

HELD ON UNEASILY TO AN AWAY POINT

Lincoln Did Not Make Most Of Their Chances

By Chiltern

LINCOLN CITY 1 LUTON TOWN 1

Just on a handful of occasions in the second half of this hard-fought, though scrappy sort of match at Sincil Bank on Saturday, the Town forwards broke away in menacing style, yet they managed to draw level and save a point.

On the other hand, Lincoln, who certainly could not afford to do other than win in view of their somewhat anxious position, had infinitely more scoring chances, but muffed them, just as the Town have been doing in recent weeks.

While the Lincoln forwards had few pretensions to cleverness, they did move the ball about smartly and with sufficient skill to worry the Town defence at times, but, perhaps because they were lacking the services of their chief scorer, Graver, they lacked the power to finish.

One would not have thought this was the case when GARVIE gave them the lead in the first minute of the second half, when not a single Town player touched the ball from the kick-off, during the course of a bewildering passing movement.

This drew the defence and left the inside-right with a chance he accepted brilliantly by making a hard drive that rose well out of Streten's reach.

Little they had done in the earlier stages had promised such an effort, and little they accomplished afterwards suggested that they could repeat it.

True, Streten made several good saves and the defence played a noble part in keeping out the Lincoln forwards, who took confidence from Garvie's effort.

After an even first half, in which both teams had had a goal disallowed, but, otherwise, rarely threatened goals, though Downie should have given the Town the lead when left with only Lowery to beat, Lincoln settled down to persistent pressure after the interval.

This was relieved by occasional Town breaksaway, in one of which Downie was unlucky with a drive that went over off the woodwork.

Apart from that, there was little suggestion that the Town would equalise until in the 70th minute, a movement begun by Jones brought an unexpected success.

EQUALISER FROM TURNER

Seeing Davies unmarked on the opposite wing, he drove across an accurate pass which the winger took on before making an opening for TURNER who, with his left foot, drove a low shot past Lowery into the far corner of the net.

Then came more Lincoln pressure which brought a miss in a million by Garvie from no more than a few yards out and another good chance that Gibson squandered in the dying seconds of the game.

So, the Town held on somewhat uneasily to a valuable point for which, in the main, they could thank the tenacity of their defence.

To this department, Owen returned after his absence through injury to be the sheet anchor, and he broke up every Lincoln attempt to find a way down the middle.

On this impressive form, Shanks will be very difficult to depose and he was the better wing half because Morton was a bit out of touch both in his tackling and in his use of the ball.

Both Jones and Aherne had their periods of trial, with the latter a little more solid and Streten, showing splendid judgment, saved the situation several times with grand clearances.

From a forward line that showed signs of settling down for a spell in the first half and then fell away, there was little to suggest that all the worries about this department are over.

Because Scott could make little of the tall Emery, he was switched with Turner for the second half and had an even thinner time at inside-right and, with Cullen making little or no progress, it was left to Downie and Davies to be the more thrustful and more constructive wing.

Even so, a considerable percentage of Downie's passes went astray and Davies, forceful though he was at times, still looked like an outside-right filling in on the other wing.

The much-maligned Turner broke his blank spell with an excellent goal, and looked as if he

might settle down at centre-forward more happily than he has been at inside-right recently.

One big fault of the forwards was that they tended to keep the ball too close and were often caught by the hard-tackling home defenders before they could make use of it.

LINCOLN CITY. — Lowery, Green, Graham; Wright, Emery, Own (R); Munro, Garvie, Gibson, Whittle, Finch.

LUTON TOWN. — Streten, Jones, Aherne; Morton, Owen (S), Shanks; Cullen, Turner, Scott, Downie, Davies.

Referee: J. G. Williams, Arnold Notts. Attendance: 11,135.