

LUTON TOWN v. KETTERING.

A PITIABLE EXHIBITION.

These teams met for the fourth time this season on the Bury Park ground on Good Friday afternoon for the return match in the above League. The weather was favourable, and a large holiday crowd of about 3,000 was present. In the home team, Holdstock was again in the field, and Kettering also played a new man in the centre in the person of Harkley. Mr. J. E. Carpenter, of Leicester, was referee, and he had the following 22 under command :

Luton—Ord; Lindsay and Street; F. Hawkes, Holdstock and Williams; Durran, Blessington, Barker, Tierney, and Brown.

Kettering—Baldrey; Bosworth and Draper; Clarke, Panter and Pollock; Webb, Garfield, Harkley, Becton, and Winterhalder.

Kettering won the toss and Luton kicked off with the wind and sun in their eyes. The visitors forced a corner, but Tierney cleared, and Luton got away on the right, Blessington putting across; Tierney got in a good shot, and Draper had to concede a corner, which, however, proved futile, while Barker headed over a corner forced by Brown. However, after some give and take midfield play, Tierney secured possession and getting away passed to Barker, who scored with a somewhat lucky shot after 15 minutes' play.

The Luton forwards got away again, and Durrant put across a lightning centre which went just a trifle too high. A foul against Kettering was fruitless, while a grand shot by Williams was equally well saved by Baldrey, but directly after, Street sent up the field in fine style, and Durrant beat Baldrey with a flying shot; thus Luton were two up. The visitors then got away from the kick-off, and Becton kicked well, but the ball went just over the bar, while at the other end Tierney centred capital, and Durrant hit the bar with a grand shot, the ball then going behind.

Kettering could not make much headway against the Luton defence. Baldrey gave a corner to Brown, but the latter placed behind, and Kettering forced two corners at the other end, but both were cleared. Half-time score :

Luton 2 goals,

Kettering..... 0 ..

Previous to commencing the second half, the Luton team were photographed, and on the game being resumed, Kettering got away and Webb got across a dangerous centre, which Becton sent behind. A foul against Luton was futile, and Durrant made a good attempt to get through, but Baldrey just managed to clear. The game from this point was utterly spoilt, play being continually stopped owing to the referee having to administer cautions to players on both sides. There was much needless vigour and ill-feeling, and matters came to a climax when the referee ordered Baldrey, the Kettering keeper, off the field for refusing to fetch the ball, which he, in a fit of temper, kicked out of play. Play had to be stopped also for injuries to players, Panter, of Kettering, and Holdstock, Tierney and Lindsay, of Luton, all getting more or less injured; Lindsay had to leave the field, while Tierney was comparatively useless. No more scoring took place, and Luton won a poor game by the following score :

Luton 2 goals,

Kettering..... 0 ..

NOTES.

In the initial half of the above match some good play was witnessed, but the second half was spoilt by continual stoppages. For Luton, Ord, in goal, was in good form, while Lindsay and Street also played a strong game. F. Hawkes was easily the best half, and shaped well, while Holdstock and Williams were always on the alert. Barker showed improvement, and made some fine individual bursts, also feeding his partner well. Blessington and Durrant were well together, and Tierney and Brown were effective.

For the visitors, Baldrey played a good game in goal, and it is to be regretted that he lost his temper because the referee made a mistake. Draper and Bosworth were prominent in defence, while Panter was the best of the middle line. The forwards were not very dangerous. Harkley, the new man, played a strong game in the centre and was always in the thick of it, but his partners were only moderate. Webb and Winterhalder played a fair game.

The gate money amounted to £60.