

FOURTH WIN FOR LUTON.

Newport Beaten After Game Struggle.

Early Goals.

(By CRUSADER.)

LUTON TOWN	4
NEWPORT COUNTY	2
LUTON.—Harford; Kingham, Rich-	

ards; Clark, Fulton, Fraser; Daly, Yardley, Rennie, Drinnan, McInnes.

NEWPORT. — Maidment; Anderson, Reid; Richardson (S.), Nairn, Riley; Morris, Gittins, Richardson (G.), Thomas, Rutherford.

Referee.—Mr. A. A. Archer, Market Harborough.

THERE are few clubs for which I have a greater respect than Newport County. In spite of their anxious struggles for existence in a Rugby stronghold, they come up, year after year, saved from extinction only by clever management, yet they contrive to get together a side that plays good football and makes the strongest teams in the League fight hard for victory. There is always entertainment when the County are on view. It was so on Saturday, and the telling factor in the result was simply the ability of the Town better to consummate attack.

A quick skirmish to either end, with Newport the more dangerous, and then Yardley seized possession well in his own half, and with a fine through pass, fed Rennie, who at once skimmed the ball well out to the right—an inimitable pass; DALY left Reid plodding, kept control beautifully, and wound up with a shot that had Maidment beaten all the way, and thus scored his first goal of the season. There was immediate response to the challenge, for Newport sprang into their stride, and, by delightful combination, had the Town rearguard at full stretch. The closest shave, however, came at the Town end, when Morris dropped the ball almost on the farther post; two or three players tried to kick it into the net or away from goal, but could not get hold properly, and when Rutherford shot in Clark was in the way and cleared. There was a surprise for the visitors a minute later, for, after fine work by Rennie, Yardley and Daly, Maidment fisted away. The ball was lifted out to CLARK, who was at least fifty yards out. He got the ball under control, and when the opposition expected a pass to the right wing, he went on, past a couple of men, and then fired home a wonderful shot, which left Maidment helpless to save.

Newport rallied again, and were beaten off only with difficulty. However, the Town were playing masterful football, and Fraser, in spite of a limp, paved the way for his left wing to make a lot of ground. McInnes got clean through, and though it was not a good centre, RENNIE got the ball through lying well back, and outside the penalty area; he shot first time, to see the ball travel just inside the farther post. Newport had reward when, following a right wing movement, the ball was sent to the left, and with some hesitation on the part of the defenders in tackling him, THOMAS was left in possession, and a beautiful shot had Harford well beaten.

FULTON	3
NEWPORT	1

The second half was not nearly so interesting. The Town had much the better of the argument, but there was not so much energy in their attacks.

Now and then the visitors had a turn, and once Gittins shot finely, but Harford saved. The Town continued to hold the upper hand, but only seven minutes remained for play when the Newport goal fell again. McINNES got through on the left, and drove with tremendous force at goal; Maidment dived, but the pace of the ball was too much, and it struck him and went into the net. However, from the kick-off the visitors got through on the right, and when the ball came across Kingham missed it. G. RICHARDSON took possession, and scored with a fast, low shot. There was no further score, and little of interest in the play.

There were 8,000 spectators.