

LUTON WIN AGAIN.

BRIGHTON'S PROMOTION HOPES FINALLY CRUSHED.

(By "CRUSADER.")

THOUGH there is no prospect of Luton Town finishing as high up in the League competition as last season, their improvement this year has been such as to deserve better support than has been accorded in the last three or four games, and there were only 6,000 spectators to see them tackle and beat Brighton and Hove Albion, a team that could be regarded as among the possible champions before the game on Saturday.

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Perhaps the football served up did not merit a larger attendance, but the conditions were all against attractive football, and the Town certainly showed more speed and skill than their exalted opponents. On the whole it was a good win, and should have been more convincing from the aspect of result, as the Town missed several good chances and had more ill-luck in their more frequent attacks.

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The only goal was scored by YARDLEY, twenty minutes after the start, and was a splendid goal, chiefly due to a fine bit of opportunism by Rennie. The Town centre-forward had just missed a gilt-edged chance provided by Daly, having only Webb to beat at two or three yards' range; then he chased to the goal line a loose pass from the left, and when tackled he gave Yardley a fine pass for the inside right to do the rest.

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Webb made a number of fine saves both before and after this, and the Town forced many corners from which scrambles ensued, while Drinnan nearly beat the custodian with a splendid header after a great effort by Daly. Then, shortly before the interval, following a scuffle in the Albion goalmouth, Fraser dashed through and struck the upright with a great shot. The Albion forwards got very few chances, so well did the Town halves and backs hold them in check, and the lead was well deserved when the teams crossed over.

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The second half found the wind playing more tricks than ever, and there was less scientific football. The Albion showed some improvement, but could make little impression on the Town defence, and the best chance for a very long time came when Rennie missed the target with a fine first-timer, as everyone expected him to score from Yardley's pass. Daly also made another wonderful attempt that deserved to succeed, but did not. It was nearing the end that the Albion

exerted pressure, and in a hot struggle in the Town goalmouth, Banes, Richards and Fraser in turn got the ball away when the goal seemed destined to fall. Quite as fortunate an escape was seen at the other end immediately afterwards, when Webb got in the way of a ball that struck Yardley's knee as he rushed in to meet McInnes' centre.

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Banes had almost a holiday, and was quite safe. Richards played a glorious game, and Smith was a splendid partner. All the halves were on form and provided the forwards with the ball to best advantage. The attack was weak in front of goal, otherwise clever and speedy, with Drinnan a shining light in the matter of manipulation.

LUTON TOWN 1

BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION 0

LUTON. — Banes; Richards, Smith; Fraser, Clark, Millar; Daly, Yardley, Rennie, Drinnan, McInnes.

BRIGHTON. — Webb; Marsden, Curran; Wilkinson, Williams, Dutton; Farrell, Kirkwood, Vallance, McDonald, Wilson.

THE LEAGUE: DIVISION III. (SOUTH).

	P	W	L	D	F	A	P
Brentford	35	24	6	5	83	34	53
Plymouth Argyle ...	33	22	3	8	77	30	52
Brighton & Hove A.	34	19	8	7	76	44	45
Northampton T. ...	34	19	11	4	62	41	42
Q. P. Rangers	35	16	10	9	63	54	41
Southend United ...	34	14	8	12	60	40	40
Norwich City	34	15	10	9	74	60	39
Fulham	35	15	11	9	71	69	39
Bournemouth U. ...	34	13	9	12	57	47	38
Coventry City	32	17	12	3	71	58	37
Crystal Palace	35	14	12	9	65	63	37
LUTON TOWN	35	13	13	9	55	60	35
Clapton Orient	35	10	13	12	37	51	32
Swindon Town	35	10	14	11	57	64	31
Exeter City	35	11	15	9	56	65	30
Watford	35	10	17	8	43	64	28
Newport County ...	34	9	16	9	56	69	27
Walsall	33	10	17	6	34	65	26
Truro United ...	33	7	18	8	49	73	22
Bristol Rovers	32	8	19	5	53	78	21
Gillingham	35	7	22	6	35	75	20
Merthyr Town	33	3	22	8	41	101	14

LONDON COMBINATION.

	P	W	L	D	F	A	P
The Arsenal	37	28	6	3	121	45	57
Southampton	38	25	12	1	95	74	51
Tottenham Hotspur	36	21	9	6	105	46	48
Brentford	36	19	10	7	100	61	45
Leicester City	35	19	12	4	95	79	42
Swansea Town	36	18	13	5	78	63	41
Reading	35	18	12	5	78	65	41
Chelsea	35	16	14	5	83	68	37
Clapton Orient	37	15	15	7	59	77	37
Q.P. Rangers	35	10	11	14	63	65	34
Fulham	35	14	16	5	80	69	33
Portsmouth	36	11	15	10	56	64	32
Crystal Palace	35	14	17	4	72	84	32
West Ham United	33	11	13	9	58	73	31
Southend United ...	35	11	18	6	71	104	28
Coventry City	37	9	19	9	68	96	27
Charlton Athletic ...	34	10	18	6	44	74	26
Watford	35	8	17	10	49	89	26
Millwall Athletic ...	35	9	19	7	61	86	25
LUTON TOWN	35	8	22	5	48	81	21
Brighton & H.A. ...	34	6	20	8	49	91	20