

S.c.u. DITCHBURN: FOOTBALL HAS BECOME INTERNATIONAL MY CLUB HAS PAID MANY VISITS ABROAD AND WHEN YOU VISITS ABROAD YOU GO AS AMBASSADORS. THERE ARE NO POLITICS YOU MEET THE COMMON MAN YOUR OPPOSITE NUMBER. YOU UNDERSTAND HIM. AND THEN YOU GET THAT UNDERSTANDING IT IS THE BEST BREAK TO PREVENT MISUNDERSTANDING WHICH GENERALLY LEAD TO WAR.



S.C.U. OFF SCREEN VOICE.
DITCHBURN: BILL SYMON: "WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE FUTURE OF SUNDERLAND?"

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DITCHBURN: THE SUNDERLAND FOOTBALL CLUB HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE SINCE 1890. 67 YEARS WE'VE ALWAYS PROVIDED ENTERTAINMENT WE HAVE HAD MANY STARS IN OUR LONG HISTORY. WE HAVE ALWAYS DONE OUR BEST TO KEEP THE GAME CLEAN AND WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN CALLED RECENTLY "THE BANK OF ENGLAND" AVERAGE ATTENDANCE SHOW THAT THE PUBLIC APPRECIATE. SUNDERLAND FOOTBALL CLUB.

OFF SCREEN VOICE:

SYMON: HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN CHAIRMAN SIR?

DITCHBURN: I HAVE BEEN CHAIRMAN FOR 27 YRS. AND I HAVE FOLLOWED FOOTBALL FOR 60 YEARS.

S.V. SYMON: AND DITCHBURN SITTING AT DESK :

SYMON: WHAT ACTION DO YOU PROPOSE TO TAKE OVER YOUR SUSPENSION.

DITCHBURN: I INTEND TO TAKE EVERY ACTION THAT IS IN MY POWER TO DEFEND MY POSITION, MY SELF, AND PARTICULARLY MY TEAM.

S.V. SYMON: AND DITCHBURN AT DESK:

SYMON: WHAT ACTION DO YOU PROPOSE TO TAKE OVER YOU SUSPENSION?

DITCHBURN: I AM GOING TO TAKE EVERY ACTION THAT IS POSSIBLE TO PROTECT MYSELF AND THE CLUB IN PARTICULAR AS THE F.A. RULES ARE ANTIQUATED AND OUT OF DATE.

S.C.U. DITCHBURN:

~~OFF SCREEN: SYMON: DO YOU THINK THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION HAS TOO MUCH POWER?~~

DITCHBURN: I DO. THE FOOTBALL RULES ARE ANTIQUATED, AND SO MUCH OUT OF DATE, THEY CAN ACT AS INQUISITOR, JURY, JUDGE, AND HANGMAN: EVEN A CRIMINAL IS TAKEN TO A COURT OF APPEAL - BUT WITH THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, NO: ~~XXXX~~ THEY HAVE THE LAST WORD AND THERE IS NO CHANCE OF DEFENDING YOURSELF.

S.C.U. SYMON:

OFF SCREEN. " HAVE YOU EVER TRIED TO RAISE THE PAYMENTS OF FOOTBALL

DITCHBURN: "I HAVE REPEATEDLY MADE AT REPEATED MEETING AT THE ANNUAL LEAGUE FOOTBALL COMMITTEE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE THESE HAVE BEEN INVARIABLY BEEN TURNED DOWN. THE LAST TIME I MADE AN ATTEMPT WAS TO PAY PLAYERS AN INCENTIVE BONUS. BUT THEY WOULD NOT WEAR THAT ONE. BUT RECENTLY THEY MUST HAVE REPENTED BECAUSE THEY DID INCREASE THE MATCH BONUS FROM £2. TO £3. WHICH WAS A NIGGLELY AMOUNT CONSIDERING WHAT WAS INVOLVED. WHEN YOU COME TO THINK THAT SOME PLAYERS CAN GET ALL THESE FABULOUS SUMS AND AN ENTERTAINER CAN BE PAID TO HIS WORTH IS NOT SO IN FOOTBALL. EVEN SCOTLAND HAS ALLOWED MORE FREEDOM TO PAY THE PLAYERS MORE. AND WHEN YOU THINK OF A PLAYER LIKE

Stanley Matthews, to put him at £15 per week
this words don't express the niggly of the price.



X-152501

JIMMY HILL. INTERVIEW

SYMON: How does this Sunderland affair affect members of your Union?

HILL: If it draws attention to the fact that there has been money available in the game which could not legally be paid to players, I feel that it does indicate some fault in the system, and will materially benefit the cause of the Union... Any ambitious lad that is earning £15 per week in the game, ^{and} naturally enough would be looking for the next pound or two to add to his wages, has got to turn his attention outside the game; and that would mean taking a part-time job, or perhaps coaching, or some other type of employment. Now this cannot be to the benefit of football as a whole, either of standards, or of incentive to clubs to improve their play.