

STOCK'S GOT NO TONIC 10/71

By Eric Greenwood

BLACKBURN 1, LUTON 0
A NASTY BLOW this for Luton, pace-setters of the Second Division. They went to Blackburn full of confidence. After all, they hadn't lost an away game since September. And Blackburn hadn't won at home since October.

In the event Luton had a poor match. They looked disjointed—and their form will provide no tonic for 'flu victim manager Alec Stock.

Two men did the damage: Eamonn Rogers and Alex Russell. Rogers went through on his own for 40 yards and Russell slammed the goal home from his pass.

The goal woke up Luton. They began to play some smart football, but desperate defence kept them out. Jones saved brilliantly from Nicholl; Hunter cleared off the line from Keen.

Luton's earlier play had put the accent on defence—and their kingpin was Nicholl.

Read was forced into good saves by Knighton, Eccles and Rogers, and Luton did little attacking until their desperate burst.

Hoy, who was booked after throwing the ball away at a throw-in, was withdrawn in the second-half. Luton substituted Busby.

BLACKBURN: Jones 7; Goodwin 6. ***HUNTER** 8. Mulvaney 6. Wilson 5; Metcalfe 5. Russell 6. Knighton 7; Rogers 7. Eccles 6. Hill 5.

LUTON: Read 7; ***NICHOLL** 8. Slough 7. Bannister 6; Hoy (withdrawn) 6. Court 6. Keen 6; Ryan 5. MacDonald 5. Givens 6. Sub.: Busby.

Ref.: W. Johnson (Kendal) 6.