

# THE CITIZEN

FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 1964

CHELTENHAM CRASH 23PTS.-3 AT KINGSHOLM

GLO'STER RULE THE COUNTY ROOST

GLOUCESTER 23PTS., CHELTENHAM 3PTS.

To Gloucester, surely, must go the accolade of being unofficial county champions.

In saying this one must hasten to add – and not too slowly at that ! – that there is no such thing as a league or anything like it, in first class county rugby.

There are, however, rigger statisticians. These gentlemen point out – correctly – that Gloucester have not been beaten by a Gloucestershire side this season.

The Red and Whites' 23pts.-3 victory over Cheltenham at Kingsholm last night merely sealed their success.

It will be remembered – particularly, one feels, by Cheltenham supporters! – that Gloucester crushed their neighbours in September by 20pts.-3.

## DOCILE OPPOSITION

One fancies that Cheltenham will provide anything but docile opposition when the two sides clash next season !

There is, of course, nothing quite like a quick score to provide that extra fillip a team needs if it is to do great things.

Any hopes Gloucester supporters may have had of a lightning score were dashed when Gary White failed with an angular penalty attempt in the first minute.

Gloucester forwards dominated the early exchanges, Taylor in the scrums providing his backs with more than a fair share of the ball.

The visitors should have gone ahead in the 25th minute, but their fullback Mace somehow managed to miss with a short-range penalty attempt.

The game burst into electrifying life when Dick Smith handed off two Cheltenham defenders and raced for the visitors' line, at a speed which would have done credit to a full-time sprinter.

Unfortunately, he ran out of room, and although he was able to pass the ball on to winger Bob Smith, the move fizzled out.

With Taylor reigning supreme in the scrums, it was clear that Cheltenham would have to look to their defences when, in the second quarter, the Red and Whites forced a scrum almost on the visitors' line.

### SPARKLING TRIES

Sure enough the ball went to Booth; who promptly passed to Hopson; who then, gratefully, dived over for a try. White converted beautifully.

Sparkling tries by Dick Smith and Long – one of which was superbly converted by White – put the issue beyond doubt.

Further tries were scored by Bayliss and Timms, both of which White converted.

Owen kicked a consolation penalty for Cheltenham.