

LUTON v. CLAPTON ORIENT.

Played at Luton on Monday. Result:—

Luton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Clapton Orient	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Luton: Platt; Else and McCurdy; Gallacher, White and H. Lane; Warner, Wiles, McDonald, Pickering and Latheron.

Clapton: Redding; Reason and Holmes; Proudfoot, Bowden and Codling; Gibson, Hammond, Leigh, Dougal and Bourne.

Referee Mr. C. H. Bayles, Hitchin.

As will be seen by the above teams Luton were without the services of Brown, Barnes, F. and R. Hawkes and Blackett, whilst people who visited the field in anticipation of seeing George Lambertson were disappointed. The side, aided by a phenomenal amount of luck, was nearly sufficient to give Luton their quietus. For 45 minutes the O's had the measure of Luton, though once Warner caused Redding a great amount of uneasiness by a fast shot which the goalkeeper just managed to get round the post. Luton were incorrectly pulled up for offside, and almost direct from the kick Dougal scored a lucky goal. The ball would have hit the bar, but Platt put up his hand, and to everyone's surprise the ball was seen lying in the net.

The efforts of Luton lacked finish, and whether it was the ground, the ball, or the players, the football never rose to anything approaching a good style. Wiles could do nothing right, and Pickering and McDonald kept getting mixed. The Clapton men appeared generally to be veterans, and they gave a very poor display, combination being at a sad discount. Once Warner got the ball into the goal, but he was promptly ruled offside. The Luton backs and goalkeeper got into a tangle when attempting to clear a high shot, and had not White rushed up and headed behind the visitors would have been another goal ahead.

After the re-start of the second half Luton went down towards the Dunstable end goal in promising style, and McDonald finished up the movement by a grand shot, but Redding happened to be directly in the way and the effort failed. Soon afterwards Wiles received a pass from Pickering and equalised. Luton then got the ball into the net, but were brought back for a penalty. McDonald was making a straight line for goal pursued by Reason. Redding came out to meet the flying couple, and just inside the penalty area Mac was tripped, and went full tilt at the goalkeeper. Redding was quite flattened out by the Luton forward, and the ball went rolling on into the net. Clapton were prepared to shake hands with themselves when the referee awarded a penalty, and they metaphorically fell on each other's necks and wept for joy as Warner put the ball high over the cross-bar. McDonald struck the post with a good shot after making a grand run, and this was the last time either side got dangerous. The game was rather a poor one, and the refereeing might have been much better with a little more decisiveness on the part of Mr. Bayles. If Monday's performance is a criterion of the true form of Clapton Orient one can understand their position at the bottom of the second league ladder.