

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, APRIL 2, 1951

GLO'STER LOSE FIRST HALF CHANCES

PAY THE PENALTY

It was not Gloucester's day at Llanelly. They fell heavily by 3 Pts. to 15, although the margin of victory flattered the Welshmen.

To a great measure, Gloucester contributed to such a heavy reverse by faulty tactics and erratic handling in the opening half, when they had the help of a substantial wind.

During this period hooker R. Chamberlayne almost monopolised the set scrummages and won his side great advantage which, however, was never profitably exploited.

The passing at half-back was most uncertain and there was a hesitancy at threequarter which gave the Llanelly defence ample time to cover up.

LACK OF ENTERPRISE

R. Stowers and R. Hodge played tirelessly in the loose and lines-out.

C. Crabtree and H. L. Terrington seemed wings of potential danger, but the ball either reached them late or not at all.

The first half was Gloucester's, but it was also their story of wasted opportunity. Crabtree's try shortly before the interval was all they had to show for some excellent forward play.

In contrast, Llanelly made the most of the wind and their chances once they had changed ends.

BETTER BALANCE

They struck a better balance as a team particularly in the loose, where their forwards kept well together and brought their backs into action from unexpected situations.

They took the lead in this period, snatched the initiative and, from that point, generally dictated the run of the play.

In fairness to Gloucester it should be said that Llanelly's second score had an element of doubt in that there appeared to be a knock-on unnoticed by the referee.

FAILED TO RECOVER

Even so, Gloucester could not recover their first-half ascendancy forward, and spent the bulk of their time trying to repel a straight-running Llanelly attack in which left-wing Malcolm John was outstanding.

Llanelly's three second-half tries were scored by D. Christopher, R. Jones, and M. Griffiths, Malcolm John converting all three.

It was a good game to watch and one which Gloucester paid the penalty for not taking the many chances that were theirs early in the game.