

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1964

GLOUCESTER'S WIN MARGIN NOT FLATTERING

GLOUCESTER 12 PTS., OLD MERCHANT TAYLORS 3 PTS.

Gloucester must have been a little disappointed with this performance, for it was a fine opportunity for the Cherry and Whites to recoup some of their points losses in recent matches, played when the county has claimed most of their best players.

Gloucester's points position is far from encouraging and, although they have scored some notable victories this season, they have also suffered some pretty ignominious defeats.

With great respect to Old Merchant Taylors they are not the most accomplished side in England and Gloucester could, with a little more care, have rattled up 35 points against them.

LEVEL AT HALF TIME

Obviously, though, it was Boxing Day. Stodgy Christmas pudding seemed to be lying heavily on the game and the teams crossed over at level pegging with three points each.

Don Rutherford opened the scoring with a goodish 40-yard penalty, but thereafter retired from scoring, failing to convert any of the three tries which came to the home side after the interval.

The O.M.T.'s full-back Phelps squared things off nicely with a good try when he made an extra threequarter.

Gloucester were trying harder in the post-interval period. Skipper Mickie Booth pulled out an assortment of ploys which did not produce immediate results.

GOOD MOVE

And indeed, he had to score the next try himself, taking the ball from a scrum inside the O.M.T.'s 25 and squeezing over.

Then Roy Morris, playing well again at centre, scored a try after a good handling move.

Winger Bob Timms put the finishing touches with a try which had been set up for him by fly-half Terry Hopson.

Phelps missed three kickable penalties in about five minutes.

In the loose Gloucester's forwards were the more accomplished but in the set pieces they found O.M.T.'s eight a match for them – particularly line-out specialists Michael Christie and Neil Chapman.

THE TEAMS

Gloucester: D. Rutherford; N. Foice, R. Pitt, R. Morris, R. Timms; T. Hopson, M. Booth; J. Milner, M. Nicholls, B. Hudson, M. Teague, R. Long, P. Ford, D. Owen, R. Smith.

O.M.T.'s: D. Phelps; R. Pelham, N. Griffin, P. Kichen, D. Brasier; D. Cameron, I. MacGregor; A. Bell, A. Cowper, R. Lewis, M. Christie, N. Chapman, J. Birch, R. A. Lewis, G. Brown.

Referee: Mr. R. Ellis (Gloucestershire).