

FIRST HOME WIN OF YEAR

[*By Chiltern*]

THE Town showed their supporters last night that their recent feats away from home have been no mere flash in the pan.

Despite the fact that Hall's injury kept him out, the team showed a continuance of their confident, improved form and deserved their narrow victory.

Incidentally, this is the first time this year that they have taken full League points on their own ground, and the success brought to an end one of the bleakest home League spells for a considerable time.

EARLY SUCCESS

An early goal from DANIEL set them on the victory path, and although Barnsley equalised through ROBLEDO when they got on top momentarily mid-way through the half, DUGGAN scored the goal which brought this long awaited success.

Daniel's goal came after seven minutes when Soo broke through to make a clever pass. The inside left missed it the first time of asking, but a slip by Haugh gave him a second chance which he gleefully accepted.

Barnsley gradually became more dangerous and there was a spell when the Town seemed likely to lose their early grip.

They owed much to Stretton that they kept ahead for so long for he made one near-miraculous save from Smith.

The equaliser was not long delayed, however, for a long pass down the left led to Kelly outstripping Cooke and making a perfect centre which ROBLEDO headed through. That was after 31 minutes, but the Town regained the lead six minutes later.

LIKE A HAWK

Normanton fouled Gardiner and Lake placed the ball well into the goalmouth. DUGGAN, facing his own goal, watched the ball like a hawk and coolly back-headed it past the oncoming Haugh.

Considering the handicap of the lively ball and the hard ground it was a remarkably good first half, and there was no slackening of the pace afterwards, though neither side showed quite enough punch in front of goal.

The more chances fell to the Town, who were unlucky when Shanks shot against the post.

Waugh blazed across the goal after clever work by Daniel, and during a few hectic minutes in the Barnsley goalmouth other goals nearly came to the Town.

After these escapes Barnsley put on considerable pressure, but were speedily driven back.

It was a hard-fought game, played on robust lines, and the Town defence came through creditably. Owen filled the gap left by Hall's absence capably enough, especially as it was his first experience of this position in the League side.

The forwards moved well at times, with Duggan a tremendous tryer, always worrying the visitors' defence.

Some grand moves were initiated, in which Brennan's touches were the feature.

Result :
LUTON TOWN 2
BARNSELEY 1

Luton Town : Stretton ; Cooke, Lake ; Soo, Owen, Gardiner ; Shanks, Brennan, Duggan, Daniel, Waugh.

Barnsley : Haugh ; Harstone, Pallister ; Normanton, Whyte, Glover ; Smith, Griffiths, Robledo, Baxter, Kelly.