

They're all so positive with Orient

Jimmy Bloomfield, 34-year-old Orient player-manager, says: "I like wingers," and that's why he has gambled on Peter Brabrook, the one-time England outside-right, to bring new power to his attack.

"Last season we concentrated on the middle," says Bloomfield, "now we have three wingers, Brabrook, Malcolm Slater and Johnny Key, all capable of taking on a full back, beating him and creating space in the middle."

"Peter knows what responsibility he will shoulder. He was told that I wanted him only if he was prepared to do the job. West Ham were very helpful about the price (it was less than the reported £10,000).

"I reckon all West Ham players take pride in their performance. It is something I have always tried to instil in myself, to be annoyed with oneself if not playing well."

Opening games

Aug 10—Rotherham (h)
14—Gillingham (League Cup) (h)
17—Gillingham (a)
24—Mansfield (h)
28—Tranmere (h)
30—Southport (a)

one by their helping one another.

He puts no limit on his own participation. "I hope I am going to play a lot," says this lean, fit, accurate user of a ball.

"I like playing very much and while I realise times change, I must say I always visualised myself playing in First Division football until I was 35."

Bloomfield had good spells with Arsenal and Birmingham and only the attraction of management lured him to Orient.

YOUNGSTERS

Now he has been reading a book about the power of positive thinking. You know the idea, wake up in the morning feeling lousy. Tell yourself you are on top of the world—and you are.

"I believe in it," says Bloomfield. So he is positive Orient will do well this season and it is not only that book or the wingers who inspire his confidence.

He has a lot of young players of great promise and none more so than tall defender Tommy Taylor who, although he will not be 17 until next month, had 16 League games last season. Then there is stocky little full-back Dennis Rofe, 18.

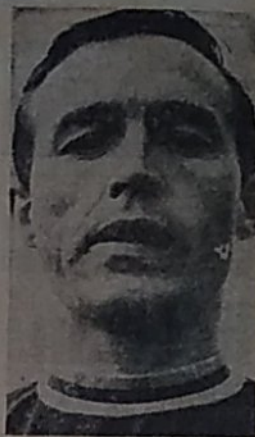
Taylor had six weeks with his parents in Zambia during the close season and trained with a native team. He has come back superbly fit and with a new skill.

ACCURATE

He climbs to a remarkable height in heading and has now developed greater accuracy in directing the ball.

Of Rofe, Bloomfield says: "He has skill. He sees things early. He has two good feet. You name it, he's got it."

Besides these there is goalkeeper Ray Goddard, only 19, but with a full season's experience behind him. Inside-forward Vic Halom is only 19. "I am



JIMMY BLOOMFIELD
"I hope I am going to play a lot."

hoping he will get a lot of goals," says Bloomfield.

A notable capture Orient made last season was centre-forward Roy Massey, a real bargain at £1000. He was top scorer with 13 goals and can be expected to do better for, although 24, he is almost as much a beginner as the youngsters.

WITH ARSENAL

"I was surprised to learn from Massey who comes from Meriborough, that he was at one time on amateur forms with Arsenal who offered him professional terms when Billy Wright was manager.

"I played for them in the Metropolitan League, but turning professional would have meant missing my third year at college," says Massey. "So I joined Rotherham and turned professional with them a year later when I had my teaching diploma."

Even then Massey's career did not get off to a good start. A knee injury in his first game as a professional in Holland against Telstar led to two cartilage operations on his right knee and he reckons he is only just regaining confidence in that limb.

Naturally, he is all set for a very special performance in Orient's opening game against Rotherham!

● Last season Orient's ground admission charges were 5s. at each end and 6s. for the enclosures on either side. This included a programme priced at 1s. This season the charges will be 5s. 6d. and 6s. 6d. respectively, including a programme now priced at sixpence. Stand seat prices remain unchanged at 7s. and 9s.

Harold Palmer

NO LIMIT

Bloomfield has a happy, friendly manner, and it has developed a cheerful eager spirit amongst the players.

It is the kind of spirit he says that makes players cooperate in such a way that a bad pass is turned into a good

Funny how luck changes—ask Ray Goddard

ADVERSITY can teach a valuable lesson. It certainly gave Ray Goddard, the Orient goalkeeper, a balanced outlook on the game.

Goddard was an apprentice with Fulham, his local club, but he met an early rebuff when his contract was cancelled in February, 1967.

He accepted a trial period with Orient, but broke a finger in a reserve game. Last season his luck changed, and Ray established himself in Orient's League team.

Goddard appreciates his change of fortune, and is eager to improve his goalkeeping. That's why he watches Chelsea's Peter Bonetti at every opportunity.

"I rate Bonetti one of the best goalkeepers in football, and feel I can learn a lot from studying him," says Goddard.