

New Power In Attack Earns Town A Point

By CHILTERN

SOUTHAMPTON 2, LUTON TOWN 2

AFTER a tentative first half, Luton Town showed marked improvement at Southampton last night. With McGuffie out through injury, there was a return to an orthodox attack, which looked much more potent than at Bury.

There is still room for improvement in the finishing, otherwise the Town would have left The Dell with both points.

It was good to see the forwards in more venturesome mood. There are still limitations at inside-forward, but Goldie had every reason to be pleased with his performance. He was full of promise.

There was added liveliness on the wings, particularly from Walden. Considering the goal-getting reputation of the Southampton forwards, the Town defence did a staunch job; there is little to worry about in this department.

Much of the Town's improvement came from Morton and Pacey being given more scope for attack. The forwards benefited from the extra support.

The Town thoroughly deserved a point on their second-half showing. It was more than had been expected, and must have been a pleasant surprise to new manager Bill Harvey.

SOUTHAMPTON: Godfrey; Patrick, Traynor; White, Knapp, Huxford; Paine, O'Brien, Reeves, Clifton, Sydenham.

LUTON TOWN: Baynham; McNally, Bramwell; Morton, Kelly, Pacey; Walden, Turner, Goldie, Lornie, Fleming.

Referee: S. Yates, of Bristol.

In a bright start the Town looked dangerous, but their finishing showed little accuracy. In quick succession Turner headed over, Lornie shot too high, and Pacey pulled the ball wide from a good position.

Baynham's first serious test came when Reeves, from what seemed to be an offside position, went in and fired a low drive from an oblique angle.

Best move the game had produced came in the 12th minute when Walden and Turner collaborated and the tall Goldie, making his League debut, emphasised his value in the air by getting above Knapp, but he headed the winger's centre just too high.

SOUTHAMPTON PRESSURE

O'Brien nearly forced his way through the Town defence and then missed a great chance when, from a pass by Clifton and with only Baynham to beat, he pulled the ball wide.

For a short spell the Southampton pressure continued and Baynham made a great save from Reeves.

With 25 minutes gone, Southampton took the lead through REEVES following a centre by Paine. The winger seemed to have lost his chance of getting the ball into the middle through trying to beat Bramwell twice, but he was lucky, and the ball, deflected en route, came across, and Reeves, almost on the goal-line, headed past Baynham.

This had a tonic effect on Southampton, and there was something approaching panic in the Town defence when a hard low centre by Sydenham cannoned out of Baynham's hands. Kelly kicked away desperately.

Then Pacey got in the way of a power drive by O'Brien, and Baynham won applause by coming right out to the penalty spot to catch a centre by Sydenham in a spectacular way.

Just before half-time the Town launched a heavy attack which

How The Goals Came

REEVES for Southampton after 25 minutes.

PACEY for Luton after 56 minutes.

FLEMING for Luton after 65 minutes.

O'BRIEN for Southampton after 69 minutes.

had Southampton worried, but Walden just missed the far post.

The best effort for the Town came from Morton, who collected the ball in midfield and took it to within 25 yards of the goal before letting drive and sending the ball a foot too high, with Godfrey groping. Half-time:

SOUTHAMPTON		1
LUTON TOWN		0

First incident of the second half was a free kick when Knapp pushed Goldie. Then a shot by Fleming was deflected for a corner. Walden lobbed the ball across and from eight yards Turner, taking it on the volley, sent it roaring yards over the bar. This is the sort of chance Turner used to swallow with ease.

He tried to atone with a drive from his favourite angle, and it whistled just past the far post.

TOWN MAKE A COMEBACK

The Town had improved considerably, and they were duly rewarded in the 56th minute when PACEY equalised. He took the ball to within 20 yards of goal before letting loose a rising drive that struck Patrick and was deflected out of Godfrey's reach.

Traynor had his name taken and the referee also appeared to book McNally for the same incident. Yet no-one could call this a rough game.

Goldie made two good efforts, then O'Brien got the ball into the net for Southampton, but the goal was disallowed for hands.

TWO QUICK GOALS

With 65 minutes gone, the Town went ahead when FLEMING intercepted a back pass by Knapp and trickled the ball past Godfrey.

Four minutes later O'BRIEN put Southampton level by beating Baynham with a strong drive.

Next Goldie raced on to a through pass and his final shot struck Godfrey to go for a corner. Pacey, off the field with a damaged shin, came back just in time to help drive off a heavy Southampton raid.

The Town were out of luck when Walden raced in with the ball at his feet, beat Godfrey with a low drive—and saw the ball hit the foot of a post.

Just before the end Turner headed inches over from a centre by Walden, and hurt himself, but not seriously.

Attendance: 14,863.