

TOWN NEED NEW MEN IN ATTACK

65/66.

TORQUAY 2, LUTON TOWN 0

SO, the Town are still without an away point to show for their endeavours this season, and before they open their account away from home they will have to show improvement at least against opposition of the quality of Torquay, on the display they gave at Plainmoor this afternoon.

They were beaten fairly and squarely by a much more capable and better organised team, who, if they had made the fullest use of their chances, could have won a good deal more easily.

The shape of things to come was seen in the early minutes, when Torquay, with more steadiness in front of goal, might well have put themselves in an unassailable position.

For the Town, it was one long struggle against a better organised team which used the ball to more effect and who found each other accurately.

It was not a good day for Town's defence, but I am still certain that the underlying problems facing the Town lie in the attack. Four away games, including the League Cup-tie at Brighton, have produced only one goal.

Of course the Town have been badly hit by injuries, but there was no recognisable pattern about the forward line today.

They began with Gibson in the middle, then tried Riddick there with Gibson on the wing, and Stark also appeared there for a short spell.

But, the underlying weakness was a lack of cohesion. Too many passes used to make little progress, and their shooting was from too long a range to bother the capable Adlington.

Individually, there were some bright spots, with Stark looking as if he will be useful.

Defensively much of the trouble was caused by the inability of Thomson to come to firm grips with King, an 18-year-old of high potential, who was allowed by Cardiff to go at the end of last season.

Another threat came down the middle, where Northcott was generally too experienced for Rivers.

Moore got through a tremendous amount of work, and one had to admire Edwards for the way he stuck to the highly experienced Kirkman, though possibly a little more constructive ability at wing-half would bring improvement.

Jardine had a fair game, and Tinsley pulled off some fine saves.

Town badly need re-inforcement, especially in attack, and most urgently on the wings and in the middle.