NO ADVERTISEMENT FOR FOOTBALL

Few Bright Spots In The Town's Win Over Everton

By Chiltern

LUTON TOWN 2, EVERTON 0

NO advertisement for football as a popular entertainment this. The Town won and that is about all that can be said about it.

Had they not done so, they would have been due to cover their heads in shame because this Everton team, now in the throes of rebuilding, was quite the worst we have seen at Kenilworth-road since Luton gained promotion to the First Division.

Had the Town forwards shown anything approaching the form that enabled them to blast the Sunderland defence and to score four times at Wolverhampton, Everton would have gone away completely crushed.

As it was, as has often happened in the past, the Town failed to raise themselves as much above the level of poor opposition as they should have done, and they missed a golden opportunity of giving their goal average a decided boost.

Relieved only by the goals, both of which were smartly taken, the finishing of both teams was very poor. The Town had their chances of collecting a crop of goals, simply because they had more ideas in approach than Everton, but much of their shooting was inaccurate.

BRIGHTEST SPOT

One exception came in the 35th minute, when TURNER turned round sharply in taking a short pass from Morton and beat O'Neill with a great shot into the corner of the net.

That was the brightest spot of a boring first half, but there were visions of better things afterwards when the Town began the second half in high-powered fashion.

Running on to a through pass by Cullen and evading the offside trap, PEARCE increased the lead after 50 minutes, and the crowd settled down to watch the killing that had been so long delayed.

But they were disappointed. The Town's new-found sparkle lasted no longer than 10 minutes, and the game reverted to the dull atmosphere that had marked the first half.

Right through the Town had more of the game, but the forwards kept the ball too close, there was not really a deal of positive scheming, and the shooting was mediocre.

Their own forward failings apart, the player who had most to do with limiting the score was Jones, who gave Morton one of the most uncomfortable afternoons of his career.

Just nothing went right for him, and time and again an attack came to a full stop when the ball reached him.

There was a deal of foraging and hard work by Pearce, whose distribution, however, was not consistently accurate, and Turner looked a danger without fulfilling that threat, except when he obtained that excellent goal.

Much the better winger was Adam, whose finishing showed improvement in the first half, then fell away afterwards, and Cullen did a lot too much wandering after the interval and also fell a much too easy victim to the Everton offside trap.

For the defence this was no real test, for, Fielding apart, there was little craft in the Everton attack, and Dunne, Owen and Aherne were a formidable barrier that Everton could not break down.

Against a better attack Pemberton might have had to pay the penalty for giving Fielding so much room in which to work, and some tightening-up is called for here.

Shanks did what was required of him and Streten was extended only rarely. All in all it was a game to forget, and the only consolation is that we shall be most unlucky if we see another quite so bad.

LUTON TOWN: Streten; Dunne, Aherne; Pemberton, Owen, Shanks; Cullen, Turner, Morton, Pearce, Adam.

EVERTON: O'Neill; Donovan, Tansey; Farrell, Jones, Rea; Mayers, Llewellyn, Kirby, Fielding, Harris (B).

Referee: G Oliver, Middlesbrough. Attendance: 18,070.

Other Critics—

HAD LITTLE PRAISE FOR THE TOWN

Search the columns of the national newspapers as you will, and you will be hard put to find any measure of praise for the Town after their 2-0 victory over Everton.

Unanimous opinion of the critics was that this game was the worst they had seen for a long time. They pin-pointed weaknesses in both sides, but the general criticism was that neither side had any method.

Here are a few of the unflattering quotes:

"Luton won, but they get no medals for a drab, unbelievably poor exhibition of football."—"Empire News and Sunday Chronicle."

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"It was a silent and bewildered crowd that watched this apology for a football match."—"Sunday Dispatch."

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"Luton did nearly everything but score, and even their players sometimes laughed at their incredible failures." — "Sunday Graphic."

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"There were only two bright spots in this game . . . otherwise the football was scrappy, with both forward lines dithery."—"News of the World."

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"There was not much difference of opinion among the crowd about this match. Unanimously they voted it the worst they had seen in years, and the mistakes and haphazard football of both sides made it one long yawn."—"Sunday Express."

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"It was a poor 90 minutes entertainment. If Luton had been in anything like their normal form they would probably have won by a dozen goals."—"Sunday Pictorial."

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"Luton's forwards were too cramped. . . . The forward game must be opened up." — "The People."