

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1931

SWANSEA 13 POINTS; GLOUCESTER 3 POINTS

CITY'S THIRD DEFEAT IN WALES

BOUGHTON'S GREAT DISPLAY

FINEST SEEN AT ST. HELEN'S THIS SEASON

Gloucester had to call on substitutes to replace McCanlis, Steele-Perkins, and Loveridge, at Swansea this afternoon. The Welsh club also suffered from absentees owing to the demands of the Welsh Trial at Bridgend, where four of their players were in attendance.

Last season Swansea won both games – at Kingsholm by 11 points to 10, and at St. Helen's by 6 points to nil. The All Whites with their young side, have done remarkably well this season, and despite their weakened ranks were confident of repeating former successes over Gloucester.

Gloucester had to fill two vacancies at three-quarter, and the Selection Committee introduced J. C. Brooks (who did so well at outside half against the Oxford Greyhounds) on the wing, and played G. W. Parker (the Old Cryptian), at centre.

Teams :

GLOUCESTER

BACK : H. Boughton.

THREE-QUARTERS : J. T. Andrews, G. W. Parker, A. E. Brookes, and J. C. Brooks.

HALF-BACKS : H. Aplin and R. James.

FORWARDS : L. E. Saxby (capt.), A. Carpenter, F. Wadley, E. Comley, J. Hemming, A. Welshman, L. Franklin, and Ken Smith.

SWANSEA

BACK : I. Herbert.

THREE-QUARTERS : D. Folland, C. Cowling, T. A. Hill, and I. Davies.

HALF-BACKS : J. D. Jenkins and D. Jones.

FORWARDS : J. Rees, D. Parker, G. Jones, G. Lewis, J. White, M. Bowen, E. Long, D. E. Thomas, and E. Guy.

Referee : Mr. J. Meggins (Pontyclun).

THE GAME

About 5,000 spectators were present when Gloucester kicked off with a stiff breeze behind them.

The visitors started passing from a line-out, but the movement broke down at Andrews. J. Davies snapped up the ball and ran to Boughton, when he short-punted. In the race for the ball Parker was first, and conceded a minor.

WELSHMEN PRESS

The All Whites, mainly through stern forward play, established themselves near the Gloucester line. Over-anxiety by Long caused Swansea to be penalised, and Boughton relieved the situation with a lengthy kick to touch.

Gloucester tried hard to open up the game, but Parker was tackled in possession. Shortly after FOLLAND scored for Swansea. Parker failed to add the extra points.

Gloucester were compelled to defend on the restart, and James tried to drop a goal, but the direction was bad.

Saxby led a rush to the visiting forwards which was improved by Andrews making a dash along the line. Facing Herbert, he cross-kicked, but Cowling, who had run back, saved the situation.

SWANSEA SIX POINTS UP

Swansea worked back to mid-field, and D. Parker essayed a shot for goal after Aplin had been penalised. The ball fell short and Boughton found touch near the home 25. For some time Gloucester were penned in their own territory, and ultimately the All Whites dribbled over the line for DAI PARKER to score a try which he himself failed to convert.

HARD LINES FOR GLOUCESTER

The Swansea forwards did not hold the supremacy expected, and when Welshman and Comley headed a rush into the Swansea quarters, a score seemed likely. Unfortunately, however, Comley over-ran the ball, and Herbert was able to gain possession and send the ball to touch. A breakdown in a Gloucester handling movement allowed Swansea to gain relief, and I. Davies found touch near the Gloucester line. Brookes and Parker showed great determination in tacking Cowling and Hill when passing was attempted.

FRANKLIN SCORES FOR GLOUCESTER

A penalty against Swansea did not ease the position as Boughton failed to fine touch. Hill and Davies made an attack on the left-wing which was frustrated by Boughton tackling the wing man.

Gloucester made commendable head-way by clever footwork. The ball got loose, and FRANKLIN picking up, made a dash for the line. He ran strongly and succeeded in scoring just as Folland tackled him. Boughton failed with the goal kick, although the angle was by no means difficult.

PENALTIES AGAINST THE CITY

Swansea, by good kicking, again secured a position near the Gloucester line, and Parker had an excellent chance of improving the home score from a penalty. The ball, however, went just outside, and Boughton sent to touch at the 25.

K. Smith and Franklin, by keen following up gained considerable ground for Gloucester, but the forwards infringed the off-side rule. Parker's kick fell short, and Boughton had no difficulty in sending the ball to touch at the centre flag. Shortly afterwards Herbert fielded at halfway, and taking deliberate aim just managed to steer the ball over the bar for a fine goal.

Half-time :

Swansea 1 goal (d), 2 tries

Gloucester 1 try

Resuming, Franklin led a forward rush up the field and inaugurated a period of attacking which lasted until Long picked up and kicked to touch.

BOUGHTON'S WONDERFUL WORK

The All Whites then returned and Boughton was given plenty of work. The Gloucester full-back was playing wonderful football, and his defensive kicking ruined several moves. James let in Swansea when he kicked at right angles across the field, but Boughton again saved the situation by finding touch on the halfway line.

D. Jones figured prominently in a forward rush which almost resulted in a score, with Boughton on the ground, but Brookes dropped back and smothered him with a flying tackle. Gloucester were penalised, and Dai Parker took a placed kick from the 25 yard mark. The ball was going straight for the posts when it was deflected by the wind and went out of play.

BEST TRY OF THE MATCH

At this stage Folland, the Swansea wing, had to leave the field with a knee injury. Almost immediately a scrummage was formed on the Gloucester 25, and Swansea heeling quickly, the ball was whipped out to HILL who broke in between Parker and Andrews and crossed with the best try of the game. The position for conversion was an easy one, but the wind again prevented Parker's kick from gaining the goal points.

The reverse seemed to put more sting into the Gloucester forwards, and a concerted rush carried play to the home territory. Swansea were penalised, and Boughton's kick for goal almost succeeded, the ball only going inches outside the post.

GLOUCESTER'S STRONG PRESSURE

Folland returned, but although with their full complement, Swansea could not drive Gloucester out of their 25 for some time. Herbert put in some fearless fielding, and eventually relieved by kicking to touch in his own 25.

Gloucester continued to force the pace, but their only reward was a minor. Swansea at last changed the venue through Long, who accepted a kick into the open. He ran strongly, and when facing Boughton passed to Cowling. Brookes and Parker had fallen back to assist Boughton, and overwhelmed Cowling almost as soon as he received the ball.

The All Whites established themselves in the Gloucester 25, where keen attacks were met with equally determined defence.

Relief was gained when Saxby and Andrews followed up a long kick by Jams and forced Herbert to touch. Gloucester opened out well only to mar a good movement by a forward pass.

SWANSEA'S STRONG FINISH

Right up to the last minute Swansea attacked, and the three-quarters made a desperate effort to score. Roy James fumbled a throw back from Aplin, and Cowling seized the ball and made several yards before being tackled. He passed to Folland, who cut through gloriously and was only just pulled down by Boughton. The Gloucester full back made a wonderful save and prevented a certain try.

RESULT :

SWANSEA 1 goal (d.), 3 tries (13 pts.)
GLOUCESTER 1 try (3 pts.)

REMARKS

(By Our Swansea Representative)

Gloucester were well and truly beaten, although the forwards, led by Saxby and Franklin, put up a great fight. The back division did not come up to the standard set by the men in front. Cowling was too much for Roy James, and the Gloucester man was caught napping. Boughton was the man of the game, and his defence was the finest seen on St. Helen's this season. Gloucester's display was patchy, and Swansea were better in all departments.

UNITED HAVE A FIELD DAY

CLEVERNESS BEATS MONMOUTH

Gloucester United made two changes from the selected team to meet Monmouth at Kingsholm this afternoon. R. Clarke came in the three-quarter line for G. W. Parker and J. Etheridge, of Widden Old Boys, made his debut for the United in the forwards. Monmouth had three reserves in their side and were without the services of their captain.

After one or two attempts Gloucester got away beautifully on the left with Abbey in possession. A few yards from the line he threw to Hyett, who was immediately brought down. A scrum ensued, and Dash ran through to score far out. Hook just failed with the kick.

Gloucester continued to press, and several times were nearly over, bad passing robbing them each time. Finally Hook got possession and touched down near the flag. Again he failed at goal.

Hook and Meadows got away with a pretty inter-passing movement until the former was brought down. Forward play was scrappy, but the United threes were showing up well and Hook got another unconverted try.

Meadows and Hook again tried their inter-passing movement. The ball was dropped, and a Monmouth player fly-kicked for touch. Abbey caught the ball and ran on to score a try. Hook converted.

Monmouth gained a footing in the home half through a mistake by Masters, and an exchange of kicking put them in the Gloucester 25. They heeled well from the scrum, but the halves were at fault, and the Gloucester forwards eased the position.

Monmouth were still pressing when Hook surprised them by a brilliant individual effort, which resulted in another try. He gained possession in the home 25, evaded all tacklers, and after giving a "dummy" near half-way no one could catch him. He converted the try.

Abbey snapped up a wild Monmouth pass and, with a great turn of speed, made an opening for Clarke to touch down under the posts. Hook converted.

HALF-TIME :

Gloucester United 3 goals, 3 tries

Monmouth Nil

Gloucester soon got going after the interval. Hook gave to Meadows following a scrum, and the latter, with a characteristic swerve, broke through to score under the posts. Hook kicked the goal.

Monmouth held their own for a time after this. Their threes were looking after the home backs better, and their tackling was more effective. The forwards working their way into the home 25, Short dropped a good goal for Monmouth. The visitors were getting more of the ball now, and Gloucester's breakaways were less effective.

A good touch-kick by Hook put Gloucester on the attack again, and a passing movement on the right ended in Hook being pushed into touch a few feet from the line. Play was too scrappy, however, for Gloucester to force another score. Monmouth relieved with a free for off-side, but Meadows attacked for Gloucester again and gave to Hyett a few yards from the line. Hyett, however, was pulled up for off-side.

J. Jones, of Monmouth, was injured in trying to tackle Meadows, and was carried off, but returned later. The Monmouth forwards took the ball with a good rush to the centre. Although the game was more even now, the standard of football had deteriorated. Meadows made a get-away, and making to the right passed to Powell, who registered another try, which was not converted.

Clarke made the next opening for Orpin to score, and Meadows converted.

RESULT :

GLOUCESTER UNITED ... 5 goals 4 tries (37 points)

MONMOUTH 1 goal (d) (4 points)

COMMENTS

Gloucester United were by far the better team, and the opposition showed so little resistance for the biggest part of the game that Gloucester could hardly help scoring. The home backs showed up prominently all through, and Hook especially displayed a useful turn of speed. Meadows was in his usual good form, but tried too much individualism. Forward the play was scrappy and the players did not follow up enough to help together in the loose.

JC