

ORIENT BOSS SLATES FANS

AFTER a crowd of only 3,690 had watched Orient beat Crewe 2-0 last night, chairman Arthur Page warned:

"We cannot live on gates like this. Unless the fans turn up, we shall have to sell players."

"This was London's only match, and a gate of 3,690 is disgusting."

Orient, setting a startling pace, were a goal up through Mickey Bullock in seventeen minutes. Bullock set up the second for Barry Dyson fifteen minutes from the end.

Wing half Dave Harper was booked for the second time in three days, for retaliating after being fouled in the second half.

GOAL

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OPINION

SYMPATHY, please, for Orient chairman Arthur Page, who recently had the soul-destroying duty, after yet another home gate had failed to reach 4,000, of delivering this unhappy ultimatum to Orient's ex-fans: "Unless you turn up, we will have to sell our best players." First instinct is to feel sorry for Orient. The second is the realisation that if the stayaways don't rate the best players worth seeing while they are at Brisbane Road, they are even less likely to rally round after the stars have gone. Orient are on the wrong track, surely. When you've cut the expenditure back to the minimum, you don't think about cutting back any more. You think about increasing your income. Nobody doubts that Orient are doing a fine job in keeping first-class football going in Leyton. Nobody doubts the integrity and devotion to football duty of Mr. Page and his fellow directors. But they should be looking inside the club, not outside, to discover ways and means of making the goods sufficiently attractive for people to buy. Clubs have got to go out and entice the fans in these days. You can't force them to come.

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