

INJURY CUT SHORT TOWN EXPERIMENT

Mishap To Moore Cost Town Victory Chance

By Chiltern

LUTON TOWN 2 LEICESTER CITY 2

Experiment that looked likely to prove a success was cut short at Kenilworth-road on Saturday by one of the series of unfortunate injuries that has cost the Town invaluable points this season.

In the opening stages, with Moore, the subject of the experiment at outside-right, being plied with passes in front of him and getting the ball across regularly, Leicester's run of consecutive matches without defeat seemed booked to end in no uncertain manner.

Then, with less than 20 minutes gone, Moore pulled a thigh muscle and, although he returned to the field after having it strapped up, he could not show the same turn of speed that had made his earlier thrusts so dangerous.

For a spell Moore went to outside-left, but the original formation was returned to for the second half.

Two or three chances went astray during the spell the Town were so thoroughly on top, but it merely seemed a question of time before the goals came.

The handicap made all the difference and Leicester gradually came more into the game. With 14 minutes of the first half left, GRIFFITHS made a quick dash down the right and beat Baynham with a well-placed cross-shot.

Two minutes after the interval the City's lead was increased when Rowley was pulled down in the penalty area by Shanks, running across, trying to tackle the inside-left.

ROWLEY'S shot from the spot was hard, but high, and the ball only just got in under the bar.

QUICK REPLY BY TOWN

A minute later and the Town had narrowed the margin in a breakaway straight from the re-start.

The ball was pushed through quickly to Downie who should have made certain of scoring, but his shot was weak and although it passed Anderson, would not have gone in had DUNNE (T.) not helped it over the line in his attempt to clear.

After this encouragement the Town forwards found some of their earlier fervour again and after 63 minutes DOWNIE equalised from close in after he had had a header saved.

For a time it looked as if the Town would go on to a gallant victory, and, indeed, they had the chances to do so, but inaccurate finishing, combined with stubborn work by Lever, Gillies and Jackson, brought their efforts to nought.

The pressure slackened and the City had a turn; then two or three desperate raids in the closing minutes failed to bring the Town a decider.

A PLUCKY RECOVERY

Praise there should be for a plucky recovery after being two goals down, but this matter of lack of finishing power is still a troublesome factor.

While Downie is proving the most consistent marksman, he is also missing chances that should be accepted, and his general play was not impressive.

Cummins was the Town's cleverest and most able forward, but Scott again showed plenty of fight and life in the middle and

could have expected better support than came his way for much of the second half.

Quite a lot of material was not utilised by Davies, whose finishing was weak.

The defence presented a well-knit look, with Morton giving another fine display in his adopted position and seeing to it that Hines had little chance.

Despite a cut over an eye that necessitated a stitch, Watkins kept going strongly throughout, largely put Morris out of the game and was more consistent than Shanks, who had a patchy sort of match.

Consistent Dunne (S.) served up yet another splendid performance, and Aherne was sound, too. The good marking of the men in front of him meant that Baynham had a reasonably quiet afternoon.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Dunne (S.), Aherne; Shanks Morton, Watkins; Moore Cummins, Scott, Downie, Davies

LEICESTER CITY: Anderson; Lever, Jackson; Baldwin, Gillies, Dunne (T.); Griffiths, Morris Hines, Rowley, Small.

Referee: J. C. Pollard, Cambridge.

Attendance: 19,136.