

Luton 1, Boscombe 0

LUTON, playing an all-attacking forward line, won a valuable victory over a team that is not the least flattered by their exalted position.

These men from the South Coast provided their rivals with the most severe problem they have experienced on their own ground this season.

Nelson's

Fine

Part

In

Luton

Victory

Had, however, Luton lost, or even conceded a point, it would not have been altogether equitable, for there was hardly a weakness anywhere in the team, although Stephenson, their talented extreme left-winger, faded out of the picture as the game advanced.

"Joe" Payne, the local hero, although heading the only goal of the game after seven minutes, and otherwise playing well in an inside position for once in a way did not carry off the honours.

These were divided on the Luton side by Fellowes, MacKey and Nelson, the three outstanding members of an impregnable defence, and it will be a long time before the display of this trio is forgotten by a crowd that, drenched to the skin with a driving rain, revelled in every moment of the struggle.

These Three

Fellowes was the artist, MacKey, an uncompromising obstructionist, and Nelson a far-striding athlete, whose speed and wonderful intuition enabled him to take the risks necessary in a pivot in these days, if all those in front of him are to concentrate on attack.

The elimination of the inside forward as a unit in the defensive scheme can only be adopted when a team possesses such a player as Nelson, and while he is in his present form Luton will be well advised to continue their present methods.

It is promotion-winning football they are playing, and against a less well organised defence than that advanced by Boscombe it would have been overwhelmingly successful, apart altogether from the frittering away by Roberts and Stephenson of supremely easy chances.

This defence of Boscombe was admirable, with King, Pincott and Lawrence outstanding, and the display of the last named, the old Welsh international, who was once with Clapton Orient, was one of the best features of a game in which the standard of play reached a high level.

Luton.—Coen; Mackey, Smith; Finlayson, Nelson, Fellowes; Hodge, Payne, Ball, Roberts, Stephenson.

Boscombe.—Mellors; King, Bellis; Smith, Pincott, Lawrence; Burns, Whittam, Riley, Chalmers, Parris.