

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1925

## FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER v. LLANELLY

WELSH CLUB'S TWO POINTS WIN

CITY FAIL TO KEEP HALF-TIME LEAD

HOPCROFT AND BROWN THE SCORERS

Owing to the clashing of the County match with Devon, Gloucester were poorly represented for their fixture with Llanelly, and with defections from the original selection the side was still further weakened.

### GLOUCESTER

FULL BACK : S. Williams.

THREE-QUARTERS : L. Abbey, S. A. Brown (capt.), E. D. Pope, and A. Hopcroft.

HALF-BACKS : R. Milliner and T. Millington.

FORWARDS : A. Hall, S. Duberley, E. Triggs-Herbert, G. Foulkes, J. Hemmings, G. Shaw, H. Roberts, and J. Print.

### LLANELLY

FULL BACK : C. Ward.

THREE-QUARTERS : Idris Thomas, T. Loveland, Albert Jenkins (captain), E. Finch.

HALF-BACKS : Arthur John and V. Roberts.

FORWARDS : W. Thomas, E. Phillips, W. Lewis, I. Jones, W. Hopkins, R. Evans, F. Harries, E. Griffiths, and R. Thomas.

## THE GAME

Albert Jenkins and Loveland, the two Llanelly centres, were absent. Gloucester opened well, and soon worked their way into the Llanelly 25, their pack being heavier. Llanelly gained relief with a penalty. A fine passing movement, in which all the Llanelly backs participated, was spoilt when Finch passed forward with James in attendance and well placed. A great break away by the Welsh pack took play to the centre line, and Williams cleared smartly.

More Llanelly passing again placed the visitors' line in danger, but good work by the Gloucester scrummagers took play to mid-field. So far Llanelly had done most of the attacking, the visitors not being able to get the ball from the scrum. An opening at length came, and Riley sent out to Millington, who was forced into touch ten yards from the line. Roberts now went off with an injury, but was soon able to return. Gloucester became aggressive, but did not make the most of their opportunities.

Succeeding play was of a very even character. Llanelly suffered from the absence of their regular centres. In a forward rush Harries ran over, but the try was disallowed as he was out of bounds. The high wind greatly hampered play. Ward had a kick charged down by HOPCROFT, who picked up smartly and scored without any opposition. Williams failed with the kick.

Arthur John took a long shot for goal which fell a trifle wide, and then a passing movement failed through Samuel over-running the ball.

Llanelly were now making determined efforts to equalize, the backs frequently being dangerous. BROWN, with a wonderful dribble and punt over the head of Ward, scored Gloucester's second try. The goal kick failed.

### HALF-TIME :

GLOUCESTER ..... 6 points  
LLANELLY ..... Nil

Llanelly in the second half had the wind in their favour. The Gloucester pack were playing with confidence, and excelled in the loose. Evans for Llanelly took a penalty, which fell short. Later, when hard pressed, the visitors were forced to touch down. A second penalty against Milliner for not playing the ball failed. Arthur John made a dash for the line and was forced out of play when about to touch down.

The visitors were now being very hard pressed, and conceded another minor. Ward then had a drop at goal, and Brown touched down. A strong run by Brown took play to the other end of the field, but Llanelly soon returned with a great dribble, headed by Harries. The Welshmen were now playing desperately, but threw away many chances, their backs being weak. Eventually FINCH scored a clever try after an individual effort, Evans converting. Rain now fell in torrents.

Llanelly followed up their success with a second try by ROBERTS, which was not converted. In the closing stages the visitors improved immensely, but could not beat the defence.

#### RESULT :

LLANELLY ..... 1 goal 1 try (8 points)  
GLOUCESTER ..... 2 tries (6 points)

#### REMARKS

There were about 4,000 spectators, and they were provided with plenty of excitement, for even although both teams lacked regular players those who were doing duty spared nothing in keenness. The exchanges in the first half produced several clever movements, in which Brown showed exhilarating bursts of speed for Gloucester, who were perhaps a trifle fortunate to get the lead as they did. Hopcroft, however, made the most of the mistake by the home full-back.

Llanelly's determination in the second half carried them through to victory, but Gloucester did not go down without offering the maximum of opposition, and it was touch and go right to the final whistle.

## GLOUCESTER A v. WHITECROFT

### CITY SECONDS ON TOP IN SCRAPPY GAME

#### ALL THE SCORING IN SECOND HALF

Whitecroft provided the opposition to the City Seconds at Kingsholm to-day. Both sides were forced to make a number of changes, Gloucester A being very weakly represented owing to the calls of the premier team. H. Willis (Lydney) turned out for Whitecroft.

Play was nearly all forward in the first half. Both sides were frequently guilty of off-side infringements, which made the game very scrappy. Very few passing movements were attempted, and those which were did not go very far. This was not due to good tackling, which was invariably high, but just to lack of finish and speed.

Most of the dribbling rushes were of a similar character, both packs of forwards invariably kicking too hard. J. Rea was an exception in this respect, and once took the ball over the visitors' line from half-way. L. Townsend, of Hucclecote, did better as the game went on at full-back for Gloucester, and his vis-a-vis, N. Remnant, also did well.

Half-time :

Gloucester A .....	Nil
Whitecroft .....	Nil

After the interval attempts at opening out play was rather more frequent, and Riley and Gough cut through well on occasions. About half-way Gloucester opened the scoring with a free kick converted by Gladwin in front of the goal. Then followed another good effort by Riley, who had dribbled down about 30 yards, but had been well tackled near the line after picking up.

Fifteen minutes from time in some loose play Whitecroft were penalised for off-side, and Gladwin again kicked a goal. After a period of pressure by the visitors Gloucester attacked, and Fisher dropped a goal just as he was tackled.

Immediately afterwards Gladwin started the best movement of the day by passing out well to Riley, who handed on to Gough, for the latter to score a good try under the posts, which, however, went unconverted.

There was no further scoring.

Result :

Glo'ster A ... 3 goals (2p, 1d.) 1 try (13 pts.)  
Whitecroft ..... Nil

### COMMENTS

An improvement was shown in the standard of play in the second half, but the game as a whole could not be said to be other than scrappy. N. Remnant and L. Townsend showed good form, and Riley and Gough were far and away the best threes on the field, but neither were given sufficient opportunities. The forwards all played a hard game, but were inclined to kick too hard and to overrun the ball a lot.

JC