

"BEES" NOT AT HOME

LUTON FINISH UP WITH A BANG

By "Syrian"

Brentford 0, Luton Town 1

BRENTFORD are not nearly such a formidable side on their own ground this season as they were during the last campaign. Already they have lost four games at Griffin Park, whereas last season they did not concede a single point.

Luton Town concluded a happy Christmas programme with a victory over Brentford by 1-0, having during the other holiday games extracted three points from Torquay.

The Bedfordshire team, in addition to making the long journey from Torquay, where they had played on Boxing Day, had to make numerous changes. Nevertheless, they proved better slayers than Brentford, and were decidedly on top for the greater part of the second half.

CALL FOR POT SHOTS

Brentford were repeatedly aggressive in the opening half, and instead of endeavouring to dribble the ball to a more favourable position their forwards should have taken pot shots for goal.

The pitch, like a quagmire, made ground passing most difficult, and on several occasions when Harford, the Luton goalkeeper, had to handle the ball, he found it slipping from his grasp.

Salt, the home left-half, showed the Brentford forwards what was required in the circumstances. He put in numerous long shots which went a trifle wide.

Blakemore frequently passed the ball to a colleague when he should have shot himself, with the result that the Luton defenders always saved the situation.

It is scarcely fair to be too critical of any lapses, for it was an ordeal to even run on the pitch let alone play football. Yet, despite the fact that most of the men were playing their third match in three days, the exchanges were brisk throughout.

CLARK MAGNIFICENT

Clark, the Luton centre-half, played magnificently. He assisted in checking many Brentford moves and was ever seeking a chance to set his own forwards going. In addition, he scored the only goal of the match with a surprise shot which Fox could not reach as he was "glued" in goal.

Kingham also played a masterly game at right-back. His anticipation was almost uncanny, while he kicked the heavy ball a good length and with judgment. Hodgson, his partner, also did extremely well.

The Luton forwards were seen at their best in the second half, but, like Brentford, their efforts near goal lacked fire.

The Brentford backs, Adamson and Stevenson, defended stubbornly but found great difficulty in moving the ball. Bain and Salt played well at half-back. The Brentford forwards were often set going with well-timed passes from Blakemore and J. Lane, to the wings, but Luton defended so well that their goal was seldom jeopardised.