

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1950

## LYDNEY'S LAST MINUTE WIN

The season opened at Kingsholm this afternoon amid great excitement with a needle match between Gloucester and Lydney. The crowd of over 4,000 included two Gloucestershire selectors and several coach loads of Lydney supporters.

It was a pity the morning's rain had made the ground so wet because Lydney, after two drawn games last season, were keen to beat Gloucester with a display of open football.

This match brought a great disappointment to Roy Parry, the Gloucester forward, who had to cry off with a twisted knee and missed a match for the first time for a season and a half. He has played 69 consecutive games for Gloucester. His place was taken by Dennis Ibbotson.

The County selectors present were Mr. C. J. Humby and Mr. Ronnie Morris, of Bristol.

GLOUCESTER: W. Hook; C. Crabtree, R. Sutton, M. Baker, S. Dangerfield; D. Jones, W. Moreland; T. Day (capt.), R. Chamberlayne, D. Ibbotson, G. Hastings, H. G. Wells, G. Hudson, R. Hodge, and C. Dunn.

LYDNEY: B. Weston; J. Taylor, J. C. Morgans (capt.), K. Rees, J. Grattan; D. Hughes, G. Bird; J. Newlove, C. Thomas, W. Callow, S. Betterton, K. Penn, C. Price, D. Taylor, and H. Richards.

Referee: Mr. W. E. Owens, Bristol.

There was not much excitement in the opening play, although the crowd soon gave signs that they were keyed up for the tussle. Lydney had the better of the scrums but their backs kicked without gaining much ground.

Gloucester did better when the forwards kept the ball at their feet. Crabtree trying to get away along the touchline following up a punt by David Jones was thrown into touch in the Lydney 25. It was a good position for Gloucester and the ball came back well from the line-out, but the Lydney wing forwards were too quick for David Jones, who had to kick again.

The best that Gloucester could do was a reasonably close drop at goal by Hook from a good distance out. The lively Lydney forwards soon drove Gloucester back.

#### CRABTREE SCORES FIRST

The ball was obviously difficult to hold and the few attempts to open up the game came to nothing.

Gloucester's difficulties were increased by the fact that David Jones was taking his passes standing still. Nevertheless, Gloucester opened the scoring with the first real three-quarter movement of the match. Baker caught Morgans standing too far up and slipped past him. The ball travelled in surprisingly long passes down to CRABTREE, who flung himself over in the corner. Hook was just out with a kick and he missed a rather easier penalty shot just afterwards.

Just before half-time Lydney snatched an equaliser. Gloucester, who had seven forwards at the time, Dunn being off with a cut face, were hard pressed near their line and the Lydney forwards pounced on a fumbled service from the scrum and dribbled over, C. PRICE getting the try which Weston did not convert.

#### HALF-TIME :

GLOUCESTER ..... 1 try (3 pts.)  
LYDNEY ..... 1 try (3 pts.)

Dunn had returned just before half time and Gloucester restarted vigorously.

A long touch finder by Hook from a free kick gave Gloucester a good position and after some lively play by the Gloucester backs Jones sent Dangerfield away quite close in to the Lydney line.

It was a good chance but it went begging when Dangerfield knocked on. Then Hook had another long shot at a penalty goal and pulled across the front of the goal.

### STUBBORN RESISTANCE

The game was certainly harder and faster now as the Gloucester forwards tried desperately hard to break down the very stubborn resistance with which Lydney met them.

For a long time play was in the Lydney half but it was rarely that Gloucester could set their backs moving.

Then came a thrill for Lydney as Hughes, Rees and Morgans came away in a pretty passing movement which looked at first like tying Gloucester up.

Dangerfield, as usual, rose to the occasion in defence, and saved a desperate situation with a good kick to touch.

MORGANS snatched a try for Lydney just before the end which D. Taylor converted.

### RESULT :

GLOUCESTER ..... 1 try (3 Pts.)

LYDNEY ..... 1 gl. 1 try (8 Pts.)