

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1951

O.M.T.'S AND U.A.U. WILL BE HARD CHRISTMAS FARE – FOR GLOUCESTER

Gloucester Rugby Club's traditional Christmas games against Old Merchant Taylors and Universities Athletic Union will take place at Kingsholm as usual on Boxing Day and December 27.

The Gloucester team to meet the O.M.T.'s on Boxing Day (2.30) shows three changes from the side which played against Bath.

Vivian Davies is going home to Swansea for Christmas and John Taylor is due to captain Lydney Old Grammarians in a holiday game.

Their places at scrum-half and on the wing will be taken by Gordon Cumming and Ron Beamish.

John Teakle is also going home for Christmas, but Bill Cartmell is expected to be fit enough to return as outside-half.

VARSIITY OUTSIDE-HALF

The O.M.T.'s are a much improved side and should give Gloucester a good game.

Their side includes D. G. S. Baker, the Oxford University outside-half, and the England international forward, T. F. Huskisson.

In the corresponding game last season Gloucester won, 11 points to nil.

The O.M.T.'s side will be : A. N. Other; A. S. Sharpe, M. J. Page, J. G. Bannwell, F. I. Lee; D. G. S. Baker, J. Dupree; P. R. Everett, R. A. Bishop, T. P. E. Lant, T. F. Huskisson, P. D. H. Clarke, D. White, R. H. King, A. J. Reeve.

The kick-off in the match against U.A.U. on the following day will also be at 2.30.

BILL HOOK MAY PLAY

Bill Hook will probably be playing as full-back for Gloucester in that game and Taylor, Davies, Teakle and also Roy Parry – who has been on the sick list – are all expected to return to the side.

Last year the Universities team played sparkling rugby and Gloucester only just managed to beat them 8 – 6.

This year the U.A.U. side will probably be even stronger than last season and Gloucester, still unbeaten at home, can undoubtedly expect a very tough game.

With one exception all the backs and also the back row forwards will be regular county players. The back row chosen to play against Gloucester is the best since the war.

U.A.U. : B. H. Fletcher (Manchester); D. Trott (Loughborough), B. P. Brighton (Nottingham), P. C. Delight (Loughborough), H. W. Leigh (Durham); T. R. Baxter-Wright and R. E. Watkins (Birmingham); D. St. Hazell (Loughborough), R. K. G. MacEwan (Loughborough), A. G. Duckering (Leeds), D. Jagger (Leeds), J. M. Pedlar (Loughborough), J. W. Collard (Durham), R. J. Bridle (Bristol), R. Higgins (Lancashire).