

# Orient

EXIT—AFTER 16 YEARS  
AND SEVEN MANAGERS

# sack Les Gore

**L**ES GORE was sacked last night after 16 years with Leyton Orient.

Gore, who had served Orient as trainer, stand-in manager, and assistant manager during seven managerial reigns, sighed through his sadness:—

"I had no idea it was coming. Nobody had said anything to me on Saturday, and I was surprised when Dick Graham, the manager, called me in and told me.

### The faithful

"It is very disappointing. You become attached to a club after spending so many years with it.

"I am in such a tizzy I do not know what I shall do. I should like to stay in football because I have been in the game since I was 18."

Gore, 52, was the faithful—and the

Express Soccer Reporter

reluctant—caretaker. He stepped up from trainer to acting manager following the departures of Alec Stock (three times), Johnny Carey, Benny Fenton, and Dave Sexton.

And he bowed out without complaint as their successors moved in.

Gore said last night: "I was offered the job of manager several times, but I turned it down. I felt I was more suited to training."

That loyalty was saluted seven years ago by chairman Harry Zussman as he said:—

"Les is doing everything a manager should do, and more. We will not call him manager because he does not want the title. We will just call him Les."

That loyalty was saluted this

season by manager Graham, who named Gore as his assistant with responsibility for the junior team.

Graham commented last night as he prepared Orient for the match at Colchester:—

"This decision was made at board level. You could say it was due to a disagreement on policy. A club in our position cannot afford a big staff."

### The confusion

There was confusion among Orient's directors last night. Not all of them had received the news of the dismissal of Gore.

Orient were relegated from the Second Division last season. They are now three places from the foot of the Third Division. And their average home gate this season is 5,326.

Graham dismissed trainer Dave Clarke and groundsman Jack Toner last week, and he transfer-listed Dick le Flem, Dennis Sorrell, John Smith, Gordon Ferry, and Dave Metchick.

... THEN THERE'S  
NEW TROUBLE

## Graham clashes with fan

Colchester 2 Leyton Orient 2

★ **D**ICK GRAHAM, Leyton Orient manager, strode into trouble last night—a few hours after telling Les Gore, his assistant, he was sacked.

Graham was hustled away by a fan as he tried to intervene in a scuffle between Terry Bradbury, of Orient, and another spectator following the match at Colchester.

That was not the only scar on a lively contrast of desperate defence by Orient and attacking domination by Colchester.

Brian Hall, of Colchester, was taken to hospital in the 60th minute with a suspected broken leg. Team-mate John Martin could only limp after crashing into a sidewall. And Tony Goodgame, of Orient, was booked.

Orient's methods carried them to within eight minutes of their first away win of the season.

Their crowded defence defiantly clung to the 26th-minute 2-1 lead gained by Dennis Sorrell.

He scooped under Alan Buck's hands after Billy Carter had put Orient ahead with a scrambled 15th-minute goal and Rex Stratton had levelled seven minutes later as Ron Willis mis-handled a shot from Derek Trevis.

But Stratton's header in the 82nd minute cancelled out the efforts of Mike Jones, Paul Went, and Goodgame in Orient's blanket defence.

**Colchester.**—Buck; Forbes, Hall, Trevis, Raine, Meehan, Shires, Bullock, Hudson, Stratton, Martin. Sub: Mansfield.

**Leyton Orient.**—Willis; Whitehouse, Goodgame, Jones, Went, Bradbury, Carter, Metchick, Holton, Allen, Sorrell. Sub: Price.



LES GORE  
... "I'm in a tizzy"



TOMMY BRYCELAND (No. 10), Norwich, foiled by Orient defenders. But Norwich trotted off as winners.