

PLENTY TO PLEASE THE NEW MANAGER

But That Query About Finishing Power Remains

By CHILTERN

HUDDERSFIELD TOWN 1, LUTON TOWN 1

THIS was Manager Sam Bartram's first glimpse of his new charges in serious combat and there must have been a great deal about the display that gave him pleasure.

First and foremost was the determination the team showed in fighting their way out of a sticky period to come back and save a point that they thoroughly deserved on the run of the game and which was a fair and equable result.

Another point which must have impressed him was the quality of some of the football produced in midfield, but what must have raised a query in his mind and a mental note for future adjustment, was the important matter of finishing power.

Turner apart, the shooting of the forwards was not much in evidence and when shots were produced, they were not mainly of the type calculated to bring goals.

In fact, perhaps the best effort of the first half and certainly the one which most nearly produced a goal was a drive by Morton that Wood could only beat out and Bingham found himself placed too close to the spread-eagled goalkeeper to negotiate the rebound into the net successfully.

For the first half-an-hour, the Town were undeniably the superior team in midfield and, more than that, were showing more threat in front of goal.

When Huddersfield took the lead in the 38th minute through a brilliant header by STOKES, who rather took the Town defence by surprise by the quickness of his dash forward, it was against the run of the play.

From that point, Huddersfield could have gone on to build up a winning lead because they certainly had their chances early in the second half when the Town defence had a sticky time.

TURNER SAW A GAP

Few easier opportunities will come the way of Kerray this season than the one following a mistake by Baynham which left him facing a vacant net, but his shot went over off the top of the bar.

For a quarter of an hour or so, the Town were in trouble, but they gradually fought their way back into the game and equalised through TURNER after 68 minutes.

When he picked up a pass, the Huddersfield defence was obviously expecting him to part with the ball to a colleague, but he saw a gap, went on and beat Wood

from the edge of the penalty area with a shot that went in just inside the post.

Had his luck really been in Turner could have completed a hat-trick, because, soon afterwards, two first-time drives rose only inches over the top, with Wood completely beaten.

So, here was a match in which both teams had their near things, which could have tipped the scales either way, but it was a result that was satisfactory to each.

Certainly, the Town were well pleased to take a point from this hard opposition and, in general, their play gives a considerable amount of hope for success this season.

BROWN ADEQUATE IN MIDDLE

That sticky period soon after the interval apart, the defence was more than adequate, with Brown most efficient in his new-found position, and giving the debutant, Stokes, very little chance.

Half-backs provided quite a solid foundation, with Morton in great form and Pacey coming through quite well, even though he can be more commanding than this.

There was an efficient approach from Dunne and Daniel, but Baynham had what is, for him, an unaccountably uneasy spell early in the second half, when he was guilty of some most unusual errors of judgment.

However, they did not prove fatal, and he quickly regained full confidence.

On this evidence, the sharp-shooting Turner can be among the goals more regularly than has been the case these last two seasons, and there should be a great deal more penetration from Imlach on the left because he showed speed and directness.

To a marked extent, the attack changed their tactics in the second half, mainly because Bingham had been so closely marked by Wilson.

Bingham went wandering. McBride, who was always a worker, kept switching to the wings and, as a result, at least three scoring chances were worked out.

On the whole, Groves, who got through a tremendous amount of work, indicated that he will be a good partner for Imlach, and this attack certainly has considerable possibilities.

HUDDERSFIELD TOWN:
Wood; Gibson, Wilson; McGarry, Coddington, Connor; Ledger, Kerray, Stokes, Massie, Dinsdale.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Dunne, Daniel; Morton, Brown, Pacey; Bingham, Turner, McBride, Groves, Imlach.

Referee: R. T. E. Langdale, Darlington. Attendance 18,156.

WHAT THE OTHER CRITICS SAID

"The experiment of playing Allan Brown at centre-half worked out well, and he cut out Stokes from many centres and passes.

"With Morton and Pacey using the ball well at wing-half, Luton had the more constructive middle line and their full-backs Dunne and Daniel, did not have the trouble with the Huddersfield wingers which might have been expected." — "Sunday Dispatch."



"The wingers, Ledger and Dinsdale were effective in their way without showing the control and craft of the Luton pair, Billy Bingham and Stuart Imlach.

"New manager Sam Bartram must have been pleased with this pair.

"Bingham troubled England left-back Ray Wilson.

"Imlach had the edge on Brian Gibson on to miss at least two clear-cut chances after tricking his man in limited space.

"But Luton's attack must find more finishing power. Their defence was methodical and unostentatious with Brown a success at No. 5 after many years in First Division forward lines." — "Sunday Express."



"It's too early to say that either team will be well up in the Division Two table next April. But both Huddersfield and Luton have got what it takes.

"That was the verdict of Huddersfield fans after this match, which Luton, at the receiving end for a long spell, nearly won." — "News Of The World."



"The most satisfactory feature of the Luton attack was the speed of Bingham and Imlach on the wings, while Turner showed that he is still a fierce sharp-shooter by equalising with a 20-yards drive. It was a well-deserved point." — "The People."



"Luton's new manager Sam Bartram has solved one team problem and at the same time created another.

"Bartram filled the trouble spot of the last 12 months—centre-half — with versatile Scottish International forward Allan Brown, who could be the big answer to the problem.

"But the big question now is whether the attack can get by without Brown." — "News Chronicle."