

PYE'S GOAL MADE SURE

LUTON TOWN 2,
LEEDS UTD. 0

Not until PYE scored in the 89th minute after a drive by Mitchell had cannoned off the post could the Town afford to breathe freely, but there was no doubting that they were 'worth the points they picked up before 19,580 spectators on Boxing Day.

Although they had the better of matters through most of the first half and in the early stages after the interval, they had to be content with a single goal which came their way after seven minutes.

From the Leeds point of view, it was an unlucky affair, since the ball went into the net off the foot of McCABE when he tried to prevent a centre from Davies reaching Pye.

However, it was a movement deserving of a goal, for a crisp pass by Moore sent Davies speeding clear of the defence, and he pulled the ball across the goal-mouth in most dangerous fashion.

Despite the thick mud, the Town forwards moved in confident style and Scott was frequently in action. He was rather lucky to keep out a shot from Mitchell, for the ball eluded his grasp and but for the stickiness in the goalmouth, he would not have been able to recover.

A goal lead at half-time did not represent the Town's superiority, but they were soon threatening to add to it and were unfortunate not to do so when a shot from Morton struck the inside of the post and came back into play.

Then there were appeals for a goal when Scott pushed out a cross drive by Pye, but the referee decided against the Town.

Midway through the second half Leeds suddenly began a rally that tried the Town defence to the full. Aply led by Charles, the Leeds forwards swarmed to the attack, to be driven off by stubborn defensive play.

LIMELIGHT ON BAYNHAM

It was then that the limelight was focussed on Baynham, who made several gallant dives at the feet of oncoming forwards and, for a time, the game looked to be in the balance.

Pye's goal ended all that, but there were fervent appeals against it by the visitors who held that the centre-forward was in an offside position.

Considering the state of the pitch, which became more of a gluepot as play went on, the teams gave a very 'creditable showing and there was plenty of excitement.

The thick mud enabled McCabe to keep a tighter grip on Pye than has been the case recently. Even so, the centre-forward was dangerous, though he missed the chance of the match when he tapped the ball past Scott and wide of the post as well.

He kept the line moving well, particularly in the first half, and Davies thrived on the passes he received from Pye and Moore.

Mitchell, too, had the beating of Dunn, but was inclined to over-run the ball in the first half, perhaps because the ball travelled more quickly on the comparatively drier patches on the wings.

Apart from a tendency to be caught in possession, Watkins did a lot of hard and useful work, and Moore was the more direct inside-forward.

There was little wrong with the defence with Owen keeping Charles reasonably quiet and

playing a dominating type of game in the middle of the field.

Both Morton and Shanks continually broke up attacks before they had really developed, and Jones was much in command against Tyrer.

Not a lot of danger came from Meek in the first half, but Aherne found him a lively handful afterwards and could not always cope with his trickiness.

The crowd showed their appreciation of Baynham's fine work by giving him an ovation at the end and it was thoroughly well earned.

Luton Town: Baynham; Jones, Aherne; Morton, Owen, Shanks; Davies, Moore, Pye, Watkins, Mitchell.

Leeds Utd.: Scott; Dunn, Hair; Kerfoot, McCabe, Burden; Meek, Nightingale, Charles, Iggleden, Tyrer.