## TOWN OFF TO A GRAND 3-0 VICTORY

## NEW ATTACK WAS FAR TOO HOT FOR THE FOREST

Came

PYE for Luton after 13

TURNER for Luton after

DAVIES for Luton after 59

a long throw in by Owen which

A fluent movement put the

Town on the attack again, and

Adam centred but it was

deflected for a corner, following

which Aherne flashed the ball

Brilliant football by Pye and

Groves pulled the Forest

was meant for Streten.

Kenilworth-road goal.

of either goalkeeper, but Streten

was called upon to handle a cross

The rain now had become a

the players to produce accuracy

minutes.

minutes.

well wide.

- 32 minutes.

## Pye, Turner And Davies All Find Nottingham Net

Luton Town - - 3 Nottingham F. - 0

By Chiltern

HERE was a big crowd at Kenilworth-road this afternoon for the opening match of the season, in which Nottingham Forest, led by a former Luton captain, Horace Gager, were the visitors, and it was perhaps a sign of the impatience of the fans for the new football season to open that the welcome for both teams seemed warmer than usual.

The Town wore their new garb of gym vest type shirts with short sleeves and no collars and shortened shorts. This was much on the continental style, and I am told that the players like the idea very much.

There was a big welcome for Jesse Pye, making his first appearance in a League match for nine months, and interest was shown in how John Groves and Jim Adam would settle down.

After the heavy rain the ground looked in excellent condition, and it was very well grassed.

The Forest had a league debutant in Keith Turner, 20years-old inside-right, while Groves was making his first home appearance in a League game Gager won the toss and set the Town to defend the Kenilworthroad end.

About 20,000 saw the Town on to the attack straight away, only to be held up by Burkitt, who switched the ball right to the other end with a swing to Black-

He raced through, but there was no one well positioned to receive his centre, and Aherne stopped the danger by pushing the ball back to Streten.

There was a good deal of determination about the Town forwards' work in the early minutes.

It was this factor on the part of Davies that sent Turner through to bring a gasp from the crowd.

It was all in vain because the referee had whistled for a foul

against the outside-right, TURNER THE SPEARHEAD

The change in the Town's coverings by the crowd behind the tactical plan was early obvious, with Pye usually lying deep and Turner being used mainly as the spearhead.

For some little time play ran from McLaren, which he did the Town's way without Walker most competently. being brought into serious action. but at the same time there was real threat from the Forest in sharp breaksaway in which downpour, making the surface and Blackman was playing a leading the ball greasy, and not helping



football season was a lucky one for Luton, for centre-forward Jesse Pye won a duel with Nottingham Forest centre-half, Gager, and sent the ball into the net for his side's first goal of the season.

When the Forest had a turn a shot by Keith Turner was blocked, and straight from the clearance the Town broke away to take the lead through PYE after 13 minutes.

How The Goals There was some element of good fortune about it. but the work that led up to it was worthy of a goal.

First, Adam found Pye in an open space, and the centreforward feinted to pass Gager but did not quite succeed, and in fact the centre-half had a chance to clear. He did his best, but Pye stuck out a foot to stop the ball and it went into the top of the net well out of Walker's reach. Once he was dispossessed by Dunne and then he intercepted

This was a happy beginning to Pye's comeback. He was working hard to get his forwards moving, and with no little success.

Having got in front, the Town were now in full cry, and there was a round of applause for Adam, who turned the ball in over his head as he fell backwards, but this time Walker was well positioned to save.

defence right out of position, and Morton, running into the The chance of an equaliser fell open space at inside-left, looked to McLaren from a half-clearance a possible scorer until Thomas by Owen but although he seized got a foot to the ball to turn the opportunity to shoot, his it for a corner, from which direction was at least a yard too Gordon Turner headed too high.

> FOREST FORWARDS BLOTTED OUT

Rain was falling heavily now, which caused newspapers to be about the Town attack though brought into service as head quarters as we had hoped to see, FOREST GO CLOSE so far at any rate.

Very little had reached the way | players were now finding a secure | centre. foothold difficult.

The Forest attack was still being seen only spasmodically, mainly because their inside forwards were being blotted out, and because there was little support for Blackman.

and several times he put it into finishing power. touch in making a clearance.

reasonable share of the play they always difficult. made little impression, and it was still the Town who were making the more headway. McLAREN MISS

Turner raced in to square the ball low, and Pye and Adam both went down in a heap in front of the more convincing and battergoal without being able to apply the touch which would have made it a success.

Under pressure, the Forest up, conditions were difficult. defence was looking none too NARROW ESCAPE reliable.

with only Streten to beat.

He aimed for the far corner, but missed the target completely with his low drive.

That was disaster narrowly averted, and could be laid at the door of indifferent marking. The rain had stopped now, and there was even a hint of sunshine.

A swift thrust by the Town again nearly added to their lead. Walker, going down to save a shot by Davies, found the ball going away from him, and Turner, racing in at top speed, met it first time, but the goalkeeper got his body in the way to save a certain score.

Then the Town did score through GORDON TURNER after 32 minutes.

RIGHT LUTON TOWN

Streten

Aherne

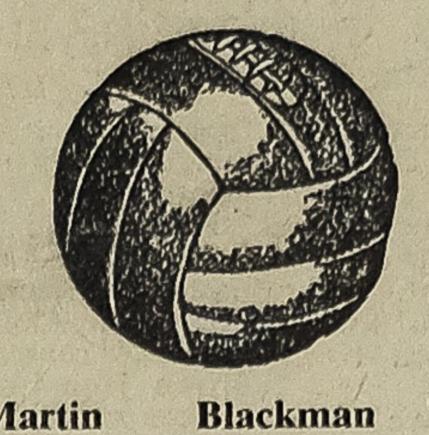
Dunne

Owen Morton

Shanks Groves Turner (G) Davies

Referee

LEFT



A. W. Luty (Leeds)

Orr

RIGHT

LEFT

Adam

Burkitt Gager

> Hutchinson Thomas

> > Walker

NOTTINGHAM FOREST



Gordon Turner gol Luton's second goal after 32 minutes, when he accepted a pass from Pye and shot past goalkeeper Walker from 10 yards.

switched the ball to the insideright. Turner was there, and after seeming to miss his chance, came across the other way and shot past Walker from some 10 yards.

This was now a comfortable situation for the Town who There was more cohesion deserved it because they had shown more skill and craft in not quite so much thrust at close attack and were righter in defence.

Twice the Forest went close, first when McLaren came through Although the rain had eased, it and lay in the penalty area appealhad left a legacy in the shape of ing and then when Blackman treacherous turf on which the just failed to connect with a

> From this the Town broke away again, and Groves should have increased the lead when Turner pulled the ball back to him, but he shot straight at Walker, who saved at pointblank range.

The Forest were looking more Streten was not using the ball lively in attack now, but were

nearly so accurately as is usual, showing little sign of increased

Although Forest were having a off the greasy turf, control was and the ball evaded his punch to

Adam was unlucky to be caught just offside when Pye sent him racing through with only Walker to beat, and there was no doubt that the Town were looking much

balanced site. Towards the interval there was a lot of inconsequential play by both teams. With the turf cutting have added to the Town's tally.

Then in a quick breakaway | Again the Forest had a narrow McLaren had a chance to escape when Turner, from Davies, equalise from the penalty spot crossed the ball in front of goal and Adam put it behind.

Forest gained a corner, their first in the match, when Owen headed behind as he was challenged by Blackman, but like so many of the Forest raids, it fizzled out without Streten being called on.

Then Martin headed over from a cross by Blackman, who was having to carve out for himself what opportunities were coming his way. Half-time:

LUTON . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 4 NOTTM. FOREST .... 0

The second half began with a brisk Forest raid that might have proved dangerous but for Morton, who tackled Martin successfully.

Play remained at the Town end FIGHTING BACK for a while with the Forest gaining a free kick a couple of yards For a time the Forest seemed

Morton got a foot to it and cleared.

down the wing by Adam, who beautiful pass made by Pye. tried to bring the ball along the deadline, only to be tackled by Thomas, who conceded a corner, which was not well placed by the left-winger.

Adams again was in the picture when he dispossessed Orr, but he held on too long and then lost the ball himself.

Then Pye set the crowd roaring with one of his runs down the left wing in which he outpaced the defence and crossed a ball that Hutchinson hooked away.

A complete clearance was not effected, and Morton tried a shot that was off the target, though not by half so much as one he had in the next minute when he blazed yards over the bar.

FREE-KICK TO FOREST

on Moore, but still Streten was agreement. not troubled, and with Blackman firmly held there was a lack of punch about the Forest attack.

Gager wasa allowed to get away with a blatant case of handling, cepted. and then three Town forwards were judged to be offside when seeking to reach a centre from Davies.

Morton was having as many cracks at goal as anyone, and he brought Walker to his knees clearance.

were for the defenders with the giving away a corner on the other ball shooting about, more goals side. did not look likely.

GOAL FOR DAVIES

But now DAVIES increased the lead after 59 minutes.

He took a pass from Pye out on the right wing and made what can be best described as a centre-With the ball shooting speedily cum-shot that Walker misjudged, find a billet just inside the far

> This set the Town alight, and the Forest wondered how they came to survive in the next minute.

The ball went down the Town left and crossed in front of goal. Turner tried to reach it, but was too soon, otherwise he would

Moving the ball about now, the Town were in full cry and threatening to sweep the Forest off their feet.

Adam and Pye cut through the defence and Walker made an uncertain clearance. Then Thomas made a prompt clearance.

Following this there was some uncertainty at the Town end.

Some half-chances were still cropping up for the Forest, and Martin shot too hurriedly and wide of the mark from a good position.

Again he had a chance to shoot, this time from the edge of the penalty area, and he brought Streten down to his knees with a low shot.

The ball eluded the goalkeeper's grasp, and he had to make a dive at the feet of Moore to prevent Forest from reducing their arrears.

outside the penalty area for to have taken a new lease of life, made the opening obstruction by Shanks. Moore and McLaren tried a hook shot which he crossed the ball from this, but which was too high. Keith



Davies got the Town's third goal after 59 minutes with a shot from the wing that deceived Walker.

Turner, who was not having a The 13th minute of the new McLaren Martin Blackman Turner (K) Moore happy debut, changed places with Moore, and this brought some liveliness to their front line,

> It was not long before the Town were back again with the ball still moving about briskly, and Adam headed into Walker's hands from Davies's centre,

The Forest had not given up. and Streten had to throw himself sideways to grasp a header by Blackman,

Yet, the more threat was always contained in the Town front line only Gager prevented From this there was a long run Turner from improving on a

> More switching in the Forest front line took Moore to outsideleft and McLaren to outside-

BLACKMAN ON THE TARGET

For a time both defences took having quite a reasonable share of the play without looking dangerous. That is until Blackman found himself in an open space and blazed away.

> Streten got two fists on the ball and sent it to Owen, who booted it behind for a corner. This Streten cleared safely.

Then it was the Town's turn, and neat passing led to Groves running through with a clear field. He ended by turning the ball past Walker, but the goal Forest were having a fair was disallowed on the ground of amount of play now and were offside, a decision with which the helped by a free-kick after a foul crowd was far from being in

> Clever work by Adam took the Town on the attack, but then he spoiled it by trying a too-close pass to Pye, which was inter-

Streten was earning his corn now, and he made two brilliant saves, one from Burkitt and another from McLaren.

Streten's feat brought him an after neatly controlling the ball ovation from the crowd, and he when it ran loose from a half was in action again the next minute, pouncing on the ball at Martin's feet from a corner. The Difficult though the conditions danger was averted by Owen

> Certainly, the Forest were earning marks for their fighting spirit, which they continued to show, though their hopes were forlorn at this stage.

Pye then fastened on to a pass by Groves, only to be hustled off by Hutchinson.

MORE SWITCHES

ONI ONDAL LEELONALLI Salurday, etagast 21, 1951

McLaren was now back on the left wing, with Moore at inside-

Play had swung the Forest way, and Streten punched away a centre by K. Turner.

Another fine run by Pye nearly ended in another goal, but Groves raced in to try to beat Walker to the ball. He did not connect properly, and the ball went skidding away almost at right angles.

The Town were still threatening to add to their lead, and they should have had a penalty when



Adam was hustled off the ball by Hutchinson, but the referee waived aside all their appeals

Then, with barely a minute to go, Forest nearly scored, and

no one would have grudged it to them, when Blackman dribbled the ball past Streten, but Dunne was on the spot to take it away. Forest had not given up, and

they gained a corner when Owen a grip and still the Forest were kicked over the bar. Finally, this was cleared by Streten. Result: LUTON TOWN ..... 3 NOTTM. FOREST .... 0