

BINGHAM SWITCH EARNS REPLAY

Leicester 1, Luton 1 : by LEONARD GRAHAM

IN the 75th minute of this remarkable Cup tie at Leicester, Billy Bingham switched from right wing to centre forward. Two minutes later he raced through the centre and stabbed the ball into the net to gain a replay for Luton Town.

The wisdom of this switch was apparent when Morton could not keep his feet on a surface which had ruined the first half of the match as a spectacle.

Bingham's sure-footed running along the wing stamped him as a potential menace to Leicester, but he did not get enough of the ball.

Perhaps the Town would not have needed the second attempt on Wednesday night at Kenilworth-road if Bingham had taken a roaming commission earlier in the game.

The players carried on a puppet-like exhibition on a frozen ground which destroyed most of the moves they attempted. Even so, it was always clear that Luton were the more accomplished team, especially at half-back where Sid Owen gave a towering display—he was the equal of Hines for speed on the treacherous surface.

Leicester could not find either the control or the fire to make this a difficult afternoon for goalkeeper Baynham, but they did provide the best move of the game.

In the 50th minute the ball was

swept from Hines on the right to Leek on the left, and it came back at low level for McNeill to steer a glorious header into the net.

The equaliser was one of those occasions when the City Defence rocked in the face of Luton's fierce acceptance of openings.

Bingham was outnumbered three to one with right back Cunningham beside him when he forced the ball over the line.

An escape for the City came when Keysworth, trying to pass back, was spared the agony of putting into his own goal by the ball hitting the goalkeeper's knees.

The frozen ground left little scope for fair criticism. The players did, however, make this a genuine Cup thriller when they got through their first half anxieties.

Luton carried more polish and deftness, and it is clear that their wingers will take some holding if conditions are reasonable on Wednesday.