

Familiar Ring About The Finale At Leicester

By Chiltern

LEICESTER CITY 3 LUTON TOWN 3

There was a familiar sort of ring about the ending to this match at Filbert-street on Saturday when the City repeated their dramatic last-minute rally of the 1949 Cup tie at Luton.

Then, as on Saturday, their centre-forward snatched the equaliser when the result looked cut and dried, but this time it was Hines, not Lee, now with Derby County, who pulled the game out of the fire.

Thus, there was another example of this strange predilection of the Town defence for being concerned in the loss of vital goals in the dying minutes, but once the initial disappointment of having to be content with half the spoils had died down, the large following of Town fans were most satisfied with the result.

Certainly this was a grand performance on a ground where Sheffield Wednesday and Birmingham had already bitten the dust and where Southampton have left the points since.

Player who chiefly made possible this result was Jack Taylor, who brought forth with full force much of his latent promise as a marksman of which we have had glimpses previously.

To him went the honour of being the first Town player to record a "hat-trick" this season, a feat that has not been achieved for the first team since Billy Havenga did so last Boxing Day.

His three goals were all splendid efforts, and that two of them were equalisers showed just how hard the Town had to fight in this match.

They went into arrears in the 13th minute, when, from a centre by Small, the ball ran on to DRYBURGH after Cooke and Rowley had gone for it together. The winger was left with an easy task, and appeals by the Town for "hands" against Rowley were not upheld.

Five minutes later, TAYLOR struck his first blow with a terrific shot from over 25 yards that left Anderson helpless, and so the position remained until three minutes after the interval, when HINES, from close in, restored the City's lead from Dryburgh's pass.

Again, the City did not enjoy their advantage for long, for TAYLOR headed through a pass by Davie, and his third goal came with 10 minutes left.

This was a spectacular effort in which he fastened on to a through-pass by Shanks, and, taking the ball on, smacked it hard and low past Anderson.

Leicester had had chances before this, and their hopes seemed to be at an end, as the Town took the upper hand after their third goal.

GOAL IN LAST ATTACK

Then, in the last attack of the match it happened, when the ball came across from the right to the unmarked HINES, who gave Streten no chance from close range.

Both inside-forwards, Taylor and Davie, were in lively form, and Stobbart kept the line moving. Davies was more successful than was Mitchell, but there was balance and smooth working in attack.

Owen was a dominant figure in defence, with Watkins having a splendid match and being rather more impressive than was Shanks.

Cooke was strangely uncertain against Dryburgh, but Aherne, although often worried by Small's speed, came through creditably.

There could be no fault to find with Streten, who made several excellent saves, and when the goals were scored he had been left in a hopeless situation.

LEICESTER CITY: Anderson; Lever, Webb; Baldwin, Plummer, Halton; Small, Worthington, Hines, Rowley, Dryburgh.

LUTON TOWN: Streten; Cooke, Aherne; Watkins, Owen, Shanks; Davies Taylor (J), Stobbart, Davie, Mitchell.