

Bolton have a quick one

57/58

BOLTON WANDERERS got off to a magnificent start at Burnden Park when they went ahead with the first shot of the match, but Luton equalised before play had been in progress ten minutes.

BOLTON WANDERERS: Hopkinson; Hartle, Banks; Hennin, Higgins, Edwards (B.); Birch, Stevens, Lofthouse, Parry, Holden.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Dunne, Hawkes; Morton, Owen, Pearce; Adam, Turner, Brown, Groves, McLeod.

Referee: M. McCoy, Doncaster.

Luton had won the toss and attacked down their left flank, but when the ball was cleared by Higgins, Lofthouse gained possession.

He put a square pass in the middle to HENNIN, who took the ball forward some six yards before scoring with a right-foot drive, which entered the net just below the bar.

Both Bolton and Luton were unchanged from last week, but the crowd of some 14,000 was disappointing on an ideal afternoon.

Bolton had a great chance of a second goal in the sixth minute when Lofthouse tested Baynham with a hard drive from close range, and a minute afterwards Stevens might have done better when he rounded Owen, but sliced wide when he only had Baynham to beat.

Wanderers were the more methodical side, and again Stevens caused the Luton defence trouble when he lobbed the ball forward to Lofthouse, who lost sight of the ball at a critical moment and Hawkes recovered to clear.

LUTON EQUALISE

Luton equalised in the 10th minute through GROVES following a right-wing move which appeared to mesmerise the Bolton defenders.

Turner took the ball through with scarcely a tackle, and when he slipped the ball inside Groves had merely to tap the ball home.

Baynham was injured as Lofthouse crashed into him, but recovered after treatment.

Willie Moir, former Bolton Wanderers captain, now manager of Stockport County, who meet Luton in the Cup, was present weighing up Luton, and he must have been impressed with the dynamic play of left half Pearce, often a sixth forward, who brought plenty of trouble to Bolton.

It was from one of Pearce's attacking forays which ended in Hopkinson saving from Brown.

Bolton had a remarkable escape when Groves, receiving from Morton, hooked the ball first time. The ball beat Hopkinson all the way, hit the underside of the Bolton bar, and rebounded into play, with Hopkinson knowing little about it.

Five minutes from the interval Bolton were unfortunate to find Baynham bang in line to save another full-blooded drive. Once again the ball spun out of Baynham's hand, but this time the goalkeeper turned round swiftly to catch the ball and clear at the second attempt.

The goalkeeper was beaten all ends up, however, within two minutes when Holden's low shot passed just outside the base of an upright.

Five minutes after half-time Luton took the lead through TURNER. He fastened on to a clearance by Hopkinson, who had punched out a shot by Morton.