

Forwards Shone, But The Defence Did Its Share

By Chiltern

LUTON TOWN 5 NOTTS COUNTY ... 1

Showing far greater finishing power than has been the case in earlier matches this season, the Town dealt out to Notts County, who must now be viewing their visits to Luton with some misgivings, another drubbing.

Although the match was a triumph for the new-style Town attack, the defence did its share splendidly, for the conditions, following a heavy shower, favoured forwards.

Had there been the slightest unsteadiness under pressure, the County forwards might have effected considerably more damage.

As it was, some good approach work broke down against fine covering by the Town defence and the County were never so dangerous as the Town.

That the margin was so wide was due to the way in which scoring chances were snapped up and it all began in the seventh minute when MITCHELL took no notice of appeals for offside and went through to beat Bradley for the first goal.

When PYE added a second 21 minutes later following the good work of Watkins, the Town seemed to be building up for a repeat of last season's feat, but then there had to be a change of ideas when the County struck back a minute before the interval.

The goal came during one of the rare times when the Town defence got into a muddle and from near the edge of the penalty area, JOHNSTON cracked the ball into the net.

MOORE RESTORED ADVANTAGE

Thus, the Town reached the half-way stage not in quite the comfortable position that seemed likely, but an early second-half goal from MOORE put things right again.

Perhaps, it was as well that happened for immediately afterwards, Aherne had to move to outside-left suffering from dizziness and blurred vision, legacy of a heading duel before the interval.

Despite their arrears of two goals, the County must have scented a chance to save the game but the re-cast defence, with Shanks at left-back and Watkins in his old position did not falter.

They were helped by three magnificent saves from Streten during a period when the

County got on top, but the Town found their stride again and a passing movement between MOORE and Pye ended in the former scoring again.

That was 75 minutes from the end and, with four minutes to go, PYE completed the scoring when he flicked with his head a drive by Davies.

With Watkins providing cleverness at inside-left and Moore showing dash and penetrative power at inside-right, the inside forwards worked more successfully than in any previous match.

PYE KEPT LEUTY BUSY

In the middle, Pye saw to it that Leuty had his hands completely full, and celebrated his appearance against his old club with a couple of goals.

While because the Town found that they were most dangerous when they worked the ball down the middle, the wingers did not receive so much scope as usual, there were useful contributions from both.

That the County left wing was so much out of joint was due to the work of Dunne and Morton, both of whom were outstanding, and Owen saw to it that McCormack had no chance of running riot as he did on one previous occasion against the Town.

At wing-half for the first time this season in the League side, except in emergency, Shanks gave a most satisfactory showing, and he put up a most staunch showing when he moved to left-back.

Here Aherne had been rather worried earlier by McPherson's clever footwork, though he curbed the outside-right who was seldom really dangerous.

Streten earned top rating for his great second-half saves, and never looked in the slightest trouble.

LUTON TOWN: Streten; Dunne, Aherne; Morton, Owen, Shanks; Davies, Moore, Pye, Watkins, Mitchell.

NOTTS COUNTY: Bradley; Deans, Wade; Adamson, Leuty, Johnston; McPherson, Jackson, McCormack, Wylie, Crookes.

Referee: E. S. Vickery, Bristol.
Attendance: 13,557.