

QUICK GOALS AFTER BLANK FIRST HALF

Six Consecutive Home Victories For The Town

[By Chiltern]

LUTON TOWN 2 DERBY COUNTY ... 0

After a first half during which the Town failed to cash in on a deal of good approach work and several reasonable scoring chances, they struck twice within the space of six minutes soon after the interval to make sure of maintaining their home record.

This was the Town's sixth consecutive home victory of the season and, despite the time they took to turn their superiority to account, no other result really looked to be feasible.

That Derby remained on terms until the 49th minute was due less to their own resourcefulness than to the fact that the Town raids during the first half almost invariably fizzled out before a shot was produced.

Part of this was due to the inaccuracy of the final pass and part to the fact that there was a lack of thrust among the inside forward trio.

In midfield, some excellent football was produced, with Pye always dangerous in his switches to the wings, but Hunter had a much quieter time than should have been the case.

Not that Derby looked much like scoring, but there was some anxiety at half-time about the lack of punch in the Town front line.

However, this disappeared when TURNER scored a clever goal when he side-footed the ball past the advancing Hunter from a brilliant through pass by Watkins to give the Town the lead after 49 minutes.

GLORIOUS PYE GOAL

Six minutes later Shanks made a grand pass to PYE, out on the extreme left wing, and the centre-forward, putting in a tremendous burst of speed, swept past Mozley and another defender to drive the ball into the net from a quite acute angle for a glorious goal.

These events changed the face of the situation completely and there might well have been other goals to the Town, especially when Mozley headed the ball against a post after Davies had centred.

Then Derby, who had been somewhat lethargic in attack, rallied strongly and they might well have reduced their arrears had there been more marksmanship at inside forward.

Dunn, in particular, missed an easy chance, but, despite this spurt, the Town always had a grip on things, and both Turner and Pye were unlucky not to add to their lead.

In the end, it was easy enough for the Town, whose defence had a fairly comfortable journey, except that they always had to look for trouble from the alert and speedy Imlach, who gave Dunne a worrying second half.

INSIDE MEN BLOTTED OUT

There was much less threat from the other flank, where Aherne was on top, and Morton and Shanks both played strongly against two inside forwards who were seldom allowed to get into the game.

Owen coped with Bell, who had not much support but showed a lot of dash and fight-

ing spirit, and Streten would scarcely put this down as a difficult afternoon, though he made two or three class saves.

Complaints about the forwards in the first half were mainly on the grounds of lack of finishing power and that there was not sufficient shooting, but they remedied this to a marked extent afterwards.

Pye had a great second half in which he was a continual threat to the visiting defence and there was fine support for him from Davies, in top form on his return to the team.

With more of the ball, Adam could well have been a real menace to Derby and he had his best spell after the interval when Watkins was more successful because he parted with the ball more quickly.

Once again, Turner came along with an invaluable goal and was unlucky on other occasions when his positional sense had enabled him to make the most of an opening.

LUTON TOWN: Streten; Dunne, Aherne; Morton, Owen, Shanks; Davies, Turner, Pye, Watkins, Adam.

DERBY COUNTY: Hunter; Mozley, Barrowcliffe; Mays, Young, Upton; Harrison, Powell, Bell, Dunn, Imlach.

Referee: B. A. E. Buckle, Peterborough. Attendance: 17,156.