

# LUTON'S RECORD GONE

NO W

13-11-38

## HAMMERS INFLICT FIRST HOME DEFEAT

Luton Town 1, West Ham United 2

(Last season, Luton (h) 2-2; (a) 0-0.)

It was decidedly unlucky for Luton to lose their season's unbeaten record at home after having the better of the exchanges, and so many more scoring chances. A draw would have been a true reflex of a game in which both sides missed many—oh, so many!—gilt-edged opportunities.

But Luton, with a very fast front line, should easily have established a winning lead before the interval. The Hammers' resourceful defence, and Conway's display in goal, just turned the scales.

Both sides played really hard, fast football, with West Ham showing more artistry but less cohesion.

Billington, the leader of the Luton attack, who scored two goals against Tranmere last week, made his home debut in the League side after a promising run with the reserves.

He was unlucky yesterday, for, after promising work, he missed the golden opportunity of the game, just when his side was in need of inspiration. He had a gaping goal, and Conway unsighted and unplaced.

Still, Billington will do better than this and prove a great goal-getter for his side.

Fenton (B.), who deputised for the international inside-left, Goulden, who is on the injured list, was the artist of a clever but not united attack. His three grand passes to Morton stamped him as a player of resource and ability.

It was a game so speedy in attack that both defences became hurried.

Luton had most of the play in the first half, and McCaulay headed the opening goal. Stephens got an equaliser.

West Ham were lucky to be on equal terms at the interval. In the second half they were more thrustful, and snatched victory through Small's goal.