THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1965

GLO'STER BEATEN IN ALL DEPARTMENTS BY CLEVER SCOTTISH XV

GLOUCESTER NIL, LONDON SCOTTISH 26 PTS.

This was the most completely convincing defeat of Gloucester this season. The home side were beaten all round by a side which was faster in all departments.

And for once the Gloucester pack did not seem able to cope in the loose, where they have outshone all-comers during the season to date.

I believe that Gloucester's defeat became obvious early on when it became evident they were less adept at getting the ball back from the line-outs. As a line-out pack the London Scottish strongly resembled Coventry. Against Coventry, Gloucester had held their own because the Coventry pack was rattled by Gloucester's "fire."

COOL, CALM

The London Scottish eight preserved a masterly cool and collective calm throughout and, as a result, were clearer-headed and more tactically sound.

That they were faster than the Gloucester eight, goes without saying.

On the Gloucester side, Mickie Booth and Terry Hopson had an excellent game, showing the ability to think quickly. Against a very quick opposition, Hopson still looked quick.

In fact Hopson's combination with Timms in the first half in a wing move and in the second with Morris provided the nicest handling moves – in terms of outwitting the opposition – of the match.

Apart from a terrific rally in the second half the Gloucester side never really looked like beating the Scottish – although it must be admitted that the home eight managed to gain and keep the territorial advantage for much of the game.

The trouble was that the Scottish covering was quite the best to be seen at Kingsholm this season.

FAST RUNNERS

And two of the London Scottish second half scores came when the whole Gloucester team was up in attack. This indicated clearly that it was dangerous to leave any of the London Scottish room to move.

Once on the run – whether forward or behind the scrum – there was hardly a man in Gloucester's team capable of outstripping the Scots.

Hogarth and Walsh scored tries for the visitors in the first half and after the interval Pringle scored a try which Wilson converted. Wilson later converted tries by Hodgson (2) and Boyle.

JC