

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1937

GLOUCESTER 9 Pts., MOSELEY 0

KEEN BUT SCRAMBLING FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER BACKS GIVE DISAPPOINTING DISPLAY

SPECIAL BY "W.B."

Moseley, surprise winners last year, found much stronger opposition at Kingsholm to-day, and Gloucester recorded their second victory of the season.

Next week Bristol appear at the City club headquarters. Last season Gloucester won at Bristol by 11 points to nil, the return match being drawn, no score.

Phillips for Bown, at left centre, was the only change in the Gloucester team from the side which defeated Lydney in the opening match.

Moseley were short of Cranmer (the International playing for Wakefield's XV. against Devon at Exeter), Wright (the ex-Guy's Hospital wing) and Williams (their clever outside half).

The weather, although cloudy, was fine, and the attendance was well up to the average, between 3,000 and 4,000.

Peter Hordern attended the match in the new role of spectator, having been engaged to broadcast a review of the game on the Midland Regional this evening.

GLOUCESTER

FULL-BACK: H. Boughton.

THREE-QUARTERS: R. E. Hook, E. L. Phillips, C. J. Dibden, and W. H. Hopkin.

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

FORWARDS: T. Price, A. Carpenter, C. Harris, J. G. A'Bear (capt.), R. Morris, Dr. Dick, A. Welshman, and E. Bayliss.

MOSELEY

FULL-BACK: J. R. Gittens.

THREE-QUARTERS: D. L. Perry, G. B. Green, P. J. Feeny, and P. A. Feeny.

HALF-BACKS: A. K. Woodhouse and B. G. Davies.

FORWARDS: G. Falls, W. J. Bird, R. H. F. Brain, P. D. Ireland, F. L. Robinson, R. K. Impey, W. S. Scott, and N. Spencer.

REFEREE: Mr. S. Budd.

THE GAME

Moseley's kick-off failed to reach the 10 yards mark and the first scrum was formed on the centre line. Gloucester heeled quickly and the ball came along to Hopkin on the right, but Perry effected a good tackle. Loose rushes by the City forwards led to a sharp attack on the Moseley line, but it was beaten off. Hook, fielding from a loose kick, ran round, but was bored to touch, and then a wild pass back enabled the Midlanders to clear. Boughton was obstructed in his attempt to check, and a penalty followed against the visitors. The Gloucester full-back had a place for goal but was a long way out, and Moseley punted out.

Useful kicking brought the Midlanders to midfield, where Gloucester opened out on several occasions, but the marking was close and sure.

Succeeding play was keenly contested in the Moseley half with Gloucester holding the upper hand, but the desired opening could not be found. Hopkin, nicely served by Dibden, sprinted hard on one occasion, but just failed to clear the opposition.

GLOUCESTER MISS CHANCES

Meadows next shone with a clever break through, and the defence appeared beaten, but Hook failed to accept a long pass to the wing and missed a certain try. There was another fumble on the right after Hook had shot upfield in good style. Moseley, very quick on the ball in the open, took full advantage of Gloucester's mistakes and Perry, with a sharp dash, reached the home 25 before being upset by Meadows.

Boughton kicked out finely to touch, and then came a splendid movement initiated by Day. Meadows and Phillips handled in turn, and there was a glorious opening for Hook, but the wing missed badly, and with it another try.

KEEN MOSELEY FORWARDS

Playing with great keenness forward Moseley had the better of some loose exchanges and Gloucester were forced on the defensive. From a penalty Gittens had a long shot for goal, a good attempt just going wide.

THE FIRST TRY

Gloucester worked out by the aid of their backs, but the Moseley wings tackled splendidly and the City were still prone to mistakes in handling.

Eventually Gloucester set up an attack and Price kicking hard past Gittens and over the line, HOPKIN raced up and gained the touch for the first try. Boughton failed by inches to convert.

On the restart play for a time was even at the centre, but Gloucester were not showing the combination expected behind the scrum. In the scrums, the City were superior, but they found strenuous opposition in the loose. At length Day sent Meadows away with a long pass, and Hopkin was served. The Welsh International ran hard and cross-punted, but the ball was collected by Gittens, who got in a good return.

Erratic play by the City let the visitors in their half, but they were quickly sent back. Gloucester brought off some capital rushes later, but when the ball came to the backs no really effective work was accomplished. There was no further score before the interval.

Half-time :

Gloucester 1 try

Moseley Nil

Gloucester should have secured a more substantial lead on the run of the play, but there were many mistakes in passing, Hook, especially, having an off-day.

CITY AGGRESSORS

The City, with a strong forward burst, were early on the aggressive when play was resumed, and Moseley were kept busily defending.

Day and Harris in turn tried to break through, but were held in check. Then Moseley were penalised inside the 25 line, but Boughton missed the goal from a fairly easy angle.

Gloucester kept up the pressure, but Robinson fielding a kick over the line ran round and punted to beyond half-way – a splendid relief.

From this point Moseley went ahead, and there was some clever passing and straight running which severely tested the home defenders.

Keen as the play was it lacked interest owing to the inefficiency of the backs to bring off any constructive work.

A long punt by Hook was knocked on by Gittens, and Gloucester were in a favourable position.

Off-side by Woodhouse gave the City another penalty, but Boughton found the position too much for him.

PENALTY GOAL FOR BOUGHTON

Gloucester worked back again after a temporary break, and once more came under the referee's ban for a scrum infringement.[sic]

This time BOUGHTON made no mistake, and Gloucester secured a lead of six points.

Subsequent play showed no improvement in general from the standard witnessed throughout, and there was little of interest to record.

Moseley displayed aggressive tactics forward, and Boughton being collared in possession following a long kick across, the Midlanders gained a footing in the home 25. Here the City had a penalty given against them, but Gittens could not find the mark.

FEEBLE BACK PLAY

Feeble play by Gloucester led to Moseley securing tactical advantage, but they quickly lost the position, the City forwards advancing in a combined rush to midfield.

Phillips made a short burst, and handed to Hopkin, but the wing man was too near touch to do anything.

Hard forward play followed in the course of which Price was injured and had to retire for a short time.

Harris was prominent for a smart dash for Gloucester, and Hook, from an inside pass, cut out a lovely opening, but was collared in trying to cut inside the full-back.

A passing move by the City breaking down, Moseley rushed to the other end, where Harris, getting back, fielded and brought off a splendid clearance.

VIGOROUS FORWARD WORK

Price now returned, and the game continued to be vigorously contested, if not disclosing anything brilliant in any department.

Gloucester assumed the aggressive again, and Meadows made a brave attempt to beat the defence. He short punted to the goal mouth, where Gittens was collared in possession on the line.

An exciting scrum followed under the posts, but the ball went over the line, and Moseley touched down.

Gloucester took the game in hand on the drop out, and from another penalty BOUGHTON landed a good goal.

Near the end Gloucester set up strong attacks, and Hopkin just failed to score in the corner after a brilliant dash.

RESULT :

GLOUCESTER ... 2 goals (p) 1 try (9 pts.)
MOSELEY Nil

GLO'STER UNITED v. BERRY HILL

Bown (sprained wrist), R. E. Early (ankle trouble), and F. Gough (cut over eye) all injured in the match at Stroud on Thursday, were unable to play for Gloucester United against Berry Hill. E. G. Scott also had to decline his place as he was out of town. These changes necessitated a complete re-organisation of the back division.

Berry Hill started with 12 players, but the full side appeared later. Passing by the visiting backs broke down and G. Potter gathering cleverly dived over for a try.

Alden made a lovely opening for the visitors, but his pass went astray.

A missed pass by Gloucester backs saw Ivor Jones dribble through for a try. Just before half-time Day scored a try for Gloucester.

Half-time :

Berry Hill2 tries (6 points)

Gloucester United 2 tries (6 points)

RESULT :

Berry Hill 2 tries (6 points)

Gloucester United 2 tries (6 points)

JC