

THE SOUTHERN LEAGUE.

ANOTHER DROP FOR LUTON.

The following were the results of Saturday's matches:—

Tottenham H'spur (h)	1	Brighton and Hove	1
Fulham (h)	0	Bristol Rovers	0
Millwall	2	Luton (h)	1
Southampton (h)	1	Northampton	1
Brentford	1	New Brompton (h)	0
Swindon (h)	0	Queen's Park R.	0
Watford (h)	3	Reading	2
Plymouth Argyle (h)	2	West Ham United	0
Portsmouth	4	Wellingborough (h)	1
(h) Home team.			

The Southern table now stands:—

	Pld.	Won.	Lost.	Drn.	For.	Agst.	Pts.
Bristol Rovers	26	16	4	6	56	26	38
Reading	25	15	6	4	48	29	36
Southampton	25	14	5	6	48	29	34
Tottenham Hotspur	26	11	7	8	43	25	30
Portsmouth	25	13	9	3	50	41	29
New Brompton	28	9	9	10	36	32	28
Brighton and Hove	27	11	10	6	36	29	23
Northampton	25	11	9	5	38	37	27
Plymouth Argyle	25	11	10	4	40	33	26
Fulham	24	8	8	8	31	27	24
West Ham	27	9	12	6	33	33	24
Millwall	23	9	13	6	27	40	24
Queen's Park R.	26	8	11	7	35	41	23
Brentford	26	7	11	8	24	30	22
Swindon	29	9	15	4	34	52	22
Watford	23	9	11	3	24	27	21
LUTON	27	9	15	3	35	46	21
Wellingborough	25	5	19	1	23	80	11

A TUSSELE WITH MILLWALL.

LUCKY DOCKERS WIN.

Luton on Saturday had one of the old-time struggles with Millwall, and just as if history will keep repeating itself, the East Enders had all the luck and the majority of the goals, and Luton always were unlucky. The win of the previous Saturday looked like benefitting Luton, and the spectators rolled up in good numbers. This was certainly encouraging, and those present had an object lesson in the perversity of fate which has followed Luton this season.

Several of the usual Millwall players were out of the team, but this made but little difference, as the substitutes did quite as well as the recognised first team members.

Our old friend Calvey, was once more in the ranks of the dark blues, though the familiar form of Gettins was not there. How many years ago must it be since Calvey on the old ground in East Ferry-road opened the scoring against Luton for Millwall, when M. D. Nicholson played at right back. He repeated the performance on Saturday and the reverse seemed to take the heart out of the Luton players and spectators for a time.

Though still suffering from a bad ankle, R. Hawkes took his place at half-back, but owing to another kick during the game he could not do himself full justice.

The following were the teams:—

LUTON

Lindsay

Turner

McEwen

F. Hawkes

White

R. Hawkes

Eaton

Ross

Lamberton

Moody

Barnes

O

Watkins

Jones

Hunter

Calvey

Bradbury

Blythe

J. McLean

Proudfoot

Stephenson

R. McLean

Joyce

MILLWALL

Referee: Mr. J. T. Howcroft (Bolton).

A yard further and Lamberton should have scored the first goal, but he shot too soon, and Joyce got down and saved. To equalise matters, as it were, Millwall got down, and Calvey, fastening on a header from Mac, shot just by the corner of the goal.

Play was very carefully judged, and the Millwall left kicked out. History repeated itself at the other end, and Mac kicked out.

A corner immediately followed but was placed behind, the wind just carrying the sphere over the line.

The Luton side was kept in their half of the field much too much to be pleasant, but a pass came from Ross to Eaton, who ran away, but was pulled up before he had got far.

The Luton side had a pretty passing bout in the Millwall half, but this also came to nothing. The Millwall goal had rather a narrow escape, the ball being headed just wide.

being near.
Lamberton was brought down twice rather badly, but both charges appeared to be legitimate. Luton got down two or three times, once by a kick by Mac.

Millwall at once replied, but Ross was fouled, and from the free kick the ball was kicked against the Luton centre forward and went behind.

Lindsay almost failed to get away the ball from a long shot, but he got it off his lines in the end, which after all is the thing.

The home team had the disadvantage of the wind, and this proved of great advantage to the Blues.

Lamberton received a good pass from Bob Hawkes and shot, and Joyce nearly fumbled it. Fred Hawkes was cheered for robbing several opponents. Millwall then got away on the left, and Bradbury, giving Calvey a splendid chance, the veteran Millwallian shot and easily beat Lindsay.

The spectators had cheered the Luton men up a great deal, but this reverse served to damp their enthusiasm.

Joyce made a magnificent save from Ross, and Bob Hawkes pulling the Millwall forwards up, another hot attack on the goal followed, and Luton had the hardest of hard luck in not scoring.

Barnes and Moody put in a good one, but the ball, according to the linesmen, went out of play, though this decision the spectators roundly hooted.

Millwall attacked after this, but eventually the ball was placed over the bar by Bradbury.

Hands on the half-way line helped to a further attack on the Luton goal, and Turner and McEwen cleared splendidly several times in succession.

Joyce gave one gigantic punch which drew forth the admiration of the crowd, then Millwall got away and twice Lindsay had to save.

The ball dodged about the Millwall goal in a most tantalising manner, but nobody happened to be at the right spot to net the sphere.

Calvey got hurt, and the game had to be stopped for a few minutes. Just before this, one of the Millwall men struck the ball with his elbow inside the penalty area.

One of the linesmen had called the attention of the referee to an infringement of the rule by Luton, but he omitted to do so on this occasion, and the crowd did not forget to remind him of the fact.

Millwall forwards were put on the run again by an unlucky kick to Jones, who brought the ball down, and, passing to the right wing, Calvey returned and Hunter scored. Half-time:

MILLWALL	goals	shots	shots	goals
LUTON	goals	shots	shots	goals

2

0

Luton seemed to find their feet at once and the home side got down but Stevenson repelled the attack with a fine kick.

Once again he rushed in and saved, and then Joyce was called upon to handle the ball.

Lamberton twice got the ball on the spot, but Joyce was there. Eaton had a chance, but the man was covered, and he shot over the bar.

The first goal then fell to Luton from a shot by Barnes. At the same minute a Millwallian fell down hurt, having been kicked by one of his own men, and had to be carried off the field.

Millwall played the one-back game owing to the absence of R. McLean, who, it seemed, was the injured player.

Two or three times Luton were pulled up for off-side, and the game was spoilt in consequence.

RESULT:-

MILLWALL	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
LUTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

NOTES ON THE GAME.

The following notes on the game are contributed by "Strawopolis":—

Luton and Millwall have for years been the keenest of rivals. Years ago it was always our pleasure to fight for the premier honours of the Southern League.

Luton had their full team out, and whilst Millwall had dropped Maxwell, they introduced Calvey, the old Notts. Forester. It was originally intended to play their old amateur, Joe Gettins, but unfortunately he could not get to Luton from Reading in time. It was a disappointment to Joe, for he has a great partiality to play against Luton.

The sun shone brilliantly when the teams turned out, but the ground was in a very heavy state. This was a pity, for Luton much prefer a dry ground, and always do better when it is on the hard side.

Once Joyce nearly made a mistake, for he almost let a shot from Luton at close quarters crawl into the net. Just at this time Stevenson was putting in some good defensive work for Millwall.

Joyce made a couple of very good saves from long shots from White and Moody. A spell of midfield work followed, in which Fred Hawkes was prominent with two or three bits of good work.

A disappointment followed directly afterwards, for after a little clever manœuvring in midfield an opportunity was given Calvey, and he scored a fine goal from twenty yards range with a clever cross shot that gave Lindsay no chance.

Through Lamberton and Stevenson trapping the ball together the former hurt his knee again, and for a few moments was hors de combat. The referee did not notice the incident, and for a time play was continued. The attention of Lawson soon put Lamberton right again, and play was resumed.

Directly afterwards some exciting incidents occurred around Joyce's citadel. He brought off a hundred to one chance at close quarters from Ross, and again it looked as though Luton must equalise, but the ball hit the cross-bar and the situation was saved. Luton were decidedly unlucky, whereas Millwall were very fortunate. Luton were now playing a capital game, and Fred White was showing fine form.

Millwall's defence was experiencing several bits of good fortune, and it was only luck that saved their citadel once or twice. Once it looked as though a penalty ought to have been given against Stevenson for handling, but the appeal was ignored.

Although they had weakened somewhat in their play Luton were trying hard to equalise. A little steadiness once or twice might have done the trick. Millwall did not stand on ceremony, for they invariably had either the man or the ball.

Another run by Millwall saw them scoring another goal, for an opportunity was given to Hunter, and with no one but Lindsay to beat, he easily netted the ball, and Millwall stood two goals up. This was a great disappointment to the crowd. Half-time was now called, and the onlookers looked very downcast.

Luton commenced a somewhat feeble attack on resuming. Twice Joyce had to save, but neither were dangerous shots. A minute later Lamberton gave Joyce a hot shot, and then Eaton missed a grand chance right in the goal mouth.

Directly afterwards, from a run by Luton, Barnes got close in, and scored a goal for Luton amidst much cheering. Just at this moment R. McLean came into collision with one of his own men and got his head badly cut. Play had to be suspended for five minutes, and McLean had to be carried off.

Millwall played the one back game afterwards, and play was considerably interfered with. Luton did the bulk of attacking, but they were continually pulled up for offside.

A corner to Luton was placed behind the goal by Barnes. A run and centre by Barnes came right across to Ross, but the latter shot right by the post.