

LIVERPOOL DID A CONJURING TRICK

Made Lead Disappear, But Town Hit Back Again

By Chiltern

LUTON TOWN 3 LIVERPOOL 2

An amazing rally by Liverpool, helped on by a couple of goals that should never have occurred, nearly deprived the Town of a home point after they had put themselves in an extremely strong position and looked to be all set for their biggest victory of the season.

The transformation came within three minutes early in the second half when the Town were two goals up—a lead that under-rated their first half superiority—and looking very much like obtaining more successes.

Then, a forward line that had played some neat football in mid-field but had not shown a deal of life in front of goal broke away to gain a corner.

These awards have frequently proved fatal to the Town in the past, but there seemed no reason for fear about this one which was not even accurately placed.

Unfortunately, Baynham decided that it was his ball and came well out of his goal to try to gain possession. He failed to do so and Anderson turned the ball towards the goal, now guarded by Pemberton and Dunne.

Had Pemberton allowed it to go through Dunne was in a position to clear but he decided that the situation was sufficiently serious to merit a handling offence and a penalty followed.

From this, LIDDELL drove the ball through at a terrific pace to give Liverpool their first glimpse of the possibility of saving the match.

REMOTE CHANCE CAME OFF

Even then it must have seemed to them very remote chance, but they persevered, and three minutes later came another unexpected goal when EVANS made a speculative sort of centre-cum-shot from the right wing and the ball which came across awkwardly, eluded Baynham and went in off the inside of the post.

For a few minutes after this, there was a distinct danger that Liverpool would go ahead, for the Town were rattled which was understandable in the completely changed circumstances and it took them some time to regain their stride.

When they did, there was further trouble for the visiting defence, and, after Morton had struck the foot of the post, Ashcroft failed to hold a hard drive from Turner and ADAM was on hand to turn the rebound into the net.

So, in the end the Town obtained their just reward, for there was no doubt they were the better more methodical

team and they deserved to hold more than a 2-0 interval lead.

The slow, hesitant Liverpool defence, always unsafe under pressure, had a shocking first half when they were almost torn to pieces by the thrust of the home forwards and MORTON scored both goals in the 17th and 24th minutes.

One came with a deceptive shot probably intended for a centre, and the other when he dashed in to take advantage of a misunderstanding between Ashcroft and Hughes.

How Liverpool escaped further reverses was a mystery, for the Town forwards had a goal-hungry look. Turner hit a post, Morton missed by inches, and the visiting goal always seemed to be facing imminent disaster.

Some tightening up occurred in their defence after the interval, but it was those two swift blows that gave Liverpool confidence to make a fight of it, and the Town the scare of their lives.

Goals are coming more consistently from the forwards now, and much of it is due to the leadership of Morton, who has settled down finely in the middle.

Cummins, showing much-improved form, and the elusive Adam, formed a well-balanced left wing, and the thrustful, hard-shooting Turner was another from whom Liverpool could expect danger.

With his best form still eluding him, Davies was the least effective of the attack, but he was very lively when he had a spell inside after his partner had been slightly injured.

Because he is liable to be measured by the yardstick of Morton's form at right-half, Pemberton faces a difficult task in this position, and there was not complete satisfaction about his showing.

Yet, the defence as a whole was untroubled until Liverpool suddenly found things running their way, and Liddell was seldom out of Owen's grip.

Rarely, either, was the industrious Shanks beaten, and with Dunne and Aherne sound enough, there was little scope for the Liverpool front line as a whole.

Because of the manner in which the goals came, this was not quite the sort of come-back Baynham would have chosen, but the rest of his work was competent.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Dunne, Aherne; Pemberton, Owen, Shanks; Davies, Turner, Morton, Cummins, Adam.

LIVERPOOL: Ashcroft; Lambert, Lock; Saunders, Hughes, Twentyman, Jackson, Anderson, Liddell, Evans, Acourt.

Referee: C. W. Kingston, Newport.