

LUTON v. RUSHDEN.

On Monday Luton played their first away match against Rushden and won by two goals to one. Commenting upon the game the "Northampton Evening Telegraph" says:—

"The match with Luton was regarded as almost a foregone conclusion, especially when it was made known that they were bringing precisely the same team which did duty for them on Saturday and which ran Southampton to within a goal. Fine, sturdy players they were, looking in the pink of condition, and half a dozen of them would have turned the scale against the whole of the Rushden eleven.

When the teams turned out the contrast between the build of the contending elevens was most striking, and the whole of the Luton players gazed with astonishment on the "lot of boys" before them, one remarking "that he was ashamed to play against such a lot of nippers."

Eh? Those boys knew a trick or two, and never did a team have the rise taken out of them like Luton. They first began to treat matters in the light of a huge joke. Then they became serious, and finally realised that they had met their match and that they would have to go for all they were worth to win.

They threw their weight—which was considerable—on to the frail forms of the Russians, and were consequently pulled up every other minute for fouling, culminating in a penalty being awarded against them. Sale took the kick and missed it! Oh, Johnnie, your face looked a picture, and no wonder, for you had lost one great chance of the match.

Luton had a similar chance, but made a certainty of it, and although Rushden drew level, Luton again scored through Blessington. Had Rushden have gained that penalty how different would have been our feelings, but it's no good crying over spilt milk, and we were all satisfied that never was the remark "defeated but not disgraced" more truly said than of Rushden on Monday.

Everyone was delighted, and everyone went away satisfied that they had seen a match well worth the witnessing, and one which was brimful of interesting and exciting incidents. Everyone tried, and when spectators are satisfied that they are not being "sold" they will cry "Well played!" and go away delighted with the match, even though their own side, through hard luck, failed by the skin of their teeth to defeat what is regarded as one of the strongest combinations in the Southern League.