

ONE POINT FROM THREE GAMES

Finnicking Forwards And Shaky Defence

(By CRUSADER)

Luton Town have gathered one point of a possible six from their Easter programme. That way lies relegation, but there is still a splendid chance of escape provided the team can rise to the occasion in the next two home games.

Play will have to be sharpened up considerably, however, if Swansea and Newcastle are to be defeated, and one hardly dare hope for success in the other engagement at Norwich.

In none of the three games played this Eastertide has the team played up to the standard required. At Nottingham on Friday the defence did very well indeed, but was shaky and unreliable at Fulham on Saturday, and very little better in the home game on Easter Monday.

Difference between the Town defence and others is the quality of the covering up and the ability to recover among the halves—the faculty of perpetual motion such as was shown by the Forest half-backs, who never ceased from fighting for the ball.

Nevertheless, the chief blame for losses must be placed with the forwards, and especially the inside forwards, who could work the ball through again and again and then fail badly. Lack of thrust and thoroughness and of finishing power generally were the deplorable features, and these must be remedied if the Club is to escape relegation.

Individual criticism must be discounted at this time, but if the distinctions must be made, Coen on Friday, Dolman on Monday, Nelson in all games and Stephenson should be exempt from criticism, because they showed the right spirit and reached a standard which, if not too good for the Second Division, was certainly good enough to win matches.

AT LUTON

LUTON TOWN 2

Vinall, Finlayson

NOTTS. FOREST 2

Brown, McNaughton

LUTON.—Dolman; King, Smith; Finlayson, Nelson, Fellowes; Ferguson, Connelly, Vinall, Roberts, Stephenson.

NOTTS. FOREST. — Todd; Trim, Munro; Davies, Graham, Baxter; Betts, McNaughton, Burgh, Surtees, Brown.

Referee: Mr G. Hamilton-Jones, Woolwich.

Return game with Notts. Forest accentuated the disappointment of the Luton supporters. The Town team was unstable in defence and attack, but it was again the deficiencies of the forwards that was mainly responsible for dropping of another point.

Lack of thrust in front of goal following periods of severe pressure was the chief fault, and the inside men could not make accurate shots even when they had

lucky, and with Todd giving a fine display in goal the inept efforts of the Town inside forwards were of little avail.

VINALL scored a nice goal following good work on the left wing, but a very open defence left BROWN with a chance to equalise with a glorious shot shortly before the change of ends.

The Town again did by far the more attacking in the second period, and took the lead through FINLAYSON, who, following up an attack met the ball as it rebounded from an opponent following a freekick and scored with a grand first time shot.

With five minutes to go Forest equalised, and there was a similarity to Finlayson's goal, inasmuch as a hard drive rebounded from Smith and went direct to McNAUGHTON who gave Dolman no chance.