

THE TOWN HAD GOOD CAUSE TO BE SATISFIED

THREE POINTS OUT OF FOUR FROM LEEDS

Were More Constructive Than Their Opponents

By CHILTERN

was a most satisfied Town party that caught the train from Leeds on Saturday and they had good cause for satisfaction, for to take three points from their two matches with the hard-fighting, capable Leeds United was a feat of which they could be justly proud.

As a result of this successful holiday they keep in the promotion fight, and if they can retain the form they have shown in the last week, then they will continue to be on the heels of the leaders.

Once again, at Leeds, they played that streamlined type football that has astonished all crowds on opposing ends this season.

They were at their best in the half when they hit back after a goal down in 11 minutes as the result of brilliant play the forwards gained the lead. With a reasonable amount of time in front of goal, they would have been far enough ahead to come to have had this match up in a neat parcel but, as a supporter said afterwards, "Leeds ran just right for Luton's point of goal."

Home Crowd Had To Applaud Town

The big crowd could not help but applaud the football played by the Town in the first half when the home defence was at all at sea.

Most telling move was the mate pass from Pye to Davies which always looked like bringing goals and Leeds could never fully cope with this.

Stories of how good John Charles is with his head have been in circulation for some time and date back from his days as a centre-half. Yet, in both matches, he had few opportunities in this position.

Charles Leaped High To Head Through

When one did crop up in the 11th minute, Charles showed that there was truth in his tale for he leaped high in the air to nod a picture goal from a centre by Meek.

Strange point about this goal was that the centre came from the

left, to which flank the little outside-right had unobtrusively made his way.

For some minutes after this, things looked like going badly for the Town and the defence had a tough time keeping out the direct Leeds forwards, who saw their chance to build up a substantial lead.

Terrific Drive Hit The Crossbar

YET, they were lucky to hold this lead for more than a minute, for it was barely that time after they had scored that the Town made a determined assault during which Pemberton met a centre with terrific force, and the ball struck the underpart of the crossbar.

That was sheer bad luck for Pemberton, who had come in at the last moment for Mitchell, who failed a fitness test of his ankle a short time before the kick-off. Compensation soon arrived though when Pye laid on a perfect pass and Pemberton was there to beat Scott with a well-placed cross shot.

Pye's Goal Put Town Ahead

ONCE on level terms again, the Town really got moving in smooth style, and no one was unduly surprised when Pye nipped in to snatch a chance after Davies had crossed the ball into the goal-mouth.

After that, there was football of real class from the Town, and Leeds were in dire danger of being placed in a position from which there could be no recovery.

They held out, though, and came back with great dash and



RON RAYNHAM played brilliantly in the holiday matches.

bustle after the interval, when the Town defence had a busy time. However, there was always real threat when the Town forwards were on the move, and Pye kept Scott quite busy.

Snow Swirled In Faces Of The Town

THEN, the conditions began to help Leeds in their uphill fight, for rain, followed by sleet and finally thick snow began to fall, and was swirled in the faces of the Town defenders who were facing the wind.

That made their task more difficult and, with the ball becoming greasy the football deteriorated, but not the dash and fighting spirit of either team.

When, for once in a way there was inadequate covering in defence, Leeds obtained the equaliser. It came after 65 minutes, and was obtained by Langley, who just beat the rush of defenders after Charles had lobbed the ball over the head of Owen and rammed the ball into the top of the net just under the bar.

Baynham Brought Down The House

FOR just that split second Langley had been left unmarked, and he made the most of it. After that there were no more gaps in the Town defence, though Baynham had ample scope to show what a fine goalkeeper he is, and two saves, both from Nightingale, simply brought down the house.

There was another from a "toe-ender" by Charles which sent the ball flying like a bullet straight at Baynham, who got his hands to it, and it shot away clear of the penalty area at a quite alarming rate.

"It stung my hands," said Baynham afterwards, a fact that was obvious to the big crowd, especially as Baynham quickly donned a pair of gloves.

Pye Hit The Post From Free Kick

THE battle swayed to and fro after that, with the Town always looking as if they might regain the lead, though Leeds, with the elements behind them, pressed rather the more consistently.

One of the most dramatic moments in a thrill-packed game came just before the end when Pye was brought down on the edge of the penalty area after a brilliant run that left three or four opponents sprawling in the mud.

The ball was placed almost on the 18-yard line for the free kick, and Pye had the hardest of hard luck with his lob that beat Scott completely but struck the post.

Better Football Came From The Town

SO the end came of the second fine game between these two teams in two days with honours even, but we came away with the feeling that had luck really run their way, the Town would have completed a double.

However, a point from this encounter was a great performance. The better football always came from the Town, for Leeds placed rather more reliance on strength and speed than on cleverness in construction.

They placed much reliance, too, on Charles, who at 21 looks like developing into one of the best centre-forwards in the country, a fact of which Wales have doubtless taken due note.

Strength In The Half-Back Line

EVERY credit is due to Sid Owen for the way in which he coped with this tall, strong player in the two matches and, in each, the centre-half had rather the better of matters. Charles is adept at finding the

open space, but he did so only once when it mattered and that was when he headed the first goal. Owen played a strong, determined type of game and was at his best when the pressure was at its height.

Flanking him were hard-tackling assertive wing halves in Morton and Shanks who gave the Leeds inside men little room in which to work and the Town's middle line came through a gruelling with honours.

Meek Troublesome To Aherne

AHERNE had a more troubled day in dealing with the nippy, diminutive Meek, who also worried him in the first match. Whenever Meek got the ball he was dangerous and, hard though Aherne tried, he did not really get to grips with him.

However, the left-back's kicking was as accurate as ever and he did his team good service in this respect time and again when things were looking a bit sticky.

Jones was more successful against Langley and, apart from a tendency to be a little too cool, he did all that was required of him and played his part to the full.

Fearless Display By Baynham

FROM Baynham there was a fearless, top-class exhibition and the Town had a deal for which to thank him, for he made a succession of brilliant saves and

FOR THE RECORDS

LEEDS UNITED 2
Charles, Langley.

LUTON TOWN 2
Pemberton, Pye.

LEEDS UNITED: Scott; Dunn, Hair; Kerfoot, McCabe, Burden; Meek, Nightingale, Charles, Izegden, Langley.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Jones, Aherne; Morton, Owen, Shanks; Davies, Moore, Pye, Watkins.

Referee: B. A. E. Buckle, Peterborough.

Attendance: 31,700

never hesitated to dive at the feet of oncoming forwards when the situation demanded it.

By his displays in these two matches, Baynham has assured himself of a first team place and deservedly so.

Taken as a whole, the defence gave a rugged, powerful exhibition and their covering was very good.

In attack, things revolved around the cleverness of Pye, whose continually accurate use of the ball set raid after raid in motion.

Brilliant Game By Pye

WHENEVER Pye had the ball, there was fluttering among the Leeds defenders and it was seldom that he was caught in possession.

Appreciating the better going and being away from the Kenilworth - road gluepot, he led McCabe a merry dance and was unlucky not to score more than once.

Next in line to Pye I made Davies who has struck top form in the last few weeks. He is making the most of the through passes from Pye and he again gave Hair something of a chasing.

Not only is he making use of

Billiards ONLY ONE TEAM STILL UNBEATEN

Luton Labour, who are in second place in Division II of Luton and District Clubs Snooker League, are the only unbeaten team left.

When they beat Vauxhall 3-1 they shattered the leaders' undefeated record.

RESULTS

BILLIARDS
Luton Cons "A" (scratch) 600, 2 Davis (rec. 150) 554, 0
Beech Hill (rec. 100) 612, 2, Luton Cons "B" (rec. 100) 599, 0
Luton Social (rec. 30) 632, 2, Leagrave Legion (rec. 110) 414, 0

SNOOKER
DIVISION I
Luton Social 2, Percival 2
Luton Cons "B" 3, Luton Liberal 1
Dunstable Cons 2, Luton Cons "A" 2

DIVISION II
Percival 2, Hugh Town 2
Davis "A" 2, Davis "B" 2
Leagrave Legion 4, Beech Hill 0
Luton Labour 3, Vauxhall 1



SID OWEN twice did well against the dangerous John Charles.

his speed, but his centres are accurate and his recent displays have been the best we have seen from a Luton outside-right for a considerable time.

Pemberton Dangerous Near Goal

THERE was reasonably good support, too, from Moore, who along with Watkins got through a tremendous amount of work.

On the day it was Watkins who was rather the more effective, but Moore made some dangerous bursts.

Cheerfully, Pemberton takes on the job in which ever position is necessary at the time and he certainly did not let the team down at outside-left.

He had not the speed to be a raiding winger, but he kept closing in towards goal and might easily have had three goals in the first half.

Definitely he has "goal sense" and it stood the Town in good stead in this match.

Only Injury Is To Mitchell

THERE are strong hopes that Mitchell will be fit for the visit to Rotherham on Saturday and he was the only serious casualty during the holiday games.

Other players received knocks and bruises, but there was nothing to worry about, which was a matter of congratulation in view of the nearness of the Cup-tie.

Most worrying thing to the Town at the moment is the state of the Kenilworth-road ground.

Playing on it is terribly hard work and it is tending to bog down the Town forwards, with the result that they are not getting the reward in goals that their approach work deserves.

Dry Weather Would Be Welcome Now

THIS much was apparent on Boxing Day and the most welcome happening now would be a protracted dry spell in order for reasonable going to be the order once more.

The 19,580 people who saw the home match had no reason to be disappointed, despite the bad conditions, for it was a hard-fought game with the result in doubt until the end.

Pye sent the fans home content by making certain of both points with a goal a minute from the end to add to the one which McCabe had scored past his own goalkeeper in an attempt to clear a centre from Davies.

Reserves' Biggest Crowd Of Season

THE fact that Cup-tie tickets were being sold at the Reserves' match with Ipswich on Saturday took the gate up to 6,174, exclusive of season-ticket holders, the biggest attendance of the season.

All the Town's share of stand seats have now been disposed of, but there are enclosure tickets left and these will be sold at the Reserves' match with Watford next Saturday.

Fog prevented the finish of the Reserves' match half an hour from the end when the Town were leading by a goal from Sexton and there are now three second team matches to be rearranged due to postponements and this abandonment.

Ipswich Did Town A Good Turn

THE Town were without the inside-forwards who took part in the 4-0 win at Aldershot on Christmas Day, Turner and Pemberton, who travelled with the first team.

However, Luton were the more dangerous team and deserved to be ahead.

The previous day, Ipswich had done the Town a good turn by holding Leicester Reserves to a draw at Portman-road, which makes the Town's position safer.

Much will depend, though, on the outcome of the visit of Leicester Reserves to Kenilworth-road on January 24.

Chiltern's Forecasts

DIVISION I

Aston Villa v Derby Co.
Bolton W. v Blackpool
Burnley v West Brom
Manchester Utd. v Manchester C.
Portsmouth v Chelsea
Preston N.E. v Middlesbrough
Sheffield Wed. v Cardiff C.
Stoke C. v Liverpool
Sunderland v Arsenal
Tottenham II. v Newcastle Utd.
Wolves v Charlton Ath.

DIVISION II

Brentford v Hull C.
Doncaster R. v Lincoln C.
Everton v Blackburn R.
Fulham v Birmingham C.
Huddersfield T. v Sheffield Utd.
Leicester C. v Southampton
Nottm For. v Notts Co.
Plymouth A. v Leeds Utd.
Rotherham Utd. v Luton T.
Swansea T. v Barnsley
West Ham v Bury

DIVISION III (SOUTH)

Bournemouth v Leyton O.
Brighton v Bristol C.
Bristol R. v Walsall
Colchester Utd. v Aldershot
Coventry C. v Q.P.R.
Exeter v Shrewsbury T.
Millwall v Gillingham
Newport Co. v Crystal Palace
Norwich C. v Swindon T.
Reading v Ipswich T.
Southend Utd. v Northampton T.
Watford v Torquay Utd.

DIVISION III (NORTH)

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

SCOTTISH LEAGUE DIVISION "A"

Airdrieonians v Hearts
Celtic v Aberdeen
Dundee v Clyde
East Fife v Falkirk
Hibernian v Motherwell
Partick T. v Queen of South
St. Mirren v Raith R.
Third Lanark v Rangers

DIVISION "B"

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

SELECTIONS

TEN HOME. — Portsmouth, Preston, Wolves, Brentford, Leicester, West Ham, Bristol R., Norwich, Gateshead, Grimsby.

FOUR AWAY. — Liverpool, Northampton, Wrexham, Port Vale.

THREE DRAWS. — Burnley v West Brom, Bolton v Blackpool, York v Oldham.



RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS

FOR TO-MORROW

7.30 (410yds). — 664 Chevalier, 446 Michael Karl, 544 Mother's Luck, 626 Solitaire, 556 Squatter, 655 Your Choice.

7.48 (470yds). — 665 Eagle's Nest, 443 Father's Glory, 322 Max Future, 454 Mighty Atom, 333 Star Signal, 231 Waistcoat, reserve 564 Recorder.

8.06 (410yds). — 435 Alma Lass, 466 Lindy, 422 My Old Mate, 5 Violet, 114 Whipped Cream, 166 Win's Boy, reserve 315 Black Flash.

8.24 (470 yds). — 132 Malcolm, 42 Molly, 543 River Bank, 216 Rose-Bud, 551 Skip It, 344 White Lady, reserve 332 Determination.

8.42 (470yds). — 111 All White, 314 Glow Worm, 412 Luton News, 121 Office Boy, 113 Red Earth, 122 Sayhani, reserve 221 Jetty.

9.0 (410yds). — 5 Blanco, 452 Curly O'Connor, 133 Kit-Kat, 22 Reviver, 345 Rosina, 5 Texas.

9.18 (470yds). — 415 Gratis, 132 Hopeless, 52 Phillip's Pet, 531 Rich, 624 Sporting Express, 135 Terry's Pal.

9.36 (410yds). — 123 Lone Eagle, 415 Mr. Murphy, 56 Rent Day, 644 Sally Ann, 116 Vivo, 141 Young Tan.

SELECTIONS

7.30 Chevalier (Solitaire, Mother's Luck).

7.48 Father's Glory (Star Signal, Waistcoat).

8.06 Whipped Cream (Violet, Lindy).

8.24 Malcolm (nap) (Rose-Bud, River Bank).

8.42 Luton News (Red Earth, All White).

9.0 Rosina (Blanco, Texas).

9.18 Sporting Express (Gratis, Rich).

9.36 Vivo (Young Tan, Lone Eagle).

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