

Glum Denis says,

'Fancy scoring 7 and then losing'

By STRATTON SMITH: Luton 3 Manchester City 1
(... But on abandoned goals Luton 'lost' 5-7)

★ **D**ENIS LAW, the £53,000 Manchester City wonder man, walked off Luton's chewing-gum pitch sad and forgotten.

The delirious home fans who had marvelled at six-goal Law on Saturday were now too busy acclaiming their heroes, the men who had pulled off the most remarkable Cup triumph for years.

Luton, the side reprieved by the referee on Saturday when trailing 6-2 after 69 minutes, had stormed back from the Cup dead to snatch a glorious victory.

No wonder Law slumped in the dressing-room and said: "I'm terribly disappointed. Fancy scoring seven goals and then being on the losing side. I could not really get going today on the sticky mud. I preferred it on Saturday. At least the ball would move then."

Triumph for Morton

But if this tie was a tragedy for Law and the City slickers what a triumph it was for Bob Morton, the forgotten man of Luton.

On Saturday he watched the game from the reserve bench. On Monday he was almost transferred to Preston.

On Tuesday he was given the tame-Law job and made skipper.

On Tuesday night he went to bed with pains in his stomach and all the symptoms of flu.

"But when I woke up the pains had gone," said Morton.

How well he tamed Law. How well he disciplined the defence so that manager Sam Bartram's battle orders could be followed.

"I decided the man to watch was George Hannah. Cut out Hannah, and you have Law by the scruff of the neck," explained Bartram. "John Groves gave Hannah hardly a kick today."

Manchester City can't complain. True—skipper Ken Barnes had groin trouble after 20 minutes, and finished the match at outside right. But he played the ball so often he could not be called a passenger.

Astonishingly, as on Saturday, Luton were two goals up in 22 minutes. And again Alex Ashworth scored the first, after a bad clearance out of City's defence.

Fleming No. 2

True to the run of play, Jimmy Fleming scored the second—after Ashworth had outpaced David Shawcross, and passed to Fleming by way of Bert Trautmann's outflung body.

From the second goal, the script should have been picked up by Law. He did score just on half-time—chasing in a shot from Joe Hayes that had already beaten Jim Standen.

But City's chance, such as it was, dissolved in the 66th minute when Ashworth scored Luton's third.

What of Morton's transfer now? "I've served Luton for 15 years, and I don't want to play for any other team," said the merry Morton.

Luton.—Standen; Dunne, Bramwell; Morton, Kelly, Groves; Noake, Ashworth; Turner, McGuffie, Fleming.

Manchester City.—Trautmann; Leivers, Betts; Barnes, Plenderleith, Shawcross; Barlow, Hannah, Baker, Law, Hayes.