



Goals — at least! ^{74/75}

WEST HAM finally found their goal-touch with two in the first 18 minutes against Luton at Upton Park on Monday . . . but there was little else to get excited about.

In these hard times we have to be thankful for small mercies. But, beyond the fact that the game established that Luton have even bigger problems than Hammers, there was really nothing to crow about.

Hammers started like lions, clearly stung into action by the heavy reverse at Manchester on Saturday.

Johnny Ayris, wearing number nine, twice found space on

WEST HAM UTD. 2 LUTON TOWN 0

the right flank and created some panic in the visitors' defence with his timely crosses.

Hammers' smarting pace had Town in all kinds of early trouble and a high cross from the right by John McDowell saw 'keeper Horn punch out to Frank Lampard, who smartly lashed it home in the fourth minute.

By Bob Walker

Luton reeled under this pace and Trev Brooking headed against their bar. At this stage, it looked as if West Ham had at last awakened to the urgency of their situation.

In the 18th minute Graham Paddon placed a perfect corner for skipper **Bill Bonds** to swoop and head in at the near post.

For a spell West Ham continued to look as if they had the edge, through their economy

and simplicity of movement. But Hammers had first half escapes when Hindson hit the bar with a free kick and Pat Holland seemed to have handled in the area.

As the second half progressed Luton, though clearly still displaying their own limitations, did enough to make Hammers' lead look a bit flattering.

In fact, only two wonder saves by the agile Meryn Day, from Gordon Hindson's shot, and John Ryan's free kick, prevented the Hatters from plunging right back into the game.

Both big Clyde Best and Ryan were booked by referee Mr. R. Kirkpatrick (Leicester), but the bookings were harsh and, if the game had anything going for it, then it was that it was played in the right spirit.

West Ham: Day, McDowell, Lampard, Bonds, Taylor, Lock, Holland, Paddon, Ayris, Brook- ing, Best. Sub: Gould.

Luton Town: Horn, Ryan, Thompson, Anderson, Litt, Gar- ner (Shanks), Hindson, Husband, Butlin, West, Aston.

Attendance: 23,182.



West Ham skipper Billy Bonds soars above Luton's Steve Litt at Upton Park on Monday night . . . and his flashing header streaks home for Hammers' second goal, despite the presence of goalkeeper Horn and two defenders on the line.