

Town Fought Back After Early Shock From Spurs

By Chiltern

LUTON TOWN	1
Arnison (pen.)	
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR ...	1
Baily	

Whatever else may be amiss with the Town team, there is nothing wrong with their fighting spirit.

That was amply demonstrated at Kenilworth-road on Saturday when the season's biggest crowd, 24,859, saw them fight back to force a point from the Spurs.

There was a time when the Londoners, bolstered up by the moral effect of an early goal, looked as if they might sweep the Town off their feet, but they would have been very fortunate if they had gone away with both points.

The Town began with the rush which has been a feature of their play in most recent matches, but there was acute disappointment for the home fans when the Spurs went ahead with the game only five minutes old.

BAILY scored a fine opportunistic goal when he seized on a slip by Owen and blazed the ball into the net from nearly 20 yards.

After this, the Spurs' forwards always looked dangerous until it came to the point of finishing, but gradually the Town began to fight back, and had quite an equal share of the play until the interval.

They did much better in the second half though, when all the resources of the Spurs' defence were necessary to keep out the eager Town forwards. Perhaps they were a little too eager, for accurate shots were few and far between, though Shanks had the hardest of luck with a header which beat Ditchburn and struck the angle of the woodwork.

For all the pressure, hopes of a goal were not particularly high, and then Garwood, rushing across to stop a break through by Duggan, brought the inside-left down heavily, and the referee unhesitatingly awarded a penalty kick.

BALL WENT IN LIKE A BULLET

This was entrusted to ARNISON who sped the ball like a bullet past the helpless Ditchburn. The Town went all out for the winner after that, but Spurs began to attack strongly, too, and there were one or two close calls at the Town end, especially from Cox, who was the liveliest of the Spurs' forwards.

In the end the spoils were divided which was fair enough after such a gruelling battle, but there were many who thought that the Town had done just enough to win.

Certainly, the quality of their midfield football was on a higher plane than that of the Spurs, who were yet that little more direct in their work. The finishing let down the attacks of both sides.

On the whole, this was an improved Luton compared with most previous home matches, but all is not well yet, and more punch forward is still needed.

The introduction of Shanks has proved a happy move. He was the best of the forwards, and with Brennan quite adequate when he was on the extreme wing, the partnership bids fair to pay rich dividends.

Arnison was a clever leader, but is still not taking the direct route for goal often enough. Duggan was below standard, and a combination of the close attentions of Tickridge and none too

good support made Waugh less conspicuous than usual.

Wilson and Hall were the best of a defence which had its sticky moments, especially in the first half. Gardiner had quite a good match, but neither Owen nor Cooke was consistent.

Streten made some first-class saves, but might possibly have got closer to Baily's scoring shot had he been not quite so far in front of his goal. As it was, the whole movement happened in a flash, and it is a moot point, and one on which opinions are very much divided.

Luton Town.—Streten; Wilson, Cooke; Gardiner, Hall, Owen; Brennan, Shanks, Arnison, Duggan, Waugh.

Tottenham Hotspur.—Ditchburn; Tickridge, Willis; Nicholson, Buckingham, Garwood; Cox, Baily, Duquemin, Bennett, Stevens.

Referee. — W. B. Everett, Beccles.