

The Town Displayed The Capacity To Hit Back

By Chiltern

Luton Town 2, West Ham 2

Fighting spirit is something which Town teams in the recent past have not lacked, and that the present side is imbued with it, too, was revealed by the way in which they fought back after a sudden, late reverse at Kenilworth-road on Saturday.

When ROBINSON put the Hammers ahead 10 minutes from the end, many teams might have wilted, but not so the Town, who fought back so hard that they equalised a minute later through TAYLOR.

That spirit is a valuable asset in the Second Division and is something that can serve to hearten the supporters who are forecasting all sorts of dire fates for the Town this season.

Apart from that, what did this match reveal? One thing which stood out unmistakably was that there was a lack of rhythm in attack which was not the polished affair it was so many times last season.

Further than that, it would not be fair to go at this early stage, but one who found support lacking was Arnison.

Most of his time was spent doing his own fetching and carrying and the fact that he was successful as a forager did not compensate for the fact that few openings were presented for him to display his marksmanship. Arnison was in splendid form, and led the line in dashing style, but he must be accorded better support.

Taylor showed that he can win himself a regular place, for much of his work has the hallmark of class. Of the others, Waugh improved after a bad start, Small never touched the best of which he is capable, and Shanks, though he tried desperately hard, did not quite fit in as well on this occasion, as he did during his spell in the team last season.

Apart from the fact that mistakes led to both the Hammers' goals, the defence looked good enough to cope with most of the opposition to be met, and OWEN was the key-stone of the department.

To him fell the distinction of scoring the first League goal at Kenilworth-road this season. That occurred in the 27th minute following a free kick, but was quickly wiped out when PARSONS went through to score in spectacular style.

Cooke was another sheet anchor in defence, but his task against Bainbridge was easier than that faced by Aherne against the tricky Parsons. Both Aherne and Gardiner found their hands full watching the winger, who kept popping up in the most unexpected places.

It was to Aherne's credit that he never gave up and these were qualities displayed by the wing halves, Watkins and Gardiner, who did a tremendous amount of work. Streten was his old confident self, accurate and safe in everything he did and there were no worries about his department.

LUTON TOWN. — Streten; Cooke, Aherne; Watkins, Owen, Gardiner; Small, Shanks, Arnison, Taylor, Waugh.

WEST HAM.—Gregory; Devlin, Forde; Corbett, Walker, Moroney; Parsons, Gazzard, Robinson, McGowan, Bainbridge.