

THE CITIZEN

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1922.

FOOTBALL.

BRADFORD WELL BEATEN AT KINGSHOLM.

A CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS.

After narrow victories over Stroud and Cheltenham, Bradford appeared at Kingsholm on Monday for the City's last home match. A large holiday crowd witnessed the game, which was remarkable for the number of accidents which occurred. Gloucester were the chief sufferers, and practically all the second half the home team played thirteen men. At the finish three players – A. Wright and E. H. Hughes (Gloucester), and W. H. Hill (Bradford) – had to go to the Royal Infirmary for attention. Wright had a nasty gash in the head; Hughes sustained a broken collar-bone; and Hill was suffering from concussion.

In addition to these players, James, the Gloucester full back, had to retire in the first half with an injury to the back, the result of going down to a rush; and Brown, though he did not leave the field, was feeling very queerly at the end of the game owing to coming into collision with another player. All the mishaps were the result of pure accidents; for, though keenly contested, the play was entirely free from anything approaching roughness.

Bradford were beaten by 3 goals (1d, 1p), 3 tries (21 points) to 1 goal (d), 1 try (7 points). The game produced some bright movements, but was by no means a high-class display. Gloucester continually attacked in the first half, but finish was lacking. Millington opened with a penalty goal, and later, from a clever breakthrough by the vice-captain, Voyce crossed with a good try, which Millington converted.

Before the interval Dix dropped a smart goal. For Bradford, Myers and Holliday showed up with individual efforts and Crowther and Goring (the City recruit) ran strongly on several occasions.

James was knocked out before the change-over and had to retire. Millington started at full back, with Hall at outside half. Bradford scored early through Wrighton from a scrum close in, Myers failing with the kick.

After this Harrison opened out in the City 25, and Hughes, cutting through, gave to Crowther, who sprinted finely down touch. He punted past the full back, but was hit over and prevented from following up. Immediately after Hughes met with his accident, and Gloucester were reduced to 13. Voyce now went full back, Hall centre, and Millington resumed his old position.

With only six forwards Gloucester were hustled a good deal, and two men short in the lines-out was a severe handicap. The home team, however, more than held their own. A fine dribble by Ayliffe led to a hot attack on the visitors' line. Dix just failed to get through, but from a line-out Millington secured and went over. The place kick failed.

Bradford obtained a good position from the re-start owing to Voyce knocking on, but Brown relieve nicely. Then Wright went off for attention, and Gloucester played a few minutes with only five forwards. A clever move by Dix sent Millington away, and Crowther being served, the right wing made a splendid dash and punt. Myers got back to recover, but was well tackled by Millington and lost the ball; Crowther, snapping it up, scored in the corner. Millington missed the goal points.

A fine effort by Sid Brown after the resumption looked all over for another try, but in cutting inside he was collared. However, the City forwards carried on the movement, and Ayliffe, picking up, fed Holford, who added another try. No goal.

In the last ten minutes the Bradford backs shone in one beautiful round of passing, but with the defence beaten a forward pass lost a certain try. Voyce marked just afterwards ten yard from his goal-line. His kick was taken by Myers who, manœuvring for position, dropped a lovely goal with his left foot. This was the last of the scoring, and Gloucester were left winners by the substantial margin of 14 points.

Gloucester : R. H. James; H. Goring, E. H. Hughes, Sid Brown, and S. R. Crowther; W. Dix and T. Millington; S. Smart (capt.), G. Holford, F. Ayliffe, T. Voyce, J. Harris, A. Hall, M. Evans, and A. Wright.

Bradford : G. Edwards; R. C. Kinghorn, R. Myers (capt.), W. H. Hill, and C. H. Holliday; G. S. Marie, and J. R. C. Leach; G. Saville-Smith, D. Saville-Smith, C. H. Wrighton, G. M. Parker, W. C. Bateson, B. Burke, A. Crossley, and C. Adamson.

Referee : Mr. J. T. Curtis.