

70/71 KEEN LIFTS LUTON

By **HOWARD FABIAN**

Watford 0, Luton T. 1

WITH Luton going strong for promotion and Watford needing the points to climb to a safer position in Division Two, this had all the ingredients of a thrilling encounter. As it was, Watford's biggest crowd of the season, 24,456, saw a disappointing match.

Luton won the points doggedly rather than majestically, and in the closing stages there were signs of panic in their defence as they struggled to check the eager, but unsubtle, Watford attacks.

Luton appeared to withdraw into defence in the second half, which was a pity, for Jimmy Ryan had a fine match, and MacDonald, when supported by Keen and Court, was always dangerous.

Watford, with Scullion skilful but over-elaborate, fought hard and if Walley had made the most of his chances that came his way the result could have been different.

Read saves well

The all-important goal came after 28 minutes. Following three successive Watford corners Luton broke away and forced a corner. From Jimmy Ryan's kick Keen headed perfectly into the top corner.

In a second half in which Watford had more of the play, Welbourne came on for Lugg in the 67th minute, immediately enabling Wigg to bring Read to a magnificent save, but this was their last real chance.

Luton, although worried, survived all the pressure to take their unbeaten away sequence to seven games.

Watford: Walker; Butler; Packer; Garbett; Lees; Eddy; Scullion; Wigg; Lugg; Walley; Woods. **Sub.:** Welbourne.

Luton: Read; Ryan (John); Bannister; Hoy; Nicholl; Slough; Ryan (Jimmy); Court; MacDonald; Keen; Givens. **Sub.:** Collins.

Referee: D. J. Lyden (Birmingham).