

Patchwork team drags season to a close

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By CHILTERN

LUTON TOWN 0, WORKINGTON 0

A SEASON that has been disappointing in the extreme from the Town point of view came to a dreary end at Kenilworth Road on Thursday evening when only 2,915 people took the trouble to watch the last match in the Third Division on this ground for a spell at least.

Because of injuries and illness, the Town fielded a patchwork sort of team with Jardine volunteering to try to fill the centre-forward vacancy and Edwards being given his first League outing at right-back

Had the Town possessed any power in attack, they could have won hands down against moderate opposition but, with opportunists Phillips and O'Rourke unfit, there was little threat in front of goal.

Indeed, the best scoring efforts by far came from Gibson, who was unlucky on two occasions early on and there seemed justifiable appeals for a penalty when Harber was pulled down by Ower.

HARBER MISSED A CHANCE

Harber should have scored just afterwards when a free kick by Gibson was deflected by a defender's head, but he was not decisive enough.

In their finishing, Working-ton were little better, and their defence looked suspect under pressure. Near half-time the Town were on top and Whittaker hit the outside of the near post.

After the interval, Working-ton looked a bit more lively and the thrusts of Napier caused some trouble to Tinsley. The goalkeeper was in magnificent form, however, and made several fine saves.

WHITTAKER OFF TARGET

Generally though, play was of a low standard with control of the lively ball never other than speculative and both teams missed chances.

Worst failure was that by Whittaker who, from right in front of goal, sliced the ball wide and then, immediately afterwards, crashed the ball just the wrong side of a post.

In the circumstances, it is difficult to rate individual performances, but Gibson, who was playing under the handicap of a damaged ankle was as good a player as the Town had, apart from Tinsley, and Reid did quite an effective covering job.

Obviously, young Edwards holds promise for the future and does try to use the ball, but there was a sketchy sort of performance from Bram-

well, and Fincham was bothered by Napier.

ATTACK DID NOT SHINE

Forward, the Town had little to commend them. Jardine seldom attempted to play as an orthodox centre-forward and this is an experiment that is unlikely to be repeated.

McKechnie spent most of the match running into trouble, and much the same applied to Rioch. While Harber showed a certain liveliness, he tended to hold on to the ball too long, and Whittaker's finishing was not accurate enough.

LUTON TOWN: Tinsley; Edwards, Bramwell; Gibson, Fincham, Reid; Harber, McKechnie, Jardine, Rioch, Whittaker.

WORKINGTON: Ower; Lumsden, Chapman; Hale, Brown, Burkinshaw; Lowes, Oliver, Napier, Moran, Butler.

Referee: D. A. Corbett, Essington.