

# IN OFF THE POST

Your letters should be of not more than 150 words and addressed to "In off the Post", Chelsea F.C., Fulham Road, London, S.W.6.



## LETTERS OPENED BY PROGRAMME EDITOR, ALBERT SEWELL

I FIND Mr. Docherty's reported criticism of the Chelsea fans very surprising, coming from a man of his integrity.

The fact that we pay our money at the turnstile gives us a right to criticize the team. If the "useless" fans stay away the club ceases to exist.

I would suggest that due to the press Mr. Docherty's statement has received, a lot of bad feeling is liable to exist with the fans, so how about an explanation through the medium of the programme?

**E. H. Gould.**

169, Penton Place,  
Walworth, S.E.17.

\* \* \*

THE Fans: "They are a waste of time—useless. I wish we could play all our matches away." If this is correctly quoted as coming from Manager Tommy Docherty—good enough. I heartily agree!

The present junior members of our club who are being given their chance, have a right to expect respect from supporters.

Mr. Docherty is working on the right lines, and to all the other potential managers in the crowd I say—be fair.

**D. Austin.**

"Southview", 40, Amberley Drive,  
Goring-by-Sea,  
W. Sussex.

TO say that the Chelsea crowd are useless is the worst public relations I have read.

You give us good football and the crowd will give you all the cheers and support you need, as was proved with the Roma game. Mr. Docherty was so impressed then with the cheering supporters that he thanked them publicly.

Fans are only interested in success and if you can't produce it—BUY IT!

**W. Goldsmith.**

25, Ward Street,  
Lambeth, S.E.11.

\* \* \*

THE "Doc" has now opened up what has long been a controversial point at the "Bridge"—the crowd. I side with his opinion.

A team rely on the crowd to give them support, even if they are losing. So come on you 29,000-odd, shrug off the staleness and encourage your team.

**A Fulham Road end Supporter.**

\* \* \*

TOMMY DOCHERTY is going too far when he says that there are only about 200 loyal Chelsea supporters. But I think the worst offenders, who persist in criticism of our players, are men in the age group 35-50.

They *never* cheer or even applaud good moves and are of no use to a go-ahead young side like Chelsea. Perhaps one day they will wake up and realise that this