

# THE CITIZEN

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1922.

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL.

GLOUCESTER v. OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

FINE OPEN GAME.

SPLENDID WIN FOR GLOUCESTER.

Brilliant weather and a splendid crowd greeted Oxford University's team at Kingsholm this afternoon, and the conditions generally were all in favour of a fast and open game.

There were changes in both teams, Sid Brown and Coulson giving place to Crowther and Rea in the City team, whilst Macpherson and Wake dropped out of the visitors' side.

Mr. W. H. Baxter (English Selection Committee) was present at the match; as also were Sir James Bruton, Messrs. A. W. Stanton and M. P. Price, the rival candidates for the city.

GLOUCESTER.

BACK: J. C. Collett.

THREE-QUARTERS : N. Daniell, E. Hughes, S. Stone, and S. R. Crowther.

HALF-BACKS : T. Gough and F. Meadows.

FORWARDS : F. Ayliffe (captain), T. Voyce, G. Holford, S. Bayliss, A. Hall, A. Rea, S. Smart, and J. Harris.

## OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

BACK : H. W. Franklin (Christ's Hospital School and Christ Church).

THREE-QUARTERS : G. G. Aitken (N.Z. University and St. John's), V. H. Treatt (Sydney University and New College), J. V. Richardson (Brasenose), and C. E. Macintosh (Eastbourne and University).

HALF-BACKS : L. P. Hedges (Tonbridge and Trinity) and G. J. German (Rugby and Magdalen).

FORWARDS : G. Macdonald (South Africa and New College), R. H. Bettington (New), A. Shacksnovis (Capetown and Oriol), A. D. Grant (Winchester and B.N.C.), D. C. Fildes (Clifton and Balliol), H. J. Mallaby (Radley and Merton), and S. Seccombe (Felsted and Pembroke).

Referee : Mr. T. H. Vile (Newport).

### THE GAME.

Oxford started the game, but early on the University essayed some wild passing, and the Gloucester forwards dribbled away to inside the visitors' 25. Here a penalty gave Oxford slight relief, but the City quickly obtained a good attacking position. From a long throw out Voyce secured, and with a determined burst the International ran to within a few yards of the line, when he passed to Meadows, who scored easily behind the posts. Voyce kicked a goal, and Gloucester were up five points in less than as many minutes.

Subsequent play was in favour of Gloucester, but for several minutes there was no outstanding feature. Aitken, with a long kick through, sent past Collett, but the City custodian got back and returned with a lusty punt to touch.

Then a fast loose dribble by the home forwards was only stopped close in by Franklin. Some fine exchange kicking left honours with Oxford, but soon afterwards Gloucester attacked strongly, a try just being missed.

Oxford had a narrow escape soon afterwards from a cross-kick by Crowther after a neat opening by Meadows. Gloucester still kept up the pressure, and the visitors were lucky in saving on two occasions. Franklin eventually brought relief, and a strong run by a forward took play to the home half. Here from a punt by Meadows Richardson secured, and after passing Macintosh just failed to score, being thrown to touch-in-goal by Collett.

Gloucester had the better of the exchanges on the drop out, but Stone fumbled a promising bout of passing with his men well placed. A little later the Gloucester backs were again in possession, Stone cutting through nicely, but his pass was not accepted. This was followed by a clever break through by Meadows, who was only upset by Franklin five yards outside.

Gloucester missed a score immediately afterwards by inches, and then Oxford changed the game completely, and Gloucester luckily saved.

Subsequent play was fast, the game travelling up and down the field at a big pace. Macintosh, intercepting, had an open field with the exception of Collett, but the Gloucester custodian effected a great tackle amidst the cheers of the crowd.

Gloucester being penalised, Bettington with a grand kick ten yards inside the half-way line landed a goal for Oxford, the feat being loudly applauded.

HALF-TIME SCORE :  
GLOUCESTER ..... 1 goal  
OXFORD ..... 1 goal (p)

Gloucester should have held a much stronger lead than two points at the interval on the run of the play, but the City experienced a lot of bad luck. The second half opened with a series of muddles after Daniell had brought off a fine bit of footwork. Hughes threw the ball away wildly, and Crowther followed by kicking towards his own goal, with the result that the visitors narrowly missed a score.

Voyce, with a strong run and pass, enabled Gloucester to relieve, but Treatt replied with a beautiful run to Collett, but his pass was missed with an open line.

Exciting play ensued, Oxford giving the ball plenty of air. Hughes, however, intercepted once and secured an open field. He easily beat Franklin and raced hard for the line, but he was not quite fast enough, being overhauled by Richardson five yards outside – hard lines, for it was a magnificent individual effort.

Gloucester made desperate efforts to add to their lead, and some anxious scrums took place right under the goal. A lucky kick brought the desired relief, and centre play followed. Hall brought off a nice run and pass to Harris, and Gloucester looked likely to clear the defence, but the tackling was too good. Oxford just after lost German with a kick in the head, and resumed a man short.

The City started an attack on the left, but Voyce was yards off-side when Crowther cross-kicked. A minute later the Oxford forwards broke through to Collett, but the City custodian gathered the ball from their feet, dashed through, and put in a high punt to the right. Daniell raced up and took the ball in the air, and with a determined run got the ball over the line in the corner – a very fine try. Collett failed with the goal-kick.

Oxford did well on the resumption, and Hedges, from a pass by Shacksnovis, who was playing scrum half, made a lovely opening, but threw forward with a certain try in view.

The game continued very fast and open, both teams showing capital form. There was also some splendid tackling displayed. Near the centre the Gloucester half-backs opened out nicely to Stone, who slipped the defence cleverly and passed to Hughes. The latter sold Franklin the "dummy" nicely, and running hard for the line scored a great try, but Collett again failed at goal.

Play to the end was well-contested, but there was no further scoring, and Gloucester gained a splendid victory.

RESULT :

GLOUCESTER ..... 1 goal, 2 tries (11 pts.)

OXFORD ..... 1 goal (p) (3 points)

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