

Salvage job by Stein

Luton ... 2 Newcastle ... 2

ON an afternoon when Jack Charlton, the Newcastle manager, castigated the off-side law and his goalkeeper Kevin Carr, his Luton counterpart, David Pleat, saw his young team take a much-needed point in their annual First Division battle against relegation.

Mr Charlton, bitterly annoyed with the legality of Parker's brilliant 25-yard equaliser in the 26th minute, argued that two Luton players were in offside positions, but admitted they were not interfering with play.

The Newcastle manager also showed his immense displeasure with Carr, who failed to guard his nearside post sufficiently enough to allow Stein to salvage

a point three minutes from time.

But Mr Charlton at least had the honesty to admit that a draw was a fair result against opposition whose inexperience, with the exception of Colin Todd, 35, the former England defender, are still learning the basic rudiments of coping in the First Division.

Beardsley and Heard twice provided Newcastle with the lead with goals in both halves, and, while Mr Charlton may have settled for a draw in a 10-game unbeaten run, indiscipline within his own ranks could provide him with more problems before the end of the season.

Luton Town.—Dibble; Breacker,
Turner, Todd, S. North, Donaghy,
Hill, B. Stein, S. Elliott, Parker,
Daniel (Hilaire 64).

Newcastle Utd.—Carr; Brown,
Saunders, Heard, Anderson, Clarke,
McDonald, Wharton, Waddle, Beardsley,
McCreery.