

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1925

## FOOTBALL

### FREE SCORING AGAINST LONDON WELSH

Against London Welsh, Gloucester recorded their heaviest score of the season – 5 goals 5 tries (40 points) to 2 goals (1p) (8 points) – a result which occasioned considerable surprise, following as it did the tourists' victories at Abertillery and Cross Keys, where Gloucester have never proved successful. But the Welshmen were handicapped in losing the services of their scrum half (Guardsman Powell) before any score had been made. Powell has figured prominently for the Army this season, and his retirement no doubt severely handicapped the visitors behind the scrum.

After being forced to bring a forward out Gloucester did pretty well as they liked in gaining possession, and Milliner and Thomas were continually given possession. How the City backs profited by the opportunities afforded them is reflected in the heavy scoring.

The Welsh had some clever and fast men behind, but they were powerless against the combination of their opponents, and tries followed in quick succession. Millington was in good goal-kicking form, for he converted five, and with two other kicks hit the post.

Gloucester held a commanding advantage forward, and the players threw the ball about with delightful abandon. The Welshmen's defence was excellent at times, but broke down badly on other occasions, and twice Brown ran clean through and behind the posts. Some of the passing movements by the City were perfectly carried out, the forwards joining in and thoroughly enjoying the open character of the play. It was entertaining football, and though badly outpointed the tourists were not behindhand in their attempts to give the ball plenty of air.

Gloucester gave their most entertaining display of the season in this game, and the whole team shared in the triumph. The forwards kept things moving all the time, and there was not a man in the pack who did not do something special.

Duberley resumed his place in the ranks, and Ayliffe again led the front efficiently in the absence of Voyce. With Powell off, Milliner proved far too smart for his deputy, and Thomas made a splendid pivot.

The three-quarters combined much better than on Saturday, and between them they claimed eight of the ten tries scored – a good afternoon's work. Millington, if not among the try-getters, several times initiated attacking moves from his position at full-back, and one clever effort resulted in sending Wood over the line.

The Welshmen were disappointed over their showing, but had their backs been as well supplied as Gloucester, the home team would have experienced considerable trouble. In Farndon, G. I. Jones and Ryan, the visitors had players of real ability, the former especially being fleet of foot and a clever footballer. The forwards were generally outplayed, and inability to get the ball to those behind with any regularity was the chief cause of the Welshmen's defeat.