

12th April 1954

Fierce North-Eastern rivalry/divides Wembley Stadium. The all-Durham Amateur Cup Final. Crook Town kick off - their first Final for over fifty years. Bishop Auckland (playing in quarters) have won the trophy seven times; but they just can't win at Wembley.

And when, after five minutes, Nimmins fractured his leg, that Wembley hoodoo had struck again.

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Two minutes later, a throw-in for Crook. A pass by Williamson and Ron Thompson had levelled the scores.

The battle was on - with Bishop Auckland's ten men pulling out something extra. Then Ray Oliver crowns their fine effort - rounding three defenders - to score.

Bishop Auckland 2 - Crook 1, And ~~now~~ the Town are fighting to draw level. But this one, by Harrison, doesn't count.

The interval has come and gone. Bishop Auckland still on top. But by hook and for Crook - goalkeeper Fred Jarrie keeps them out.

The "Bishops" tiring now. A chance for Crook, and winger Eddie Appleby pops up in the middle to take it.

Two goals each. Crook pressing for that victory-goal now - battering those weary defenders and the cross-bar as well... But it's no score.

So to Extra Time - with the "Bishops" finding new reserves of strength - that ~~had~~ ^{have} Jarrie diving - trying to prevent a vital corner.

The closing minutes ^{And} / Crook, packing their defence, ~~is~~ held those ten heroes ^{The n. s. r. m.}

Two fine Durham teams, sharing the amateur spot-light...