

THIS IS NOT PROMOTION FORM

YORK CITY 1, LUTON TOWN 1

THE Town can be well satisfied with their point from York this afternoon because there was a stage in the second half when it looked as if even this half-success would be well beyond them. They were trailing a goal down, with apparently not much hope of drawing level, when, with 17 minutes left, one of the many free kicks in this scrambling game, led to Allen equalising to produce a result that at least keeps the Town in touch with the promotion hunt.

I must underline, however, that this was a long way from true promotion form, and York are doubtless feeling aggrieved that they did not register the victory that they certainly earned.

The Town never produced anything approaching their real ability, and from start to finish they gave a rather muddled display. Much may have been due to the spoiling tactics adopted by York from the start, for the Town's attack was thrown out of gear completely.

For some reason or other, this was a completely untidy game, with the referee playing almost a solo on his whistle, awarding free kicks for fouls left, right and centre. Yet, there was nothing of a particularly vicious nature about it all, and the fact that Branstons had his name taken was more for dissenting at decisions, mostly against himself, than for anything else.

Even so, he was one of the few Town players to add to his reputation.

That York were limited to only one goal, was more through their own failings to finish well and to some fine saves by Read, than to anything else. In fact, Read saved the day almost at the end, when everything seemed lost.

One of the Town's problems was that they could not quieten the home wingers, particularly Provan, on whom Dougan failed signally to take a grip, and Jardine was not altogether happy against Horrey.

Nor was the Town's midfield build-up materially better than of late, though Slough worked hard, and there was some useful covering by Moore.

Rioch was closely marked and the dual spearhead of Allen and Green was usually a blunt affair.

Walker, the York goalkeeper, was probably the least busy player on the field.

The Town, in fact, were fortunate to collect their third consecutive draw. Attendance: 2,544.