

Luton Town Football Club.

ENGLISH CUP.

Competition Proper—(First Round)

MILLWALL ATHLETIC v LUTON TOWN.

LUTON EASILY DEFEATED.

The important Cup-tie with the Dockers was duly fought out at North Greenwich on Saturday afternoon in damp, dull weather, before about 9,000 spectators. The attendance would have been larger but for there being matches at Tottenham and Woolwich. Both clubs had been anxiously awaiting the encounter, and although Millwall have beaten Luton twice this season in the Southern League, yet it was thought that Luton stood an excellent chance of regaining their laurels.

Both clubs had been quietly training at home for the event, and the previous evening the Millwall players paid a visit to Drury Lane to see the pantomime, "Mother Goose." The excursion arranged by the Great Northern Railway took a fair number of supporters of the Luton club up to town.

Both teams played their strongest possible elevens. The Millwall team were expected to be assisted by the ever popular amateur, J. H. Gettins, who has lately been assisting Middlesborough in the League programme, but at the last moment was unable to turn out for some reason, and the inside berth was taken by Astley. In the Luton team, Moody and Gall changed places, and Bob Hawkes played at half-back instead of centre-forward, as was at first expected.

The Luton Volunteer Band made a belated appearance, coming only about ten minutes before the kick-off. They received a rousing cheer. The teams were:

Millwall: Sutcliffe; Easton and Storrier; Riley, Bell, and Morris; Moran, Astley, Hulse, Jones, and Watkins.

Luton: Frail; Lindsay and Williams; F. Hawkes, White, and R. Hawkes; Durrant, Blessington, Moody, Gall, and Allsopp.

Referee: Mr G. H. Muir.

The ground was in excellent order, but a strong wind was blowing almost end on. Luton won the toss, and took advantage of the wind, the kick-off taking place two minutes in front of time. Going off with great dash, the Millwall forwards were soon in front of the Luton goal.

The players on both sides were rather erratic. A foul against R. Hawkes enabled Easton to place the ball well in front of the Luton goal, and Frail had to fist away from a header by Hulse.

Allsopp got down and essayed a long shot from the left wing, which, however, sailed harmlessly over the bar. The home side attacked strongly and Watkins scored 8 minutes from the start from a pass by Hulse.

A magnificent dribble by Moody took play well in front of Sutcliffe, who cleared cleverly from Allsopp. Gradually Luton seemed to improve, to the delight of their numerous partisans, the defence especially showing fine form. Jones and White, in jumping to head the ball, brought their heads into violent collision. Both men fell like logs, and Jones had to be carried off the field, White getting nothing worse than a severe shaking.

Right in front of goal Blessington, with only Sutcliffe to beat, miskicked badly, and the ball was got away at the expense of a corner. This led up to a regular scrimmage in front of the Millwall goal, and a gasp of relief went up from the home supporters when Durrant sent the ball over the line. Luton were not to be denied, however, and Durrant, after sailing through splendidly, missed a good opening with a wild shot.

Playing up pluckily, Millwall took a turn at attacking, and Frail had to save a shot from Hulse. The game, however, was now going strongly in favour of Luton, and an equalising goal only seemed a matter of minutes. This nearly came about from a grand shot from Bob Hawkes, the ball almost twisting out of Sutcliffe's hands, whilst he had great difficulty in clearing with Blessington and Durrant on top of him. He, however, made a smart save. A great burst of cheering heralded the re-appearance of Jones on the field after an absence of a quarter of an hour, but still Luton attacked. The score at half-time was :

Millwall 1, Luton 0

So far Luton had made a very even contest, but their weakness or misfortune in front of goal became more marked in the second half. The home forwards were quick and decisive in their assaults, and in 9 minutes Jones scored the second goal from a pass by Moran. The Luton forwards continued to plod along, but Sutcliffe could not be beaten. Ultimately a free kick was given against Williams for handling and from Easton's place-kick, Hulse neatly headed in the third goal. After a good attempt by Allsopp, together with an ineffectual rush by Durrant, the game ended :

Millwall 3, Luton nil.
