

STRIKING POWER MISSING

By Chiltern

**LUTON TOWN 0,
LEYTON ORIENT 1**

ANXIETY is beginning to grow about the Town's position in the League table and this match did little to allay it, even though it was one which the Town should not have lost.

Evidence there was in plenty, though, that something must be done to increase the striking power in attack and it was lack of this that caused these two badly needed points to go astray.

A goal down and the "deep end" into which to kick for the second half, the situation seemed nicely poised for the Town at half-time, to make the sort of fighting come-back that enabled them to turn the tables on Bristol Rovers a fortnight previously.

Willingness to have a go and plenty of determination was shown as they began their task, but there was never the forward punch to enable them to turn the tables.

Admittedly, they were dead out of luck when the referee refused them a penalty kick, the necessity for the award of which was obvious to most other people and there were other occasions when the official allowed the Orient defence to get away with rough tactics.

In fact, having secured the lead in the 23rd minute when BROWN (E) rose high to meet with his head a centre by McDonald that was going wide, Orient set about the second half as if they were perfectly content to hang on to their narrow advantage.

To a marked extent, they relied on the formidable hefty line of Eagles, Bishop and Charlton, to keep the Town forwards away from deadly shooting range and they never hesitated to bring down a player if danger looked imminent.

RALLY SPLUTTERED OUT

So, what had looked as if it might turn out to be another stirring Town rally, spluttered out into nothingness, and most of the crowd had given up hope long before the end.

Most marked weakness in the Town attack was on the wings where Tracey could make nothing of Charlton and, apart from a patch of 10 minutes or so in the second half, Noake had a thin time, too.

Best of the forwards was Brogan, who not only underlined his great promise for the future, but came nearest to scoring with a header that rebounded off a post.

Making his home debut, Ashworth, leading the line, had a thankless sort of task and Turner was generally out of touch.

All-out attack by the Town after the interval, presented Orient with a couple of scoring opportunities. One, White accepted, only to have the goal disallowed and the other was badly missed by Eddie Brown.

Defensively, there was not much criticism of the Town on this occasion, because they were strong at half-back, with Groves holding Johnston, Bramwell made a satisfactory first appearance and McNally accepted his first League chance of the season.

Although he was by no means over-worked on this occasion, O'Hara's handling of the greasy ball was impressive.

LUTON TOWN. — O'Hara; McNally, Bramwell; Brown (A), Groves, McGuffie; Tracey, Turner, Ashworth, Brogan, Noake.

LEYTON ORIENT.—George; Eagles, Charlton; Facey, Bishop, Sorrell; White, Brown (E), Johnston, Foster, McDonald.

Referee. — C. W. Kingston, Newport. Attendance.—10,989.