

Luton Make Rings Round Millwall

LONG SHOTS THAT TOOK BURKE UNAWARES

BY A. J. WEBB

Luton Town 5, Millwall 0

FOR one brief period at the start Millwall were the more impressive team, but as soon as Stephenson, Roberts and Fellowes had got into their stride the result was never in doubt.

Cup comparisons became quite the topic, and when you realise that Luton, playing infinitely better than they did against Millwall, could only draw with Sunderland, you get some idea of Millwall's chance of beating the champions in the semi-final.

Mangnall was not playing, and Steele led the attack with Burdett inside-right and Thomas on the wing, and the line generally made a poor showing against the icy confidence of King, Nelson and Smith.

DEFENSIVE WEAKNESS

The Luton wing-halves were able to keep well up with their forwards, and the Millwall rearguard did not come out of the struggle with any too much credit. In fact, defence was Millwall's greatest weakness.

Wallbanks, at one time, looked as if he had Payne in his pocket but the Luton leader soon found ways and means of avoiding him with the result that in the second half Payne was able to give a superb display of constructive passing.

Nelson, too, did great work without having

to unduly exert himself. His passes were models of accuracy, while Stephenson and Roberts, with Fellowes backing them up manfully, were in their best form.

Clever work by Stephenson led to Hancock scoring the first goal, although it was Roberts who eventually gave the pass across the goal-mouth from which the score accrued.

Five minutes after the interval Roberts fired in a great shot from outside the penalty area that took Burke completely by surprise, and then the Millwall goal had a series of miraculous escapes before Smith handled Stephenson's shot. Payne took the penalty and scored after Burke had fluted out the spot-kick.

BEST OF MATCH

Stephenson got the fourth goal—the best of the match. Smith sent out a long clearing kick right to Payne's head from where it was deflected to the unmarked winger. Stephenson lost no time in wondering whether he was offside or not but tore in to leave Burke helpless.

Shortly afterwards Forsyth went off for attention and during his absence Finlayson emulated Roberts' feat by scoring from about 20 yards.

Millwall made a desperate effort to reduce arrears in the last ten minutes but left little impression on a solid defence. They ended with only ten men, Inna going off near the end with a twisted ankle.

Luton.—Doiman; King, Smith; Finlayson, Nelson, Fellowes; Hancock, Rich, Payne, Roberts, Stephenson.

Millwall.—Burke; Smith, Inna; Day, Wallbanks, Forsyth; Thomas, Burdett, Steele, McCartney, Smith (J. R.).