

EQUALLED PREVIOUS AWAY BEST

FORWARDS SNAPPED UP THEIR CHANCES

Defence Compact During The Danger Period

By Chiltern

THE extent of the Town's away win at Nottingham on Saturday immediately raised queries about whether anything comparable had happened to them before in a Second Division match.

Record books show that not since the war have the Town managed to score as many as five goals in an away match, though they reached four on two separate occasions, without coming away as winners. That was in 1948 when they drew 4-4 at Lincoln and in 1952 when they lost 5-4 to Notts County.

Four goals were scored, too, in a Cup-tie at Plymouth in 1949 when the Town won through 4-2, but one has to go back to 1938 for the previous occasion when this was topped.

Then they beat Bury 5-2 at Egg Lane so, as far as the margin concerned, Saturday's effort is equalled only by the 4-0 success at Southampton on Easter Monday, 1939.

This brilliant victory at Nottingham was due to the combination of two decisive factors—the soundness of the defence when the Forest pressure was at its height and the way in which the forwards snapped up their coming chances.

Forest Needed More Steadiness

CERTAINLY, the first half happenings did not suggest such a result in the Town's favour, for the Forest's re-constructed front line, relying much on speed and enthusiasm was a distinct menace before the interval.

Had they shown more steadiness in front of goal, or had Baynham been in less effective form, the Forest might easily have been well among the goals.

However, some of their enthusiasm was dampened in the 16th minute when Pemberton gained a fortunate goal with a shot which he laughingly said afterwards, "had left-hand side on it."

Goalkeeper Slipped At Crucial Moment

HOPEFULLY, he tried a longish range shot during a heavy Town attack and Farmer after getting his hands to the ball, slipped and it rolled from his grasp into the net for a surprise goal to the Town, who had been mainly on the defensive previously.

Most of the pressure and the shooting continued to come from the Forest, despite this setback, but Baynham performed wonders which drew their tribute from the crowd and the remainder of the

FOR THE RECORDS

NOTTINGHAM F.C. 1
Wilson
LUTON TOWN 5
Pemberton, Cummins, Davies, Turner (2)
NOTTINGHAM FOREST:
Farmer; Whare, Thomas; Morley, McKinlay, Burkhitt; Moore, Martin, Wilson, Cluise, Small.
LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Dunne, Aherne; Pemberton, Owen, Shanks; Davies, Turner, Morton, Cummins, Cullen.
Referee: A. W. Luty, Leeds.
Attendance: 11,793.

defence put in much solid work to contain the liveliness of the home attack.

Cummins Opens His Season's Account

THERE were few signs of their best form from the Town attack during this period, and it came as something of a surprise again when the lead was increased after 38 minutes by Cummins, who thus gained his first League goal of the season.

In this case, a free-kick, unnecessarily given away by Burkhitt, who handled a yard outside the penalty area, led up to it, and Turner foxed the home defence by pulling the ball to his left where Cummins was standing unmarked.

Steadying himself, the inside-left made a powerful drive that got in between Farmer, who was probably unsighted, and the post.

Final Pass Often Went Amiss

ABOUT this manoeuvre there were signs of previous thought and practice, and the goal put the Town in a more comfortable position than the run of the play justified.

In the first half the forwards simply did not settle down to their smooth understanding, principally because the final pass went astray far too often and partly because there was a disposition to try to keep the ball too close in midfield.

After the interval there came a different story, with the attack suddenly clicking into gear and giving the home defence a sample of the sort of football they can play.

Brilliant Move Led To Third Goal

THE third goal, after 55 minutes, was a brilliantly-worked affair, due in the first place to Morton, who successfully challenged McKinlay for possession before pushing the ball out to Cullen.

From the winger it went to Turner, closing in from the left, and he could have shot with a fair chance of success, but preferred to pass to Davies, who was in a much better position.

Davies, perhaps mindful of a similar gilt-edged chance he missed at Bury, steadied himself and almost walked the ball into the net for one of the easiest successes that is likely to come his way.

Grip Never Looked Like Being Relaxed

AFTER that, there was some fine, open, progressive football from the Town forwards that nearly brought further goals against a defence that did not look so good as the recent record would suggest.

Wholesale switching of the Forest forwards caused a measure of trouble to the Town for a time during which Wilson reduced their arrears, but there was never any possibility of the grip being relaxed and the last 15 minutes saw the Town front line at their best and brought two quick goals by Turner from chances laid on by Morton and Cullen.

Even then the Town did not let up and Turner came within an ace of completing a "hat-trick" that might have set up a new record for speed of accomplishment.

Town Owed A Big Debt To Baynham

SO they go into their Christmas programme with the full confidence that such a victory brings, the knowledge that their last four matches have yielded seven points and 16 goals and that of the last 14 points at stake, 10 have been secured.

I wish that all those people who have been so critical of the inclusion of Baynham in the team could have seen his display in this match.

Undoubtedly there were several times in the first half when he alone stood between the Forest and success and I have seldom seen such an outstanding exhibition of safe handling of the ball.

Pemberton Was An Outstanding Figure

FROM the defence, as a whole, there was a most satisfying performance with that solid half-

back line again laying a good deal of the foundation of success.

Owen was in top form, hard in the tackle and dominating in the middle of the field, but perhaps the member of this line that caught the eye most was Pemberton whose coolness at times almost amounted to audacity.

In his use of the ball Pemberton, who hit some beautiful cross field passes to Cullen, was ahead of Shanks who, however, came second to no one in the way in which he broke up attacks with whole-hearted tackling despite the handicap of a nasty kick on the shin bone which he received in the first half.

Aherne, "The Happy Warrior"

NOBODY enjoyed this triumph more than Aherne, made captain for the day to celebrate his 200th League appearance and who was toasted by the Chairman, Mr. P. G. Mitchell, when the players had their meal afterwards, as "This happy warrior."

Aherne held Moore securely and though Small was a bit more of a handful for Dunne the right-back frequently got out of trouble by the quickness of his recovery and the terrier-like way in which he refused to be beaten.

Attack Revolved Around Morton

FROM the forwards came two vastly differing displays, with few earning medals consistently before the interval, but all gaining them for their second half work.

Again Morton, despite the close attentions of McKinlay, was the pivot around which this line revolved and although he did not score himself, he had a hand in two or three goals.

Both Turner and Cummins did a tremendous amount of work, with the latter again scheming cleverly and distributing the ball most accurately after the interval when the open tactics that the Town adopted meant that ground was made quickly, a distinct worry to the home defence.

Cullen A Success At Outside-Left

CUMMINS is filling to a nicety the role for which he has been cast and on the other side there is Turner, a dangerous spearhead who showed his usual understanding with Davies once the line found its feet and threw off the first half sluggishness.

Then, there came danger from both wingers, with Cullen looking a lot happier on the left than he did on his previous appearance there and satisfying officials that he can be the answer to the problem if Adam's absence proves to be protracted.

Particularly, I liked the way in which Cullen came back to fight for the ball.

Yesterday, Adam visited hospital for a check on his knee which is being more troublesome than was thought likely when the injury occurred.

Schofield Held Up Town Reserves

THE Reserves had to be content with a draw when they entertained Birmingham City Reserves, but they would have had both points but for a superlative display by Schofield, the Birmingham goalkeeper.

Luton have seldom played better than they did in the first half when they gave an exhibition of first-time precision passing that would have done credit to a First Division side.

With Pearce impressing as an

New Player—But Not Yet

ANOTHER new inside-forward signing, designed to prepare for future needs was made by the Town this week-end, when they secured from Inverness Clachnacuddin the transfer of 22-years-old George McLeod.

The deal was put through by the Town's North-eastern scout who watched the player after strong recommendations had been sent about him and who had instructions to make an offer up to a certain figure if he thought the player good enough.

Obviously, that was the case, but McLeod will not join Luton until early next month, as permission has been given for him to assist Inverness in their New Year matches. Newcastle United have also been interested in his future.

intelligent, forceful player, and Allen in great form on the right wing, the home forwards rattled Birmingham's defence but were able to beat Schofield only once before the interval—that was in the sixth minute when he failed to reach a header from Groves.

Two Big Shocks From Birmingham

LITTLE was seen of the City attack, yet, two minutes before the interval, Kinsey put them back in the game with an opportunist equaliser.

That was a shock, but there was a bigger one to follow in the 53rd minute, when Hurley gave Birmingham the lead.

Luton went to pieces temporarily but quickly pulled themselves together and Kelly was on the spot to make sure after a great shot from Pearce beat Schofield and hit the underside of the bar.

In the closing stages Luton pressed but, despite some good work by Allen, they could not beat Schofield again.

Although they dropped a point, Luton can feel satisfied about their performance. Pearce played well, particularly in the first half, and McGuffie, playing his first game in the Reserves for some weeks did all that was expected of him.

Great Show By Alan Collier

RON BAYNHAM was not the only Town goalkeeper to receive praise for a wonderful performance on Saturday. Alan Collier, the "A" team goalkeeper, who shows such tremendous promise, played a "blinder" at Guildford, where the Town "A" figured in a 2-2 draw.

So effective was Collier that although the home forwards had more of the play, they did not equalise until the last minute.

Luton took the lead through Loasby, but a minute after the interval Southon equalised. Two minutes later, however, Flint restored Luton's lead while Loasby was off the field, but from that point the Guildford forwards got on top.

It was then that Collier really came into his own, saving shots from all angles. Another star was Les. Hall, whose experience was invaluable.

Chiltern's Forecasts

DIVISION I

Arsenal v. Chelsea
Blackpool v. Portsmouth
Bolton W. v. Tottenham H.
Burnley v. Preston N.E.
Cardiff City v. West Brom.
Charlton Ath. v. Sheffield Wed.
Manchester C. v. Newcastle Utd
Sheffield Utd v. Leicester City
Sunderland v. Huddersfield T.
Wolves v. Everton

DIVISION II

Birmingham C. v. Nottm For.
Doncaster R. v. Blackburn R.
Fulham v. Port Vale
Leeds Utd v. Middlesbrough
Liverpool v. Ipswich T.
Luton T. v. Hull C.
Notts Co. v. Bristol R.
Plymouth A. v. Swansea T.
Rotherham Utd v. Lincoln C.
Stoke C. v. Bury
West Ham v. Derby Co.

DIVISION III (SOUTH)

Aldershot v. Colchester Utd
Bournemouth v. Watford
Brentford v. Millwall
Bristol C. v. Reading
Coventry C. v. Southampton
Crystal Pal. v. Newport Co.
Exeter C. v. Swindon T.
Q.P.R. v. Northampton T.
Southend Utd v. Norwich C.
Torquay Utd v. Gillingham
Walsall v. Shrewsbury T.

DIVISION III (NORTH)

Bradford C. v. Scunthorpe Utd
Carlisle Utd v. Rochdale
Chester v. Bradford
Gateshead v. Barrow

Grimsby T. v. Barnsley
Halifax T. v. Accrington S.
Hartlepool Utd v. Darlington
Oldham Ath. v. Wrexham
Stockport Co. v. Chesterfield
Tranmere R. v. Crewe Alex.
Workington v. Southport
York C. v. Mansfield T.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

DIVISION "A"

Celtic v. Clyde
Dundee v. Raith Rovers
East Fife v. Kilmarnock
Hibernian v. Rangers
Motherwell v. Falkirk
Partick T. v. Hearts
St. Mirren v. Queen of South
Stirling A. v. Aberdeen

DIVISION "B"

Airdrieonians v. Alloa
Arbroath v. Queen's Park
Ayr Utd v. Albion Rovers
Brechin C. v. Forfar Ath.
Cowdenbeath v. Hamilton
St. Johnstone v. Dunfermline
Stenhousemuir v. Dundee Utd
Third Lanark v. Morton

SELECTIONS

TEN HOME.—Charlton Ath.
Wolves, Birmingham, Fulham,
Leeds, Rotherham, Bristol C.
Southend, Gateshead, Hartlepool.

FOUR AWAY.—West Brom.
Blackburn, Northampton, Bradford.

THREE DRAWS.—Burnley v. Preston, Notts Co. v. Bristol R.
Brentford v. Millwall.

LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

F.A. Cup—Third Round

SATURDAY, JAN. 8th, 1955

LUTON TOWN

versus

WORKINGTON

Kick-off 2.15 p.m.

ADMISSION BY TICKET ONLY
to
CENTRE STAND 7/6—WINGS 5/-

SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

will be entitled to their usual seat, but must make WRITTEN APPLICATION, marking envelope "Season Ticket Holder," enclosing remittance, stamped addressed envelope and appropriate White "Slip" from their Season Ticket Book. Applications must be received at Luton Town F.C. Office not later than WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29th.

NON-SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

must make WRITTEN APPLICATION and enclose remittance, stamped addressed envelope, and which must be received at Luton Town F.C. Office not later than WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29th.

Admission to remainder of ground (standing only):
PAY AT TURNSTILES (NO TICKETS)

ENCLOSURE 3/6, Boys 2/-
BOBBERS' STAND 2/-, Boys 1/3
KENILWORTH ROAD TERRACE .. 1/9, Boys 1/-

All prices include Entertainment Tax

P. COLEY,
Secretary.

J. W. WILSON

TURF ACCOUNTANT

MEMBER OF B.P.A.-N.S.L.

78 CROMWELL ROAD, LUTON

Telephones:

6583-4-5

Telegraphic Address:

"ALWAYS," Luton | Horses • Dogs • Football

IMMEDIATE ATTENTION TO YOUR INSTRUCTIONS

ACCOUNTS OPENED

APPROVED

CLIENTS