

Moran's reminder comes too late 83/84 for Robson

Southampton ...2, Luton Town ...1

BOBBOY ROBSON, England's manager, left The Dell on Saturday night probably regretting he had chosen Steve Moran as an over-age member of his Under-21 squad for the UEFA championship quarter-final with France in Sheffield tomorrow night writes **Donald Saunders.**

If Mr Robson had been a little more convinced of Moran's return to form before Southampton defeated Luton, the young striker might have received his first invitation to join the seniors who meet France in a friendly on Wednesday night.

And on the evidence offered on Saturday, Moran would cause the French defence more problems than would Luton's front line partners, Walsh and Stein, who are in the senior squad together—for the first time.

True, Walsh and Stein received scant service from midfield where the combative Horton could not loosen the grip Williams placed on the game, especially in the second half.

With David Armstrong supporting Southampton's captain skilfully and purposefully, Moran, the veteran Worthington and the elusive Wallace were given every encouragement to put Luton's defence under persistent pressure.

Despite their clear superiority, Southampton failed to improve

the two-goal lead established in the closing stages of the first half by Wright who suffered a painful ankle injury early on, and David Armstrong.

Instead, in the words of manager Lawrie McMenemy, they "became a little sloppy near the end" and conceded a goal by Donaghy in the 90th minute.

During the five minutes added for injuries, Southampton showed clear signs of panic but Luton lacked the experience to exploit this unexpected situation and steal an undeserved point.

Inexperience is a major problem for Luton, "we desperately need to buy, not sell" emphasised David Pleat, their manager, who has read often this past week that Liverpool want to sign Walsh.

May become sellers

"If we could get a couple of players for vital positions, they might just add that little bit that would tip things our way.

"If we have enough brains behind the scenes to do that, we might be okay for two or three years. If we can't do that then we may become sellers. We must try to avoid that," said Mr Pleat.

Southampton.—Shilton; Mills, Dennis Williams, Agbuola, Wright, Holmes Moran, Worthington, Armstrong (D) Wallace.

Luton Town.—Sealey; Stephens Thomas, Horton, Elliott, Donaghy, Hill Stein, Walsh, Daniel, Nwajobi (Goal year 66).