

LUTON'S TURN.

The Ivy-road ground was packed on Tuesday, when Luton played the return Southern League match with Watford, and there must have been about nine thousand spectators present. Bob Hawkes resumed his old place at left half, and Johnson went centre-forward. Jarvis again deputised for Naisby, and a grand game he played too. The ground was soft and treacherous in spite of the frost at night, and a blustering wind, accompanied by occasional falls of snow, made the conditions far from ideal from everybody's point of view.

In spite of these drawbacks, however, the game was fast and exciting. Luton proved themselves far and away the better team, and had they won by an even larger margin than 3-1 they would not have got more than their deserts. Moody was in fine form and scored twice, while Fred Hawkes notched the third. The outstanding figure, however, was Bushell, who tackled and passed brilliantly. Both backs, Potts and Wightman, played as well as they did on the previous day, and if the defence maintains its present form, Luton should soon rise on the League table.

In the first minute Stansfield lost a grand chance by shooting into Webster's hands, and a moment later Brown centred grandly, but the ball was too lively for Stansfield. Luton continued to press, a raid by Watford ending in Tattersall shooting wildly behind. Some fine passing by the left wing took the ball to the Watford end, but Webster caught Stansfield's centre. Tattersall sent in a beauty which Jarvis saved, but the crowd's attention was now drawn chiefly to the collapse of a fence which precipitated the spectators on to the pitch. Going to the other end Moody obtained possession from close in and beat Webster easily. This occurred after fifteen minutes.

The next incident of note was a magnificent save by Jarvis from Squires. Quinn had a grand chance from a rare tussle in the Watford goal-mouth, and a shot from Stansfield was only just saved by Webster at the expense of a corner. The forwards found it difficult to control the ball, although a shot from Johnson caused Webster to fall at full length in order to save, a fruitless corner resulting. In trying to clear from Quinn, Webster was charged and badly winded. Jarvis again saved grandly from close in, and Luton took up the attack once more.

Stansfield centred from a throw-in and Quinn headed to Moody, who beat Webster for the second time with a great cross shot. Returning to the attack, Fred Hawkes hit the post with Webster beaten. Twice Johnson was given offside, decisions which were quite correct. Moody caused Webster to fall on his knees to a fast shot, and Fred Hawkes immediately repeated the dose. A miskick by one of the Watford half-backs gave Moody an opportunity to shoot, and Webster only just saved by falling at full length. Half-time came with Luton leading by 2-0.

Soon after the re-start, the Watford goal was literally bombarded, and the pressure was at length relieved by Fred Hawkes shooting wide. A magnificent centre by Brown nearly brought about the downfall of the Watford goal, Webster only just turning the ball over the bar for a corner, from which Bushell headed wide. Stansfield terminated a characteristic run by passing to Johnson, whose shot just missed the corner of the goal. On another occasion Johnson broke through, but he kicked the ball too hard, and Webster landed it into safety.

A long shot from Bushell was well gathered by Webster, who was playing a fine game, and one of the Watford backs nearly turned a centre from Brown into his own goal. The corner kick was cleared, but Luton returned and Stansfield gained another corner. This he placed well, and one of the visitors' defenders kicked the ball to Fred Hawkes, who promptly landed the sphere into the net.

With three goals to their credit, Luton began to slow up, and Watford had more of the game. Jarvis saved a shot on the ground, and was immediately surrounded by the visiting forwards. He stuck to the ball, however, while Potts kept the forwards off, and was eventually able to get it behind for a corner.

During another Watford attack, Potts was injured, and had to be carried off. Moody caused loud cheers by heading past Webster, but the point was rightly disallowed for offside. Watford had better luck, however, Maclaine converting a magnificent centre from Beaumont. This goal was one of the best of the match, and later the same player almost repeated the performance, but he reckoned without Jarvis, who saved in fine style. Moody made two likely efforts to score, but Webster saved both, and Johnson headed just over from a corner kick. Neither goalkeeper was troubled much towards the close, and time came with the score:—

LUTON 3, WATFORD 1.

The game was remarkable for the scarcity of fouls, and the referee is to be congratulated on the excellent manner in which he conducted the match.