

Luton Town Football Club.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.

LUTON TOWN v. TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR.

A WELCOME VICTORY FOR LUTON.

Thanks to Aston Villa's defeat of the Spurs in the previous round of the English Cup, the Tottenham Club were able to visit Luton on Saturday for the return match in the above League, and the meeting promising a good-class game, the fixture was anticipated with much interest. The Spurs had put in a good performance at home the week previous, when they defeated the Kettering team by 4 goals to nil.

Both teams were well represented, but the visitors were three short of full strength, Kirwan, Copeland and Tait, their places being taken by Chalmers, Cameron and Erentz, while Luton played their best team. The weather was very favourable, and the crowd established a record for the season, about 4,000 spectators being present. The Red Cross Band played some capital selections and gave general pleasure. Mr. H. Ward, of Nottingham, was the referee, and the teams were :—

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

Tottenham : Clawley ; Erentz and Watson ; Morris, Hughes, and Jones ; Dryburgh, Warner, Woodward, Cameron, and Chalmers.

Luton won the toss and Woodward kicked off against the wind. In the first minute the Spurs forced a corner, but it was of no avail. Moody had hard lines in not scoring with a grand header from a centre by Durrant, and directly after Luton were awarded a penalty against Morris for tripping Bob Hawkes, from which Lindsay beat Clawley with a grand shot, thus giving Luton the lead after 8 minutes' play. Luton continued to have the best of matters, and Allsopp securing made a nice run and sent in a shot which Clawley only partially cleared, and Davidson dashed up and netted the second goal for Luton, amid great enthusiasm. Three corners to Luton proved of no avail, and one for the visitors at the other end was cleared by Blessington. Moody struck the side of the net from a pass by Davidson, and Clawley saved splendidly from Blessington, for which he was loudly applauded. In an attack by the Spurs a mistake by Lindsay nearly let in Woodward, but luckily for Luton the ball rolled by the post. Half time score :—

Luton	2 goals,
Tottenham	0 „

On resuming, the visitors were the first to get dangerous, but Chalmers nullified some pretty play by the Tottenham forwards by kicking behind, and Dryburgh also put outside with only Frail to beat. The home left wing soon transferred play to the visitors' territory, however, and from a centre by Allsopp, Blessington beat Clawley for the third time. Lindsay robbed Chalmers in grand style, while a corner to Luton was cleared by the visitors. Durrant and Clawley got at loggerheads, but the referee closed the incident smartly. Durrant missed an easy opening afforded him from a pass by Moody, while a hard try by Hughes against Davidson was nullified by offside. Play up to the finish was all in Luton's favour, but nothing particularly noticeable resulted, and the end came with the result :—

Luton	3 goals,
Tottenham	0 „

NOTES.

The game was chiefly remarkable for the fine display given by the home team, who all worked together well. There is no mistaking the fact that since the inclusion of Davidson in the forwards new life and vigour have been imparted all round ; but, like many good things, this improved form has too long been delayed.

Frail played an easy game in goal, and was only once seriously tested, that being towards the close by Chalmers. This was no doubt due to the display given by the backs. Lindsay played a grand defensive game all through, and apart from a mistake in the first half, he gave a faultless exhibition and was repeatedly cheered.

Harry Williams played admirably, and was untiring throughout. The halves all shone, with Bob Hawkes as the bright particular star, and his namesake ran him close. These two players have given some remarkable exhibitions in football during the season. White was indefatigable as ever, and troubled Woodward greatly.

The forwards stuck to their work with a will, Davidson in the centre, was a host in himself, and the way in which he kept his wing going was a treat to witness ; his goal, it should be noted, was a particularly fine one. Durrant and Blessington both shaped well, and did a lot of hard work very effectively. Allsopp attracted general notice by his smart play, and he had much to do with the getting of two of the goals.

The visitors were perhaps a little disappointing, and they took their defeat rather badly. Clawley is a fine custodian, and although he marred his display by a bad exhibition of temper in altercation with Durrant, it must be conceded that he saved his side from a much heavier defeat. Both backs played a grand game, though at times they were very hard pressed as to what to do.

In the middle line, Jones, the Welsh International, played finely, but Hughes, in the centre, spoilt his display by foul play in regard to Davidson, and he lowered his reputation thereby. Morris was fair, but the alertness of the home left wing proved too much for him.

The front rank displayed the weakest part in the team, and notwithstanding the presence of the International Woodward, they failed to shine. Woodward gave one or two pretty exhibitions during the game, but he lacks dash and weight, and against two such opponents as White and Lindsay, he had not much chance. Warner and Dryburgh combined well together, but they were not allowed much latitude, and failed to get many centres across. The left wing was the most energetic ; but the foul play of Chalmers could well have been spared, and the referee had to repeatedly remonstrate with him. Cameron did nothing out of the way.

The referee deserves the greatest credit for the way in which he directed the match, and he can be regarded as the best referee that has officiated at Luton this season. The crowd behaved admirably. The gate receipts were £104.

To-morrow (Saturday) Luton have to journey to Canning Town to meet West Ham in the Southern League, and if Saturday's form can only be reproduced victory should attend them, especially as the Hammers have been showing some in-and-out form of late. On the Town ground, the Reserves meet the Cee Springs from Leighton for the return match in the Beds. and District League.

The South are not to be represented in the final of the English Cup, Millwall failing on Saturday, at Birmingham, to give anything like the creditable displays they have so far shown when playing on their own ground. Derby County completely "bottled up" the Dockers, who never looked like a winning team, and were beaten by three goals to nil. Derby's opponents at the Crystal Palace, on April 18, are Bury, who put Aston Villa out of the running by an exactly like margin. The match was a chapter of accidents for the Villa, nearly half their men being injured during the course of the game.