

TOWN ARE EXPECTING ALLAN BROWN'S DECISION TODAY

EXACTLY THE PLAYER WE ARE WANTING

Negotiations On With Spurs And Charlton, Too

By Chiltern

WHETHER or not their efforts succeed, the Town Directors, much under fire for several weeks, have shown that they have every intention of ending the bleak spell which the team has had by going into the transfer market.

After doing what the Chairman, Mr. P. G. Mitchell described to me as "scraping the bottom of the barrel," they went with a near £14,000 bid to Blackpool for Scottish International, inside-forward, Allan Brown, reached agreement with the club and are now awaiting a decision from the player.

At the moment, this is the major deal in which the Town are involved, but they are also in touch with Tottenham Hotspur, with whom I understand they have agreed terms for the transfer of Sonny Walters, the outside-left who has played for the Football League and England.

Nothing further will be done in this matter before tomorrow morning, when the Town have arranged to phone Tottenham.

Nor is the exchange deal with Tottenham Athletic, affecting Leslie Jones on the Luton side and Bobby Ayre or John Ryan on the Town side, something that may be done in the direction this week.

Negotiations with Blackpool which began after a special meeting of the Board on Wednesday morning were kept a close secret and it leaked only on Saturday evening after Mr. Mitchell and Director Tom Hodgson had been seen watching Charlton and Blackpool.

"He Is Exactly What We Want"

In fact, the Town had agreed terms with Blackpool before the left for The Valley on Saturday, subject to them re-affirming the opinion they had gained of Brown's play previously.

Idea of trying to get this tall player first began to take shape when he played against the team at Kenilworth-road three weeks ago.

Alan Brown was most impressive on Saturday and the Chairman told me, "He is tailor-made for our requirements and I am delighted if we can get him because I think he is exactly what we want."

The two Town Directors interviewed the player in a London hotel after Saturday's match, and

FOR THE RECORDS

LUTON TOWN 1
Turner (pen)
SPURS 3
Robb, Stokes, Duquemin
LUTON TOWN: Stretton; Dunne, McNally; Morton, Owen, Shanks; Pearce, Turner, McLeod, Cummins, Davies.
SPURS: Ditchburn; Baker, Hopkins; Walley, Ryden, Marchi; Medwin, Harmer, Duquemin, Stokes, Robb.
Referee: G. McCabe, Sheffield. Attendance: 22,576.

a scale comes as a surprise after what has been said about the financial position, and when I questioned the Chairman on this aspect, he replied: "We have scraped the bottom of the barrel, as I said we should do."

At any rate, this move is the best one possible to restore the confidence of the supporters which dropped still further after another home defeat last Saturday.

On the subject of the Charlton negotiations, the Chairman said that they were still very much alive, but that it had had to take second place to the major issue.

Charlton Players Were Watched, Too

BOTH Ayre and Ryan were watched by George Martin at Northampton on Saturday, and I understand that he expressed a preference for the former.

Unfortunately, the fact that the Reserves' match at Southend was off prevented Charlton having a look at Jones, and it remains to be seen whether the London club will be content to do a deal without having had the opportunity of seeing Jones recently.

To complete the activity of last Saturday, Director A. F. England and Manager Dally Durcan were at White Hart Lane to see Tottenham's 10-0 massacre of Coventry Reserves.

Impressed With The Play Of Walters

WITH the play of Walters they were much impressed, and he has been strongly recom-

mended by Spurs' manager, Jimmy Anderson, who told me on Saturday that he could still go into the Tottenham first team, but there is considerable competition for the extreme wing positions.

Walters, a member of the team that gained promotion from the Second Division in 1949-50 and then won the championship two years later, had a transfer request granted recently because he cannot command a first-team place at Tottenham.

According to my information, he has lost none of his considerable speed, and he would certainly be a considerable asset to the Town in view of their wing problems.

"Still Thinking It Over," Says Brown

NOW all the Town can do is to sit back and await the outcome of their efforts to strengthen the team, but it would be over-optimistic, I feel, to expect success in all three directions.

Brown said in Blackpool yesterday that he is still thinking things over.

Blackpool paid East Fife £25,000 for his transfer in 1950 and he was unlucky enough to miss two Cup Finals because of injury, one so serious that he fractured a leg.

Since David Durie secured a regular place at inside-left, Brown has not been the automatic choice he was, but he has still scored 13 League goals this season and he would bring much needed thrust and punch to the Town attack.

Have Now Lost Seven Out Of Eight

THE setback the Town suffered at the hands of Tottenham was the fourth in succession they have met in the League and, in fact, they have lost seven of their last eight games, which is a solid pointer to the need for all this activity in the transfer market.

In a cracking first half, Tottenham showed bewildering speed in the mud and yet, with any luck the Town could have scored first, something which would have been a great tonic to their flagging confidence.

Davies produced the shot of the match, beating Ditchburn all the way, and then saw the ball strike the bar and Pearce "fluff" the rebound.

Did Not Deserve Such Arrears

A MERE matter of minutes later they were a goal down when Robb collected a misheaded clearance by Dunne and centred to the far post where Medwin got the better of McNally and re-crossed the ball, which Morton headed out, but Robb rammed it back into the net.

Although Tottenham were faster and more potent in attack, the Town had their chances and they did not deserve to be in the situation of being three goals down, something which developed when first Stokes, then Duquemin scored in consecutive minutes.

Three Goals Came In A Hectic Spell

IT was the losing of the ball by McNally in trying to beat an opponent that was the forerunner of the first, because Owen had to head behind to get out of trouble.

Medwin and Harmer collaborated in taking a short corner, and in the scramble that developed after the ball came over, Stokes scored.

A minute later Duquemin ran on to a through pass by Ryden and swept the ball past Stretton for the best goal of the afternoon. The hectic spell that had the spectators, especially those from Tottenham, agog, ended two minutes later when Turner made no mistake from a penalty when Baker handled.

Play Deteriorated A Great Deal

THOSE who expected the excitement to continue after the interval were doomed to disappointment because play deteriorated a good deal and became very scrappy.

Tottenham seemed to be content to rely on the strength of their hard-tackling defence and the speedy probing of Medwin and Robb, and the Town had a lot of the play without really threatening to get the goal that would have set the game alight.

Yet Tottenham had one or two narrow escapes, as when McLeod lifted the ball over Ditchburn's head and there was no Town forward in position to reach it, and Davies missed a chance from a free kick by Cummins.

Town Interested In These Three



ALLAN BROWN
(Scottish International)



"SONNY" WALTERS
(England "B")



BOBBY AYRE
(England Under 23)

Forward Problems Pinpointed Again

WHILE there was no disputing the fact that Tottenham were deserved winners, the Town certainly did not have the best of luck in the first half and, as often happens when a team is in an unhappy spell, the ball is not running kindly for them.

Nor have they yet found a way of combating their own Kenilworth-road mud, though the going was better than had been expected, in view of the amount of rain which fell during the week.

Again the forward problems with which the Town are faced were pinpointed plainly, and the most comforting thing that happened was that McLeod suggested that he might solve one of them by settling down at outside-left.

McLeod's Promise At Outside-left

THIS switch was made early in the second half because McLeod had not been able to make a lot of Ryden and Davies's excursions into the middle before the interval had suggested that he might bring increased punch.

McLeod did well on the wing, where he had the beating of Baker, but Davies, hard though he tried, could not provide the answer in the middle. As much of the Tottenham striking power came from the wings and there was never any time wasted in getting the ball out to Medwin and Robb.

On the other hand, the Town again made too many short passes and seldom opened up things with a long ball.

Cummins Shone Only At Odd Times

AT odd times, Cummins showed some of his old touches, but he is still far below his best and spent too much of the second half pursuing a feud with Walley, one of the two reserves Tottenham had to draft into the team.

With the line as a whole not showing a lot of cohesion, few openings came the way of Turner, who is still tending to run with the ball and force a way through a packed defence.

CHILTERN'S FORECASTS

DIVISION I
Birmingham C. v Wolves
Blackpool v Manchester C.
Bolton W. v Aston Villa
Everton v Charlton Ath.
Leeds Utd. v Luton T.
Manchester Utd. v Arsenal
Newcastle Utd. v Preston N.E.
Portsmouth v Chelsea
Sheffield Wed. v Burnley
Tottenham H. v Sunderland
West Brom v Cardiff C.

DIVISION II
Blackburn R. v Bristol C.
Bristol R. v Notts Co.
Doncaster R. v Bury
Fulham v Port Vale
Grimsby T. v Lincoln C.
Leicester C. v Liverpool
Millwall v Gillingham
Middlesbrough v Leyton O.
Nottingham Forest v Barnsley
Stoke C. v Huddersfield T.
Swansea T. v Rotherham Utd.
West Ham v Sheffield Utd.

DIVISION III (SOUTH)
Bournemouth v Brentford
Brighton v Southend Utd.
Ipswich T. v Aldershot
Millwall v Gillingham
Newport Co. v Norwich C.
Northampton T. v Crystal Palace
Plymouth A. v Southampton
Q.P.R. v Exeter C.
Reading v Coventry C.
Shrewsbury T. v Colchester Utd.
Torquay Utd. v Swindon T.
Walsall v Watford

DIVISION III (NORTH)
Barrow v Bradford
Bradford C. v Carlisle Utd.
Chester v Tranmere R.

Town Tried To Get Duquemin Recently

ANY defence would have had a severe test from the rampaging Tottenham forwards in their first-half form, and the Town had to fight to the full extent to avert an even more disastrous situation than that which developed.

Quite recently the Town manager sounded Tottenham on the subject of Duquemin, but was given a prompt negative reply.

In the circumstances it would have been particularly galling for him had he been present to see the way in which Duquemin led the line in the first half. He gave Owen a most worrying time and might very easily have had a hat-trick.

Morton Outstanding For The Town

AFTERWARDS, Owen was more like his usual solid self and curbed the danger from this quarter.

Shanks had an unhappy sort of match, partly attributable, I understand, to the fact that he injured a foot early on, and Morton was easily the best of the defence and, in fact, the Town's outstanding player.

He put Stokes, another player the Town have fancied in the past, almost completely out of the game, and it was when he was coming through strongly with the ball that a dangerous attack looked most likely to develop.

Full-backs Worried By The Wingers

FOR Dunne, the speed and strength of Robb was always a great worry and he never really got to grips with this fine winger who was a perpetual source of danger. Nor were Dunne's clearances clear-cut.

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HOW THEY STAND

speed when he had the chance to use it was too much for the left-back, who has fallen into the habit of running with the ball when it would be a lot less dangerous to use it more quickly. No-one could blame Stretton, who made some fine saves, especially in the first half, when there was some powerful shooting from Duquemin.

The best that could be said for the Town was that they kept on fighting to the end.

HOW THEY STAND

DIVISION I

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Saints	12	10	0	0	104	16	24
Judean Y.C.	13	11	1	1	96	34	23
Luton Old Boys	13	8	2	3	79	51	18
Vauxhall	11	8	1	2	76	34	17
Liberal Club	12	6	2	4	65	55	14
Vauxhall "A"	12	3	5	4	65	65	12
Rootes	10	5	0	5	42	58	10
Luton O.B. "A"	10	2	6	4	42	58	6
Cruasaders	12	2	2	8	47	73	6
St. Mary's "A"	13	3	0	10	45	85	6
"Cruasaders" "A"	12	2	1	9	36	84	5
Napier E.E.	12	0	1	11	23	97	1

DIVISION II

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Todd, M. & S.	12	10	1	1	78	42	21
Ken's	11	8	2	1	66	44	18
Rootes "A"	12	6	4	2	75	45	16
Vauxhall "B"	12	6	4	2	69	51	16
Adamant	12	6	2	4	66	54	14
Spandis	11	5	4	2	63	47	14
SKP	10	2	3	5	41	59	7
Luton O.B. "B"	11	2	2	7	49	61	6
Nalgio	12	2	2	7	47	63	6
Cruasaders "A"	12	2	0	10	40	80	4
Vauxhall "C"	12	2	0	10	28	92	4

DIVISION III

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Vauxhall "D"	11	9	2	0	75	35	20
Luton Boys' C	10	8	0	2	65	35	16
Pullishall	11	6	2	3	61	49	14
St. Matthew's	11	5	2	4	60	50	12
Hunting Perce's	10	5	1	4	51	49	11
Luton Glan	11	4	3	4	51	59	11
Ace of Clubs	10	4	1	5	49	51	9
SKP "A"	10	3	0	7	41	59	6
Hunting P.D.O.	11	1	2	8	38	72	4
Vauxhall "E"	10	0	2	8	34	66	2

DIVISION IV

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Boys' Club "A"	12	11	0	1	93	27	22
St. Mary's "B"	11	10	1	0	81	29	21
Hayward Tyler	11	8	0	3	71	39	16
Ken's "A"	11	7	1	3	68	42	15
Beds Com	10	6	0	4	59	41	12
Co-op Emp.	12	3	3	6	55	66	11
Nalgio "A"	12	3	0	9	49	71	6
Rootes "B"	10	2	1	7	31	69	5
Napier E.E. "A"	12	2	1	9	40	80	5
Vauxhall "F"	12	1	3	8	34	86	5
High Town YC	9	2	0	7	30	60	4

DIVISION V

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Hayward T. "A"	11	10	0	1	84	26	20
Adamant "A"	11	7	3	1	69	47	17
Ken's "B"	12	7	3	2	73	47	17
Vauxhall "G"	11	5	3	3	63	47	13
Jackson	11	6	1	4	58	52	13
St. Matt. "A"	12	5	1	6	60	60	11
St. George's YC	9	3	2	4	37	53	8
Barton YC	10	3	1	6	40	60	7
Vauxhall "H"	11	3	0	8	46	64	6
Napier E.E. "B"	11	2	0	9	44	66	4
Telecoms	11	2	0	9	26	84	4

DIVISION VI

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Ken's "C"	12	10	1	1	86	34	21
Toddington "A"	12	9	2	1	87	33	20
Jackson Ath "A"	12	9	2	1	85	35	20
Ace of C's	12	7	0	5	68	52	14
Boys' Club "B"	11	6	1	4	65	45	13
Adamant "B"	12	6	1	5	64	56	13
St. Mary's "C"	12	4	2	6	49	71	10
Luton Post "A"	10	4	1	5	40	60	6
Barton YC "A"	11	2	1	8	41	69	5
Luton CD	11	2	0	9	30	80	4
Napier E.E. "C"	11	1	0	10	25	85	2

DIVISION VII

Vauxhall 'I'.....	11	7	1	3	59	51	15
Co-op Emp. 'A'.....	12	7	0	5	68	52	14
Luton Gas 'A'.....	12	7	0	5	63	57	14
Luton CD 'A'.....	12	6	1	5	69	51	13
Pullionhill 'A'.....	11	5	1	5	55	55	11
Central Y HQ.....	12	4	0	8	46	74	8
Adamant 'C'.....	11	3	0	8	43	67	6
Vauxhall 'J'.....	11	3	0	8	41	69	6
Humina P. App.....	12	2	0	10	28	82	4