

Davies's Goals Began The Decline Of Charlton

By CHILTERN

LUTON TOWN 4, CHARLTON ATHLETIC 1

WHATEVER else the Town fans have had to complain about this season, and there has been plenty at times, there has been no shortage of goals at Kenilworth-road recently.

The four against Charlton on Saturday, brought their total to 26 in the last nine home games and that is a pretty fair average by any standard.

Keyed up to the urgency of the situation, the Town made no mistake against their relegation rivals who were a trifle fortunate to get away so lightly.

As is usual these days, DAVIES got into the act early with a well-taken goal in four minutes and, after that, the writing was on the wall for this moderate Charlton team.

In fact, they were fortunate not to be four down inside 20 minutes because some reasonable scoring chances went astray.

Not that it turned out to be vitally important because DAVIES struck again eight minutes from half-time, following a pass by Turner and the Town went in for the interval comfortably placed.

Their position was made even better nine minutes after the start of the second half when TURNER beat Kinsey in a duel or a through pass by Daniel and he inside-right crowned a satisfactory return to the team by smacking a 20 yards free kick past Reed after 73 minutes.

This final blow produced a brief, but strong reaction from Charlton, who reduced their arrears two minutes later after Bramwell had been penalised for a foul.

Kinsey pushed the ball to HEWIE whose shot went in off

the inside of a post, deceiving Baynham completely.

MORE SOUNDNESS IN DEFENCE

For the Town's second biggest crowd of the season, 10,867, this was quite an afternoon because they saw their team showing added soundness in defence, apart from scoring power in the front line.

The switching of Bramwell to left-half proved to be an inspired move because the former Everton left-back tightened up things no end in the middle of the field, tackling hard and distributing the ball well.

With Kelly having one of his best-ever games and Morton showing a continuance of his consistent form, the Town had a decided pull at half-back and there was never much scope for the Charlton inside men.

Nor did Daniel give Durandt, expensive signing from Wolves, the slightest chance to live up to his reputation and McNally, on his long awaited return to the side, put up a solid performance.

Behind them, Baynham was full of confidence and contributed his share to the victory with three brilliant saves during the second half.

Even though he had been out of training for most of the week, Davies was again the most dangerous forward, with Turner and Jardine next in line for honours.

McGuffie improved after a disappointing first half, but Clapton, good in possession of the ball, did not show a lot of determination.

LUTON TOWN. — Baynham; Daniel, McNally; Morton, Kelly, Bramwell; Clapton, Turner, Davies, McGuffie, Jardine.

CHARLTON ATHLETIC. — Reed; Sewell, Hewie; Lucas, Tocknell, Kinsey; Kenning, Matthews, Ryan, Peacock, Durandt.

Referee. — P. G. Brandwood, Wolverhampton.