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GLOUCESTER v. BRISTOL

SATURDAY, MARCH 8th, 1930

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THE BRISTOL RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB.

No. 15 (contd.).—FINIS CORONAT OPUS.

On November 7 Cardiff Harlequins were defeated before 2,000 spectators. Bristol won by a goal and a try to nil, and the captain (W. Thomson) was carried shoulder high to the pavilion. On November 21 Vosper played in place of Flower. It was rather noticeable during this season that teams going away were very much weaker than those for home matches.

On December 5 H. B. Turner returned after an illness and got a great ovation. On December 19 C. Arthur (late of Cardiff) turned out against Bath, and Bristol won by 3 goals 6 tries to nil. Lockyer also started his long and valuable career. On December 26, against Bridgwater, R. F. Turner was given a trial at three-quarter. The report said: "R. F. Turner has never been seen to more advantage. His kicking was exceptionally fine, and on more than one occasion he came to the front just at the right moment and brought his team out of danger." Arthur Lawes appeared against Chepstow. He made a bigger mark as a referee. Six goals 6 tries to nil marked the debut of my colleague.

On January 23 another of my colleagues played, P. F. Dewar, on the three-quarter line in place of Fenner, injured. The match was played at the Chequers, Kingswood, and Mr. Edbrooke refereed. On the following Saturday the referee was Mr. W. Fairbanks, of Clifton College—Gloucestershire cricketer and a fine Rugby player (Cambridge, 1873-4). On February 6 Jack Gibbs deputised at back for his brother George (whose son played forward for Lancashire). Jack showed good form and was very cool. On February 13 the Cardiff match was lost by a try to nil before "an enormous crowd." Before the match, waiting for Cardiff, who were late, the team received caps from the hands of Mr. Goodenough Taylor. Friends of the club had subscribed the funds, and Mr. Dan Parsley, of Clare Street, produced caps of "an elegant design." On February 27 Penarth were beaten by a try to nil, largely through the superb efforts of Pearce and Marchant at half. We were also well served at back by Westcott (of Somerset). March 12 was devoted to a charity match, when Clifton showed sympathy by lending Parks-Smith at back and Birch and Ford in the pack. Birch kicked off for Clifton against Bristol a fortnight later, but changed sides the following season. Walter Hale made two or three appearances during this season. He appears in the press as J. Hale (of Knowle).

The club's photograph shows:—Back, Gibbs; three-quarters, Turner, Ashford, England, Fenner; halves, Pearce, Marchant; forwards, Vosper, Flower, Duffett, Thomson, Lockyer, Davies, Alcazar, Lockey. Touch judge, Chandler. President, W. H. Cowlin.

A peep at the list of life members will show how the committee appreciated and rewarded the services of these men, for Ashford, Fenner, Pearce (secretary for 15 years), Thomson, Turner and Pyke (treasurer) all appear.

Fenner headed the try-getters with 28 (and he also bagged a county cap), Turner 16, England 6, Arthur 4, Ashford 2; and of the forwards Lockey got 11, Lockyer 9, Thomson, Winter and Davies 5 each. No "one man team" this. The forwards played splendidly and did their full share of try-getting, whilst Fenner and Turner, helped by past experience, had also centres of better class than heretofore—men with mental as well as physical qualities and so able to visualise and carry out clever and successful tactics, offensive and defensive. Ashford was, in fact, the Corbett of the nineties in Bristol football.

From this season Bristol have not imitated Lot's wife; or, at all events, they have never looked back very far. In 1890 Gloucester "A" beat Bristol by 4 goals and a try to nil, but in 1892 the first team, as well as Devonport Albion, gave us fixtures. In 1893 Swansea became regular opponents. In 1895 Blackheath gave us a fixture, Newport following in 1896, when we reached almost the pinnacle of our desires, beating Blackheath. I must not lightly pass the word Newport, for Arthur Gould and his men gave Bristol such sympathy and support in those early days that it should never be forgotten; and did they not give us Billy Needs, than whom no more popular player ever donned the Bristol jersey?

It is not necessary to hunt up records of the club for recent doings. The regular and extended reports and comments of the local press, the splendid annual reports issued by the club, render the work of the Bristol club's future historian an easy task. Making no claim to infallibility, I have put together these notes purely *con amore*, and any corrections will be welcomed.

A real town club like Bristol, playing home-bred players preferentially, is a great incentive to the lads of the local schools. It is almost as great a thing to say "From the school team to Bristol" as it is to repeat the old slogan "From the gutter to the University." May Bristol players, spectators and officials continue to co-operate to keep flying high the flag of true sportsmanship, and may they ever stand high in honour in the world of Rugby.

K. A. Z.

Bristol Rugby Fixtures and Results to date.

DATE.	OPPONENTS.	Where Plyd.	R.	Pts.			DATE	OPPONENTS.	Where Plyd.	R.	Pts.		
				F.	A.						F.	A.	
1929							1930						
Sept. 7	Clifton	Away	W	34	0		Jan. 4	Cardiff	Away	L	3	19	
" 14	Cardiff	Home	W	11	6		" 8	(Wed.) The Army ..	Home	D	3	3	
" 18	(Wed.) Clifton ..	Home	W	22	5		" 11	Gloucester v. Cornwall ..	Home	W	23	0	
" 21	Old Paulines ..	Home	W	28	3		" 15	(Wed.) Royal Navy ..	Home	L	6	13	
" 28	Old Blues	Home	W	21	3		" 18	Royal Air Force	Home	W	9	5	
							" 25	Newport	Home	L	0	6	
Oct. 5	Gloucester	Away	W	7	5		" 29	(Wed.) Oxford University	Home	W	12	11	
" 12	Devonport Services ..	Home	W	19	11		Feb. 1	Cambridge University ..	Away	L	0	6	
" 19	St. Bar. Hospital ..	Home	W	22	6		" 8	Swansea	Home	L	3	4	
" 26	Rosslyn Park	Home	W	8	3		" 15	London Scottish	Home	W	11	5	
Nov. 2	Harlequins	Home	W	8	5		" 22	Richmond	Away	W	6	0	
" 9	R.N.E. College	Home	W	19	15		Mar. 1	Guy's Hospital	Home	W	35	7	
" 16	Devonport Services ..	Away	L	3	6		" 8	Gloucester	Home				
" 18	Redruth	Away	W	16	3		" 12	(Wed.) United Services	Away				
" 23	Bath	Home	L	3	6		" 15	Plymouth	Home				
" 30	United Services	Home	W	18	6		" 22	Bath	Away				
							" 29	Guy's Hospital	Away				
Dec. 7	Newport	Away	L	0	9		April 5	Pontypool	Away				
" 14	Coventry	Home	D	3	3		" 12	Harlequins	Away				
" 21	Leicester	Away	L	5	9		" 19	(Eas. Sat.) Leicester ..	Home				
" 26	(Boxing Day) Pontypool	Home	L	8	14		" 21	(Eas. Mon.) Blisheath	Home				
" 27	Old Merchant Taylors ..	Home	W	16	3		" 26	Plymouth	Away				
" 28	Swansea	Away	L	3	5								

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

To-day we give you the concluding article by K. A. Z. (Mr. A. C. Casling). Mr. Casling has rendered us a great service in compiling these articles. He has gone to much trouble and devoted much time that this record shall be authentic. It has been submitted to prominent old players and received their thanks. We hope to issue the articles in booklet form and sell at a small charge. Mr. Casling has the thanks of crowds of us who have read these contributions.

TO-DAY'S GAME.

It is unfortunate that this attractive fixture should clash with the Final for the County Championship, but there—we can't have it all ways. We have four representatives and Gloucester seven playing at Liverpool to-day. Both towns have capable reserves, so we should see a good game. Thank goodness that bitter spirit which existed at one time between us is gone. There is friendly rivalry, of course, but an excellent feeling now prevails with both clubs—committees and players. Gloucester seems to be able to overcome difficulties, and no doubt has a fine side again. It is possible this game may be affected again next season, as we have been offered the South Africa v. Gloucestershire and Somersetshire game when we meet on Oct. 4th. We extend a hearty welcome to Gloucester to-day.

THE RUGGER SERVICE.

The Bristol and District Rugby Council has arranged its fourth Rugger Service at the Cathedral for Sunday, March 16th. It is anticipated that the Cathedral will be filled as there is a general desire for such a service. The preacher will be the Rev. H. J. Hensman, A.K.C., Vicar of St. Catherine's, Gloucester. The Rev. Hensman is very popular at Gloucester and is a keen sportsman. He is a member of the Gloucester Rugby Committee. We ask for your presence and support. Our vice-captain, Don Burland, will read the lesson. Tickets may be obtained from the secretaries of our local clubs; also we have some for distribution on the ground to-day. Ladies are cordially invited. The collection will be divided between the St. John and the City and Marine Ambulance Corps. Now we do hope you will make the service a great success.

G.W.R. EXCURSION.

Next Wednesday we play the United Services at Portsmouth, and the G.W.R. is running a cheap trip—8/6 return. Trains leaves Temple Meads 8.15 and 10.28 a.m., arriving at Portsmouth 12.54 and 2.18. Leave Portsmouth at 5.18 p.m.

Also next Saturday there is a day trip to Paddington for the England v. Scotland game. Train leaves 7.45 a.m. 12/- return.

OMISSION.

Someone has purchased a programme with Siemen's advertisement on the middle page missing. If that person returns the programme immediately after the game to the Gymnasium there's a five bob prize awaiting him or her. Also complimentary tickets to the Zetland Road Picture House.

Please keep **this** programme, and you can, on its production at the Zetland Road Picture House, have two seats for the payment of one, excepting Saturday. This is for next week only. This offer is open to everyone who purchases a programme to-day.

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GLOUCESTER

Left Wing.	W. ASH (1)	Right Wing.
R. L. LOVERIDGE (2)	E. VOYSE (3)	L. ABBEY (4)
F. PRICE (6)—Scrum		A. HOUGH (5)
I. HEMMINGS (8)—Capt.	G. FOULKES (9)	D. MEADOWS (7)
D. CHRIGHTON-MILLER (11)		E. COMLEY (10)
T. HIAM (14)	K. SMITH (15)	F. RUSSELL (12)
		A. WEBB (16)

Referee:
R. I. SCORER
(Birmingham)



Kick-off 3.15 p.m.

B. PARSONS (M)	W. C. BROOME (N)	C. SMITH (O)
J. N. HAZELL (L)		C. O'NEILL (K)
W. H. HALE (H)—Capt.	F. J. COVENTRY (I)	F. TUCKER (J)
E. TUCKER (G)—Scrum		E. T. COLLINS (F)
A. W. LILLICRAP (B)	W. MONCRIEFFE (C)	T. P. BABINGTON (D)
		H. SHERMAN (E)
Right Wing.	T. W. BROWN (A)	Left Wing.

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