

A GOOD DISPLAY AT PLYMOUTH.

A DRAW WITH THE WESTERNERS.

Luton had a high hurdle to negotiate at Plymouth on Saturday, but succeeded in dividing the two points at stake. The match was not regarded with over-certainty, and there were a few misgivings as to a possible defeat. There was no occasion for this dark view of things, judging by the result, for Luton by the merest chance only just failed to get the brace of points, a goal, by McKee being disallowed on the ground of off-side.

The following is the way the teams lined out:—

LUTON.

Thompson

McEwen

Bennett

Holdstock

White

F. Hawkes

McKee

Storey

Allsopp

Durrant

Eaton

O

Jack

Picken

Peddie

Anderson

Dalrymple

Digweed

C. Clark

Leech

A. Clark

Goodall

Robinson

PLYMOUTH.

Referee, Mr. H. Morgan, Glamorgan; linesmen, Messrs. W. B. Wilkinson (Bodmin) and J. Dicks (Oreston).

Luton won the toss and set the Argyle to face the rays of a bright sun. McEwen early distinguished himself with a fine kick, and the forwards got down, but Robinson easily cleared from a long kick. Durrant, however, centred, and then White shot. Robinson saved. Peddie, Picken, and Anderson passed splendidly, and from a centre by Jack, Picken tested Thompson with a hot one, which was kept out in good style. Bennett cleared, and Luton reached the centre by long kicking. Peddie replied, passing finely to Dalrymple, who shot wide. Luton responded, but Bennett made a very weak kick, and Argyle pressed.

Very clever passing by Argyle was defeated by McEwen, and the visiting forwards got in front of the Argyle goal. A. Clark, however, twice kicked away, and Dalrymple was rushing off when he was whistled up for off-side. From the free kick Jack was put in possession, but he failed to pass, and Bennett cleared. Then Picken got off-side, and the free-kick enabled Luton to relieve.

Leech robbed McKee beautifully, and Anderson receiving took a long pot, which Thompson satisfactorily cleared. From a centre by Leech, Picken, who was harassed by Bennett, shot behind.

The Luton men showed capital combination, and Allsopp ran the ball behind. Play in the centre followed the goal kick. Then Luton attacked, temporarily being driven back by C. Clark. A movement started by Jack was frustrated by McEwen, who was kicking with splendid accuracy on all occasions. C. Clark robbed Storey, while Goodall kicked beautifully from a difficult position.

The strawplaiters were having the best of the game at this part. A lovely bit of work by Peddie put the Luton goal in jeopardy. Dalrymple centred, and the goal had a narrow escape. Swarming round the Luton citadel Argyle rained in a number of shots which were saved. From a centre by Dalrymple, Picken headed over. The passing of Argyle was splendid, but the defence proved equal to all emergencies. Getting down to the other end, Allsopp kicked too high. Then McKee sent Eaton off on the right. Digweed, however, stuck to his man, and put the ball into touch. On the throw-in, Jack dribbled three-quarters of the length of the field, and seemed to have the goal at his mercy, but a splendid shot of his was cleared by McEwen, who dashed across the mouth of the goal in brilliant style, and thus saved a downfall.

Luton pressed hotly, and Robinson was hard put to in order to keep his goal clear. Again Luton returned, and McKee had the ball at his toe with only Robinson to beat. The old International was equal to the occasion, and promptly put a difficult shot over the bar. McKee, however, was given off-side. Then Allsopp, who was palpably off-side, was allowed to run down referee awarded a free-kick, from which Argyle cleared. Fine combination baffled the Luton defence until Digweed kicked too hard, and McEwen headed away. Leech being fouled, Argyle had a free-kick, and again McEwen was the saviour of his side.

Peddie headed

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Peddie broke through and gave to Picken, who, being impeded by Bennett, sent out to Jack. The outside left in endeavouring to centre dispatched high over the posts. Argyle continued to press, but found a very powerful defence opposed to them. They forced a corner, however, and C. Clark and Peddie both attempted to head the ball through. McEwen once more cleared.

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Durrant made a fine run down the line, and centred beautifully across the mouth of the goal. Allsopp, however, rushing up at full speed, kicked far too high. A foul against Holdstock again placed Argyle upon the aggressive, and Peddie had a shot which went wide. Another corner was conceded by Luton, which was headed away, but Picken put in a fine shot which Thompson had to be very smart to clear.

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Luton reached the Argyle goal and Bennett took a free kick about twenty yards out. Robinson intercepted a straight shot and cleared. McEwen returned the ball and Allsopp kicked out of play. Clever work by Leech took the game to the centre, but the Strawberry plaiters, undeterred, came back in great force and forced a corner. This was cleared among some excitement, which was increased when, Plymouth forcing the pace, ran down to the Luton halves.

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Luton, however, rapidly returned, and Durrant made a brilliant run down the right. Twice he centred splendidly, and on each occasion Robinson made a fine clearance. A foul to the visitors gave McKee a chance, but he headed wide of the net. Robinson saved again from Allsopp, and Holdstock made a good but ineffective shot. The interval came with play in midfield and nothing scored.

ARGYLE, 0. LUTON 0.

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Luton re-started, and in the first minute Jack kicked behind. Luton pressed with splendid forward work, and a mistake by Leech looked likely to be costly, but the right half recovered himself, and the Argyle forwards got off to the visitors' half. Repulsed by a free-kick, Argyle had to defend for some time. C. Clark, Leech, and Anderson distinguished themselves for splendid work, which eventually placed Argyle in an attacking position, and Jack, receiving from the right wing, missed the goal by inches.

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A spirited and skilful defence kept the Argyle men out. Then Storey looked like going through, but A. Clark stopped him in the very mouth of goal. The Plymouth men responded with an excellent effort, which compelled McEwen to kick to touch in his own quarters. McEwen a minute later cleared brilliantly from the foot of Anderson, and Durrant got clear. Centring to Storey, the latter passed out to Allsopp, who missed the goal with a lovely shot by the merest margin. The kick-out was followed by a strenuous attack by Argyle.

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But McKee got away, and, beating Goodall, drew out Robinson, and shot into the net. Off-side, however, was given, and Argyle were saved. Luton broke away, and Goodall miskicked. "Hands," however, was given against McKee, and Plymouth thereupon again attacked, Jack putting in a good but futile shot. Play had by this time become somewhat ragged, and the combination was lacking in precision.

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A shot by Dalrymple was saved at the expense of a corner by McEwen. Another corner followed, from which Jack hit the side of the net. Argyle had the better of the game all the time, and were frequently around the Luton goal, where they met a most strenuous opposition. Peddie was injured by McEwen, who, in jumping at the ball, kicked him on the knee. This caused a temporary cessation of play. Peddie, however, resumed after a short rest. "Hands" against Argyle when Storey had got off caused some excitement.

especially as Eaton dashed up when Robinson fisted out from Holdstock, and tried to run the ball through. Instead he only succeeded in putting the ball behind. With only four minutes to go Argyle pressed with greater vigour. But again the defence was very powerful.

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Good passing by the home forwards was of no use, and Luton kicked out with might and main in order to maintain their unbeaten record. Thompson fisted out from a long kick, and the backs volleyed with as much force as they could command. Time after time the ball was kicked out of play, the result being that time arrived with still no score. Result:—

ARGYLE, 0 ; LUTON, 0.

"Westward Ho!" in the *Morning Leader* says:—
 "With the remark that Luton's tactics were unnecessary, as they were practically the equals of Argyle, let it be at once said that McEwen played a champion game at left-back. He seems to be a sort of player who steps in where angels fear to tread. He kicked in any position, and altogether gave a dashing display. Hawkes was the best of the halves, and his clever headwork was of great service. Holdstock and White were about on a par, but Holdstock had a strenuous task to take care of Jack Peddie, who was at his best. Durrant gave an eclipsing exhibition in the forward department, and he was, perhaps, the most brilliant individual on either side. McKee played a hard, stolid game, but did not keep his wings together with the skill of his vis-a-vis. Storey came second to Durrant, and played a downright artistic game. Allsopp did fairly well, but Eaton was not noticeable. In goal, Thompson was as safe as a bank, and dealt with all that came in his way in a masterly manner. Archie Goodall, on Argyle's side, was a revelation at back. He played his best game for the season, and his was a truly great display. Leech, Charlie Clark, and Digweed played like the fine middle line they are, and there was no room for choice between them. Peddie, Jack, and Picken worked like Trojans in the vanguard, the last-named playing an especially fine game."

I understand the refereeing was awful. This is what "Jack Straw" writes:—"If the game had been of a rough character I shudder to think of the might have-beens, for the presiding official seemed quite lost as to what decisions to give time after time. He reversed his ruling more than once, until at last the players on both sides waited before taking their positions for an appreciable time after the whistle went. There is no doubt the concluding half was quite spoilt by the vagaries of the referee, for nobody could judge as to what course would be taken. In the main Luton suffered by his decisions, as Storey was twice badly fouled inside the penalty area without result. But the worst blow of all was the disallowing of McKee's goal after a run from practically the centre line. If he had been pulled up as soon as he settled on the ball it would not have appeared so bad but to allow him to travel on for half the length of the pitch and get the ball into the net before blowing the whistle was beyond a joke. McKee actually received the ball from Goodall, and therefore the crowd had quite given up all hope even before the ball reached the net."

The necessity of an additional player for Luton has caused the directors to sign on Peter Turner as an emergency forward. He is also reported as being able to play half-back. Turner, it will be remembered, played for the Arsenal at inside left three years ago, and was with Middlesbrough for the past two seasons.

Luton, we were told last week, were at the head of the League because they held a slightly better goal average than Millwall. What of the dark blues on Saturday, Millwall 7, Kettering 1. The League table now stands:—