

TOWN GET BOTH POINTS AT GOODISON

CROWD REWARDS EVERTON WITH SLOW CLAPS

Ideas Were Few After A Bustling First Half

By Chilern

Everton - - - 0 Luton Town - - 1

BRILLIANT sunshine after a dull morning greeted the Town at Goodison Park, Everton, this afternoon and they found waiting for them a pitch of billiard table texture and the promise of a big crowd.

After each had gained a victory in mid-week, neither team made any change, and that meant that the two former Birkenhead schoolboy stars, 21-years-old Brian Harris and 20-years-old Jim Harris, retained their places in the reorganised Everton attack, which was a complete mixture of inexperience and mature experience.

Before the match, among the Everton supporters the main topic of conversation was the departure last night to Aston Villa of centre-forward Dave Hickson for a fee variously quoted in the North this morning as between £20,000 and £23,000.

Despite the distance, the Town had a following of fans, and the black and white banner was well in evidence before the kick-off, on the terrace opposite the main stand.

How The Goal Came

MacEWAN for Luton after 63 minutes.



MacEwan scored for Luton in the 63rd minute, but main credit was due to Cullen, who beat Tansey and put in a low centre.

Farrell, who lifted the ball right across to the left where Eglington jumped higher than Dunne and headed wide.

TOWN HIT BACK

It had been a tearaway sort of start by Everton, with the Town forced right back on the defensive, but they hit back and Groves, shooting quickly from

the edge of the penalty area, after MacEwan had slipped the ball to him, was a yard or so wide.

A weak finish by Potts after he had intercepted a clearance from Aherne, spoiled a chance for Everton for whom Jim Harris was looking a very energetic leader and was pleasing the crowd with the enthusiastic way in which he was chasing every ball.

Appeals by Everton for a penalty for hands, when a shot by Potts was beaten out, were brusquely waved aside and the Town made ground on the left to which flank Cullen had drifted, only for the attack to fizzle out when Groves, challenged by Moore, pushed tamely outside.

The crowd now looked in the region of 40,000, and there were distinct signs that the Town were beginning to settle down after a rather uneasy beginning.

Their best movement so far was started by Turner with a through pass to MacEwan, who, after coming in cleverly on the inside of Tansey pulled the ball back to Cullen, who had moved inside. He provided O'Neill with his first job of the afternoon, dealing with a low drive that brought him to his knees.

Neat football was coming from the Town now, and a three-cornered movement brought an opening for another shot at goal with Cullen and MacEwan doing the spadework, and Turner, running in from an angle, crashing the ball just too high.

Baynham was in action to pull down brilliantly a high centre by Brian Harris. Turner made a determined break-through from Cullen's pass and was narrowly off the target with a left-foot shot that had O'Neill beaten.

BEST CHANCE SO FAR

Best chance of the match so far fell to Brian Harris, who received the ball right on the penalty spot, after Aherne had slipped in going up to challenge Potts.

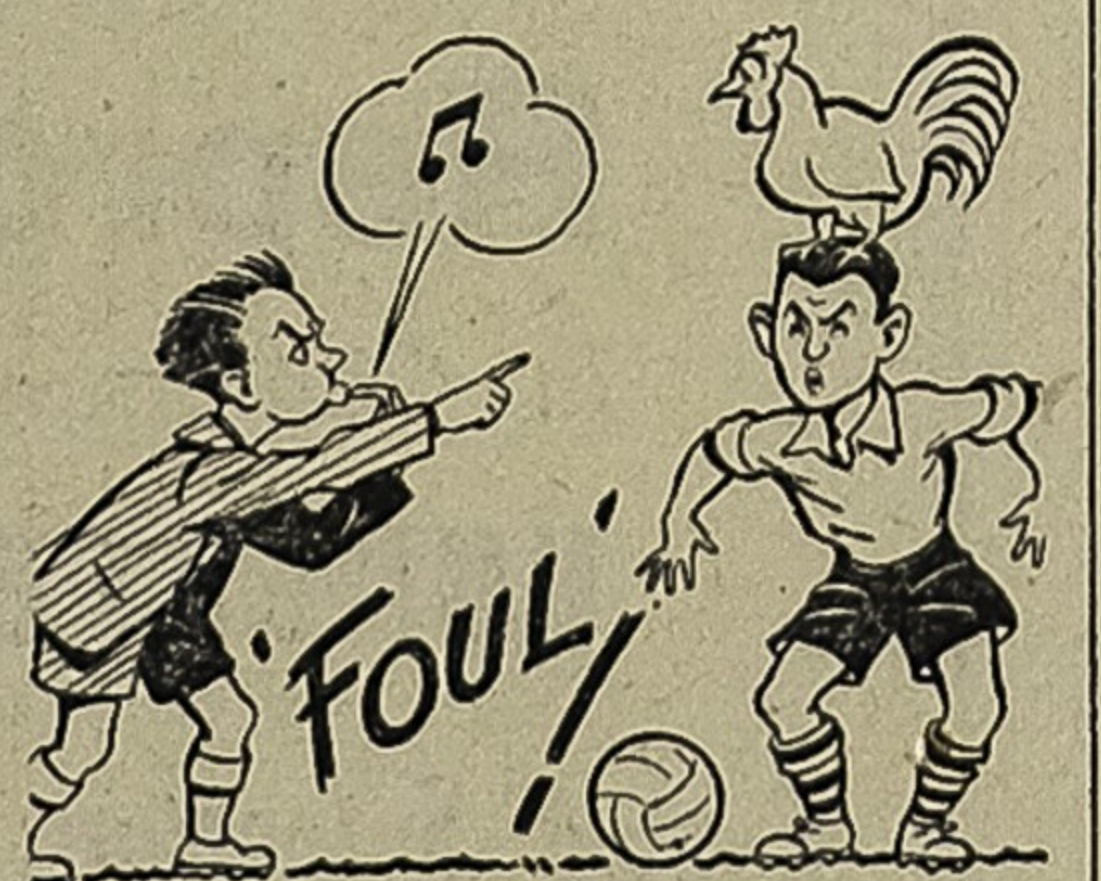
Harris got in his shot all right, but it flew straight at Baynham, who gratefully clutched it to his body.

For all their forcefulness and determination in mid-field, Everton had not been all that dangerous in front of goal so far, though Brian Harris made a deceptive centre that Baynham did well to catch and evade the onrushing centre-forward in the same movement.

Baynham again brilliantly pulled down a high centre this time from Tansey, after Jim Harris had cleverly back-heeled the ball.

Baynham went down in a heap, but retained possession of the ball and received a warm ovation.

For a few minutes there was quite heavy work for the Town defence against this lively Ever-



ton attack that was showing a deal of speed but not much accuracy in marksmanship.

Next threat came when Jim Harris, out on the left wing, made a bewildering sort of dribble before switching the ball inside, where Dunne reacted quickly and made a tackle on Potts.

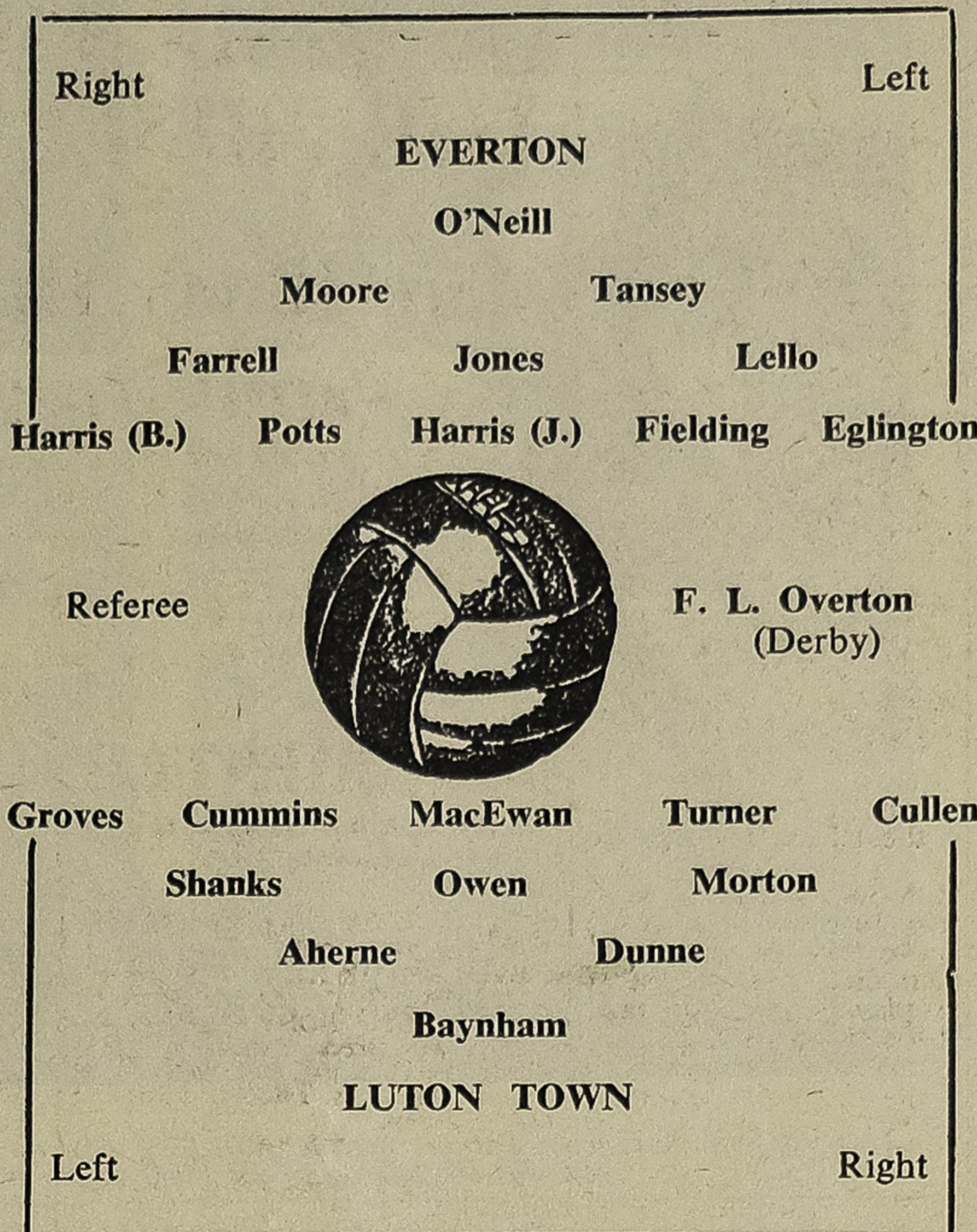
The centre-forward was again in the picture when he pushed the ball neatly between Owen's legs and Potts tried a delicate flick from close in, for which Baynham was completely prepared.

At the other end O'Neill was not quite so well prepared to receive a strong back-pass by Lello that he had to dive to cover.

Jim Harris was continually managing to get into the lime-light, and he made one terrific drive that flashed wide of the near post.

So far, the form of the Town forwards had been fitful, but there was a promising move when Groves cut across the field before passing to Cullen, who, from an angle, flashed the ball too high.

This began a better spell by the Town, during which Jones went near to putting through his own goal when Morton, after



going right through to the touch-line, pulled the ball back.

Jones got a foot to it and it was a matter of inches wide of the post.

For the corner, O'Neill came out with confidence to make an excellent catch.

But for a quick recovery by Owen, Lello, from well inside the penalty area, would have been a scorer in the next Everton raid, but, as it was, the ball merely trickled to Baynham.

DIFFICULT TASK

Although Everton had had more of the play in the first half-an-hour, on the whole it was the Town who had produced the shots most likely to score.

Cummins made one, from the edge of the penalty area, which gave O'Neill quite a difficult task, especially as the ball swerved in flight.

However, during this opening phase the Town had not produced the ordered football of which they are capable.

Baynham's cutting out of the high cross was most spectacular, and he again earned applause for the way in which he went up to one from Brian Harris.

Then we saw a sample of the speed of Eglington, who beat Dunne for possession and made hot-foot for goal with Morton in pursuit.

When he reached the edge of the penalty area he passed to Jim Harris, who blazed away first time and saw the ball sky wide of the far post.

MacEwan topped the ball when left with an opportunity to shoot after a better-conceived Town movement, and a free kick when Dunne pushed Eglington was unproductive.

PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITY

Baynham never looked like missing anything in the air, and as Everton were relying to a large extent on the high, swinging centre, there was plenty of opportunity for him to shine in this direction, though the direct shots that came his way were comparatively few.

MacEwan, pivoting quickly when the ball came across to him from Cullen, hit it hard enough, but it struck Tansey when O'Neill might have been in trouble.

Then Baynham, for once in a while, did not get hold of a centre, but his recovery was so quick that he had possession again before Eglington could do anything about it.

Cullen, who was doing a tremendous amount of wandering, popped up again in the inside-left position and from 25 yards made a fine, rising shot that would have found a billet between the angle of the wood-work but for O'Neill throwing himself across his goal to make a grand save.

Just before half-time, Baynham pushed over one-handed for a corner a header by Jim Harris. Then, going up among a crowd of players, he missed the ball from the corner but again his recovery was so prompt that danger did not accrue.

In any case, the whistle went for a foul against the centre-forward, who was shaken up in the process. Half-time:

EVERTON 0
LUTON TOWN 0

First incident of the second half was an all-out Luton attack inspired by Morton, during the

side when Everton tried to hit back, and it was the Town who were playing the more methodical purposeful football.

In an attempt to show his forwards how it should be done, Lello joined in the attack and first had a shot blocked by Owen's legs, and then saw another rise over the bar.

A terrific mix-up came in the Everton goalmouth after Turner had brilliantly beaten two men in coming along the dead-line from the left. MacEwan had a shot beaten out, and the ball bounced about dangerously before Shanks's centre was headed behind by Jones.

And now the slow handclap broke out around the ground, directed at Everton, who had certainly shown a lack of ideas this half and whose forwards were very much in the grip of the Town defence.

Inability to control the ball, which he got tangled up in his legs, cost Turner a chance after Cummins had sent him through. After this there was a more spirited bid by Everton, who gained a corner when Dunne headed behind Brian Harris's centre.

CAPTAIN APPLAUDED

Hesitation cost Everton an opportunity and then MacEwan, using a long throw-in, dropped the ball almost at the feet of Turner, but there was quick covering by Everton and only another throw-in followed.

The tenacity of Cullen enabled him to get the ball in a tackle with Jones, but in the end he tried too much and the centre-half stepped in to clear.

There was applause for a long dribble by Cummins that in the end brought only a goal-kick, but the Town were going along comfortably enough.

Owen was penalised for pushing Jim Harris in the back when

he went up to head clear and as Lello's kick sailed across the penalty area both Aherne and Brian Harris missed it and it went for a goal-kick.

Even more applause came the way of Cummins for a grand run in the course of which he left three men prone on the grass, beaten by his dazzling footwork, and he just failed to cap this spectacular effort for his shot was only inches too high.

EQUALISER MISSED

Eglington missed an excellent chance of equalising when, for once in a way, the Town defence got in a tangle, his effort going well wide.

From this the Town pressed again, gaining a free-kick right on the edge of the penalty area after Cullen had been impeded.

This Morton took, and O'Neill secured possession of the ball after a challenge by Groves.

There was something of a desperate situation at the Town end when Baynham and Jim Harris, going up for a high ball together, fell in a heap in front of goal, but Morton sized up the situation immediately and banged the ball behind for another corner.

Owen headed out, and although Eglington gained possession, his centre landed safely in Baynham's hands.

After being pressed back on the defensive for a short time, the Town attacked again and Turner smacked the ball into the side net after good work by MacEwan.

The Town kept the ball at the Everton end, which was the safest place from their point of view. Then, with the referee looking at his watch, Everton made what had to be their last effort, which Owen promptly kicked away.

EVERTON 0
LUTON TOWN 1



line. He pulled it back beautifully but MacEwan, rushing up alongside Jones, could not get a foot to it and it flashed harmlessly across the goal.

At this stage the Town were on top, and MacEwan put wide through slicing the ball after Cullen had found him with a throw-in.

Turner was badly off the mark when left with a chance by MacEwan, for he pulled the ball very much wide from what is usually his favourite angle.

In the next minute he tried desperately hard to make amends when he overhauled Tansey and pushed out a foot but O'Neill saved very easily.

In an Everton breakaway, Baynham again pulled down brilliantly a centre by Eglington and from the clearance the Town claimed a corner when Turner had tried to turn in a centre by Groves, but the referee's decision went against them.

TO CULLEN'S CREDIT

Then, in the 63rd minute, the Town turned to account the pressure they had been enjoying for quite a while now, and took the lead through MacEwan.

Main credit for the goal must go to Cullen, who worked the ball beautifully out on the right wing, beating Tansey in a remarkably small space, before making a low centre that MacEwan, rushing up, turned past O'Neill.

This put the Town really on their mettle, and more cleverness by Cullen nearly repeated the dose, for Turner all but managed to nip in as Lello pushed the ball back to O'Neill.

Fielding was caught yards off-