

NORTHAMPTON'S WIN AT LUTON.

For their match with Northampton on Easter Monday, the "selection committee" once more rearranged the home side. After his poor display against Leyton on Saturday, Pearson was dropped, A. E. Jones, the amateur, coming in at centre-forward. Nicholson also deputed McCurdy at back in preference to White, while Walders took Moody's place in the front line. Jarvis once more did duty in goal. Northampton came with a fairly strong side, but played a reserve man on the right wing. There was not quite the crowd

that was naturally expected. The "snowy" weather and Luton's disappointing exhibition on Saturday no doubt affected the gate considerably. Special excursions were run from Northampton, and from the cheering of the crowd, it was evident that the visitors brought with them a strong following. About seven thousand were present when the Cobblers kicked off against the wind.

There was little to choose in the sides at the start. Luton had materially recovered from their weakness of the Saturday previous, and the pace was rather fast. Northampton were the first to get to close quarters, but the home defence was a trifle surer, and Jarvis had no difficulty in clearing. Midfield play was very interesting to watch, and there was a little excitement now and then, when one side or the other attacked. Both goals had narrow escapes, the ball skimming the bars a few times. If anything, the locals held the upper hand; but the Northampton defence was superb. Benson was really fine at back, and McCartney, the centre-half, was a regular worry to the Luton forwards. Cooch, too, was thoroughly reliable, even if he had a lucky escape. When they broke away the visitors were generally dangerous, and the home backs were distinctly lucky in extricating themselves out of a few tight corners.

The teams crossed over with a blank score. Luton should have been one up, and yet if Northampton had had their just dues, and had been given a penalty against Jones for handling, one might say that both sides were "quits" so far as the first half was concerned.

In the second moiety, however, the Cobblers had three parts of the play. They pressed desperately from the re-start, but their shooting was not exactly of the best. Luton now showed an improved defence. Still Jarvis's charge had at least a couple of hairbreadth escapes. Now and then Luton forced the game, but Cooch was not to be beaten. Northampton were fighting hard to obtain the lead, and it must be confessed they had the luck against them. Twenty minutes to time their efforts were rewarded, but rewarded in a manner that they never expected. Northampton were pressing very energetically, when Nicholson, in trying to clear, put through his own goal, thus repeating White's performance of Saturday. This was rather hard lines on Luton, because nothing further was scored, and Northampton just won by the narrowest margin. Still no one really begrudged the visitors their victory on the afternoon's play.

Result: Northampton, 1 goal; Luton, 0.