

UP-AND-DOWN TIME CAME FOR

THE TOWN AT HOME

Holiday Games Drew Only

Small Attendances

By Chiltern

NOT very festive fare for the fans at Kenilworth-road, with Chelsea administering yet another setback to the Town on Saturday and, although after seven matches without a victory, the Town regained the winning path on Monday, their encounter with Leicester City was a very drab affair.

Nor was there real evidence of enthusiasm among the fans because only a total of 30,026 watched the two matches and there was the best part of 1,000 followers from Leicester on Monday.

ONE FATAL MINUTE

LUTON TOWN 0, CHELSEA 2

Two goals in the course of a minute early in the second-half ensured Chelsea of two points that they had never looked like gaining previously.

Talking point afterwards was about the award of a corner that led directly to the first goal in the 58th minute.

A shot by Tindall went wide and despite protests by the Town the referee gave a corner, though no one could understand whom the ball was supposed to have struck.

From it BRABROOK headed just under the bar with Dunne making a vain attempt to clear. No sooner was play on again than there was another goal. TINDALL, this time heading through from Brabrook's centre.

After that, Chelsea showed all the confidence they had lacked previously, settled down to take the upper hand and there was seldom the semblance of a chance of the Town making a comeback.

Earlier, they had been the better side in bad conditions that were more reminiscent of Christmas than Easter and had had some bad luck, in addition to being guilty of some indifferent finishing.

Brown was unfortunate when he struck the bar during the first half and Turner even more unlucky just after the interval when a great header from Brown's centre struck the bar.

KEPT BALL TOO CLOSE

However, in the main, the Town tended to keep the ball too close in the mud and they allowed themselves to be put off by the robust tackling of the Chelsea defence.

Right through, Chelsea employed spoiling tactics which, though effective, did not help to raise the standard of the play.

On his return, Brown brought added power to the attack, but support for him was not consistent and only Whitby of the other forwards was really impressive.

Whitby made a most successful home debut, but Turner was rather patchy and the left wing was completely out of joint.

Groves, continually hanging on to the ball too long, was too often caught in possession and McLeod had such a bad time

that he was left out for the following match.

Without being completely dominating, the defence was reasonably adequate, with Owen outstanding and quite a fair performance from McGuffie and Pacey, who, yet, were never really in full control.

Chelsea's most dangerous raider, Brabrook gave Hawkes plenty to think about, but it was not until the second-half that Greaves, realising the value of cutting inside, began to be at all dangerous.

Baynham was back to his old confident form and there was not much he could do about either goal.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Dunne, Hawkes; McGuffie, Owen, Pacey; Whitby, Turner, Brown, Groves, McLeod.

CHELSEA: Matthews; Sillett, Bellett; Mortimore, Scott, Saunders; Brabrook, Gibbs, Tindall, Stubbs, Greaves.

Referee: P. G. Brandwood, Kidderminster. Attendance 15,268.