

LUTON v. NORTHAMPTON.—Played at Luton on Tuesday. Result: Luton, 1 goal, Northampton nil. Teams: Luton: Platt; Blackett and McCurdy; F. Hawkes, White and Gallacher; Latheron, McDonald, Brown, R. Hawkes and Barnes. Northampton: Perkins; Dreman and Martin; Neal, Chadwick and Tirrell; Frost, Platt, Brawn, Gooing and Dilks. There was a record attendance, nearly 10,000 being gathered together. The visitors have never beaten Luton at Luton, and only once have they done this even on their own ground. Warner's place was filled by Latheron, and Barnes took up his rightful position on the other wing. On the visiting side Martin deputised Durber. Luton kicked off against the wind and Latheron sent the ball an inch above the bar in the first minute. Gooing managed to get past Platt, just after the whistle had sounded for offside. In the early stages "Bob" Hawkes had his lip cut and when he resumed had to play with his handkerchief to his mouth. All through the first half Luton were repeatedly superior, though on occasions Northampton missed chances but Brown shot over with only Perkins to beat. The goalkeeper, who once played for Luton, on another occasion, left his charge entirely unprotected through dashing out, but even then no score resulted, and at half-time there were no goals. In the second half the homesters had much more of the play than the visitors. A hot one from "Bob" Hawkes was nearly muffed by Perkins in the first minute and another one from the Luton captain was only a yard wide of the post. The ball travelled from foot to foot in front of the Northampton goal for several minutes in tantalising fashion, but every shot struck the leg or body of a visitor, and defeat was for the time averted, though more by luck and by judgment. A hard, long-distance shot by "Bob" went only an inch over the bar. In the other half a very fine centre by Frost had to be punched out by Platt. Perkins was fortunate in saving a beautiful cross-shot of Latheron's just inside the post and immediately after he caught one from "Bob" Hawkes. The latter player was bowled over in the penalty area, but the referee only awarded a "throw-up."

During the last quarter of an hour "Bob" had to leave the field through an injury to his leg, and while he was absent the only goal of the match was scored. Blackett from a corner taken by Barnes flashed the ball in the net, amid a scene of great excitement. The winners really deserved a more substantial lead, for they were better in every way than the losers. In the second half they had matters all their own way, except for a few break-aways. Everyone played a good game, but Latheron's was particularly clever.