

Town Won Easily After Tearaway County Start

[By Chiltern]

NEWPORT CO. . . 1 LUTON T. . . . 3
Carr Duggan (2), Daniel

Defeat in this match would have been near-tragedy for the Town, but happily, after the first half-hour, it did not even have to be contemplated.

True, Newport were the first to score, but they did not hold the lead long enough to give their long-suffering supporters any hope of picking up these much-needed points.

A brilliant second-half display by the Town enabled them to finish easy winners, and the class of their football in the Somerton Park mud was as good as, if not better than, anything I have seen this season.

Actually, the Town's success was a triumph over misfortune which caused three changes from the team originally selected, but the reconstructed forward line gave the County defence a most uncomfortable time.

The better form shown by the forwards in front of goal was the outstanding feature of the Town's display. The three inside men were always potential scorers, and there was a fire and understanding about their play which has been absent for some time.

TWO QUICK GOALS

Newport made most of the running in the early stages, and for quite 20 minutes, the Town defence had a sticky time. The County forwards had no pretence to frills; they just hit the ball hard and hoped for slips by their opponents.

However, once the defenders settled down, there was not a great deal to worry about, even though CARR followed a through pass to beat Bywater with a shot that went in off the post after 30 minutes.

Almost from the re-start, DUGGAN equalised when he ran on to a pass from Waugh and put in a grand cross shot that Bake-well could not reach.

From this point onward, Luton never looked back. The last 10 minutes before the interval was all Luton, and they began the second half where they left off.

DANIEL put the Town ahead 13 minutes after the resumption with a shot from close range during a melee, and 13 minutes later, DUGGAN, standing unmarked in the penalty area cracked the ball into the net first-time from a corner by Waugh.

BRICE ABLE DEPUTY FOR GAGER

The defence did everything required of them once they obtained the measure of Newport's ideas of progress, and Brice, filling Gager's place, had a splendid match.

Lake and Beach were an indomitable pair at full-back, and Daniel gave us one more example of his ability to put up a good display anywhere by filling the bill completely at right-half. Soo was brilliant in attack, and, with Driver and Duncan, formed an association which was a constant thorn in the flesh of the home defence.

Driver vied with Duggan for the main honours in the Town attack, and the latter made a most auspicious return to the team. He was always on the job when scoring chances were about.

Billington's knee had a thorough test, and he will soon be hitting the target again. He was unlucky not to do so in this match, and his general play was good.

In the unaccustomed position of outside-right, Waugh had an excellent match, and there was noticeable improvement in his finishing.

Bywater kept a safe goal and showed good judgment in coming out to pick up the many long shots which came through quickly on the greasy surface.

NEWPORT COUNTY—Bake-well; Newbold, Oldham; Cabrie, Rawcliffe, Wilcox; Wookey, Carr, Craddock, Mogford, Ainge.

LUTON TN—Bywater; Lake, Beach; Daniel, Brice, Soo; Waugh, Duggan, Billington, Driver, Duncan.