

FOOTBALL NOTES AND NEWS.

By "Grasshopper."

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.

LUTON LOSE AT LEYTON.

On the occasion of their visit to Leyton on Saturday, Luton just managed to lose. They are good fighting teams who succeed in winning on foreign soil, and the Essex team are certainly not to be despised. Although new to the League they have done remarkably well, having practically won one point for every match played. To be correct, Leyton have obtained 30 points for their 31 matches. However, on Saturday they had a certain measure of luck. True, Leyton played a decent game, and though they were victors by one goal to love, it was not because they succeeded in beating Platt. It was Hogg who put the ball through his own goal half-way through the first moiety. Luton were without R. Hawkes, his place being filled by Jones; and Fitzpatrick had also to stand down for Pickering, who once more came into the team.

Turnbull kicked off for Leyton. The Leyton left wing came down at the start, but Hogg intervened and sent well up to Warner, who dashed away, but shot tamely behind. Leyton returned, but were soon driven back by the Luton backs, who were showing splendid form. Neither set of forwards were doing anything of note, good play by the halves being chiefly responsible for this. Turnbull was conspicuous for a fine effort when he hit the inside of the upright with a stinging shot. Play brightened up considerably after this, and twenty minutes after the start Hogg, in trying to stop a grounder from Hesham, accidentally put the ball through his own goal, thus scoring for Leyton.

The locals pressed hard on the re-start, and Kelly once had a good chance from a centre by Hesham, but failed to steady himself and shot wildly over. Evans was well placed, but also shot wildly, and the ball hit the cross-bar and bounced back into play. Turnbull looked a certain scorer when he broke through the Luton defence, but he kicked the ball too far ahead, and Platt dashed out of goal and robbed him. Play became very quiet after this and remained so until the end of the half, which came with Leyton leading by a goal to nil.

Resuming, Turnbull tested Platt with a grand drive, which the goalkeeper was glad to push round the post for a barren corner. Hesham made a dashing run, but his final shot landed on top of the net. The Luton right wing made some ground till a timely tackle and clearance by Moles averted disaster. After Platt had saved well from Turnbull the Luton left again made a good run, but Ramsay intervened this time, and sent them back. Warner made a splendid run but finished badly, and Meredith easily got the ball away. Leyton at this period were having most of the game, but their shooting was weak and caused Platt very little anxiety.

A free-kick near in looked dangerous for Luton, but Kelly shot straight at Platt from Meredith's kick, and the goalkeeper easily cleared. Good play by Warner gave Brown a chance, but Meredith robbed him before he could shoot. After Hogg had cleared nicely from a dangerous Leyton rush, Warner made a splendid run and forced a corner off Meredith. Hesham forced a corner off McCurdy, but placed the ball badly, and Jones headed out of danger. Turnbull was splendid placed for a burst through the backs; however, he elected to pass to Hesham, who lost a good chance through handling. Skiller was next conspicuous for a grand save from Sandy Brown, who shot hard and fast from a pass by Barnes. Leyton pressed hard in the closing minutes, but the Luton defence remained firm, and they could not add to their score.

Result: Leyton, 1 goal; Luton, nil.