

BAYNHAM DID MUCH TO EARN A POINT

Town Have Not Reached Full Potential Yet

By CHILTERN

READING 1, LUTON TOWN 1

THERE can be no doubt that the score-line flattered the Town who have not yet settled down to reveal their true potential, particularly in attack.

In the end, they owed, not for the first time by any means, a considerable debt to Baynham whose fine anticipation and skilful handling of the ball, did so much to earn them this valuable point.

What the Town are discovering by experience is that Third Division teams at home, though they might be short of the skill of those in Division II, never stop running or fighting, and it is going to need rather more polish than they are producing at the moment if the Town are to net a fair bag of away points.

There was just about a quarter of an hour at the end of the first half when the Town looked the class team they ought in this company, and, in fact, they were unlucky during that time not to have built up a winning lead.

SALISBURY, who had gained the Town's equaliser after 26 minutes with a low shot from

Pacey's pass that went wide of Dixon, crashed the ball against the bar.

During this spell Pacey saw a drive that seemed booked for the back of the net stopped by Spier's head, and at least twice the ball bounced awkwardly for Davies in front of goal.

It seemed as if Salisbury's success had restored the Town's confidence after a bad start, in which they went into arrears in the sixth minute.

Then, Walden, back in defence, committed a foul, and after Fincham had headed out the free kick, **KERR** was on hand to meet the ball on the volley, and crashed it with tremendous force just under the bar.

Baynham never had an earthly chance, but he made a series of good saves afterwards to keep the Town in the game. Then came the purple patch which promised much for the second half.

CAME ANTI-CLIMAX

Instead, there came complete anti-climax, because they faded out completely as an attacking force, and nearly all the pressure came from Reading, who were most unlucky on several occasions.

To some extent, the home team had themselves to blame because they missed some good chances, but the Town fought hard in defence, even though they had limitations in this department.

Fincham has not settled down yet, and it was noticeable that he was pulled out of position more often than he should be, something that might have had serious consequences but for good covering by Morton and Bramwell.

Both these players came through with great credit, and Bramwell more than earned his bonus by stopping three shots on the goal-line and being winded in the process.

Pacey did best when he allowed his flair for attack to have full rein, but his defensive work was not so strong as we expect from him, and Daniel had a fair game without reaching his best.

DISAPPOINTING FORWARDS

Forward, that one spell apart, it was sheer disappointment, with Walden and Davies, from whom much was expected this season, very much below par.

Davies never got out of the grip of Spiers, while Walden showed none of the speed and zip which put him in the big money class during last season.

There is obviously football ability in Salisbury, but, at the moment, he is taking too long in which to apply it, and Turner, after a fair first half, suffered in the general fade-out.

Jardine showed resource and fighting spirit, but much of it was neutralised by some atrocious finishing.

READING: Dixon; Neate, Meldrum; Evans, Spiers, Thornhill; Morris, Wheeler, Kerr, Shreeves, Allen.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; Daniel, Bramwell; Morton, Fincham, Pacey; Walden, Turner, Davies Salisbury, Jardine.

Referee: W. M. Holian, Chesterfield.

Attendance: 7,588.