

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1920

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER A v DRYBROOK

Gloucester A faced Drybrook at Kingsholm with a very scratch team, the calls made upon the players to supply vacancies in the First team in consequence of the County match letting in a number of untried men.

Teams : –

Gloucester A. – G. Cole; E. Ellen, F. Bloxsome, A. Sysum, and W. Pitt; R. Cook and T. Burns; J. Harris, L. C. Meadows, A. Connelly, G. Turner, F. Mansell, J. Griffiths, T. Taylor, and T. Bridges.

Drybrook. – S. Mullins; W. Cowmeadow, S. Burford, A. Watkins, and C. Meek; T. Pegler and C. Boseley; S. Phillips, C. Boseley, R. Burford, A. Harris, F. Meek, H. Cann, R. Meek, and F. Jordan.

Referee : Mr. Babbage.

## THE GAME

Gloucester set the ball in motion and kicked forward to the Drybrook 25, but the Foresters quickly cleared, and play settled in midfield. The Seconds were getting the ball out well, and after some poor handling the ball came to Sysum, who made a fine run up the middle of the field before passing to one of the forwards, who failed to take, thus spoiling a fine chance. Drybrook were penalised in a position favourable to the homesters, and Burns opened their account with a penalty goal.

Drybrook were now putting up a keen fight, but they had no strength behind, the forwards having to do all the work. The home defence was being tested until the threes got going, Bloxsome putting in a strong run and transferring to Sysum, who handed off Mullins and grounded between the posts, for Bloxsome to goal.

A bout of handling by the visiting backs broke down, and a likely run down the wing by Meek failed when only Cole remained to be beaten.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester A ..... 2 goals (1p)  
Drybrook ..... Nil

On the resumption the Gloucester forwards came away with a strong dribble, but Mullins went down at the ball and effected a good save. Cook, who was now working the scrum, got the ball away smartly, but the handling was not clean, and by good forward work the Foresters worked down. Their play lacked finish, and before long they were again called upon to defend their line.

The Seconds were heeling well, and the line was well fed, but the passing was not clever enough, the ball generally going across the field to touch. Another dash by the homesters was saved just in time, and from a rough and tumble the visiting threes handled well and gave relief, and play was carried to the centre.

Towards the end the Foresters tried very hard to open their account, and after a loose rush and continued pressure R. Burford picked up and fell over with a well-earned try. The kick was a poor effort.

Encouraged by their success, Drybrook continued to press, but they were at fault in the scrums, and their forward rushes were neutralised by the faulty handling of the back division.

RESULT :

Gloucester A ..... 2 goals (1p) (8 points)  
Drybrook ..... 1 try (3 points)

## REMARKS

Gloucester deserved their win on the form shown, for they were a better combination in the pack and their three-quarter line did quite good work at times, whilst the Drybrook forwards, although keen in the loose, were slow in heeling, and their backs were entirely lacking in combination.

Cole was by no means a reliable substitute for Smith at back, and Allen and Pitt, the wing men, were not strong, Bloxsome and Sysum doing the bulk of the work, both putting in strong runs. Cook and Burns played a moderate game; the forwards being a fair combination. Mullins had a lot of work, most of which he did fairly well, and Pegler, the Forest scrum half, played a very good game. The small margin of loss was largely due to the keen forward game played by the visitors.

JC