

Glory for substitute Townend

By *PHILIP EVANS*

Hillingdon 2, Luton 1

A TYPICAL Cup-tie, you might think. The League side's humbling caused by the cramped, bumpy pitch, the partisan crowd and the fact that their minds were really on their Third Division promotion prospects. That is the immediate reaction and it is totally wrong.

Inspired by their ageless player-manager Jimmy Langley—he's 40 actually—the taxi-drivers, storemen and window cleaners earned their chance of meeting a First Division club in the F.A. Cup with a display many a League side would envy.

They had fewer chances than Luton, but took them gratefully and defended resolutely. Ultimately, it was a triumph for the pupil over the tutor. A point Alec Stock, the Luton manager, must have been thinking ruefully when the crowd invaded the pitch at full-time. It was Stock, then the Q.P.R. manager, who took Langley from Fulham, replenished his confidence and later advised him to take up management.

MORE DANGEROUS

At the start, though, it seemed an easy task for Luton. French sent over a free kick from the left and Tees towered above the defence to head in a completely orthodox goal. But it wasn't at all easy for Luton, hustled out of their stride and unable to stamp a pattern on the game despite Collins promptings.

Langley brought on Townend for Carter after only 25 minutes and Hillingdon began to look more dangerous. Just before the interval Reeve picked up a loose clearance and drove home the equaliser.

After the break, with Langley urging the team on from the left-back position, Hillingdon maintained their momentum, which culminated in Townend scoring the winner through the 'keepers' legs in the 53rd minute.

Luton, shed of the poise and control which has taken them to the top of the Third Division, subbed Harrison for MacDonald and created three chances in a furious ending—two cleared off the line and Tees hit the post.