

TOWN ATTACK WAS BOGGED IN MUD

Hull Were In Command After Lucky First Goal

By CHILTERN

63/64

HULL CITY 2, LUTON TOWN 0

ANOTHER undistinguished forward display led to the Town losing on Saturday at Boothferry Park, a ground on which they have a good record in the past.

At one time during the morning, it seemed possible that they had made their second fruitless journey in five days because the Hull pitch was reported as waterlogged and in danger of being unfit for play.

Very heavy and with water on the top in many places, it certainly was, but the referee ruled that play should go on and these were conditions that did not seem to suit at all the Town attack.

Yet, in the early stages, they moved the ball about a good deal more expertly than was the case in the previous match, but there was never the suggestion of sufficient driving power and punch.

There could have been a different story if a header by O'Rourke had been a foot nearer to the goal but, truth to tell, that apart, goals to the Town did not look all that likely.

In fact, Baynham was always busier than was his counterpart, but there was nothing he could do about a lucky goal that fell to Hull 10 minutes from half-time.

A corner from the left was met by Chilton whose cross seemed destined to go across the goal. However, RAFFERTY was in the line of flight and the ball struck him to fly in a changed direction and into the back of the net.

From that point onward, the Town always seemed to be fighting a losing battle and the writing was clearly on the wall 10 minutes after half-time when HENDERSON increased the lead.

This was a more clear-cut affair because McSeveney made a hard, low drive to which Baynham got one hand without being able to prevent the ball running out to Henderson who made sure from close range.

After that, Hull were much in control, but there were some odd chances for the Town, such as when O'Rourke shot inches over, McKechnie was a fraction too late in making a shot from point-blank range and Reid missed an opportunity.

However, from the way things went, they could scarcely complain about the result because Hull were the stronger team and adapted themselves much more ably to the conditions.

Forward there was again far too much running with the ball, particularly on the part of McKechnie who was dispossessed all too frequently, while Reid made a very quiet return to the side.

His distribution was a mixture

of good and bad and there was not the support that O'Rourke, the most dangerous forward, deserved.

Early on, Whittaker looked as if he might accomplish something out of the ordinary, but he became tightly in the grip of Davidson, and with a better service, Walden might have been a menace, though again, he tended to carry the ball into the middle of the field.

Defensively, there could be marks all round, with Lownds and Bramwell, perhaps, earning the highest quota. Caleb put up a brave and effective display, despite a couple of hard knocks late in the first half, and Morton made quite an effective return though without being able to produce the drive of Pacey.

McBain, despite a tendency to give McSeveney too much room, came through capably and Baynham, given the captaincy for the day, made some splendid saves.

Had he not been in form, things could have gone worse for the Town, but conversely, had half chances been accepted, they could have been in a much better position.

HULL CITY: Swan; Davidson, Butler; Garvey, Milner, Simpkin; Chilton, Wilkinson, Rafferty, Henderson, McSeveney.

LUTON T.: Baynham; McBain, Bramwell; Morton, Caleb, Lownds; Walden, McKechnie, O'Rourke, Reid, Whittaker.

Referee: H. Richards, Oldham.