

BLOW FOR LUTON

Southend Find Inspiration

By W. W. BOUCHIER

Southend Utd. ...3 Luton Town0
(Attendance 12,000)

AFTER a first half in which Luton had promised to make a great fight for the points, Southend produced the fastest and cleverest football they have shown this season.

So much did they dominate the game that defenders who have greatly impressed me in previous games became badly rattled and at times were reduced to kicking the ball anywhere.

The trouble started on their right flank, where Mackey was unable to hold Oswald, playing a great game. In the middle Lane, showing tremendous dash, combined effectively with Dickenson and so worried Nelson and Smith that Bird was enabled to come more into the play than in any previous game.

HARRIS PLEASES

Harris, playing his first League game at right half, did remarkably well and the home three were superior to the Luton line. Turner almost blotted Payne out of the match and, while Dawes did many good things, the Luton line as a whole never got into its stride or worked with the usual smoothness.

Largely that was because an inspired Southend team kept their half-backs almost constantly on the defensive after the interval and Fellowes and Finlayson, usually great in attack, had to spend their time helping an overworked defence.

Lane, Dickenson, and Goddard got the goals and each rewarded fine combined play.

Everest, the home full-back, returning to the game after weeks of absence due to pulled muscles, had the bad luck to fracture a rib against Boscombe on Christmas Day and will have to take another longish rest.

Southend United.—Mackenzie; Nelson, Robinson; Harris, Turner, Spelman; Bird, Lane, Dickenson, Goddard, Oswald

Luton Town.—Dolman; Mackey, Smith; Finlayson, Nelson, Fellowes; Rich, Roberts, Payne, Stevens