

Two Quick Blows Put The Town In Strong Position

By Chiltern

SOUTHAMPTON 1 LUTON TOWN 3

Early happenings in this match at The Dell on Saturday did not seem to be shaping towards the easy victory which the Town secured in the end, for they quickly found themselves a goal in arrears. Virtually, though, the game was won and lost in the space of two minutes midway through the first half when the Town scored twice to gain the lead for the first time.

Those two finely-taken goals by **PYE** and **MOORE** tipped the scales the Town's way and the Saints never really recovered from the shock of those two quick blows.

Each developed in a similar way. The first after 20 minutes was from a centre by **Watkins** smacked into the back of the net first-time by **Pye's** left foot, and **Mitchell** provided the material for the second.

This time **Moore** was left with a grand chance and he made no mistake in beating **Kiernan** from close range.

Eleven minutes before the Town's first success, **WALKER** had made the story-book start to his career with his new club by seizing on a through pass following a defensive mistake and planting the ball firmly past **Streten**.

Naturally, this feat sent the Saints' fans into a near-delirium of delight, for they have not had much to cheer about at the Dell this season.

Southampton struck back creditably after the reverses, but they were never really dangerous against a defence that covered up well and the Town had little difficulty in maintaining their lead until the interval.

PYE TOOK FULL TOLL

So much superior were the Town in the second half that they might well have given their goal average an even more decided boost.

There was a shot from **Mitchell** that struck a post, to be followed shortly afterwards by a second goal from **PYE** obtained 12 minutes after the restart.

He was left with the sort of chance he does not miss when he secured the ball from a rebound about 10 yards from goal and that was the beginning of the end for **Southampton**.

There were few occasions when a rather muddling home attack suggested that they would be able to stage a rally and a far more likely happening seemed to be that the Town would increase their lead quite substantially.

Playing good, open football, the forwards worried the Saints' defence, but some chances were missed, apart from which there were one or two close calls.

The Town forwards played well as a whole and they functioned as a line in most promising fashion.

Much of the scheming came from **Watkins** and **Pye**, both of whom displayed clever footwork and accurate distribution. This

was allied to forcefulness from **Moore**, and the extreme wingers backed up the inside trio ably.

TOWN MORE DANGEROUS

Throughout, the Town were by far the more dangerous in attack, and there was no hesitation about having a crack at goal.

Once the defence had settled down and got over the initial shock of the early reverse, they took a grip on the Saints' attack which was not relaxed for the remainder of the game.

Morton soon put the shackles on newcomer **Walker**, who did not live up to his bright beginning, and **Shanks**, after being a little worried by **Dudley** in the first half, took his measure afterwards. Both wing-halves were much on top after the interval.

Judd will remember this as one of his least successful games because of the mastery **Owen** attained over him, and **Aherne** kept **Day** unusually quiet, too.

For **Dunne**, there was an uneasy sort of start against **McDonald**, but through playing closer to the winger in the second half, **Dunne** came right into his own.

Such was the marksmanship of the Saints' forwards that **Streten** did not have an unduly difficult afternoon, but what there was to do he accomplished in a stylish, confident fashion.

SOUTHAMPTON: **Kiernan; Ellerington, Sillett; Elliott, Clements, Mallett; Day, Dudley, Judd, Walker, McDonald.**

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

Referee: **A. Bond, Fulham.**