

REPAIRED SOME OF MID-WEEK DAMAGE

Town Carried Too Many Guns For Plymouth

By CHILTERN

LUTON TOWN 3, PLYMOUTH ARGYLE 0

SOME of the damage caused by the home defeat by Cardiff in mid-week was repaired at Kenilworth-road on Saturday when the Town had a comfortable win over Plymouth, despite the fact that they had to field a forward line that, on paper, looked a utility affair.

However, the forwards did their job and, with real luck, might have had more goals, even though it took Pacey to show them how to get the ball into the net.

A rather dull first half was drawing to a close with no prospect of a goal coming when, with a minute left, PACEY picked up a pass by McGuffie and let fly from just outside the penalty area.

From the time the ball left his foot, the shot was a winner and Leiper scarcely had time to move before it thudded past him.

Nor could he do anything about a drive from BRENNAN three minutes after half-time when the young inside-right, in only his second League game, took a pass from Davies and rounded Newman.

Earlier, Brennan had forced Leiper to make a brilliant save and he was out of luck with another drive that the goalkeeper managed to push on to the post.

After these successes, the Town were on top and DAVIES obtained the third goal after 61 minutes when he fastened on to a pass by McGuffie and although he half lost the ball, kept going determinedly before leaving Leiper helpless.

WENT BACK ON DEFENSIVE

Towards the end, there was a noticeable tendency on the part of the Town to concentrate on defence and although this had the effect of putting Plymouth more in the game than they had been, there was not a great deal of danger.

What there was usually came from McParland when he went looking for the ball in the centre-forward position but, by and large, the Town defence was in thoroughly capable form and Plymouth made their task easier by overmuch use of the square and even the back pass.

In the closing stages, Baynham made two or three good saves, including one from Bruce, and he knocked back a finger in pushing the ball over the bar.

Kelly was never in any sort of trouble against an inexperienced centre-forward and well-known inside-forwards like McAnearney and O'Neill, seldom got out of the grip of Morton and Pacey,

both of whom were in commanding form.

Both Daniel and Bramwell played consistently and the former had a lot less trouble with the Irish International, McParland, than had been expected.

McGUFFIE DID HIS SHARE

In attack, there was rather more constructive ability than has been the case in some recent matches, with raids building up from midfield and McGuffie did his share in this respect with some well-judged passes.

Again, the lively Davies was the main danger man, with his dash allied to some excellent footwork and he kept the line moving smoothly.

Nor can there be anything but praise for the way in which Brennan has taken his first chances in senior football and the quality of his two displays in the department where the Town are weakest — inside-forward — must have given the club fresh hope for the future.

The query about the front line affected the wingers because Clapton was obviously badly in need of match practice, though he made clever use of the ball, but Riddick, though he obviously has ability, was not a success on the wing.

LUTON TOWN. — Baynham; Daniel, Bramwell; Morton, Kelly, Pacey; Clapton, Brennan, Davies, McGuffie, Riddick.

PLYMOUTH ARGYLE. — Leiper; Reeves, Davis; Williams, Newman, Buckingham; Bruce, McAnearney, Trebilcock, O'Neill, McParland.

Referee.—J. E. Cooke, Cambridgeshire. Attendance.—6,937.

WHAT THE OTHER CRITICS SAID

"Clumsy Argyle were sent spinning when a desperate Luton realised in the second half that the much-needed points were going begging.

"An erratic first half was brightened only in the last minute by a goal from Dave Pacey 25 yards out which gave goalkeeper John Leiper no chance. From looking a side with relegation worry, Luton played the second half almost in a fury, inspired by the energetic thrusting of Ron Davies."—"The People."

"On this form, Davies must be destined for Welsh international honours. If only other Luton players can capture even some of his spirit they could still cause an upset in the relegation stakes.

"Once Dave Pacey had shot them into the lead just before the interval, there was no doubting Luton's superiority over the strong Plymouth side."—"Sunday Mirror."

"For 44 minutes of the first half, one would have thought there was nothing on the result. Luton, with a makeshift forward line, showed a lack of urgency that was disturbing.

Great efforts by Davies, surely the most improved centre-forward in the Second Division, and young Brennan, who looks a great player in the making, failed to improve their position. Then came Pacey with a great drive from 20 yards out to put Luton ahead a minute from half time. From then onwards they never looked back and Brennan and Davies made it 3-0."—"Sunday Telegraph."