ORIENT STICK IT TO THE END.

EQUALISING GOAL TWO MINUTES FROM TIME.

MERIT OF WILLIAMS.

Clapton O. 1, Manchester U. 1.

When Manchester United were at Craven Cottage a fortnight ago they played clever football, pretty to watch, but lacking in cohesiveness. In the match with Clapton Orient at Homerton on Saturday, which resulted in a draw of one goal all, their football was scarcely so clever but it was much more effective.

The improvement was mainly due to a change in leadership, for Goldthorpe, the new centre forward, got into his stride from the start, and although the Orient half-backs, especially Nicholson, worked desperately hard, it soon became apparent that the United's ineffective forward line had been galvanised into a force that mattered. Such is the luck of football. Some clubs pay thousands of pounds for the acquisition of famous players who do them no good, yet Manchester United have apparently picked up just the man they badly needed without having to hand Leeds United a single penny for his transfer.

NEVER SAY DIE.

The Orient were less polished than the United, but their football, of the bustling, vigorous, never-say-die type, was disconcerting to the opposing defence, and, with the result in the balance almost to the last minute, the interest of the 16,000 spectators was maintained to the end. It was a strenuous contest from all through, with little between the teams in point of merit, and that the visitors were able to retain their narrow lead for an hour was due to the excellence of their defence for Orient were more often attacking than defending.

There was not the same effort on about the work of bringing forwards as characteristic trait of the visitors—Goodyear, Mellors, and Mosscrop played together as they had been accustomed all the season—but Williams was the outstanding player on the field, and Max Hamlisch and Redford fully extended. At the other end of the line Gillatt made the most of his opportunities, and it is a tribute to Bennett in the centre to say that Barson, well as he played, did not shine as was the case against Fulham.

It was well that Barson kicked wide from a penalty, for Nicholls did not seem to handle the ball boldly enough. Clapton combination by the wielding forwards enabled Goldthorpe to score at the end of half an hour, and it was not until two minutes from the finish that Orient's persistency was rewarded by John Turner equalising during a great attempt by Jones. Thereafter Orient's pertinacity