

BARTRAM'S GAMBLE PAYS OFF

—TURNER INSPIRES LUTON

Luton Town 5 Swansea Town 1: by **GRAHAM BUXTON**

LUTON'S many critics—one has only to look at the size of their crowds to realise just how many—were sceptical when manager Sam Bartram pitchforked Gordon Turner into this game less than seven weeks after the Luton veteran had a cartilage removed.

But Bartram's gamble was justified. Though limping at one stage, Turner made a fairy-tale return, scoring in the first minute and adding another in the second half.

A jubilant Bartram said afterwards: "Turner was superb—and he felt nothing from his knee. It was an attack of cramp that caused him to limp."

Mud-splattered Turner nodded cheerful agreement and there is no doubt that his personality and great experience brought life and smoothness of movement to what looked a distinctly homespun forward line.

Swansea chief Trevor Morris also took a gamble by switching Peter Donnelly into the middle, but he failed against the dour Terry Kelly.

The centre half stand-in for Ron Cope blotted out Donnelly despite badly bruising a cheekbone—it may be fractured—midway through the first half.

Gallant Kelly refused to let the injury worry him and the three Swansea inside men, lacking any sort of sparkle were snuffed right out of the game.

There was perhaps some excuse for Herbie Williams, a wing half looking as much out of position at inside right as was Luton's debutant Mark Lownds at inside left.

But Lownds at least had the consolation of crashing in his first

League goal a minute from the end.

In between that early goal from Turner and Lownds's effort came an unfortunate own-goal by Luton right back Brendan McNally in the 11th minute. But Swansea's jubilation at their luck was tempered six minutes from half-time.

Then Pacey, from 25 yards, crashed the ball first time past Noel Dwyer to give Luton a lead they never looked likely to surrender.

A couple of narrow escapes from fine attempts by Reg Davies apart, the second half belonged to Luton. In the space of five minutes came goals from Jim Fleming and Turner, and Swansea gave up.

Swansea had obvious problems, particularly in the middle, where Mel Nurse had a chasing from Turner. Both Griffiths and Peter Davies had their names taken by the referee for bad fouls, and the Swansea defence would do well to cut out some of their rough tackling and to pay more attention to providing adequate cover for Eire goalkeeper Dwyer, who was too often left unguarded.

It was a day of triumph for Luton and one which Turner will remember with great satisfaction.



Gordon Turner took less than a minute to put the Town well on the way to the biggest League win of the season at the expense of Swansea Town. Above (G8750X) that story-book goal