

END WAS A RELIEF

No Excitement At Luton

Luton Town1 Southend Utd. ...0

AN hour would have been quite enough for the players and probably for the spectators, for shortly after the interval it was evident the scorching sun had taken toll of energy.

Payne scored the only goal—an opportunist header—just before half-time, but scarcely a forward on either side lived up to his name.

CHANCE MISSED

Passing was inaccurate and shooting was wild, and Graham, the Southend leader, missed a golden chance by crashing the ball against the bar when a tap would have served.

So all the good play was in defence, and here the two Nelsons, Jack for Luton and Jim for Southend, were the principals. Both played spoiling football. Mackey and Smith were good backs for Luton, and for Southend Carr and Turner at half were outstanding and Bolan a dangerous forward.

THE heat was so intense at Luton that a third of the spectators were jacketless and hatless, and the just among them acknowledged that they could not expect

Luton Town 1

Southend U.. 0

to see better football in such conditions.

After a milling start in which Luton almost dominated the game, both teams

showed something like wooden legs, and only the wingers could raise a gallop in the last 20 minutes.

Payne scored the goal just before half-time, but did little else, nor for that matter did any of the forwards of either side. The half-backs and backs were simply rugged stoppers for most of the time, and how to keep the lively ball down was a problem they could not solve.

There was a Nelson on either side, and it was well that each was at his best to cover up many holes that appeared. Jack Nelson's game for Luton was brilliant, and Jim Nelson's for Southend was less spectacular, but useful.

Defenders Shine at Luton

Luton 1 Southend Utd. 0

After a first-class start both teams became so weary that the second half faded out with neither side able to raise anything like a combined movement.

There were not half-a-dozen good shots during the game, and the reason that Southend did not gain a point was because their centre-forward, Graham, struck the cross-bar when he had the best chance of the game.

Payne made the most of a half-chance, for following a corner kick just before change of ends he dashed among the defenders and headed home beautifully.

Forward work on either side was poor, but as a line the visitors were the better, being nippier and positioning so much better.

All the defenders played finely, and none better than the two Nelsons, the captains. Jack Nelson saved his side again and again in the second half, and in the first period Jim Nelson nullified many efforts by Luton's left wing, at that stage the best wing on the field.

Mackey and Smith were sound at back also, and on the Southend side Turner was a sturdy pivot, and both Deacon and Carr did clever constructive work.

Luton: Dolman; Mackey, Smith; Finlayson, Nelson, Godfrey; Crompton Lutterloch Payne Roberts, Stephenson

Southend: McKenzie; Nelson, Everest; Deacon, Turner, Carr; Bolan, Firth, Graham, Egan Willshaw.