



Stockport left-back Tillotson, standing in the goalmouth with Clarke, fails to get his foot to a ball from Rioch and Luton go one up.

Luton hopes ride high

Luton 2, Stockport 0

By C. A. COUGHLIN

PROMOTION hopes are still high at Luton. Nor were there any signs of nerves in this win over an experienced Stockport who made Luton fight all the way for the points.

When Rioch shot Luton into the lead in the sixth minute after County 'keeper Fleet had parried a drive from O'Rourke, it looked as though they were going to have an easy passage.

But then Jardine was carried off with a badly sprained ankle and Luton lost their rhythm for a spell. That Stockport didn't draw level was largely due to the versatile Read, playing in Luton's goal for the first time.

Read joined the club as a goal-keeper, but has spent most of the season at inside-right. He demonstrated his skill in a five-minute spell in which he made brilliant saves from Young and Price.

Allchurch and Young also hit the woodwork in Stockport's spell of pressure, but gradually Luton regained their grip on the game.

Penalty goal

Luton made certain of the points when Whittaker scored from the penalty spot in the 61st minute after O'Rourke had been brought down. Rioch made a highly successful return to the Luton attack after a lengthy absence through injury, while Woods was again the strong man of their defence. Slough, a youngster who came on as substitute for Jardine, did very well. Stockport looked a side capable of good football but they lacked punch in attack. Veterans White and Allchurch showed craft but the most danger came from Price who was always a lively winger.