

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 1952

GLOUCESTER, WELL ON TOP, MIGHT HAVE DONE EVEN BETTER

No fewer than 10 tries were scored during Saturday's match at Kingsholm, when Gloucester beat the Wasps by 27 points to 12.

Played on a surface which was inclined to be slippery after overnight frost, the game was nevertheless fast, open, and packed with incident.

The Wasps have yet to record their first post-war victory over Gloucester, and although they handed out several shocks in this latest encounter, they never really looked capable of getting the better of the "Cherry and Whites."

But it was definitely not a one-sided game and the fact that Gloucester had their own line crossed four times testifies to the spirited fight which the Wasps put up.

One thing which the visitors badly needed, however, was a place-kicker.

"OLD STAGERS" IN FORM

For the greater part of the time Gloucester's pack was a little too good for the visitors' forwards in all departments.

The "old-stagers" in the home pack were all in good form and they received useful support from the newer recruits, Wadley and Embling.

Taking full advantage of their greater scope for opening up the game, Gloucester's half-backs Davies and Cartmell kept the threequarter line well supplied and centres Terrington and Teakle often gave the visitors' defence a worrying time.

CRABTREE'S HAT-TRICK

A good opportunist, Charlie Crabtree on the left-wing showed great determination and had a real "field-day." For the second time this season he was able to claim a "Hat-Trick" of tries.

But, well though Gloucester's backs played, they could have made more use of some of their chances if their finishing had been better.

Wasps' reserve scrum-half, F. Symons, proved something of a weak link in the visitors' attack, but the Londoners had a dangerous midfield triangle who could have constituted a serious threat to Gloucester if they had had more opportunities.

A pleasing aspect of Hall's display at fullback for Gloucester was his readiness to change a defensive movement into an attacking one by running up to set the threequarter line in motion.

Tries were scored for Gloucester by Crabtree (three), Thomas and Teakle. Halls converted two of these, and also a penalty try, and Terrington dropped a goal.

Herbert (two), Lloyd and Symonds scored tries for the Wasps.

Playing against lively opponents Gloucester compiled their score in a very satisfactory manner. The game showed, however, that the club need to strengthen their defence.

BURROWS WAS GLO'STER UNITED STAR

In a fast game at Hereford, Gloucester United defeated the home team by eight clear points.

Stand-off half Burrows was the star of the match and his clever use of the dummy and elusive running, was a big factor in United's win.

He made the chance for Turner to score the first try before the interval, and went over himself in the second-half to touch down mid-way out. Heath converted with a good kick.

The Hereford forwards held their own against a heavy United pack, and Morgan was a good hooker for Hereford. The handling of the Hereford backs, however, was none too safe, and seldom looked dangerous against the hard tackling Gloucester threequarters.

The visiting outside-line, on the other hand, ran with greater determination, and might have scored more but for a sound display by the Hereford full-back and skipper, Colin Manning.

JC