

Town Lay Another Ground Bogey

By Chiltern

QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS 0

LUTON TOWN 3

Arnison (2), Brennan

One of the least lucky of all the Town's hunting grounds in the past has been Loftus-road, and, indeed, not counting results in war-time football, we have to go back to 1924 to find the last time the Town won there.

On their latest visit they did not need the aid of fortune, for they won by sheer superior skill, speed and team-work, and were not flattered by the margin which gave them their most decisive away win of the season.

They went prepared for a hard battle, and they certainly got it, for the Rangers were hard, plucky fighters, but they never recovered from the effect of two slips by the usually safe Jefferson which presented Arnison with the opportunities to put his side two up at the interval.

An early goal—the first came in 16 minutes — when ARNISON crashed the ball past Allen took a lot of the wind out of the Rangers' sails, and though their bustle and hustle looked threatening enough, it never came to anything.

Meanwhile, the Town went on their skilful way, with the forwards keeping the ball low and finding each other with great accuracy.

Uncertainty developed in the home defence, the weaknesses were played upon, and when ARNISON scored a simple second goal the writing was on the wall for Rangers.

The Town well deserved their interval lead, which might have been even wider, for other chances presented themselves, whereas only twice did the Rangers really look likely to engineer the downfall of the Town goal.

Spurred on by a not very encouraging, but loud - voiced crowd, the Rangers made a great fight to get back into the game in the second half, but although they got on top for quite a long period, they were faced by such a dour, confident defence, that scoring openings just did not come their way.

BRENNAN MADE NO MISTAKE

When the Town made ground it was in the same ordered fashion as before the interval, and one of these raids, with the spade-work done by the left wing pair, gave BRENNAN, who had come into the middle in anticipation, the opportunity to put on the third goal. This he did unmistakably with a terrific shot which tore into the roof of the net.

After that, Rangers had shot their bolt, and there might have been other goals to the Town, while, at the other end, a wonder save by Streten kept out a header from Stewart when Rangers made what proved to be their last effective attack.

- This was the confident, assured Town team which accounted for Sheffield Wednesday, and there was not a weak link in the side.

The tackling of the defence was tremendously hard and quick, with Wilson and Cooke blotting out the wingers, Morton and Gardiner two indefatigable wing halves, and Hall keeping a careful watch on the middle of the field. Behind them, Streten showed all his usual keen anticipation.

Moving as a line and with both wings linking up admirably, the forwards were always a force to be reckoned with, and in Arnison, they had a resourceful, hard-working leader whose cleverness and purpose upset the equilibrium of the Rangers' defence.

Brennan gave Jefferson an unhappy time, and with Kiernan formed a strong go-ahead wing, while Watkins and Waugh showed good understanding and were always dangerous.

Queen's Park Rangers: Allen; Powell (G), Jefferson; Parkinson, Smith (G), Farrow; Hartburn, Stewart, Gibbons, Hatton, Pattison.

Luton Town: Streten; Wilson, Cooke; Morton, Hall, Gardiner; Brennan, Kiernan, Arnison, Watkins, Waugh.