

Arsenal crash to Allan Brown

57/58.

Luton Town 4, Arsenal 0.

By RALPH HADLEY

TOAST of Luton? It's Allan Brown, of course. Yes, the man who got the last-minute equaliser against Manchester United on Boxing Day was on the job again yesterday with three more goals.

Arsenal made the first attack. But what a groan went up from their supporters when David Herd, with only the goalkeeper in

front of him, fired the ball wide.

Then Allan went into action. Out on the left George McLeod beat Stan Charlton and centred.

A panic-stricken Arsenal defender shoved the ball half-heartedly away—straight to John Groves. He switched it neatly to Brown.

And Allan couldn't do anything else but score with his close-in left-foot shot.

The old firm of McLeod and Brown were at it again seven minutes later. McLeod forced a corner and took it. Groves headed for goal and all Kelsey could do with the ball was to tip it up against the crossbar.

In nipped Brown for his second.

That made a Luton lead of 2—0 at half-time. And just a few seconds before the final whistle Brown got his third and Luton's fourth.

Bill Dodgin, the Arsenal centre-half, just couldn't cope with this tough, fast-thinking footballer. Neither, in the first half, could Charlton make anything at all of McLeod.

Fine angle

It was only when Stan was injured soon after the interval and Cliff Holton was switched to full-back that the threat from Luton's left-wing was half-silenced.

Praise, too, for those superb Luton half-backs—Bob Morton especially.

Bob got the ball from Groves, forced his way through and then shot from a fine angle on the left. The ball, unluckily, crashed against the underside of the cross-bar.

Later on both Morton and Pearce sent in superb long shots which just skimmed over the bar.

No complaints against Arsenal from the fighting point of view. Nobody on the field tried harder than Vic Groves.

But the forwards failed dismally to accept the chances that came their way when the Luton backs faltered.

As for the defence—well it just wasn't anything as good as it used to be in the famous Arsenal days.

* MERIT MARKS (max. 10 pts.).

— Luton 9, Arsenal 6; referee, Mr. G. H. McCabe (Sheffield), 9.