

# THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1921.

## FOOTBALL.

### GLOUCESTER'S WIN OVER CARDIFF.

At Kingsholm, on Saturday, Gloucester defeated Cardiff by 1 goal (5 points) to 1 try (3 points). Daniell scored the try for Gloucester, and Millington converted, and Dean crossed for Cardiff, Wallace failing with the goal kick.

'The general verdict (remarks the "Daily Mail") was that there would have been a great match if the weather had kept fine. Nearly everything that should have been best in the football was lost in a storm. The finest qualities of both teams were scattered by a gale of wind or washed out by torrents of rain. Inevitably the game was largely a scramble; but it was a very robust, quick-moving scramble, a wild whirl of a scramble, and there came a time when tactics, to say the least, were not too nice. Excitement appeared to be playing havoc with impressionable natures. And when a man is wet through, blinded by rain, and unable to play the game of his choice his outlook on the world is seldom kindly.

Had a weak referee been in charge of the match it might have degenerated into an unedifying rough and tumble; but F. W. Nicholls, of Leicester, was firm and stern, quick to spot an infringement, quick to admonish, strong enough to be obeyed. The big man of that second half was not to be found among the players. The big man was the referee. It was not a game in which much individual distinction was possible. It was good, all round team work that counted. In spite of their win, Gloucester could not claim any appreciable superiority, but by their success they maintained an unbeaten record.'

If Gloucester can always rely on the good fortune they were favoured with on Saturday (says the "Western Mail," Cardiff) it is extremely unlikely that they will ever lose their ground record. Without dragging in the weather, disallowed tries, queer decisions, and probabilities which might have been actualities, the trend of the play stamped Cardiff as the better team, and they were singularly unfortunate in not winning, or at the very least drawing, because their superiority was most marked in a department in which Gloucester's main strength was concentrated.

Not for a good many years has a Welsh pack gained so complete an ascendancy over a leading English side as the Taffsiders did in that memorable second half. Both Wallace and Kerwood (Gloucester's full-back from Lydney) did remarkably well under the circumstances. The Cardiff full-back kicked splendidly against the wind, and the Gloucester man was always sound.

Millington, the home stand-off half, ignored his three-quarters, but his kicking in the second half was of great service to his side, and frequently drove the visitors back at critical moments in the second half. Idris Richards and his colleagues in the pack were magnificent, and in the opposing eight Holford, Smart, and Voyce were outstanding figures.

#### GLOUCESTER v. OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

#### CITY TEAM TO VISIT OXFORD ON WEDNESDAY.

On Saturday afternoon the Oxford University secretary telegraphed an invitation for the Gloucester team to visit Oxford on Wednesday, either for a guarantee or a return fixture next season. The players were sounded, and the majority expressed willingness to make the journey if possible. Accordingly the invitation was accepted, and it is hoped a strong side will be got together to engage the University Fifteen.