

OBJECTION TO THE LIGHTS

CHARLTON ARE NOT USED TO THEM

Luton 4 Charlton 2

By Chiltern

MYSTERY of the floodlights, which were switched on for just six minutes at Kenilworth-road this afternoon and then went off for the remainder of the second half, was cleared up afterwards.

Apparently the Charlton Manager, Jimmie Trotter, objected, and after the match he told me, "There had been no agreement to use floodlights, which we have not got, and to which we are not used, although we have played one League match at Birmingham by mutual agreement."

"I think that in a case like this it must be a distinct advantage to the home side, and that is why I objected."

However, the floodlights on for such a short period made no difference to the result which brought a welcome Christmas present to the Town in the shape of two badly needed points.

There was a time early in the second half when, after building up a considerable advantage by half-time, it looked as if they had lost their grip on things.

There was a distinct danger that Charlton would salvage a point.

Their hopes were blunted by the opportunism of Gordon Turner, for whom this match was a personal triumph.

After a blank spell since his return to the team, he came back with a fine hat-trick and boosted his goals total to over the century mark. His finishing power was the biggest single factor in this victory, the Town's first since November 24.

He finished the match with a gashed knee, but trainer Jack Compton told me afterwards he does not think there is any fear of him not being available for the home match with Portsmouth on Boxing Day.

Another to collect a knock was Sid Owen, who has a bruised calf muscle, but he also should be fit by mid-week.

Return to scoring form of Turner, combined with the dash and perseverance of McLeod, and to a lesser extent the work of Morton, brought a considerable improvement to the Town attack.

McLeod thoroughly justified his inclusion and brought the dash down the middle that has been badly needed.

From the extreme wings not a great deal came, but mostly in this match the Town were seeking to make ground through the middle, which they did often enough against a very moderate defence.

Too early yet to say that the good days are back again, yet the increased liveliness of the forward line was encouraging.

Attendance, 9,907, was easily the lowest the Town have had in the First Division.