

## Scene 16

**The Betting Shop, 5.30 pm**

MRS ROSE *from the betting shop enters sweeping or closing up the shop. BILLY runs to her.*

MRS ROSE. Oo! You dozy young devil. You scared me to death.

BILLY. Have you seen our Jud, missus?

MRS ROSE. I can see that you haven't or else you wouldn't be in one piece now.

BILLY. You have seen him then?

MRS ROSE. Seen him? He nearly ripped this place apart, that's all. He called me a welcher and all t' names under t' sun. He said I was trying to rob his eyes out. Then he threatened Tommy Leach with violence when he tried to put a word in, so Tommy walked out of t' shop. A right pantomime it was. I sent for Eric Clough and Eric Street in t' end to prove you never placed that bet.

BILLY. Has he been back?

MRS ROSE. They both won, you know. 'Crackpot' got a hundred to eight. 'Tell Him He's Dead' got four to one. He'd have had a tidy sum to draw.

BILLY. Do you know where he is now?

MRS ROSE. Why didn't you put that bet on?

BILLY. How do I know? I didn't know they were going to win, did I?

*BILLY leaves and starts to cry.*

MRS ROSE. You won't half get into trouble lad, when he gets hold of you.

*BILLY runs to . . .*