NO EXCHANGE DEAL WITH FULHAM

"NOT PARTING WITH BAYNHAM" SAY TOWN

More Substantial Win Should Have Been Gained

(By Chiltern)

Whatever the Town do, they cannot keep themselves out of the transfer news and most of the things that keep making headlines are involuntary on their part.

Such is the case as regards the interest that Fulham manager, Frank Osborne, has been taking in Luton players and in Ron Baynham in particular, to the extent of watching him play on two consecutive Saturdays. Reaction of the Town to this is the same as it was when West Bromwich were seeking him: "We are not parting."

THAT Manager Dally Duncan was at Fulham watching their Reserves' match with Plymouth was in the nature of a coincidence and did not imply in any way that the Town were contemplating an exchange deal.

His interest lay in Jeff Taylor, the former Huddersfield player, and was along the lines of the general Luton policy of weighing up all the possibilities in case they should decide to jump into the transfer market in the future.

As things are going at the moment, with Morton supplying the answer at centre-forward, this is not likely to be for a long time.

Was Not Impressed With Taylor

IN addition, the Town manager was by no means impressed with the display of Taylor and Fulham had a bad day against a Plymouth team that included Hugh McJarrow, appearing at left-half.

So, any talk of a possible transaction between Luton and the London club can be discounted.

Meanwhile, at Kenilworth-road, the Town were registering their first victory for a month in a less substantial manner than should have been the case, but there was probably a deal of relief among the players that the lead was regained late on after they had seen a two-goals advantage disappear.

Liverpool Defence In Terrible Trouble

YET by then the Town should have been in such a position that a couple of goals against them would not have mattered, for rarely have I seen a defence in such trouble as were Liverpool during the first half in the sticky Oak-road goalmouth.

How they limited their arrears to two at the interval was something of a mystery, but it was a fact that they were fortunate on several occasions and that, had the best of luck attended the Town's shooting, they would have been five up by that stage.

There was that shot by Turner that struck the post and several other close-shave efforts, including a couple by Morton that deserved to count.

Harassed After Morton's Goals

ON the other hand, Liverpool could point to misfortune only once when Evans shot against the foot of a post, and they were a thoroughly rattled, harassed team after Morton had scored twice in seven minutes.

About the first, there was something of the flukish element, for from the left wing the centre-forward tried a left-foot centre and the ball curled into the far corner of the net, eluding the desperate grasp of Ashcroft.

Perseverance and persistence brought him his second goal from a pass by Turner after Ashcroft and Hughes had got themselves into a frightful muddle.

Shock Of Two In Three Minutes

SO, the stage seemed set for a runaway victory and few could have envisaged a position whereby Liverpool would draw level between the 57th and 60th minutes.

It was a corner, still the bane of the Town defence's life, apparently, that led to the first which developed into seriousness when Baynham tried to catch the ball which was too far out to be rightly his and could not gain possession.

With the goalkeeper out of goal, Anderson put it past him and Pemberton threw himself sideways to fist the ball away—a mistake as it happened because Dunne was standing behind him.

FOR THE RECORDS

LUTON TOWN 3
Morton 2, Adam
LIVERPOOL 2
Liddell (pen.), Evans

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.

Attendance: 15,886.

Penalty Galvanised Liverpool Into Life

THERE could be no argument about the legitimacy of the penalty award, and Liddell proceeded to blast the ball through from the spot with tremendous power.

This was a goal that galvanised Liverpool into life, and there was a deathly hush all around the ground when three minutes later Baynham could not reach a deceptive high centre from the right by Evans and the ball went in off the inside of the post.

In many ways this was a replica of Morton's first goal, and, for a few minutes, with Liverpool taking courage from their unexpected good fortune, it seemed as if the Town would be hard pressed to hold on to a point.

Relief When Adam Gained The Winner

HOWEVER, the unsettled period passed and, surviving the disappointment of seeing a shot by Morton hit a post with Ashcroft hopelessly placed, the Town struck again, and 12 minutes from the end Adam popped up for one of his opportunist goals after Ashcroft had failed to hold a drive by Turner.

And that was virtually the end of a game in which the Town scraped home in the end, but which should have yielded them a far more handsome victory, even when due allowance is made for the spirited way in which Liverpool hit back from an apparently hopeless position.

Rumours were flying yesterday after reports in the national Press that Luton and Fulham were considering an exchange deal between Ron Baynham (left) and Jeff Taylor (right). However, Luton are not prepared to part with Baynham, and it was not with an exchange deal in his mind that manager Dally Duncan watched Fulham Reserves in action on Saturday.

Morton's Effect On Rest Of Attack

FOR some of the dreary stuff we have seen at Kenilworth-road this season, there was compensation in the way in which the Town settled down to give an excellent first-half display, which brought plenty of action and thrills.

Here was the quick movement, the driving power and the shots at goal that we have been looking for in home matches, and there is no doubt that the conversion of Morton has had a tremendous effect on the rest of the forward line.

Not only is he taking much of the weight off the inside-forwards, but he is distributing the ball neatly, and is ever on the look-out for the half chance.

Cummins Can Be The Inside-left Answer

WHILE he is playing like this, then there is no centre-forward problem, and his four goals in two matches shows how he has settled down in a position that is comparatively strange to him.

Pleasing feature was that Cummins turned in a display reminiscent of his best form, and, if he can produce this consistently and be persuaded to settle down in Luton the line as a whole will benefit accordingly.

Inside-left is another position about which the Town have not been too happy recently, and Cummins can be the ready-made answer to it.

In addition, he teamed up more accurately with Adam than has been the case on previous occasions.

Turner Made Good Use Of Open Spaces

WITH better service, Adam was always a danger and his speed and cleverness was a source of worry to Lambert.

From Turner, there was a good deal of thrust and punch that would have got him among the goals with any luck at all and I liked the way in which he contrived to get himself into the open space when others were in possession of the ball.

Although there was threat from this side of the field, Davies is not yet completely out of his indifferent patch and he was more lively when he moved inside late in the second half to give Turner, who had received a slight injury, a rest on the wing.

Easy For Defence Until The Goals

UNTIL they were suddenly hit by those two quick goals, the defence gave the impression of walking serenely through this match and blame to the set-up as a whole could not be apportioned as the result of these scrappy affairs.

For the first, there was fault on the part of Baynham and I have heard people blame him for the second which was one of those difficult, elusive efforts which, in the circumstances, might have beaten any goalkeeper.

Otherwise, he was certain enough, especially in dealing with high crosses. This was a big occasion for him and, with Streten in the background, he knows that he cannot afford mistakes.

Liddell Was Much In Owen's Grip

HAD these reverses not occurred, no one would have been disposed to criticise the defence in which Owen kept Liddell very quiet and although Dunne inclined to give Acourt too much room at times and Aherne was caught hesitating once or twice in the second half, they did not experience a deal of trouble in cutting down the threat from the Liverpool wingers.

Both were hard in the tackle and both kicked well and the most danger to the Town usually came from the tall Evans on whom Pemberton did not obtain the grip that had been hoped for.

Can Pemberton Be The Successor Here?

NOT so successful as he was at Nottingham Pemberton has still to prove to the home crowd that the switch of Morton has been a complete success, because many had doubts about the right-half position.

In this match Pemberton was just about adequate without showing much of Morton's drive and Shanks was much more successful in a non-stop display which kept him continually in the picture.

All in all though this was a performance which carried on logically from the improvement we noted the previous week at Nottingham and the most warming feature of the whole thing is that the attack is at last looking the part of a scoring line.

Reserves Should Have Had A Point

A GOAL which the Town felt should not have been allowed deprived them of a Combination point at West Ham on Saturday for, before the ball was put into the net by Dixon, it was kicked out of Streten's hands.

In a game in which defences were nearly always on top, the Town showed up well in this department, with Jones and Thompson in fine form and Watkins and Dallas shining in the middle line.

There was not a great deal for Streten to do, but what there was, he accomplished with confidence, and the defence was unlucky to finish on the losing side.

Forward Line Was Disappointing

HOWEVER, the forward line was largely a disappointment, though it was disorganised to some extent by the fact that MacEwan had a recurrence of sciatica and switched with Cullen early in the game.

Openings were made and both Allen and Kelly missed chances but, in the main, the attack was unimpressive and Cullen was the best member of it, showing a great deal of industry when he moved to inside-right.

In winning 3-2 at Windsor, the "A" team showed an all round improvement that was attributed in large measure to the inclusion of Hall at centre-half and he was the outstanding player in the game. He brought both experience and stability to this key position.

GERALD AND SAMMY SHARE FIRST PLACE AT LUTON

There was another dead-heat at Luton Stadium on Saturday when Gerald and Sammy passed the post simultaneously in the fourth race.

Traps 1 and 3 drew blanks, but there were three winners for number 6.

I. (410yds) — 1, WHIPPED CREAM (5); 2, Kyme (6); 3, Still Waiting (3); 4, Sporting Express (1); 5, Stardust (3); 6, Dinky-Do (2). 1, 6, 12, 4, 1. 25.32 Off 6.41.

Betting: 11-4 WHIPPED CREAM; 3-1 Still Waiting; 4-1 Kyme, Sporting Express; 6-1 Stardust; 8-1 Dinky-Do.

Forecast: £2 12s.

II. (470yds)—1 MADHAT (6); 2, Dory's Pet (4); 3, Lynne (2); 4, Nobbler (3); 5, Silver Dollar (1); 6, Rumous (5). 1, 6, 2, 4, 5. 28.30. Off 7.01.

Betting: 2-1 Dory's Pet; 7-2 MADHAT, Lynne; 5-1 Silver Dollar; 6-1 Rumous; 8-1 Nobbler.

Forecast: £1 0s. 9d.

III (410yds)—1, GORDON (6); 2, Ronald (2); 3, Wallflower (4); 4, Crooner (1); 5, Blossom Time (3); 6, Dale (5). 6, ½, 2, ½, 6. 25.02. Off 7.21.

Betting: 5-4 GORDON; 9-4 Crooner, 9-2 Blossom Time, 6-1 Ronald, 10-1 Wallflower, 100-8 Dale.

Forecast: £1 8s. 9d.

IV. (410yds — 1, GERALD (5), SAMMY (6) dead-heat; 3, Legion (3); 4, Digger Murphy (1); 5 Tom Tiddler (2); 6, Double Six (4). 10, ½, 2, ½. 24.72. Off 7.42.

Betting: 6-4 Digger Murphy, 3-1 GERALD, 7-2 SAMMY 7-1 Legion, 10-1 Tom Tiddler, Double Six.

Forecasts: 10s. 3d. and 12s. 9d.

V. (470yds).—1, SCAMP (2); Jackie (1); 3 Grand Style (4); 4, Something Short (6); 5, Santa Maria (3). 1 4, 4, 4. 28.08. Non-runners: Not Fast (5), Alice reserve. Off 8.01.

Betting: 2-1 Jackie, 9-4 Grand Style; 3-1 SCAMP, 5-1 Santa Maria, 8-1 Something Short.

Forecast: £1 15s. 6d.

VI. (410yds).—1 ALICE (4) reserve; 2, Parley-Vous (1); 3, Widmer (2); 4, Thistle (3); 5, Hypon (5). 6, 6 2, 2. Non-runners: Muscle Town (4), Vodo (6). Off 8.22

Betting: 2-1 Parley-Vous, Hypon, 7-2 ALICE 5-1 Widmer, 8-1 Thistle.

Forecast: 15s. 3d.

VII (470yds.—1, GAY LINDA (4); 2, Jimmy's Lil (6); 3, MacNab (3); 4, Rum Chicken (1); 5, Mary's Son (5); 6, Red Head (2). 5, 3, 3, 1, 2. 28.43. Off 8.43.

Betting: 2-1 GAY LINDA, 7-2 Red Head, 4-1 MacNab, Mary's Son, 6-1 Jimmy's Lil, Rum Chicken.

Forecast: £2 3s. 0d.

VIII (410yds).—1, RODNEY (2); 2, Royal Glen (6); 3, Jill's Pet (4); 4, Sandown (1); 5 Ken's Blue (3); 6, Bunter (5). 2, 4, 3 5, 4. 24.68. Off 9.03.

Betting: 2-1 RODNEY, 9-4 Jill's Pet 4-1 Royal Glen, 7-1 Ken's Blue, 8-1 Bunter, 10-1 Sandown.

Forecast: £1 4s. 9d.

RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS FOR LUTON TO-NIGHT

7.30. (410 yards).—552 Charlie H, 265 Nancy 453 Sally Ann, 54 Senator, 443 Small Bass, 562 Twilight.

7.48. (410 yards).—264 Egg Cup, 564 Firefly, 342 Julie's Boy, 362 Kye, 553 Skip It, 121 Wee Chris. Reserve 212 Silver Dollar.

8.06. (410 yards).—146 Chevalier, 522 Knocker, 21 Mad Swinney (Nov. 9, tp 5, 24.76), 132 Poacher, 2 Speckled Band, 62 Tic-Tac. Reserve 1 Boston Brownie.

8.24. (410 yards).—6, Bert Cert, 44 Night Sky, 562 Nut Brown, 553 Old Coat, 3 Trial Spin, 523 Whitelea. Reserve 4 Black Hawk.

8.42. (470 yards).—456 Cynic, 53 Fillet, 145 Joyful, 214 Longfellow, 614 Red Cross, 413 Very Game, Reserve 1 Digger Murphy.

9.0. (410 yards).—151 Arm In Arm, 12 Black Shadow, 2 Blue Sail, 141 Ida, Jinky (Nov. 4, tp 3, 24.25, Nov. 6, tp 3, 23.78), 633 Santa Maria, Reserve 131 Alice.

9.18. (470 yards).—265 Bantam, 34 Blackbird (Nov. 9, tp 3, 24.85), 641 Coffee Bean, 361 Misty, 652 Mitzi, 556 Queen.

9.36. (410 yards).—223 Clearasmud, 115 Kerry Dancer, Mary Ann (Nov. 4, tp 4, 27.74 Nov. 9, tp 3, 24.77), Quality Street (Nov. 4, tp 2, 24.70, Nov. 9, tp 4, 24.96), 655 Snowflake, 323 The Builder.

SELECTIONS

7.30—Charlie H (Senator, Sally Ann)

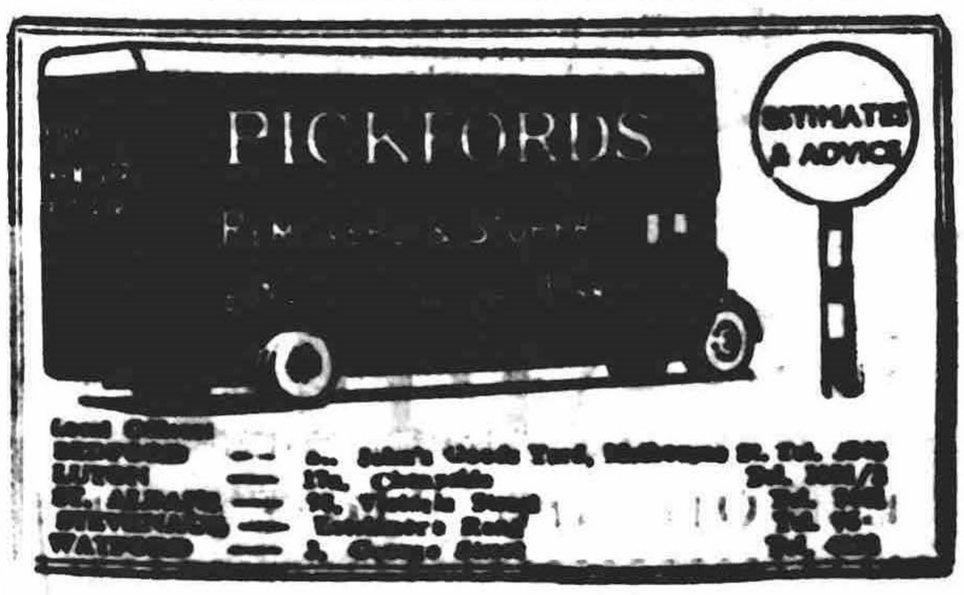
7.48—Wee Chris (Kye, Julie's Boy)

8.06—Mad Swinney (Poacher, Speckled Band)

8.24—Bert Cert (Whitelea, Old Coat)

8.42—Red Cross (Longfellow, Very Game)

9.0—Ida (nap) (Black Shadow, Arm In Arm)

9.18—Queen (Mitzi, Misty)

9.36—Kerry Dancer (Clearasmud, Snowflake).