

TO TAKE CUE FROM HANNAH

62/63 (FLC)

By RONALD CROWTHER

Manchester C. 1, Luton T. 0

ON the strength of their slender win against lowly Luton, Manchester City line up in the quarter-final of the League Cup—but there was neither glamour nor glory about last night's scrambling Maine-road performance.

A flash of first-half inspiration by canny little George Hannah opened up the way for the only goal by Alex Harley after 34 minutes, but his example failed to catch on.

With any pretensions at all to effective finishing, City should have been at least three goals up in the first 10 minutes, but Dave Wagstaffe and Peter Dobing fluffed a couple of early chances and Young missed an even easier one.

Flare-up

Not surprisingly, after their early escapes the Luton defence grew in confidence to the point at which one wondered how any side with such sound wing-halves as Bob Morton and John Groves and a goalkeeper of the calibre of Baynham could manage to hit the bottom rung of the Second Division.

A first-half flare-up between Wagstaffe and Luton right-back Brendan McNally came dangerously near to developing into a vendetta. Tempers were still on the boil in the later stages and Luton's Harry Walden got himself booked.

Into the book also went the name of John Bramwell after the Luton left back had aired his opinion about a dubious second-half penalty award for "hands."

Brilliant Baynham saved Harley's spot kick and that wasn't his only fine save of the night. But there were also two grand efforts by City's Harry Dowd.

Manchester City.—Dowd; Kennedy, Sear, Benson, Leivers, Oakes; Young, Dobing, Harley, Hannah, Wagstaffe.

Luton Town.—Baynham; McNally, Bramwell; Morton, Pacey, Groves, Walden; McKechnie, Turner, McGuffie, Fleming.