

## LUTON MERELY DRAW.

For their Southern Alliance match at home on Saturday with Croydon Common, Luton had alterations amongst the forwards and halves. Bob Hawkes dropped back again to his old place in the intermediate line, displacing Thompson, while a London amateur was tried at outside right. Another amateur from "town" was also to have been given a run at centre-forward, but he did not turn up, and Stephenson once more led the attack.

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Croydon had the same team as last Saturday, with the exception that R. G. Polson did not play, so Chester moved in, and his place was taken by Jex. The teams therefore read:—

Luton — Abbott; Henderson and Potts; F.



Hawkes, Wilson, and R. Hawkes; W. G. Jelley, Wileman, Stephenson Streeton, and Worth.

Croydon Common—Newton; Little and Hutchins; Colpus, Yenson, and Pace; R. J. Hemmell, Allman, Hartness, Chester and Jex.

Referee, Mr. F. W. Burton, Ealing.

The attendance did not equal last week's in spite of the vastly better weather. At the start, Luton forced a corner, and Streeton trying a quick shot as the ball came in, sent it the wrong side of the post. Croydon broke away, but a huge kick by Henderson stopped the rush for a moment. The visitors once more went up the field, but Henderson gave the ball to Wilson, who passed neatly to Jelley. The right winger dodged a man and shot, but Newton ran out a couple of paces and cleared. Croydon pressed, and Allman dropped the ball just over the cross-bar. Bob Hawkes did not pass well once or twice, but he eventually sent Worth away, the ball being cleared when centred.

Streeton and Worth looked like going through shortly afterwards, but Hutchins ran across and kicked up the field. After Jelley had dropped in a lovely shot, which Newton disposed of, Stephenson drove the ball very hard just over the bar. Then Allman got away on his own, and Wilson fouled him just outside the penalty area. When the game had been on for about 25 minutes, Worth centred nicely to Stephenson, and Jimmy shot hard. The goalkeeper interposed, and the ball went out a few yards, but Newton slipped, and though Stephenson could not get his foot to the ball, the chance was not missed to Luton, for Worth had run in, and he scored easily. The goalkeeper got a knock or kick on the top of the head in the scuffle, and needed the trainer's attention. He did not leave the field, but was apparently in pain for the rest of the half.

Allman again caused trouble to the Luton defence, but slipped just as he was about to shoot the ball between the two defenders who were closing in on his path. Yenson next sent the right wing away, but Allman finished very weakly. Bob Hawkes was improving, and after robbing Croydon he gave to his left wing, but Yenson, with a good hard shoulder charge, bowled Streeton over. Worth soon afterwards tapped the ball forward between Colpus's legs, and one of the backs had to kick out to save his side.

Henderson took the ball very neatly from Jex, and soon play was in front of the Croydon goal. Stephenson avoided a vigorous charge, and, running round his opponent, got his foot to the ball, and, without an inch too much room in which to move, whizzed the ball into the net at the far side. It was a fine goal. Croydon played much better after this. Jex tried a splendid dropping shot but Abbott cleared. Then Harness shot very hard, and Abbott was just able to deflect it. After this an almost open goal was missed by one of the Croydon men. Just before half-time, Streeton, at thirty yards' range, sent in a beauty, which Newton dropped, but he managed to pick it up and clear before anyone could get up, so the score at half-time was 2-0 for Luton.

Croydon did much better in the second half. Henderson stopped one piece of work, but Hartness finished a smart run down with a good shot. Abbott threw the ball out, but before the goalkeeper could recover, Hemmell got it and netted with a fine cross shot. Newton made a rather lucky save soon afterwards by just jabbing his foot down and driving out a good attempt by Jelley. Jex then got away, but Henderson knocked him flying, and a free kick was given. The Croydon forwards certainly did most of the attacking at this time, but their wing men couldn't centre when on the run.

A fine bit of play by Allman and Hemmell got the ball close down to the Luton goal, and though the home defenders hustled them they retained possession until centring. Jex had come in to meet it, and with a splendid first timer he sent the ball in waist high. Luton had good cause to bestir themselves now that their two goals had been equalised. Stephenson and Jelley attacked, but the ball came back. Fred Hawkes met it and looked like scoring, but the ball struck one of the defenders and went in the wrong direction. After a short stoppage through Hutchins getting the ball under his jaw from a hard kick at very close quarters, Jex took the play up into the Luton area for a time. Members of both teams were apt to get over-excited, and there was some more than vigorous play.

A capital shot by Allman was kicked for a corner by Abbott. Potts soon afterwards made one of his favourite rushing clearances, but Croydon did practically all the attacking, and it was only the brilliant work by Abbott that stopped Jex from scoring. The home team made a final spurt, and it looked as though the winning goal was coming when Worth tricked a back and centred nicely, but just as Stephenson was about to shoot, Croydon cleared. Luton pressed hard right to the final whistle, but could not alter the score of 2-2.