

ONLY HALF BIRTHDAY PRESENT FOR SID

QUICK RETORTS BY TO TURNER GOALS

Town Need More Finish, And Better Passing

By Chiltern

Luton 2 Leeds 2

AFTER that setback at Tottenham last Saturday, the Town made a big reshuffle for their home match with Leeds this afternoon, and, in fact, only Dunne, Owen and Turner were occupying the same positions as last Saturday. Injury kept out Shanks and Pearce, and those to be superseded were Streten, Aherne, Pemberton and Adam.

In effect, the Town had intended to keep as far as possible to the team which beat Chelsea in midweek, but this had to be changed because Pearce was not available.

So, as compared with midweek, Davies came into the side for the first time this season and there was switching about in the forward line.

On the other hand Leeds, with four consecutive wins behind them, were unchanged.

Before the match Mr. G. A. R. Mead joint managing director of the Skeffco Ball Bearing Co., Ltd., officially handed over the new clock which the firm has given to the club and which is sited on the top of the Bobbers' Stand near the centre line.

SID'S BIRTHDAY

Today is Sid Owen's birthday, as, the band obviously knew, since they played "Happy Birthday" when he led the Town on to the field.

There was brilliant sunshine and a fairly big crowd with John Charles, who captained Leeds, obviously a drawing card.

Owen won the toss and Luton defended the Kenilworth-road end.

First to make ground were Leeds, Charles shaped to meet Meek's centre but it was intercepted by Owen.

The Town's turn to attack soon came, with Turner prominent out on the right, and when the ball eventually came across from Davies, Gregory, meeting it first-time, sent it wide.

In the opening minutes anyway, Davies and Turner had struck up a happy partnership and Turner, receiving from his partner, brushed aside opposition to close in and ram the ball against the side net.

CHARLES PROMINENT

Then Davies robbed Hair, only to place the ball tamely to the feet of Gibson, who promptly cleared.

A neat movement between Gregory and Davies drew applause, though the former's finish left a lot to be desired.

Charles was prominent in the Leeds attack and after a tussle with Owen gained a corner to

which he got his head, though he did not trouble Baynham, who picked up easily.

Davies continued to provide material, and Turner just failed to gather his centre after Morton had come through with the ball.

Then came a quick break by Leeds in which Jones failed in his tackle on Meek, who, chased by Owen, made a beeline for goal before shooting. Baynham saved by the rather inelegant method of sticking out a leg.

The rebound went to Meek, who had to shoot hurriedly this time, with defenders challenging him frenziedly, and he sent wide.

A lot of the passes made by Town defenders were going astray, which was not helping to bring smoothness to the attack, and little had come the way of the left-wing.

Another corner to Leeds was well placed by Overfield and brilliantly pulled down by Baynham.

VERY NEAR THING

Then, in the next minute, came a very near thing to a penalty, for the Town when Gregory, sent through by Cullen, was unceremoniously pulled down by Dunn.

The Town looked for a penalty, but the referee placed the ball almost on the penalty area line, and the free-kick was wasted.

Morton raised Luton hopes by bringing the ball through and passing to Gregory who, however, had to shoot first time and off balance and as a result was too high.

Leeds were dangerous in their breakaway and when Brook switched out to the right and beat Owen in a tackle, Overfield only

CHARLES

How The Goals Came

TURNER for Luton after 29 minutes.

CHARLES for Leeds after 35 minutes.

TURNER for Luton after 74 minutes.

CHARLES for Leeds after 78 minutes.

just failed to jump high enough to make contact with his head.

Leeds were a bit fortunate to escape having a penalty awarded against them when Cullen fell headlong after a tackle by Marsden when he had got clean through, but the referee waved on play.

More combination by Davies and Turner brought a powerful drive from the latter that Wood parried, and the Town were looking dangerous now.

Twice in quick succession Baynham cut off crosses from either wing.

BRILLIANT SAVE

It was still the Town right-wing that was the more assertive, and Davies again dropped the ball accurately into the goalmouth, just too high for Turner to reach with his head, and he punched at it in his disappointment.

Charles always needed careful watching, and Cummins came back to block a shot from him at the edge of the penalty area.

The rebound went to Forrest, who put in a great drive, and Baynham threw himself across the goal to make a brilliant save.



Leeds forwards were proving quite lively and Charles headed downwards but wide a centre by Meek.

Dunne gave away a corner in attempting to head to safety a centre by Brook.

A fine chance went astray when a mistake by Forrest enabled Cummins to push the ball through to Turner.

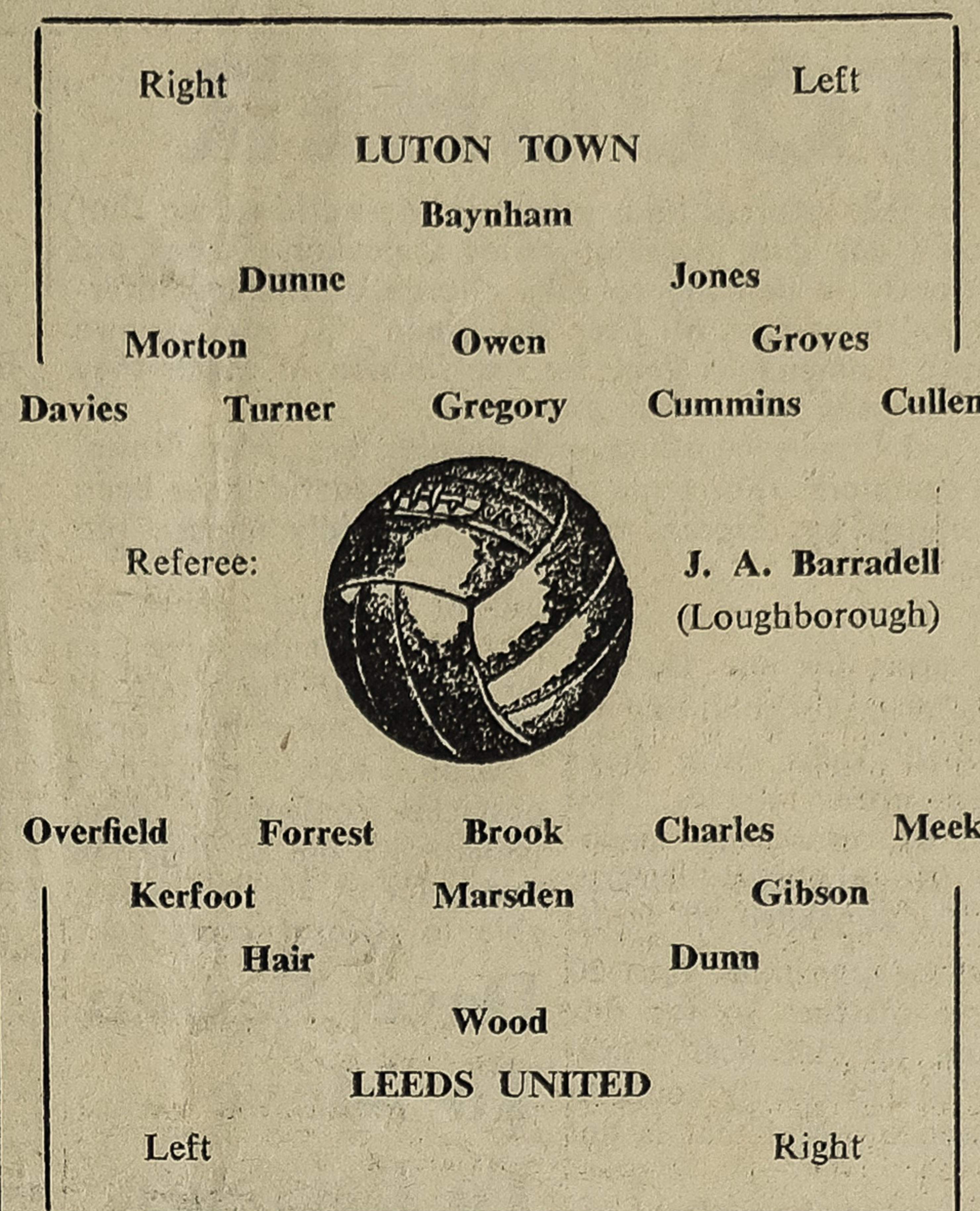
He could conceivably have gone on and shot but he preferred to pass to Gregory who was in a better position. The young centre-forward shot altogether too hurriedly, to pull the ball nearly a yard wide when he certainly should have scored.

TOWN LEAD

Leeds pressed again and there was a bit of a scrimmage in front of goal following a corner by Overfield.

A corner came to the Town when Cummins sent Cullen through with a grand pass and Marsden stepped in to dispossess the winger.

Again the Town tried their short corner trick, which has not



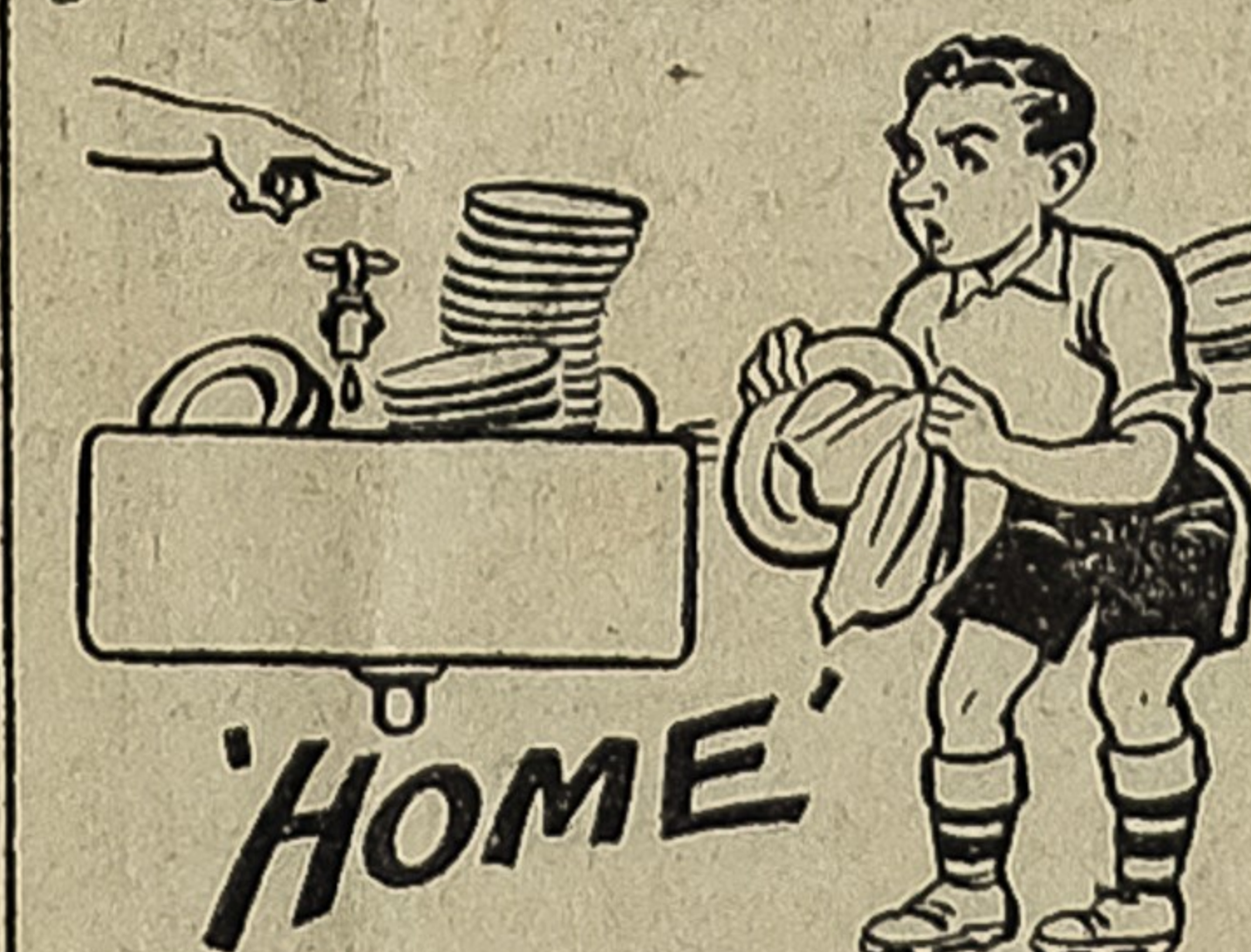
Turner raced on to a beautifully judged through pass by Cummins and flicked the ball into the net in the 29th minute to give the Town the lead. In the 74th minute Turner restored the lead of which Charles had robbed the Town.

paid much of a dividend so far and did not on this occasion because Turner, to whom Cullen passed, ran the ball out of play.

Then the Town took the lead after 29 minutes through TURNER, who raced on to a beautifully judged through pass by Cummins and flicked the ball first time past Wood as the goalkeeper raced out.

A very well-taken goal and a good example of what the clear-cut, quick move can bring.

Stung into action, Leeds piled on pressure for a few moments gaining, however, nothing more



dangerous than a couple of corner kicks.

Then, when Gregory was racing through, he was tripped by Marsden. Jones, coming up to take the free kick, all but caught Wood unawares with a shot that swung in the air.

With 35 minutes gone, Leeds were level through a typical ex-

ample of the opportunism of CHARLES.

Meek, unmarked, was allowed to get the ball under control and given time in which to centre.

This did not look a distinct threat to the Town until Charles, with a tremendous leap that well outjumped Groves, got up on top of the ball and headed it into the corner of the net with tremendous force, giving Baynham no chance.

LIVELY SPELL

A very lively spell followed this, during which the Town had penalty claims turned down when Hair appeared to handle.

Then came an electric dash by Charles which took him nearly 40 yards upfield, during which he left behind Groves and Owen, to look a potential scorer again until Jones came across to tackle him successfully.

Striving to regain their lead, the Town put on pressure for a time, and Turner missed his kick at fairly close range from a centre by Davies.



Jones had another shot from a free kick, this time for hands by Charles, and again clearing the defensive wall, he forced Wood to save under the bar.

A free kick came to Leeds when Groves fouled Charles, but nothing came from this, though Leeds attacking hard now, gained a corner when Cullen came back to tackle Brook.

The pace eased a bit, and there was some switching in the Town forward line, whether intentional or not was difficult to say, which took Cullen to the middle and Gregory to outside-left.

Marsden only just managed to stop Cullen in a determined bid to force a way through.

Half-time:
LUTON TOWN 1
LEEDS 1

MANY FREE-KICKS

Gregory was back at centre-forward when the second half

began with a free-kick to Leeds which Charles narrowly failed to reach with his head.

Hesitation by Cullen cost him a chance of putting the Town ahead after Davies had sent Gregory racing down the right wing. The youngster put in a centre that Cullen could have reached had he gone in to meet it.

This match was producing a crop of free-kicks and another came the Town's way when Cummins, was fouled. During the scramble that followed Cummins, securing a rebound, shot, and Wood, going down to pick up, found the ball spinning out of his hands, fortunately for him wide of the post.

Quite a lot of pushing and shoving was going on and Hair was penalised for pushing Turner in the back.

Most noteworthy scoring effort this half came from Charles whose first time shot rose too high.

The Town were having more of the play but were lacking thrust and finishing power, particularly in the middle.

JONES INJURED

In going up again to try to force home the attack Jones was injured when tackled by Kerfoot and there was a stoppage.

Jones recovered quickly, in time to take a free kick from which he passed to Groves whose shot, from highly optimistic range, was very wide.

Play had deteriorated considerably, a scrappy element now having crept in, and there was not much promise from either side of more goals.

Meek shot over and Brook headed likewise.

A nearer approach to a goal came when there was a free kick against Owen and Charles was in position to meet with his head Overfield's centre.

Baynham had to scamper quickly across his goal and grasp the ball safely.

When the Town came back busily, Turner rushed up pell mell in an effort to connect with Davies's cross but Marsden was there first to head away.

JUST NOT THERE

Too frequently now the Town's passes were going astray and they were seldom getting into the penalty area.

With Turner and Gregory standing unmarked waiting for a pass, Cummins pushed the ball through straight to a Leeds defender and the finish just was not there.

With 25 minutes left Cullen and Davies switched and the Town's most positive effort came shortly after this from a free-kick by Groves which Turner met and was unlucky enough to find a foot in the way of his drive.

Goalmouth incidents were few and far between and the Town's short-passing was being continually intercepted.

A sudden dash by Charles brought activity at the Town end and Brook was unlucky with a great first-time drive from 15 yards that rose inches too high.

There had been some switching in the Leeds forward line, with

Charles now in the middle, Brook at outside-right and the busy Meek moving inside as his partner.

AHEAD AGAIN

Shooting first time with his left foot from just inside the penalty area Gregory again pulled the ball wide following a rebound after a free-kick.

Then somewhat unexpectedly the Town regained the lead after 74 minutes, with TURNER again the scorer.

The attack began back in the Town's half of the field with Jones. The ball was pushed through to Cummins who made a long oblique centre to which Turner and Marsden went together.

The Leeds defender had a chance to clear, muffed it, and Turner, from close in, turned the ball over the line, with Wood also at fault.

Back hard came Leeds after this, and Forrest and Brook both headed over during hot raids.

Owen kicked clear in another Leeds attack, during which Groves failed to control the ball, but they continued to fight hard, and Meek caused Owen to give away a corner.

From this, CHARLES struck again with another fine goal headed after 78 minutes, to put Leeds level again.

Once more there was that deliberate selection of the spot in the net by this great player, who was not challenged as he went up to produce another of those powerful headers.

TURNER'S BID

These goals had livened up the game considerably and Turner went through, only to shoot straight at Wood, and Charles, from an acute angle, drove uncomfortably close to the far post.

As a line the Leeds forwards were looking the more dangerous and Brook, still on the wing, was well off the target.

It took two Leeds defenders to stop Turner in a determined bid to force a way through, and from the corner that followed the Leeds goal had a remarkable escape. Turner hit the ball across hard and low and it struck a Leeds defender and seemed booked for the net until Wood somehow got up to push it over the bar.

He fell heavily, was severely shaken, and had to have attention.

Charles was popping up in all sorts of odd places now, and was becoming increasingly difficult to mark.

Davies ballooned the ball harmlessly wide, and then Charles appeared in his own penalty area to tackle Turner when the inside-right was on the path for a hat-trick.

In the closing stages it was mostly the Town attacking, though not very seriously, and then, at the other end, it was as well that Jones was standing on the goal-line because Cullen, passing back, beat the full-length Baynham and but for Jones would have provided Leeds with the winner.

After this Charles popped up again to force Baynham to push the ball over the bar. Result:

LUTON TOWN 2
LEEDS UNITED 2