

FIRST AWAY POINTS, THANKS TO PYE

Town Play Brilliant, Attacking Football

(By Chiltern)

LINCOLN CITY 1 LUTON TOWN 2

NOT only did the Town maintain their unbeaten Second Division record on the Lincoln ground last night but they deservedly picked up their first away points of the season.

There was a time when it looked as if they might have to pay the penalty of missed chances when they were on top, but Pye came along with a late goal, his second of the match, to give the Town the decider.

The Town were seen at their best in the first half when they nearly ran the Lincoln defence ragged by some brilliant attacking football in which they used a somewhat modified form of the Continental style with which they began the season.

This time they mixed their tactics but a lot of the time used Turner as a spearhead down the middle, with Pye in a more scheming role.

With a little more accuracy in finishing the Town would have had this match safely buttoned up by half-time.

But the quality of their football was such as to give promise that the front line has now settled down.

Really this match provided a complete contrast in method, with the Town playing the football and Lincoln relying on dash and enthusiasm, of which they had plenty.

Teams:

LINCOLN CITY: Downie; Dykes, Troops; Wright, Emery, Owen (R.); Munroe, Garvie, Graver, Birch, Finch.

LUTON TOWN: Streten; Dunne, Aherne; Morton, Ower (S.), Shanks; Cullen, Turner, Pye, Cummins, Adam. Referee: F. B. Coultas, of Hull.

Once again an England selector was having a look at the Town, who brought in Cullen for Mitchell.

The team losing the toss was under the disadvantage of facing a strong sun, and it fell to the Town.

In the first minute Downie made a goal-line save when Turner headed in a centre by Pye, and two corners were cleared.

First definite shot for Lincoln came from the full-backs Dykes and Troops, but the Town were looking the more dangerous.

Turner, obviously playing to instructions, was lying well up in attack, and it was working very well.

TOWN TAKE LEAD

After nine minutes the Town took the lead when Turner, from near the inside-left position, picked up a through pass and shot hard with his left foot from about 18 yards.

Downie dived but could only push the ball out to PYE, who, following up, scored easily.

Although they were having quite a share of the play Lincoln were poor in finishing, but the Town should have increased their lead when Turner, after beating Emery, tapped the ball wide of the oncoming Downie, and watched it roll inches the wrong side of the post.

Downie saved twice, and then, with the interval approaching, there followed some desperate sort of pressure by Lincoln, who, however, had little but dash to offer, and it did not get them very far.

At the same time there were one or two hectic scrimmages in the Town penalty area. Half-time:

LINCOLN CITY 0
LUTON TOWN 1

Lincoln looked more business-like at the start of the second half, and a great 30-yard drive by Graver was smartly tipped over the bar by Streten.

The Town's reply was with a movement by Pye and Cullen that Turner finished off with a smashing sort of shot that caused Downie anxiety.

Lincoln were showing plenty of zest in their quest for an equaliser, and it came in the 52nd minute when Sid Owen stabbed at a low centre by Munroe and, only half-hitting the ball, sent it straight to BOB OWEN, who drove it into the net.

A brilliant run by Adam should have resulted in the Town regaining the lead had he pulled the ball back instead of electing to go on to beat another opponent. As it was, all he gained was a corner.

FIGHTING HARD

At this stage the Town were not moving so smoothly as they had in the first half, and Lincoln were fighting terrifically hard.

Turner finished a brilliant run, in which he beat two defenders, with a shot that Downie saved with his body, and with play now going quickly from end to end, Streten made a great full-length save from Birch.

Turner once looked a possible scorer, but was tackled by Emery as he sought an opening to shoot.

A shock came at the other end when Aherne was judged to have brought down Munroe dangerously near to the penalty area, and there was a breathless moment while the referee went to speak to a linesman before deciding it was a free kick.

Eight minutes from the end the Town regained the lead with PYE again the scorer, when he was on the premises to drive in from close range the ball when it rebounded off Downie from a shot by Cullen after a fine movement.

Attendance: 13,300