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BIRMINGHAM V. MANCHESTER UNITED

Birmingham kick-off against the United and Higgins passes back to Boyd. A long pass finds Stewart and the outside-right starts a Birmingham attack. Stewart sends over a beautiful centre. It's headed to Higgins at the edge of the penalty area and the Irishman slams in a first timer to put Birmingham one up inside 20 seconds, and set the St. Andrews crowd cheering madly.

It's shaken the United ... shaken everybody for that matter. The team that put the Gunners out, one down already. It's only the third time the Blues and the United have met in a Cup Tie. The United won both the others, but they're struggling desperately here to level up, and hard-tackling Birmingham are slamming into the clever United forwards and breaking up their attempts to get the machine working.

Half-time, and it's still Birmingham one, Manchester United nil. It's a new fashion, all right, and the Blues are up, all right, bang on their toes and determined to win as the second half gets going. Here's another Birmingham attack. There might be another goal - but Allen's playing a fine game. The United defence are holding out, but the attack is badly rattled. It's a hard game, with the youngsters having a tough time and the marksmen not getting many chances.

Manchester must score here. It's a terrific scramble, but Merrick saves, and the Blues hold on to knock the United out of the Cup and pass into the semi-finals. As they also knocked the City out, don't mention Birmingham next time you go to Manchester.