

THE UNITED LEAGUE.

LUTON DEFEAT MILLWALL.

A WELL-DESERVED VICTORY.

On Monday those old-time rivals Luton and Millwall met for the second time this season in the United League competition, when the "stripes" evinced that the outcome of the game at Millwall was not a fluke, the margin in their favour on this occasion being two to none. It will be remembered that when the sides met three months ago the Lutonians won by four goals to a blank; but at that time the Millwallians were in very poor form indeed. Recently they have been improving vastly, and on Saturday they managed to draw with the Arsenal in the same competition. It was generally expected in this neighbourhood, however, that the locals would continue in their winning vein; and they amply justified this confidence. There was a capital attendance, the weather being fine. Both

teams were strongly represented, though Davies was an absentee from the Millwall ranks.

The teams were composed thus:—

Luton: Goal, Williams; backs, McCartney and McEwen; half-backs, Davies, Stewart, and Docherty; forwards, Gallacher and Coupar (right), Donaldson (centre), Little and McInnes (left).

Millwall: Goal, Moore; backs, Robson and Davis; half-backs, Millar, Morrison and King; forwards, Jones and Calvey (right), Devlin (centre), Murphy and Geddes (left).

Referee, Mr. Dale (Manchester); linesmen, Messrs. W. Jones (Millwall) and G. Perrins (Luton).

The home captain won choice of positions, a success which did not bring a very pronounced advantage. From the kick-off the "blues" went down neatly; but Davies relieved, and Gallacher sprinted off to the other extremity of the pitch, where Davies sent out in clearing. Throws-in at the visitors' end did not avail the homesters greatly. A magnificent kick by McEwen, however, brought the ball into the goal-mouth, though nothing tangible accrued. Some pretty passing by the Millwall front rankers led to McEwen sending into touch, while the visitors again advanced shortly after. A second capable centre by McEwen was pounced upon by Gallacher, who gave the defenders some trouble with a hot attempt. Donaldson was next to become conspicuous with one of his dashing runs, and he was unlucky in failing to score. Following a further excellent kick by McEwen, Donaldson was fouled; but, though the "stripes" placed well the ball was cleared. The home centre forward was conspicuous with a good shot, and Gallacher almost succeeded in scoring after a stiff tussle in front of Moore. Another strong attack by the home lot was stemmed, a good save being effected by the Millwallians. Little was guilty of an egregious failure, the ball having been placed at his toe a very little distance from goal. Receiving from Little, Coupar beat Moore, though only to be adjudged off-side. A free-kick for a foul was so well taken by McCartney that a corner resulted. At the home end Jones was pulled up for lying off-side, a free-kick against Gallacher for jumping following. Next came hands against the strangers, and then Moore disposed of a good effort by Gallacher. When the game had been in progress nearly half-an-hour Little received a neat pass from the right and scored with a grand shot. Murphy was illegally charged by Davies, and Calvey headed wide from the place-kick by Davis. Murphy distinguished himself by sending in an especially tame shot, which was easily disposed of by McEwen. Robson presented Gallacher with a corner, while Little forced another flag-kick from Morrison. Both corners led to keen struggles; but the ball was easily disposed of on each occasion. McEwen was punished for kicking at an opponent, and Davies headed away, Williams in the next minute effecting a lucky save from Murphy. At the other end Donaldson forced his way through and transferred to Gallacher, who dispatched a swift shot at Moore's charge which was only saved with difficulty. A mishap to Geddes caused a cessation and the left winger limped over the touch-line; but his absence lasted only two or three minutes. During this time Coupar steered over the goal-line on receiving from Little. Gallacher was the victim of a sample of Millwallian vigour and when a determined attack by the "stripes" had been indulged in Stewart evoked laughter by sending high over the bar. A strong attempt by McInnes deserved a better fate than to travel across the goal-mouth. Williams saved well from Murphy, a feat which was copied by Moore when tested by Docherty. More sturdy efforts were credited to Luton, and when half-time arrived the relative positions were as follows:—

LUTON, 1; MILLWALL, 0.

Early in the second half Murphy gave another sample of his high-kicking proclivities. Donaldson went away in irresistible fashion and transferred to Coupar, whose pass to Gallacher was so weak that the ball was easily got rid of. Soon after Coupar and Donaldson indulged in some neat passing and the ball found its way out to Gallacher, who scored brilliantly from a long distance. This formed the hundredth goal of the season for the homesters, and the scorer was accorded a specially hearty round of applause. Donaldson later on sent over the bar, while Moore conceded a corner in attempting to save from Little. A second corner followed immediately, from which McInnes headed wide. Again the ball was kicked skyward, this time by Gallacher, and Docherty looked surprised when he was penalised for a foul throw. A beauty from Coupar was cleverly dealt with, while a sweet shot from McInnes was also well disposed of. A further flag-kick fell to Luton; but the opening was spoiled by a foul. Morrison indulged in a silly foul at the expense of Donaldson. Receiving from Little, McInnes beat Moore, though only to be given off-side. A sample of McEwen's cleverness in beating his opponents was delightedly cheered. McInnes threw away a grand opportunity by getting his foot too far under the ball, while Gallacher was unfortunate in failing with a try that deserved a better fate. The homesters were just now having all the best of matters and were for the most part to be found at the Millwall end. The "blues," who had started in very spirited fashion, had by this time considerably fallen away and the locals were enabled to hold the upper hand for a time. Presently, however, the Millwallians aroused themselves a little and made an excursion to the home end—and sent weakly over the goal-line. A corner fell to Luton and Stewart headed in so well that the ball appeared to go under the bar. The referee did not think so, though, and so the point was not allowed to count. The visitors narrowly missed scoring after a neat run, while Gallacher wound up a good display by shooting high over the cross-bar. Geddes was presented with "the" chance of the day and the crowd did not forget to jeer him when he failed miserably. From another corner Docherty dispatched an effort which struck the bar. Little and Gallacher were conspicuous for plucky efforts, the right winger rendering it necessary for Moore to punch away. A further sample of fine defence by McEwen was warmly applauded. Towards the end Millwall attacked strenuously; but without avail, and the outcome of a good game was a thoroughly well-deserved win for Luton with the following figures:—

LUTON, 2; MILLWALL, 0.