

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1921

FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER FINISH STRONGLY

BATH DEFEATED BY EIGHT POINTS

ROBBINS DOES ALL THE SCORING

Gloucester were engaged in the final match of the season to-day at Bath, where a keen and close game was anticipated. Bath have some fine performances to their credit at home, where both Cross Keys and Llanelly suffered defeat, and Leicester and Swansea were run to very narrow margins. Gloucester had a stronger side out than in several recent games, though J. Harris, J. F. Lawson, and J. H. Webb were still absent from the forward ranks. G. Holford, engaged on military duties at Bristol, was able to obtain leave of absence to play, and was again available. Bath were without S. Considine and Dr. Meine in the back division, and Vowles was partnered at half-back by A. E. Morgan, the old Newport wing three-quarter.

GLOUCESTER

BACK : F. Ashmead.

THREE-QUARTERS : N. Daniell, F. Webb (capt.), A. Robbins, and S. Brown.

HALF-BACKS : W. Dix and T. Millington.

FORWARDS : F. W. Ayliffe, G. Holford, A. Hall, S. Smart, W. Warde, A. Wright, C. Mumford, and T. Voyce.

BATH

BACK : C. Whittaker.

THREE-QUARTERS : P. P. Hope, A. Woodward, H. Richardson, and L. F. Burton.

HALF-BACKS : H. Vowles and A. E. Morgan.

FORWARDS : F. Russell, L. J. Richardson, W. H. Royal, C. Mannings, W. H. Sheppard, N. Blake, J. Pope, and H. Loader.

Referee : Mr. H. Smith (Newport)

THE GAME

Voyce was at once conspicuous for Gloucester, but was bundled into touch. Dix was penalised early for off-side, but the free kick did not find touch. Woodward put Bath on the attack by a capital touch-finder, but Morgan gave a wild pass, and the Gloucester forwards came through with footwork, reaching the Bath 25.

Twice the visiting three-quarters moved away, but Webb punted on, and Whittaker found touch. Through a mistake by Pope Gloucester were well placed. They were given a free for Bath being off-side, and Millington nearly landed a goal, the ball striking the left upright. Voyce and Holford followed up keenly, and the visitors were almost over, but H. Richardson saved the situation by sterling defence. Vowles dribbled cleverly from a loose scrum, and was almost over. Millington got hold and kicked out strongly. Whittaker, instead of making his mark, tried to find touch, and the ball went into touch-in-goal. Play was next seen at the centre.

The Gloucester three-quarters had a nice chance when Robbins gathered and passed well, but their passing was not polished. Hope dribbled well, but lost the ball. Bath had a grand chance when Woodward charged down a kick by Robbins. He dribbled away to the Gloucester line. Ashmead carried the ball over, and scrums were seen on the Gloucester line, but the defence prevailed. The Gloucester three-quarters at length got away, but Daniell muddled his pass.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

GLOUCESTER	Nil
BATH	Nil

H. Richardson did good work by making his mark neatly, and finding touch at the centre. Gloucester kicked out, the ball being handled cleanly till it reached the left wing. Daniell dropped it, and Hope picking up raced away. He gained a lot of ground, but in attempting to round Ashmead, Webb picked him up from behind. Bath, however, got a footing in the Gloucester quarter, where H. Richardson made a strong attempt to burst through.

Vowles, in dribbling behind, fouled Dix, and a free was given, which relieved the pressure on the Gloucester line. Their forwards playing well, and the backs finding touch cleverly, Gloucester worked to the centre. Here Voyce was hurt, but continued, going on as an extra three-quarter. Gloucester attacked hotly by back play. Loader had to retire, and his weight was missed in the Bath scrum. Gloucester heeled smartly in the Bath quarter, and the ball was circulated grandly, Robbins going over with a try near the posts. Millington failed with the goal-kick.

Bath had a free kick given them for Brown holding the ball when Hope and Woodward got to him as he fielded a kick by Morgan, but Woodward's shot went wide. Bath kept up the pressure, and H. Richardson had a fine chance, but went inside instead of passing to his wing. Dix picked up cleanly and found touch when hard pressed. H. Richardson gave away a fine chance by neglecting his wing. Robbins scored again by keen following up, and himself goaled.

RESULT :

GLOUCESTER 1 goal 1 try (8 pts.)
BATH Nil

REMARKS

The Press Association remarks the game was strongly contested in the first half. Gloucester opened well, and Whittaker was called upon. Dix and Voyce were repeatedly noticeable, the visitors showing some good passing. Later Bath pressed strongly. Russell, Harry Richardson, and Vowles playing well.

Play in the second half improved, and the Gloucester three-quarters brought off several bouts of good passing, Millington, Webb, and Daniell especially doing well. The last-named ran well on two occasions, being forced to touch each time at the corner.