



SECOND LEAGUE.

LUTON v. LEICESTER FOSSE.

A POOR DISPLAY.

Brilliant summer-like weather favoured this fixture on Good Friday before 3,000 spectators. The locals were anxious to win, especially after drawing at Leicester, but recognised they would have no easy task, the full team being put in the field. The Fosse brought their best eleven the 22 men being:—

Luton: Williams; McCartney and McEwen; Davies, Stewart, and Docherty; Gallacher, Coupar, Donaldson, McInnes, and Birch.

Leicester: Saer; Rowell and Swift; Ball, Brown, and Jones; Dorrell, McLeod, Keoch, McMillan and King.

The referee was Mr. Tom Saywell, who kept the crowd waiting half-an-hour by his late arrival.

After a tedious delay, which the Red Cross Band made heroic efforts to beguile with lively music, the start was made, Stewart having the good fortune to win the toss. In a little time, a foul by the home captain on McMillan made the Fosse dangerous. Luton retaliated, and Saer put behind a hard shot from Donaldson, the corner being fruitless. The visitors played a smart game, and their football was very pretty. Birch nearly converted a centre from Gallacher, and "hands" against Swift close up was cleared after a short and sharp scrimmage.

Then Dorrell got in a beautiful single-handed run, Williams ultimately saving. Leicester had another chance, when McCartney tripped King, but Keoch shot wide. At the other end, Birch was fouled, and Luton ought certainly to have scored, had not Coupar and Donaldson hesitated in a silly misunderstanding.

The Fosse forced a corner, but McEwen cleared finely. Saer saved cleverly from Gallacher, and lively times followed at the Leicester citadel, Docherty, however, landing a flag-kick over the net. Leicester were defending well, and another corner to Luton was of no avail. The home team still pressing, Saer effected a grand save from McInnes, and one of Docherty's best long shots was spoilt by a "cannon." Jones was cautioned for a nasty foul on Davies, but once more Luton lost the opportunity. After another foul on Gallacher, a marvellous save was effected by McEwen when Keoch was absolutely clear in front of Williams. If the Fosse centre had shot a second earlier he must have scored. At half-time there was

NO SCORE.

The visitors had certainly done well in keeping the score down to nil against wind and sun. Twice King became extremely dangerous, and missed narrowly for the Fosse, who were now applauded by the spectators.

A foul against Jones was well placed by McCartney, but Saer was invincible, and after this McInnes missed badly and Docherty almost grazed the upright. After a lot of mid-field play, Williams had to save twice in succession. Soon McMillan took the ball down splendidly, Dorrell clean beating Williams from the old Derby County man's centre after 25 minutes' play. It was a grand goal, and was solely due to the clever Leicester left wing.

The game continued fairly even, but Luton played in very spiritless fashion. Several free-kicks and corners fell to the locals, but the game was over some while before the finish:—

LEICESTER	1 goal
LUTON	0 ,,

NOTES.

The dry, hard ground of Good Friday brought about another sad collapse by the locals. The Fosse are not a great team on this season's record and Luton's supporters were fairly sanguine about winning. But a few minutes' play showed at once that the Town had a stiff task in hand and, sad though it be, they quite failed to rise to the occasion.

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The Fosse were the quicker and smarter team altogether. Their forwards, particularly the left wing, were much too fast for the Luton back division, while their defence repeatedly checked the spasmodic assaults of the home vanguard. The locals had plenty of hard luck, it is true, but in most cases it was ineffective play that lost them their opportunities.

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The Luton forwards were weak, and with the opposing halves "nipping" in every moment, they made a mistake in hanging too long on the ball. Birch was at sea on the left, and Donaldson did not keep his wings going, "Jimmy" Brown troubling him severely. It was much the same story with the defence, for whom the Fosse were a bit too clever all round.

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Except from the point of view of the bigoted partisan, it was an excellent game, and the Leicester visitors may be congratulated on playing such fine football. Saer, the old Blackburn Rovers custodian, was agility itself in goal. The backs were very safe, Rowell showing dashing defence at close quarters. Among the halves, Brown played a great game, and Jones, a Welsh International, who comes from South Shore, did almost as well, though being rather rough at times. Ball, our old Kettering acquaintance, showed his usual form.

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Since the disablement of Smith, their fine centre-forward in the Burnley match, the Fosse have been in difficulties for a successor, and Keoch is not an ideal man for the position. Dorrell has fallen off, and kept at respectful distance from McEwen, but his partner did a lot of work.

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The greatest attraction was the tricky play of King and McMillan on the left. The former, who comes from the Airdrieonians, and is a brother of the Celtic player, was often applauded, and showed a clean pair of heels to McCartney. King has been under suspension with Proudfoot, but had his sentence mitigated for this match, and well he deserved it. The only goal of the day was due to some speedy work by McMillan. Mr. Saywell hardly pleased the visitors, but did his best in the hot sun.