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Arsenal V Cardiff

10th Jan 55

The great day is here. The fans, <sup>fully</sup> charged with cup-tie enthusiasm, launch the "Big Guns" of soccer on the Wembley Trail. The Arsenal comes out first - at Highbury, for their match with Cardiff City. A meeting that revives <sup>the</sup> memories of ~~that~~ 1927 Cup Final - that took the Cup to Wales. 51,000 fans watch ~~the~~ great Welsh full-backs, Barnes and Sherwood in mid-field opposition. And fortune favours <sup>ARSENAL</sup> ~~Cardiff~~. The visitors (in striped shorts) kick off...

<sup>But</sup> ~~the~~ The early play does little to brighten a dull day. The strength of both sides lies in that dour defensive play that gives forwards little time for exhibition football.

An Arsenal attack takes shape - but goalkeeper Ron Howells deals confidently with the final effort.

So into the second period with still no score. The spirit of both forward lines contained by well-drilled defences. Anxious moments for Manager Tom Whittaker as Cardiff mount non-stop attacks; but still a goal eludes them. Then, with a few minutes to go and Cardiff banking on a replay - a flash of the old Tommy Lawton wins the game. A great shot that goes in off the post. Arsenal ~~had~~ just scraped through into round four by a single goal.