THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1921.

FOOTBALL.

GLOUCESTER DRAW AT MOSELEY.

BRILLIANT LOOSE WORK BY THE CITY FORWARDS.

It was only the skeleton of the regular Gloucester team that visited Moseley to-day. Nine players were engaged with the County at Bristol, and Smart was standing down owing to a bereavement; whilst a further handicap was the inability of Sid Brown and M. Evans to make the journey.

Last season practically a Gloucester reserve team accounted for Moseley at Kingsholm very easily, but in the return match at Birmingham the First Fifteen were given a much harder task, winning by 24 points to 11 as against 29 to nil at home.

Moseley, who were greatly strengthened this afternoon by the inclusion at three-quarter of E. C. Kinghorn (the Bradford and Yorkshire three-quarter) and Capt. J. B. Minch (the Irish International), fielded a strong side, and were fully expected to make a big bid for victory.

Teams : -

GLOUCESTER.

BACK : A. J. Kerwood.
THREE-QUARTERS : S. R. Crowther, W. Washbourne, E. H. Hughes, and N. Daniell.
HALF-BACKS : T. Gough and F. Meadows.
FORWARDS : J. Harris (captain), S. Bayliss, A. Wright, E. Richardson, C. Mumford, H. G. Mountford, H. W. Collier, and F. Mansell.

MOSELEY.

BACK : J. A. Pritchard.

THREE-QUARTERS : E. Foster, Captain J. B. Minch, E. C. Kinghorn, and F. R. Santall.

HALF-BACKS : W. H. Hill and G. D. Rosser.

FORWARDS : A. Woodward (captain), L. M. Abbott, J. Cooper, J. R. McDowell, R. F. Whittindale, J. Hubbard, A. G. Watson, and H. W. Coates.

THE GAME.

The crowd was quite a good one and they had something to enthuse over, for in the first minute Foster kicked a fine penalty goal. Kinghorn missed a favourable opportunity for the home side after a clever bout of passing.

Moseley were playing strongly, but Kerwood cleverly pulled up Foster when he was almost through. The Gloucester forwards now took a stronger grip of the game and gave their backs more chances with some hard scrummaging.

Foster and Kinghorn again put Moseley on the good movement[*sic*], which Kerwood again met with cool defensive play.

Behind the scrums there was no comparison between the teams, the handling and passing of the visitors backs leaving much room for improvement. A well-judged touch kick by Kerwood relieved the Gloucester line and Hughes had a chance, following a run by Daniells, but he was forced into touch near the line.

Foster and Kinghorn again put Moseley on the attack and some really clever passing was seen, but the Gloucester backs [word unreadable].

The visitors again played stubbornly and a combined run by the threes saw Washbourne get over for a try, Meadows failing with the goal kick.

HALF-TIME SCORE : GLOUCESTER 1 try MOSELEY 1 goal (p)

In the second half Gloucester were much the superior side, and their three-quarters took a good hold on the game.

Early on Hughes obtained a try for the visitors, but Kerwood failed from a fairly easy position. Moseley now put on pressure through several forward rushes, and a bout of passing between Rosser, Kinghorn and Santall ended in the latter getting a try in the corner. Cooper, who took the place-kick, failed from an awkward position.

Daniells and Hughes made ground for the visitors, but Pritchard tackled in time, and then Santall was well held by Kerwood as he was getting through again. Moseley only made occasional bursts, and were generally well held.

A free kick awarded Moseley well up was nearly converted by Foster. For a time Gloucester were predominant, the home men being hemmed in.

Kinghorn smartly fetched down Gough after Hughes had cut out an opening. The following up of the Gloucester forwards was brilliant. Washbourne and Crowther went close.

Moseley broke the spell, a kick by Foster sending the visitors back. Later Pritchard just disposed of Daniells in time. Moseley improved towards the finish, Foster and Santall combining well, but Kerwood prevented Foster from touching down and relieved. A fast run by Daniells and Gough was nullified by smart tackling on the part of Pritchard.

> RESULT : GLOUCESTER 2 tries (6 points) MOSELEY 1 goal (p) 1 try (6 points)

REMARKS.

(By our Birmingham Correspondent.)

Gloucester, considerably weakened by absentees, did very well indeed to force a draw. Moseley, although they had the assistance of Kinghorn, were never at any time superior to the visitors.

The Gloucester forwards took a strong hold of the game through following up, enabling their backs to be constantly on the attack. Kinghorn and Santall were Moseley's best players.

CHELTENHAM A TROUNCED BY GLOUCESTER RESERVES.

VISITORS LACK COMBINATION.

In consequence of the calls of the County team and the Premier team, Gloucester A had to call largely upon members of local clubs to make up their fifteen for the match with Cheltenham A at Kingsholm. This was the first time Cheltenham had sent a reserve team to Kingsholm for some years. The attendance was poor.

Teams : –

Gloucester A. – J. C. Collett; W. Poole, R. H. James, A. E. Hopcroft, and J. W. Gibbs; T. Burns (capt.), and G. Poole; E. Curtis, T. Taylor, T. Bridges, S. Davis, Bishop, A. E. Taylor, J. Hawker, and J. Hinton.

Cheltenham A. – R. Butt; W. Fellows, H. Willavise, H. Hughes, and A. Barnett; C. Taylor and H. Fitz; F. Bell, F. Tibbles, W. F. Hopkins, N. Payne, A. Smith, J. Tuck, Al. Rawlins, and G. W. Cole.

Referee : Mr. James (Bream).

The home team started, and immediately penetrated to the Cheltenham goal line, where a minor was conceded. Then Hughes put in a good kick, and Fellows, who intercepted, raced for the Gloucester line, but Collett effected a good tackle and the movement failed.

Gloucester indulged in a pretty bout of passing in which Burns shone. James was the first to open the score with a try, the result of a short dash in, and then Gibbs secured another after inter-passing, which had the defence nicely beaten.

Off-side by one of the visitors led to a scrum well inside their quarter, and G. Poole getting possession raced round the blind side and scored near the posts, Collett again failing to add the goal points.

The visitors were now entirely on the defensive, and had great difficulty in keeping Gloucester out. After a couple of ineffective drops at goal the home threes handled again, and Hawker scored a try wide out.

The next to romp over was James, who put in a useful corkscrew run.

Cheltenham made an excursion into the home quarter, but they were soon dislodged. The Garden Towners came again, and Gloucester were forced to touch down.

> HALF-TIME SCORE : Gloucester A 5 tries Cheltenham Nil

On the resumption the City attacked with vigour, but the visitors were by no means played out, and after working free rushed to the Gloucester quarter and had very hard lines in failing to score, the ball going to touch-in-goal.

The City Reserves re-asserted themselves and rushed to the visitors' end, where Burns dribbled over and scored behind the posts. Hopcroft took the kick this time and goaled. Desirous, evidently, of figuring in the list of trygetters, Collett fielded a punt and raced for the line. He ran some thirty yards, giving the "dummy" nicely, but he was overwhelmed within a yard of the goal-line.

Then Cheltenham carried out a fine move from well inside their territory, and Cole finished off the effort with a useful dash and opened the visitors' account with an unconverted try.

Not content with this they rushed again, and one of their men punting forward found Collett unprepared, and Fellows ran up and scored. The kick was disallowed.

A change of ends and some smart handling by Burns and W. Poole let the last-named in with an unimproved try. Shortly afterwards Burns added another try after G. Poole had cut out a nice opening for him.

> RESULT : Gloucester A 1 goal, 7 tries (26 points) Cheltenham A 2 tries (6 points)

REMARKS.

In spite of the scratch nature of the Gloucester A team Cheltenham A were nowhere in it. They played up gamely, but were entirely lacking in combination, both in the front line and in the rear division. Hughes was their chief support, with Butt putting in some fair work.

The home side were not seriously tested, and the score should have been much higher had the threes handled as cleanly as they should. Collett again put in some powerful kicks, and Burns at stand off half was responsible for most of the openings leading to scores.