

Misgivings Increased By This Town Display

By Chiltern

LUTON TOWN 1 CARDIFF CITY ... 1

A few more displays like this and the Town will find themselves in a position from which there is no escape.

Granted they gained one point, and could have had both if they had shown more enterprise in attack, but, as a whole, the match merely increased misgivings about the future.

It was as well for them that Cardiff showed few ideas about goal-scoring, otherwise there might have been an even more sorrowful tale to tell.

The chief Town weakness lay in the attack, which began so well as to give promise of making Cardiff as easy victims as were Grimsby, but the early lustre soon wore off and a very tarnished machine was left.

Taylor had a most unenviable game, for he did little right from start to finish, and Whent, though he had few opportunities, never showed the promise of his first two appearances as leader.

For one thing, he seemed most disinclined to retain possession of the ball, and some of his attempts to find his wingers were very wide of the mark.

Shaaks did well enough, especially in the first half when he was unlucky not to score, and was the best of the inside trio, but there is a need in this line for an inside forward to act as a schemer and to direct the attack.

In addition to that, there was a distinct lack of anticipation of the next move by the majority of the forwards and not sufficient use was made of the open spaces.

Havenga had a useful game and would have done better had he seen more of the ball, but, for some reason, after he had demonstrated in the early stages that he could beat Rutter, the ball seldom came his way.

On the other wing, Stobbart gave a hard-battling performance which promised more than it actually achieved, for he found Sherwood a big obstacle and took the ball into the full-back too often.

Still, had Taylor and Whent

been up to standard, the line might have scored sufficient goals for a good win.

HAVENGA'S effort in the sixth minute when he crashed the ball over Joslin's head to give the Town the lead was a splendid start, but although Shanks and Stobbart tried to follow suit during the first half, there were few other serious tasks for Joslin.

For all that, the Town's shooting was more impressive than that of Cardiff, who though they moved well enough in mid-field, were weak in front of goal.

For that reason despite the Town's raggedness after the interval, there was every prospect of them gaining a much-needed victory until a blunder by Owen gave GRANT a chance to score the equaliser which he accepted eagerly.

That came 28 minutes from the end, but there was no a lot of excitement afterwards, except a "false alarm" when Whent banged the ball into the net, but the referee disallowed the goal because of a handling offence by Stobbart.

Defensive honours went to the full-backs, Cooke and Aherne, both of whom played in the most confident, assured fashion and were seldom in any kind of trouble.

Morton and Watkins were hard-working and quite successful without ever looking as dominant as did Hollyman, and they tended to be too long in getting the ball to their forwards.

Strangely uncertain, especially when the ball was on the ground was Owen, whose liking for passing back to Hughes nearly caused the downfall of the goal in the first half.

Despite some fumbling on occasions, Hughes did nothing to harm his reputation, though he did not get a good length in his kicking which sometimes meant that the ball came back quickly.

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

CARDIFF CITY: Joslin; Rutter, Sherwood; Hollyman, Montgomery, Williams (G.); Tiddy, Williams (R.), Grant, Blair, Edwards.

Referee: N. C. Taylor, Westbury. Attendance: 13,062.