

THE UNITED LEAGUE.

LUTON v. READING.

Result:—

Luton Town	1 goal.
Reading	1 goal.

Played on Monday at Luton, in bleak weather, before only a few hundred spectators. Teams:—

Luton: Perkins; Dow and Williams; C. Ford, Sharp and Crump; Brock, McInnes, Kemplay, Beutwood and Dimmock.

Reading: Whittaker; Henderson and O'Brien; Ballantyne, Holt and Eccleston; Foster, Goldie, Davies, Johnson and Plant.

Referee, Mr. Jameson (Woolwich).

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[ADVT.]

Reading were the first to attack, Perkins being called upon early in the opening stages by Davies, who sent in a long low drive. Reading continued to give some trouble, but Dow twice cleared nicely, and the right wing made several smart attempts to get away. Each time, however, Brock found Eccleston in close attention; indeed, he was too attentive to suit the views of some of those standing by the grand stand, and the referee, failing to notice him holding Brock, came in for some comment from that section of the spectators, whereupon he went up to the ropes and delivered a few words of advice.

Reading next obtained a corner from Perkins, but nothing came of it, and Luton after this changed the scene of action. The right wing again showed some neat passing, and the result of it was that Ford had a nice opening. He, however, sent too high, the ball dropping outside the net. A rather exciting bully followed without any benefit accruing. Then Brock did a tricky piece of work and muddled, but Crump only repeated Ford's performance.

Following this, Reading took their turn at attack, but there was nothing very dashing in their movements. Johnson once became dangerous, a smart shot from him passing just the wrong side of the post. A corner followed at each end. Luton's was very poorly placed, but at the other end Perkins received a good test, and upheld his reputation. Directly afterwards, however, Reading got down again after a foul by Ford, and Johnson getting possession right in front of goal, sent across to the other wing. Davies scoring with a shot against which Perkins had no chance.

Very shortly afterwards half-time was called with Reading still pressing, the efforts of Luton having been of a very disjointed character after the visitors got the lead. Crossing over, Luton had the wind behind them, and also the sun, which shone out just then for a moment or two as if to give a blessing to their labours. At any rate, it was a good omen, and they went away

were not so kind. Brock, on the outside, fetcined the ball round nicely to the centre, but Kemplay failed to improve upon the good opening which was thus afforded him.

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Luton still kept down, Brock doing some energetic work on the right. Then Crump had a chance, and sent in a good shot which went just wide. The home side continued to have the best of matters, though the goalkeeper was not troubled to any extent. Once Dimmock after a run got in a long shot, which was very well aimed, and Whittaker fisted away. Boutwood also gave him a nasty one to deal with at a little later stage.

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Towards the close, Reading forced matters a little more frequently. The ball was netted once from an offside position, and Perkins saved twice from Foster, whose first shot was from very close quarters. Nothing further resulted, however, the game thus ending in a draw.

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It was not an exhibition game: still, the sides were very well matched, and the play was not uninteresting. The Reading lot were perhaps a trifle disappointing in their display, for most of those who went down had not much confidence in the home side. The result was a very fair indication of the play.

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