

Wanderers go soaring out of the red

SUCCESS in the '70's has done more for Wycombe Wanderers F.C. than just restore the Isthmian League crown to Loakes Park—it has also sent them soaring out of the red, without any substantial financial support from the Supporters Club, for the first time in many years.

The balance sheet presented to the annual meeting at the Oak Room, High Wycombe Town Hall last Friday provided background information to a situation which speaks for itself. Wanderers began the season approximately £1,400 in the red, and ended it £762 in the black.

This new colour scheme of things was brought about by a surplus of £1,723, to which £433 is added via donations, including £400 from Blackpool F.C., to whom both Peter Suddaby and more

Wire precautions to curb the invaders

recently Paul Fuschillo have moved.

The total £2,156 surplus is backed by the £4,422 in hand with the Development Fund, and £4,925 credited to the Supporters Club.

But the meeting, lasting a little over an hour, was not carried away by the triumphs of the immediate past. Bert Crump, re-elected for his third full season as Secretary, summed the situation up: "We've got a lot more hard work to do yet", he said.

And later, during a typically witty address, club manager Brian Lee also sounded a note of caution for the coming season. "We can think we had a good season", he said referring to the last 12 months. "We can't live on our glory, therefore we have got to for-

get it and start from scratch".

Mr. Lee, predicted a "very difficult season" ahead and noted the inclusion of three new clubs to the Isthmian League — Bishops Stortford, Walton & Hersham and Hayes.

On the previous year he allotted special mention to the victory at Hendon in the later stages. "What a fine effort that was", he praised, remarking on the spirit which had been shown in that match. Wycombe had played for almost all the match with a stand-in goalkeeper and for much of the first half with only ten men, yet fought magnificently to win.

Chairman Jack Smethurst, opening by thanking the voluntary helpers for their assistance on ground maintenance

during the close season, went on to repeat his comments made at the 1970 annual meeting with regard to crowd control.

Following the incident during the Premier Floodlight League clash with Leatherhead at Loakes Park the previous season, again their had been trouble in the 1971 final of the competition when Wycombe entertained Walton and Hersham. "It is only a handful of hooligans", he commented and later said: "If there is anybody here to whom it applies, we'd rather not see you at all".

Mr. Smethurst appealed to the adult spectators to check any rowdy elements on the spot.

The Loakes Park pitch is to be enclosed by a wire fence

to stop young supporters running onto the pitch and a ban has been placed, as last season, on players signing autographs.

The only change in the committee for next season will be Gerald Cox, elected to replace retiring member Bill Nobbs, a veteran of 30 years service with the club. Re-elected to the other two vacancies were Percy Pearce and Reg Williams. These three received most votes in a five man ballot.

Officials elected were: M. E. Seymour, president; J. Smethurst, A. J. Crump, secretary; R. N. Lee, treasurer.

Committee now consists of C. Avery, G. Cox, J. Goldsworthy, R. Holt, P. Pearce, J. Rackstraw, T. Thomas, H. Wharton, R. Williams.