

LUTON TOWN v. BURTON SWIFTS.

Played at Luton on Monday. Result:—

Luton Town	3 goals.
Burton Swifts	nil.

The teams were as follow:—

Luton: G. H. Smith: Dow and Williams; Sharp, Ralley and Crump; Durrant, Brock, Kemplay, W. Ford and Ekins.

Burton Swifts: Gray; Kirkland and Lowe; Waterson, Mainman and Campbell; Hamilton, Burton, Lloyd, Griffiths and Lavery.

Referee, Mr. F. S. Walford (Middlesex); linesmen, Messrs. W. R. King (Wellingborough) and J. W. Bailey (Leicester).

Sweet May Cigarettes, 7d. per oz., now the popular smoke; increasing sales weekly. None are better. Sold by all tobacconists. Wholesale of E. Gibbs, 19, Upper George-street, Luton.—[ADVT.]

Monday's match meant a good deal to Luton. It was just possible that by losing to Burton, Loughborough, by beating Gainsborough, might succeed in displacing the Lutonians, and themselves escape being included in the bottom three. Happily, Luton rose to the occasion and did their part towards making their calling and election sure, while the Luffs on the other hand, only managed to get a single point out of their encounter with the Trinitarians.

There were about 3,000 persons present at the Bury Park enclosure when Burton kicked off against a slight wind. The homesters were the first to attack, but of the custodians, Luton's new man was the first to be called on, having to save a good shot from Lloyd. Then a foul was given against Williams, and again Smith found it necessary to defend his charge, this time from Griffiths. Luton retaliating, Kemplay tested Gray with a good one, and a corner was conceded. Durrant placed, Ekins headed to Ford, and that player scored with a clipping shot.

Only five minutes had elapsed from the kick-off, and the spectators were naturally jubilant at this early success. Play for a time was uneventful. A foul against Ekins resulted in a corner for the Swifts, but Luton effected a clearance, and Ford receiving from Dow, got in a good shot, which Gray negotiated. Soon afterwards, the Burton custodian got slightly damaged in a collision with Kemplay, and play had to be stopped until he was able to resume.

Before the interval, Luton added another goal through the instrumentality of Kemplay, who scored from a pass by Brock. When the game was re-commenced, after the customary period for refreshment, Burton had rather the best of matters, whilst soon afterwards Lloyd sent just over the bar. Luton then made a vigorous response, but though the game subsequently ruled in their favour, it was a long time before they could materially increase their advantage. Towards the finish, Luton attacked very strongly indeed, and at last Brock headed a third goal.

Still Luton kept up the pressure, and the Burton goal had two or three very narrow escapes. Once in saving, Gray fell over with the ball underneath him, but he managed to circumvent Brock and get it out of danger. A little later, Kemplay would inevitably have scored but for Brock coming to his assistance at the wrong moment, and the last thing of note was a good

shot by Ekins, which Gray only just managed to save.

Strange as it may seem, in view of the result, the honours of the game rested rather with the Luton defence than with the forwards. Dow played a wonderfully good game at back, and Williams also put in a lot of useful work. They did not leave much to the goalkeeper, who, however, did what was required of him in fairly good style. All three halves did well, Crump perhaps being the most conspicuous, and Ralley also showing to advantage. Brook was the best forward, and Kemplay played a very good game. Durrant did pretty well until he was "winded," and Ekins, though not in tip-top form, used good judgment.

The best man on the Burton side was Gray, who gave a fine exhibition in goal. The centre-forward shaped very well, and Hamilton made some good runs on the right.

Stirring News. Freeman, Hardy and Willis are now showing at 38, George-street, Luton, the largest and most varied assortment of boots and shoes in the district. Come and see windows, and judge for yourselves.—[ADVT.]

The following is the League table up to date:

					Goals		
	Pld.	Won.	Lst.	Dra	For	Agst.	Pts
Manchester City	31	20	5	6	84	33	46
Glossop North End	31	19	8	4	71	37	42
New Brighton	20	17	6	7	66	38	41
Leicester Fosse	31	17	7	7	58	39	41
Small Heath	30	17	8	5	84	45	39
Burslem Port Vale	32	17	11	4	56	32	38
Woolwich Arsenal	31	16	10	5	65	39	37
Walsall	31	12	7	12	69	35	36
Newton Heath	29	16	10	3	56	40	35
Grimsby Town	29	12	12	5	51	49	29
Lincoln City	30	11	12	7	47	46	29
Barnsley	31	11	13	7	50	51	29
Burton Swifts	31	9	14	8	48	60	26
Gainsborough Trinity	31	9	18	5	51	67	23
Luton Town	29	9	17	3	48	81	21
Blackpool	31	6	21	4	42	86	16
Loughborough	31	5	20	6	31	85	16
Darwen	30	1	25	4	15	128	6

Now the Easter holidays are over, the end of the football season is not far off, and the end of the season this time brings with it questions of considerable moment for the directors, and shall I say the shareholders, of the Luton Club. What is to be the policy for next season? That is the all-important problem, and a very difficult one it is. Now, it seems to me that the experience of this season conclusively proves one thing, and that is that in the matter of a team safety is not to be found in a half-way house. We must have either a thoroughly good eleven or a practically local one.

If the directors and shareholders—I presume the latter will have a voice in the matter—decide in favour of a strong team, the other important question is as to whether the Club shall remain in the Second Division of the League or join the Southern League. I rather fancy some directors incline towards the latter, and I am absolutely certain that the great majority of the shareholders and supporters pin their faith to the League proper.

In this matter, I think wisdom is to be found in a multitude of counsellors. Personally, I agree with most of those with whom I have spoken, that it would be a mistake to secede from the Second Division and join the Southern League. There would not be so great a difference in travelling expenses as at one time would have been the case, and taken altogether, I scarcely think the matches would be so attractive. Besides this, it is as certain as anything can be, that people would not be satisfied unless Luton were right at the top of the Southern League, whereas they will be content with a tolerably good position in the other. Therefore, I think with a strong team Luton would do well to remain where they are; and with a practically local team, it is the only course open to them.

Even if Luton threw in their lot with the Southern League, they would have no sort of guarantee that either Millwall or Tottenham Hotspur would remain to keep them company. I should not be surprised if either or both of them applied this year for admission to the Second Division of the League, and they would probably be elected. Even if they did not apply this time, there would be nothing to prevent them doing so next, and Luton would then be left in the lurch, because if they secede they could have but very little hope of ever getting back again.

Since the above was written, I have been given to understand that a meeting of the shareholders will be held at the beginning of next week, probably on Monday, to consider the whole question.

Spend your money to the best advantage, by purchasing your boots and shoes at Freeman, Hardy and Willis, 38, George-street, Luton, the largest boot retailers in the kingdom. New goods for present season. See windows and compare prices.—[ADVT.]