

# THE FIRST LEAGUE POINT.

## LUTON DRAW AT FULHAM.

Considering that Luton had not yet succeeded either in winning or even penetrating the defences of such teams as Swindon and Watford away from home, they did not enter upon the journey to Fulham on Saturday with the same amount of confidence as we should have done if they had had three wins instead of three defeats to their credit.

The name of Fulham last year was always respected by Lutonians, for everyone knows how they treated us in the Southern League matches and the English Cup tie, too. On paper this year Fulham have one of the best teams in the South, and the previous Saturday they went to Tottenham and beat the 'Spurs by the only goal scored, and that from a penalty.

To judge by the rousing reception he got it is very evident that Ted Turner was a popular member of the Fulham team last year, and even though an opponent they welcomed him back to the Craven Cottage ground. Punctually to time the teams lined up as follows:—

### LUTON.

Lindsay

Turner

McEwen

F. Hawkes

White

Bob Hawkes

Eaton Lamberton Penman Ross Barnes

O

Bell Graham Wardrope Fletcher Soar

Goldie

Gray

Howarth

Sharp

Ross

Fryer

### FULHAM

The Fulham Borough Band played light music before the start, but just before the game they cleared off the ground, and left the pitch to the two contending teams.

Fulham were first to appear, quickly followed by Luton. McEwen beat Fryer in the toss, and Wardrope started operations. Luton at the commencement were the first to press, Eaton centring and Ross clearing. Off a foul Ross cleared again. Luton kept up the attack, and Barnes dropped in one long shot just a few inches over the bar. McEwen checked Wardrope and then Eaton shot behind.

Fulham did not shape brilliantly at the commencement, and play for a time was all in their half. A run by Bell was smartly checked by Turner, and next Mac stopped Soar. A long shot by Gray went very wide, and then after some midfield play, Fulham got down dangerously off a foul, but the ball went behind. A minute late Lindsay brought off a very clever save at close quarters. After Eaton and Lamberton had got down Sharp relieved, and McEwen kicked well away when Fletcher looked dangerous.

Fulham improved greatly after this, and Luton's defence was well tested, and gallantly responded. Play was now centred in the Luton half, although Fulham were not particularly dangerous. Barnes looked like getting away, but Howarth pulled him up finely. A long shot by Bell went by, and then Soar put behind.

Still the locals pressed. Fulham's combination was pretty, but they finished up badly.

A good run by Luton was nullified by Lamberton getting off-side. Later on Fred Hawkes shot just by the post. This was hard luck for the visitors.

A bad piece of work by Ross, the Fulham back, gave Luton a corner, which eventually was spoilt by Fred Hawkes shooting over the bar. A minute later Soar forced a corner off McEwen, Barnes clearing.

A long shot by Howarth was thrown away by Lindsay, and then three times in double quick time McEwen shot the ball away. Luton got to the other end, and after both had put behind, Fryer saved from Penman at twenty yards range.

A grand run by Luton caused Fryer to clear from Eaton, and the next moment he gave a corner from a shot by "Bob" Hawkes.

Many goalkeepers might have easily missed Bob's shot for it was right in the corner. Luton were having but very little the worst of the play at this time, but the Fulham backs were very strong. Eaton forced another corner, which Gray headed away.

A spell of mid-field play followed, and again when Fulham ought to have got dangerous, Davie Ross nipped in and raced away to the other end.

Soar could make but little headway against Bob and Mac, for they seemed to have him well weighed up.

Although at times Fulham threatened danger, they found the Luton defence in grand fettle, one and all doing finely.

Some brilliant work by Davie Ross threatened a score, but Ross on the other side relieved. Although Luton combined very well, they finished up weakly instead of steadying themselves with the possible chance of scoring.

Again the Fulham backs checked Luton, and then at the other end Bell shot over the bar. McEwen was defending brilliantly, and time after time took the ball off his opponents' toes.

Then directly afterwards Penman with the open goal at his mercy missed a grand chance by shooting over. It was a terrible miss.

A grand bit of work by Bob Hawkes ended by Fryer fisting out.

#### HALF-TIME.

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| LUTON | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
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| FULHAM | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|

Immediately on resuming Fulham came down with a rush, but McEwen just managed to stop Soar.

After a little midfield play Luton got down, and Lamberton only missed the goal by inches, Fryer falling full length attempting to save, evidently thinking it would go inside.

Again Luton got down, only to find Goldie clear in the nick of time. Luton have played so well and pluckily that they deserved to draw.

The crowd has now reached fully fifteen thousand spectators, and they cheered Luton for their good work.

Luton were holding their own, although Soar put in one dropping shot just outside, whilst twice later, McEwen checked Soar. A run by Luton was spoilt by too hard kicking by the left wing, and next Barnes got off-side.

Fulham pressed, but somehow their work was not effective enough to look like scoring goals. Soar was being fed most judiciously by Ward-rope, but he could not run round McEwen..

#### RESULT:

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| LUTON | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
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|        |     |     |     |     |     |   |
|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| FULHAM | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
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