

DEFENCE WAS POWERFUL

If Leyton miss promotion, their fans will think back to a decision made by the referee seven minutes after half-time of a tense battle at Brisbane-road on Friday.

In an all-out raid, McDonald hooked the ball into the far corner of the net for what seemed to be a legitimate goal, but to the horror of the crowd of 21,292, the referee disallowed it on the ground of off-side against Dunmore, who was almost on the goal-line.

Once again, the Town defence carried a heavy burden, but Orient partly defeated themselves by their over-anxiety.

Their play was hall-marked by this fault, and although they had more of the play their lack of steadiness in front of goal let them down badly.

Even so, it required great saves by Standen to prevent McDonald and Graham from scoring, and Foster twice shot over when well positioned.

There was no weak link in the Town defence, with Kelly achieving a mastery in the middle and both McNally and Bramwell in command of the opposing wingers.

Pacey was always in the thick of it and Morton, who came in almost at the last minute for Groves, took his chance splendidly.

However, there was the same old story of lack of punch and constructive ability in the Town's front line, with the inside-forward trio being completely subdued.

If anyone were to cause any damage, it seemed most likely to be Fleming, who mostly had the measure of Charlton, but Clarke was provided with little workable material.