

## SPORT NEWS

# SCOTS' TEAM EARNED ANOTHER CHANGE

ENGLAND swept to their inevitable victory over Scotland, 1, at Wembley Stadium—by 5-2 this time—but there were anxious periods before the avalanche started.

This "new" Scottish side thoroughly earned their 1-1 equality at half-time—faster and altogether more confident, with young Stephen making a good show against Matthews' wizardry and the halfbacks a real force.

Disaster struck them three minutes after the interval. A harmless-looking centre from Leslie Smith skidded off Macaulay's head and left Crozier helpless.

That started it. Within five minutes Lawton had stoned for earlier shortcomings by literally crashing the ball over Crozier's head.

The England machine was now running smoothly in topgear, and goals from Hagan, Mercer and Carter came as a matter of course.

## There's No Answer

That Dodds, by sheer grit and persistence, got a second for the Scots just before the end hardly mattered. Anyway, Dodds looked a good two yards offside.

The whole strategy of the match centred as usual round Matthews. Not until the second half did he touch the well-known heights. Then Stephen had no answer to his tricks—I doubt if anyone has.

England's first goal, scored by Hagan, after 37 minutes, followed a brilliant Matthews dribble down the middle of the field. The adroit pass to his left at the end gave Hagan an ideal opening.

Dodds' equaliser just afterwards rather shook England. Cullis, for once, blundered, and was robbed by the Scots centre, who easily beat Ditchburn.

The England "newcomers," Ditchburn and Smith, both had a good match.

Ditchburn pushed the ball out rather dangerously once or twice, but his stopping of some fierce, low, goalworthy shots was quite immaculate.

## Smith's Success

Leslie Smith fitted better into this real team of England's than Denis Compton, has done. Smith was unselfish, cut out the fancy work, and rarely did the wrong thing. My notes show that he had a part in the scoring of four of the goals.

Scotland looked far better than the score suggests. The selectors could do worse than give this team another chance, with possibly another outside-right and Carabine at back again.

The half-backs were excellent, with Macaulay one of the outstanding figures of the match. In goal Crozier looked the true successor to Jerry Dawson; he is a much more polished 'keeper than in his pre-war days with Brentford.

England's defence seemed less compact than I have seen it. Somehow Hardwick does not quite fill Hapgood's shoes. Teams:

ENGLAND.—Ditchburn (Tottenham); Scott (Arsenal), Hardwick (Middlesbrough); Britton (Everton), Cullis (Wolves) (capt.), Mercer (Everton); Matthews (Stoke), Carter (Sunderland), Lawton (Everton), Hagan (Sheffield), Smith (L.) (Brentford).

SCOTLAND.—Crozier (Brentford); Kilmarnock (Motherwell), Stephen (Bradford); Macaulay (West Ham), Kirton (Stoke), Busby (Liverpool) (capt.); Flavell (Airdrie), Stenhouse (St. Mirren), Dodds (Blackpool), Duncanson (Rangers), Caskie (Everton).

W. F. SMITH.