

VIEWPOINT

REFEREES' BONUSES

Incentives in industry are a good thing, so why not football referees?

Mr. HARRY NEW (*Bristol*)

This must help to maintain the high standard. Referees always do their best, but this could help to produce that little bit extra.

Mr. NORMAN BURTENSHAW (*Yarmouth*)

POSITIVE TEACHING

I bless my good fortune that I was once coached by men like Arthur Rowe, Bill Nicholson and Joe Mercer, who spent 90 per cent of the time stressing what to do when you had the ball, not how to stop the other team playing. Theirs was a wholly positive teaching. It must be hoped that positive football will now be restored, though it will not succeed without the heart and emotional surge possessed by northern teams and epitomised in Celtic three years ago.

DAVID MILLER, *Sunday Telegraph*

CAUTIONARY TALE

Soccer managers who yearn for strikers to go in hard at a defence might heed a cautionary tale from Woodford Town, who have risen from the ashes of near obliteration to join the reorganised Southern League this season.

Manager Peter Syrett, as tough a goalkeeper as I ever saw, went between the posts for a practice match. New scoring star Peter White disputed a 50-50 ball with his own boss—and the giant Syrett ended up with three broken ribs!

ALUN REES, *Sunday Telegraph*

IN THE DOCK?

Judged as the great public entertainers, the finest footballers are not extravagantly rewarded. If George Best is overpaid, some of the people who regularly fill the television screens of the nation should be in the dock at the Old Bailey tomorrow.

The Observer

Correspondence

Correspondence from abroad still continues to "roll in," and we are regularly receiving requests for our Official Handbook and Team Groups from all parts of the globe.

Yap Ah Heng of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, is keen enough to have laid a bet with a friend who is a Manchester United fan that we will finish higher in the table than the Old Trafford club this season. That's one wager we hope "comes off"!

Felix Lehner, from Nyon in Switzerland, wrote for information, and we have also provided him with a couple of match-posters to decorate his "den."

Our old friend Frank Sjoman of Motala, Sweden is very pleased about his "subscription," and mentions that he gets his copy of *Hammer* on match-days. As we don't usually post them until the day prior to the game it says a lot for the European Air Mail and Swedish postal service!

Although Corporal Geoff Lokey is with the Royal Signals in Cyprus he also keeps up-to-date with copies of our programme; Geoff remarks: "football is virtually nil out here except for TV" (they just had England v West Germany on from the Mexico World Cup tourney!) However, he's due home soon and hopes to see our game v Wolves on Oct. 23.

West Ham Speedway

FIXTURES (7.45 p.m.)

September

Tues. 14 Cradley Heath (*League*)

Tues. 21 Swindon (*League*)

Tues. 28 Oxford (*League*)

October

Tues. 5 Hackney (*London Cup*)

Tues. 12 Open Meeting