

THE CITIZEN

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1953

RAF BACKS SHINE AT KINGSHOLM

The Mayor of Gloucester, Ald. G. A. H. Matthews, kicked off in to-day's match between the British Police and the Royal Air Force at Kingsholm.

R.A.F. made a number of late changes, one of which brought Gloucester forward, F/O Len Shelley, into the second row of the pack.

Teams : –

BRITISH POLICE : L. Smith; W. Walbyoff, C. Clark, C. Crerar, J. O'Brien; E. Hughes, D. Rogers; J. Watkins, D. Davies, F. Parry, W. E. Tamplin, H. McElwaine, B. Sparks, M. Williams, D. Steer.

R.A.F.: LAC Priday; F/O G. Rowlands, F/O Beatson, AC A. F. Bater, F/O V. Tindall; F/O M. Channer, F/O A. Black; P/O M. Pollard, Cpl. K. David, O/Cadet C. David, Flt. Lieut. P. Yarranton, F/O Len Shelley, Sqn. Ldr. H. K. Reece, F/O C. Head, P/O A. J. Herbert.

Referee : Mr. R. Kemp (Leicester).

The Air Force backs were soon seen in action. Following a line out inside the Police half, Beatson broke away with a fine swerving run and handed outside to wing threequarter G. Rowlands, who gained further ground and cross-punted back inside. A mark saved the Police, however, almost on their own line.

When the Police heeled well from a scrum, still inside their own half, their backs in turn gained ground and Crerar punted ahead to the Air Force 25.

Subsequently M. Williams, taking advantage of slowness in defence, almost got clear but was tackled from behind about 12 yards from the Air Force line.

R A F returned play to the Police half but a long penalty shot by Rowlands fell short.

FINE TRY BY ROWLANDS

Reece, Herbert and Shelley were prominent in a strong RAF forward rush but the exchanges continued to be fairly even until the Air Force took the lead with a fine try.

Channer broke away inside his own half and Bater and Beatson both handled beautifully before Rowlands hurtled over to score in the corner. Channer missed with a difficult kick.

Lively play by the RAF pack threatened further danger for the Police, but they were saved by a determined run by Clark. Both packs were getting a good share of the ball in the set scrums, but the Air Force were opening up better from the lines out.

RAF continued to show themselves the more lively side, particularly behind the scrums, and although the Police made occasional raids, the more dangerous attacks still came from the Airmen.

Following a line out, Channer increase the RAF lead with an excellent drop goal.

HALF TIME :
BRITISH POLICE Nil
RAF 1 g. (d), 1 try (6 pts.)