

Another Valuable Point Lost

Reading Draw with Luton.

Reading's postponed match with Luton was played at Elm Park on Wednesday, before about fifteen hundred spectators. The earlier match resulted in a win by two goals to one for Luton, and Reading were naturally anxious to turn the tables. Teams:—

Luton: Thompson; Bennett and McEwen; F Hawkes, White, and Holdstock; Eaton, Turner, McKee, Moody and Durrant.

Reading: Naisby; O'Brien and Herbert Smith; Henderson, Good, and Willie; Simpson, Poppitt, Bevan, Heywood and Flynn.

Luton winning the toss had the advantage of a strong south-westerly breeze. Reading, however, showed up well in the early stages, Naisby being shown by Good and Bevan, but Simpson's pass was cleverly stopped by Holdstock. Bevan and Poppitt made a desperate effort to get through, but McEwen defended superbly. Two fine panches by Naisby enlivened the proceedings, and Bevan and Poppitt, dashing through, the ball came out to Simpson, who shot in, but Thompson saved, Heywood sending the return past the post. Reading were attacking in earnest, but a series of mis-kicks in the Luton goal did not benefit Reading, who ought certainly to have been one up ere this. A neat cross by Flynn led to Henderson shooting in finely, but off-side was given against Bevan. Reading were attacking in brilliant style, and a lovely shot by Good struck the bar with terrific force and came out. Simpson made a very fine effort from the return, but Thompson saved in splendid style. Then Bevan rushed through, but the ball went soaring over the bar. Luton had all the best of it for some time, without seriously troubling Naisby, but Reading were the most dangerous side. Bevan, profiting by a mistake, ran through, but Bennett came across and kicked out. Again the Reading centre dashed through, but he was worried and placed the ball wide. Luton were seldom dangerous, the Reading backs being in great form, but Eaton once sent the ball whizzing past the post. Reading were always on the qui vive, and Bevan made a spirited effort to get through, but, as luck would have it, the ball passed just wide. Reading appealed strongly for "hands" near the Luton goal, but the referee shook his head. O'Brien, in making a dashing save, received a kick on the arm, which caused him to leave the field. Play was resumed in Reading territory, but Good cleared finely when hard-pressed. Bevan, Poppitt and Heywood now made a dashing attack on the Luton citadel, but McEwen eventually checked the Reading centre. Then Thompson made a very fine save from Simpson, and McEwen defended so well that Reading had to go point-les. O'Brien now returned. Two corners fell to Luton, who gave Reading a taste of their old quality, but Naisby made a brilliant clearance from McKee at close quarters. Reading came away in splendid manner, Bevan and Poppitt manœuvring the ball in fine style, but the centre man was pushed in

the back and dispossessed. A moment later, however, Bevan cleverly converted a pass by Heywood. "Hands" against Good looked dangerous after this, but off-side relieved the situation, and the interval came with the score—

READING	1
LUTON	0

The play on the resumption was very loose on Reading's part, the forwards playing very badly, with the result that Durnant ran through, O'Brien just checking by conceding a corner. This was splendidly placed, and Moody equalised. Reading now woke up a little, a neat cross shot by Good passing by the post. A well-placed corner-kick was brilliantly cleared by Thompson, who followed it up with a fine save from Poppitt. Another good run by Reading ought to have produced a goal, but Poppitt shot weakly, and Flynn, whose shooting left much to be desired, also placed wide. One fine effort by Good was a few inches out of it, and then McEwen rushed in to clear from Bevan, who followed it up with a smart break-away, McEwen clearing with a hard kick. Twice again the sturdy back relieved by kicking out. A splendid clearance by Herbert Smith was followed by a break-away by the Reading left, but Flynn and Heywood shot wretchedly. A hot one from Bevan, however, gave Thompson some trouble, and the centre man again manœuvred through the defence, but there was no one to receive the pass. Reading seemed now to have shot their bolt, for though they were frequently in their opponents' territory, play was very ragged. Bevan, however, once hesitated, with a fine opening, and was checked by McEwen, while Thompson smartly cleared by running out. A desperate scrimmage from a corner was one of Reading's expiring efforts, and a disappointing game ended with the score—

READING	1
LUTON	1