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ARSENAL 3 - SUNDERLAND 1

For the new season's first soccer report, Pathe News went to London's Highbury Stadium where Arsenal met Sunderland. All over Britain, more than a million people braved sunstroke weather to watch 44 league matches in the earliest-ever start of the season. Arsenal's kick-off was to herald a return to something approaching the gamers pre-war form.

Don Roper, No. 7, Arsenal's £11,000 capture from Southampton, was expected to star in the new attack. But the Sunderland's left-back, Alf Hodgell, No. 3 - had the Arsenal winger well tied up. Now watch Roper trick the defenders and pass the ball to Jimmy Logie, No. 8. The little Scottish inside-forward passes to Ronnie Rooke. The forwards are moving up - Rooke to Logie and back to Rooke till finally outside-left Ian McPherson has the ball. Dribbling along, he passes up to Rooke - now out on the wing.

Rooke cuts the ball in - but a Lewis header is saved by goalie Mapsen.

Half time and still no score. The Sunderland forwards are on the move - but the Arsenal defence holds and clears.

And so to Arsenal's first goal. Joe Mercer passes to Rooke, goalie-Mapsen saves his kick - but McPherson nets the rebound.

It's one up to Arsenal. Once again the forwards are pressing hard.

A long range kick by Jimmy Logie and the ball is in the back of the net.

Arsenal made it three-nil before inside-forward Lloyd headed one for Sunderland.

Britain's No. 1 sport is off on its 34 week season.