

LUTON OUTPLAYED, BUT SNATCH TWO GOALS

By Cliff Mitchell

FOR THE GAME with Luton Town at Ayresome Park this afternoon, Middlesbrough had to make a late change, Neville Chapman being drafted in at right-back in place of Mick McNeil, who did not recover in time from an attack of tonsillitis which has confined him to bed.

Luton, struggling at the foot of the table, made no fewer than five changes, though three of them were positional.

It was quite the coldest afternoon of the season so the crowd was no more than moderate at the start.

Neal lost the toss and Middlesbrough kicked off against a swirling, blustery wind.

Middlesbrough surged into the attack, Gibson collecting a fine through pass from Yeoman. The inside-right made progress, only to have his centre blocked.

PROMISING START

Borough were right on top in the early stages and Luton's left-back Bramwell prevented Kaye from cutting in only by means of a foul on the fringe of the penalty area.

Kaye himself took the free kick, goalkeeper Baynham saving at the second attempt.

Luton at last came into the picture as an attacking force, Yeoman neatly cutting out a pass that Davies intended for Turner.

But it brought only a brief respite. Luton kept up the attack, Lightning going high to collect a centre from Walden.

The clearance put Middlesbrough back on attack, Kaye trying to beat one man too many and losing possession.

Luton, having overcome an early period of uncertainty, had come much more into the picture, and Nurse did well to stop Turner from breaking through.

RUGBY TACKLE

When Peacock ran on to a glorious through pass from Gibson, the Luton centre-half, Peacock, grabbed him round the waist and forcibly prevented Borough's leader from moving—and the free-kick, of course, was cleared.

Luton went into a shock lead after 11 minutes by virtue of a very lucky goal.

When McGUFFIE shot from long range in the 11th minute, Lightning had the ball covered all the way until it struck the head of a defender and shot high into the net.

So, Borough, after having enjoyed so much of the play, found themselves a goal down—and, although it was a most unlucky affair altogether, it counted.

Bottom-of-the-table Luton, obviously heartened by this shock goal, attacked for a spell, but Borough took command again, only to find the luck right against them once again when Peacock sent Gibson away to centre across the goalmouth.

OUT OF LUCK

Orritt raced up and put in a first-time drive that hit the goalkeeper and rebounded to safety.

Orritt raised his arms in chagrin in an attitude which said plainly: "How unlucky can you get?"

Things looked hopeful when Peacock and Gibson cut through, but the Borough leader's final, overhead kick went straight to a defender.

Luton's goal bore a charmed life as Middlesbrough raged in for the equaliser.

A fierce Gibson drive was saved, then Baynham brilliantly cut a high cross from the inside-right.

Baynham saved a Peacock header, and then Neal, storming up in attack, had a close-range drive blocked almost on the line.

ANOTHER SHOCK

Then came another salutary shock for the crowd, Luton, after defending desperately for a long period, suddenly raided and scored again!

With Borough's defence at sea, McGuffie, on the left, slipped the ball through to TURNER, for the centre-forward to smack the ball past Lightning.

Borough still blazed away. Peacock put in a shot that hit the goalkeeper and rebounded for a corner; Gibson put in another strong drive that Baynham saved well; Hume cut in to bring Baynham to a diving save.

It continued to be one-way traffic, as it had been almost from the start—but Borough were two down.

Even when Baynham dropped the ball, as he did from a Hume cross, he grabbed it at the second attempt before Gibson could get his foot to it.

GLORIOUS CHANCE

Kaye wasted a wonderful chance through his insistence on trying to beat one man too many, while Gibson shot over the bar after a good move by Kaye and Orritt.

It was incredible that Luton should be leading by two goals after they had been outplayed so much.

A shot by Kaye flashed into the wide of the far upright. Borough just could not get the ball past Baynham.

On one occasion Peacock beat three defenders in a brilliant run through, only to finish with a close range drive that went straight into Baynham's grateful arms.

Seconds later a chance came to Gibson, who slammed the ball high over the top.

Borough had had large slices of the game, but there were a

THE TEAMS

MIDDLESBROUGH
Lightening
Chapman Jones
Yeoman Nurse Neal
Kaye Gibson Peacock Orritt Hume
0
Fleming Mettiffe Turner Davies Walden
Greaves Pace Morton
Bramwell McNally
Baynham
LUTON TOWN
Referee: Mr. L. J. Hamer (Bolton).

number of instances of bad finishing too. Half-time: MIDDLESBROUGH 0, LUTON 2.

So overcast was the sky the referee ordered the floodlights to be switched on at the start of the second half.

Borough's wretched luck continued. Peacock's close range shot hitting the goalkeeper and bouncing to safety and Neal having a fierce drive blocked.

Following a Kaye corner, the ball evaded every player, including the goalkeeper—but it was scrambled clear.

Borough's initial burst faded and when Luton came into the

ticked by and they just could not score.

Luton frequently had all their 11 players well back in defence, but their forwards were responsible for one or two breakaway raids—the type that succeeded so well in the first half!

The crowd, inevitably, was becoming restive now. Borough had certainly been out of luck in the earlier stages, but now there was too much inaccuracy about their work.

One move almost succeeded. Yeoman passing accurately enough to Gibson, whose first-time left-foot drive just wasn't good enough to beat Luton hero, Baynham.

Nurse did well to block a shot from Walden in a sudden Luton raid.

Nearest to a goal for Middlesbrough was when Hume bypassed a couple of defenders to finish with a strong left foot drive that hit the side netting.

WAITED IN VAIN

Nobody could possibly blame him for shooting, although it is a fact that Peacock was standing in the goalmouth waiting for a cross.

Hume had a wonderful chance when Peacock sent him through the middle. As Baynham advanced, the outside-left fired wide.

When the ball went into the crowd a spectator got hold of it and refused to return it to the field of play. He ran along the terrace with the ball in his arms and it was fully half a minute before play was restarted.

Peacock had a chance in the closing stages, and a minute later took the ball along the wing and centred, Baynham going low to smother the ball.

A Peacock header went wide and it was obvious now that Borough would not pull this game out of the fire.

Result:
MIDDLESBROUGH 0
LUTON 2



BAYNHAM, the Luton goalkeeper, safely collected the shot from Orritt (on left), in a Middlesbrough attack during this afternoon's match at Ayresome Park. (EO).

Orritt: 14 days suspension

THE FA disciplinary committee announced today that Bryan Orritt, the Middlesbrough and former Welsh Under-25 inside-forward, has been suspended for 14 days, to start on Monday, for kicking an opponent in Middlesbrough's home match against Swansea Town on October 13.

picture. Nurse had to head Fleming's dangerous cross away for a corner. Peacock headed high over the