

COMPLETED DOUBLE OVER THE FOREST

Tongues Will Wag About Promotion Chances

Nottingham F. - 1 Luton Town - - 5

[By Chiltern]

THIS 5-1 victory, the biggest the Town have secured away from home for a number of years, will set the tongues wagging about the Town's promotion chances more glibly than ever before.

Not that this for a long time was anything like a runaway victory for them, and indeed even their best friends and most biased supporters thought them lucky to be holding a two-goal lead at half-time.

That certainly did not represent the run of the play, for the lively Forest line, which had been given an injection of youth, was giving a lot of trouble. Had they accepted their chances, it would have been a different story.

That they did not was largely due to a brilliant exhibition of goalkeeping by Ron Baynham. He was in unbeatable form and turned in a performance that was on a par with that which he gave at Port Vale a fortnight ago.

Most of this was in the first half, for after the interval the Town ran into their true form, found the confidence and touch that had seemed to be lacking earlier, and gave this Forest defence, which in the previous six games had conceded only two goals, a complete run around.

It was the last quarter of an hour when the Town were really seen at their best and when Turner came along with two more goals to boost his season's total to 18. Long before that, though, despite the encouragement of a goal by Wilson, the Forest had looked a well-beaten team, with all their fire of the first half put out.

For the Town defence this game was a complete triumph, for apart from Baynham, who was the outstanding figure, everyone did well, with the full-backs holding the wingers, Owen dominating the middle, and Pemberton and Shanks taking a grip on the inside forwards.

Always there was good covering and a sound sense of positional play that carried them through the difficult period before the interval.

This was the Town's first away win since mid-September, when they took full points twice in four days from Lincoln and Middlesbrough.

So this ground, which has been unlucky for them in the past, proved to be nothing of a bogey for them to-day for they completed the double over the Forest. This is the third point the Town have secured on Nottingham grounds this season.

That this Forest defence could have been routed so completely was a source of amazement here, and it all went to prove just how good this Town forward line is when it hits top form.

Official attendance : 11,793.