

Long-Awaited Win Came Against Q.P.R.

By CHILTERN

LUTON TOWN 2, QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS 0

Victory, long awaited by the Town, arrived at last at Kenilworth-road on Saturday and, by a coincidence, it was gained at the expense of a London club, as was their first, on the opening day of the season.

While the Town's display was not completely satisfying, the result certainly was, and one of the best features was that they showed themselves to be better than the Rangers in front of goal.

Many times this season, the Town have shown undoubted superiority in midfield and had the major share of the play, but have simply failed to produce power in finishing.

This time, there was a different tale. On balance, the Rangers had more of the midfield play, but it was the Town who got the goals.

The first, scored by STOBART in the sixth minute, will cause this game to be remembered when all the other details have been forgotten, for it was a great effort.

Quick, decisive work by Glover and Kiernan on the right wing, caught the Rangers' defence unawares, and, as the ball came over from Kiernan, Stobbart, racing up at top speed, hurled it into the net with his head.

A similar move shortly afterwards gave Stobbart another chance, but this time he sent the ball over after hitting it first time with his left foot.

Remainder of the first half was hard-fought, with Rangers having a large share of the play, but producing little of a threatening nature at close quarters.

Yet, the Town's lead was so slender that the possibility of an equaliser always had to be reckoned with, but their chances increased a lot when they went further ahead only two minutes after the interval.

ONE FROM WYLDDES

This time, work by Kiernan and Stobbart left WYLDDES with a fine chance, and he left Gullan hopelessly placed.

One had to admire the Rangers' capacity for fighting back, for they did not look like a team two goals in arrears.

With neither Watkins nor Shanks able to get a grip on things in midfield, and the Rangers giving the light ball plenty of boot, there was heavy work for the Town defence at times.

Owen, however, was in his best form, and received stout support from Aherne, who had another very good game, and from Cooke, who, after an anxious sort of first half against Shepherd, settled down to give a more sound display.

All of which added up to the fact that although the Rangers were often near the Town's penalty area few difficult shots reached Hughes.

Still, he saved the situation near the end when he kept out a point-blank drive from McKay, who had been left with a splendid opportunity.

There was not the best of service for the Town forwards, but they played some neat football at times, with Kiernan doing much of the prompting and using the ball skilfully.

Some of this work would have been even more effective had Glover not shown such a liking for holding the ball, for when he did get it across promptly, the Rangers' defence was mostly in trouble.

Stobbart was the most dangerous Town forward at close quarters and had quite a useful game, but Morton found the ball coming to him too often in the air to be able to demonstrate to the home fans that he can fill the centre-forward berth adequately.

As a whole-hearted trier, he gets full marks, and so does Wyldes, who received few accurate passes from Shanks.

LUTON TOWN: Hughes; Cooke, Aherne; Watkins, Owen, Shanks; Glover, Kiernan, Morton, Stobbart, Wyldes.

QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS: Gullan; Poppitt, Heath; Nelson, Chapman, Farrow; Duggan, Mills, Addinall, McKay, Shepherd.

Referee: A. C. Williams, Brighton. Attendance: 15,691.