



SECOND LEAGUE.

LUTON v. LEICESTER FOSSE.

NO SCORE.

With a record of only 1 point out of a possible 6, the Luton men were very anxious to take a full brace from the "Fossils" on Saturday, and so came into the field with a "do or die" determination. The Leicester men had the same sort of feeling, for they had been so far unbeaten, and the contingent of supporters who came with them showed every confidence in the result.

The crowd was not quite so large as on the visit of Woolwich Arsenal, visitors from the district being far less, but some 3,000 spectators surrounded the pitch. It was a fine afternoon with a rather boisterous wind blowing obliquely across the field, and before the finish a smart shower descended. The Leicester men tried three men for the first time—Dainty at centre-half and Eaton and Bishop among the forwards. In the local ranks, Fairgreaves was displaced by Draper, from the Reserves, and Brown played instead of Inglis at outside right. Mr. F. W. Beardsley, of Plumstead, had the following elevens under command:—

Luton: Daw; Dow and McCurdy; Morrison, Stewart, and Williams; Brown, Brock, Draper, McInnes and Eckford.

Leicester: Beardsley; Wragg and Swift; Ball, Dainty, and Jones; Galbraith, Eaton, King, McMillan and Bishop.

As usual, Luton lost the toss, and kicked towards the railway end, having the worst of the wind. A very promising start was made, Brown calling upon the Fosse custodian at once. However, the Leicester right wing transferred play and after the ball had gone behind, Bishop came down with a lightning sprint. Beardsley had to save from Eckford, who was offside, and McInnes did some clever work. A misunderstanding between Dow and Morrison nearly brought disaster, but Daw saved finely from McMillan at the expense of a corner.

Straight away from the place-kick, Luton raced up the field grandly, but Ball cleared. A foul by Stewart was followed by a palpable and foolish infringement by Draper, which might have proved fatal. Happily for Luton, the ball was placed in the net untouched. The home forwards pressed, McInnes being prominent, but Williams shot wide. The Leicester forwards showed great dash and McMillan sent in a terrific shot, which luckily "cannoned" off Dow. A corner followed, but once more Luton rushed away, Draper taking the ball close up but Ball robbed McInnes in the nick of time.

A hot shot from Stewart grazed the cross-bar, and Brock was fouled within easy range of the Fosse head-quarters. A good opening was lost by McCurdy, who placed considerably beyond the mark. Shortly afterwards, play had to be stopped for an injury to the Luton left back. Two corners fell to the locals in succession, Brown just skimming the cross-bar. A well-judged pass from McInnes enabled Brock to send in a beauty, but Beardsley saved brilliantly a shot which might have beaten many goal-keepers.

Some ground was lost through Brock's indulgence in too much "finesse," but Beardsley had soon to kick out from McInnes and Williams, though the shots were rather "soft." It was now Leicester's turn. They made some dangerous rushes, which severely taxed the home defence. A foul against Morrison gave them a likely chance, but Wragg took the place-kick very badly, making no allowance for the wind. A long shot was put in by Draper, but this gave little trouble, and then Harry Williams aimed miles too high. Just upon half-time, Dainty handled, and Eckford with an open goal in front of him missed in hopeless fashion, evoking groans of disappointment. At the interval, there was

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There was no falling off in the vigour and liveliness of the football in the second half. The Luton men played in decidedly improved form. Three corners fell to the home team in as many minutes, Beardsley saving finely on one occasion. Twice the Leicester forwards were checked for offside play, and Brown, unluckily, met the same fate, when he might have scored from Eckford's centre.

Play became very exciting and the spectators made abundant demonstrations, loudly cheering on their men to score. A good deal of noise was caused by a foul on Bishop by McCurdy, but the free-kick proved useless to Leicester. Daw saved splendidly a high shot from McMillan, and next fisted out from Bishop. Some grand defence work was done by Dow, and the home forwards pressed smartly; Beardsley, however, saved cleverly from Eckford, who had hard luck in striking the top of the net a few minutes later. Brown worked hard, but lost a chance through shooting instead of centreing. Daw saved a couple of long shots, but towards the finish the Fosse men "kicked out" frequently to waste time. The defence on both sides remained unbeaten at the call of time:—

LUTON...	...	...	...	0
LEICESTER ...	...	...	...	0