but they are not tackling their jobs with the same spirit to win, and until they recapture that spirit there will not be consistent success.

There was not very much in it, perhaps, but they were better than the Rangers, and had they shown sterner quality at close quarters they could hardly have failed to bring off victory. There was too much hesitation when tackled by a resolute opposition, and several chances went begging for the sake of thrustfulness against a back division that was more lusty than skilful.

The Rangers' ground is rather small, and the ball was out of play a good deal even in the first half. Nor was this always due to the wind, which played tricks often, but the Town players kept it within bounds just as much as the home team. They began to attack at once, but the Rangers speedily retaliated.

HARD LUCK—

Harford was in frequent demand for some time, and made several good saves, yet had nothing so severe as had Cunningham when Yardley suddenly feinted to pass, then ran inside, and shot strongly for the farther corner of the goal. Cunningham made a frantic leap to divert the ball against the upright, and by some freak it did not return across goal, but fell to the ground, and spiralled outside. This put the Town on their mettle, and by bright play the ball was carried along, Daly putting the ball squarely in front for Rennie to shoot first time, and Cunningham was easily beaten. However, the linesman was flagging against Daly, and the referee gave the winger offside, a decision generally accepted as wrong.

AND THE ONE GOAL.

Immediately from this escape, the Rangers dashed up the field; the inside forwards thrust through the middle, and GODDARD, against whom appeals for offside failed, had an easy opening of which he availed himself.

The Town hammered away to the interval.

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In the early stages of the second half the Rangers had slightly the better of the play, and Harford and his backs were kept alive.

CUNNINGHAM ENGAGED.

A natty movement on the right provided Bedford with a chance, and he was only inches too high with a fast shot, while a special from Rennie was grandly saved by Cunningham. The Town centre-forward sent two or three drives very close to the mark, and once Fraser dribbled well up, and then banged hard, the goalkeeper positioning well, but failed to gather the ball at the first attempt. Now and then the Rangers tried desperately hard to increase their lead, and Cockburn played a strong game, but these efforts were spasmodic, and Kingham and Richards kept them out. Once Harford made a clever save at close quarters from Goddard, but the Town returned to the attack, and the home goal should have been captured before the end.

There were 12,000 spectators.