

LUTON v. NEWPORT.

This Southern League (Second Division) match was played on the Luton Ground on Saturday, the result being:—

Luton Town 5 goals.
Newport County nil.

Teams:—

Luton—H. Bateman; J. R. Elvey and Jarvie; F. Hawkes, Wilson, and R. M. Hawkes; Stephenson, Wileman, Smith, J. Chipperfield, and Worth. Newport—Husbands; Perry and Taylor; E. Jones, Lean, and McDougall; Westwood, Hull, E. Hammett, W. Fyfe, and Bowdler.

Referee, Mr. F. Heath (Birmingham).

As Newport, on their own pitch, had beaten Luton 5-1, the match was awaited with some interest, to see what Luton would do in return. That interest, however, was not widely shared, for the spectators came in rather slowly, and the crowd never assumed very large proportions. Bob Hawkes won the toss but the wind was not of a kind to give either side much assistance; it made the ball quite difficult to control. Smith began well by opening out the game and passing to Stephenson, but the right-winger did not get the ball nicely to his foot, and his kick was a weak one. The Newport forwards introduced plenty of dash, and twice in quick succession Bateman rushed out and punched away as the ball came dangerously near. Then Hammett ran round one of the Luton men, and there was a great possibility of a goal, but Bateman once more came between. After this, Wileman received the ball and side-footed it nicely to Stephenson, who centred, but the ball was stopped in its flight by one of the Newport halves, who handled. Westwood got away on the visitors' right, but Jarvie ran smack up against him, and down went Westwood. He had managed to send the ball forward just before the impact, but it was easy for Elvey to clear. The next incident was on the same side of the field. Chipperfield, the Clarence youth who was having his first run with the Town team, had dropped back a little to assist the halves, when one of the Newport men pulled his legs from under him.

Presently Smith received a useful pass, and was making straight for goal when a back intervened and the ball went for a corner. Worth dropped it in nicely from the flag, and Smith, getting his head to it, directed it well, but Husbands clutched it and cleared just as some of the crowd yelled "Goal." Two corners came in quick succession on the right, and then on the left, Chipperfield, after a fine bit of close dribbling, turned the ball inwards nicely, but Husbands dealt with it successfully. Luton's attack at this period was well sustained, for Jarvie stopped an attempted break-away by the visitors and placed right across to Wileman, who headed on to Stephenson. The winger was running inwards when Taylor handled. Shortly after that there was another fine bit of work by Chipperfield, who beat two men and placed the ball in front of goal for the other forwards to finish off the work, but Husbands once more got to it in the nick of time. Smith made a capital run. The ball was repelled and came back to Wilson, who drove in a long shot. In itself it was a good one, but when it just touched a Newport player, that was sufficient to give it a twist to put Husband's calculations completely out, and the ball flew into the net far away from him.

Just after that, Husbands, in stopping a low shot, dislocated a finger of his right hand. Perry took his place, and saved smartly a hot shot by Stephenson. The visitors then made a run, and Westwood dropped the ball into the centre, but Elvey disposed of it. Meanwhile Dr. Rose attended to Husbands' finger, and he pluckily resumed his part in the game. He soon saw danger from his right, for Worth dropped in a lovely centre, but Smith headed over. A splendid shot was put in by Perry from a long distance, and the ball came awkwardly to Bateman, but he managed to hold it. The opportunities were chiefly with Luton, but the shooting just before half-time was very wild.

On re-starting, Luton at once began to press. For a little while the play was obscured in one part of the field through a chimney on the other side of the Beech-hill path having some internal trouble. The thick black smoke beat straight down upon the players, and it was quite impossible from the Press-box to see what was happening. The players emerged from the smoke of battle, and Wileman drove a very quick shot towards goal, but the ball passed just outside the farther post. Newport got away, and the position looked dangerous for Luton, but Bateman ran out, and just as he fell at the forward's feet the ball went for a goal kick. When the game was on the move again, Hammett swung the ball out to Westwood, who quickly returned it to the centre, but Hammett missed and Elvey cleared. A nice pass by Wileman sent Stephenson going. He lifted the ball across to Chipperfield, who passed to Wileman. The inside-right shot, but the ball was beaten back and came to Chipperfield, who also put in a fine kick, but again Husbands saved. Bob Hawkes next got the ball, but once more it came to Chipperfield, and the end of this long tussle was that Chipperfield placed the ball quite out of Husbands' reach into the net. It was good to see Chipperfield score after his capital first performance.

The ball was shortly afterwards "lofted" to the roof of the stand, and there was a shout of laughter as it was seen that it had stuck. But the "invisible" hold consisted of the telephone wires, and the youth who clambered on to the roof repaid himself by kicking the ball from the exalted position. A terrific drive by Smith went a little wide. Worth next received the ball, and sent it across to the centre, where Chipperfield snapped it up and netted his second for the afternoon. The Newport men tried to improve their position, and a lovely shot by Westwood came very near to doing so. Bateman next saved from McDougall. Smith took up the running for Luton and made a dash for goal, but was hampered by a back, and the ball went to Wileman, who tried a hard right-foot shot. This banged up against a Newportonian, and Wileman then tried with his left foot. The shot hit the post on his right-hand side and flew across into the net on the left-hand side. Bob Hawkes afterwards had a good chance, but shot

wide. Then Wileman bobbed up again, and his attempt hit the post. There followed a tussle a little way out of goal. Chipperfield tried a ground shot, and although Husbands fell across it, the ball seemed to be endowed with a force of its own and wormed its way under him into goal. Thus Chipperfield got his third for the afternoon. Husbands afterwards saved very smartly a shot by Bob Hawkes. Westwood beat Jarvie and was racing in towards goal, but Eivey dashed across and took the ball off Westwood's toe. A tussle up in one corner in which Bob Hawkes came off the victor was about the last incident in the game.