

GOAL-SCORING ABILITY IS LACKING ^{63/64}

LUTON TOWN 1, BOURNEMOUTH 0

AT half-time Manager Bill Harvey, noting an improvement in the Town's play, also remarked, "You have got to get them in the 'tent' to win."

And that was about the whole story of this hard, tough encounter at Kenilworth-road this afternoon. The Town did not prove to be very adept at getting the ball in to the "tent" (or net), and it needed a penalty to make their quota of points to four in four days.

After Gordon Fincham's failure from the penalty spot on Wednesday, the job went to Gareth Salisbury, who made no mistake.

Although two points were safely gained, the Town still have problems to solve, and they are mainly in attack, where there is a crying need for more thrust in front of goal. For almost the whole of this match they were superior to their highly placed opponents, but the plain fact was that they seldom looked like beating a very good goalkeeper in Best.

At the same time, the Town Manager, in the dressing room afterwards, said that the same team would do duty at Port Vale on Monday, although there is some doubt about the fitness of Pacey, who received a painful crack on the knee.

Possibly there are reservations about the team in the mind of the Manager, depending on the outcome of today's scouting missions.

Defensively, the Town are now playing with considerable confidence and much of it stems from the marked improvement that has been shown by Fincham. He has now found the form which led him to be involved in two costly transfers, and he had pretty good control of the centre of the field. Only member of the defence to fall below standard was Lownds, who had a very moderate game indeed, and Pacey was easily the most accomplished wing-half on view.

Again Morton stood out and was in trouble just twice in the second half when he was beaten by Crickmore's speed. Bramwell did well, and Baynham was completely confident.

Forward it was a different story, with McKechnie earning top rating but again lacking the support that a centre-forward is entitled to expect. Fairchild was the more accomplished winger because Jardine again tended to run into trouble, and Weir, who looks as if he might fill in as inside-forward because of his ability to beat an opponent and his good distribution, was much more effective than Salisbury.

There was no disputing the fact that the Town deserved the points and one wondered how Bournemouth have managed to attain such a high position. Certainly they were tough and rough, but there was not a great deal to commend them from the football angle.

Attendance 6,361.