

Town's Attack Was A Real Striking Force

By Chiltern

LUTON TOWN 4 GRIMSBY TOWN ... 0

What a change it was to see the Town calling the tune and getting among the goals at last! This revitalised, most enthusiastic team struck a considerable blow in their fight to get away from the relegation area by beating fellow-sufferers, Grimsby, on their merits.

More than that, they laid the bogey the Mariners have provided in the last two seasons during which the Town had not one victory to show from five meetings with them.

The manner in which the win was achieved was as convincing as the result, for although Grimsby put up a considerable fight in the first half, and could consider themselves unfortunate not to be on level terms then, they were little in the picture afterwards.

It was in the second half that we saw the Town take control, with the forwards moving as a line and constantly threatening the downfall of the Grimsby goal.

At the interval, there was quite a prospect that Grimsby would be able to make a big bid to wipe out the lead which SHANKS had given the Town following Havenga's free kick when the game was only two minutes old.

Only two or three point-blank range saves by Hughes, from MacKenzie and Bloomer, prevented Grimsby from leveling the scores before half-time, but they had few chances of doing so afterwards.

With Havenga and Wyldes leaving the visitors' defence floundering, and Whent constantly dangerous in the middle, goals just had to come, and WHENT obtained his first since he became a centre-forward with a header from Wyldes's accurate centre.

That was after 54 minutes, and was followed five minutes later by another goal, this time from TAYLOR (J.), who nodded a centre from the right well out of Chisholm's reach.

ATTACK'S FORCEFUL PLAY

During this half we saw the most incisive, forceful football of the season from a Town attack, and it was no more than their due when WHENT put on a fourth goal after Chisholm had saved his

first attempt. Havenga secured the rebound and middied the ball for Whent to bang it into the net.

One had to admire Grimsby's refusal to give up the fight, but their defence was powerless against this fast-moving Town attack, which looked a line of real goal-getters.

To move Whent into the middle has been a master stroke, for he led the line brilliantly and helped to weld it together into a striking force.

The speed and directness of Havenga and Wyldes, which means that the ball is coming over far more consistently than it has in the past, has also done much to bring about this improvement in attack which is completed by two hard-working, forthright inside forwards, in Shanks and Taylor, who both made valuable contributions to the victory.

With the defence playing so well, there is a solid foundation to the team, too, and although they had a difficult 20 minutes in the first half, they did what was required of them in keeping a clean sheet.

There was a great tussle between the dashing Bloomer and Owen in the first half, but the centre-half came out on top and was always a big factor in the Town's defence.

Watkins had a great game, and with Morton playing strongly there was nothing wrong with the middle line. Nor was there anything amiss at full-back, where Cooke and Aherne mastered the Grimsby wingers and, behind them, Hughes dealt capably with anything that came his way.

LUTON TOWN: Hughes; Cooke, Aherne; Morton, Owen, Watkins; Havenga, Shanks, Whent, Taylor (J), Wyldes.

GRIMSBY TOWN: Chisholm; Moody, Taylor (W); Barratt, McMillan, Duthie; Rankin, Squires, Bloomer, MacKenzie, Maddison.

Referee: G. Roden, Stourbridge

Attendance: 12,144.