

FOOTBALL NOTES.

[BY "SPECTATOR".]

LUTON AND THE CUP.

FULHAM THRASHED.

GALL'S GOAL-SCORING ABILITIES.

Though Fulham had accounted for Watford, there did not appear to be any fear that they would trouble Luton unduly, and such proved to be the case on the Dunstable-road ground on Saturday. Unlike some of the smaller Metropolitan clubs, Fulham did not bring many spectators apparently, or there was nothing to arouse their enthusiasm, for encouragement from their own supporters appeared to be absent. The heavy rain of the week had made the ground a bit heavy and slippery, but considering all things the turf was in fair condition.

The following were the teams:—*Fulham*: J. Head; Graham and Dwight; F. Spackman, Lacey and Tutthill; Tannahill, Cowan, Hopkinson, Meade and W. Porter. *Luton*: Frail; Lindsay and Street; F. Hawkes, White, and R. Hawkes; Durrant, Blessington, Gall, Moody and Allsopp. Lloyd was expected to play for the visitors, but appears to have been suspended the previous evening. Gall took the place of Hilsdon on the Luton side, the latter player not having recovered from his injury at Watford.

The homesters won the toss, and at the start made a determined onslaught upon the Fulham goal. Durrant and Gall in turn gave Head a tricky shot to deal with, and the Fulham goalie got them away in style. The Fulham forwards, however, failed to make any use of a nice opening, and Gall once more returned to the attack, sending in a long shot with fine judgment. It was stopped by Graham, who was stoutly defending, and play was shifted to mid-field, where both sets of forwards attempted for a long time to get away. At length, to everybody's surprise, Graham put the leather through, the ball being shot in by Gall and glancing off the ex-Millwall back.

Upon the re-start Tannahill put in some good work by means of which Fulham made an attack, but Frail was not called upon. Gall was fouled in a subsequent attack, and Blessington secured from the free-kick, but Head saved. Meade, the old Arsenal player, next initiated a movement, and proved a thorn in Lindsay's side, going for the Luton back for all he was worth. Blessington and Durrant put in one of their clever runs, and the former shot, but again the goalkeeper saved. Head was having a pretty lively time with shots from all quarters. To make matters worse Dwight fouled Durrant. The free-kick was taken by Lindsay and Gall should have scored.

Bob Hawkes continued the shots at the Fulham goal, but the ball went a little wide, whilst Moody from a long range tried to lower Head's colours. Still keeping up the pressure Durrant shot at goal, but the ball went over. About this time Dwight left the field through an injury to his leg, and as a consequence the Luton forwards were often off-side. Durrant was off-side right in his own half. This forced the Luton players to individual effort, and Durrant put in a good deal of work and forced a corner. From the flag-kick F. Hawkes put in a shot and Head gave a corner.

Durrant took the kick, and the ball was passed about in front of the Fulham goal, and eventually was headed over the bar rather luckily by a Fulham player. The corner which resulted was useless, Durrant kicking behind. Luton still kept up the pressure, and Gall, from a good position, scored with an excellent shot, which gave the goalkeeper no chance. Dwight returned about this time, but he limped terribly. Moody gave Allsopp one of the best possible passes, and the speedy winger ran down and centred, but Graham interposed and kicked out. Moody again gave Allsopp a pretty pass, and a corner resulted for Luton shortly afterwards. Though placed in front of goal, the ball eventually was put behind.

From now to half-time Luton still continued to press. From a centre on the left Moody and Durrant both went to take the ball, and though they had only Head to beat they both missed the ball, which rolled out. This was a very fortunate escape for Fulham, for at another time a goal would have resulted, for it was a very easy opening. Allsopp had been frequently troubling Graham, and once more he ran down and centred. Moody this time secured, but shot over the bar. Play continued uneventful from now to half time, when the score read:

LUTON, 2; FULHAM, 0.

Luton re-started the ball, but Fulham had come on with the determination to do better and force the play. Frail had a long shot to deal with and he cleared with a good kick. This was the first shot at his goal that the Luton man had to save. At the other end Gall had an easy chance of scoring, but failed to make use of the opportunity. Luton after this slackened a bit, and Fulham appeared to come on, and once they should have scored, but the forward hesitated, and lost the ball and also the opportunity of doing his side a good turn.

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Blessington at the other end made no such mistake, and gave Luton another point with a good shot. Fulham put in plenty of dash, or the Luton defenders were playing a very lax game. At any rate Fulham should have scored again. An incident next happened in the corner of the field, for one of the Fulham players seemed to kick at Frail. The referee stopped the game and cautioned one of the Fulham men. Lindsay had just charged this man, and whether he thought it was Frail who had done it I do not know. The home team fell off considerably and the visitors pressed pretty severely, and at last Cowan beat Frail with a good shot and notched the first point for Fulham.

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The visitors fully deserved the point. Some of the spectators were far from pleased with the exhibition now being presented by the Luton players, and grumbled a good deal about having been charged sixpence for a reserve match. But it was not quite so bad as that. Fulham again visited the Luton end, and there was a good deal of kicking about, but the forwards could not do anything. Allsopp took the ball down nicely and White headed towards goal from the centre, but the ball went wide. Durrant tried a run down the wing on the right, but made the error of shooting instead of centring. Gall then secured not far from goal and promptly notched the fourth point for Luton.

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To the spectators on the grand-stand a little incident on the other side of the ground looked very much like some of the players getting at loggerheads, and the referee in consequence gave a free kick to Luton. Soon afterwards Blessington was making nicely for goal when he was tripped, and the referee awarded Luton a penalty. Frail took the kick and before the referee had had time to blow his whistle "Joe" had netted the ball. The referee decided that the kick must be taken over again, and this time Head just reached the ball and diverted its course outside the goal area and thus conceded a corner, which was of no value. Subsequently Luton enjoyed the luxury of another corner, but White headed by the post.

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Allsopp made a nice run down the wing and nearly scored with a tremendous shot. A very few minutes afterwards the same player tried another and the ball again went just wide of the mark. Luton afterwards got the ball into the net but offside nullified, but subsequently Moody registered a fifth goal for Luton. The display of Fulham was a poor one, the only men showing up at all prominently being Graham and Meade. All of the Luton men played well. Gall turned out very unexpectedly a sure shot, though there were several times when he might have improved things and added other points. Still the following score was sufficient to show the superiority of Luton:—

LUTON 5; FULHAM 1.

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In the English Cup, the draw for which took place on Monday evening Luton Town have had the good luck to be drawn at home. Their opponents will be Kidderminster Harriers. The referee appointed is Mr. P. R. Harrower (London), and the linesmen are Messrs. F. Styles (Wellingborough), and G. W. Simmons (St. Albans). The other draws were as follows:—Barnsley v. Swindon, Bristol City v. Middlesbrough, Glossop v. New Brompton, Lincoln City v. West Ham United, Burton United or Wellingborough v. Manchester United, Bristol Rovers v. Millwall, Brentford or Shepherd's Bush v. Woolwich Arsenal, Reading v. Barnsley, Bishop Auckland v. Preston North End. Ties to be played on December 13 and the kick-off to be 2.15.