

Town Had Chances To Overcome Bad Start

By Chiltern

LUTON TN. 1 QUEEN'S PARK RGS. 2

Two vitally important relegation points were virtually won and lost in the first eight minutes of this match at Kenilworth-road.

During that short spell, debutant Iorwerth Hughes had the disappointing task of picking the ball out of the back of the net twice, and in stunned silence the Luton fans watched the Town's attempt to make a successful rally.

Despite the tearaway start which the Rangers gained, this was yet another match which the Town should not have lost. They had sufficient of the play in the first half to have wiped out their arrears and, again after the interval, enough scoring chances came their way for them to have turned the tables on the Rangers.

The old fault—that of lack of finishing power—manifested itself again, though, and it was this failing, more than anything else, which brought to the Town what cannot be described as other than disaster.

Yet although they had a great deal of the play, the Town did not reveal the cleverness in mid-field which they have shown in most recent matches.

Nor was this replaced by more direct methods, and, for the most part, even the short passing was inaccurate. Occasionally the forwards moved with quickness and precision, and this was when the scoring chances occurred, but there was just no one able to crack the ball past Allen, who, considering the amount of pressing which the Town did, had a comparatively light afternoon.

Luton's only goal came four minutes from the interval, when Kiernan did a tricky bit of work on the left wing, and placed the ball into the middle for WALKINS to head the ball into the net as Allen advanced.

That put the Town back into the game after the Rangers had enjoyed a lead of two goals for most of the half.

The game was only two minutes old when MILLS put them ahead with a close-range shot after Best had headed the ball down from Neary's corner.

Six minutes later, NEARY made a run down the wing in the course of which he passed Aherne easily, and then made a shot that surprised Hughes and found a gap inside the near post.

In the second half, the Town lacked cohesion, and there were few smooth movements.

Yet there were opportunities of equalising, but these went very much astray, and, at the end, Rangers were going along easily, and even threatening to increase their slender lead.

SCRAPPY PLAY

The game followed much the

lines expected in a desperate struggle on the result of which so much depended, and there was much scrappiness and much big kicking, often aimless and often up in the air.

There were weaknesses throughout the Town team. The defence did not cover well, and only Cooke in this department could be called a real success, and he has played better a number of times this season.

Neither Gardiner nor Owen used the ball to advantage, and Hall, though he did nothing seriously wrong, did not command the middle of the field.

Aherne found Neary a little more than he could manage, and was slow in recovery. As for Hughes, after the early shocks, he settled down to give a confident display, and he was never in much difficulty.

There was little fire or snap about the forwards' work. Waugh was the best of a mediocre line, but Glover could have taken all the honours in this match had he been able to finish off his midfield play accurately.

Watkins did not look too happy at inside left. Kiernan had a patchy sort of game, and Walsh who missed a couple of chances, was usually overshadowed by Chapman.

LUTON TOWN: Hughes; Cooke, Aherne; Gardiner, Hall, Owen; Glover, Kiernan, Walsh, Watkins, Waugh.

QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS. Allen; Powell, Heath; Hatton, Chapman, Farrow; Neary, McEwan, Best, Mills, Wardle. Referee: W. Ling, Cambridge.