

MOORE'S GOAL WAS THE WINNER

TOWN DESERVED NARROW SUCCESS

Handicap Of Light Ball Produced Drab Patches

By Chiltern

All the excitement of the Cup battles at Kenilworth-road, the League meeting of the Town and Southampton seemed rather a mild affair, though there was satisfaction for the supporters in that the Town picked up two points.

The rather sombre patches in this match were due in large measure to the difficulty both teams had in controlling the lively ball and this was emphasised when it came to applying the finishing touches to the game.

One of the memories of the match was the inaccuracy of shooting and the number of times the light ball sailed into the goal.

Both teams were culpable in this, but by far the more serious came from the Town's attacking force than from the Saints.

It was much to be pleased with the quality of the Town's work and had the finishing touches a little more deadly, this could not have been in a moment of doubt until the end.

Things Went Wrong At Close Quarters

But Southampton really seemed to gain an equaliser in the second half, but there was the possibility that a breakaway might bring a goal which would have been just to the Town. But for this matter of finishing, the Town could have built up a lead during the first half when they played excellent football in mid-field and carried it on right to the goal when the final punch was scored.

At that stage that things

went wrong, though there were one or two slices of bad luck, too.

Southampton's Goal Was A Surprise

TAYLOR suffered from one of these, for he made one of the best shots of the day and saw the ball lift inches too high.

Southampton did not threaten much in attack during this period and it was a surprise when they took the lead in 32 minutes following a quickly-taken throw-in that glanced off the head of Shanks and left McGowan with the chance to take a snap shot from the edge of the penalty area.

Streten went down to the ball, but must have been partly unsighted. He got a hand to it, but could not prevent it entering the net.

Penalty Against Goalkeeper

JUST as Southampton's goal came as a surprise, the Town's equaliser was rather unexpected, for not only did it come when the Saints were threatening to take a grip on things, but it came into the category of the "unusual."

Town Sign A Goalkeeper

In the face of competition from two First Division clubs, the Town have secured the signature on amateur forms of Philip Roy Clare, 17-years-old goalkeeper of South Midlands League team, Bletchley Town.

Clare, who stands 6ft., is likely to be given an early chance in the "A" team.

Not often do goalkeepers have penalty kicks awarded against them and I can remember only one previous case at Kenilworth-road in League matches since the war.

That was when Frank Swift, of Manchester City, made a rugby tackle to provide an incident that was too obvious to miss.

Many Did Not Know Why It Was Awarded

THE penalty awarded to the Town five minutes before the interval against Kiernan was a much less obvious affair, except to people behind the Kenilworth-road goal.

To those further away from the scene, there was considerable doubt about why the referee pointed to the penalty spot after consultation with a linesman.

The incident occurred when Moore and Kiernan went up for the ball together and many people thought that the "protection" given to goalkeepers had operated again when the whistle went.

No "If" About Penalty Kicks These Days

THE referee told me at half-time that Kiernan had fouled Moore and there was an appeal from Moore, hopping about on one leg, immediately after the incident.

While no fouls can be regarded as necessary, this came into the completely unnecessary category and Southampton paid the full penalty.

Time was, last season, when there was always a distinct "if" when the Town were awarded a penalty, but this does not exist now, for Mitchell is a deadly marksman from the spot and he has a 100 per cent. record so far.

Throw-In Produced The Winner

HE cracked the ball hard and low past Kiernan and pulled the Town out of a situation that looked none too promising at that stage of the game.

Like Southampton's goal, the Town's decider came from a throw-in taken quickly by Mitchell after Aherne had set an attack in motion and Sexton had been stopped by Ellerington.

Moore secured the ball, and made straight for goal along the bye-line before hitting it hard between Kiernan and the near post.

Around this period there were two or three missed chances by the Town, and afterwards there was a lot of midfield play which produced near stalemate.

Moore Led The Line Splendidly

THERE was no doubt that the Town were deserved winners, for they had the more constructive ideas, and although the forwards were met by a solid defence they always looked the more likely to accomplish something.

Once again Moore led the line with skill, dash and enthusiasm, and his style has changed tremendously since last season.

Now he is linking up his line, moving out to the wings and seeking to bring his inside men into the game with a great deal of success.

Mitchell May Steal Amsterdam Thunder

HIS shooting is not quite so much on the mark as it was previously, but in each match he is doing a tremendous amount of spade-work, and his excursions to the wings tend to open up gap in opposing defences.

Another danger man to the Saints was Mitchell, and he is playing with so much confidence now that he might easily steal some of the thunder in the match at Amsterdam to-morrow.

Several times he and Stobbart exploited the long cross-field pass that brought a goal at Everton, and it does form a valuable variation of tactics.

Stobbart Found A Stumbling Block

AFTER a reasonably good first half, Stobbart seemed to fade out of the picture in the second and made poor use of some very workable material served up to him by Taylor.



Bert Mitchell, the Town's left winger, who has not failed from the penalty spot this season.

He found that highly promising young left-back, Sillett, much of a stumbling block and the result was that the right wing was not so dangerous as had been expected.

Taylor did quite well without quite reaching his peak form, understandable perhaps in view of the big event for him to-morrow, but his quick thrusts often worried the Saints' defence.

Success Of Morton At Centre-Half

IN a quiet sort of way, Sexton did quite a lot that was effective, without really striking his Everton form.

He was always seeking to use the ball which was a good sign, and there is promise here that might easily reach fulfilment soon.

There could be little complaint about the defence in which Morton filled the centre-half berth as if he had never played anywhere else before.

The tall, strong Judd can be a handful when he is given scope, but he scarcely had the slightest chance of adding to his quota of goals against the watchful Morton.

Switch A Matter For Satisfaction

THAT they have a player of Morton's calibre to switch into the middle when Owen is absent is a matter for tremendous satisfaction to the Town, especially as Shanks is filling the bill ably at right-half where he was most adequate in this match.

Without really doing anything amiss, Watkins was not quite at his best and did not use the ball as well as usual, another sign that conditions presented quite an amount of difficulty.

Formidable Full-Back Combination

DUNNE'S forthright methods are proving a splendid foil to the studied play of his partner, Aherne, and they are shaking down into a most formidable full-back combination.

Dunne's kicking was not always all it might have been, but apart from this and a slight tendency to allow Lowder to beat him on the outside, he gave an excellent display.

FOR THE RECORDS

LUTON TOWN 2
Mitchell (penalty), Moore.
SOUTHAMPTON 1
McGowan.

LUTON TOWN: Streten; Dunne, Aherne; Shanks; Morton, Watkins; Stobbart, Taylor (J), Moore, Sexton, Mitchell.

SOUTHAMPTON: Kiernan; Ellerington, Sillett; Elliott, Clements, Mallett; Day, McGowan, Judd, Bates, Lowder.

Referee: A. Bond, London.

Attendance: 15,551.

This was matched by Aherne, who had to cope with the wanderings of Day, the forward who looked as likely as any to pull this game out of the fire for Southampton.

More Caps Are Due For Aherne

AS ever, Aherne's kicking was an outstanding feature of his play, and the consistent way in which he has played this season should ensure him of more caps for Eire in their forthcoming matches.

There was not sufficient punch in the Southampton attack to provide a stern test for Streten.

However, he showed excellent anticipation in dealing with passes across the goal and in cutting out the ball when it was pushed down the middle into the penalty area.

Semi-Finalists Must Meet Again

AFTER a tussle that lasted for two hours, the Town "A" and Headington Reserves failed to reach a decision as to which team would qualify to meet Tottenham Hotspur "A" in the final of the Metropolitan League Cup.

The Town looked the likely winners when Terry Kelly gave them the lead following a corner, but a mix-up between Stone and Stibbards in which the latter was to blame, gave Headington the chance of a gift equaliser a few minutes before the end.

Stone's Part In A Strong Defence

EXTRA time produced no more scoring and the teams will meet again at Luton on a date that still has to be arranged.

Stone was outstanding in the Town defence, despite a cut on the chin that necessitated the insertion of two stitches afterwards.

The defence as a whole was solid, but the forwards, of which Edgar Bennett was the pick, were largely disappointing and neither Allen nor Arthur Taylor reached the normal Reserve team form.

To-morrow, the "A" team meet Millwall "A" at Kenilworth-road in the Metropolitan League Professional Charity Cup.

Chiltern's Forecasts

F.A. CUP, SEMI-FINALS
Blackburn R. v. Newcastle Utd.
Chelsea v. Arsenal

DIVISION I

Bolton W. v. Liverpool
Burnley v. Sunderland
Charlton Ath. v. Aston Villa
Fulham v. Derby C.
Middlesbrough v. Manchester C.
Preston N.E. v. Wolves
Stoke C. v. Portsmouth

DIVISION II

Birmingham C. v. Hull C.
Brentford v. West Ham
Doncaster R. v. Coventry C.
Everton v. Swansea T.
Leeds Utd. v. Notts C.
Leicester C. v. Barnsley
Nottm. Forest v. Sheffield Utd.
Rotherham Utd. v. Q.P.R.
Southampton v. Bury

DIVISION III (SOUTH)

Aldershot v. Gillingham
Bristol R. v. Millwall
Colchester Utd. v. Reading
Crystal Palace v. Northampton T.
Exeter C. v. Newport C.
Leyton O. v. Bristol C.
Norwich C. v. Southend Utd.

FOOTBALL

LUTON TOWN F.C.
The Metropolitan & Dist. League
Professional Challenge Cup
FIRST ROUND

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26th

LUTON TOWN 'A'
v.
MILLWALL 'A'

KICK-OFF 3 p.m.
ADMISSION: Stand & Enclosure
only - 1/- Boys 6d

Plymouth A. v. Bournemouth
Shrewsbury T. v. Torquay Utd.
Swindon T. v. Port Vale
Walsall v. Ipswich T.
Watford v. Brighton

DIVISION III (NORTH)

Accrington S. v. Lincoln C.
Barrow v. Hartlepool Utd.
Bradford v. Crewe Alex.
Carlisle Utd. v. Chester
Chesterfield v. Gateshead
Grimsby T. v. Oldham Ath.
Halifax I. v. Southport
Mansfield T. v. Tranmere R.
Rochdale v. Scunthorpe Utd.
Stockport C. v. York C.
Workington v. Bradford C.
Wrexham v. Darlington

SCOTTISH CUP, SEMI-FINAL

Motherwell v. Hearts
Third Lanark v. Dundee

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

DIVISION "A"

Celtic v. Aberdeen
Queen of South v. Rangers

DIVISION "B"

SUPPLEMENTARY CUP

Albion R. v. St. Johnstone
Alloa v. Stenhousemuir
Arbroath v. Dunfermline
Ayr Utd. v. Cowdenbeath
Clyde v. Forfar Ath.
Dumbarton v. Dundee Utd.
Kilmarnock v. Falkirk
Queen's Park v. Hamilton

SELECTIONS

TEN HOME.—Burnley, Birmingham, Leicester, Rotherham, Southampton, Norwich, Plymouth, Carlisle, Mansfield, Stockport.

FOUR AWAY.—Portsmouth, Reading, Brighton, Lincoln.

THREE DRAWS.—Bolton, Liverpool, Nottm. Forest, Sheffield Utd., Leyton v. Bristol C.



LOOK IN

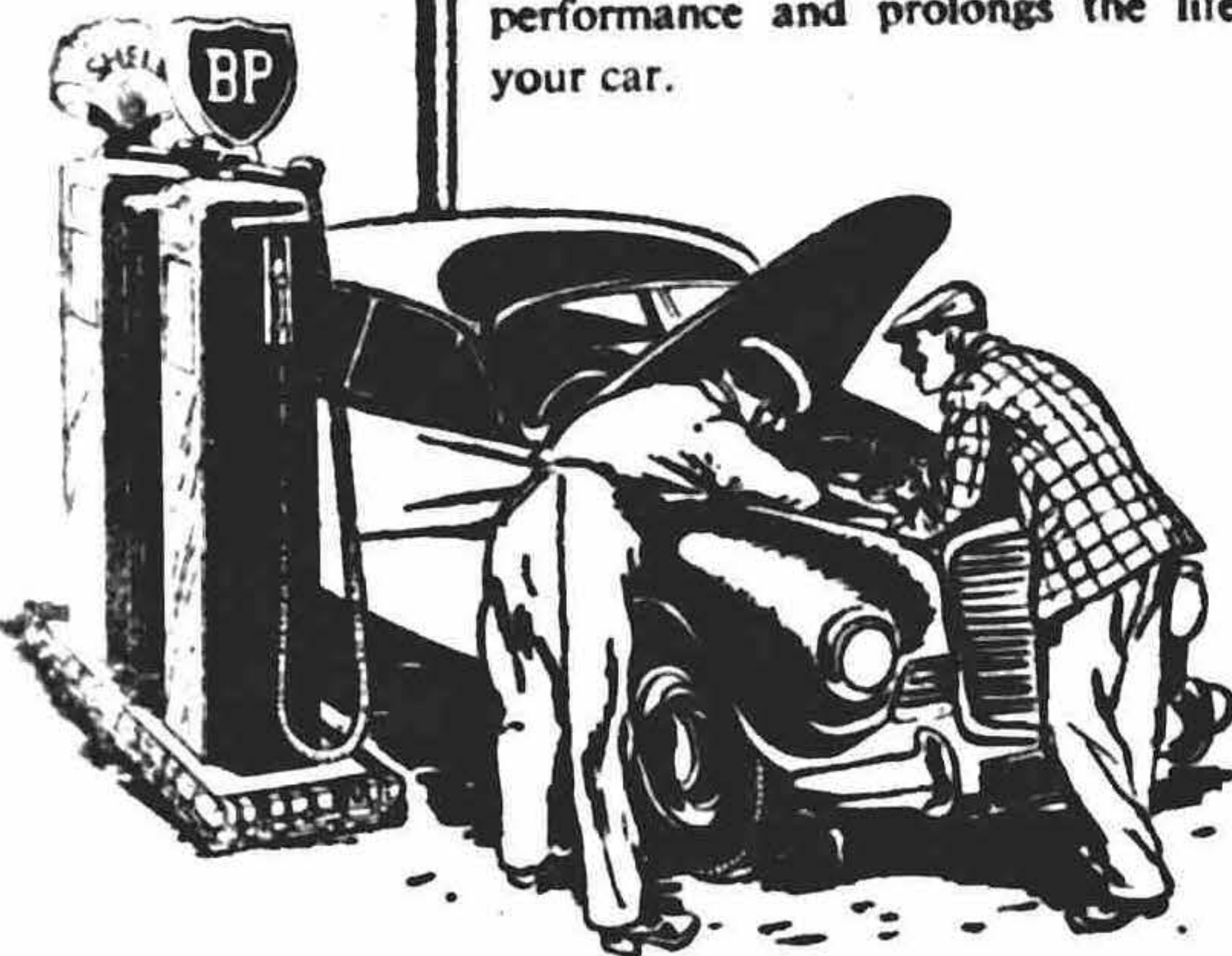
before you go

If you're going away this Easter, look in first at your local garage with the SHELL and BP sign. Have a quick check-over for oil, tyres, brakes, petrol: make sure there's nothing faulty; nothing which will let you down and spoil your holiday.

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If you haven't already done so, change NOW to Shell X-100 Motor Oil—the great new oil that fights Acid Action, main cause of engine wear. With Shell X-100 Motor Oil, your engine is constantly protected against wear caused by harmful combustion acids. Shell X-100 Motor Oil improves engine performance and prolongs the life of your car.



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