

LEEDS CARRIED THE MORE PENETRATION

Town Hit The Woodwork, But Again Lacked Thrust

By CHILTERN

LEEDS UNITED 3, LUTON TOWN 0

EVEN though, according to those who have seen them regularly this season, Leeds played well below their known best, and I can believe it, otherwise they will have a rough time if they do reach the First Division, they still carried more penetrative power than the Town.

Luton manager, Bill Harvey, thought that his team had had more play in the midfield sense than has been the case in some recent away games and that was probably true, but the fact remains that this front line is not good enough.

For one thing there was not sufficient strength at inside-forward to cause the home defence real worry and the Town pair contrasted unfavourably with the cleverness of Collins and the thrustful purpose of Weston.

I know that Brennan was playing in his first away League game, but he is in the big time, and such comparisons must be made. In the other inside position, McGuffie again looked little more than a convert from wing-half and seemed to play in that sort of fashion.

Man for man, the Town forwards compared most unfavourably with those of Leeds—with one notable exception. Had Davies received the openings that came the way of Storrie, I am

gested that the local forecasts might come true. It was a crisp movement that left STORRIE in an open space after seven minutes and he safely steered the ball wide of Baynham.

Shortly afterwards, he had the ball in the net again, but from an offside position and then, following a corner, he missed his kick completely from a range of no more than eight yards.

With Davies fighting an almost lone, but for all that, effective battle, the Town hit back with some purpose for a while and from one of McGuffie's better passes, the centre-forward hit the outside of a post, something that Clapton also did afterwards.

At half time there was a bare goal in it, but those with experience of watching the Town over a period of away games this season were not all that optimistic.

So it turned out. A mistake by Baynham as he came out to cut off a centre by Collins, gave Weston a chance to increase the lead after 56 minutes, and although Clapton was unlucky with a shot that struck the bar, the Town never threatened to rally after that.

THIRD GOAL LOOKED OFFSIDE

Even so, a third goal against them in the dying seconds of the game was scarcely just, especially as STORRIE looked at least two yards offside when he moved on to a long clearance.

As is usual away these days, the defence put up a rugged enough display in the face of a fair amount of work. Daniel, who has taken his first-team chance splendidly, stood up to the menace carried by the speed of Johanneson exceptionally well, and Bramwell has now recovered much more consistent form than was the case earlier in the season.

Baynham's one serious mistake which cost the second goal was out of character, because he had been cutting out everything with rare confidence.

Kelly's task was not the easiest, but he battled away and, of the wing-halves, Morton was the more consistent, though Lownds improved after a disappointing start.

LEEDS UNITED: Sprake; Reaney, Hair; Bell, Charlton, Hunter; Henderson, Weston, Storrie, Collins, Johanneson.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Daniel, Bramwell; Morton, Kelly, Lownds; Clapton, Brennan, Davies, McGuffie, Lornie.

Referee: V. J. Batty, Helsby.
Attendance: 23,781.



Ron Davies

certain that he would have scored more than twice and that is not detracting from a lively display by the home team's Scottish leader.

While Lornie did a lot of running about, I cannot see that he has any real attribute for the left-wing position, and Clapton, while showing tinges of class when in possession of the ball, was not really going out of his way to look for it.

By Leeds reckoning, this was to be the slaughter of the innocents, but the early play did not suggest it, because United made a very tardy start.

Yet, in their very first effective raid, they went ahead which sug-