

THE RE PLAYED TIE.

NARROW WIN FOR LUTON.

On Wednesday the tie was re-played at Watford. The weather was wretchedly inclement, rain falling in drenching showers throughout, while a strong wind prevailed. The home team had only one alteration; but the Luton authorities had made several changes. Dow stood down owing to an injury and was replaced by Moore. Crump was introduced at centre half and W. Ford at inside left, while McInnes resumed at inside right. A good number of Lutonians crossed the border into the adjoining county, and there was a surprisingly good muster of Watford enthusiasts, the covered stands being literally packed.

The sides were:—

Watford: Goal, Baker; backs, Sharp and Cother; half-backs, Beach, Robins and Marsh; forwards, Hare and Slaughter (right), R. G. Wright (centre), McNee and Hill (left).

Luton Town: Goal, Perkins; backs, Williams and Moore; half-backs, C. Ford, Crump and Hewitt; forwards, Durrant and McInnes (right), Galbraith (centre), W. Ford and Brock (left).

Referee, Mr. B. M. Lockyer.

McInnes won the toss. At the start Watford went down on the right wing and centred nicely. Moore headed away smartly; but the locals returned to the attack, a foul by Hill eventually relieving the pressure. Good play on the home left led to a corner, which was unsuccessfully taken. At the Luton end another foul was given against the home lot, who were already infusing undue vigour into their display. Galbraith obtained possession from a throw-in and shot a bit wide, the effort being very neat. A capital pass by the Luton centre-forward was noticed shortly after, following which Durrant steered over the line. The right-winger was the victim of the next sample of Watfordian vigour. The kick was well taken and on receiving from McInnes Galbraith scored cleverly. This happened about six minutes from the start, and the Luton contingent of spectators did not forget to cheer. Crump became prominent in a sturdy attack later on and shot outside the post, while a grand attempt by Hewitt almost succeeded, Baker being sorely tested. A stiff tussle ensued, the visitors trying hard to add to their score. The home defenders behaved very well, however, Cother eventually clearing excellently. C. Ford landed the ball on the net with an effort that fully deserved the applause that greeted it. The Watford men made their way into Luton territory later on and shot hard but not quite straight enough. Durrant was similarly unsuccessful when he had beaten Cother cleverly. Perkins negotiated a stinger from one of the Watfordians in first-rate style, and the custodian was again called upon soon afterwards by Cother from a free-kick against C. Ford for fouling. Shortly afterwards a good exhibition by the Watford right wingers led to the Luton keeper being again tested, the clearance being effected by a strong kick. Pretty combination between "Gally" and McInnes served to relieve the monotony of the Lutonian poorness; but Durrant was off-side, and so the effort was of no avail. W. Ford, receiving from Brock, sent over the goal-line, and the inside left was adjudged to be off-side when he accepted a pass from Durrant right in front of goal. This was a distinct relief to the home defenders. Galbraith shot far too loftily when in a good situation. With Williams and Perkins both away the locals appeared to have a grand opening; but the ball was over-run very tamely at the crucial moment and so McNee lost what seemed like a certain score. This was a let-off for the strangers. Following this the Luton players pressed hotly and came very near scoring, the defence opposed to them being sorely tested. Crump sent on well, but with no result. The ex-'Spur, it should be said, had changed places with Hewitt in the meantime. A couple of disputes here took place, and it was alleged that Hill so far forgot himself as to strike at one of the visitors. The home lot, indeed, were playing in a style that did not commend itself to at least the visiting spectators. Mr. Lockyer was not nearly firm enough at this juncture and the game, which had never been of the best, degenerated into a scramble in which bad temper was frequently shown. A corner which was awarded to Watford hereabouts proved unfruitful, and a good sample of work by Hewitt had no better outcome. Hands against the West Herts. representatives near goal looked ugly; but by means of strong play a clearance was effected. An especially dirty foul on Durrant was deservedly punished. The right winger just afterwards centred splendidly, and McInnes headed in. To the amazement of the crowd the referee whistled for off-side, a mistake which was very palpable. To add to the disappointment of the Lutonians the ball found its way into the net, so that here was a goal absolutely given away by the responsible official. The crowd ironically cheered the "ref." Moore sent wide afterwards and the play by the Watford lot. The locals, in fact, continued to indulge in their bad methods until the interval arrived, a particularly bad jump by Cother being noticed. At half-time the positions were:

LUTON 1: WATFORD, 0.

half. The home combination advanced well soon after the resumption and became responsible for several good attempts. Durrant retaliated with a shot which gave Baker a good deal of trouble. Sharp struck Williams, whereupon there was an outburst from the Luton supporters. Perkins brought off a magnificent save later on, this being the best sample of play of the whole afternoon. The corner which resulted was not turned to account, Cother steering wide. Durrant was again fallen foul of, and as though in revenge that player forced a corner with a shot along the goal-line. Baker neatly disposed of an admirable try by Hewitt. The Lutonians were now having a good deal the best of the exchanges and were playing in far better style than in the first half. Galbraith was conspicuous with a couple of useful exhibitions, and from a free-kick for a foul Moore sent into the net, though without a second player having touched the ball, so that there was no score. "Gally" indulged in more "sky-scraping." Perkins gave another fine sample of his ability by throwing away when a score appeared inevitable; but just afterwards the keeper presented his opponents with a rare chance by throwing the ball towards his own charge, the home forwards kicking wildly over the line. A beauty by McInnes was a whit too lofty. The referee addressed a few remarks, doubtless of an admonitory nature, to a Watfordian who had been guilty of illegal tactics. Williams presented the other side with a corner, following which McInnes once more landed the ball on the net, Durrant following suit. As time drew near the rivals exerted themselves to the full; but Luton always held the upper hand. When the whistle sounded this continued to be the position:

LUTON, 1; WATFORD, 0.

At the close the referee came in for a hostile demonstration. It was rightly stated that he had stopped the game before time had expired, the shortage being some three or four minutes. Inasmuch as the winners were all over the better team in the second moiety and were having the best of matters at the finish it is doubtful whether the result would have been different had full time been played.