

ENGLAND'S LUCK HOLDS

Glasgow's Hampden Park, packed with a 135,000 crowd, gives a needlematch atmosphere to the keenest of all internationals - Scotland versus England. Field Marshal Montgomery, as a neutral Irishman, is the guest of honour and burly skipper George Young introduces the Scottish team.

England kick-off, but Scotland make the opening attack. With their first-time passing methods, they give the white-shirted English eleven no time to settle down. Well-served by their wing halves, the Scots tear gaps in a defence that's never sure of itself.

Jimmy Delaney breaks through but Goalie Swift saves his first-time shot. The non-stop attack by the Scottish dark-shirts leaves the English defenders in a tangle. Billy Steele's shot sails past them and only Swift's agility stops Delaney from scoring. From his clearance Stanley Mortensen starts off an England attack that gives Ian Black his first bit of action.

England's first constructive move gives the ball to Tom Finney - he shoots and it's a goal.

Against the run of play and with only a minute of the first-half left, England are one up. Quick thinking and a big slice of luck have helped them along.

Scotland kick-off for the second half - their enthusiasm and their good football undimmed by the reverse.

No wizard of dribble today. Stanley Matthews - No. 7 - has a lean time against the smartly intercepting Scottish defenders. Arsenal's Archie Macanlay, No. 6, puts Scotland back on the move with a long pass to winger Liddell No. 11. He sends the ball down to Billy Steele and, meeting his centre, Liddell bundles goalie Swift into the back of the net. Having cleared the ball, Swift is left with two broken ribs.

Blackpool's Stan Mortensen starts off another attack and only Dave Shaw's fierce tackle stops him from scoring. But England's luck holds out to the end. Tommy Lawton, as brilliant as ever, passes to Mortensen, who whips in a cracking drive that gives England a two-nil victory and the Soccer championship.