

LEADERSHIP IS BIG PROBLEM

WILL KELLY'S FEAT BRING HIM BACK?

Brilliant Attack Hit Town In Second Half

(By Chiltern)

Resetting problem that has reared its head and one with which the Town before the season began scarcely expected to have to cope is that of filling the centre-forward position.

Known intention when Jesse Pye was transferred to Derby County, was to attempt to fill the gap from within the resources of the club before making any attempt to enter the transfer market, and this is something that cannot be said to have met with success yet.

However, the opportunity crops up to-morrow when the Town are visiting Derby for a floodlit match, to make further experiments in this direction.

Net result of Saturday's matches was that MacEwan, I am afraid, has played himself out of the reckoning for the time being at any rate, and that Kelly is forced his way back to the attention of Manager Dally by scoring four times for the Reserves against Norwich.

Whether this will be held to justify his immediate recall to the league side remains to be seen when the team for the mid-week friendly is announced later to-day.

However, on the evidence of what we have seen, Kelly looks more ready for first-team duty, even though he is lacking experience of the position and could do with an extended period in the Reserves to enable him to gain that.

MacEwan Had No Dash Or Fire

OTHER than an entry into the transfer market, and, in the words of the Chairman, Mr. G. Mitchell, "Good centre-forwards do not grow on trees," failing a decision to make a further experiment in this direction, then Kelly would seem the most likely to get the vote at the meeting.

At Fulham on Saturday, MacEwan was an acute disappointment. It had been thought he would bring to bear the dash and fire he has been showing in the Reserves and so unsettle the Fulham defence that was known to be suspect.

It just did not happen that way. MacEwan was a pale carbon copy of the player who has been filling second-team defences and being an upsetting influence on them.

Town Should Have Led At Half-Time

RESULT was that Brice, whom Fulham do not consider their answer at centre-half, judging by the efforts that are being made to obtain another, looked as good a player as there was on the field and, in the second half, had all the time in the world in which to make his clearances.

Yet, earlier, when the Town put on a considerable amount of pressure, Brice was by no means certain, nor was the remainder of the defence.

An experienced centre-forward, during this stage of the game, might have turned it materially in the Town's favour but, even so, they should have held the lead at half-time, for the chances came their way and were allowed to slip by.

Turner Did Not Play To The Whistle

AGAINST a team of Fulham's obvious capabilities in attack, this was fatal, and the Town should have cashed in during that spell when they had the home defence worried by some clever approach work.

Most obvious chances were those that fell to Adam, who tried a fancy flick in front of goal when it looked as if he had the time to be more straightforward and the one that came to Turner a minute before half-time.

In this case, he made the mistake of not playing to the whistle when the Fulham defence stopped to appeal for a handling offence. Believing that Fulham would

gain a free-kick, he blinded the ball over the bar from a few yards out.

Questions Should Be Asked Afterwards

LESSON here is to get the ball into the back of the net and then ask any questions that are necessary afterwards, for the upshot was that the referee turned down the Fulham appeals and awarded a goalkick, so, had Turner taken time to steady himself, the Town could have left the field a goal ahead.

That would have been no more than their due, for other opportunities had gone astray.

Almost MacEwan's only chance of a shot at goal was spoilt when Groves, in his eagerness, baulked him.

Earlier, Groves had missed his kick when inside the penalty area and Adam had struck the foot of a post from such an acute angle that it seemed it would have been much better to have pulled back the ball.

Fulham Staged A Great Revival

DESPITE the obvious shortcomings in the finishing, there was a good deal to be pleased about the Town's first-half display for they had got back on to the "football" standard in approach work, and Fulham were so badly out of touch, especially in their passing, that a point at least, seemed firmly within their grasp.

Whether it was a half-time pep talk that settled Fulham, I do not know, but the fact remains that in the second half they were unrecognisable from the stumbling, stuttering combination they had been earlier.

Naturally enough, an early goal by Stevens helped their confidence and, from then on, they never looked back.

Their wing halves, who had been struggling throughout the first half, gained a grip in the middle of the field and the inside forwards whose passing had been so faulty, suddenly found accuracy.

Took A Firm Grip In Midfield

IT was the midfield grip that was so valuable and few defences in the country could have stood up to the brilliant, quick football Fulham's attack played in the second half.

Time and again, the Town defence was left helpless by the through pass and the way down the middle that Hall had blocked so capably earlier, suddenly became open.

Not that one could blame Hall unduly, for he was often left in an unenviable position and there was not the pivoting on him that would have been an invaluable aid at this stage.

Shots showered at the Town goal with Stretten suddenly becoming as busy as any man on the field and making a number of grand saves.

On the other hand, the Town attack seldom spluttered into life and it was as good as the end when Stevens scored again after 76 minutes.

Town Had To Wait Until Last Minute

THIS was a scrappy sort of affair that came during a goal-mouth scramble, but there was nothing of that nature about the one that Fulham gained six minutes from the end, when fine passing pulled the Town defence right out of position and Robson crashed the ball in with terrific force.

Yet the Town were not done by any means, and their consolation came in the last minute when Turner finished off a neat movement by Adam and Groves.

The result could have been worse, but it could have been so much better, too, had the Town obtained the goals they should have done in the first half.

During this period, Groves impressed with the quality of his approach work, and his deceptive body swerve often had defenders going the wrong way.

Adam's Long Spells Without The Ball

WITH Adam he linked up very well, and there was always danger from this quarter until the interval.

Afterwards, Adam had long spells without the ball, and I thought he might have come inside looking for it, with advantage to both himself and the team, especially as both Groves and Turner had to turn their attention so much to defence.

Turner had a good first half, as did Davies, who, however, got much into Lawler's grip afterwards, when, of course, the service was not so good.

Much of Fulham's ineffectiveness in the first half could be traced to the close marking of the Town defenders and to the fact that their wing-halves had to

FOR THE RECORDS

FULHAM 3
Stevens (2), Robson.
LUTON TOWN 1
Turner
FULHAM: Black; Chenhall, Lawler; Smith, Brice, Low, (E); Stevens, Robson, Jezzard, Haynes, Mitten.
LUTON TOWN: Stretten; Dunne, Aherne; Morton, Hall, Shanks; Davies, Turner, MacEwan, Groves, Adam.
Referee: E Crawford, Doncaster. Attendance: 33,500.

spend more time helping to keep on level terms than is usually the case.

Threw Off Grip Of Town Wing Halves

ONCE Fulham threw off this grip, then there was trouble for the Town, and both Morton and Shanks, who had been so much on top, found the switching and quick passing of Robson and Haynes difficult to cope with.

With more freedom, this pair starred, and although Jezzard found the grim Hall difficult to pass, their activities served to produce the gaps that had scarcely been noticeable before.

Owen, with his great experience, might have been able to rally the defence and stop up some of the gaps, but Hall did as good a job as was possible in the circumstances and there was not the cover he could have used so much.

Dunne Did Well Against Mitten

ALTHOUGH Mitten was an ever-present source of danger, Dunne did very well against him because he contrived to get into the tackle quickly, but Aherne, solid though he was earlier, could not take a complete grip on Stevens afterwards, but it was a second half of toil for the defence, who found the ball continually coming back at them, and who had as harassing a time as they are likely to meet this season.

On their form after the interval, Fulham look as good a bet as there is in the Second Division, so long as their defence does not lapse too often.

Stretten had so much to do and performed so capably as to remind the London crowd that he is still in the top flight. Some of his clearances were in the highly spectacular class.

Reserves Found Their Shooting Boots

WHEN they played their first Combination (Division I) match of the season at Charlton

Luton Reserves played neat attractive football but spoilt the effect by weak finishing.

On Saturday at Kenilworth-road they showed that they had remedied their weakness of the previous Saturday when they shot for goal at every opportunity and beat Norwich City Reserves—usually a very strong combination—6-1.

Man of the match was centre-forward Terry Kelly who scored four of his side's goals.

He was a lively leader and was always in the right place at the right time although his task was made easier in the second half when Norman the Norwich centre-half, was injured and moved up into the forward line.

Kelly Took His Tally To Four Goals

THIS injury upset Norwich's plan but although Luton might not have won quite so convincingly had he not been injured there was never any doubt about their superiority.

They started off with a spell of brilliant football which completely demoralised their visitors.

Moving the ball quickly and accurately they scored after only two minutes through Cullen and went further ahead in the eighteenth minute when Kelly scored the first of his four.

Kelly and Allen added further goals within four minutes of the start of the second half and although Kearns reduced Norwich's arrears after a well-taken corner by McMillan, Kelly scored two more in the closing stages.

Norwich Relied On Offside Tactics

NORWICH relied on an offside trap which, to a large extent, was successful, and was the means of ending several Luton raids although, once again, there were several occasions when Norwich seemed to get the benefit of the doubt and Cullen was pulled up twice when it looked as if he had sprung the trap.

Cullen was the more effective of the wingers although he sometimes tried to beat one man too many, and Allen and Cummins were effective inside-men.

Allen was the more consistent of the two and never stopped working, but three times Cummins tore the Norwich defence wide open with perfectly-timed passes and he usually had the beating of Cleary.

There was little wrong with the Town defence with Baynham excelling when the ball was in the air. Dallas was a little uncertain at first but improved as the game progressed.

Thompson had a good game, tackling hard and using the ball well and he was the stronger of the two backs, for Jones was inclined to be casual in his approach to the game, although it must be admitted that he gave Collins little scope.

Chiltern's Forecasts

DIVISION I
Arsenal v Sunderland
Barnley v Portsmouth
Cardiff City v Bolton Wanderers
Chelsea v Charlton Ath
Everton v Manchester U
Leicester City v Blackpool
Manchester City v Huddersfield T
Newcastle U v Wolves
Preston N.E. v Sheffield Wed.
Sheffield U v Tottenham Hotspur
West Bromwich v Aston Villa

DIVISION II
Birmingham City v Derby County
Bury v Bristol Rovers
Hull City v Notts County
Ipswich T v Doncaster Rovers
Leeds U v Plymouth Argyle
Lincoln City v Liverpool
Luton T v Swansea T

Middlesbrough v West Ham
Nottingham Forest v Port Vale
Rotherham United v Fulham
Stoke City v Blackburn Rovers

DIVISION III (SOUTH)
Brentford v Bournemouth
Brighton v Q.P.R.
Bristol City v Exeter City
Coventry City v Watford
Gillingham v Aldershot
Leyton Orient v Swindon T
Millwall v Crystal Palace
Reading v Southend U
Shrewsbury T v Norwich City
Southampton T v Northampton T
Torquay U v Newport County
Walsall v Colchester U

DIVISION III (NORTH)
Accrington Stanley v Rochdale
Barnsley v Hartlepool U
Barrow v Chester
Bradford City v Gateshead
Halifax T v Chesterfield
Mansfield T v Bradford
Oldham Ath v Darlington
Scunthorpe U v Stockport County
Southport v Carlisle U
Workington T v Grimsby T
Wrexham v Tranmere Rovers
York City v Crewe Alexandra

SCOTTISH LEAGUE
DIVISION "A"
Celtic v Falkirk
Dundee v Queen of the South
East Fife v Clyde
Hibernian v Kilmarnock
Motherwell v Raith Rovers
Partick Thistle v Aberdeen
St Mirren v Rangers
Stirling Albion v Hearts

DIVISION "B"
Airdrieonians v Dunfermline
Arbroath v Hamilton
Ayr U v Morton
Brechin City v Alloa
Cowdenbeath v Dundee U
St Johnstone v Albion Rovers
Stenhousemuir v Queen's Park
Third Lanark v Forfar Ath

SELECTIONS
TEN HOME.—Chelsea, Preston, West Bromwich, Birmingham, Hull, Leeds, Bristol City, Leyton Orient, Burnley, York.
FOUR AWAY.—Wolves, Bristol Rovers, Norwich, Chesterfield.
THREE DRAWS.—Ipswich v Doncaster; Reading v Southend; Bradford City v Gateshead.

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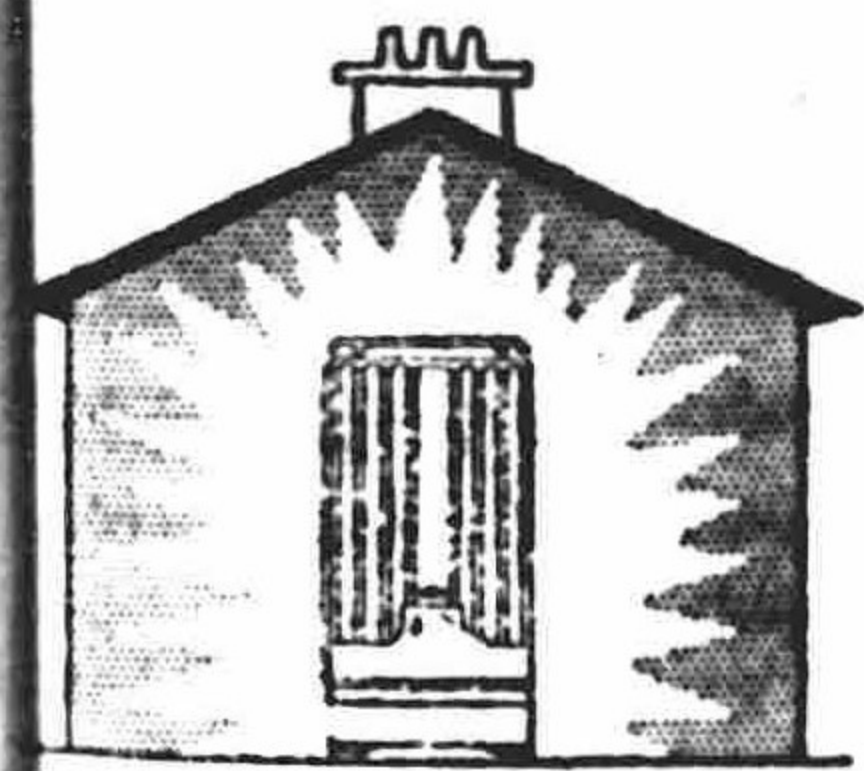
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Housewarming News



No need to run short of paraffin this winter

IN THIS YEAR'S cold spells, when everyone else is rushing round trying to get extra fuel, you can have enough paraffin. You wouldn't let your coal supplies get down to the last shovelful before ordering more. Why not plan ahead the same way with paraffin?

Here is an attractive, strongly built 5-gallon Aladdin Pink paraffin drum, specially produced by Shell-Mex and B.P. Ltd. You can buy it at the shop where you get your Pink paraffin. With one or more of these in the house you need never be short of fuel this winter. But buy now, before they all go.

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