

The Cry Of The Crowd Is Still "Goals"

By Chiltern

Luton Town - - 1 West Ham - - 1

Heartfelt cry from the Kenilworth-road crowd, as it was so often last season, is still "goals," and the Town merely managed against West Ham last night to maintain their low average of one a match.

This is not sufficient to ensure a run of success, and the addition of more forcefulness in the front line is still a big need.

The approach work is there, and some of it, particularly in the first half, was very good, but goals count, and the Town's solitary one was worth only a division of the points.

Considering the wet, greasy conditions, it was strange that defences were able to cope so well with the situation.

First to capitulate was the Town's in the 17th minute, when GAZZARD slipped through to take a down-the-middle pass and touch the ball past the helpless Hughes..

GREAT MOVE

The Town reached level terms after 26 minutes, when WYLDDES jumped high over everyone else to head a well placed centre from Whent, who had worked his way to the outside-right position, out of Gregory's reach.

With the Town crowding on pressure in the last 20 minutes, West Ham were hard put to it to remain on level terms, and only a wonder save by Gregory kept out a drive by Taylor that looked a winner all the way.

The Town attack, after moving so promisingly in the first half and showing real cohesion, took a long time to get into its stride after the interval, and before the final rally one of the few forays to really cheer up the crowd came when Stobbart outpaced Walker in a long run down the wing and crossed the ball low.

It shot off the ground at a terrific rate—too fast for Wyldes, who had closed in hopefully.

That Gregory was not more in action was due to a mixture of the disinclination to shoot which the Town showed at times and the quickness of the Hammers' tackling.

Yet there were occasions when the Town were distinctly unfortunate with shots that missed by inches.

Star of the Luton team was Watkins, who gave a polished exhibition of wing-half play, being particularly strong and accurate in his work in attack.

On the whole, there was little to grumble at in the showing of the defence, and Shanks did well to keep the energetic Parsons so much subdued.

Owen did his job of holding Robinson adequately and Cooke showed all his sterling qualities and was seldom beaten.

Woodgate, too, found Aherne a difficult proposition, and Hughes did everything required of him.

Had the forwards delivered the goods in the shape of goals there could have been little criticism, but the finishing did not match their approach work.

Both Taylor and Whent did a tremendous amount of work and interchanged cleverly. Stobbart, when he moved out of the middle, as he did several times, opened up more problems for the Hammers than when he was ploughing away down the middle that was usually blocked.

Glover showed signs in the first half of repeating his brilliance of the previous match but he was more closely marked this time.

Wyldes kept worrying and harrying and never gave up trying.

Attendance: 12,366.