

WESTERN LEAGUE.

CRYSTAL PALACE DRAW WITH LUTON

There was a marked decrease in the attendance at Monday's match; the "gate" was indeed in striking contrast to that which witnessed the encounter in the same League, with West Ham. Seeing that the clubs entered for the Western League have agreed to put their full teams into the field, a Monday's match should prove attractive to some people. However, the fortunes of the 'Town have of late been going down hill, and no doubt that had some effect on Monday's attendance. And then, too, on Saturday everybody has finished work, while on Monday the week's labour is beginning.

Moody appeared at centre, with Rigate and Rankin on the right wing, and Walders and Hall on the left; Jones was at left half, and Dimmock played at left back with McCurdy. The Palace, too, had a strong team.

The game was not particularly interesting. While there was a great deal of bustling about, there was not much really good play, and taken on the whole the match was of an inferior character. Luton had by far the best of matters in the first half, and penned the visitors in repeatedly. The home forwards essayed a shot now and then, but Hall, the custodian, did really great things between the posts. With Rigate outside and Rankin inside, the locals' right wing early gave promise of doing something good. Both men got on well together at the start, but before success had come there was a slight change in their happy "understanding." Moody was trying hard, but found Ryan too good for him. Walders and Hall also gave of their best—for a time. All the same, the Glaziers' goal was a bit lucky to escape capture more than once. Then, after half-an-hour's play, Hall gave Luton the lead with a decent shot.

The teams crossed over with the Blues leading by the odd goal. The Palace now showed improved form. Their forwards displayed finer combination than that witnessed on the Luton side. The home right wing, which had at first showed up so well, was now as erratic as it could be, while Hall appeared to have the unhappy knack of being always in the way of one of his partners. Yet the home men were having a look in now and then, and though the display was not up to much, honours were fairly even. Towards the close the visitors made a desperate effort, but success came rather unexpectedly. Three minutes to time Woodger, the Palace centre-forward, got through and equalised. Nothing further happened, and taken altogether a draw was perhaps a fair solution of matters. Dimmock, it should be added, did very well at back, without being brilliant.

Result: Luton 1 goal, Crystal Palace 1 goal.