

BRABROOK VISITS SPECIALIST

ORIENT WINGER PETER BRABROOK IS TO SEE A SPECIALIST ON TUESDAY IN A BID TO CLEAR UP ONCE AND FOR ALL HIS TROUBLESOME CALF INJURY.

Brabrook has tried injections and pills in addition to orthodox treatment for the injury that has hampered him for five weeks. Said manager Jimmy Bloomfield yesterday: "We decided to get the advice of a specialist as this has gone on too long. The trouble is that it is not a straightforward injury. It is too high to be Achilles trouble and seems to stem from a tendon in the calf."

Roy Massey, absent since suffering a groin injury at Swindon, has fully recovered and will be in the team at Stockport tonight.

Bloomfield is not unduly concerned about Orient's slide from the top to the bottom six in the Third Division.

"We have been playing well and it's all down to injuries," he commented. "We had three forwards all injured together and it robbed the attack of considerable bite. If the injuries had been spread around we would probably have come through with a few points from our last three games."

Even so, Orient have been showing more than a passing interest in transfer-listed Oxford United forward Mike Bullock.

Bullock, 22, was a ground staff boy at Birmingham when Bloomfield was club captain and he was Oxford's top scorer, with 13 goals, in their climb from the Third Division last season.

But the asking price for Bullock is around £8,000, which is more than O's valuation of the player.

Brisbane Road young hopes Tommy Taylor and Steve Bowtell spent the early part of this week at Lilleshall in an England Youth squad get together. Also up there was O's new physiotherapist Charlie Simpson.

Orient's game against Northampton, postponed on Saturday, will be played at Brisbane Road on Monday October 28. This Monday they meet Brighton.

Meanwhile, ORIENT secretary George Hick hurried north with forms that, if accepted in time, would put Mike Bullock, their new signing from Oxford, in Saturday's home game against Hartlepool.

Roy boosts Orient

Early-goal win for Orient

Reading 0 Orient 1

ORIENT came for a point — and left with a surprise first away win. They scored after three minutes through Ray Massey, then went on defence.

Reading despite having 90 per cent of the play never looked like avoiding their third home defeat. They badly need a scheme to carve openings for the lively front runners.

Massey took his chance when Reading's defence bungled an off-side trap. Taylor slipped the ball to Slater whose accurate cross was neatly slid home from six yards.

Reading: Brown, Bishton, Spiers, Dean, Chapman, Allen, Thornhill, Saintry, Collins, Silvester, Harris. Sub: Yard.
Orient: Goddard, Jones, Rofe, Harper, Mancini, Taylor, Slater, Massey, Allen, Bullock, Bloomfield. Sub: Howe.

BUT ANGRY READING FANS CHANT: 'BENTLEY OUT!'

Reading 0 Orient 1

★ FRUSTRATED Reading fans chanted "Bentley out" as their forward spent most of this match trying to open up the nine-man Orient defence.

But manager Roy Bentley did not see his team's pathetic display. He was away looking for new forwards — and how Reading need them.

They lacked a ball-playing schemer to find a way through as Orient—with two defenders up front—put up the shutters after taking a shock third minute lead.

Reading's rearguard made a hash of an offside trap and were caught wrong-footed as Tommy Taylor slipped a shrewd ball to winger Malcolm Slater.

His accurate cross was neatly slipped in from six yards by Roy Massey.

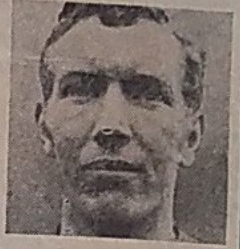
Reading had plenty of chances in the first-half but their forwards lacked confidence. And over-hesitant John Collins missed four good chances.

Keeper Ray Goddard made some fine saves, but was lucky when a Denis Allen piledriver smashed against the crossbar for Collins to head the rebound over.

Reading kept up a non-stop attack but never looked likely to escape their third home defeat with the tall Terry Mancini in command of the Orient rearguard.

George Harris wasted the only real chance with a weak header from a Collins centre.

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ROY MASSEY ... the winner

Massey scores—and it's Orient's first away win

READING 0, ORIENT 1

ORIENT TOOK three minutes at Elm Park on Wednesday night to score the goal that gave them their first away win of the season.

Then they went nervously on defence for the lengthy remainder of this ragged match to make sure that win didn't slip away from them.

The result for Orient was two points that lift them out of the bottom four in Division Three, for Reading their third but most unexpected home defeat this season and for the 5,393 fans a night of crushing boredom.

Not that they should lay all the blame for the boredom at Orient's door. The fear of relegation hovered over their approach to this game. But Reading had no such worries, only the spur to jump within striking



ALLEN — O's star

Orient's third minute winner.

The game was still warming up as Tommy Taylor slipped a pass out to Malcolm Slater whose cross was neatly hooked home from close in by Roy MASSEY.

The whole thing was so easy it made you wonder why Orient didn't go out and get another one instead of sitting dangerously in defence.

The deep defence policy hardly seemed justified in the first-half as Orient pulled ten men back and still sagged against Reading's fast-moving attack.

The visitors' goal seemed certain to cave in before the Reading barrage but somehow Orient survived until the interval when they refilled their charges to fight another hectic half.

The nearest Reading then got to levelling was a late effort from right-back Bishton which Goddard saved well.

Reading: Brown, Bishton, Spiers, Dean, Chapman, Allen, Thornhill, Saintry, Collins, Silvester, Harris.

Orient: Goddard 7, Jones 6, Rofe 7, Harper 5, Mancini 7, Taylor 7, Slater 5, Massey 6, Allen 9, Bullock 5, Bloomfield 5.

FANS CHANT FOR BENTLEY TO QUIT

Reading 0, Orient 1

ANGRY fans chanted "Bentley out" after this third home defeat of the season for Reading.

But manager Roy Bentley was not there to hear them. He was away looking for the forward he so obviously needs to pep up his flagging attack.

Orient collected their first away win of the season with a shock goal after three minutes. Reading's off-side trap failed to catch Tommy Taylor and the defence stood flat-footed as he laid on an easy chance for Ray Massey.

From then on Reading pressed hard. But with their fans slow hand-clapping and stamping their feet, they missed chance after chance.

Worst offender was little John Collins, who had a nightmare game in front of goal.

And his worst miss came when a Denis Allen shot smashed against the bar and Collins, with an open goal in front of him, headed the rebound high over.

Heroes of the over-taxed Orient defence were keeper Ray Goddard and Tony Mancini.

By GEOFF ELLEN

distance of the top and the need to show their supporters that they were worthy of it.

The mid second-half slow hand-clap brought home their failure.

This was one of those games where the losing team has all the play. Reading must have had 90 per cent pressure but they rarely looked like piercing Orient's flimsy forces.

The nearest they came were two efforts from left-half Denis Allen in the first-half. One bounced on the bar—straight from a corner—the other nearly spanned it. That second shot, taken quickly but in full stride, moved so fast it didn't even permit Orient keeper Ray Goddard the luxury of a gallant dive.

Yet just as the frustrated fans were about to leap to their feet in praise of a Reading equaliser the ball swerved against the crossbar and rebounded away.

That was the height of the home side's pressure to get back

Gills—again

"NOT THEM AGAIN" laughed Orient manager Jimmy Bloomfield as he listened to the F.A. Cup draw on Monday afternoon.

For the O's had just been drawn against Third Division rivals Gillingham—the side they played three times in six days at the beginning of the season.

Orient drew 2-2 in a League Cup tie and a league match at Priestfield in the space of four days, and then went on to win the League Cup replay 3-0.

"If the League Cup result's the same in the F.A. Cup, I shan't be complaining," quipped Bloomfield.