

The Southern League.

KETTERING v. LUTON.

Played at Kettering on Saturday. Result:—

Luton 2 goals.

Kettering 1 goal.

The Luton team finished up their Southern League programme on Saturday with a visit to Kettering, and succeeded in gaining a couple of points at the expense of the unfortunate Ketts. The Luton team included—Thompson; Bennett and McEwen; F. Hawkes, White, and Holdstock; Durrant, Turner, McKee, Moody, and Allsopp. Mr. J. Tillotson was the referee.

Football is at rather a low ebb in Kettering just now, and only about a thousand spectators turned out to see the match. Luton won the toss, and McEwen naturally elected to play downhill, but though the visitors had the larger share of the game, the only goal of the first half went to the Ketts, Morris being the scorer. The Lutonians were strongly of opinion that it was offside, but it was allowed to count.

Crossing over, Luton made several determined efforts to equalise. McKee, Turner, and Durrant all testing the custodian. The outside-right had been very pressing in his attentions all through. One of his efforts was spoiled by Draper, who badly fouled him, and from the free kick White made the scores equal.

This roused the homesters, and for a time Luton had to look well to the defence. This they did, McEwen, as usual, putting in any amount of work, and eventually Luton got up the field and had the satisfaction of gaining the lead, through a smart bit of work by Moody. Kettering made desperate attempts to get on level terms again, but without success, and Luton won a very good game by two goals to one. A rather singular thing was that all three goals were scored uphill, and, as readers know, the hill at Kettering is rather pronounced.

The following is the League table up to date:

Goals.

	Plyd.	Wn.	Dn.	Lt.	For.	Agst.	P.
Southampton.....	34	22	6	6	75	30	51
Tottenham Hotspur.....	33	16	10	7	51	34	42
Bristol Rovers	34	17	8	9	66	42	42
Portsmouth	33	17	7	9	40	37	41
Reading	34	14	13	7	48	35	41
Millwall	33	16	8	9	63	40	40
Luton Town	34	14	12	8	38	33	40
Queen's Park Rangers...	33	14	11	8	51	35	39
Plymouth Argyle.....	34	13	10	11	44	34	36
Fulham	34	9	12	13	34	35	30
Swindon Town	33	9	11	13	39	42	29
West Ham United	33	10	7	16	39	43	27
Brentford	34	9	9	16	34	48	27
Northampton.....	33	10	6	17	35	59	26
Wellingborough	33	11	4	18	41	60	26
New Brompton.....	34	6	13	15	26	43	25
Brighton and Hove.....	34	6	12	16	45	69	24
Kettering	34	6	7	21	39	78	19

THE SOUTHERN LEAGUE

KETTERING v. LUTON.

The weather was very fine at Kettering when the teams turned out, though the heavy rain of two previous days had rendered the ground rather heavy. This was last home match of the season, and it was not to be wondered at that only about a thousand spectators lined the ropes. There was very little wind, and McEwen, having won the toss, elected to play down the slope and in the first bout Kettering were first to become dangerous, Hartwell, who reappeared in the team, being conspicuous with runs on the left wing.

Luton forwards, however, were not long in getting into their stride, and then the home goal underwent a hot attack, McEwen, with a beautiful run carrying the ball the whole length of the field, and, passing to Durrant, who with a terrific shot just missed the uprights when a goal seemed a certainty. Neither side was greatly exerting itself, though play was always clever and interesting. Then, from a centre by Wood, Morris scored what had every appearance of being an off-side goal.

Luton were having the better of exchanges, the game being principally confined to Kettering half. Durrant was always a thorn in the side of the home defenders, another long, ground shot from him just grazing the upright as it spun by. Allcock, on the left, got in much useful work, but Dorrington saved one or two good shots. The Kettering right occasionally broke away, but McEwen was in fine form at back.

Luton richly deserved to equalise, when a fine combination by the right wing ended in McKee getting in a very warm shot, which Dorrington only just contrived to keep out. A few minutes

later Luton were again swarming around the home goal. Moody got in a magnificent long shot, and, though Dorrington caught the ball, Darrant nearly succeeded in rushing it through the goal, though he received a nasty kick from the custodian in the attempt. The next minute Darrant got down, but Adey cleared.

HALF-TIME:

KETTERING	...	...	...	1
LUTON	...	...	...	0

Luton opened the second half in business-like fashion, McKee getting in a stinging shot, which Dorrington got away with difficulty, and the next minute let by a shot from Turner, which missed its billet by inches only. Webb essayed a few runs down the Kettering right, but McEwen was in splendid form, robbing him repeatedly. Darrant was again the terror of the right wing. One of his shots severely tested Dorrington, but on the next occasion Draper badly fouled him, and from a free-kick McKee grandly equalised.

It was fitting recompense for a very bad foul. Kettering, however, did not find the goal to their liking, and pressed hotly to again gain the lead. Bennett, in clearing from Ecclestone, conceded a corner, but nothing came from it. Then Turner and McKee finely took the ball into Kettering quarters again, only, however, for Draper to return. Thompson was deservedly cheered for a brilliant save from Ecclestone, who got in a very dangerous grounder at close range. Just before time the visitors made a hot attack, and a fine run by Allsopp and Moody ended in the latter beating Dorrington all hands up. The match therefore ended with the following.

RESULT:

LUTON	...	...	...	2
KETTERING	...	...	...	1