

MARGIN SHOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH GREATER

Even So, The Town Were Comfortable Winners

By Chiltern

LUTON TOWN 2, SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY 0

WITHOUT reaching peak form, the Town achieved a comfortable victory over the Wednesday at Kippax-road and, in doing so, should have improved their goal average to a greater extent.

Uncertain finishing was a failing of both teams but, at least, the Town managed to score twice and, at the same time, managed to miss quite a lot of reasonable scoring chances.

This lack of accuracy in finishing, which is accentuated by the fact that leading scorer Turner is a bit out of touch at the moment, continues to be a source of anxiety to the Town manager.

However, Turner did his part in this match by having a hand in both the goals. The first came after 23 minutes following a movement in which Morton, Brown and Cummins also played a part and McLEOD applied the finishing touch.

In some ways McLeod was fortunate to have the chance to open his account because at least one shot could have been tried before the ball reached him. As it was he took the opportunity very coolly by tapping the ball wide of Pllu with his right foot.

That was the end of the scoring until the 85th minute, when Turner pushed a through pass to BROWN, who swung around at the ball with his left foot and sent it crashing past Pllu for a spectacular goal.

SEVERAL CHANCES MISSED

In between these successes, the Town missed several chances and Ellis and Broadbent were culprits in this respect for the Wednesday.

Although both teams contributed some neat football in mid-field, this was by no means a great match.

Wednesday lacked drive and thrust in attack, and only the right-wing pair of Finney and Quixall caused this very strong Luton defence any sort of trouble.

Finney was always a thorn in the side of Jones, who did not have one of his best games, but the industrious Pearce was much more successful against Quixall, who did not carry his midfield threat to any length when it came to close quarters.

Unfortunately, Pearce was off the mark with his shooting, otherwise he would have had a goal or two. Twice he lifted the ball too high from good positions.

However, this did not detract from his general play and he was part of a fine half-back line in which Owen was dominating and Morton put the shackles on Froggatt.

BROWN BETTER AS LEADER

Against Broadbent, Dunne had an easy afternoon and Baynham was able to cope comfortably with everything that came his way.

From Brown, there was a distinct improvement on his previous displays at centre-forward, despite the fact that the service he received was not of the best. Always, he was hardworking and he held the line together well.

Sharing the forward honours with Brown was McLeod, generally too fast and direct for Martin, and he had more of the ball than did Adam, who did not really make the most of the material that came his way.

Turner was not in his most harassing mood, and perhaps was not helped by a kick he received on the side of a leg during the first half. There was some neat work by Cummins, who, however, was not wholly consistent.

Yet the approach of the line as a whole was good enough to have produced more goals.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Dunne, Jones; Morton, Owen, Pearce; Adam, Turner, Brown, Cummins, McLeod.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY: Pllu; Martin, Bingley; Gibson, McEvoy, Hill; Finney, Quixall, Ellis, Froggatt, Broadbent.

Referee: R. E. Smith, Newport.
Attendance: 14,459.

WHAT THE OTHER CRITICS SAID

"Dally Duncan's side may not be a great one, but they play fast, eventful football, and are always entertaining." — "Sunday Dispatch."

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"There was no doubt that Luton deserved the points. They had more ideas, and if most of their shooting was sub-standard, at least they showed they have learned the necessity of having a crack at goal when the opportunity is offered." — "News of the World."

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"Luton showed some improvement, but there is room for more." — "Empire News and Sunday Chronicle."

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"This was a rather hollow Luton success . . . Luton still have their attack problems." — "Sunday Express."

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"Nobody could go into raptures over Luton in a confused and slow struggle which hung in the balance almost right to the final whistle." — "The People."

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"Luton were never in danger." — "Reynolds News."

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"Luton's inside trio of Cummins, Brown and Turner were always threatening to crack the hard-pressed Sheffield defence." — "Sunday Pictorial."