

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1932

GLOUCESTER 16 Pts.; GUY'S HOSPITAL 6 Pts.

STRONG HOSPITAL TEAM WELL BEATEN

FAST AND INTERESTING GAME AT KINGSHOLM

FIFIELD'S SMARTNESS

SPECIAL BY "W.B."

Owing to a strain, C. C. Tanner was unable to play for Gloucester this afternoon, and R. Hook was again called upon to replace the International wing.

Another absentee was Dr. Steele-Perkins, who had been summoned to Exeter on account of his father's illness. He may not be available again for some weeks.

Last season Guy's won both games against Gloucester, winning at Honor Oak by 9 pts. to 3, and the return at Kingsholm by 7 pts. to 5.

The Hospital have not been enjoying a very successful time this season owing to players being injured, but the side is now getting together in view of the approach of the cup ties. Windsor Lewis returned to the outside-half position, and the back division was at full strength.

Fortunately the fog in the morning lifted, and the game was played under favourable conditions except for the fact that the top of the playing pitch was on the soft side.

There were about 4,000 present when the game started.

Teams :

### GLOUCESTER

BACK : H. Boughton.

THREE-QUARTERS : R. Hook, M. A. McCanlis, J. C. Brooks, and G. W. Parker.

HALF-BACKS : F. Fifield and Roy James.

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

### GUY'S HOSPITAL

BACK : W. B. Glegg.

THREE-QUARTERS : D. E. Ashdown, P. C. Alexander, J. E. Giesen, and A. G. Johnson.

HALF-BACKS : J. Howell and Windsor H. Lewis.

FORWARDS : J. S. Batchelor, J. P. O'Shea, J. Cunard, R. J. Drummond, A. C. Hunt, T. Leming, R. A. P. Hogbin, and A. R. Clarke.

REFEREE : Mr. F. G. Stephens (North Midlands)

### THE GAME

There was no return from the kick-off by Guy's, and from the first scrum the Hospital heeled. The ball went along the line of backs to Ashdown, who slipped past Parker, but was collared from behind. A penalty quickly fell to Gloucester, and Boughton found touch well inside the visitors' half.

### BOUGHTON OPENS THE SCORING

A smart follow-up and tackle by James and Saxby checked an open movement by Guy's, and Gloucester progressed a few yards with a loose rush. Off-side at the scrum by Drummond gave the City a free kick, and Boughton, with a lovely shot, landed a goal, giving first points to Gloucester.

Following the restart Guy's worked to the home half, and there was an exchange of passes which placed the home line in danger. The attack, however, was beaten off, and K. Smith relieved nicely from his own line to the 25 yards touch.

### GUY'S PRESSED SEVERELY

Play was confined to the Gloucester end, where the Hospital tried hard to effect a score. Lewis had a drop for goal charged down, and Fifield gathering passed to Brooks, who punted to Glegg. The latter sent back to James, who returned straight to the visiting full-back. Glegg took the ball on the run, and went clean through to Boughton. He then passed to a forward, who was tackled by Williams ten yards outside, and an apparently certain try saved.

Guy's continued to have all the game, and there were a couple of fruitless drops at goal. Lewis made a strong burst and pass, but the ball was knocked on, and Gloucester again escaped.

Hook showed up prominently with a smart bit of work, but it was left to Boughton to ease the pressure for Gloucester.

Passing by the City broke down at James, but better work was accomplished later, though a knock-on finally stopped the movement.

Aided by Saxby and Brooks, Gloucester worked down, and play settled in the visitors' half. Guy's, however, were doing well in the scrums, and well-judged kicks prevented the City getting dangerous.

### SPLENDID MOVEMENTS

Near the centre James brought off a fine run, going through the defence cheaply. He finally passed to Saxby, and McCanlis, Brooks, and Hook took part in a lovely movement. The wing man, however, was nicely tackled by Johnson and thrown to touch.

Gloucester, working well together, set up a strong attack, and there was another pretty movement in which Brooks showed cleverness and skill. A final pass gave Hook another chance, but again Johnson proved too fast for him. It was fine open football just now, and the Gloucester backs were showing capital form.

Guy's, with a big kick, forced play to the home line, but Gloucester quickly broke away, and the Hospital were forced on the defence. A throw-back to Glegg was missed, but the full-back recovered and punted well out to touch. Gloucester made progress up the centre, where McCanlis was upset before he could get the ball to Parker. Then James dropped for goal – a poor attempt – and forced a minor. Gloucester were doing fine work all round, and the open play delighted the crowd. Heeling well, the City forwards gave the backs plenty of chances, and some pretty combination was shown. Parker, on the left, made a splendid attempt to clear Ashdown, but just failed, and there was no one up to take his inside pass.

The City, however, persevered, and James and McCanlis working the short side of the scrum the latter cross-kicked. The forwards dashed ahead, and WELSHMAN, taking the ball nicely, burst through and over the line for a try. Boughton failed to convert.

#### GUY'S SCORE

Mid-field play followed the resumption, both sides showing good form. Lewis aided the Hospital frequently with splendid touch kicks, but Gloucester quickly recovered the ground. The home backs were sent away nicely in a passing bout but McCanlis sent wide to Parker, and before he could get to the ball, ASHDOWN had gained possession and was away down touch. He only had Boughton to face and with a swerve beat the Gloucester full-back and scored near the posts. Hogbin's kick for goal was not successful. Soon afterwards the interval was called.

#### HALF-TIME :

GLOUCESTER .....	1 goal (p.) 1 try
GUY'S HOSPITAL .....	1 try

The game had provided a lot of attractive football in which the Gloucester backs showed up prominently. McCanlis, however did not judge his passes well, and it was from a mistake on his part that led to Guy's scoring.

After a moderate start the City forwards had greatly improved, especially in the scrums.

### MAGNIFICENT GOAL KICK

Gloucester had the better of the opening exchanges on the restart, but play was mostly with the forwards.

On the 25 line Fifield slipped round the blind side of the scrum cleverly, and was nearly over. The forwards carried on and over the line, and in a scramble WADLEY was credited with a try. From near the touch line Boughton landed a magnificent goal, and Gloucester led by 11–3.

Guy's held territorial advantage on resuming, but the defence was too good. The Gloucester forwards broke away, [and] from a pass by Hook, McCanlis brought off a strong run down touch and cross punted. The City forwards were in position and Comley securing kicked ahead and to the line, where Wadley touched down, but only a minor was awarded.

### A NEAT TRY

Gloucester, however, returned to the attack, Fifield putting in a clever run which nearly carried him over. He, however, passed near the line and the ball was missed.

Immediately after Parker was served on the left, and just outside he flipped the ball back to SMITH who had an uninterrupted run over behind the posts. No charge was allowed and Boughton kicked an easy goal.

Interesting play ensued on the resumption, the play still being kept very open. Gloucester were seen to advantage on several occasions but too many risks were taken, and from one pass by James Guy's had a clear opening. A visiting forward gathered with an open goal, but he hesitated ten yards outside, and was pulled down. The ball rolling loose, Parker fly-kicked to touch. This was a lucky get out for the home team.

#### PARKER'S GOOD WORK

Parker came into the picture with good work, but on the other side several mistakes nearly led to disaster. Hook relieved once by running round and finding touch with a good kick. Penalties to Guy's did not bring any reward, and Alexander failing to gather the Gloucester forwards came right away, Glegg being forced to turn the ball to touch well inside his own half.

#### HOSPITAL'S KEENNESS

Guy's were playing very keen, and the Londoners had an equal share of subsequent play. From a round of passing in which there was an obvious forward transfer from Lewis, Johnson raced hard for the corner, but McCanlis got across and effected a smothering tackle.

#### KEEN FORWARD PLAY

The Hospital made several sharp attacks, but could not find an opening. A penalty against Fifield, however, gave HOGBIN another place for goal, and this time he made no mistake with his kick.

From the kick-off Johnson fumbled, and Hook kicking ahead, sent to the line, where he only just missed gaining the touch. Keen forward exchanges followed the drop out, Boughton clearing finely from the visitors on one occasion. A fine run by Clegg put his three-quarters in motion and Ashdown was well away when McCanlis effected a glorious tackle.

Gloucester went strongly later with two dashing bursts, but they were checked when looking dangerous. Fifield, with a sharp breakaway, put the City in a good attacking position, strong tackling stopping a possible score.

Guy's eventually cleared to mid-field, where they tried hard to break away, but without success.

#### RESULT :

GLOUCESTER ..... 3 gls. (1p.) 1 try (16 pts.)

GUY'S HOSPITAL..... 1 goal (p.) 1 try 6 pts.)

#### REMARKS

Gloucester amply avenged the narrow defeat from Guy's at home last season in a game that provided a lot of interesting football.

The Hospital fielded an imposing back division, with plenty of speed on the wings, and Windsor Lewis, the old International, as pivot, but Gloucester were the stronger combination all round.

The City forwards took a little time to settle down, but after the first quarter the home pack were generally in the ascendant, and some of the loose rushes brought off were as good as anything the players have accomplished. In the scrums, too, Gloucester had more than their fair share of the ball. There were occasions when judgment was at fault, but Hemming, Wadley, Welshman, Smith and Saxby all shone individually, and the eight had a better understanding than the previous week.

#### FIFIELD'S CLEVERNESS

Fifield gave his best performance since returning to scrum half. His surprise breakaways brought him out in a new light, and there were two distinct occasions when he nearly beat the defence. He also got the ball away neatly, and utilised the touch-line when under pressure with splendid judgment. All round a highly creditable display.

James was by no means consistent at fly-half, and some of the risks he took in passing were not worth while, for few came off and opponents generally benefitted by the fumbling which took place.

### GUY'S HAD THE SPEED

In actual speed Guy's had the pull behind, but they were not allowed to make full use of it. Howell found Fifield a bit too smart for him, and Windsor Lewis, though helping his side with splendid kicks, was not the danger in attack I have seen him previously.

The Gloucester backs displayed a good deal of cleverness in combination, but some promising movements were spoiled by faulty transfers at the critical moment. McCanlis was not happy in this one respect, but finer tackling than that accomplished by the Gloucester centre could not be desired. It was McCanlis who stopped both Ashdown and Johnson when the fliers were well away and looked certain scorers.

Brooks, if not so helpful at centre as at outside half, was seen to advantage on several occasions, and Parker displayed dash and resolution on the right wing. Hook deputised creditably, but found his opponent had the pace of him when on the attack.

Giessen and Alexander were stout defenders for Guy's at centre, and it was just as well the two wings did not get too many opportunities of scoring.

Except for the missed tackle when Ashdown scored Boughton was again in excellent form, and those 30 yards' touch-finders, which brought relief to Gloucester when under pressure were of great service. He also nursed his forwards continually, and checked some dangerous rushes. Clegg, for the Hospital, served his side admirably, making few slips and clearing splendidly.

Next week : Gloucester v. Old Blues, at Kingsholm; Gloucester United v. Bromsgrove, away.



## UNITED BEAT BREAM

### HOME SIDE'S MANY MISTAKES

Gloucester United, at Bream, were early called on to defend, for the home forwards, by excellent dribbling, taking the ball over the line. The United, however, luckily touched down. Later, a wild pass by Bream was intercepted by Don Meadows, who ran over with a try which went unconverted.

Straight from the kick-out, the United backs got possession and Jones crowned a capital bout of passing by crossing with an unconverted try. After this Bream had the better of the game, and retaliated with a try by Evans. Hyett increased the United's lead by a try, but Norman Watkins reduced Bream's arrears with a similar score.

#### Half-time :

Gloucester United .....	3 tries
Bream .....	2 tries

On resuming, the Gloucester backs were early prominent, and from some smart handling Jones crossed with an unconverted try.

The visitors played up strongly, but they frequently benefitted by the home side's mistakes. Bream got into the United's 25, but the passing of the home backs was far too slow and Gloucester took advantage. Gloucester were penalised, and H. Iles just failed to kick a goal.

Bream were pressing strongly, but over-eagerness lost them good chances. They had most of the play in this half, and Gloucester were lucky to save their line.

#### RESULT :

GLOUCESTER UTD. ....	4 tries (12 pts.)
BREAM .....	2 tries (6 pts.)