

NORTHAMPTON v. LUTON.

Played at Northampton on Easter Monday.
Result:—

Northampton	nil.
Luton	nil.

Luton were represented by the same team as on Saturday, and the men doing duty for Northampton were:—Cooch; Drennen and Benskin; Tirrell, Neal, and Maris; Dickens, Platt, Randall, Watkins, and Hartwell.

Referee, Mr. H. Horrocks, Bolton.

There seemed to be more Luton people on the ground than supporters of the home team. Everywhere were young men wearing hats or button-holes of blue and white plait, and they were evidently out to enjoy themselves. In other years, Luton have generally won, and the excursionists felt confident that the visitors would beat the wooden spoonists on this occasion.

But there was little or nothing for the blue and white brigade to shout about. Luton were much below their usual form, and Northampton surprised even their own supporters; indeed, with a little luck they would have won both points in the closing minutes of the game.

Although Luton were set to face the sun, they had the better of the play during the first ten minutes or so, and obtained two or three corners, but were never really dangerous. Gradually, Northampton improved, and things looked bad for Luton once when Platt ran out and missed the ball near the feet of Dickens.

The Luton goalkeeper, however, was fortunate enough to recover the sphere, and nothing else of note happened before the interval. On the whole, play had been fairly even up to now, but Platt had done rather more work than Cooch, and had left his charge more than once. The Luton players had evidently made up their minds not to over-exert themselves, and perhaps there was some excuse for them considering the heavy holiday programme and the heat.

Early in the second half, Gittins and Warner changed places, but this made no difference to the run of the play. Once Brown seemed likely to score, but there was a twist on the ball, and his shot went wide. Later on, the Northampton inside right tried to meet a dropping centre, and the Luton Platt ran out and failed to get the ball. The Northampton man sent wide, and thus missed a splendid opportunity.

Pickering and Brown were getting through nicely, when one of the home backs cleared, giving a corner. At the other end, Platt brought off a good save, and Luton, returning to the attack, Brown shot on to the wrong side of the net. The best play of the match was seen in the last few minutes, when Northampton put some sting into their attack, and the Luton defence was repeatedly hard pressed.

About a couple of minutes before the end, Hartwell got away nicely, and White handled in trying to clear. The Northampton supporters called for a penalty, but the referee took no notice, and Luton went away, Cooch having to save. Perhaps the result was a fair indication of the run of the play, for no one, seeing Luton for the first time, would have thought they were a better team than the Cobblers.