

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1923.

## FOOTBALL.

GLOUCESTER BEATEN IN TERRIFIC CONTEST AT HONOUR OAK.

GUY'S TOO CLEVER AND SPEEDY FOR CITY IN FIRST HALF.

BRILLIANT TRY BY VOYCE.

For their return match with Gloucester at Honour Oak, Guy's Hospital selected their strongest possible side, the medical students being very anxious to avenge the 16 points to nil defeat sustained at Kingsholm in October.

For some weeks past several of the leading Guy's players have been on the injured list, and the team, regarded as the strongest of the Metropolitan Clubs, has not been doing so well. But with the return of Steyn, Graham Davies, Bekker and Sprong, the back division to-day was considerably strengthened, and rendered Gloucester's task a formidable one. The City's two previous visits to Honour Oak both ended in defeat, but at Kingsholm Guy's had been equally unsuccessful.

With Oxford University engaged against Blackheath, Gloucester were deprived of the services of A. M. David, and later in the week both E. Hughes and F. Meadows intimated their inability to make the journey. Norman Daniell intended to have another game with the Seconds prior to resuming his place in the premier ranks, but the situation demanded his inclusion this week. As regards the other place in the three-quarter line, a decision was deferred until arrival in London. Ronnie James (full back) and A. Rea (forward) accompanied the team as reserves.

Tom Voyce (who had only made one appearance for the City in eleven weeks) was included in the selected team, and the presence of the International forward was doubly welcomed in the circumstances.

Teams :

### GLOUCESTER.

BACK : R. James.

THREE-QUARTERS : S. Brown, J. C. Collett, S. Stone, and N. Daniell.

HALF-BACKS : T. Gough and T. Millington.

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

### GUY'S HOSPITAL.

BACK : W. Badenhorst.

THREE-QUARTERS : H. Graham Davies, J. G. Van Schalkwijk, C. L. Steyn, and P. K. Albertijn.

HALF-BACKS : F. W. Bekker and E. L. Sprong.

FORWARDS : W. D. Doherty, W. H. Taylor, E. E. Nesar, B. G. Scholefield, N. M. Holloway, F. G. Hutchinson, G. Zondagh, and D. Vorster.

Referee : Mr. H. B. Cotter.

### THE GAME.

The weather was fine, but the ground was very soft on top and likely to cut up. The attendance was about 3,000.

Gloucester started, and play opened in favour of the Hospital, who broke away cleverly through Sprong, but the inside pass went astray. Millington relieved with a couple of good kicks, and later Holford dribbled well, but a long kick to touch put Gloucester on the defence. A penalty taken by Collett sent play to the centre, where Steyn with a fine kick found touch five yards from the Gloucester line. The forwards came away with a splendid loose rush half the length of the ground, but an infringement checked the movement. The shot at goal failed.

Guy's confined operations to the visitors' quarter, where Bekker opened out nicely. The ball was passed rapidly along the line to Steyn, who raced away and scored in the corner after ten minutes play. The kick at goal failed.

Guy's quickly returned to the attack on the re-start, and Albertijn nearly dropped a goal. By strong forward work the Hospital attacked, and Bekker starting a movement from a scrum Albertijn gave the double "dummy," and passing to Schalkwijk the latter ran over with a second try. No goal resulted.

So far Gloucester had been overplayed, the Guy's backs being far too clever and speedy for the City men, whilst the forwards were dashing in the loose.

By smart passing Guy's twice made considerable headway, and the defence was sorely tried. Gloucester at length showed up better, and the forwards took part in a fine loose rush, which Steyn stopped by running across and sending to touch.

The City lost their position by faulty play behind, and Guy's again attacked. Albertijn broke through in fine style, but his pass was intercepted, Gloucester saving luckily.

Collett was now playing full back and James centre, but Gloucester continued to have the worst of the exchanges. By a strong forward dash Holloway only just failed to cross, and then Albertijn after a brilliant run punted over the line, a touch-down resulting. Daniell twice showed up with good dribbles, but Gloucester as a whole could not make much impression.

Guy's opened up the game cleverly, and the backs handled with speed and precision. Once, however, Schalkwijk missed, and Stone picking up raced away and beat Badenhorst with a swerve. Steyn, however, came along and forced him to pass, the ball going forward and a fine chance of scoring being lost.

Gloucester played up strongly now, but a pass from Gough to Millington went astray, though nothing serious resulted. A penalty aided Guy's to change the venue, and Albertijn made another strong run, the Gloucester tackling being too high. The City, however, were holding their own and pressed, but just failed to score.

HALF-TIME SCORE ;  
GUY'S HOSPITAL ..... 2 tries  
GLOUCESTER ..... Nil

Guy's fully deserved their six points' lead, for until ten minutes prior to half-time Gloucester had been clearly outplayed, especially behind the scrummage, where the Hospital backs displayed clever tactics, combination and speed. The tackling of the City, however, was none too good, and Albertijn toyed with his opponents at times.

Resuming, Gloucester opened promisingly, but Guy's got on the aggressive with passing, Albertijn finally punting over the line near the post. Daniell, however, effected a fine pick up and clearance, though hotly pressed. Capital footwork enabled Gloucester to relieve a dangerous situation and centre play ensued. Here Millington seized an opening, and broke through with Voyce in attendance. Inter-passing between the pair followed, ending in Voyce scoring a brilliant try, which Millington failed to goal.

Gloucester resumed with vigour, but mistakes allowed a forward to dribble to Collett. The City custodian, however, gathered accurately, ran round and found touch with a big kick beyond the centre. Ensuing play was fast and keen, Gloucester showing wonderfully improved form.

The forwards especially put some devil into their work and tackled with deadly earnest. Gough serving Millington, the latter put in a short punt and, Badenhorst being collared, Gloucester were in a good attacking position. A free to Guy's, however, gave them relief; but only temporarily, as the City were away again, but Stone's pass to Daniell was not held.

After this the Gloucester forwards rushed half the length of the field, and only a remarkable save by Schalkwijk stopped a try. Immediately after Gloucester were nearly over again, Steyn this time coming to the rescue of his side. Subsequent play was stoutly contested, the battle between the forwards being terrific.

Guy's, by strong rushes and good kicking, reached the Gloucester half, when the home backs opened out, but Davies punted, and the ball going over the line a touch-down was recorded.

On the drop-out play was keener than ever, with Gloucester more than holding their own in all places. Splendid forward work by the City, Hall being very distinguished, gave Gloucester the advantage, but two penalties saved the situation for Guy's.

The last five minutes were very exciting. Gloucester struggled hard to save the game but without avail, and Guy's were returned the victors of a strenuous match by three points.

#### RESULT :

GUY'S HOSPITAL .... 2 tries (6 points)

GLOUCESTER ..... 1 try (3 points)

#### REMARKS.

Gloucester's recovery in the second half was remarkable, and on the run of the game the City deserved to have shared the honours. In the early stages the City could not find their form, the forwards being beaten for possession and the backs having a poor chance against their speedy opponents; but with the Gloucester front dominating the play in the second half the position was completely changed, and Guy's were rarely dangerous, whilst Gloucester with a shade of luck might easily have scored twice more.

It was a desperate struggle in front, but Gloucester outstayed their opponents and put in some splendid work after the change of ends. Hall, Roderick, Ayliffe, Voyce and Holford were especially noticeable, but the others all played soundly.

Behind, Gloucester were very moderate compared with their rivals in combination, and the attack lacked the snap and dash of the Hospital men, of whom Albertijn was the star artiste, but on several occasions weak tackling gave him a lot of licence. Collett did finely at full back, making some splendid clearances under pressure.

## GLOUCESTER A v. BATH A.

### CITY RESERVES GIVE A POOR DISPLAY.

Gloucester A were seen at Kingsholm this afternoon after an absence of several weeks, their opponents being Bath A. The weather was threatening, but there was a fair attendance.

Teams : –

Gloucester A : H. Charles; S. Crowther, J. W. Gibbs, T. Wadley, and E. Hughes; E. M. James and J. Rea; F. Mansell (capt.), M. Evans, H. W. Collier, T. Taylor, A. Wright, J. H. Webb, A. Owner, and P. Carter.

Bath A : J. Nudds; J. B. Hannah, W. Holbrook, H. MacDaniell, and W. M. G. Welland; F. Rhymes and H. G. Slade; W. H. Royal, L. W. Humphries, P. R. Skinner, S. Horwood, G. Collins, W. Fowles, P. Shephard, and P. Rowse.

Referee : M. G. L. Jones, Lydney.

Bath kicked off, but Wadley put in a good return. Then the ball was kicked down to Charles, who misfielded and was pulled into touch in his own 25. There Bath were penalised, but Charles did not gain much ground with the kick. Gibbs improved matters with a sharp burst and punt to touch.

From the line out there followed a series of kicks, and eventually Gloucester were awarded a penalty for off-side against one of the Bath backs. Charles just missed with a beautiful kick.

Twice Rhymes was penalised for off-side at the scrum, the second time losing valuable ground. Gloucester, who had not been doing too well in the scrums, now heeled better, and Hughes put in a ripping run, but was not supported sufficiently, and the movement failed.

Again the home three-quarters handled, but Crowther tried to cut through when too closely marked, and spoiled what looked like a real chance. Gibbs put in a couple of good attempts too near the line, and then was conspicuous with an effective tackle, spoiling one of the few Bath back movements. Gloucester continued their pressure and Rhymes was again penalised at the scrum, but Charles disappointed from an easy position.

Bath now played up much better, and aided by good work by Slade, worked down to the Gloucester 25. Hughes and Crowther playing smartly, initiated another attack, but could not get far against Bath's improved defence.

Fumbling by the visiting forwards enabled Hughes to kick down, and although Nudds put in a good return Bath got off-side and a scrum took place on their line. They cleared but the attack continued and Hughes was unfortunate not to get right through on several occasions. Then Holbrook broke away and ran half the length of the field. He was unsupported and when faced by Charles lost the ball.

The visitors could not keep up their attack and in a few minutes were defending desperately, Crowther, and later Gibbs, missing a score by the nearest margin. Just on half-time Crowther received and tried a drop for goal, which only just missed.

HALF-TIME SCORE :  
Gloucester A ..... Nil  
Bath A ..... Nil

Bath were lucky to have a clean sheet at half-time, for Gloucester had missed several scores by inches.

After a period of even play at mid-field, Nudds with a lengthy kick to touch put the visitors in a good position, which they maintained for some time, Slade doing a great deal to keep Bath on the offensive. Play was very scrappy, and although Hughes and others put in some good individual work, combination was lacking, and chances were not taken advantage of.

Bath continued their pressure, which had very little sting in it, until they were penalised, and Charles, who had greatly improved, relieved with a fine kick to touch.

Even now Gloucester were unable to hold their advantage, and again had great difficulty in clearing Bath from their 25. Crowther did so at last with a sharp dash, but it soon ended, and the Bath threes improved matters with a nice movement.

Gloucester now worked to the Bath end but the visiting forwards developed a dribble which carried them some distance until Jack Webb pulled them up. The home team were now having the better of matters, but continued to fumble.

A penalty against Bath at mid-field was well taken by Charles and from the line-out Crowther received and, putting in a sharp run, punted across, but Bath marked and from the kick rushed to the Gloucester line, which had a narrow escape.

Both sides now attacked in turn but the Bath attacks were more frequent and telling, and the Gloucester line was several times in danger. In the course of a home attack Bath were penalised inside their 25 but Charles could not cover the bar. Gloucester persevered to the end but could not score.

RESULT :

Gloucester A ..... Nil  
Bath A ..... Nil



## REMARKS.

Gloucester A gave a very disappointing display. Hughes put in some good individual work, but combination was lacking, and the team appeared to be entirely without scoring ability. True, Bath put in some sterling work in defence, but Gloucester's play was full of faults.

The forwards were well matched, both in the scrums and in the loose, but at half-back the Bath pair were smarter than James and Rea, Slade playing a particularly fine game and being easily the best man on the field.

The Bath three-quarters did not shine, but neither did the Gloucester third line. At back, Charles started very weak, but improved as the game went on. Nudds proved to be a very promising full back.

JC