

LUTON MISSED PAYNE

UNABLE TO HOLD LEAD

Stockport County 2, Luton Town 1.

STOCKPORT COUNTY celebrated their return to the Second Division after eleven years absence by beating Luton after being a goal behind.

Luton, handicapped by the absence of Payne, their brilliant centre forward, who was taken ill on the journey to Stockport, played a grand game against a forceful Stockport side, although their lead was hardly deserved, for McDonough somehow failed to clear a shot and Dawes slipped in to score an easy goal.

Twelve minutes later, however, the ever-trying Stockport were on level terms.

Mantle worked the move, and Snaile had only to tap the ball in. This piece of good work was crowned by the winning goal from Oxley four minutes from the end, when the winger spurred forward and beat Coen, whose luck for once failed to hold good.

The halves, notably Titterington and Steel, dominated the game, and gave their forwards many scoring chances.

Nelson, the tall Luton centre-half and captain, was an outstanding performer, and he frequently had the Stockport forwards well beaten, although Mantle led his line thoroughly.

Kennedy, the only new player in the Stockport side, made a good impression in the front line.