THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1921.

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL.

GLOUCESTER v. DEVONPORT UNITED SERVICES.

REMARKABLE SCORING IN SECOND HALF.

SERVICES DECISIVELY BEATEN.

For this match at Kingsholm on Monday the Gloucester team that defeated the Harlequins underwent several changes, the absentees including Webb, Burns, Dix, Holford, Harris, and Roderick. The club, however, had the services of Stanley Cook, and a trial was given at centre to C. E. Hughes, who performed very satisfactorily at outside half for the City Seconds at Drybrook. The Services also had several of their best players away on the injured list.

There was a fair attendance of spectators when the teams took the field as follows : –

GLOUCESTER.

BACK : J. C. Collett.

THREE-QUARTERS : S. A. Brown, C. E. Hughes, Stanley C. Cook, and N. Daniell.

HALF-BACKS : T. Gough and T. Millington.

FORWARDS : S. Smart (capt.), J. F. Lawson, T. Voyce, F. W. Ayliffe, A. Hall, C. Mumford, A. Wright, and S. Bayliss.

DEVONPORT SERVICES.

BACK : F. Gilbert.THREE-QUARTERS : Donaldson, Hoar, Du Boulay, and Metherell.HALF-BACKS : Knappman and Evans.FORWARDS : Gardner, Phelps, Edwards, Coyte, Keift, Priddey, Germon, and Penny.

Referee : Mr. J. T. Curtis.

THE GAME.

Smart kicked off for Gloucester, and play opened quietly at the centre. The City front at length dribbled away, but good kicking sent them back, and the game was fought out in the home half. Millington getting a short punt charged down, the Services broke clear and the City were called upon to defend. Collett stopped a dangerous loose rush pluckily, but the Services came again, only being held up on the line.

Millington twice missed passes from Gough close in, but Gloucester managed to clear by the aid of a penalty. Gilbert was collared in possession, but managed to pass, though the visiting backs could do nothing. A little later Gilbert robbed the City forwards cleverly and punted to touch at the centre. Then came a smart bout of passing by the City threes. Cook burst through strongly and passed to Daniell, and when pressed the latter sent back inside, but the ball went astray.

Millington, from the next scrum, got clean through the opposing three-quarters, and when faced by Gilbert threw wide to Cook, but the latter was collared from behind. The ball, however, rolled loose and over the line, and a visitor who had got back was promptly collared. A scrum ensued a few yards out, but Gough was penalised for off-side, and the Services got out of danger.

Even play followed, the visiting forwards playing with great determination and using their feet well. From a kick down Gilbert fielded nicely and more than recovered the ground with a good touchfinder. Then a penalty to Gloucester enabled the City to reach their opponents' end, but the Services quickly changed the venue with a sharp forward rush.

Another penalty to Gloucester saw Millington take a shot for goal, but it fell short, and Gilbert punted back in fine style. The City, working well together, reached the Services 25, where Cook brought off a great run, just falling a victim to Gilbert, who tackled low. The Services were being pressed severely now, but the defence was very keen. Gloucester confined play to the Devonport half, where Cook punted down to Gilbert, but the latter dodged Brown and Hughes and sent to touch cleverly.

A fine effort by Stanley Cook, who burst clean away down touch, looked promising for a try, for Daniell was alongside him. When the wing man received, however, he stepped over the touch line, and the chance was lost.

From loose passing by the City a visitor picked up and raced away with two or three colleagues in attendance. The Gloucester marking, however, was effective, and the movement was checked.

Back Gloucester came, but there was a lack of finished combination when the ball got out and nothing was done. Eventually Gough broke away on the short side of the scrum and fed Daniell, who dashed down in fine style and cross-kicked over the line. Voyce and Ayliffe made a great effort to reach the ball, for which they dived together with an opponent, but the referee awarded a touch-down only.

From the drop-out Lawson made a good mark, and with a capital kick found touch some 30 yards ahead. Gloucester had the better of the exchanges to the interval, but failed to turn to good account one or two possible chances of scoring.

HALF-TIME SCORE : GLOUCESTER Nil SERVICES Nil

On the resumption Gloucester showed up strongly at the outset, and Daniell was prominent by tackling a couple of opponents one after the other. A fine rush was spoiled by Mumford getting off-side, but a little later Cook, with a short punt, enabled his forwards to get up and tackle Gilbert in possession. Carrying a couple of scrums the City front rushed to near the posts, when a home player was badly fouled. A penalty kick followed, and from the easy position Millington kicked a goal, the ball hitting the left upright and bounding over the cross-bar.

Gloucester attacked again on the restart, and in a couple of minutes the Services were again penalised for an infringement. Millington took another place for goal and added three more points with a beauty.

The Services resumed, but the City, who were going strongly, were soon on the aggressive. Millington and Daniell dribbled cleverly down touch, but lost the ball near Gilbert. However, from a scrum the ball came out to Stanley Cook, who with a sharp dash for the corner got the ball safely over the line. Millington landed a wonderful goal, and Gloucester were now 11 points up.

Mainly through the efforts of Gilbert, who kicked finely all through, the Services gained a footing in the Gloucester end. Voyce, however, was instrumental in changing the venue, the International getting in a strong run, passing and getting a repass for a perfect opening. The next transfer, however, was forward, and a splendid movement went unrewarded.

Gloucester continued to have all the game, and after Gough had nearly got through the ball was kicked over the line. A visitor punted out straight to Daniell, who scored easily, for Millington to kick his fourth goal.

The Services resumed, but they could not go the pace. They were soon placed on the defensive, and from a pass by Gough, Brown scored easily. This time Millington missed the goal points.

For a few minutes after the restart the visitors maintained a footing in the Gloucester half, but Cook put the City ahead with a clever punt, which Gilbert could not field. Hughes came along with a nice speed and, taking the ball over the line, scored a good try. Millington goaled. Before the end Daniell added to Gloucester's lead following a smart bit of work by Hughes, and the goal points were added.

Then the Services set up an attack, and from a forward scramble near the home line they scored amidst hearty cheering. The place kick failed.

There was time still for more scoring, and Daniell obliged after a capital sprint, Millington failing with the goal kick. The end soon after arrived.

RESULT : GLOUCESTER 6 goals (2p) 2 tries (32 pts.) SERVICES 1 try (3 points)

REMARKS.

The Services collapsed in a remarkable manner in the second half, and Gloucester had matters all their own way. Features of the game were the splendid form of Stanley Cook, who was repeatedly in evidence with brilliant efforts, and the successful goal kicking of Millington, who, besides landing two penalty goals, converted for out of six tries. Hughes shaped very creditably at centre, and there is little doubt he will get a further trial.

The outstanding figure for the Services was Gilbert at full back, who played a remarkably fine game, his kicking and saving being immense.