

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1935

GLOUCESTER 18 Pts., GUY'S HOSPITAL 11

SPLENDID PERFORMANCE BY WEAKENED TEAM

DAY SHOWS PROMISE AT SCRUM-HALF

SPECIAL BY "W.B."

Gloucester, with a considerably weakened team – a third of the regular side was absent – recorded a surprise victory over Guy's Hospital, at Honor Oak Park, to-day. Last season the Hospital won the corresponding match by 18 points to 8, after losing at Kingsholm by 37 points to 11.

Three members of the Gloucester team – Day, Thomas and Cale – were making their first appearance in an important match, and in positions likely to afford a severe test.

Day, an Old Cryptian, displaced Fifield at scrum-half, and he was in the original selection. Thomas and Cale came in at three-quarter owing to Tanner and Pugsley dropping out.

The International's withdrawal was unavoidable, as both his vicar and co-curate were ill, and it was impossible for him to get away. Endeavour was made to secure the services of Roy James in the emergency, but he, too, was unable to travel.

Hordern, Ken Smith and Ivor Williams were the absentees from the forwards – a serious weakening of the pack. A newcomer was Dr. Dick, who has been doing well for the United.

Guy's have suffered severely owing to injuries to players, and their record to date showed 10 defeats as against five victories, and an aggregate of 125 points for to 237 against. To-day they missed the valuable services of R. C. S. Dick, who was engaged for Scotland against the All Blacks.

GLOUCESTER

FULL-BACK: H. Boughton.

THREE-QUARTERS: W. Cale, J. C. Brooks, J. Thomas, and R. E. Hook.

HALF-BACKS: D. Meadows and E. Day.

FORWARDS: A. Carpenter, T. Price, A. Harris, J. G. A'Bear, R. Morris, A. Welshman, Dr. Dick, and N. Powell.

GUY'S HOSPITAL

FULL-BACK: C. Halamandres.

THREE-QUARTERS: D. M. Douglas, P. H. Birks, C. G. Wright, and R. M. De Gregory.

HALF-BACKS: K. A. Stanyon-Jacques, and I. McD. G. Stewart.

FORWARDS: P. Crampton, M. R. Kark, P. Hopkins, E. R. Davies, E. B. French, S. M. Whitteridge, R. O. Yerbury, and E. C. Sharp.

REFEREE: Mr. W. G. Warden.

The weather was fine, but the ground very heavy after the week's rain. There was only a few hundred spectators present.

THE GAME

Guy's kicked off, but two of their forwards were in front of the ball, and a scrum followed at the centre. Gloucester heeled quickly and opened out, but Brooks was well tackled, Scrambling play followed in the City 25, where the home team was awarded a penalty, and from 30 yards KARK kicked a neat goal. Guy's were thus three points up in as many minutes.

Gloucester restarted, and Meadows showed up with a clever dodgy run, but his pass went astray, and Guy's kicked into touch. Gloucester continued to have the better of the heeling, and the backs tried hard to break away, but the marking was too keen. Welshman led a splendid loose dribble for 20 yards before being checked, and this left play in mid-field.

ANOTHER GOAL BY KARK

Day set his backs moving nicely, and the ball went out to Hook, but the wing man failed to clear. Guy's got the better of more loose play, and in a combined rush Boughton was tested. He managed to save the position, but Gloucester were in danger. Meadows being penalised for off-side, KARK kicked another penalty goal.

This was a lucky lead for Guy's, and all against the run of the play.

Gloucester, however, were by no means disheartened, and they started with great vigour. The forwards carried the ball down the field in a splendid rush, and secured an attacking position.

MEADOWS' SPLENDID TRY

Day sent out a nice pass to MEADOWS, and the latter cutting through brilliantly, sidestepped the full-back, and finished a fine effort by scoring behind the posts. Boughton converted, and only one point separated the teams.

Keen forward play followed on the resumption, Gloucester doing well in the loose and lines out. Guy's were severely pressed for a few minutes, but saved luckily close in.

Useful punts brought relief, but Meadows shone in another pretty movement, and the ball being kicked over the line BROOKS raced up and secured the touch down. Boughton again converted, and Gloucester took the lead – well deserved on the play.

Guy's were overpowered in the scrums and the loose, and soon after the restart they were again on the defence.

With a dashing burst the Gloucester front took the ball over the line and PRICE following through, secured the City's third try. Boughton's kick failed. Subsequent play was fast and interesting with the Gloucester backs shaping up better in combination.

BOUGHTON'S HARD LUCK

A reverse pass by Meadows sent Brooks away and the captain made a determined run, but his pass inside was not accepted.

Guy's rushed to mid-field where Boughton made a great attempt to drop a goal from 50 yards. It looked as if he had scored, but the referee ruled against the points.

Gloucester continued to have the better of the exchanges and the handling of the backs showed a great improvement. Meadows and Brooks were prominent with good bursts, and Thomas twice tried hard to cut through, but was held from behind.

Day, at scrum-half was doing his share extremely well, serving Meadows with accurate passes at every opportunity.

A penalty to the Hospital eased the pressure on the line and play was at the centre when the interval was called.

HALF-TIME :

Gloucester 2 goals, 1 try
Guy's Hospital 2 goals (p)

After giving away six points in the early stages, Gloucester settled down to make amends. All round work was duly rewarded for the City worked splendidly together.

Day at scrum-half was a decided success so far. The backs, too, shaped in much better form.

Gloucester secured a footing in their opponents' end on the restart and looked dangerous. Meadows secured and dodged through, but made a mistake in throwing the ball to the right. The ball went astray and Guy's rushed away to the Gloucester 25.

GUY'S REDUCE ARREARS

They were only partially checked, and the ball being sent over the line YATES rushed up and scored. Kark kicked the goal and the score was 13–11 in Gloucester's favour.

This success encouraged the Hospital, who played up strongly and had the better of exchanges until a long punt by Brooks changed the position.

Gloucester worked desperately for another score, and following a fine forward run CALE crossed with a corner try. From the touchline Boughton kicked a grand goal and Gloucester were well ahead again.

Gloucester took up the running again on the restart, the forwards doing fine work. Brooks proved very difficult to tackle and shone both in attack and defence. A brilliant movement in which all the City backs handled, looked promising for a try, but Cale was tackled outside.

Guy's were hotly pressed for two or three minutes, but an interception by Jacques eventually cleared. Gloucester, however, returned to the attack with great determination and the home line was lucky to escape on several occasions.

KEEN FORWARD STRUGGLE

The struggle forward continued with considerable keenness, but the Gloucester eight held the advantage, especially in heeling.

Meadows varied his tactics cleverly, but Guy's marked closely and kept their opponents out. Once a pretty round of passing looked promising, but Dick securing an inside pass from Cale, took a drop at goal and missed with his three-quarters well placed.

After a severe spell on defence, Guy's, who combined with forward rushes, worked out to the centre where play was desperately contested. Play was kept rather close, Gloucester being apparently content to sit on their lead. The visitors put in a spurt in the concluding stages, but the attack was beaten off.

RESULT :

GLOUCESTER 3 goals 1 try (18 pts.)

GUY'S HOSPITAL 3 goals (2p.) (11 pts.)

COMMENTS

Gloucester's triumph was in every way deserved. The team had a set-back with the two penalty goals against them early in the game, but once they had scored their superiority was never in doubt.

Gloucester scored four tries to their opponents' one, and this was a fair indication of the way play actually went.

Day was a great success at scrum-half, opening up nicely and directing a succession of accurate passes to Meadows. The result was a great improvement in combination behind, some clever movements being witnessed.

Meadows and Brooks were the shining lights of the three-quarters, and Hook and Cale did good work.

Boughton gave a capital display, and the whole of the forwards deserve praise for their excellent performance.