New Hudson Depot
AGENTS FOR:
NEW HUDSON BICYCLES,
NEW HUDSON MOTOR CYCLES
10-12, CHAPEL STREET, LUTON.

THE FIELD OF SPORT.

New Hudson Depot
AGENTS FOR:
B.S.A. BICYCLES,
RALEIGH MOTOR CYCLES.
10-12, CHAPEL STREET, LUTON.

LUTON SUCCEED IN WALES.

WELL WON VICTORY AT MERTHYR.

(By "MORGAN.")

MERTHYR TOWN ..... 0 LUTON TOWN 1

MERTHYR.—Lindon; Langford, Ferrans; Pillinger, Foxall, Scott; Dempsey, Smith, E. Turner, H. Turner, Edwards.

LUTON.—Gibbon; Stephenson, Tirrell; Molyneux, Walker, Roe, Hoar, Butcher, Reid, Hoten, Clarkson.

Referee:—Mr. R. G. Rudd, London.

Many people visited Penydarren Park on Saturday who have been strangers to it this season. The desire was to see young Reid of Treedyrhiw, which is near here, for much interest is taken in the little Welsh lad's welfare, and, of course, his success has given many a local a theme upon which to criticise Aberdare, Merthyr, and many other Welsh clubs for allowing him to be taken off to Bedfordshire. Then there was Thomas Gibbon, who kept goal for Merthyr before going to sample the marmalade at Dundee, and, not least, the hope—or fear was it of seeing Will Jennings, who was Merthyr's captain for two seasons. Anyway, the crowd was rather better than usual—6,000—and although Jennings did not turn up, Reid was there all right, as the Merthyr defenders very quickly found out. Walker took the place of Jennings, and Stephenson was at right back instead of Lennon. Merthyr made a last-minute change. Dempsey, the former Millwall left-winger, was brought to outside right to the exclusion of Thomas, the former Bradford City player, and so the "Martyrs" were at full strength.

The ground was in fair condition, but a rather unruly breeze affected play, and the disadvantage it implied fell upon Luton in the first half. They, however, were not disconcerted by it, whereas the Merthyr halves and backs could not keep the ball under control nearly so well as did the visitors, with the result that Stephenson and Tirrell were not often in grave situation. On the other hand, the speed of the "Strawplaiters" worried the home defenders immensely, Hoar especially giving trouble, and had they been steady in front of goal they would have crossed over with a much better lead than the only goal of the first half.

It was certainly Luton's game in this half, and they got no more than repayment for their efforts when CLARKSON scored for them. The goal came thus. Ferrans and Scott had many tussles with Hoar, and should have been alive to the danger. Butcher had put in some useful work, and Langford failed to get the ball well away. Still there seemed to be no real cause for anxiety. Hoar, however, saw a chance of beating Ferrans for possession, and took it. He drove the ball across goal, and Clarkson ran up and promptly shot into the net, Lindon being helpless.

If the first half had been Luton's it was soon apparent that the "Martyrs" were going to make a bid for the honours afterwards. For a long time they had the better of the exchanges, and the visiting defenders had many worrying moments. They and their halves and inside-forwards, however, were giving nothing away, and smarter all-round defensive work has seldom been seen at Penydarren. For nearly half an hour the Luton halves and home forwards engaged in desperate struggle, but it must be confessed that the home team seldom got an opening, so well did the visitors cover up. A slice of misfortune befell the visitors, for during one of their many fast raids, usually by Hoar, the latter went through and centred. Butcher got the ball and gave to Reid, who scored a splendid goal, but for some reason that could only be guessed at as offside, the referee disallowed the point. The Twedyrhiw section of the crowd were as angry about it as the Luton players. Luton certainly had the better of the game in the closing quarter of an hour, and but for the fault of trying to dribble through instead of shooting, they might have got more goals. They could do almost anything except beat Lindon, and the home backs had most unhappy moments whenever the visiting forwards were in possession. However, the "Martyrs" managed to keep them out, and the game ended as stated.

Best of the home side were Lindon, Ferrans, Foxall, Scott, and the Turners.

Luton's great strength was in the quickness of their middle men. All played very fine football, and the wing halves were especially clever in the feeding of the men in front of them. They were very much better than Merthyr's halves, were cooler, more judicious, and quicker in recovery. Molyneux especially shining in this respect. Walker was a skilful foiler and shadowed E. Turner so closely that the Caerphilly lad got few chances, while no more intelligent half-back has been seen at Merthyr than Roe, who was a splendid assistant to both Tirrell and the left wing. Gibbon kept goal as skilfully as we know he can keep, and in Stephenson Luton seem to have quickly made good the absence of Lennon. Tirrell was a brainy back, and his judgment in tackling and mighty kicking won much praise. Forward Luton had a long pull, and Hoar was the cleverest of the ten on view. He was too fast for the home defenders, and his skill was unquestionable. Over and over again he had them guessing as to his next move, and they never knew whether he was going to pass, to dribble farther, to centre, or to shoot. He had hard luck with several fine shots, as well as putting in good centres. Much of his success was due to the unselfishness of his partner, Butcher, who was most assiduous in his attentions, quick in movement, and clever in control, and Hoar got the benefit of it. Clarkson also played finely, for very much the same reason. Hoten drew the opposition and then sent the winger away, and the result was invariably a well-timed centre that gave the visitors' inside men chances of scoring. Hoten was strong and active, and made some fast solo raids, and Reid confirmed popular opinion that Merthyr and Aberdare have lost a really good youngster. He was a long way from perfection, but he has dash and strength, and turned up at awkward moments for the home defence. He certainly deserved a goal, for he got a good one in the opinion of all except the referee.

Luton deserved to win, and the score does not fully reflect the merits of the two teams.

MIDDLESEX SENIOR LEAGUE.

R.A.F. (UXBRIDGE) v. FRICKER'S ATH.

(By "UXO.")

At Uxbridge on Saturday the Luton side had to admit defeat. Something must have upset their usual form. Prior to the start they were informed that several members of the F.A. Selection Committee were present. Or was it over-confidence? My opinion is that they were off colour, while their opponents were on top form, and one cannot understand why they are so lowly placed in the League table. The "Airmen" won the toss and had advantage of a strong wind. Straight from the kick off they went for goal, and Mottishead fired over the top. Fricker's retaliated, and Toyer got in a nice centre, which Poole gathered and shot by. Peach had to run out to clear from Goffin, and when Smith sent Poole off, offside spoilt the chance. The R.A.F. forwards were through again, and Jackson crashed a shot against the upright and finished by gaining a corner, which resulted in a goal kick. Allen broke away and centred, and the homesters' defence got tangled up in clearing. Continuing the pressure, Poole headed to Baines, who dashed through and struck the bottom of the post with Headley well beaten. It was bad luck for the Luton side. The "Airmen" got going, and Willetts dropped in a centre which Peach had to run out to clear. The goalie kicked hard, but the ball struck FISHER and rebounded out of the reach of Peach into the net. This gave the locals confidence, and the visiting defence had an abundance of work. A free kick in favour of the homesters was well placed by Steele, and Peach made a nice save at the expense of a corner. Fricker's were put off entirely by the bustling methods of the "Airmen," and could rarely get going. Squires had to pull up Goffin, and Bates relieved the pressure. Fricker's forwards managed to be a little more aggressive, and Toyer beat the defence, but shot wide, and Bates shot from long range, but Headley cleared. Before the interval the "Airmen" succeeded through MOTTISHEAD, and at half-time led by 2—0.

Resuming, Fricker's attacked, and Poole shot in well, but Headley cleared. Lawson dribbled through, but Everest put him off his shot. A dangerous raid by the home forwards resulted in Squires clearing on the line with Peach well beaten. Fricker's rallied, their dash causing the home defence anxiety. The "Airmen" adopted the one back game, and several times Poole and Baines were whistled up. Allen and Toyer dropped across some nice centres, and from a clearance BATES gained possession and banged in a first time shot, which completely beat Headley. The Lutonians tried hard to save the game, and Poole led a couple of raids, and Lawson just missed the upright. Baines got through, but kicked too high, and Lawson shot wide. Several corners fell to Fricker's, but the "Airmen" managed to steer the ball clear. Poole tried a solo effort, but Steele prevented his course. Allen won a corner, but Poole headed over. Willetts beat Taylor in a race for the ball, and the winger got in a nice centre, which Goffin sent over the bar. The closing period of the game was in favour of Fricker's, and many opportunities were lost through over-eagerness. Allen and Lawson shooting wide when admirably placed. Time was called when Poole and his colleagues were striving hard for an equaliser, which never came, and the "Airmen" were victors by the odd goal in three.

Mr. B. M. Neville was an admirable referee.

R.A.F. — Headley; Waller, Everest; Woods, Steele, Nondge; Wash, Mottishead, Goffin, Jackson, Willetts.

FRICKER'S.—Peach; Taylor, Squires; Fisher, Smith, Bates; Allen, Lawson, Poole, Baines, Toyer.

BEDS PREMIER CUP.

EXTRA ROUND.

Waterlow's v. Luton Amateurs.

(By "LOOKER-ON.")

On arrival at the G.N. Station on Saturday, I found the Amateurs in considerable doubt about a possible shortage of players, as Toyer, Jenkins, Moody, and Hoar, four regular first team men, could not turn out. The actual composition of the team was decided in the train. Carter, of Christ Church Institute, played back with Gowing of the Amateurs "A," Chalkley made one of his infrequent appearances at left-half, Morris went from full-back to centre-forward, and H. Brown, who is a veteran indeed, came in at outside-right. The home side were at full strength. The

CARTER (Amateurs). HAWKINS (Waterlow's).

ground was in much better condition than expected, and a nice little stand gave seating accommodation to a goodly number of Waterlow's supporters.

The teams started as follows:

WATERLOW'S.—Swain; Clark, Hull; Chipperfield, Hawkins, Brown; Ford, Wilkinson, Birdsall, Taylor, J. Conquest.

LUTON AMATEURS.—Choate; Gowing, Carter; Woollard, R. Brown, Chalkley; H. Brown, Field, Morris, V. Conquest, Darby.

Waterlow's won the toss and took advantage of the wind during the first half. They had the advantage in height and weight, while their forward work soon caused trouble to the Amateurs' defence. Choate speedily made a trio of saves, in the third of which he was hurt, and a free kick given against the home forwards. Swain was called upon once, but the balance of play was very much in favour of the home side, the disorganised forward line of the visitors making very little progress, though throwing a huge amount of work upon the defenders. J. Conquest was notable for good square centres, and the Amateurs gave away a number of corners, from which Choate and his backs had a great deal of trouble. Taylor was pulled up for off-side when J. Conquest had given him a nice scoring chance, and then R. Brown put in some good tackling for the visitors. The referee gave a penalty kick against the Amateurs, presumably for a foul, but neither the spectators near me nor I could see the justice of it. The kick was taken, the ball hit the bar and then came back, a second shot going wide. Poetic justice! The home forwards pressed hard after this, and BIRDSALL opened the scoring. He and Taylor combined well in another attack, and from J. Conquest's centre, BIRDSALL scored again. Field, Morris and V. Conquest made the first combined run for the Amateurs, and a corner was forced, but the kick sent the ball behind. Taylor headed a fine centre from Ford wide of the upright; and the Luton side again went down, but nothing came of it. Ford missed an open goal directly after this, and the remainder of the first portion of the game was notable for good work by the two lines of halves. Half time:

WATERLOW'S 2
LUTON AMATEURS 0

Field and V. Conquest changed places after the interval, and the visitors made the first attacking move, in stopping which Clark was hurt. Then Choate and his backs had another warm time, from which they emerged with credit, Choate making four good saves and receiving generous applause. V. Conquest tried hard to relieve the pressure, but the home defenders were not to be bustled. Birdsall and his forwards were not shooting well, and the centre sent a shot wide, and then headed by the goal. J. Conquest sent across a fine centre, which Birdsall, Wilkinson, and Ford all missed. The Amateurs went to the other end, and Morris took a free kick from about thirty yards out, landing the ball into Swain's arms. Away went the home side again, J. Conquest skimming the bar with a fine shot. The Amateurs retaliated, Darby and Field being prominent, and forced two corners, but nothing came from them. Then Choate made a great save from J. Conquest, and after a rare struggle round his goal the ball was got away by Carter. The ball went up and down the field with great rapidity, but the Athletic's shots were either badly directed or cleared by Choate, and the visitors did not get enough powder behind theirs, Swain having an easy time. Gowing and Carter were kicking well at this time, and although the home forwards made several attacks, they were not nearly so dangerous as in the first half. Clark and Chipperfield put in neat play near the touch line, sending the ball on to Ford, whose centre went to Birdsall, but the last-named was hurt in a collision and the opportunity was lost. At the other end Darby lobbed the ball into the goal, Swain pushing it out. The ball went to Darby again, but he sent wide. The visitors kept now in the home half, but Hawkins, Hull and Clarke were not to be beaten, and play was in midfield until the end, which came without further addition to the half-time score of

WATERLOW'S 2
LUTON AMATEURS 0

AMATEUR CUP — SEMI-FINAL.

Meritorious Victory for London Caledonians.

ST. ALBANS CITY DISAPPOINTED.

(By "CRUSADER.")

LONDON CALEDONIANS ..... 2 Goals ST. ALBANS CITY ..... Nil

CALEDONIANS.—P. J. B. Dawson; B. H. Gates, E. H. Gates; J. C. Blyth, W. Barr, H. M. Finn; J. McCubbin; R. Noble, A. Sloan, D. W. May, I. M. Hamilton.

ST. ALBANS CITY.—E. Barnes; F. Holland, W. J. Coutanche; H. Figg, P. Bird, W. J. Hellicar; P. E. Pierce, B. Butcher, W. Minter, H. E. Miller, R. B. Miller.

Referee: Mr. J. Kelly, Middlesex. Linesmen: Messrs. B. E. Cleaver and F. E. Hawkes.

While maintaining a beneficent neutrality, Luton football followers were disappointed over St. Albans City's failure to enter the final of the F.A. Amateur Cup. More than the City are aware are their doings watched in Luton, and the fact that two of their team are well-known Luton players gave additional fillip to interest in this match. But the game had not long been in progress before the truth was borne in upon us that, barring accidents, the Caledonians would win. They went about their work in a way that bespoke confidence, and had they won by double or even treble the margin they would have had no more than their measure of superiority. The City started well, but flattered only to deceive. In the light of after events I came to the conclusion that the apparent slowness of the "Calies" in the first ten minutes was

A PERIOD OF EXPEDIENCE.

They were taking their bearings. Once they settled down they were likely winners, for their footwork was very much better than that of the "Citizens," their movements, while being faster and more intricate than the City's, were so smartly executed that it had a deceptive air of deliberation; they were far more dangerous in attack, and infinitely superior in defence. It was no mere departmental excellence, but a well-balance and complete supremacy. There was no one player of the City team that could be accounted better than the man in similar position on the opposite side, and only a couple that might justly claim equality.

In the opening stages the City opened out the game well, and if Minter's fine long passes to his wings had been utilised in the manner they deserved, the City might have won in spite of the disparity between the sides later on. But the wings failed badly, and Minter's opportunities of distributing were diminished, with the result that the "Citizens" forward play became ragged, and

ELOQUENT TESTIMONY

to this fact is shown by the record that Minter did not get one decent chance to shoot throughout. His nearest approach to a goal was a brave effort to head through a centre from the right, but the ball went high over. The middle men had much more than average weight and skill to combat, and so could not give a lot of assistance to the van, while the backs were so harassed that they seemed to lose confidence, and Coutanche lost his head also.

The City supporters were in strong force, and they lent colour and imparted much noise, especially in the opening clash. But they must have realised the trend of events as the "Calies" opened out, and the City were lucky not to be in arrears at the cross-over. Barnes made clever saves, but

HIS BEST ASSET

was the hesitation of the "Calies" in front of goal. They were not content to carry the ball within range, but usually they wanted to keep on passing and re-passing until they were in the net. This fault was shared by all the line, and it was significant that while they could often outwit the skilful moves of Bird and his flanks, the desperation of the rearguard was a difficult obstacle. So we had a goal-less first half. We had not long to wait after the change over, for in a desultory attack by the "Calies" the ball was kicked hard by a defender against an opponent. It rebounded on to Coutanche, but his surprise and the speed of the ball were more than he could master at once, and as the ball was loose MAY snapped it up, and a quick half-turn, a terrific shot away from Barnes, and the "Calies" led. The "Citizens" at once made

ONE DESPERATE EFFORT,

but, being thwarted, they never got up as much steam again. The "Calies" second goal was even more lucky than the first. BARR got possession in midfield, and after travelling a few yards he shot hard. The ball was travelling about a yard high, and Holland tried to hook it with his left foot. He failed to get hold properly, and the ball skidded into the net. Soon afterwards May headed into the net, but was given offside.

The goals were lucky, but the "Calies" deserved them. Dawson had a few anxious moments, but not nearly such a fretful time as Barnes. The "Calies" backs were about the smallest men of the team, but they were fast, resolute, and rare kickers. Moreover, they played the game cleverly all through. Barr was the pivot of the team in more senses than one. He was

THE HOST OF PROGRESS,

and the main block in the defensive wall. He spoiled others and nursed his own, and he gave help right and left. The man on either side was a quick, worrying worker and neither "Citizens'" winger knew enough to beat him. The forwards were fast and tricky. I fancy it was lucky for the "Citizens" that Noble and McCubbin wore a limp before the interval. They were the more troublesome in advance work. Had they been quite sound in the second half they would probably have done much damage against their tired opponents. Noble we know as a clever forward, but McCubbin was very fine in much of his work, the drawback being an inclination to beat his opponent twice. On the other wing Hamilton was smart and showed nice control, while May, a fine, upstanding fellow, was not only big and strong, but knew not a little about distribution and shooting. Sloan was a thrustful leader, who would have done better had he shot as nicely as he distributed.

CITY CRITICISED.

Barnes was blameless. He kept goal splendidly, but he was ill protected. Holland, whom I once thought would make an International, and probably would have been in the highest class now but for hardships as a prisoner of war and his own modesty, was shaky. He occasionally showed flashes of his old brilliance in tackling and volleying, but, useful as he may be in the ordinary way, he is not as good as he once was. He has lost his fire. Coutanche, when he played the ball, was splendid, but when he failed to get it he was apt to act unwisely. Percy Bird had a sultry experience against three clever inside forwards. He fed as cleverly as ever, but they were a bit too strong for him when on the move. Figg played better than I have ever before seen him play, and had all been as good as he, the "Calies" would not have been in the final. Hellicar was only middling. The forwards were a ragged lot, and apart from Minter's long passes and Butcher's quick, natty dribbles, there was nothing to write about. Minter was stranded and his crew lost.

It was a pleasant game, and only one very bad foul in it, and if the Caledonians were the shrewder and more resourceful, the "Citizens" were triers to a man.

Mr. Kelly refereed very well, better than he has ever before done on the Town ground.

The official figures for the gate were 13,850, but with the "deadheads," such as Press and F.A. visitors, 14,000 was exceeded. The receipts amounted to about £920.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION III.

	P	W	L	D	Goals F	Goals A	P
Bristol City	33	20	5	8	53	31	48
Swansea Town	33	20	7	6	69	34	46
Plymouth Argyle	30	17	9	4	41	20	38
Brighton & H. A.	31	15	8	8	42	27	38
Northampton T.	33	14	10	9	43	32	37
Watford	33	14	11	8	49	42	36
Millwall Athletic	33	10	7	16	30	30	36
Swindon Town	32	12	9	11	48	42	35
LUTON TOWN	33	14	12	7	48	42	35
Portsmouth	33	13	13	7	43	44	33
Norwich City	31	11	10	10	40	42	32
Exeter City	32	13	13	6	42	56	32
Charlton Athletic	31	9	9	13	36	35	31
Bristol Rovers	30	8	10	12	21	26	28
Southend United	32	9	13	10	42	45	28
Merthyr Town	32	8	13	11	30	37	27
Queen's Park R.	31	9	14	8	37	36	26
Brentford	31	9	15	7	29	40	25
Reading	32	7	14	11	29	44	25
Aberdare Athletic	32	8	17	7	37	60	23
Gillingham	31	6	17	6	35	51	22
Newport County	33	5	17	11	31	67	22

LUTON AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

RESULTS, SATURDAY, MARCH 17th.

DIVISION I.

Shillington 2, Kershaw's 2.
Slip End United 4, Barton Rovers 0.

DIVISION II.

St. Matthew's v. Bailey Hill Brotherhood. Abandoned through misconduct.

DIVISION III.

Argyle 12, Stopsley A 0.
St. Matthew's Juniors 7, Ceylon Athletic 0.
Leagrave and District A 4, Chase-street Mission 4

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