

DON'T MIX IT, DALLY!

PLAYER-MANAGER Dally Duncan, of Luton Town, must stop playing and concentrate on management. That is our emphatic though impersonal verdict.

HALSEY heard that just as Duncan had made his weekly quick-change from office chair to dressing-room bench he slipped a coat over his playing togs and doubled back to the office to take a telephone call.

That twopenny call may lead to Dally finding his successor — a promising player who would relieve him of his on-pitch duties.

So we agreed that Duncan must run his team from the other side of the touch-line. "Definitely," said **CLIFF BASTIN**. "If Dally was playing up to the old, inspired form that used to set such a shining example to players, I'd say carry on. But the old touch has tarnished."

It's Not Right

"It must be difficult sometimes for Dally to criticise or correct players when he is hard-pressed to maintain his own standard."

REFEREE WORT finds onlooking a luxury. "I can see the game as a whole. Trace the pattern of play. Faults stand out clearly. I could never do that on the pitch."

"Dally Duncan is in the same position. Trying to get goals as well as plan them."

The Four Just Men did not set out with the idea of making Dally the target of cutting criticism. His distinguished playing past earns more consideration.

Proving our point, however, was Luton's sterling second-half drive which dwarfed the equaliser. A fighting half, full of lively football that just missed victory.

Duncan engineered it. But not on the pitch. It was when he reverted to the role of manager for ten minutes at half-time that he completely altered Luton's strategy.

In those exciting thrusts

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at goal which roused bob-banker **BARNETT** from first-half boredom to some of his old rosette and rattle belligerence. Soo's bright attacking wing-half tactics were the mainspring of Luton's rally. He gave right-winger Waugh a super service of passes.

Climax to this come-back was Connelly's equaliser. "It was more of a skid than a directed header which scored," commented Cliff. "He was facing the other goal at the time. I must fault Sanders for bad judgment—his only mistake."

Giving West Bromwich the once over as promotion possibilities, the Four Just Men had to look again at their programmes to ensure the team before them were much fancied undefeated Albion.

Barnett, forgetting his free ticket, swore he had not had his 1s. 3d. worth. Hoping for speedy fireworks from Elliott and at least a couple of goals from Walsh, he felt distinctly cheated. The entire side was a disappointment.

"My first view of Vernon, Great Britain's centre-half wasn't a very favourable one," said Cliff Bastin. "His positioning was not too accurate and he did not clear his line cleanly."

"I expected better generalship from a renowned international," said Referee Wort. "The way his kicks went astray indicate it was off-day for Vernon," concluded Halsey.

Right-winger Elliott was not the man reported to be in the running for a cap. Bastin and Wort explained this in their combined comment that Elliott hardly glimpsed the ball, and support was severely rationed. This slackness infected the whole line.

One Bright Spot

West Bromwich had their one bright moment when Drury, whose playing style seems to have altered since he left Arsenal, appeared to mesmerise Luton's defenders. Drury pot-shot the ball to the net from 18 yards.

It was a point saver as things worked out. But while Luton really got going in the second half, Albion fell away.

They'll have to play more fighting football and make every game a 90-minute all-out effort if Division 1 is their target.

Footnote to Luton supporters: Says Referee Wort: "Educate yourselves to know when a referee is right. Don't throw your boos around when your own players are causing trouble by stealing ground and causing irritating delays."