



SECOND LEAGUE.

LUTON v. NEWTON HEATH.

A DISAPPOINTING DEFEAT.

Though Luton took 3 points from Newton Heath two years ago, they failed by the smallest margin on Saturday to secure any consolation. Harry Williams was present on the field, shielding his injured arm in a water-proof, and McCurdy could not play owing to an influenza attack, T. Hawkes from the Reserves taking his place. The Directors decided to give Brown a rest, and try Durrant, who has been showing good form in the Reserves. Newton Heath arrived overnight. There were about 2,000 spectators, and Captain Simpson, of Woolwich, refereed. The teams were:—

Luton: Daw; Dow and Hawkes; Morrison, Stewart, and Ralley; Durrant, Brock, Fairgrieve, McInnes and Eckford.

Newton Heath: Barrett; Stafford and Erentz; Morgan, Griffiths, and Cartwright; Bryant, Clark, Parkinson, Jackson and Cassidy.

Luton won the toss, and Dow was soon called upon to defend. Some lively work followed in front of Daw, who saved twice before Durrant ran down nicely to the other end. Stafford headed out well, but a corner to Luton was conceded after a fine centre by Durrant, from which Fairgrieve just missed scoring. Some rough work by Morgan was unnoticed by the referee, but he soon gave two fouls in favour of Luton, and pacified the crowd.

Another glorious centre from Durrant looked promising for Luton, but Brock missed the chance. Eckford next made a splendid run right into goal-mouth, where Erentz had to kick behind for safety. From the corner, Brock again lost a chance. Dow displayed some more grand defence, and Daw had to kick out. Morgan was at last penalised for fouling Eckford. The kick was beautifully placed by Ralley, and a fruitless corner resulted. Barrett had an easy save from Durrant, while Eckford shot high over the goal. Later on, Bryant forced a corner; Eckford tried to rush the ball away, but Morgan returned finely into goal, Jackson heading through No. 1 after 20 minutes' play.

When the ball was kicked off again, Parkinson ran over the line too soon, and a free-kick given against him. From this, Luton nearly equalised, Barrett having to fist out a smart "header." Two fouls were given against Luton, one just as Stewart was close up, and the other against Morrison, which proved rather dangerous. A fine long shot from Bryant was only partially cleared by Daw, but Ralley came to the rescue. Bob Parkinson turned a somersault over Dow in front of goal and was penalised. However, soon afterwards, Newton Heath netted the ball again from Cassidy's centre, but the score was disallowed for Parkinson's impeding the goal-keeper. A foul in Luton's favour was well placed by Dow, and Brock headed in nicely, Barrett fisting away down the field.

Once more, Bryant sent in a splendid shot, and Daw saved, the Newton Heath centre being again penalised for impeding. From Durrant, Barrett kicked out a hard shot with wonderful coolness. A free-kick close up might have been a score, but Dow placed badly. A grand centre from Bryant almost grazed the Luton uprights, and half-time came with the play in home quarters:

NEWTON HEATH	1
LUTON	0

A short delay was caused in commencing the second half, as the Newton Heath centre-half had to be attended by Dr. McArthur for an injury to his nose. Luton pressed hard at first, and Fairgrieve struck the crossbar a resounding smack. After about 10 minutes' play, Dow had to leave the field owing to his shoulder being hurt in a collision with the Newton Heath left wing. Though the crowd cried, "Play one back, Billy," Stewart took Dow's place, Brock retiring to half-back. A fine run was made by Bryant, but Hawkes kicked out in the nick of time. McInnes did some plucky work, getting through both backs before the ball went into touch. Cassidy shot the ball into the net just as Brock was badly fouled, and a free-kick was given. Although Luton had only 4 forwards, they did some vigorous attacking. Barrett was hard pressed to save on two occasions, Durrant losing a good chance. Several long shots came to Daw, but the home forwards pressed again, Morrison nearly beating Barrett with a beauty. Eckford made a good attempt, but was charged down over the line.

In the last ten minutes play degenerated considerably. The Newton Heath centre-half left the field, and so left both sides equal, while his comrades adopted "wasting time" tactics. Ultimately Luton secured a corner, but Barrett rushed out among a crowd of players and cleared. A foul was given for Luton about 30 yards from the visitors' goal. Stewart placed well, and Eckford shot splendidly, the ball re-bounding from under the cross-bar. Towards the close, Luton were pressing desperately, but could not get through. Result:—

NEWTON HEATH	1
LUTON	0