

WEST HAM'S OPPORTUNIST.

By R. M. HAWKES. 20/1/06

LUTON (h), 1; WEST HAM, 1.

Not having any further interest in the English Cup competition, West Ham and Luton are now concentrating their energies on the Southern League. They struggled manfully in the mud on Saturday, but had to be content with a division of points.

Luton scored first with a splendid shot from Brown, and early in the second half Stapley equalised with a soft shot which just rolled over the line, greatly to the surprise of everyone, and particularly himself.

Luton had rather the better of matters all through, but Kitchen and his backs defended finely and survived an appeal for a penalty when Pickering was palpably fouled in the penalty area.

Grassam was skilful at inside right, and Watson worked very hard, while Stapley constituted himself the opportunist of the front rank, doing most of the shooting.

The Luton backs, Blackett and McCurdy, were very safe, and seldom made any mistake, and the home team as a whole, considering the state of the ground, gave a good performance.

All our failures this season have been on wet, heavy grounds, and we shall welcome the return of the hard, dry surface.

We have now secured three points from West Ham, which is a pleasing improvement on last season, when they won all four points.

R. M. HAWKES.