

BEST WIN, BUT NOT THE BEST DISPLAY

By CHILTERN

61/62

Luton Town 4, Bury 0

THIS was the Town's best win of the season, but not their best display by any means. They won because in Turner and Ashworth they possessed a couple of opportunists, far in advance of any one in the Bury forward line, and that included Beaumont, a recent £10,000 signing from Barnsley.

That goal-snatching ability of the Town's forward spearheads, plus the fact that they usually took a more direct route than their opponents, had everything to do with the acquisition of these two points.

On the other hand, as their manager, Dave Russell, freely admitted afterwards, Bury took a great deal too much time in which to make too little ground, and that made a Town defence that was inclined to falter in the first half, look perhaps a little stronger than it was actually.

There might have been a different story had a goal by Bury, disallowed for off-side in the 11th minute, been allowed to stand, but after Standen had misjudged a shot from Watson, the referee penalised Holden for being off-side.

That was a real let-off, and the Town cashed in a minute later by taking the lead with a scrambling sort of goal from **TURNER**. After that they were never in real trouble, and victory looked assured when, a minute from half-time **ASHWORTH** cleaved his way down the middle for a second goal.

Victory became even more certain when **TURNER** put on number three seven minutes after half-time, following a long goal kick by Standen that Stokoe missed.

In fact, the former Newcastle centre-half had an unhappy time and was often caught by the speed of Turner, but it was **ASHWORTH** who completed the scoring, eight minutes from the

end, with a shot that was sufficiently close to Heath for the goalkeeper, reasonably, to be expected to save.

NOT SMOOTH MOVING

This was not the smooth-moving Town attack we have seen on occasion this season, but the goal power was still there and the Bury defence was bothered considerably.

Apart from Ashworth and Turner, there was a deal of hard work from McKechnie, who, however, did not get a kind run of the ball, and one wondered why more use was not made of Walden once he had established that he had the beating of Conroy.

Instead of giving him a liberal service, there was more material for Fleming, who was much in the grip of Gallagher and seldom finished with much accuracy.

When a defence keeps a clean sheet, there can be no serious grounds for complaint, but Collins had a struggling sort of game without, in fact, giving much away, and Standen's handling was not at all certain in the first half.

There was a measure of improvement by both later, but the outstanding figure in defence was McNally, with Morton earning second rating. Not that the others did amiss, because Groves was a hard worker and Bramwell did a pretty competent job.

LUTON TOWN: Standen; McNally, Bramwell; Morton, Collins, Groves; Walden, Ashworth, Turner, McKechnie, Fleming.

BURY: Heath; Gallagher, Conroy; Watson, Stokoe, Atherton; Calder, Holden, Beaumont, Jackson, Hubbard.

Referee: T. W. Dawes, Norwich. Attendance: 10,315.