

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1938

GLO'STER BOYS PROMINENT

TRIES AGAINST DEVON AND CORNWALL

Gloucestershire and Somerset boys met Devon and Cornwall boys in a semi-international trial at Kingsholm. From the teams playing this afternoon, the West of England team to oppose the Midlands and North in the international trial on February 12, was to be selected.

There were two changes in the Gloucestershire and Somerset side, Neal and Price (Bristol) coming in the three-quarter line for Adlam and Christie. Woolcock replaced Terrill for Devon and Cornwall.

The game opened with forward rushes by each side and Devon had the advantage territorially. They were quick at getting the ball back to their threes and once the Devon right wing opened out smartly, Hawkins (Bristol) eventually saving with a kick to touch. Then Jones (Forest) and Bastable (Bridgwater) led a grand rush down the field for Gloucestershire and went very near the line. Locke (Gloucester) did some clever work on the left wing, but could not get through. Eventually Devon conceded a minor and gained some relief.

BRILLIANT SERVICE

Bircher (Gloucester) and Hawkins were giving the Glo'shire threes a brilliant service from the scrums, and despite handling mistakes by the centres, Davis (Gloucester) got in a fine 40 yards run down the wing, to be stopped near the line. Locke followed this by showing his speed in a similar run on the other wing. He was brought down in swerving round the full-back. Davis, however, got away again and outstripped his opponents to score an unconverted try in the corner.

Glo'shire kept up the attack and with the forwards heeling cleanly almost every time, the three-quarters got plenty of work. Knight (Cheltenham) was nearly over and then Sara (Weston) cut through on his own to score an unconverted try wide out. Daniels (Bristol) followed this up by scoring a runaway try under the posts for Glo'shire, and Price (Bristol) converted.

Gloucestershire still held the upper hand. On the few occasions when Devon got the ball back their three's showed very bad handling. Another forward rush by Gloucestershire, and they were once again pressing hard a few yards from the line. Hawkins tried a drop at goal from right in front, but missed, and Parkes (Bristol) also narrowly missed. Devon gained some relief but the Gloucestershire forwards came again and Daniels flopped over for another unconverted try.

Half-time :
Gloucestershire and Somerset
1 goal 3 tries (14 points)
Devon and Cornwall Nil

Gloucestershire opened the second half with a try through Knight (Cheltenham). Uren (Camborne), the Cornwall full-back, fumbled, and Knight dribbled through, Price having hard luck with the kick. Davis followed this up with a brilliant try, running from halfway with a fine turn of speed and side-stepping the full-back to score under the posts. Price converted.

Gloucestershire were having things very much their own way, and Bircher, especially, was doing excellent work at scrum-half. Devon forwards, with a series of loose rushes, worked to the Gloucestershire 25, and Woolcock (St. Ives) found touch in the corner. Devon heeled and a try looked certain when Harvey (Newlyn) tried to drop a goal, missed badly, and Gloucestershire worked back to the centre. Once more the ball came out to Davis, who nearly scored again, being brought down within feet of the line. Locke made a dash on the other wing, and then Jones got over for an unconverted try from a line-out.

For some time neither side could get away, until Locke secured possession in the loose, cut in towards the centre with a side-step, and scored under the posts, Price converting again. A surprise attack by Devon was repulsed, and Knight broke away for Gloucestershire to send in Price for another try. Price converted his own try.

Just before the end Devon had a spell of attacking, and the forwards worked hard for a try, Shear (Exeter) being prominent.

RESULT :
GLOUCESTERSHIRE & SOMERSET
4 goals 5 tries (35 points)
Devon and Cornwall Nil

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