

Another Chapter In Town's Tale Of Woe

By Chiltern

LUTON TOWN 1 SWANSEA TOWN ... 2

Latest chapter in the Kenilworth-road tale of woe was unfolded on Saturday when the Town continued on their curious career of inability to win a home League match.

Time was, not so long ago at that, when one of the hardest tasks in the Second Division was to gain two points from Luton's ground, but things are different now, and judging from recent results, visiting teams now look upon Kenilworth-road as sort of happy hunting ground, or a "home from home."

Yet the woeful story could have been a tale of triumph had the Town possessed a marksman of a little more than average deadliness, for they had sufficient opportunities in the first 25 minutes to have ensured that Swansea made their long return trip unrewarded.

That looked more than a possibility when STOBART put the Town ahead by driving the ball high into the net after Shanks had headed it on from Waugh's corner, with the game only 10 minutes old.

That represented a confident start, but it was not enough, for another goal was badly needed and might have had the effect of taking some of the sting out of Swansea's power of recovery.

Despite the fact that the Town

forwards played some delightful football, it was not brought to its logical conclusion, with the result that halfway through the half, the team found themselves back where they had started.

TWO TO SWANSEA

A quick breakaway by the Swansea forwards left O'DRISCOLL with a chance, which he took without wasting time.

After that, Swansea's breakaway began to hold more threat, and it was not altogether a surprise, even though the Town had done more of the persistent pressing, when BEECH gave them the lead two minutes before half-time.

Making a promising enough start to the second half, the Town raised hopes that they would rescue something from the burning, but, even though for a time Swansea mistakenly fell back on defence almost completely, the Town's chances gradually vanished.

In fact, well before the end, it was fairly obvious that they would have to look to some other match for points with which to improve their highly-dangerous League position.

The forward line never moved so smoothly in the second half as it had done earlier, and the right wing of Stobbart and Kiernan, which functioned so cleverly earlier, was not prominent often.

Stobbart, slowed up to some extent by an ankle injury, often came into the middle in an attempt to snatch the elusive equaliser, but things did not work out that way.

SHANKS WORKED HARD

No one worked harder than Shanks, a lively leader whose effectiveness was spoilt by his inability to finish, and Waugh had a very good game in which he led James a rare dance.

The experiment of giving the amateur, Northover, his chance, did not come up to expectations, and the speed at which play was fought out in the heavy going was probably a little too much for him.

Cooke added yet another splendid performance to the long list he has built up this season and was again the outstanding Luton defender.

Next in line was Hughes for his brilliant anticipation and excellent saves, especially in the second half, and, despite some minor lapses, Owen was in good form, too.

Neither wing half had a particularly happy day, and their lot was not made easier by the fact that Paul and Burns were allowed to come through with the ball so often.

Aherne had a moderate sort of game, and though he did nothing seriously wrong, there were occasions on which he did not inspire complete confidence.

LUTON TOWN: Hughes; Aherne, Cooke; Watkins, Owen, Gardiner; Stobbart, Kiernan, Shanks, S. Northover, Waugh.

SWANSEA TOWN: Canning; James, Keane; Paul, Weston, Burns; O'Driscoll, Lucas, Beech, Allchurch, Scrine.

Referee: W. J. Edwards, Yeovil

Attendance: 15,205.