

# WEST BROMWICH ALBION V. SUNDERLAND

At the Hawthorns, before 12,000 spectators.

Half-time score: Sunderland, 1 goal; Albion, 0

Final: Albion, 1 goal; Sunderland, 1. Teams:—

West Bromwich Albion: Webb, goal; Adams and Pennington, backs; Nurse, Stevenson, and Hadley, half-backs; Clements, Simmons, Hobson, Worton, and Dorsett, forwards.

Sunderland: Doig, goal; McCombie and Gemmell, backs; Farquhar, Barrie, and Jackson, half-backs; Craggs, Bridgett, Hogg, Hewitt, and Buckle, forwards.

Referee: Mr. J. McGill (Liverpool).

## SUNDERLAND DRAW AT THE HAWTHORNS.

It was a most stubborn fight between the Albion and Sunderland at the Hawthorns, but taking the game as a whole the Northerners were fortunate in dividing the points. If the Albion had been allowed what appeared to be a very fine goal by Simmons early in the game, it would certainly have had an influence on the subsequent play. When Craggs burst through and gave Sunderland the lead, it compelled the home team to fight hard right throughout the game to avert defeat. They had numerous good chances in the first half which were not taken advantage of, so that it was not by any superior play that Sunderland had the lead at the interval, but rather due to the Albion's ineptitude around goal. Gemmell was distinctly weak as left back for Sunderland, and Clements three or four times got clean past him with the ball, but instead of running close in and scoring as Spry Woodhall, or Bassett would certainly have done in the old days, Clements lacked confidence, and either shot weakly at long range or passed feebly across the field. If Dorsett had had the same chances the Albion would probably have had a substantial lead at half-time, but McCombie was made of different metal to Gemmell, and gave Dorsett no latitude. The second half was practically a repetition of the first, except that the home side managed to find the net ten minutes from the finish, Tom Worton heading a fine goal. The Albion had quite two-thirds of the play, but Doig was able to negotiate the bulk of the shots sent in, which generally were weak and feeble. This is the great fault of the Albion this season, lack of dash in front of goal. Albion were again weak forward, although there was an improvement on the form they displayed at Sheffield. The half-backs were all that could be desired, Hadley and Stevenson being particularly prominent. Both Adams and Pennington exhibited a strong defence, and Webb made a few remarkably fine saves in goal. The Sunderland team has sadly degenerated, and is only a shadow of its former self. They have still a few grand players left, such as Doig, McCombie, Jackson, and Hogg, but you may look in vain for that brilliant passing which characterised them in their old championship days. They have cultivated a rough style of play, some of their tactics being very questionable, a case in point being when Jackson knocked young Clements "out" after the latter had parted with the ball. Hogg was worth all the other forwards put together, and Sunderland were distinctly lucky to escape defeat.