

# THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1961

GLO'STER FLOUNDERED AFTER GREAT START

LLANELLY 10PTS., GLOUCESTER 8PTS.

Gloucester rocked both the spectators and the Llanelly players when they established a five-point lead after only ten minutes. There were more surprises as the game progressed – but it wasn't the Gloucester play which caused the astonishment. It was the number of chances which the Welshmen missed.

The visiting Cherry and Whites began the game with a magnificent try through the combined work of John Bayliss, Peter Ford, and Dick Smith.

This was no doubt Gloucester's finest moment, for they were not consistent afterwards in attack and Llanelly found great gaps in their threequarter line.

Bad passing and slipshod positioning prevented the home side crossing before half-time, although their threes were like greyhounds when given an open wing.

Alan Holder was also responsible to a considerable degree for the absence of Llanelly points on the scoreboard at half-time. He took on far more than his share of the defending and when the Welsh forwards rushed towards the Gloucester line it was often Holder who held the fort single handed.

LOWE IMPROVES

Mick Booth must have missed Hopson at outside half, and Jacky Lowe seemed a little slow off the mark although he improved as the game progressed.

Llanelly were unlucky when their winger Morgan crossed and touched under the posts for a try which was disallowed. The referee, Mr. D. Pritchard, had spotted a forward pass when the Scarlets' outside half Davies had passed to Morgan and many of the spectators were disgruntled with his decision.

### FORCED TO DEFEND

When play resumed after the interval, Gloucester seemed to be on the defensive more than ever, and it seemed that Peter Ford, who had made one or two breaks on his own during the first half, was the only Gloucester player who had heard of the maxim that "Attack is the best defence."

With the visitors at their lowest ebb, Llanelly's Morgan scored his two tries, both of which were converted by their full-back, Graham Young.

The arrears in which they found themselves must have shocked Gloucester after they had led for so long and Peter Meadows and Ford tried hard to regain some of the dash with which Gloucester began.

### TOO LATE

Unfortunately, it was too late to make amends. Although Meadows did manage to cross near the corner post Booth was unable to level the scores.

Gloucester had sparkled, floundered, and then shone again, whereas Llanelly had pegged away steadily and it was a case of the spasmodic team going down to the consistent team.