TURNER AND ASHWORTH HIT TWO EACH

BURY FIGHT HARD, BUT LACK THE LUTON FINISH

Walden Provides One Of His Best Displays

7-10-61 By Chiltern 2507

LUTON TOWN 4, BURY 0

THREATENING weather before Luton Town's match with Bury at Kenilworth-road this afternoon, combined with a certain amount of disappointment at the Town's recent form, brought what looked like being the smallest Saturday gate of the season.

Ten minutes before kick-off time rain began to fall steadily.

Two Town players Standen, who was preferred to Baynham, and Collins, chosen in front of Kelly, as deputy for Cope, were making their first League appearances of the season.

But on the whole, the Town team was back to a more familiar pattern, compared with Wednesday evening, because they welcomed the return of Walden, Turner, McKechnie, and Fleming to the forward line, which meant that only Ashworth remained of the five who did duty against Rotherham.

That is, if one excepts Groves, who was switched from inside-left to his best position of left-half.

Bury, with two experienced right-halves on the injured list, made the somewhat surprising change of moving back their centre-forward, Watson, and that meant positional switches for Holden and Beaumont, and meant a place at outside-right for Calder.

Because of the colour clash, Bury, who normally play in white shirts, were in red.

In the last few minutes before the start, the crowd increased, but I doubt whether there were more than 10,000 present.

MORTON WINS THE TOSS

In the absence of Cope, Morton captained the Town and won the toss, choosing to defend the Oak-road end.

The rain stopped before the kick-off, but the surface was left greasy and treacherous.

A bad goal kick by Standen, which went straight to Calder, brought a threat to the Town, but Groves headed clear when the ball came across, and a reprieve came when McKechnie, back in defence, was fouled.

A clever run by Fleming enabled the Town to get on to the attack, but Conroy's head prevented his centre reaching Walden, and Bury escaped.

When Bury hit back, Beaumont headed too high from a well-placed centre by Calder, and then Watson, obviously remembering that his true role is centre-forward, came through quickly, and, from longish range, missed the post by a yard.

Bury were looking dangerous at times. A hard drive by Jackson was deflected to safety by Collins, and then, from a centre by Hubbard, Holden flicked the ball straight at Standen, who pulled it down.

A brilliant piece of work by Micky Walden shortly

GORDON TURNER got the ball into the net to give Town the lead after 12 minutes—only seconds after Bury had had a goal disallowed for offside. Seven minutes after the interval, Turner showed more of his shooting accuracy to score Town's third goal.

splendid movement. Turner sent away Walden, who beat two defenders in a close space before returning the ball into the middle.

There was a real melee. Ashworth had a go at pushing the ball in, and then Turner, at the second attempt, managed to ram the ball home.

Before the game re-started, the referee took the name of Stokoe, apparently for disagreeing with his decision.

There was applause for McNally for a clever clearance from Hubbard, as a result of which the Town went away again, only to be caught offside.

WALDEN SHOWS HIS PACES

Walden, showing brighter form than in the last few matches, was proving a handful for Conroy, and after beating him again, he brought Heath full length with a low drive.

Then came a narrow escape for the Town. Calder whipped a low centre across the face of the goal, but Beaumont just missed it as did McNally, and the ball narrowly missed the far post.

Next, Collins was penalised for pushing Beaumont in the back, which brought Bury a free-kick, taken by Stokoe.

This was headed away, and Walden was then given another opportunity to show his paces, and he had achieved such a mastery over Conroy that the obvious Town plan was to give him as much of the ball as possible.

His centre came across unerringly, but, as Ashworth and Heath went for it together, the whistle went for offside.

Town then lost a fine chance to increase their lead. Turner, who made the opportunity for himself from a pass by Fleming, looked a certain scorer, but maybe he was put off by the fact that Ashworth went for the ball, too, and he slammed the ball inches wide with most of the crowd roaring for a goal.

With the Town continuing to look a little more forthright than Bury in attack, Walden missed the far post by a narrow margin with his left foot.

In a quick Bury breakaway, a centre from Hubbard struck McNally on the hand, but the referee ruled that the offence was unintentional.

STANDEN'S FINE SAVE

A misjudged punch by Standen brought Bury a corner from which the goalkeeper made a fine save from a header by Beaumont.

Standen was again in action from a not very hard drive by Beaumont, following a free-kick for pushing by Groves.

It was not a game that was producing anything out of the ordinary in the way of football, and it was not being helped by what seemed to be an unnecessary number of stoppages for comparatively minor infringements.

Weak finishing by Fleming after Ashworth had made an opening for him, spoilt another chance for the Town, who could never be truly described as on top.

For one thing, too much back-passing was being indulged in, which cut down their directness, and there was one instance of the ball being worked back to Standen very nearly from the centre-line, without a Bury player having touched it.

TOWN LAUNCH STRONG ATTACK

As half-time approached, the Town launched a strong attack in which McKechnie made a determined effort to break through. He reached the penalty area, although

A minute before half-time, ALEC ASHWORTH rounded off a strong Town attack by firmly planting the ball into the back of the Bury net, though he was hurt in the process.

With eight minutes to go Ashworth brought Town's total to four with a fine goal.

Right — Left

LUTON TOWN

Standen

McNally, Bramwell

Morton Collins Groves

Walden Ashworth Turner McKechnie Fleming

Referee: G. W. DAWES, Norwich

Hubbard Jackson Beaumont Holden Calder

Atherton Stokoe Watson

Conroy Gallagher

Heath

BURY

Left — Right

being badly obstructed—something which the referee did not see—and eventually he was robbed.

From this there was a quick breakaway by Bury, and Holden, from the edge of the penalty area, made a drive that just missed the angle of the woodwork.

At this stage, the Town were looking in much more lively form, and, with a minute to go before half-time, ASHWORTH increased their lead.

He fastened on to a pass which finally came from McKechnie, brushed his way past Watson, and planted the ball firmly into the back of the net. He was upended in the process and had to have attention from the trainer. Half-time:

LUTON 2
BURY 0

There was some aimless sort of play at the start of the second half, with Bury the first to be dangerous when Hubbard got away with the Town waiting for an offside decision.

The winger tried to find Holden, who was effectively shut out by Groves, and the Town went away, with Turner giving Fleming a clear field.

The winger, though, who was having an extremely thin time, waited for Gallagher, tried to beat him, and was easily dispossessed.

Bury hit back through Holden who had now switched places with Beaumont, and he took advantage of a piece of misjudgment by Collins to make a shot that flew well wide.

TURNER SCORES HIS SECOND

With 52 minutes gone, the Town became three up through TURNER, who followed a long goal-kick by Standen that bounced over the head of Stokoe. The centre-forward, with all his old accuracy, planted the ball firmly into the back of the net before Heath could do anything about it.

Three times in quick successio Standen made one-hand punches to clear menacing cent when Bury began a bout of pr sure, which, however, did prove too troublesome.

For a time there was material progress by either though Bury came into the ture when Watson brough ball right through. Hu from the right wing, put the middle, but Calder ho too high.

For once in a way, Flem the better of Gallagher, to make a short centre from which Ashworth nearly popped in for another goal, the ball going just wide.

A CHANCE FOR BURY

A chance for Bury came following a corner on the right, but, with the Town defence at panic stations, Beaumont missed his kick, and the danger passed.

As Bury persevered, Bramwell got in the way of a close-range effort from Beaumont, who was now back at centre-forward, and this particular raid ended with an offside decision.

Had Beaumont not been so hurried in his finishing, he might have improved Bury's situation, but he sent the ball tamely over when he had time to control it.

For a team in their position, Bury were having quite a lot of the play, and they kept on the attack when McNally handled a few yards outside the penalty area to stop a centre by Hubbard.

Standen pulled down the free kick spectacularly and sent away Fleming with a well-judged throw, but again the winger fell a victim to his liking to hanging on too long.

Then, Ashworth gave Walden

How The Goals Came

TURNER for Luton Town after 12 minutes.
ASHWORTH for Luton Town after 44 minutes.
TURNER for Luton after 52 minutes.
ASHWORTH for Luton after 82 minutes.

a clear passage, and from his centre Fleming almost hooked the ball into the goal, but was foiled by an accrobatic leap by Heath.

That brought a corner which Ashworth turned against Stokoe, and the upshot of it all was a free kick for obstruction on Heath.

MORE AND MORE NIGGLING FOULS

Niggling fouls were continuing and there was another by Atherton on Groves, which had the effect of putting the Town on the attack again, and McNally from a few yards outside the penalty area, shot over.

When Bury retaliated, McNally was slightly injured, and while he was lying on the ground there was real danger to the Town goal. It finally evaporated when Collins got in a foot to stop Hubbard's shot, and the ball went for a corner.

McNally recovered quickly and then there was a free-kick to the Town a yard outside the penalty area when Turner was brought down by Stokoe. McNally lobbed the ball into the goalmouth, but at least two Town forwards were caught offside.

The Town were carrying more punch than Bury, and Ashworth was dead out of luck with a raking drive that landed squarely against the face of the bar and rebounded to safety.

Then, Ashworth got in the way of what might have been a scoring shot from Fleming, following bright work by McKechnie and Turner.

Clearly, Bury's defence was going through a worrying time.

SECOND GOAL FOR ASHWORTH

With eight minutes left, the Town became four up through ASHWORTH. He fastened on to a very neat reverse pass by Fleming, ploughed his way down the middle, and scored with a shot that I thought Heath should have saved. In fact, he never got a hand anywhere near it.

Bury's defence continued to be in trouble, and Turner nearly harrassed Stokoe into a mistake, but he extricated himself with difficulty.

With Bury still showing some fight, but still not finding sufficient punch to break down the Town defence, Bramwell from near the goal-line headed away a shot from Hubbard.

McKechnie then went through in splendid style to produce a drive that Heath pushed up into the air. He then sprinted after the ball as it dropped behind him.

SMART MOVE BY TURNER

This was followed by a smart move by Turner, who pulled the ball back to Ashworth. The inside-right fell when tackled by Conroy, but the referee refused appeals for a penalty.

With a bare minute remaining, Beaumont made a firmly placed header from Calder's centre, but it went just over. It was as good a scoring effort as had come from Bury.

In the next minute, Jackson brought the best out of Standen with a rising drive which the goal-keeper pushed over one-handed, and the corner was cleared.

Result:

LUTON 4
BURY 0