

WILL TOWN NOW BE FORCED INTO TRANSFER MARKET?

OR WILL MORTON BE SWITCHED FORWARD?

Experiments In Attack Were A Failure

By Chiltern

WILL the Town now conclude that they must attempt to solve their forward line problem by an entry into the transfer market, or will they continue to experiment from among their own resources in order to try to get themselves out of their present trouble?

Obviously, it is urgent that the Board must go deeply into the matter at once before the position worsens and it will not have escaped notice that the Town are only four points away from the bottom of the League table.

THREE very difficult matches are facing them, two of them away from home against teams who, at the moment, are occupying first and second positions and, on current form, the Town's chances of reward cannot be fancied greatly.

While the Town may be willing to spend big money, and they have never been afraid to do so when the necessity has arisen, the question which crops up is, where is there a centre-forward of the quality the Town require to be found?

Maybe, many people can quote names of players who would do the trick, but would their clubs be prepared to part?

Will Morton Be Given The Leader's Job?

FAILING the acquisition of a new leader and the 14 days' qualification rule of the F.A. Cup must be kept in sight. I can only see the trouble being solved by moving Bob Morton there as at least a temporary expedient.

Possibly, this would have been done last Saturday had Dave Pacey been fit enough to resume, but he should have a chance of returning to the team at West Bromwich, which would release Morton for another stint in the forward line.

Obviously, the gamble of having Brendan McNally in the middle will not be repeated, because he gave little indication that he can be the man for the job.

McNally, Brown, Did Not Look The Part

AGAINST a very strong, tall centre-half in Woods, he was given little scope, but he might have scored in the first half had he been a little quicker to make his shot.

In his defence it must be said that quite a lot of the material that reached him was in the air and conditions, of course, were the worst of the season.

Other than that, McNally just did not look the part any more than Brown looked as if he would be successful as a winger.



BOB MORTON — Will he take over the leader's role?

there was a brilliant effort by Turner, who must have thought he had won the match as his header sent the ball right away from Leyland, who, somehow or another, reached it one-handed and pushed it over off the top of the woodwork.

Previously, the first Luton goal for 324 minutes had come from Bingham, who was always the most dangerous and consistent forward.

Turner Laid On The Goal For Bingham

TURNER made it possible by pushing the ball through for the winger to run on to and Bingham banged it in as Eckersley crashed into him. Bingham was injured and had something of a limp afterwards.

In the first half, Blackburn, despite the handicap of being without their regular right wing, and England team manager Walter Winterbottom was there in the hope of seeing Peter Dobson, had looked the more capable side in attack.

But they should not have been allowed to take the lead in the manner in which Johnston's goal came.

Bad Clearance Led To Rovers' Goal

A BAD clearance by Dunne which sent the ball straight to McLeod caught the Town defence completely unprepared, and when the ball went quickly through to Johnston, the centre-forward was left with a simple task of beating Baynham from close range.

There have been too many mistakes of this sort recently and the Town are in enough trouble without making presents of goals to the opposition.

During the second half, with the Town doing a lot of pressing, several decisions by the referee upset a section of the crowd and he called police to patrol behind the Blackburn goal, apparently after some orange peel had been thrown.

Little Hint Of More Forward Punch

WHEN a spectator allowed his feelings to get the better of him and came on to the pitch, he was quietly escorted off by Cummins.

Of course, half the spoils are better than none at all, and even one point is a marked improvement on the Town's recent record.

For The Records

LUTON TOWN 1
Bingham
BLACKBURN ROVERS 1
Johnston
LUTON TOWN. — Baynham; Dunne, Hawkes; Morton, Owen, Groves; Bingham, Cummins, McNally, Turner, Brown.
BLACKBURN ROVERS. — Leyland; Taylor, Eckersley; Clayton, Woods, McGrath; Isherwood, Cairns, Johnston, Vernon, McLeod. Referee. — J. W. Hunt. Emsworth, Hants. Attendance: 13,475.

ment on the Town's recent record.

However, once again this was a match in which the chances to win cropped up and there was

little more hint of punch than there has been.

One happy feature, though, was that in the second half Turner moved with more confidence and authority than has been the case lately.

Turner Will Regain His Reputation

PERHAPS when he has a change of luck with his shooting he will resume his reputation as one of the most prolific scorers in the country and some of the Town's troubles will disappear then.

There was quite a lot of clever football from Cummins, who, however, tended to run with the ball, and conditions were all against that.

That was a fault shared by Vernon, who looked the most capable of the Blackburn forwards, and, really, it was asking

for trouble to try to plough through the thick mud. That apart, Cummins did much of value.

Heavy Burden For Defence Again

BROWN seldom seemed to be able to get into the game and, even taking into account that the support he received was not of the best, he was almost completely shut out by Taylor and was obviously unhappy in his new position.

Once again, there was a heavy burden to be carried by the defence and, for the most part it was shouldered gallantly, with strength in the half-back line again.

Both Morton and Groves were hard-working, industrious wing-halves and Owen mostly had the better of the tussle with Johnston.

More Goals Will Ease Defence's Burden

FOR Owen, in this going, it was by no means an easy job and the defence, as a whole, will be happier when they can place more reliance on the men in front for goals.

Once again, Dunne, who is in rather an unhappy patch, was most erratic in his clearances and he had a very sticky time, especially in the first half.

On balance, Hawkes has been the more consistent full-back these last weeks, and he did not have a lot of trouble from Isherwood.

Baynham had his hardest tasks in the early minutes and his handling of the greasy ball must have impressed Mr. Winterbottom and perhaps caused him to wonder whether England have not discarded this fine goalkeeper far too soon.

Reserves Were Out Of Luck

COMPLETELY out of luck were the Town Reserves in not returning with a point from Nisiam Park, Cardiff.

A lucky goal early on prevented them from doing so.

Young Player Signs For Town

A player who is a day too old to continue in youth football with his club, Maidenhead Minors, was signed as a full-time professional by the Town on Saturday night after having played finely for the Hellenic League team against Wantage Town.

He is Hugh Patrick McCann, an inside-forward or wing-half, and it is for the former position that the Town will use him.

His brother Albert, who is an outstanding youth footballer, and played for Berks and Bucks against Bedfordshire on Saturday, has been signed on amateur terms.

The Town would have liked him as a professional, but he will not join the paid ranks until he has been with his club on a visit to Germany at Easter.

Greyhound Racing

BAD LUCK FOILS RED DEVIL

FAVOURITE Red Devil was voted the unluckiest runner of the meeting by greyhound fans at Luton Stadium on Saturday. After breaking away from the traps in fine style in the fifth race Red Devil appeared to suffer from an attack of cramp as it rounded the first bend well in front of the field.

The favourite faltered and was overtaken. But Red Devil quickly recovered and regained enough ground to finish a game second, two lengths behind 7-2 Grangerfield.

1 (410 yards)—1, PED LIGHT (5); 2, Blarney (1); 3, Powder Puff (4); 4, Valley Prince (2); 5, Rita (1); 6, Slim Jim (3). 1, 4, 8, 4, dist. 25.62. Off 6.47.
Betting: Evens RED LIGHT; 3-1 Blarney; 5-1 Powder Puff; 7-1 Slim Jim; 8-1 Valley Prince; 10-1 Rita.
Forecast 15/5.

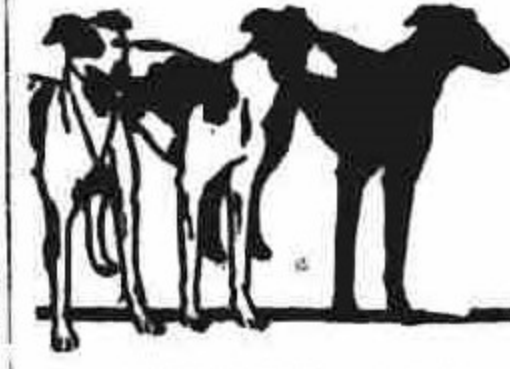
11 (470 yards)—1, HARD TIMES (5); 2, Pip Emma (3); 3, Ryan's Rose (2); 4, Ave Maria (1); 5, New Mexico (4); 6, Old Farm (6). 41, 5, 4, 4, 4, 29.34. Off 7.08.
Betting: 5-4 HARD TIMES; 7-2 Pip Emma; 5-1 Ave Maria; New Mexico; 8-1 Ryan's Rose; Old Farm.
Forecast 19/3.

111 (470 yards)—1, KEITH'S PET (2); 2, Mr. Chips (6); 3, The Case (1); 4, Hoop-La (5); 5, Lucky Dream (3); 6, Squeaker (4). 6, 11, 1, 1, 1, 28.50. Off 7.27.
Betting: 6-4 Mr. Chips; 4-1 KEITH'S PET; Hoop-La; 5-1 Squeaker; 6-1 The Case; 8-1 Lucky Dream.
Forecast 13/2/9.

IV (410 yards)—1, SPEEDY FIRE (1); 2, Cokey Boy (6); 3, Big Sue (5); 4, Mechak (4); 5, Gambler (3); 6, Duchess (2). 4, 1, 2, 2, 1, 25.08. Off 7.50.
Betting: 9-4 Big Sue; 3-1 Mechak; SPEEDY FIRE; 7-2 Cokey Boy; 8-1 Gambler; 100-8 Duchess.
Forecast 12/5/0.

V (470 yards)—1, GRANGERFIELD (3); 2, Red Devil (5); 3, Houghton Boy (6); 4, Lay Off (2); 5, Dan Dare (4). Donna (1) did not finish. 2, 8, dist. 28.63. Off 8.07.
Betting: 4-6 Red Devil; 7-2 GRANGERFIELD; 9-2 Houghton Boy; 8-1 Lay Off; Donna; 100-8 Dan Dare.
Forecast 11/3/3.

VI (410 yards)—1, THE DOVE



RUNNERS AND SELECTIONS FOR TONIGHT

6.30 (410yds)—235 Cry Wolf, 312 Freddy's Pet, 6 Green Light, 653 Pancho, 552 Peebles, 665 Sammy; reserve 466 Ray's Girl.
7.48 (470yds)—333 Banger, 225 Pincapple, 616 Slipper, 44 Strone Man, 341 Suzanne, 316 Willow; reserve 221 Tramp.
8.06 (410yds)—224 Bendigo, 54 Bouquet, 636 Dr. Paddy, 441 Novo, 314 Sugar Lass, 554 Very Useful; reserve 53 Gwendoline.
8.24 (410yds)—1 Daily Mail, Dave (Dec. 4, to 5, 24.46; Dec. 6, to 4, 24.48) Little Mitze (Dec. 4, to 2, 24.64; Dec. 9, to 6, 24.54), 5 Tiny Tune Che (Dec. 4, to 6, 24.71; Dec. 6, to 6, 24.64), 25 Very Handy; reserve 442 The Purse.
8.44 (410yds)—563 Abbot, 666 Flare, 133 Hawk Eye, 111 Jennie's Chance, 352 Mark Twain, 461 Nicholas.
9.04 (410yds)—65 Bally Fair, 165 Bobby A., 525 Midnight, 14 Sun Valley, 164 Tudor Jinks, 53 Quaint; reserve 221 Tramp.
9.22 (470yds)—143 Icknield, 651 Late Dol, 636 Matt Dillon, 214 Norren, 22 Queen Bee, 523 Solitude; reserve 215 Ash.
9.40 (410yds)—156 Chantry, 325 Ian 212 Junior, Red Signal (Dec. 4, to 4, 24.90; Dec. 6, to 4, 24.71), 3 Sorrowful, Surprise Lady (Dec. 4, to 6, 24.96; Dec. 6, to 6, 24.61).

SELECTIONS

7.30—Peebles (Freddy's Pet, Cry Wolf)
7.48—Suzanne (Willow, Strone Man)
8.06—Novo (Bendigo, Bouquet)
8.24—Daily Mail (map) (Dave, Very Handy)
8.44—Jennie's Chance (Hawk, Flare)
9.04—Quaint (Sun Valley, Tudor Jinks)
9.22—Queen Bee (Icknield, Solitude)
9.40—Junior (Red Signal, Ian)

Surprise Present For Daily

Pleasant surprise for Manager Daily Duncan on Saturday was the presentation made on behalf of the Kenilworth-road stewards of a shaving set and other toilet requisites in a leather case on which his name was engraved.

Daily was given a big welcome by all officials and spent some time in the Town dressing room with his former players after the match.

when Collier, in sharing to cover a centre from McMillan, had the ball deflected past him by Daniel in his attempt to clear.

All through, the better football came from the Town, and Adam in particular caught the eye with his brilliant footwork which carried him through the defence time after time.

Twice the home goalkeeper was fortunate to keep out drives from him, and McGuffie nearly saved a point in the dying minutes.

Outstanding Show From McGuffie

DIXON had quite a good match in the middle, working and foraging hard, but his shooting was not up to standard.

There was some neat work from both Barry Hawkes and Bishop, and Whitby was a mixture of good and bad.

Outstanding in defence was McGuffie, who not only tackled well but made excellent use of the ball, and Kelly was next in line.

The young full-backs, Brie and Daniel, were steady, though tending to be a little slow on the turn, and there was another polished exhibition of goalkeeping from Collier.

Dunstable Upset Calculations

THAT shock win of Dunstable Town over Bedford Town in the Semi-final of the Bedfordshire Professional Cup is not only costly to Tim Kelly's club, who usually draw a big crowd for the Final, but will provide new opponents for the Town.

In previous seasons, since the inauguration of this competition, the Finals have always been between Bedford and Luton and, with one exception, have been played on the ground of the former.

Now, Dunstable's success has upset calculations completely.

Where Will Venue Of Final Be?

HOWEVER, it is good that these honours should go around, and the victory will be a tonic to the Dunstable fans.

Just what arrangements will be made for the Final remains to be seen and, certainly, nothing will be decided for some time.

Would the Town draw a sizeable crowd on the Dunstable ground or would there be more chance of a reasonable gate at Kenilworth-road?

That is something into which the two clubs and the County F.A. will have to go.

There's Always
Something
Interesting
in the
Classifieds

CHILTERN'S FORECASTS

DIVISION I
Aston v Preston
Birmingham v Aston Villa
Blackburn v Newcastle
Blackpool v Tottenham
Chelsea v Manchester U
Everton v Leicester
Leeds v Bolton
Manchester City v Burnley
Nottingham Forest v Wolves
West Bromwich v Luton
West Ham v Portsmouth

DIVISION II
Linsley v Cardiff
Brighton v Middlebrough
Bristol Rovers v Leyton Orient
Derby v Huddersfield
Grimsby v Liverpool
Ipswich v Scunthorpe
Rotherham v Bristol City
Sheffield U v Charlton
Stoke v Fulham
Sunderland v Lincoln
Swansea v Sheffield Wednesday

DIVISION III
Aberdeen v Rangers
Bradford City v Brentford
Bury v Colchester
Doncaster v Tranmere
Hull v Plymouth
Newport v Norwich
Plymouth v Hull
Q.P.R. v Reading
Rochdale v Stockport
Southampton v Mansfield
Sunderland v Bournemouth
Wrexham v Swindon

DIVISION IV
Aldershot v Carlisle
Crewe v Crystal Palace
Darlington v Coventry

Gateshead v Barrow
Millwall v Gillingham
Northampton v Port Vale
Shrewsbury v Hartlepool
Southport v Watford
Torquay v Chester
Walsall v Exeter City
Workington v Bradford
York v Oldham

SCOTTISH LEAGUE
DIVISION I
Aberdeen v Rangers
Clyde v Kilmarnock
Dundee v Airdrieonians
Hearts v Celtic
Motherwell v Queen of the South
Partick Thistle v Dunfermline
Raith Rovers v Falkirk
Stirling Albion v Hibernian
Third Lanark v St Mirren

DIVISION II
Aberdeen v Queen's Park
Alloa v Berwick Rangers
Ayr U v St Johnstone
Cowdenbeath v Brechin City
Dumbarton v Hamilton Academical
East Stirling v Stenhousemuir
Forfar v Stranraer
Montrose v East Fife
Morton v Dundee U

SELECTIONS
TEN HOME—Blackburn, Blackpool, West Ham, Bristol Rovers, Ipswich, Sheffield U, Plymouth, Southampton, Shrewsbury, Torquay.
FOUR AWAY—Manchester U, Sheffield U, Tranmere, Coventry.
THREE DRAWS—Birmingham v Aston Villa, Rotherham v Bristol City, Bradford City v Brentford.

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