



SECOND LEAGUE.

LUTON V. BARNSELEY.

A DISAPPOINTING LOSS.

Luton went into Yorkshire last Saturday with fair hopes of taking two points from the new Second League team at Barnsley. The team was :—

Luton : Perkins ; Williams and Moore ; Clark, Sharp, and C. Ford ; Durrant, Kemplay, W. Ford, McInnes, and Brock.

For the first seven minutes Luton had all the play, and Barnsley were penned in their own territory. Afterwards, the exchanges were of a give-and-take nature, though Luton were always slightly the better team. There was no score at the interval, and the half-time wire was received with much satisfaction in Luton.

On crossing over, McInnes opened the score for the visitors with a good shot after about 10 minutes' play, and everything seemed favourable to victory until about a quarter of an hour towards the finish. Then, for some unknown reason, the referee, a Grimsby gentleman, awarded a penalty kick against Luton. Mr. H. Arnold, who accompanied the visiting team, was quite as ignorant as one of the linesmen as to the cause, and was still more surprised to find that after Perkins had saved the kick, the referee ordered it to be re-taken. Clarke was supposed to be the offending party, but he denies that anything happened except that the ball might have touched his side ; in any case, its course was unaltered, and it went straight to Perkins. At the second attempt, McCartney equalised for Barnsley.

This unfair treatment caused the Luton men to play recklessly, and in the last few minutes Barnsley scored the winning goal, making the final score :—

BARNSELEY...	...	2 goals
LUTON	...	1 ..

NOTES.

Luton were playing the better football right up to the absurd award of the referee, and it was extremely hard lines to have lost under such circumstances. Barnsley are by no means a brilliant team, but our old friend, McCartney, played a good and fair game for them at back. For Luton, the forwards played in rather disjointed fashion, and Kemplay was as good as his companions, while Sharpe shaped best of the halves.

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A Northern paper says :—The Barnsley people had on Saturday their first opportunity of seeing the football representatives of the town, which, by the way, once boasted a strong Rugby side, engaged in a League match, and though the result was satisfactory enough, inasmuch as it ended in their favour, they did not show an undue amount of superiority over their opponents from Luton. Still, a victory will give them spirit. A favourable day brought out a very satisfactory gate. Both teams were pretty well represented, though Lees was an absentee from the home ranks, his place being taken by Smith.

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The first half was very evenly contested, Luton, with the advantage of the wind, making the running for some time, but Perkins, their custodian, was oftener tested than Greaves. Neither goalkeeper, however, was beaten, though once the home team found the net, but it was from an untouched free-kick, and half-time arrived with a blank sheet. The visitors went about their business in promising style on resuming, and early on McInnes opened their account. This had the effect of spurring on the home team, and, attacking strongly, their efforts were at length rewarded the equaliser coming from a penalty-kick, while directly afterwards the winning point came from Davies, the result thus being in favour of the home team by two goals to one.