

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1921.

FOOTBALL.

GUY'S BEATEN POINTLESS.

THREE CLEVER TRIES BY GLOUCESTER.

STRENUOUS FORWARD PLAY IN SECOND HALF.

The famous Guy's Hospital team made their second appearance at Kingsholm to-day, and the Londoners brought a powerful side, including Doherty and Graham Davies, the Irish and Welsh International players, and a strong contingent of South Africans.

The Hospital had not taken part in a match since the last Saturday in September, when they defeated Coventry by a single point. The side Guy's fielded at Kingsholm was materially strengthened by the return of C. L. Steyn (the well-known sprinter) and P. J. Albertijn to the three-quarter line, the latter playing centre in place of Krige, the English International.

With one exception – Burns for Collett at full-back – Gloucester were represented by the same combination as beat Bristol last week. Last year Guy's failed at Kingsholm, being defeated by two tries to a penalty goal, but they won the return at Honor Oak Park by 3 goals (2p), 1 try (14 points) to 2 goals (1p) (8 points).

Brilliantly fine weather prevailed, and there was a splendid attendance of spectators. There was a late hour change in the Guy's team owing to Graham Davies being indisposed. Schalkwijk went centre from outside half, and E. L. Sprong partnered Bekker at the scrum. The ground, thanks to the welcome rain on Thursday night, was in capital condition.

Teams : –

#### GLOUCESTER.

BACK : T. Burns.

THREE-QUARTERS : S. A. Brown, C. E. Hughes, F. Webb, and N. Daniell.

HALF-BACKS : W. Dix and T. Millington.

FORWARDS : S. Smart (capt.), J. F. Lawson, T. Voyce, F. W. Ayliffe, A. Hall, G. Holford, J. Harris, and Major Roderick.

#### GUY'S HOSPITAL.

BACK : A. K. Van Niekerk (16).

THREE-QUARTERS : C. L. Steyn (17), P. K. Albertijn (18), J. G. Van Schalkwijk (6), and A. Hirscheberg (5).

HALF-BACKS : F. Bekker (19) and E. L. Sprong (7).

FORWARDS : W. D. Doherty (8), R. H. F. Duncan (10), E. Nesar (9), W. H. Taylor (11), A. H. Shelswell (20), F. J. Biddle (12), O. Zondagh (13), and E. H. Fouraker (14).

Referee : Mr. J. Southby (Bristol).

#### THE GAME.

The visitors were accorded a splendid reception on entering the playing enclosure. The toss favoured Gloucester, and Smart deputed the Hospital to start against the sun. Doherty failed to send the ball the necessary ten yards, and a scrum followed at the centre. The visitors broke up quickly, but lost the ball, and the City front dribbled away until checked by Albertijn. The ball later came to Millington, who with a nicely-judged punt found touch at the Hospital 25.

Play hovered here for a few minutes, until Dix served Millington with a high pass, which the vice-captain took cleverly and fed Hughes. The centre, however, was immediately tackled, and the ball rolled clear to Niekerk, who punted out to Brown. The latter marked, and punted back, but the return was sent to touch just outside Guy's quarter line.

Scrambling forward play was witnessed until some Gloucester passing broke down, and the Londoners dribbled away to beyond midfield. Off-side by Guy's lost them 20 yards, and then came a lovely movement by the City backs.

Dix started it from the scrum, and the ball came along perfectly to Brown on the left. Cutting inside cleverly the wing man raced down and made a sweet opening for Voyce, who brushed the full back aside and scored a fine try near the posts amidst frantic cheering. Millington added the goal points, and Gloucester were five up in less than ten minutes.

Guy's resumed, and after a short spell at the centre the visitors were awarded a free, but Roderick returned well to touch. Heeling by the Gloucester forwards saw Hall break through finely and send out a wide pass to Webb, who transferred to Hughes. The left centre dashed ahead, but in trying to cut between a couple of opponents he was collared. He, however, got rid of the ball cleverly, and Gloucester made further headway. A free to Guy's recovered the ground, and midfield play ensued.

Some exciting forward exchanges ended favourably for Gloucester, who dribbled finely until checked by Schalkwijk. Dix was prominent with some good tackling, and then Bekker and Hirscheberg combined in a pretty bit of combination down touch, the latter eventually falling to a good tackle by Burns.

Guy's, with loose footwork, made a few yards, but offside cost them a free, though the kick did not gain much ground. Two frees fell to the Hospital for scrum infringements, but Schalkwijk's attempts to drop goals fell a long way short. With a sweet breakaway on the short side Dix fed Daniell close to touch. The wing man cross-kicked cleverly, but off-side spoiled it.

By great efforts Gloucester worked to their opponents' 25, where some stirring work was witnessed. Smart, with a sharp punt to touch, put the City well down, and a scrum was formed close in.

Here the home men gave Dix possession, and he and Millington with re-passing enabled Dix to score a smart try, which Millington failed to convert. This was a well-thought-out try between the Gloucester half-backs, and fairly beat the defence.

Guy's resumed, Webb replying to Steyn, who knocked on in taking the ball. Dix opened out well to Millington from the scrum, but the latter misfielded. Dix, however, robbed the opposing forwards of the ball and took a flying kick to touch. At this point there was a slight delay owing to Sprong being knocked out, but after attention he was able to resume.

Continuing, the Londoners, aided by a clever run by Hirscheberg, had a good chance, but they mulled it, and Webb picking up put in a huge punt to Niekerk. The latter lost sight of the ball with the sun in his eyes, and misfielded. Daniell came up at a rare pace and dribbled away. Albertijn got back and tried to pick up, but he, too, was at fault, and Daniell getting the ball again kicked over the line and registered a very fine solo try. Millington kicked a goal, giving Gloucester a 13 points lead. Good for the City, who had played splendidly for all their points.

Clever work by Sid Brown on the resumption raised hearty cheers, for it gave Gloucester the advantage again. Millington, however, was unfortunate in missing a sharp pass from Dix, and Bekker kicked to touch beyond the centre. Here play operated at the interval.

HALF-TIME SCORE :  
GLOUCESTER ..... 2 goals, 1 try  
GUY'S ..... Nil

Guy's had been a well-beaten team in the first half, for though the forwards played a strenuous game the cleverness of the Gloucester backs had proved too much for them. The City now had to face the sun's rays, but even with this disadvantage Guy's would have to show far better form than in the opening stages to get anything like on terms.

There was some capital exchange kicking on the restart, and then, for obstruction, Guy's were penalised, Millington making a grand effort for goal from near the centre, the ball falling a few yards short. The visitors punted out, and Burns knocking on, a scrum was ordered inside the home half. Gloucester came away from this point, thanks to a splendid kick by Webb, which Daniell followed up but missed the bounce of the ball.

From a scrum Dix served Millington, but in side-stepping the vice-captain slipped to the ground and the ball went loose. It was kicked across the ground, where Hughes fielded and cut straight up the field in clever fashion. He was eventually forced to pass, and the ball went astray.

Later, Millington and Webb were conspicuous with some clever work, but the defence held out. Following this was some fast and exciting play, Guy's working strenuously together. From good play by Doherty a good opening was obtained, but the Gloucester tackling was very deadly. The City quickly changed the venue, aided by a run and cross-kick by Daniell, who raced up and put his men on side. Guy's saved the situation, and a big kick by Niekerk transferred operations to the other end.

Millington, with a beautiful touch-finder, sent play back, but Bekker and Steyn with neat play gave the defence some trouble. Bad passing, however, spoiled the effort, and Hughes nipping in cleared. From more loose handling by the visitors Webb picked up and dodged his way through, but something went wrong and the move was stopped.

A free to Gloucester saw Millington punt high, and Smart following up well forced a visitor to kick straight to touch. The City had the better of the exchanges for a time, but mistakes gave the Hospital an opening, Albertijn running hard. He held on too long, however, and Hughes upset him. The Londoners maintained a footing in the home half, and eventually they forced a minor with a kick over the line. Subsequent play was a rough and tumble amongst the forwards, there being too much playing of the man instead of the ball.

Bekker at length sneaked a pass from Dix intended for Millington and made off towards Burns, but he fell to the ground and nothing resulted. A misfield by Burns allowed the ball to go to touch near the Gloucester line. Matters were exciting for a minute or two. Holford, however, broke away from a throw-out, and though the ball eventually got amongst the visiting backs they could do little with it.

Play was in the Gloucester 25 when Dix, Millington and Daniell beat the defence cleverly with inter-passing. A high punt was well taken by a Londoner with his back to the game, but he was upset, and some close exchanges ensued. Eventually the Guy's backs indulged in some passing, but Hughes floored Albertijn and successfully put a check to the movement.

Play continued to be confined mostly to the forwards, and was very scrappy at times. When the ball did get out the backs did not travel far, the tackling being very close and sure. Towards the end Gloucester attacked resolutely, and Brown with a sharp dash put the City close.

Several scrums were fought out in close proximity to the Guy's line, and from one Dix put Millington in possession. Hughes received and tried to cut through, but he was overwhelmed. A minute later Brown crossed from a pass by Hughes, but the transfer was adjudged forward. Guy's with a special effort removed the pressure and reached midfield, where the game was being waged when time was called.

#### RESULT :

GLOUCESTER .... 2 goals, 1 try (13 points)

GUY 'S HOSPITAL ..... Nil

#### REMARKS.

Gloucester owed their triumph to the cleverness of the backs in the first half, during which period play was fast, keen and open. For the most part the Hospital were a well-beaten side up to the interval, but Doherty altered his tactics in the second portion, and keeping the ball as close as possible the game lost a good deal of its attractiveness.

Strenuous it was and exceptionally keen, but too often it was a case of playing the man instead of the ball. The Londoners had three distinct chances of scoring after the change of ends, but reckless or faulty handling spoiled the movements. Gloucester, too, missed opportunities owing to errors in passing – mistakes which more than once allowed the Hospital to change defence into attack.

Gloucester played clever football at times, the combination of the backs being excellent, and the three tries obtained were thoroughly deserved. The City forwards fully maintained their reputation for sustained dash, and a lot of good work was witnessed both individually and collectively.

In out of touch play, Hall, Holford, and Voyce were frequently noticeable, and in the loose some clever footwork was displayed in which Smart, Harris and Lawson shone. The City were up against a lively set, who were all out to the finish, but the Gloucester men were never mastered, and in the rough and tumble they were quite able to hold their own.

No quarter was given in tackling on either side, and when a man was fairly in the clutches he had to go down. The close marking contributed not a little to the inability of the backs to properly time their transfers. For Guy's, Doherty, Shelswell, Fouraker, and Nesor were a particularly hardworking set, following up keenly and making full use of any slip on the part of opponents.

As previously remarked, the best combined efforts came in the first half, and Gloucester easily stood out as the best back division. The Guy's men had plenty of pace at three-quarter, and there were a few solo runs which promised well, but finish was lacking.

At half-back Dix and Millington outplayed the opposing couple until the vice-captain received a nasty shaking up, which undoubtedly affected his play afterwards.

Dix worked the scrums with characteristic smartness and effect, and he delivered his passes with unerring accuracy. The try he scored was the result of a movement that had the Guy's defence beaten all the way. It was tried again later, but the Hospital men were not to be caught a second time. Millington was not himself after he was knocked out, but nevertheless he got through a lot of effective work, and again, with Dix, contributed largely to the success of the side.

Bekker tried hard to get equal with Dix, but the South African often found the task beyond his powers. Once, however, the Colonial had the laugh of the little Gloucesterian by snapping up one of his passes out and trying hard for a score. Sprong was useful with out being particularly prominent.

The City three-quarters, apart from one or two errors in handling, played enterprising football, and as a line they did better than in any previous match. Hughes was watched with keen interest, and the young centre fully confirmed the good impressions already formed of him. Quick away, he wastes no time in heading for the goal line, and the way he cut through several time this afternoon bore the hallmark of an experienced player. In defence Hughes was equal to all demands; he tackled effectively and went down to rushes without the slightest hesitation.

Webb was sound in all that he did, and it was not his fault one or two special efforts did not fructify. The wings – Daniell and Brown – both did well, the latter showing the best form for a long period. It was mainly due to him that Guy's defence was beaten the first time, though Voyce's final dash which carried him over was typical of the International. Daniell was again among the scorers – an opportunist try all on his own practically. It was a fitting reward for keen following up.

Guy's have been out of practice for a fortnight, but the line that figured against Gloucester should have done better considering the reputation of the man.



Steyn is a speed merchant on the track, but he is not a great footballer, and Albertijn displayed anything but the form the Metropolitan critics give him credit for. Perhaps we have been unlucky in not seeing the best of the South African at Kingsholm. Schalkwijk, out of his usual position, kicked well at centre, but made few real openings. The best football was shown by Hirscheborg, who ran strongly, dodged well, and was seldom at a loss what to do to the best advantage for his side.

It is recognised Burns is only a temporary full back. He did fairly well to-day, but had not the length in his kicks possessed by Niekerk. Both misjudged the flight of the ball when playing against the sun, and their catching was not always safe.

Next week Cardiff are due at Kingsholm, and the Welsh Metropolitans, after their great win over Swansea at St. Helen's last week, will no doubt fancy their chances. Cardiff supporters are coming up in strong force, and the contest should provide one of the keenest struggles of the season.

W.B.

GLOUCESTER A WIN AGAIN.

TOO GOOD FOR OLD BOYS.

Gloucester A visited Hempsted on Saturday afternoon, and engaged in an interesting match with the Old Boys. In the early stages of the game the home team played up well, putting up a strenuous fight, and managing to keep the City Seconds pretty well confined to their own territory. They were the first to score, the opening try being credited to Collier. Washbourne showed up with a good run, and then from a line-out the Gloucester threes handled, and Crowther ran through with a splendid try. The Old Boys responded with a second try, Armstrong, one of the home pack, taking advantage of a punt by Collett, which was charged down.

With the change round Gloucester were not troubled by the sun, and proceeded to put on points. Crowther had just the chance which suited him, and after a smart run he kicked over the full-back's head and raced the opposition in fine style. Of the remaining tries Washbourne scored two, both of them being after outstanding efforts, particularly his last, which came after a run over half the field. Allen was the other scorer, his try being the result of a clever dash through a crowd. The attempts at conversion were poor, James kicking the only goal.

The Old Boys played a plucky game, but they were unable to sustain the pace, and cracked up towards the end. Their forwards were very good, but the back division were outclassed. Washbourne and Crowther were an excellent combination, and Allen and Gibbs did well, but the last named hurt his foot early on, and was handicapped. The forwards, when they settled to their work did very well, particularly in the lines out; and the halves and Collett did their share in winning.

RESULT :

Gloucester A ..... 1 goal 4 tries (17 pts.)

Old Boys ..... 2 tries (6 pts.)