

Football.

THE SOUTHERN LEAGUE.

LUTON TOWN v. KETTERING.

Played at Luton on Good Friday. Result:—

Luton Town	2 goals.
Kettering	nil.

The teams were as follow:—

Luton: Ord; Street and Lindsay; Hawkes, Holdstock, and Williams; Durrant, Blessington, Barker, Tierney, and Brown.

Kettering: Baldry; Bodsworth and Draper; Clarke, Panter, and Pollock; Webb, Garfield, Hartley, Beeton, and Winterhalder.

Referee, Mr. Carpenter.

The weather was beautifully fine, and there was a good attendance of spectators. The home team was the same as that which did so well against Millwall on the previous Saturday, with the exception that Holdstock replaced White at centre-half. Draper won the toss, and Luton had to face the sun in the first half. Play opened very fast. Kettering early on forced a corner, but this was unproductive. The game was about a quarter of an hour old when Tierney made an opening for Barker about twenty yards from goal, and the centre-forward sent the ball crashing into the net. This success was greeted with loud cheering. Durrant came very near increasing the score a minute later, his shot just scraping the crossbar.

Directly afterwards Durrant was fouled when about to centre. Street took the free kick, but nothing came of it. Play was then transferred to the other half of the field, where Tierney was brought up for a foul. From the "free" Ord brought off a fine save. The next thing of note was a long shot by Williams which Baldry saved just under the bar. The home team continued to have the better of the exchanges, and a little later Durrant sent in a fine cross shot which gave Baldry no chance. From the restart the Ketts got away, but Beeton spoiled a good chance by sending over. Brown next distinguished himself by making a fine run, finishing up by sending in a clipping shot, which Baldry sent over the bar. Roland took the corner kick, but placed behind, and the score was still unaltered when the interval arrived.

Towards the end of the first half Tierney got kicked, and it was rather doubtful whether he would come on again. He, however, limped on the field just as the ball was being kicked off. Play was not so fast as in the previous half, and the game not nearly so interesting at this stage. The visitors appeared to have slightly the better of the play for the first few minutes, but they were held well in check by the home backs. As time wore on Luton again assumed the upper hand, and the Kettering goal had several narrow escapes. Some of the visiting players appeared to go rather for their opponents than the ball, and play became rather rough. About mid-way in this half Holdstock received a nasty kick on the leg, but he still kept on the field.

About ten minutes from the finish a very unpleasant incident occurred. Luton had forced a corner, and Baldry got possession of the ball, but instead of giving it to Durrant, who was about to take the kick, the visiting goalie gave an exhibition of temper by kicking the ball right away. The referee ordered Baldry to fetch it, but that player did not do so, and eventually was ordered off the field, Draper taking his place between the sticks. However, he had nothing to do beyond taking a few goal-kicks, and the game ended in a win for Luton by 2 goals to nil.

At the start the game promised to be a good one, but as time wore on the play deteriorated, this being in no small measure due to the shady tactics of the visiting players. Just before the finish Lindsay sustained a kick on the ankle, but this was purely an accident. Still, it was rather hard lines on Luton to have three men placed on the injured list in one match.